



WRA

MAGAZINE

WINTER 2023 | VOLUME 76



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WRA MAGAZINE



From the Editors

The theme of this issue is *women*, as WRA celebrates 50 years of coeducation and 50 years of the female voice and perspective. For our Magazine Logo, we were inspired by the Pantone Color of Year, "Viva Magenta" — a bright shade described as pure joy. Also on the cover, you'll find ivy, a symbol of fidelity and eternal life. It's an evergreen plant, one with staying power and an aptitude for growth. Such is the influence of our amazing alumnae. Over a relatively short span of time in our school's long history, our alumnae have taken root and thrived, making our school all the better for it. May such power always preserve.

WINTER 2023

Volume 76

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Do you know a student who would thrive at Western Reserve Academy?

The goal of the Refer Reserve program is to mobilize WRA's expansive network of parents, alumni and friends to connect with prospective students in their own communities so that those students and families may learn more about the Reserve experience.

For more information, please contact
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WRA Magazine is published twice a year for alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends of Western Reserve Academy by the WRA Communications & Marketing Office.

Western Reserve Academy is committed to maintaining an educational and work climate for all members of the community that is free from all forms of discrimination. In particular, WRA strictly prohibits discrimination based on race, sex (including pregnancy), religion, color, age, national origin, veteran and/or military status, genetic information, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, marital status and/or parental status.



FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Suzanne Walker Buck

The honor of being the first female Head of School at Western Reserve Academy is not lost on me. Neither is the reality that it took nearly two centuries to fill this post with a woman since the school's founding in 1826. For a pioneering school, this was a far frontier, but I am so grateful we are here now.

Not because leadership is gendered; I frankly did not consider my womanhood much when I sought the position at Western Reserve Academy. But because Western Reserve Academy is an institution that is improved, enlivened and propelled by the women in its ranks.

Fundamentally, women's readmittance to WRA in 1972 spared the school from financial duress, proving women as integral, not distractions (as had been previously hypothesized). Women were students at Reserve in its earlier history, but the modern era of coeducation at WRA is just 50 years young.

This issue and this year are meant to celebrate the girls and women of Reserve. Students, actors, athletes, mothers, aunts, entrepreneurs, social activists, social workers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, PIONEERS. I believe our women have always shone, but 50 years presents a golden opportunity.

So, over the past months, I have traveled across the country, meeting with our WRA alumnae, a strong cohort with Midwestern grit and global grace. I'm incredibly grateful for and proud of the stories you've shared, the suggestions you have raised, and the sisterhood in which you have enveloped me.

Our moniker for the year ahead is 50 Brilliant Years of Women. The name is a tribute to the power of your minds and the many ways you have illuminated our community and the world.

Thank you.

Suzanne Walker Buck



SNAP SHOTS

FROM BRICK ROW



International Student Brunch | August
Our new international students and their families received a warm Buck Family welcome with a special brunch and games at Pierce House.



Convocation | August
Student Body Co-Presidents Landon Allis '23 and Jordanne Nichols '23 took the podium to lead the first Morning Meeting of the year. (The day also kicked off with a faculty flash mob! Follow WRA's TikTok to watch the fun unfold: @westernreserveacademy)



Gauntlet | August

We're big fans of the Gauntlet! A few days before the start of the school year, upperclassmen greeted new students with high-fives, vibrant posters and big smiles.

Dorm Photos | August

What is a dorm photo if not an opportunity to tell the world about its residents? We're not entirely sure what the Cutler dorm dwellers were trying to say here — but we know we love this photo.



Cornhole Tournament | August

Nothing says "Welcome to the Midwest!" like a cornhole tournament! This annual fall event brings out both the competitive spirit and creative inspiration for our Pioneers, and the custom-designed cornhole boards are always a sensation.

(Last) First Day of the Year | August

Parents@WRA organized a photo shoot for the Class of 2023 on their (last) first day of school on Brick Row.



Graham'd Reopening of the Firepits | August

No, that's not a typo! There was nothing but s'mores and good vibes at the reopening of the WRA firepits.





Back-to-School Bash | August
We hear the words "back to school" can strike fear and dread in the hearts of teenagers — but not our Pioneers! The Back-to-School Bash is always a hit, and it's all thanks to our incredible Parents@WRA.



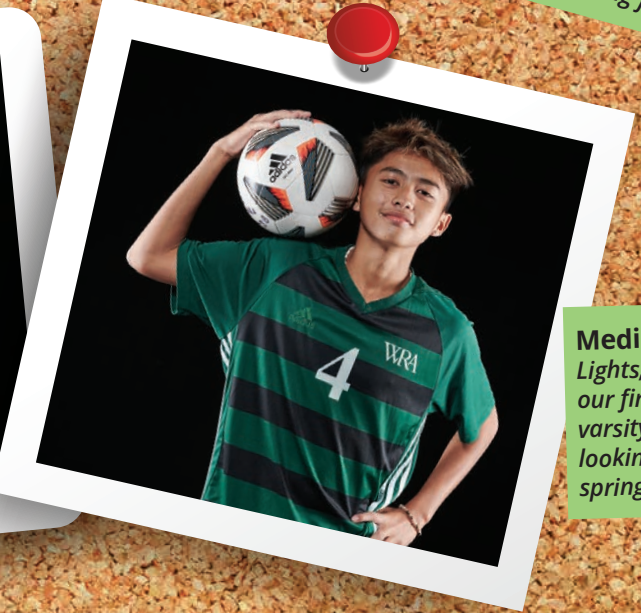
Powder Puff | September
The seniors took first place at the annual Powder Puff game, but not without a tough fight from our tenacious juniors! Good game, Pioneers.



Alumni Spirit Day | October
Go, Pios! Our alumni spent a Saturday cheering for our athletes at four different athletic events, including the Varsity Boys Soccer match against U.S. (ending in a 4-0 victory)!



Family Weekend | October
Family Weekend at WRA is always a hoot! There's nothing like the joy of bringing everyone together in one big family reunion.



Media Week | October
Lights, camera, action! We hosted our first Media Week for our fall varsity athletes and are already looking forward to our winter and spring shoots.

ATHLETICS

Hear Them Roar!

Pioneers celebrate incredible fall athletic season



Our fall athletes fought hard this year, with highlights including the Girls Cross Country team earning first place at the Cuyahoga Heights Invitational; a Boys Soccer victory against longtime rival U.S.; and a plethora of goals met and records set.

Above, you'll see photos from our Media Day photo shoots that captured the smiles and game faces of our student-athletes (and gave the Golf team a chance to steal the spotlight). Looking at these photos, we're reminded of all the reasons we're proud of our Pioneers, in this fall season, as well as in our previous year!

We've not yet covered the 2021-22 winter and spring seasons in our magazine, but a quick recap of both reveal an impressive list of accolades, including four wrestlers being crowned All-Americans; three new school records in Swimming & Diving; a second-place finish for Girls Basketball in the Gold Bracket of the Independent School National Championships; the Ice Hockey team securing the Baron Cup Championship; the best Boys Volleyball record in the region at 14-4; a thrilling overtime

win for Girls Lacrosse over Laurel School; a Track & Field meet record set by team MVP Jordanne Nichols '23; Boys Lacrosse earning second place in the Midwest Region (MSLA), ending their season undefeated against all Ohio opponents; Ryan Favaro '22, Blake Eiland '22 and Ty Banks '23 being named USA Lacrosse All-Americans; and 29 athletes committed to playing college sports this fall — including three basketball players who earned scholarships to play at the Division I level at the University of Washington, the University of New Mexico and St. Francis University.

A student's journey through Reserve might not include the ringing of the Victory Bell, the glory of breaking a school record or the intent to continue athletic competition in college, but the overarching athletic experience is pivotal. It's one that celebrates and cultivates teamwork, integrity, resilience, wellness and school pride — all an integral part of the WRA athletic experience. We look forward to cheering on our athletes in the seasons ahead.



Livia Taibon '25
Most Valuable Runner | Girls Cross Country



Jazira Gonzalez '24
Most Valuable Player | Girls Soccer



Riya Hegde '25
Most Valuable Player | Girls Tennis



 **Sydney Grossman '23**
Gold Medal | Girls Volleyball




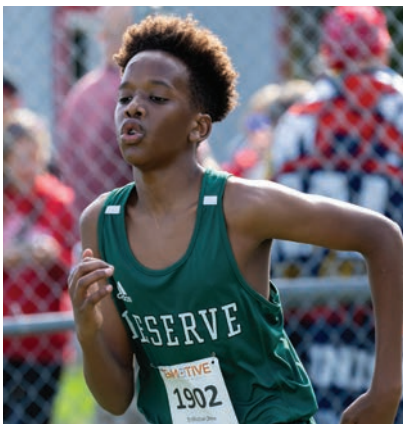
Mya Kenny '24
Aylie Fifer Spirit Award | Field Hockey



Chase Walker '25
Most Improved Player | Golf



 **Kelly Janssen '23**
Gold Medal & Most Valuable Player
Boys Soccer



Nicolas Iteka '25
Most Improved Runner | Boys Cross Country

FALL 2022 ATHLETICS TEAM RECORDS			
Boys Cross Country: 1-0 in dual meet		Boys Soccer: 14-2-4	
Girls Cross Country: 1-1 in dual meets		Girls Soccer: 7-5-2	
Golf: 7-6		Girls Tennis: 9-5	
Field Hockey: 7-8-1		Girls Volleyball: 11-10	

ATHLETICS



Ian Richardson '22
Andrew Guglielmi Lifetime Achievement
Award | Ice Hockey



Maya Nahar '25
Most Valuable Athlete | Girls Basketball



Trey Autry '23
Most Valuable Player | Boys Basketball



Nathan Phillips '22
Gold Medal | Boys Swimming



Celine Omega '24
Most Valuable Athlete | Girls Swimming



Mira Zamarro '24
Most Valuable Athlete | Diving



Mia Maze-Ingram '25
Spirit Award | Indoor Track



Jakob Palfi '22
Most Valuable Athlete | Fencing



Sophia Bluso '22
Gold Medal | Riflery

WINTER 2021-22 ATHLETICS TEAM RECORDS & HIGHLIGHTS

Boys Basketball: 14-13

Prep Boys Basketball: 21-9

Girls Basketball: 14-10

Diving: Individual competitions

Fencing: Individual competitions

Ice Hockey: 18-6; Baron Cup Champions

Boys Swimming: Individual competitions/invitationals:
Gold Medal awarded to Nathan Phillips '22

Girls Swimming: Individual
competitions/invitationals

Indoor Track: Individual
competitions/invitationals

Riflery: Gold Medal awarded
to Sophia Bluso '22

Wrestling: 4 All-Americans



Omar White-Evans '22
Most Improved Athlete | Wrestling



Olivia Thomas '22
Coach's Award | Esports



Noah Barnes '22
Most Valuable Athlete | Baseball

SPRING 2021-22 ATHLETICS TEAM RECORDS	
Baseball: 5-9	Boys Tennis: 4-10
Esports: N/A	Boys Track & Field: N/A
Boys Lacrosse: 17-6	Girls Track & Field: N/A
Girls Lacrosse: 3-12	Boys Volleyball: 14-4
Softball: 4-4	



Isabella Palmer '22
Most Valuable Athlete | Girls Lacrosse



Nola Marshall '25
Coach's Award | Softball



 **Josie Spano '22**
Gold Medal | Most Valuable Athlete
Softball



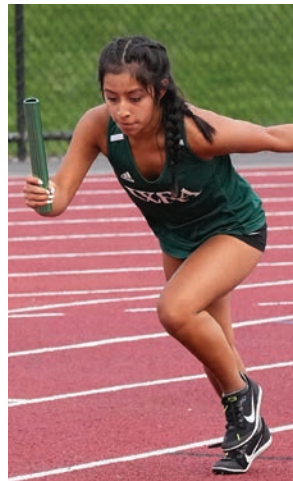
 **Blake Eiland '22**
Gold Medal | Most Valuable Athlete
Lacrosse



Kian Kischke '24
Most Improved Athlete
Boys Volleyball



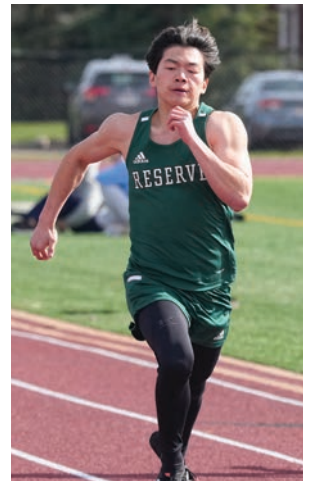
Daniel Hoffman '22
Most Valuable Athlete
Boys Volleyball



Lea Carino '24
Most Improved Athlete
Girls Track & Field



Keshav Mody '22
Most Valuable Athlete
Boys Tennis



Ethan Zhang '22
Most Valuable Athlete
Boys Track & Field



Olivia Thomas '22



Phoebe Dix '24, Sarah London '22 and Claire Lovas '22



Carter Frato-Sweeney '22, Griffin Arnold '22 and Claire Lovas '22



Matthew Chlysta '24 and Keshav Mody '22



Sarah London '22 and Carter Frato-Sweeney '22



RUMORS

WINTER 2022



Tavin Jones '25



Phoebe Dix '24



Tavin Jones '25, Matthew Chlysta '24 and Griffin Arnold '22



Gunnar Gray '22



Claire Lovas '22, Griffin Arnold '22, Sarah London '22 and Carter Frato-Sweeney '22



Jacob London '25



A Midsummer Night's Dream

SPRING 2022



Jasmine Wang '23



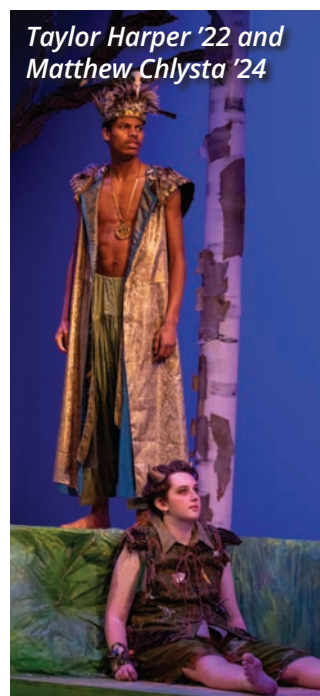
Elias Vail '25



Carter Frato-Sweeney '22, Jenny Su '24



Broden Windsor '22 and Alex Newman '24



Taylor Harper '22 and Matthew Chlysta '24



Tavin Jones '25 and Mykal Sims-Bailey '22



Jimena Oliva '22



Olivia Thomas '22, Ethan Bauck '22 and Broden Windsor '22



Carter Frato-Sweeney '22 and Rachel Ott '23



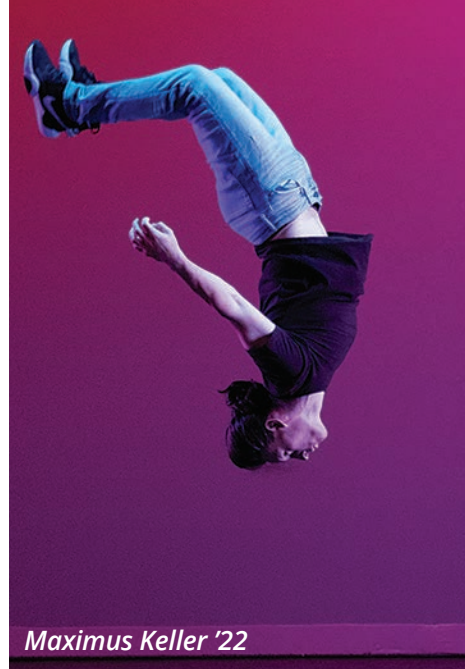
Sophia Yellow Robe Yates '25



Gunnar Gray '22



Isa Mester '22



Maximus Keller '22



David King '22

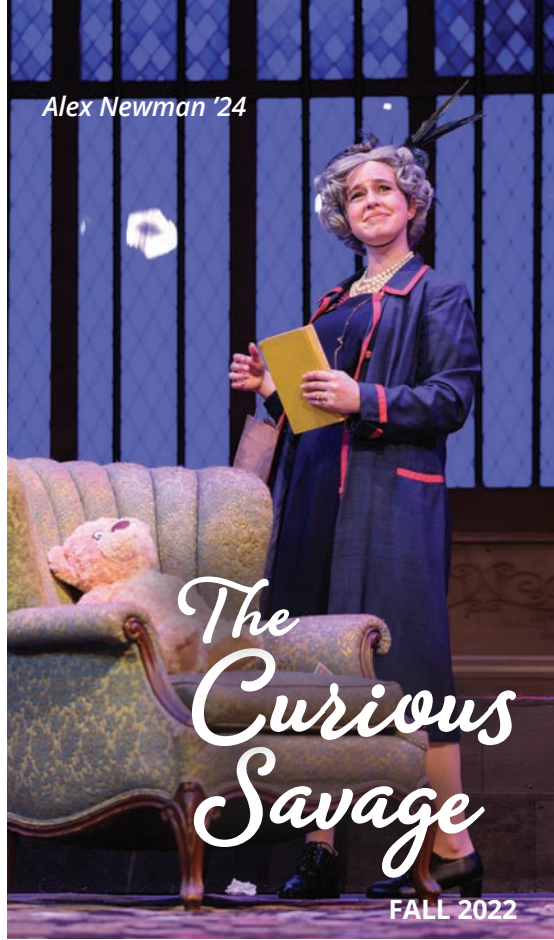




Phoebe Dix '24, Rachel Ott '23
and Angela Ryan '23



Alex Newman '24 and Jayden Kersh '26



Alex Newman '24

The Curious Savage

FALL 2022



Jayden Kersh '26, Rachel Ott '23, Phoebe
Dix '24, Alex Newman '24, Angela Ryan '23



Rachel Ott '23, Everett Davies,
Angela Ryan '23, Sammie Kolencik '23



Jayden Kersh '26 and Angela Ryan '23



Sammie Kolencik '23



Francis Wang '23, Nora Namiotka
'23 and Matthew Chlysta '24



TABS

The Association
of Boarding Schools

Buck Assumes Chairmanship of The Association of Boarding Schools

Suzanne Walker Buck has been named co-Chair of The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS). Buck leads TABS along with co-Chair Alex Curtis, Head of School at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Connecticut, and Vice-Chair Innes van Nostrand, Principal at Appleby College in Ontario, Canada.

Buck has been a member of the TABS Board of Trustees since 2016. In its 25th year as the industry association for the boarding school sector in North America, TABS partners with school leaders and professionals to drive excellence, innovation and collaboration.



Susan Baldrige

Under Buck's leadership, TABS welcomes Susan Baldrige as Executive Director. Baldrige, a reputed strategic planner and former provost at Middlebury College, looks forward to

turning full focus on TABS' more than 200 member schools to energize the sector and ensure its vitality and sustainability.

Buck says she is honored to lead the charge at TABS. "A product of boarding school myself, I believe deeply in the transformative power of a residential school experience," she says. "I will bring my genuine passion for all that boarding offers in ways that I hope are both inspired and inspiring."



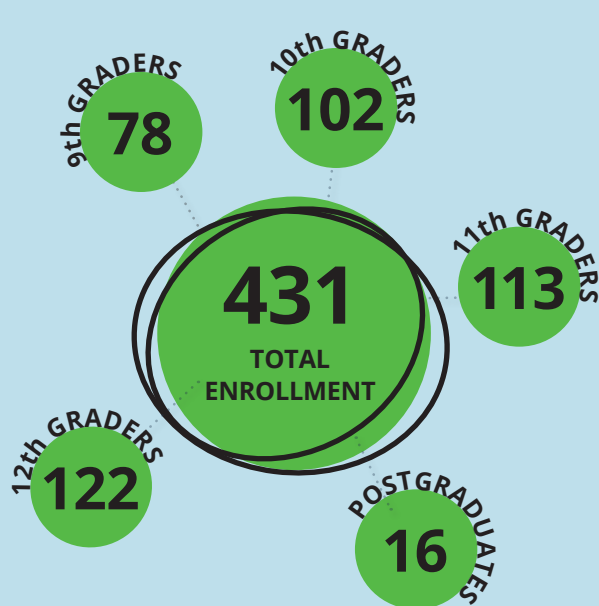
"I will bring my genuine passion for all that boarding offers in ways that I hope are both inspired and inspiring."

— Suzanne Walker Buck

Western Reserve Academy Enrollment

By the Numbers

This year, Western Reserve Academy welcomes new Pioneers from across the country and around the world, all of them bright, passionate and full of potential. We look forward to watching them thrive during their years at Dear Old Reserve.



27
NEW LEGACIES
beginning in the
2022-23
school year



56% MALE
44% FEMALE



**64%
BOARDERS**
**36%
DAY STUDENTS**



48%
Receiving need-based
financial aid

34%
Domestic students of color
45%
White
21%
International





COMMENCEMENT 2022

On Sunday, May 29, the Class of 2022 took their first steps as members of the Western Reserve Academy alumni community. Behind them now are memories of Reserve Green and Morning Meetings, Back-to-School Bashes and Send Off to Summers, the toll of the Victory Bell and the equally celebratory ring of Knight Fine Arts Center applause. Though it was bittersweet for the faculty and staff members who have so cherished the students' time here, the melancholy was eclipsed by pride, joy and wonder at what lies ahead for these Pioneers.

The ceremony took place on a beautiful day, with sunshine and blue skies providing a gorgeous backdrop for the scene. We returned to our traditional setting in front of the Chapel, with rows and rows of family, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the school facing the historic structure. If there was a theme to the event, it was best described by Head of School Suzanne Walker Buck — "While today is a day of joy, it is also one of art. By art, I mean both the celebration of creativity and the celebration of voice."

She then invited the first of two "Arts" who spoke at the ceremony, Commencement Student Speaker Arthur Johnson '22.

Elected by his peers, Johnson first thanked his classmates for trusting him

to speak on their behalf. What followed was a wise and compelling study of their collective time at Reserve, the already fond memories of seemingly unimportant moments, like video game marathons and late-night talks with roommates. Funny, thoughtful and astute, his speech contained an admirable directive to his classmates to focus not only on their future selves and long-term aspirations, but also to revel in the present.

"Wake up each day, passionate about the life you are living, not the one you hope to or might live, for that is never a guarantee," said Johnson. "My wish for each of you — each of us, because it goes for me, too — is that, hopefully, by experiencing and appreciating the present beauty of just simply living, some form of happiness and success will come our way."

Buck then returned to the stage for faculty recognition and student awards. The Robert S. Weiss Memorial Award, voted on by the entire senior class, is bestowed on a recipient whose dedication to and support of student interest in the arts and athletics carries on the tradition established by Bob Weiss. The applause was deafening as Science Chair Wanda Boesch-Cordon was asked to come forward to be recognized with the honor.

Student awards followed, recognizing various seniors for their strength in character, intellect, integrity and more. Buck then introduced the selected Commencement Speaker, Art C. Chang '81, an innovator, entrepreneur, 2021 New York City mayoral candidate, son of Korean immigrants, and a proud husband and father — to name just a few of his many roles and accomplishments.

"Everyone talks about endings," Chang said. "That's actually the easy part. But few prepare you for new beginnings. And you are about to have one. You may have decided to become a doctor, a lawyer or an architect. And your path might be as straight as an arrow. But very few are. Instead, you are likely to change, and change again. And to do that, you will need to know how to begin, and begin again, and again, and again."

The ceremony continued with the presentation of diplomas by WRA's co-President of the Board of Trustees, Nathaniel E. Leonard '82. It was a perfect blend of formal and fun as Pioneers crossed the stage as official graduates, grinning at the hoots and hollers of their loved ones. Some were even joined by fellow Pioneer family members who happily bestowed the diploma, extending another branch of their Reserve family tree.

Congratulations to the Class of 2022!





WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY CLASS OF 2022 COLLEGE MATRICULATION

The 126 members of the Class of 2022 made us proud in so many ways during their years at Reserve, and colleges took notice, too. Seniors and postgraduates gained acceptances to 231 different colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad, and they represented their college destinations in style on College T-Shirt Day in May! See the full acceptance list below, with schools of intended matriculation indicated in bold and multiple matriculants shown in parentheses.

University of Akron
University of Alabama
Albion College
Alfred University
Allegheny College
American University
The American University of Paris
Amherst College
Anderson University
Appalachian State University
Arizona State University
University of Arizona
Auburn University
Babson College
**Baldwin Wallace University -
Conservatory of Music**
Bates College
Belmont University
Bennington College
Binghamton University
Boston College (3)
Boston University (2)
Bowdoin College
Bowling Green State University
Bradley University
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
University at Buffalo
Buffalo State College
Butler University
Cabrin University
University of California-Davis
University of California-LA (2)
University of California-San Diego
University of California-Santa Cruz

Canisius College
Capital University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University (2)
Centre College
Chapman University
College of Charleston
Chatham University
University of Chichester
Christopher Newport University
University of Cincinnati (2)
Clark University (2)
Clemson University
Cleveland Institute of Art
Colgate University (2)
University of Colorado
Colorado State University
Columbia College
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Daemen College
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
Denison University (4)
University of Denver
DePaul University
DePauw University
University of Detroit Mercy
Dickinson College (2)
Drew University
Drexel University
Duquesne University
Edinboro University
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College

Emory University
University of Exeter
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida Southern College
Fordham University
Franklin & Marshall College
Gannon University
George Washington University (3)
Georgetown University
Georgia State University
Grambling State University
Grand Valley State University
Grove City College
Hampton University
Haverford College
University of Hawaii
Heidelberg University
High Point University
Hiram College
Hobart & William Smith Colleges (2)
Hood College
Howard University
University of Illinois
Indiana University (2)
Iowa State University
University of Iowa
Ithaca College
Jackson State University
James Madison University
John Carroll University
KAIST-Korea Advanced Institute
Kent State University
University of Kentucky
Kenyon College
Lafayette College (2)

Lawrence University
Lewis University
Long Island University
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Loyola University New Orleans
University of Maine
Manhattan College
University of Mary Washington
University of Maryland
Mercyhurst University
Miami University
University of Miami
Michigan State University
University of Michigan (3)
Middlebury College
Milwaukee School of Engineering
Minerva University
Mississippi State University
University of Mississippi
Morehouse College
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
Nebraska Wesleyan University
University of New Hampshire
University of New Mexico
New York University (4)
Norfolk State University
North Carolina A&T State University
University of North Carolina
Northeastern University
Nova Southeastern University
Oberlin College (2)
Occidental College



126 Members
of the
Class of 2022

81% Acceptance rate to top 50
Colleges & Universities



Students will attend
82
Different Colleges & Universities



75%
of the class garnered at least
one offer of admission prior to
January 1



With 50% of the class reporting, the Class of 2022 has received over
\$9,500,000 In Scholarships*

*Figure compiled through information voluntarily shared with the College Counseling Office

11 National Merit
Scholarship Recognitions

- 1 National Merit Scholarship Winner
- 1 College Scholarship Winner
- 9 Commended Students



The Class of 2022 comes from
17 States and D.C. **12** Countries



231
Colleges & Universities
offered admission to members
of the Class of 2022

Ohio University
Ohio State University (9)
Ohio Wesleyan University
Old Dominion University
Otterbein University
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
University of Pittsburgh
Pitzer College
Providence College
Purdue University
Queen's University
Quinnipiac University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
University of Rhode Island
Rhodes College
Rice University
University of Richmond
Rochester Institute of Technology
University of Rochester

Roger Williams University
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
Sacred Heart University
Saginaw Valley State University
Saint Francis University
Saint Louis University
Salve Regina University
University of San Francisco
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art and Design (2)
Seton Hall University
Sewanee: University of the South
Skidmore College
University of South Florida
University of Southern California (2)
Southern Methodist University
Southern University and A&M College
Spring Hill College
University of St Andrews
St. Olaf College

St. Thomas University
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
Susquehanna University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
University of Tampa
Temple University
Tennessee State University
University of Tennessee
Texas A&M University
Texas Southern University
Texas Tech University
University of Texas
University of Toronto (3)
Trine University
Tufts University
Tulane University
United States Military Academy
University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy
Ursinus College
University of Vermont

Villanova University
Virginia Tech
University of Virginia
Wabash College
Wagner College
Wake Forest University
Washington College
University of Washington
Washington University in St. Louis (2)
Washington and Lee University
Wesleyan University
Western University
Wheaton College
Wilfred Laurier University
College of William and Mary (3)
Williams College
University of Wisconsin
Wittenberg University
College of Wooster
Wright State University
Xavier University (2)
Yale University



Welcome Home

We loved welcoming so many alumni back to campus for Reunion Weekend 2022! Festivities included favorite pastimes, such as the Señor Fun Run & Memorial 5K, our WRA Today Chapel Talk, the Celebrate Reserve Family Picnic and, of course, the Reunion Gala with fireworks to toast a lovely weekend.



Alumni and friends of WRA hit the golf course for the 18th Annual Alumni Association Scholarship Golf Classic in memory of Charlie Hammel '65. The winning group was (left to right) Philip Keyser, Danridge Giltz '02, Mackenzie Babichenko '02 and Richard Hults.





Harrison "Hub" Bubb '57 introduced the construction of the Alumni War Memorial now installed between the historic Chapel and Seymour Hall. The memorial will serve as a lasting tribute to the 66 WRA alumni who lost their lives while serving in the military, from the Civil War to today.



Later in the WRA Today program, Greg Pennington '71 outlined the impact and opportunities made possible by the Class of 1971 Frederick Douglass Initiative. Taking inspiration from Douglass himself, the initiative works to promote diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, including funding speakers like Dr. Melba Pattillo Beals, one of the original Little Rock Nine, who addressed the WRA community this past school year.



Webb Trenchard '87 spoke on behalf of his class, which collectively is funding a new initiative called the Class of 1987 Fund for Wellness and Belonging. The effort was prompted in honor of dearly departed classmates Gavin Domm and Gian Scalzi.



Welcome Home | Reunion Weekend 2022



CLASS OF 1970 | 50th REUNION

FRONT ROW: Dale Kramer, Dick Lipton, Roger Bean
BACK ROW: Frank Moyer, Kurt Rieke, Lee Schumacher
(Not pictured but attended: Phil Berger)



CLASS OF 1971 | 50th REUNION

FRONT ROW: Steve Williams, Kim Haramis, Dave Webb, Greg Pennington, Tom Myers, Dan Carter
SECOND ROW: Doug Billings, KC Aiken
THIRD ROW: Charles Sims, Mike Gross, Marty Hauser, Brad Amer
FOURTH ROW: Bud Niden, Richard Dixon



CLASS OF 1972 | 50th REUNION

FRONT ROW: Dave Pasek, Sandy Macfarlane, Jim Bowen, Cort Hill, Rick Rogers
MIDDLE ROW: Eric Rieke, Tim Saunders, Clif Hood, Bruce Barclay, Jamie Doucett
BACK ROW: Doug Powers, Jeff Shurmer, Pete Morris, Frank Banks, Frank Shaw



CLASS OF 1952

Jim Gramentine and King Warburton



CLASS OF 1955

Rollin LaFrance, Harvey Weil, Tom Green, Jack Edwards, David Rodgers

Class Photos



CLASS OF 1957

FRONT ROW: Catherine Keener, Alan Keener, Penny Rieley, Shell Rieley, Sally Bubb, Hub Bubb

SECOND ROW: John Bourne, Debra Stanton Jacra, Art Stanton, Brooke Anderson

THIRD ROW: Ron Ihrig, Marty Franks '68, Erika Anderson



CLASS OF 1962

FRONT ROW: David Walker, Jim Foster, Bob Wilson, Rick Rogers

MIDDLE ROW: John Wilson

BACK ROW: West Rogers, Bob Durrstein, Bob Bedell



CLASS OF 1967

Hudson Class Photo: John Hersch, Jim Thomas, Mike Rabe

Photos from Zoom reunion calls:

TOP ROW: John Braham, Jim Davidson, Curt Dunnam, Bill Durham, George Edwards, John Fowler

SECOND ROW: Ted Gaty, Bruce Harrison

THIRD ROW: Scott Johnson, Will Jordan

FOURTH ROW: Jemadari Kamara, Ted Laurenson

BOTTOM ROW: Bill Marting, Kevin McKean, Mark Potter, David Ream, John Runyan, Peter Wood

Not pictured but participated in Zoom reunion calls: Bob Cook, Paul Stephens, Al Weeks.



CLASS OF 1977

FRONT ROW: Marc Waite, Tom Parry, Meredith Broadbent, Barney Oldfield, George Hessler, Heather (Parry) Crampton, Mary Anne Doyle, Rob Loos

MIDDLE ROW: Andy Cole, Donoson FitzGerald, Chip Little, Chuck Johnson, Scott Luckner, Bill Holden, Paul Booth, Bill Gillett, Joan (Gilmore) Pidock

BACK ROW: Scott Williams, Pete Collins, Joseph Badger, Jim Smith
(Not pictured but attended: Alison Pryce)

Welcome Home | Reunion Weekend 2022



CLASS OF 1982

FRONT ROW: David Gilmore, Deb Smith, Jeff Thomas, Biff Jennings, Andre Damien, John Byrum, Tammy Eldridge

BACK ROW: Cheryl Wear, David Lund, Roe Fox, Hal Baker, Matt Dunne, Nat Leonard, Keith Hauser



CLASS OF 1987

FRONT ROW: Julie Rothschild, Liz Gillette, Webb Trenchard, Jeff Schaffer, Amy Padden, Patrick Bellar, Suzanne Day, Katie Sauber

BACK ROW: Cassie Washburn, Ron Harrington, Scott Moss, Mark Oelschlager, Jamal Kheiry, Nathan Hoffman, Jeff Nelson, Liz Burford



CLASS OF 1992

FRONT ROW: Leslie DiNovi, Tony Verplank, Stephanie Zampelli, Sarah Ruxin, Caroline Redington-Leenders, Priya Maseelall, Sonny Kanieski '93

BACK ROW: Susi Brennan, Dave Howell, Greta Foster, Greg Gaynor, Ali Day



CLASS OF 1997

FRONT ROW: Tavis Macduff, Carrie Mallozzi, Lydia Harrington, Chris Wortendyke, Kelly Howell, Amy Andrews Swegan, Tyler Swegan

Class Photos



CLASS OF 2002

FRONT ROW: Erin Graham, Brian Cochran, Will Becker, Gina Becker, Elizabeth Fehrmann, Denise Schaefer, Brenna Elliot, Betsy Schwarzbach, Kate Bowers, Erica McCarthy, Mackenzie Babichenko
MIDDLE ROW: Jamiel Maze, Dylan Sheridan, Rob McNerney, Danridge Giltz, Dave Myers, Lana Momani, Ashley Marticke, Alana Joiner, Lauren Chen
BACK ROW: Jack Godshall, Jonathan Lux, Lauren Bishop, Kristen Boutton, Katie Kelly, Michael Borosh, Justin Chen, Rob McCulloch



CLASS OF 2007

FRONT ROW: Tom Williams, Stephanie Lawrence, Ernie Pouttu, Jeff Foote, Amanda Daniels, Lauren Erb Croasdaile, Elizabeth Timmis, Alexis Caesar, Betsy Carter
BACK ROW: JT Gabriel, Tom Dempsey, Tim Dempsey, Chris Wertz, Phil Chapman, Chip Urbancic, Evan McCalley, Andy Shorten, Jordan Bilich, Mackenzie Clark, Maddy Rogers



CLASS OF 2012

FRONT ROW: Rachel Silver, Allison Forhan, Caroline Depew, Ellie McBrier, Inga Wells, Emily Kalis, Emma Horgan, Annie Wyman, Alex Eliopoulos, Genevieve Bettendorf
BACK ROW: Albert Wang, John Maust, Nathan Cain, Grant Ederer, Blanchard Richardson, Eric Raukhorst, Marc Raukhorst, Andrew Foster, Alex Fausnight, Robb Croasdaile, Aleks Dierl, Taylor Norton, Mark Shen



CLASS OF 2017

FRONT ROW: Caleigh Tiley, Annemarie Bobinsky, Julia Gasbarre, Dresden Moll, Nnamdi Ezeoke, Carmella Bangkok, Zoe Platt, Kate Winson, Elizabeth Downing
MIDDLE ROW: Zachary Bloom, Zanna Leciejewski, Abigail Goodman, Joey Randazzo, Leo Holland, Morgan Waldeck, Meghan Tam, Bridget Rabitin
BACK ROW: Derrick Hampton, Max Burkhart, Danny Croasdaile, Chris Sprunt, Ian Israelson, Duncan Ostrom, Wajdi Ahemed, Brooke Hovan, Madison Coleman

A Glimpse Inside in the Lives of Midge Karam '79, Sasha Maseelall '96 and Hannah Barry '10

At Western Reserve Academy, we are in the business of welcoming people home. Each school year, we invite students (boarding and day) to their second home. We often discuss how to give our community a home away from home, as so many are living where they learn (and work!). Our alumni are welcomed back with open arms and a large “Welcome Home” banner that hangs proudly on campus each Reunion Weekend. So, it’s no wonder that we’re extra curious about how community members occupy space on campus. We feel so fortunate to be invited in for a closer look, and we are privileged to share how three of our brilliant alumnae faculty members surround themselves with treasures that represent both the journey here and a powerful future.

The home of Fine & Performing Arts faculty member and Parents Chair for Distinguished Teaching Midge Karam '79 and her husband, Ed Wiles, at 20 Chapel St. on Western Reserve Academy's campus, is a home of many layers. From the outside, the house appears quaint — typical of historic Hudson, Ohio's Western Reserve style. Even though the building isn't as old as many on campus, it comes with its own unique history.

“This is a special house. In the '50s, a couple approached the school and said they really liked to be around kids,” Midge explained. “They offered to build the house, and then the school would have a new faculty home when the couple could no longer live here.”

Unfortunately, the wife became ill shortly after the home was finished.

“We are the third Reserve family to live in this house. When it opened up, it was theoretically early in my career to get a whole house,” Midge laughed as she remembered her brief stints elsewhere on campus. “We were asked to be sort of innkeepers when [Seymour] was a guest house.” Midge gestured to her decorated space and joked that they were not the right people for the job. “After that, I think there were only single people living there ... single people without a lot of stuff.” Midge, Ed and many beloved cats have been in their current house for over 20 years. “It’s the perfect place for us.”

The interior of 20 Chapel St. defies its traditional exterior. Take one step through the threshold, and you’re met with unexpected raftered ceilings, open space, and collected treasures rich with color, texture and culture. It’s no surprise then that Midge, the woman behind the collection, is as layered as the home, as cultured as its treasures. “Almost everything has a story.” An intricate Waterford punch bowl was brought home as a carry-on after a Thanksgiving trip with her sister.



Midge Karam

A piece of art subbed as payment for working an auction in college. A peacock feather fan from China stands proudly in a vase. A secretary, chair and other pieces from Midge's antique-collector parents are at home in the curated room. “[There are] lots of guardians in our space.”

As remarkable as all the items are, it's the stories woven into them that steal the show. If our space is a representation of who we are, then Midge's tells a story of travel and connection, so many items a reflection of where and with whom she's been. “Travel is a gift I want to give to the kids,” Midge explained in regard to traveling with her students. Austria, Ghana, China, Italy. “We sang Saturday night mass before Palm Sunday in St. Peter's in the Vatican. That was a pretty cool trip.” Midge has traveled with a student whose first trip on a plane was to China. The souvenirs are a special reminder, but it's the memories that are truly priceless.

AN INSIDE LOOK Midge Karam



1 This banner, purchased in Tibet in 2014, serves as a daily reminder of peace, presence and gratitude.

2 This painting was purchased in Ghana during Midge's sabbatical in 2013.

3 Various drums have come from all over the world. "One actually came from Anne Chapman."



4 A striking copper sculpture hanging from the open ceiling like an ornament was created by an artist in Southport, North Carolina. "This house feels very coppery to me. The artist had this really cool piece on the wall. Ed wondered if he had anything we could hang. He said, 'No, but let's go make one!' We went back in the studio, where he works with these big sheets of copper. He had a torch and was shaping and burnishing and then allowed us to do some bending too. It was really fun!"

5 This piece was purchased in Poland over New Year's, during Midge and Ed's courtship. "If you want a date for New Year's Eve, you'll come to Poland. It was our first big trip together and our first jointly purchased piece of art."



6 "When I used to run the Encore program here, this violinist came into my office one day and said, 'Do you know someplace where I could sell some rugs?' He couldn't afford to pay for college, so when he left home to come and study for the six weeks over the summer, his suitcase was full of rugs. So this was an anniversary present. I bought this one for my husband. It was before the rug store was downtown, actually. And then Len Carlson, who was the Business Manager at the time, said I could buy one for Hayden Hall. So we bought a rug for Hayden, and then I just told other people about them. So this rug came wrapped and all folded up in a kid's backpack to help him pay for his music lessons. This one came from him, too, because once I gave this to Ed, he was like, we need more."



7 A beautiful costume hangs high above like art. "The first time that we took students to China on a performing tour, one of the things that I wanted our kids to be able to see was a music store in China. We bought some gongs and some other things at the music store. The tour guide who was with us said, 'I just found something you have to see.' And it was this pop-up shop outside. Some of the people who love Beijing Opera buy the costumes of their favorite singers. Among the best \$100 I've ever spent in my life!"

8 Midge was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2019 and proudly wears this belt. "This was three years [cancer free] for me. Lucky. I feel pretty lucky."



9 LOVE WINS NECKLACE: The phrase "love wins" often accompanies Midge's signature, so her sister made her a necklace as a reminder. "Every time we're bemoaning the state of the world and politics and all that, I am reminded that love wins. I have three younger sisters, and we're all really close. We are all very artsy."

10 Much like Midge's signature long hair tucked back with a headband, her scarves are an accessory she's rarely seen without. "Here's Egypt, and here's China, and Africa is in here somewhere. This is from my aunt when she lived in India. This one is very special because Gerard Manoli gave it to me. It was Chrissy's." (Christine Manoli, beloved WRA community member, faithfully served in the Deans Office for 24 years before passing away in 2016.) When asked how many scarves she has in addition to the beautiful collection draping her entrance, Midge answered, "Drawers full."



Despite sharing classroom space with other teachers, English Department faculty member Sasha Maseelall '96 has claimed bulletin board real estate for her own collection of memories. Mainly to honor students. In Seymour Hall, room 314, there's a lovingly curated corner of shelved books, pinned art and student work: a mixed media canvas featuring charcoal sketches of mountains and a reaching hand created as a final project, a sparkly sign made for Sasha by the girls in Ells and striking student-created graphic novels showcasing incredible skill. The board has become a scrapbook of sorts, marking moments in time, relationships with students, inside jokes.

Memory for Sasha goes beyond student treasures and becomes a core part of her curriculum, especially in a course like CL Writing Memory. Consider Sojourner Truth's famous speech "Ain't I a Woman?" delivered in Akron, Ohio, a copy of which Sasha has posted beside her student work. She teaches students that the record is stylized, that Truth's words were not recorded verbatim in 1851, and students discuss what this (controversial truth) means for history and our interpretation of it.

But memory is a funny thing. Sasha shared a story about a fellow alumna who offered her own artifact during a meetup: a letter Sasha had written to her friend at just 16 years old. "It was such a weird thing to read. Enough time has passed where I feel like I was a different person, that I don't know who was writing this. But then I could hear my own voice" and it brought her right back. That's the power of an actual record, Sasha explained. "This cohort of students is very accustomed to writing because they do it on social media all the time. They write about themselves and curate their own personal online persona." But she wants students to push themselves to produce for all different kinds of platforms, mediums and audiences. "We talk about collaboration, documentation and also what doesn't get documented and why."

To this end, Sasha has students participate in Daily Dialectics: seven minutes of unedited writing to a prompt. "There's a push and pull. I tell them to just think about the prompt and write and don't worry whether you think it's good. Produce an actual record. A lot of times they end up finding a strand that they want to use for their final, and we 'glow and grow.' They put a sticky [note] on the writing they think is glowing and a sticky on one they didn't find as successful." Sasha shared her own journal, the pages filled with scripted musings, unedited and free. Memory recorded.

But it's her collection of books, specifically the permission to collect, Sasha finds significant. "My books are important to me. Before I moved back here from the West Coast, I sold all my books." She remembers feeling free without the weight of them all. And yet, once she returned to Ohio, once she knew she was staying, the collection began to grow once again. Perhaps her books help keep time, marking the days and years with every title added. Sasha's collection represents a diverse range of voices and perspectives from Jane Austen to her beloved (pun intended) Toni Morrison, Virginia Woolf to Gloria Anzaldúa, Michael Cunningham and Zadie Smith. Sasha fans through the pages of many, lovingly reading passages that inspire — recorded memory we return to year after year, class after class.



More than anything, Sasha hopes to demonstrate through writing and reading (and even returning to teach at a school that has had such a profound impact on her life) that we carry who we are with us wherever we go. Like the familiarity of her voice bubbling to the surface of that 16-year-old's letter to a friend, Sasha's unique identity and history is shared with students and community members, and her intentional curriculum challenges students to find themselves with the help of crafted words.

While Midge and Sasha have had the gift of time to settle into a return to Reserve, Science Department faculty member Hannah Barry '10 is just getting started.

After living in Boston for seven years, teaching first at a boarding school and then coaching and teaching in the city, moving back home was quite a change. "I really thought I was going to stay in Boston forever," Hannah shared. Returning to WRA was something she thought about but not necessarily part of a plan. "I find it interesting that people don't often tell the story of how a young teacher might have to land in different places. The school world is so diverse," she explained. "A lot of people think charter schools are charter schools and public schools are public schools. They're all the same. But it's important to consider what the leadership is like, what direction

AN INSIDE LOOK Sasha Maseelall



1 At the start of each new semester, Sasha hands her students a blank notecard and asks them to share a few favorites (book, artist, film, etc.) and then jot a quick sketch on the back. Combing through the notes like recipe cards, Sasha pulled one out at random, revealing a student's fast rendering of Sasha — messy and endearing, cementing a quiet moment in the classroom.

2 Not long after the opening of our Wang Innovation Center, one of Sasha's students designed and printed this shirt after reading *The Bear Trees* in her class. We were so struck by the art that we missed the misspelling of Ms. Kingsolver's name — but an English teacher has a keen editing eye! Despite the tiny error, it hangs on Sasha's wall with obvious pride.



3 There are student comics, prints and sketches up and down the classroom whiteboard and bulletin board, along with notes on scratch paper and letters to a class. One post-it simply reads "Yo, making mistakes is alright! You will be okay" and another note says, "I think what's worse than doing wrong is failing to do good." It's not obvious who wrote or crafted what — but Sasha knows, and she is happy to tell their story.



4 Before departing WRA, English Faculty member Dr. Dan Dyer generously donated his many literary mugs, and now they belong to Sasha. Her mini library of mugs feature authors such as Mark Twain, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Emily Dickinson, James Baldwin and more.



5 What English teacher doesn't have stacks and shelves of books, ready to grab any copy at a moment's notice? Our time spent with Sasha included moments where she plucked a nearby book, flipped confidently through the pages to find a passage that she couldn't help but recite. We heard from Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*, Gloria Anzaldúa's *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza*, Gene Luen Yang's *American Born Chinese* — and they, among many others, were immediately added to a must-read list.

6 Conversations with Sasha are a bright and fascinating whorl of information and memories, and we realized, much later, that Sasha didn't actually share why this particular piece is so meaningful. What this reveals is how easily Sasha's discussions enrapture, and time passes in a flash. If this is what it's like to be a student in her class, the appeal is obvious.



7 At the start of each class, there is a writing exercise that Sasha calls a dialectic. Borrowed from her time as a WRA undergrad, Sasha has her students write from a prompt for seven minutes, jotting the words down on a notebook they keep for the duration of the class. They don't have to like what they put down, it's all a part of the "glow and grow" process. They can note weaker passages, where there's perhaps room for growth, and passages that have a spark.



8 These are some of the few pieces that weren't crafted by students! Sasha loves these prints, so much so that she asked Facilities team member Terry Smith for his help when one of them became trapped in a crevice between wall and wall-mounted desk. Terry successfully rescued the Frederick Douglass print, and may it be — as it reads on the poster — forever free!



Hannah Barry



the school wants to go, how the school treats the students, how they discipline. It's fascinating. It's a journey."

It's this thoughtful consideration that brought Hannah back to Reserve. "All the different schools had great characteristics. One was student-centered; one was athletically competitive, guiding me to be a better teacher and coach; and one was very small and focused." Hannah grew as a teacher over the course of these experiences, but she wondered if perhaps there was a place she could find everything in one. "At Reserve, there's teamwork. The value of sports is still really important. And there's a big enough community where you're able to collaborate with people, but not so huge that you don't get to know the students. So, I got to sample around and found all of this in one spot." Hannah shared framed art featuring two hearts cut from a map, one Cleveland and one Boston. "Handcrafted!" she said with pride. Pieces of her heart scattered.

Hannah then gestured to the necklace around her neck, the seal proudly representing her Reserve experience as a student and now as a faculty member. Perhaps Hannah's love of travel was inspired in part by her teacher-turned-colleague Midge,

who chaperoned Hannah's trips abroad to the United Kingdom and Italy when she was a student. Hannah shared souvenirs from her travels. "I've been collecting salt and pepper shakers since I was probably around 10 years old. I got the little guards when I went to Caterham School with Western Reserve and the hugging shakers when I went to Italy." Hannah did not originally set out to join choir but was encouraged by her grandpa. "My grandpa really wanted me to sing. He loved going to concerts that the students would put on, so it was a little convincing." After joining choir her sophomore year, she enjoyed it much that she continued for three years.

Plus, her trips abroad sparked a love of adventure. In college, Hannah participated in a marine biology program in Tanzania for four months. An intricately carved wooden box reflects this special time in her life. "I stayed with a host family, and there were 13 of us from different schools around the country. Another kid's host family hand-engraved these boxes." Hannah has not settled on something special enough to store inside and jokes that for now it holds tax documents. "Maybe photos or notes from students." It's students, after all, at the center of Hannah's quest for place.

And, of course, an added bonus of returning to Northeast Ohio is her family. Her mother, Betsy Barry, is a fixture in the College Counseling Office, and her father, Tom, has had such an interesting involvement with WRA as well. From cheese tasting with Christine Borrmann's French class to sports commentary, he "just loves to be involved," says Hannah.

Central to her experience is her family, Hannah explained, as she shared a photo from Top Golf Las Vegas during a 60th birthday celebration for her dad. "As an only child, it made me willing to move around because it can be hard to find your spot if you're tied to a 30-mile radius. I had the freedom to go, the advantage of trying out all those different places," Hannah explained. And then the pull to return. "I'm at home here," she shared. "I love how we have access to so many things. I don't have to worry about my car. I can walk to get coffee. It's nice to know your neighbors." Even when they're students!

Hannah said it's surprisingly quiet in the dorms. "When I'm getting ready in the morning, it's peaceful." She credits good insulation and sleepy teenagers for the quiet. "I'm sure they're still sleeping. And when I leave around 7:30 a.m., that's when I hear the music blasting."

After covering a number of topics, including the best place to grab coffee at the West Side Market, random guerilla art featuring anthropomorphic pierogies and lobster rolls from the Browns game, not carrying umbrellas or wearing jackets as teenagers, and propagating spider plant babies, it was time to go. But not before we admired the first of the beautifully painted leaves falling from the tree outside Hannah's window. In a few weeks, the branches will be bare. As we all bundle and walk campus in the dead of winter, hopefully we'll remember to admire the way the sun helps the snow sparkle. And then we'll circle back to spring and summer once again. It's no wonder then that so many choose to circle back to Reserve as well — that familiar pull home, surrounded by what was and what will be, a collection of memories that reflect the Reserve experience.

AN INSIDE LOOK Hannah Barry

1

RESERVE SOCCER HAT: "I played soccer at Reserve and played in college. Now I coach soccer. Actually learning to play in goal, which is what I played in college, was huge." Hannah's Reserve coach, Joe DiBiase, suggested she try goalie despite never having played before. "He said, 'Oh, you've got good hands. You play basketball. You'll figure it out.' Goalie took me to college at Franklin & Marshall."



2

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE HAT: "F&M is so similar to Reserve, and I can't believe more kids don't go there. It felt like the same community and really the same climate. The support I got from professors and advisors felt very Reserve. F&M felt big enough that I was really in college, but not so big that I was a number."



3

WELL-LOVED BOOK: This book was loaned to Hannah by a student in Bicknell after she suggested they read a book over the long weekend. One of the boys joked that it was a terrible idea, and others were reminded of how much they loved reading!



4

SALT AND PEPPER SHAKERS: Hannah has collected shakers since she was 10 years old. She has many more not displayed and is very proud of her souvenirs from trips abroad to Italy and the United Kingdom while at Reserve.



5

CARVED WOODEN BOX: Hannah purchased the wooden box when she was studying in Tanzania in college. A fellow host-family member carved them by hand! "I wanted it to be my carry-on, but the first plane was too small, so they made me check it. My dad's dad helped me fix where it got crumbled around the edges." Hannah is waiting for something perfectly special to store inside.



6

HEART ART: Hannah created the art herself as it represents her love for (and roots in!) both Boston and Cleveland.



7

FAMILY PHOTO: This photo was taken in Las Vegas as the family celebrated her dad's 60th birthday. Family is very important to Hannah, who has many cousins. (In fact, she lived with her cousin Erin in Boston!) "It was great to live with my cousin in Boston because, at that point, I was still new to the city, and she knew everything. She had grown up there. She's almost better than a sister. We knew each other enough that we could just go home and be funny."



8

PEWTER NECKLACE: Hannah treasures her Western Reserve Academy seal necklace, which commemorates her time as a student and now a faculty member.





Meet WRA's Newest Community Members

ACADEMIC OFFICE



Eric LaPointe

Modern and Classical Language Faculty

Graduate of Brown University and Concordia University

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

I'm proud of rising to the challenges of some of the most robust academic environments out there and of having lots of success in my studies. I was the first person in my family tree to attend an Ivy League school, and I graduated with a 4.0 GPA. During one semester at Brown, I even took an overload so that I could formally study five different languages at once. My friends said I was crazy, but that semester was a dream for me as a total "language nerd"! I'm proud of the success I had as the first Director of my former school's International Student Program and the way in which our team built that program from the ground up. I feel that I was an accomplished manager and mentor of ESL teachers in that role and of classics teachers in my recent time as Classics Department Chair. I am starting two big journeys at once as I join WRA while also starting work on my classics

Ph.D. from the University of Florida, and I am proud of the way that I continue to push myself in these areas.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

First and foremost, I am excited to be in an academic community that deeply values and celebrates learning. One of the best parts of being a teacher is working with students who are intellectually curious and who can stimulate further learning for me as well. I came to Reserve because I wanted to challenge myself to grow as an educator, scholar, coach, mentor and leader. As I said to others during my visit and interviews, I was looking for a place with a higher ceiling and lots of room to grow and take on new challenges. I graduated from a boarding high school, and I strongly believe (from personal experience) that boarding schools can be special places. I'm so excited to be a residential faculty member at WRA and part of the Wood House team!

What brings you personal joy?

I am very lucky to be able to say that my professional and educational pursuits bring me immeasurable joy. Whenever these pursuits have worn me out, I find joy in peaceful moments with my dog and with friends, in cooking at home and in reading thought-provoking works of literature. I find sports (both playing and watching as a fan) and music to be especially joyful hobbies.



Sean White

Learning Support Specialist

Graduate of Xavier University

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

I take pride in assisting the kids I coach obtain a college opportunity. Nothing makes me more proud than hearing success stories down the line after working with me.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I am most excited about the new relationships I will build. Growing and developing professionally is important, but none of that is possible at a boarding school without building solid relationships.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

The community aspect drew me to WRA, and a community revolves around people. Everyone I have spoken with has been supportive and talks about how wonderful the campus, faculty and students really are. Enjoying what you do means you have to enjoy working with the people around you.

What brings you personal joy?

Getting outside and playing golf brings me personal joy. I also love to travel and eat at new places with my family and friends.



CeCe Payne

English Faculty

Graduate of Wesleyan University

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

Winning the Vanguard Prize upon graduation from Wesleyan was a major accomplishment for me! I'm a first-gen college graduate, so graduation in itself was such a major milestone that I wasn't even thinking about the prospect of winning a university prize. The award recognizes "excellence and contributions to maintaining the university: racial diversity," and up to that point, I hadn't even processed just how much time and effort I had been putting in to developing my community and supporting efforts to improve diversity and equity. (But

looking back ... it was quite a lot!) So receiving that award was really humbling and a huge honor for me. It was nice to feel like four years of hard work were being recognized—even if someone did it before I could for myself.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

The opportunity to be in a learning community again! Everyone talks about how being in college is one of your last opportunities to live in a strong caring community, and as a lover and believer in the power of community, that has never sat well with me. So the chance to immerse myself into a new community and contribute to its strength and growth is incredibly exciting to me. I can't wait to form new connections and learn new things about myself in this new environment.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

Not to be too repetitive, but the community! There is something so uniquely special about the boarding school experience, and as a day school alum, I'm really excited to witness that firsthand. But truly, I believe that this environment is one that will support my growth into the professional I want to be, but I also know that I can make an impact in this space. I'm so excited to connect with students at such a formative moment in their lives, and especially with historically underrepresented members of the community who are figuring out their place in an increasingly complicated world.

What brings you personal joy?

My communities of care—my family, my friends, my support system(s) bring me immense joy. Beyond that, I absolutely love sports. (SportsCenter is one of my favorite shows.) My biggest love is women's soccer. Finally, I love writing so much. I believe it's such a powerful tool of expression and discovery, and I love the feeling of perfectly describing something that seems abstract. Putting ideas on paper brings me a special kind of joy, and I'm extra excited to share that with students this year.



Hannah Barry '10

Science Faculty

Graduate of Franklin & Marshall College

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

My proudest professional experience is creating an interdisciplinary project with my fellow science colleagues at a former school. The project combined what the students learned about local wildlife,

scale and slope, and persuasive writing in science, math and English classes, respectively. It's now an annual project that students look forward to!

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I am most excited to work with students and fellow faculty members from all over the world and to learn from their unique perspectives.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

I graduated from WRA in 2010, so the campus and the people here have always had a special place in my heart. I am drawn to the students and faculty who are excited to participate in a vast array of activities and the warm community spirit.

What brings you personal joy?

Being outdoors and spending time with my family brings me joy!



Julie Badynee

Director of Learning Support

Graduate of Michigan State University and Northeastern Illinois University

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

My new position as the Director of The Academic Center (TAC) at WRA brings me a great sense of pride. Over 20 years ago, I started my career in student support as a special education teacher in a rural school outside of Salt Lake City, Utah. Since then, I have had the opportunity to work in a variety of middle and high schools throughout the United States and most recently at an international school in Kingston, Jamaica. I feel that the years I have dedicated to engaging in professional development, building relationships in the field and continually focusing on best practices for struggling students have culminated with this remarkable opportunity.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

My new position at Western Reserve Academy presents an opportunity for me to build relationships with every department, faculty member and student in the community. I am most excited about being a part of the dynamic culture of the boarding school community because student support in this type of environment can mean a variety of things to different people. My main objective in TAC will be to provide students with the support and strategies they need to experience joy and success in their academic pursuits.

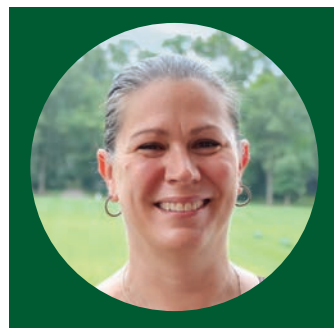
However, student support can and should also support our admission efforts, help with development initiatives, provide creative ideas to the administrative team, team with teachers to implement differentiated teaching strategies and support parents as they continue to strive for healthy relationships with their children. I am looking forward to collaborating and supporting efforts in each of these areas in the years ahead.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

The job description for the Director of TAC was my initial draw to Reserve. The position spoke directly to my experience and where I want to be in my career at this point in time. However, the draw to Reserve continued throughout the interview process. Due to extenuating circumstances, the interview process was conducted virtually on RingCentral. Although the interviews were virtual, I was able to meet so many different people in the community, and the entire process was energizing, interesting and full of joy. I found myself looking forward to the interviews because they felt like collegial conversations full of brainstorming, creative problem solving and even some laughter. I felt myself really wanting to work with the faculty and students that I met through these interviews. Truthfully, I couldn't imagine working anywhere else at this point in my career and feel that this is a natural fit for both me and Western Reserve Academy.

What brings you personal joy?

I am most happy when I am spending time with people. I enjoy spending family time with my husband and teenage son. I enjoy long walks with my dog, Quincy. I love attending my son's soccer games (and frankly missing half the action because I am talking with the parents!). I am appreciative of neighbors stopping by to say hello and students or colleagues dropping in to my office to share their thoughts. I am especially joyful when these interactions can happen outdoors on a long walk or while enjoying a coffee at an outside cafe. I am also grateful for the regenerating opportunities I find in yoga, running, kickboxing and quiet reading.



Martha Bayliss '88

Fine & Performing Arts Department Faculty

Graduate of University of Michigan and Montana State University

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

I think my proudest educational, and thus professional, accomplishment is completing my master's degree whilst living abroad, working full time in a new school and still

being a parent and spouse, all without any major casualties!

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I'm just delighted to be here! I've been trying to figure out how to be part of the community as an educator/employee since knowing we were moving to Hudson back in 2015! Our first year back (2017), I volunteered with the Girls Track program in order to reconnect with the community. I was lucky to then be hired to assist over the past four years, as well as picking up the Field Hockey assistant coaching position last year. I was President of the Parents@WRA in its first year; yet another connection! When the role of ceramics faculty member came up, I was thrilled to take on the role. So far, I'm loving the energy, warmth, welcome and appreciation that is shown each and every day. It's been an awesome restart to my connection here!

What brings you personal joy?

Personal joy—depends on the day! ;-) I love to cook and make art. I enjoy time spent in my garden, with a good book, with a fabulous glass of wine and, of course, with my family. I love hiking through the Cuyahoga Valley National Park or rambling around Hudson Springs Park, right down the road. I love to travel.

ADMISSION OFFICE



Matt Shields

Assistant Director of Admission

Graduate of University of Mount Olive

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

My proudest professional moments were the 2021 and 2022 spring seasons when my Women's Lacrosse team at Walsh University won back-to-back regular-season and conference championships, having multiple all-conference, positional Players of the Year and winning Coach of the Year for the conference. Upon taking over the program in 2019, I set high but attainable expectations for the girls who started with me as freshmen, and it was incredible to witness their buy-in to better themselves not only on the field but also in academic areas. Those truly are years and memories in my life I will cherish forever.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I am most excited about the opportunity to be a part of the Reserve community and the Admission team. I feel that having the opportunity to work in Admission gives me and other team members a unique opportunity and position to build relationships with all students choosing Reserve. In addition, it allows us the opportunity to build relationships with students from the start of their time here until their time at Reserve is complete. I am also excited for the opportunity to lead and coach the Girls Lacrosse team. My mission is to help build a positive team culture, create a recognized program that builds girls of high character and create leaders on and off the field, preparing them for their futures.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

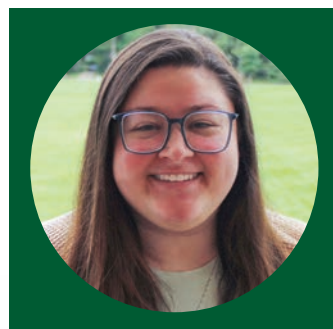
Upon stepping on campus, Reserve gave me a sense of community and support that was felt during my visit and interview process. It was very evident how passionately everyone cares about each other as well as every student in the community. I was also drawn to Reserve after touring the campus and seeing the opportunities that are available for student growth in the classroom and on the athletic fields. In addition, the athletic department and the Head of School's support for athletics aligns with my vision for the Girls Lacrosse program and its future.

What brings you personal joy?

Personal joy for me is my passion for coaching and watching the light bulb come on for athletes when you help them learn a new skill or concept. Also spending time and traveling with my girlfriend, Erin, and training and playing with our puppy, Mia. In addition, a round of 18 holes on the golf course never fails to bring some joy.



ATHLETICS OFFICE



Caitlyn Schooner '16

Assistant to the Director of Athletics

Graduate of University of Akron

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

I graduated with my Bachelor of Science in criminology and criminal justice in May of 2021. Finally reaching that finish line was one of my proudest accomplishments!

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I'm most excited about the opportunity to work with Pete Hutchins and Tara Bowen and see the growth of the Athletic Department over the next couple of years.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

Reserve has always been a big support system in my life, so being back here is an awesome experience. I'm excited I get to work with some of my favorite people who helped shape me into who I am today. The Reserve community is so supportive of each other, and I am excited to be a part of that.

What brings you personal joy?

I am a bookworm. I love sitting down to read a good mystery or crime fiction book!

so helpful and organized. I had also been considering transitioning to high school counseling and felt like WRA would be a great fit for me!

What brings you personal joy?

Music brings me so much joy. I sang in choirs, played piano and guitar, was in every musical in high school and college, and even met my husband through music! My family is very musical, and we love getting out the karaoke machine whenever we can. I find joy in sharing and making music with others, and I appreciate that music meets me where I am. Some of my favorite artists that I've been listening to recently are: Frank Ocean, Allen Stone, Prince and India Arie!

OFFICE OF COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

COLLEGE COUNSELING



Vanessa Grandison

Associate Director of College Counseling

Graduate of Denison University and Purdue University Global

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

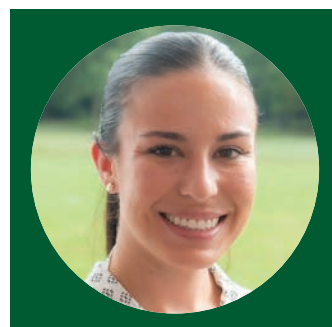
My proudest educational accomplishment was completing my master's degree in higher education. I started my program while I was working full time in college admissions, and it was difficult at times to juggle both. I learned a lot along the way, and I'm thankful that I challenged myself to finish strong in my program even when it was tough!

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I'm so excited to work with the College Counseling Office! The entire team has made me feel so welcome, and the transition to this new role has been wonderful.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

I recruited/assisted WRA students through the college admission process while working at my previous institutions and each visit to Hudson was lovely. I enjoyed working with WRA students, and the College Counseling team was always



Allison Hernandez

Counselor

Graduate of The Ohio State University and Youngstown State University

What is your proudest professional or educational accomplishment?

My proudest professional or educational accomplishment was attending The Ohio State University for my bachelor's degree and then continuing my education at Youngstown State University to obtain my Master of Education in counseling. In addition, acquiring two licensures in clinical mental health and school counseling.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I am most excited about helping students achieve success in all aspects of their lives and teaching necessary skills to optimize health and personal wellness.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

The community, culture and atmosphere drew me to Western Reserve Academy. I liked the cohesiveness and bond that the staff exhibit.

What brings you personal joy?

Spending time with family and friends and being able to help others bring me personal joy and fulfillment.

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING



Joseph Randazzo '17

Digital & Social Media
Manager

*Graduate of Fordham
University*

**What is your
proudest professional
or educational
accomplishment?**

Receiving my English degree from Fordham. It was an arduous process of sorts. I'm most proud of the pursuit of my passion rather than a degree that may have landed me a huge job right out of school. I feel comfortable saying that now since — 20 months later — I do have a job I love.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

An office with a big window, my former professors' double takes when they see me back on campus and the opportunity to bring a fresh voice to a place I so dearly cherish. We have some big milestones ahead, and I am thrilled to be a part of each.

What drew you to Reserve?

Initially, as a 14-year-old prospective student, it was largely Coach Haller, and the draw remains the same today. Additionally, though, at this point in my life, Reserve presents a balance of comfort and challenge. The opportunity to grow in an environment that has already helped me to do so is singular, rare and coveted.

What brings you personal joy?

Coffee, baseball, satire novels, Harry Potter, writing and when my cat, Walter, doesn't ignore me.

STUDENT LIFE OFFICE



Ally Graff

Student Life Assistant

*Graduate of Franciscan
University of Steubenville*

**What is your
proudest professional
or educational
accomplishment?**

I am most proud of simply graduating with my bachelor's degree. There were definitely times, especially being the Class of 2020, at the height of the pandemic, when I questioned whether it would happen. It was a great, but hard journey that I wouldn't trade for the world.

What are you most excited about in regard to your new job?

I am most excited about connecting with students and getting to know the WRA community as a whole. I have never experienced a boarding school environment, and I am extremely excited to become part of such a unique place.

What drew you to Western Reserve Academy?

I was drawn to WRA because of the wonderful things I had seen and heard about the community. I have heard nothing but great things about the students, faculty and staff; and in my career I want nothing more than to feel proud of the establishment I work for, which I can definitely see in WRA.

What brings you personal joy?

Spending time with my friends and family or in nature brings me personal joy. Also being creative in anything from painting to upcycling furniture to playing instruments. I love to express my creativity and to spend time with people I love.

So Long, Lois Howell

AND THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING

This year, we bid farewell to our longtime Registrar
and the first recipient of the Leonard S. Carlson Award

Inside every great school there is someone like Lois Howell — an expert wrangler of thousands of requests and data coming in from all directions. They handle the many details that may seem small but, like a photo mosaic, when viewed from a distance, depict a seismic portrait of everything that goes into running a school like Western Reserve Academy.

First hired in the Advancement Office in 1994, Lois started her Reserve career as the Assistant to the Special Events Coordinator. At the time, the school had just begun a capital campaign and was working with an outside company on the initiative. Lois became the data liaison between the two. In true “the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree” style, Lois’ daughter Kelly Howell ’97 now serves as Director of Advancement Services, another role requiring titanic skills in organization and detail management. Lois’ two other children also attended Reserve: Karli Howell Neilsen ’03 and Brett Howell ’07. Eighteen months after her first day, Lois moved to the Academic Office to work with Director of Studies John Haile as the school Registrar, and 26 years later, it’s proved to be a perfect fit.

To understand a typical day in a Registrar’s office, you must first accept that there really isn’t a “typical” day. In fact, the mark of a great Registrar is accepting that you simply won’t get everything done that you were expecting to do in one day. Lois explained this while cheerfully gesturing to a to-do list from August — still going strong in October. That makes sense for anyone who has spent time in Lois’ office and heard the phones ring, watched students stop by to make adjustments to their schedules, and observed request after request from people with pressing



deadlines. Lois is the one entering grades as they come in from faculty members and following up with anyone who misses the due date. “But that’s okay,” she qualified. “You can’t get angry, because you know how busy they are.”

A parent calls looking for a confirmation letter, and not a second after Lois hangs up the phone, a local school district calls for a transportation reimbursement list. There are work permits, enrollment letters, alumni transcripts, transferring credits for new students, coordinating class schedules, and reacting to sudden changes with grace and accommodation.

Any ACT, SAT, PSAT or AP exam taken on Western Reserve Academy grounds happens because Lois makes sure students get registered, and locates and trains the proctors who administer the exams. She keeps the College Counseling Office in the loop so they can track their students’ progress and serve as supportive guides throughout the college admission process. In the days when WRA taught AP curriculum, there might be 700 AP exams in one year alone. It’s safe to say that Lois has scheduled thousands upon thousands of tests, helping generations of Pioneers take their first steps toward a future after Reserve.

All in all, it’s many, many moving parts. Lois compares her role to quilting, and we imagine the Registrar is a lot like the thread that fastens the many pieces together, nearly hidden from view but a crucial part of the construction. How fitting, then, that she is someone who finds time to visit classes to teach sewing. Lois is a frequent class contributor in E-Textiles and Fabrics,



stopping in the Wang Innovation Center to show students the ins and outs of sewing machines. After a few days of her careful instruction, students have made their own pajama pants and pillowcases.

If that weren't more than enough, Lois found time to coach! A few years after managing her daughter's youth softball team, former Director of Athletics & Afternoon Programs Herb Haller '85 cornered her and asked if she would consider coaching JV softball. He assured her that she'd have a fellow coach on her staff to help fill any skill gaps she was concerned about bringing to team leadership.

She needn't have worried. She shared story after story of young athletes who clearly loved playing for Coach Howell, some of whom started not knowing how to catch (true story) and made many initial mistakes but learned from them and had a great deal of fun. In a recent survey, alumnae were asked to identify a female member of the community who left a positive impression. Listed among the many responses was "Mrs. Howell!!! Always a friendly ear to talk to and one of the best coaches!"

Lois' last day at WRA is planned for January 2023, and for her, it'll be a bittersweet event. She's looking forward to traveling with her husband, Bill, and hopes to hop into a car (perhaps his celery green restored '66 Mustang) and head in any direction with no plan set and no road mapped (ironic, considering all of the paths Lois has helped direct over the years!). But she will

deeply miss the community that she has cherished for so long. She connects annually with John Haile, one of her first bosses, and nearly every Wednesday has lunch with former coworkers Phyl Hrach and Blanche Burns.

"It's the people that I'll miss," she shared. "How can you not miss the people here?"

In her office, there's a glass jar with a silver lid. Inside, there are fun-size Crunch bars, Kit-Kats and Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. Taped on the front of the jar are these brightly colored yet stern words: "Candy Club Members Only." The Candy Club's founding members were faculty young'uns visiting the office who kept the jar stocked with their favorite candy (examples include Class of 2016 Max Borrmann's preferred Smarties and Class of 2019 Nathan Chlysta's mini M&M's). Flabbergasted that so many students would freely take their candy that they had come to depend on, they decreed that to be in the Candy Club (and therefore have access to the jar) you must submit a bag of candy.

It is clear that Lois adores this jar, the memory associated with it and all of the memories from her many years at Reserve. And that love is returned tenfold. We don't know what we will do without our thread holding us together, but we know that like any great Registrar, she will be the best teacher for her successor (the wonderful Robyn Kosco '94) — and like any great friend, she won't be far.



5 Brilliant Years of Women



On Thursday, Sept. 29, Western Reserve Academy welcomed 50 alumnae in Pierce House, flooding the historic home with laughter, light and sisterhood. It was the first event for a new initiative and special travel series, *50 Brilliant Years of Women*, one that salutes 50 years since our school's return to coeducation in 1972. What an irresistible opportunity for community, celebration and connection among our female graduates, and a truly golden anniversary for Dear Old Reserve.

What could be a more fitting setting for the celebration than Pierce House? It's the home of our first female Head of School, Suzanne Walker Buck, who joined WRA in 2019 to lead our community forward, fearlessly and thoughtfully. Through her stewardship, we have established a strategic

plan and illuminated a path toward our future, celebrating our upcoming Bicentennial and embracing our motto of *Lux et Veritas*. At Pierce House, her joy and gratitude were palpable as she conversed with WRA women across the ages. As she addressed the room, she thanked everyone for their presence: "Each and every one of you, just by being here, has already made a difference."

Every decade was represented at the gathering, including a member of the original wave of freshmen who graduated in 1976. What a strange and memorable time for these young women, all of whom fit the true definition of a Pioneer! So many insights and stories were shared (including a colorful tale of a resourceful planting of geraniums in the admittedly unnecessary urinals in the girls' repurposed locker room). Also



Our Time to Shine

Celebrating 50 Years of Women in the Modern Era



in attendance were faculty and staff members who are fellow female graduates. They played a special role in the evening, each reciting a snippet cataloging the history (her-story?) of women at Reserve.

For all involved, *50 Brilliant Years* is as much a celebration as it is a call to action and impact. As Suzanne addressed the room, she touched on the undeniable power of female philanthropy. Based on research compiled by the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, we know that women currently control one-third of the world's wealth. Studies found that women held \$12 trillion in assets in 2021 and are projected to have \$30 trillion by 2030. At Reserve, though only 9% of alumnae contributed to The WRA Fund last year, this formidable group raised nearly \$250,000 alone. It's hard not to imagine the

impact a united alumnae effort could have at this school and for future young women.

50 Brilliant Years challenges the women of Reserve to come together to create an endowed scholarship for future female students who demonstrate significant financial need. It's the first scholarship designated specifically for young women, and one that will open doors for future female Pioneers. After meeting so many incredible women at Pierce House, it's clear that every alumna has a unique story to share, but a through line is the Reserve experience — and the knowledge that it can be life changing. In the spirit of *Lux*, we've shared the phrase "It's our time to shine!" Indeed, it's a fitting and rallying call to arms! Let's shine a bright light on the women of Reserve and celebrate this historic milestone — and let's light the way forward for the next generation.



Invest in the future of the next generation of WRA alumnae leaders and join today!

For more information, to make a gift, or to discuss creative ways to help elevate women at Reserve, contact Senior Director of Leadership Gifts Ruth Andrews at andrewsr@wra.net or 330.650.9700

or

Director of Leadership Gifts Amy Andrews Swegan '97 at swegana@wra.net or 330.650.9758.





We Asked... You Answered...

We've been reaching out to our female graduates for meaningful memories, personal reflections and new insights. What we've discovered (but already suspected) is that our alumnae network is a vast community that spans the globe, full of interesting and passionate women living lives of purpose. Below, we've shared some of the findings they generously shared with us.

What was your proudest achievement while attending Reserve?

- Growing up and learning the responsibility of independence. Studying really hard to establish lifelong habits. Friends and fun!
- Co-founding the Black History Program.
- My 400M hurdle record that still stands today — 20 years later!
- Learning that I could make a "home" anywhere I chose.
- Lifelong friendships and appreciation of excellent teaching. The latter helped me decide to be a teacher myself.

Who is a female member of your WRA community who has made a positive impact on you personally, and how did they make their impact? (Editor's Note: It is quite possible that every single female faculty member, past and present, was mentioned in the replies. This is just a short selection in a very long and appreciative list.)

- Suzanne Walker Buck. It is inspiring to have the first female Head of School be such a strong and joyful leader.
- Wanda Boesch is an incredible educator, mentor and member of the Reserve community. When I lived in Cartwright House during my senior year, Ms. Boesch was always so kind, smart and welcoming. She had such a huge impact and is definitely a great role model. I'm so grateful to have had a mentor like Ms. Boesch!
- Marie Fiedler. As a wonderful teacher for chemistry and AP chemistry, she inspired my interest in the topic and has influenced my teaching pedagogy.
- Dr. Pethel is an amazing teacher who taught me so much and who is always incredibly kind.
- Corinne Van Dame Davis. She made everyone feel important and special. She was a very encouraging, loving and disciplined woman.
- Anne Chapman — she had such a powerful intellect and demanding standards. She never "dumbed down" her classes but rather expected and encouraged her students to rise to their greatest potential.
- Midge Karam encouraged me and helped me build my confidence in choir. I started the class basically too shy to let the person next to me hear me sing and ended

up absolutely loving singing Carl Orff's Carmina Burana (and many other songs) with the rest of the choir. It was a great lesson for me that trying things that seem scary can be incredibly rewarding.

- Ruth Andrews (and her family). As a boarder, it wasn't always easy being away from home. Ruth and her family welcomed me and many others into their home for a homecooked meal, a shoulder to lean on and, of course, lots of laughter.
- Velia Pryce, who treated me like one of her own children and helped me to see that I had something to offer to the world.

What makes you light up?

- I'm passionate about mentoring, coaching and advising — which, working in all-girls settings for almost 20 years has helped! In my downtime, reading and sailing "lights me up."
- I am most proud of the fact that I reinvented myself in my 40s. I went back to school and started a brand new career in healthcare. I was inspired by my own grandmother, who got her pilot's license at 50. It is never too late to change your direction in life, and education is never a waste!
- Supporting missions that help underserved women and children!
- Women in STEM or STEAM light me up. I graduated with a B.A. in economics and mathematics. Women in STEM rock!
- I am a social worker by education and practice. I am honored to be a part of a profession that, at its core, believes that people are inherently good. I light up about amplifying others' strengths so that they can show up fully as their authentic and powerful selves. I love a good empowerment moment. I also love cooking, being a vegan, gardening, and natural fibers and textiles.
- After many years of practicing law and raising a family. I am delighted to be cooking and growing all my own fresh herbs and vegetables. Exploring different cultures through food opens such a window to humanity and the wonderful gifts our earth supplies. Thank you for the opportunity to return to what I considered the greatest institution of learning that I was privileged to attend.
- Being appreciated and knowing nothing has been wasted are things that inspire me to give freely. Helping people see how they can live in less pain, whether it's physical or mental or spiritual, is a personal passion of mine. Anyone who wants to improve their own life is an inspiration to me. Blooming flowers, happy trees, free food, shiny things, playing rugby are all things that "light me up."



Western Reserve Academy Unveils New War Memorial on Campus

It has been said that the greatest casualty of war is to be forgotten. The imperative to remember is the driving force behind a new memorial recently dedicated on campus. On Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, Western Reserve Academy held a Commemoration & Dedication ceremony of the Alumni War Memorial and an unveiling of the new brick and bronze structure that stands, staid and proud, between the Chapel and Seymour Hall.

The WRA Alumni War Memorial honors alumni of the school who gave their lives in service to the country. It bears the names of those who died in the Civil War, World War II, the Cold War, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. (Western Reserve Academy did not suffer any student-military casualties during World War I and the War in Afghanistan.) Also included on the memorial are two civilians who were killed in other military conflicts, Jordi Pujol '86, a journalist who was killed in Sarajevo while covering that conflict, and Todd Weaver '89, a businessman who lost his life in the Twin Towers on 9/11.

The War Memorial Committee, led by Harrison "Hub" Bubb '57, includes fellow WRA alumni Brooke Anderson '57 and Dr. Loren Raymond '58, as well as Christopher Bach, an

architectural and landscape designer from Hudson. They have expressed profound gratitude to the school and those who made gifts to make such a monument possible, but thanks and appreciation are owed to them many times over. It is unmistakably because of this team and their tireless efforts that such a beautiful memorial has been brought to life.

"While the main goal of the WRA Alumni War Memorial is to honor our alumni who have paid the ultimate price, it is also hoped that it will serve as both a warning and a lesson," shared Anderson. "The warning is never to ignore danger; the lesson is that free people—if threatened—have to fight for their freedom and the freedom of their children and future generations."

Head of School Suzanne Walker Buck says the memorial's prominent location on campus is apt, particularly because the location marks a shift from a spot on campus that has become less traveled with time.

"Those we seek to remember were central to our campus and our country," Buck said.

Inside the Chapel, the school community and more than 50 invited guests filled the pews to capacity. As the program



began, everyone stayed quiet and still, only breaking the solemn silence for applause and standing with respect for the program speakers. Student Body co-Presidents Landon Allis '23 and Jordanne Nichols '23 introduced the War Memorial Committee and the guest speaker, Lt. General (Ret.) Daniel W. Christman '61.

Lt. General Christman, now retired from the U.S. Army, is the former Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy and the current Senior Vice President for International Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Christman was born in Youngstown, Ohio; was raised in Hudson; and graduated first in his class from West Point. He was awarded four times with the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the nation's highest peacetime service award. What an honor it was to hear from someone with such a rich and storied service to this country.

It is admittedly difficult to pull small excerpts from Lt. General Christman's deeply moving remarks, and we strongly encourage all to read his speech in full on the following pages. He recalled his time as a student, gazing at the World War II plaque inside the Bicknell Gymnasium, softly reciting the names of the 46 young men who gave their lives to their country. Why so many, he wondered, from a school so small?

"As I served in the Army, fought in Vietnam, and became familiar later in life with battlefields like Gettysburg and Normandy and Antietam, the size of the sacrifices from this school became, perhaps, more understandable," he shared. "This school produces leaders. Always has. And leaders *lead* from the front. 'Follow Me' and 'Rangers Lead the Way' became part of my soul, starting at West Point and through 40 years in uniform. In Vietnam, for helicopter assaults, leaders got on the helicopters LAST and got OFF first; we were last in any chow line, knew our soldiers' names, and met them where they worked: on patrol, on firebases, in their foxholes or fighting positions or bunkers; and we tried to know about their families. That's what leaders do."

At the conclusion of Lt. General's speech, members of The Academy Choir stood in the upper level pews to perform *In Flanders Fields*. This was followed by a special presentation organized by Dr. Lisabeth Robinson, longtime faculty member of the Social Science Department, who compiled research on the WRA students who lost their lives either serving this country or through a military conflict. There were slides about each student and details about their time at the school, their talents and their passions. So many listed were scarcely older

than the students who stood at the podium to read their names, to tell their stories.

At the end of the Chapel ceremony, the program extended to the outdoors, where invited guests walked to the site of the memorial wall. On Lawn's Wide Sweep, our American and WRA flags stood at half-mast but were raised to signal the start of the program.

On the wall itself, members of the Alumni War Committee had carefully draped an American flag on the center plaque, with two banners covering the smaller plaques on either side. The bronze plaque that adorns the memorial has a long history at WRA, first unveiled in 1951, on the 125th anniversary of the school, to honor 46 Reserve graduates who died in World War II. This central plaque is flanked by two more that honor those who died in the Civil War and those who died during the Cold War, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and other military conflicts.

As Lt. General Christman gave a salute to the flag and to the men listed on the wall, many members of the audience stood at attention. With utmost care, co-Presidents of the Board of Trustees Martin D. Franks '68 and Nathaniel E. Leonard '82, Lt. General Christman and members of the War Memorial Committee stepped forward to remove the coverings, passing the flag to two WRA students who ensured that the flag never touched the ground.

After a performance of *Taps* by Kai Kaneta '24 and Alex Wu '23, the Chapel bells tolled — 66 rings for 66 Pioneers, an echo of their names spanning across our acreage.

Bubb, so instrumental to the project, summarized the day, saying, "The memorial is a tribute to service and individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice. I hope that the memorial serves as a reminder that freedom isn't free."

Wise words for all of us to remember. We will only add that we hope it brings peace and conveys permanence and the deep pride of an indebted community.



Full remarks from Lt. General (Ret.) Daniel W. Christman '61, delivered on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, inside the Chapel



Jordanne [Nichols], thank you very much for the kind introduction. And congratulations to you and Landon for leading the student body; few experiences here will mean more.

To our Head of School, Suzanne Walker Buck, deepest appreciation for your endorsement of this project. In military terms, you've provided "strategic top cover." It's been vital to project success.

Finally, to the incredible War Memorial Committee, your vision in rectifying a decades-long oversight has been breathtaking. You've been the ground troops who have brought this memorial to life. We can't thank you enough.

This morning, we are dedicating a memorial. In 1888, at a memorial ceremony a few hundred miles east of here, a retired Union Civil War general used the following words at the dedication: "In great deeds, something abides; on great fields, something stays. And spirits ... linger, to consecrate the ground for the vision-place of souls."

These words were spoken by one of the many heroes of the Battle of Gettysburg, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, who, after the war, became the President of Bowdoin College and the Governor of Maine.

We may not have brought here the "great fields" Chamberlain alludes to. But maybe, in one way, we have — in the compelling stories behind each of these 66 names. Seeing the concept of this memorial — it's beyond emotion; it's almost spiritual, as Chamberlain suggested.

But what IS a memorial? Simply, it's a focus for the memory. In the years following the Second World War, starting in the late '50s, that purpose — symbolized by the beautiful plaque honoring those from Reserve who paid the ultimate price in WWII — seemed forgotten.

I visited the old site at Bicknell Gym many times as a kid; I lived only a few blocks away from the gym, on Elm Street. And with the plaque tucked away in a quiet spot by the gym, I stood transfixed, softly saying and counting the names.

Like so many of our generation, my sister and I were daughters and sons of the WWII generation. So many members of our extended families were in uniform, were deployed, fought and died.

Forty-six names on the plaque. Forty-six? From a school this small? Why so many?

But during my four years here as a student, not once do I remember any reference being made to the memorial — not on Veterans Day, not on Memorial Day, not ever.

As I served in the Army, fought in Vietnam, and became familiar later in life with battlefields like Gettysburg and Normandy and Antietam, the size of the sacrifices from this school became, perhaps, more ... understandable. This school produces leaders. Always has. And leaders ... lead ... from the front. "Follow Me" and "Rangers Lead the Way" became part of my soul, starting at West Point and through 40 years in uniform.

In Vietnam, for helicopter assaults, leaders got on the helicopters LAST and got OFF first; we were last in any chow line, knew our soldiers' names, and met them where they worked: on patrol, on firebases, in their foxholes or fighting positions or bunkers; and we tried to know about their families. That's what leaders do.

So many of the names on this memorial were LEADERS — in the image of Captain Miller (Tom Hanks in *Saving Private Ryan*) or Lt. Dick Winters in real life (played by Damian Lewis in the HBO series *Band of Brothers*). They knew their jobs. They inspired. They respected their soldiers. They were selfless. Disproportionately, they were at higher risk; and for too many, they paid the supreme sacrifice.

Reading the vignettes of these 66 from all the wars — the small stories of these young Reservites — I'm struck repeatedly. The stories mirror America's history and the dramatic, page-turning conflicts of the era: Shiloh, Missionary Ridge, Guadalcanal, Bataan Death March, the Burma-Rangoon railroad (*Bridge on the River Kwai*), Battle of the Philippine Sea, Battle of the Atlantic, northwest Africa, Normandy, 8th Air Force raids over Nazi Germany, Battle of the Bulge, the Cold War, Vietnam, 9-11. These young men were there. And they led.

But reading these stories is more than connecting dots and memorizing dates. It's keeping memories alive. It's what memorials do. As Joshua Chamberlain said, they become a "vision-place of souls."

One of my favorite Shakespeare plays is *Henry V*, because in part it's about a young leader who's trying to inspire his troops to fight — outnumbered — and win. Think this is no longer relevant? Think Ukraine. Think Volodymyr Zelenskyy. From Shakespeare's pen, that was young Henry in 1415, before the Battle of Agincourt. Fighting outnumbered. And trying to inspire the troops.

How does Henry try to inspire? Amongst other themes in this by-now famous address, by suggesting to his soldiers that when they grow old, they and the battle they are about to fight will ALWAYS be "freshly remembered."

Listen to HENRY in Act IV, Scene 3: "He that shall live this day and see old age, will yearly on the vigil, feast his neighbors, and say tomorrow is St. Crispin...."

By the way, what is "St. Crispin"? It was the feast honoring the brothers Crispin and Crispian — put to death by the Romans in the third century AD. They became the patron saints of cobblers and tanners and shoemakers. (It was evidently a big deal in the 15th century!) The Battle of Agincourt was fought on that feast day, Oct. 25.

But, back to Henry, conjuring the image of a soldier grown old but still remembering that day: "Then shall he strip his sleeves and show his scars and say 'these wounds I had on St. Crispin's Day.' Old men forget, yet all shall be forgot, but he'll remember with advantages what feats he did that day. Then shall our names, familiar in his mouth as household words — Harry the King, Bedford and Exeter, Warwick and Talbot, Salisbury and Gloucester — be in their flowing cups FRESHLY REMEMBERED! This story shall the good man teach his son; and Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by from this day 'til the ending of the world, but we in it shall be REMEMBERED!"

But what about THIS memorial? THESE

names? THEIR battles? THIS school? NOW, not 1415? SO, let's put THEM and this school in the words of Henry:

"Then shall their names, familiar in our mouths as household words: Pierce the Major, Pomeroy and Stewart, Conrad and Heyman, Weaver and Thum, be in THEIR flowing cups freshly remembered! This story shall Reserve always teach; and Veterans and Memorial days shall ne'er go by from this day 'til the ending of the world, but they in it shall be REMEMBERED!"

The Wounded Warrior Project has a compelling reminder: "The worst casualty of war is to be forgotten!"

This memorial helps to ensure that these 66 names will be "freshly remembered," that the "power of the vision" shall pass unto YOUR souls.

I visited and helped lead battlefield tours on the Normandy beaches a few months ago. On this ground, there's another memorial — the American Cemetery, overlooking Omaha Beach. Over 9,300 crosses and Stars of David are arrayed in front of visitors, at a site where nearly 2,000 young Americans lost their lives in a span of a few hours on the morning of June 6, 1944. It's as moving a view as you will ever see.

And as you enter the cemetery, there's a large, highly visible statue; it's of a young man, arms reaching for the sky. The sculptor titled this inspirational work *The Spirit of American Youth, Rising from the Waves*.

As you visit THIS memorial, to ponder and dream in the months and years ahead, think of the names on this memorial as the youthful spirit emerging from this school, reminding about service — service above self; about inspirational, values-based leadership; and about "freshly remembering" these 66, who shall remain forever young and treasured in our hearts.

I hope in short that what has been done here becomes a true "vision-place of souls." I'm confident it will. And it will reflect superbly on the excellence, integrity and compassion of this great school.

Thank you.



The Student Experience Fund: Initially Funded by the Class of 1970

Many classes have undertaken initiatives to name specific spaces on campus, such as classrooms in Seymour Hall and lab spaces in Wilson. Other classes have chosen to raise funds to create specific endowments that support something they are passionate about as a class. The first WRA class to raise funds and create an endowment was the Class of 1950, which established *The Class of 1950 Fellowship for Faculty Advancement*, a great resource that provides funds for faculty professional development. More recently, several classes have undertaken their own initiatives to create class legacies at WRA that will positively impact the community year after year.

To support WRA in any capacity, please visit wra.net/alumni/support-reserve/methods-of-giving. If you'd like to support a specific project, designate the title during checkout.

The official Oxford English Dictionary definition of "experience," the "practical contact with and observation of facts or events," does not come close to properly defining the complexity of this word when used to describe the human experience. After all, our experience as participants in this life is the driving force behind everything that is beautiful — creativity, progress and connection — but also can be the source of our greatest challenges — conflict, frustration and exclusion. The Class of 1970 is making it their mission that every Western Reserve Academy student, no matter their circumstances, has access to the full WRA *experience*. No, they can't promise to take away all of life's challenges, but they are determined to at least level the playing field at Reserve.

When considering *this* particular class gift, we must first start with why any class gift. Phil Berger, Kurt Rieke, Andy Meldrum, Reginald Hubbard and Lee Schumacher explain that they did not originally set out to pitch a class gift. They set out to reconnect. "We originally did not get together for this," Berger explained. "Our get-togethers were the

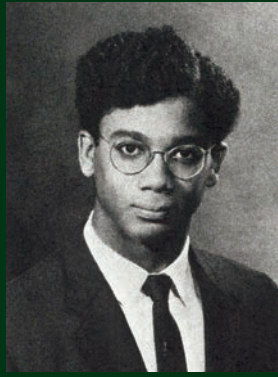
result of our scheduled 50th Reunion's being delayed — twice — due to the pandemic. We started meeting as a class via Zoom. The majority [of our class] had not seen or spoken to one another since the day we graduated." The more the Class of 1970 reconnected, the more they wondered if they could make a lasting impact through a class contribution. Rieke shared that he was aware of the Class of 1971's Frederick Douglass Initiative in honor of their 50th Reunion and the powerful impact this class gift had made on the school.

The team connected with the Class of 1971 to learn about their progress and whether the Class of 1970 could potentially join forces with them, but they soon discovered another very specific need that their entire class might get behind. "We did not come to this idea instantaneously," Berger said. "A number of ideas were kicked around over several months."

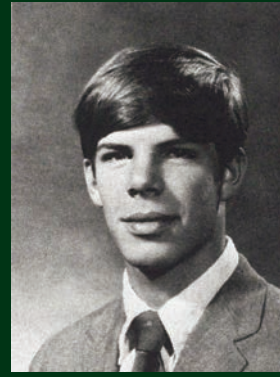
After speaking with Assistant Head of School for Advancement Mark LaFontaine and Director of Enrollment Management Jenni Biehn, the team learned that 45% of the student body



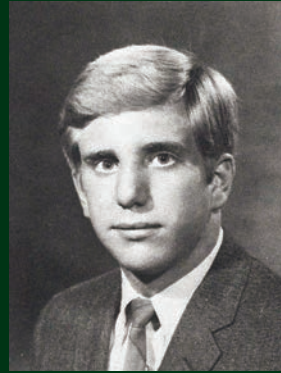
Phil Berger



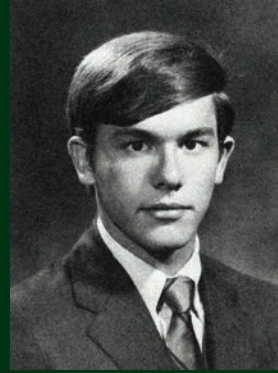
Reginald Hubbard



Andy Meldrum



Kurt Rieke



Lee Schumacher

qualifies for some level of financial aid, and there is \$15,000 of school funds available each year to support incidental needs above and beyond room and board. When Biehn explained that some of our neediest students lack even \$10 per week for the barest of incidental expenses, let alone the funds necessary to cover the required school blazer, school supplies, laptop, swag from the Campus Store, dance expenses, or even just joining for a coffee or tea in town, the team found their project, and the Student Experience Fund was born.

So, why the WRA experience? Berger, Rieke, Meldrum, Hubbard and Schumacher have more in common than their friendship and desire to make a lasting impact. They share a respect for their own Reserve experiences. Berger and Schumacher both describe WRA as a "game changer." Schumacher expanded, "Reserve was a transformational experience, an early exposure to diversity really of any sort, which was fascinating to me." He made great friends and learned how big the world truly is. This was also the time when Schumacher became aware that a number of his

friends had limited resources. Something as simple as walking to town for an ice cream cone at Saywell's was a challenge. Rieke's experience was bolstered by meeting people from different backgrounds, cultures, races and income levels for the first time when he arrived at WRA. Hubbard remembered the support he felt as a musician on campus, but became aware that many peers did not share that same experience. Making the Reserve experience more accessible and equitable among all students resonated with the team and the entire class (and hopefully future classes).

The Class of 1970 understands that the true power to affect change comes in numbers. "Success of this program is dependent upon the support of subsequent classes as well as independent contributors," the team said. If WRA has access to \$15,000 per year, the Student Experience Fund hopes to elevate this number to at least \$40,000 per year just to satisfy the basic incidental needs of students receiving the most financial aid. This is exactly the thought behind the specificity of the name — "Initially Funded by the Class of 1970." This project

requires sustained support to truly be impactful; a fund of \$1 million would be needed to generate \$40,000 per year. To kick-start the campaign, the Class of 1970 is challenging at least 50% of its members (in honor of 50 years!) to support the class fund with a donation in addition to the dollars they allocate to other endeavors like The WRA Fund and other various causes. "We are not looking to detract from the Annual Fund. We are looking to supplement it," the team explained.

This project goes beyond just funding textbooks, computers, athletic gear and prom dresses. This project is about a commitment to future diverse student bodies and the power of the Reserve (academic, athletic, artistic and social) experience, no matter one's socioeconomic background. The Student Experience Fund description says it best, "The project is intended to ensure that all WRA students, including those with the greatest financial need, are equipped to thrive to the fullest extent during their WRA experience. All alumni and friends of WRA are welcome to join the Class of 1970 through additional gifts to the project."





The Class of 1971 Frederick Douglass Initiative

At Western Reserve Academy, we understand the delicate balance between honoring the rich traditions still alive at our school and fighting against traditionalism. The same can be said for history. We are a historic institution and yet, as Greg Pennington '71 and the entire Class of 1971 remind us (in reference to the polarizing politics plaguing our country), “we have a lot of work to do.”

In an effort to ignite actionable progress toward Western Reserve Academy's mission to support intellectual curiosity and tenacity, and transformational growth in the areas of well-being, belonging, empathy, and regional and global engagement, the Class of 1971 (or as Pennington jokingly emphasizes, *THE* Class of 1971) mobilized to establish the Frederick Douglass Initiative. This class gift, in honor of their 50th Reunion as well as the famous abolitionist and activist Frederick Douglass (who spoke at the Western Reserve College 1854 Commencement!), has already enriched the lives of current students and community members through the work of Iiyannaa Graham-Siphanoum, WRA Frederick Douglass Fellow; the 2022 Martin Luther King Jr. Day presentation by Dr. Melba Pattillo Beals, one of the Little Rock Nine; as well as initiatives at the heart of the WRA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Office.

This past June, on behalf of the Class of 1971, Pennington invited alumni to consider “a gift you gave that you were

proud of, a gift that was worth far more than it cost and a gift that would last far longer than the moment it took for you to deliver it.” The gift would represent *you*, he explained, and it just might compel the receiver to do something more, something different and something special.

This is precisely what the Class of 1971 hopes their class gift will accomplish. “We hope our gift will encourage the broad Reserve community to revisit the words of Frederick Douglass,” Pennington continued. “Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, any praise, think on these things” [Philippians 4:8]. Pennington and the entire Class of 1971 challenge every individual in the Western Reserve Academy community and beyond to “build on who we were, who we are and who we still might become. Use our privilege, including our differences, to make a difference.”

From Frederick Douglass' delivering powerful words on our historic campus that still resonate over 150 years later, to the Class of 1971's mission to continue activism in honor of our differences, Western Reserve Academy was and will always be an institution of challengers, of intellectual Pioneers. And how proud we are to be members.



The Class of 1987 Fund for Wellness and Belonging

On Saturday, June 11, there was a quiet and thoughtful moment before the bustle and brightness of Reunion Weekend events. That day, the Chapel opened its doors for friends and classmates to come together and celebrate two very dear friends who passed too soon — Gavin Domm '87, who passed away in 2021, and Giancarlo Scalzi '87, who passed away in 2010. There were remarks and reflections from Jeff Schaffer, Rob Pinkerton, Liz Gillette, Web Trenchard, Bill Eldredge, James Clessuras, Marc Ruxin, Tom Murdough, Suzanne Day and Ted Humphrey, and there wasn't a dry eye in the old building where they once all sat together in Reserve Green, as friends and classmates.

Later that evening, on the steps of Ellsworth Hall, where the Class of 1987 gathered for their class picture, they grabbed two empty chairs and situated them among the cluster so their old

**Together, we move toward
a better future where
every person at this school
feels as though they
belong — where students
and graduates know that
there is support available
to them and how to access
it — and where when we
come together again, there
are no empty chairs.**

friends could still be represented in the portrait.

The Class of 1987 Fund for Wellness and Belonging honors Gavin and Gian's memory, their tremendous compassion, and their generosity of spirit and self through meaningful action, best described by those responsible for establishing the fund: "The high school years can be wonderful, but they can also present significant challenges as teens find their way socially and emotionally and begin to develop their identity. The class would like to partner with the school in helping to develop a community that helps all students take on new challenges, build coping strategies, learn resiliency skills and receive the support they need to achieve a positive sense of self-worth and belonging at Western Reserve Academy and beyond."

Many of us know the pain of their loss and the truth of these words. Some



may have experienced these challenges firsthand or certainly have heard the increasing media coverage of this national plight of today's youth. We've referenced *The Boston Globe* article that reported on the tragic suicides of first-year students at Dartmouth College, and learned that more than 60% of people ages 18-24 experienced anxiety or depression during the pandemic, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This is the highest of any age group. According to the study, one in four seriously contemplated suicide.

Nothing could be more important to this school and its community than the well-being and safety of its students. If our mission is to prepare students to blaze trails in learning and in life, then this must include the prioritization of their health and mental wellness. It is paramount. We want students to feel empowered to ask for help, and when

they do, we want them to receive the best possible support and care.

Inside the Chapel, Trenchard shared that in just under a year of quiet fundraising, the fund had already received more than \$266,000 in donations, all of which will be put toward Reserve's efforts to meet the social, emotional and wellness needs of its students and to cultivate a community committed to belonging for all. This could take shape as professional development for faculty and staff to become more adept at identifying and supporting students at risk; visits from guest speakers whose insights and expertise can contribute to the school's efforts; and workshops for the school community that promote social connectedness, improved recognition of and response to signs of anxiety, or resiliency skills.

"We feel so indebted to Reserve for supporting this," he shared in the WRA Today Chapel Talk that followed the remembrance. "In the session that was

in the Chapel before, the memorial for Gavin and, to some extent, for Gian ... I've never laughed and cried so much at the same time. I think that was [the case] for everyone who was in here. It was an incredible event, and it was just wonderful to be here and share in that moment together. I think that's what makes a place like this special. It brings people together."

What an extraordinary thing it is to see the power behind this sense of community, friendship and love. This is the driving force behind such an incredible class effort, and behind our school and greater community's continued efforts. Together, we move toward a better future where every person at this school feels as though they belong — where students and graduates know that there is support available to them and how to access it — and where when we come together again, there are no empty chairs.



Named for the year of the founding of Western Reserve Academy, The 1826 Society honors those who support the school with an especially significant gift that greatly strengthens the school's financial foundation. In 2021-22, two hundred and twenty-two 1826 Society donors contributed \$1,883,427 to The WRA Fund. Their gifts preserve the distinctive strengths of Western Reserve Academy and impact all aspects of the student experience.

Please know that the full 2021-22 Annual Report of Giving is available online. This acknowledgment recognizes those who made gifts between July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.



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 Mr. J. Lincoln '53 & Mrs. Joyce Morris
 Mr. Jae Young Oh & Ms. Hwa Young Choi
 Mr. Robert D. III '77 & Mrs. Robin Oldfield
 Mr. Jisoo Pae & Ms. Eun Jeong Kim
 Mr. Juman Park & Mrs. Heejung Choi
 Mr. Si Woo Park & Mrs. Mi Hyun Lee
 Mr. Richard W. '61 & Mrs. Helen Parker
 Mr. James M. Parry '58
 Dr. Garry J. '60 & Mrs. Carolyn Patterson
 Mr. Benjamin W. '60 & Mrs. Sally Perks
 Mr. Keith & Dr. Grace Song '92 Petras
 Dave and Julie Pratt
 Mr. John S. Jr. '56 & Mrs. Judith Pyke
 Mr. Christopher D. Ramel '66 &
 Mrs. Mary MacLellan
 Mrs. Heather Reece & Mrs. Anne Antor
 Mr. Jefferson J. '77 & Mrs. Catherine Reiter
 Mr. Sheldon C. '57 & Mrs. Penelope Rieley
 Mr. David R. '51 & Mrs. Sherry Robinson
 Mr. Richard S. '72 & Mrs. Alita Rogers
 Mr. Justin & Mrs. Erin McHugh '97 Saif
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Saner II
 Mr. & Mrs. Giorgio Scarabello
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Schneider
 Mr. & Mrs. John V. Schultz

Mr. B. L. Schumacher '70
 Mr. John F. '74 & Mrs. Katherine Schumacher
 Mr. David M. '81 & Mrs. Sharon Shepherd
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sheridan
 Mr. Steven J. '64 & Mrs. Holly Simons
 Mr. James W. Spriggs III '92
 Mr. William R. '84 & Mrs. Angela Starn
 Mr. Brian W. Stepanek '07
 Mr. Eric C. '66 & Mrs. Christine Strobel
 Mr. Adam & Mrs. Madeline Rogers '07 Stull
 Mr. Charles L. Tramel II '79
 Mr. Richard W. Van Pelt '51
 Mr. Anthony R. '92 & Mrs. Monica Verplank
 Mr. G. Philip Jr. '79 & Mrs. Cynthia Waldeck
 Dr. R. King Warburton '52 &
 Dr. Kathryn Lemmon
 Mr. David B. '71 & Mrs. Amy Webb
 Mr. L. Spencer '88 & Mrs. Alexandra Wells
 Mr. Alexander T. Wood Jr. '49
 Mr. & Mrs. James F. Wood
 Mr. Jason M. '94 &
 Mrs. Ariel Knowles Wortendyke

Green & White Club (\$500-\$1,825)

Alumni Class Years 2007-2022

Anonymous (2)
 Ms. Elisabeth L. Andersson '14
 Mr. Colin J. Barsella '15
 Mr. J. Daniel '07 & Mrs. Piper Catalano
 Mr. Oliver R. P. Curtiss '11
 Mr. Alexander D. Fellows '14
 Mr. Matthew T. Fleischmann '15
 Mr. Garren X. Gotthardt '09
 Ms. Ashley A. Isaac '09
 Mr. John S. Levis '11
 Mr. Evan K. McCauley '07
 Mr. John M. McCulloch '08
 Mr. Andrew D. Packer '07 &
 Dr. Alison Schlothauer '10
 Mr. Mitchell G. Pollock '14
 Mr. Eric W. Rauckhorst '12
 Mr. Ahmad Raza '08
 Mr. Hunter Z. Strah '21
 Dr. Saira C. Tekelenburg '08
 Mr. Albert J. Wang '12
 Mr. Yizhuo J. Wang '09



Precious few boarding schools have reached the 200-year mark, making WRA distinctive in age and impact. Over two centuries, Reserve has grown up alongside events that shaped and changed the world forever. Through all these times, WRA has stood proud, purposeful and pioneering. Now, we are ready to celebrate.

The Reserve Bicentennial is a chance for the entire WRA community to come together and reflect, improve and envision. Tim Warner '69, most recently the co-President of the WRA Board of Trustees, is chairing the Bicentennial effort. A committee has been formed to reflect upon the school's history, focus on its future, enhance connections with alumni, expand the WRA financial base, deepen institutional relationships in the region and advance the WRA strategic plan.

Acknowledging that the 200-year mark is not an easy one for any organization to achieve, the WRA Bicentennial is worthy

An Historic Occasion

of special celebration, one that goes beyond customary commemorative efforts. Thus, the celebration will honor history with sufficient reverence while advancing plans that are modern, artistic, inclusive, and the embodiment of all the joy and vision of a community that loves the school and aspires to create its brightest future.

Wonderfully, we have past celebrations to study and build upon. WRA Archivist and Historian Tom Vince recently shared

stories of past milestones, including the Centennial in 1926, which included an evacuation of the Chapel because it was overcrowded and the rafters were quaking!

Over the coming years, Bicentennial plans, happenings and opportunities for involvement will be presented. How exciting to show Reserve, in all its notable historical layers and future aspirations, to communities near and far as we approach and celebrate the Bicentennial.

184

TOTAL
RHS MEMBERS

CLASS WITH
THE MOST
MEMBERS

1965

98

AGE OF
OLDEST MEMBER

LARGEST RHS GIFT TO DATE

\$4,000,000

BY JAMES ELLSWORTH, CLASS OF 1868

33

AGE OF
YOUNGEST
MEMBER

THE RESERVE HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Reserve Heritage Society
recognizes alumni, parents and friends
who shape WRA's future by
including the school in their estate plans.

CONTACT

Mark LaFontaine
Assistant Head of School for
Advancement

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WRA.net/giving

If you are considering a gift to WRA,
we would be delighted to work with you
and your advisors to explore options.
Please contact us to discuss creating
your own legacy at WRA by becoming a
part of the Reserve Heritage Society.

WRA

Western Reserve Academy



Remembering Trustee Emeritus Theodore Dixon Long '51

When a person as instrumental as Dixon Long passes away, it seems insufficient to rely upon words on a page to honor and encapsulate his life. But you get the sense that Dixon would appreciate the approach, because he understood the power of language and the fact that in a world where much is fleeting, words are a timeless wellspring.

Certain characterizations of a person stick to the mental image forged when they are not here anymore. Dixon's obituary shares that as an avid and accomplished writer, he kept a small spiral notebook in his breast pocket, routinely recording notes and ideas for his next novel. Fitting for the Francophile he was, Dixon seemed a flaneur. He let experiences — and there were many — impact him from all sides, on a lifelong intellectual excursion that inspired impressive professional and philanthropic posts, not to mention ten novels.

In one of his writings, Dixon described the “elegant architecture” of Southern France, and his own life seemed elegantly architected, including degrees from Amherst, Tufts and Columbia and an accomplished career with Case Western University and as Dean of Western Reserve College. Most important to his life's architecture was a beautiful family forged with first wife Ellen Corning Long and later, Ruthanne Dickerson



Long, both of whom were strong supporters of Reserve.

His two children, Maud-Alison (Ali) C. Long '86 and Samuel D. Long '84, attended WRA and they, as well as his stepchildren, brought treasured grandchildren to the lengthening list of Longs. Christmas updates shared by Dixon delivered California sunshine (he relocated there in 1990) and a warm sense of humor. Interspersed with admirable updates on his photographed family members, one holiday letter credited his granddaughter Annabel for the significant accomplishment of not sucking her thumb. There was always affability.

It takes a long time to review the many memorable moments of Dixon's life, and in doing so one wonders at the accomplishments, wishing to pop into one of his photos, lectures, meetings or travels. There were exotic far reaches — Osaka, Paris, Provence — and lovely local hinterlands, like his chapter living in Kirtland, Ohio, where he nurtured the Holden Arboretum as Chairman of its Board, remaining involved as a lifelong trustee concurrent with his board membership with the San Francisco Botanical Gardens at Strybing Arboretum. The chronology of Dixon's life is well documented, but it ultimately seems less important than the totality, which suggests a multifaceted man with bountiful branches:

husband, father, grandfather, educator, traveler, author, adventurer, environmentalist, philanthropist, trustee and friend.

There were presentations and commendations crafted about Dixon over the years, earnest odes to a man who was honored by WRA often, notably with the Alumni Association Award, the Waring Prize and the Academy's highest honor, the James W. Ellsworth Award. In the tributes, often from peer trustees or former classmates, there are wondrous moments around every corner, illustrative of his core interests of art, the environment and education. "He collaborates in the ownership of an art gallery in NYC." "He formed the East Branch Association, which led to the designation of the Chagrin River as a State of Ohio Scenic River, affording protections from inappropriate shoreline development and improvements." "Recently Dixon has withdrawn from his interests in Japanese stoneware and is devoted to twentieth century British pottery." And then there was the little trip Dixon took around the world with two college friends upon graduation...after they built the boat in Japan! If only Dixon the author would have known the delight his own life story would affect.

People become familiar with the later-in-life successes of WRA alumni because the accomplishments of our graduates make us feel proud, maybe feeding a dose of boast into our otherwise humble Midwestern selves. Dixon once said, "I have spent my life in education — Amherst, Columbia, Case Western Reserve — and there is no question that my experience as a student, alumnus and trustee of the Academy has been more important than all the others." This quote has become a key message of most every current trustee as they seek to encapsulate for others the specialness of the school. From little linguistic legacies like this, and other very significant contributions — the Ellen C. Long Chair in Modern Languages, the Ellen C. Long Study Abroad (ELISA) student immersive travel program, the T. Dixon Long '51 Endowed Fund for Creative Writing — Western Reserve Academy is profoundly grateful.

But much of the magic of the men and women in our WRA family lives in the records of their time as students. Dixon is no different, precious glimpses of a young boy from Warren, Ohio in his application, college recommendations and personal reflections. To introduce him to college admission officers, the Faculty Guidance Committee talked about Dixon's distinction among his peers in both academic and extracurricular endeavors. They noted, "He wields a facile,



resourceful and sometimes witty pen," which he used with precision as the editor of *Hardscrabble* and associate editor of *The Reserve Record*.

Another of Dixon's gifts to the school was the establishment of the Ellen Corning Long House Dormitory. In his own reflection upon the formative nature of Reserve, Dixon shared a wonderful account of the lessons of dorm life, saying, "The ability to balance privacy with association, to recognize and deal with conflict, was formed fundamentally in my dorm rooms at WRA...While I know that Reserve sent me out as only a partially trained social animal, my major kinks were straightened, I had a sense of direction, and I went on

to college with an assurance and facility that I did not have coming in."

The world's best thinkers and doers can appreciate both straightened kinks and tangled roots. Precise directives like a recipe and uncharted waters like boat building. The rigor of discipline versus the necessity of distraction. The universality of a smile against the nuance of a culture. These dichotomies were embedded in Dixon, as well as his ability to see the world's farthest reaches while simultaneously looking back, and giving back, to the place from which he came.





In Memoriam

WRA Magazine wishes to express its sincere condolences to all family and friends of the deceased.

Faculty/Staff

Virginia F. Walters, 96, died on Jan. 14, 2022, at her home in Shelburne, Vermont. Born in New York City, Virginia was a passionate student throughout her childhood and was fascinated by advances in technology and science. She graduated from Smith College in 1947 and attended Case Western Reserve University for both her master's degree and Ph.D. in physics, making her one of the first women in the United States to earn a physics Ph.D. Western Reserve Academy had the great fortune of having Virginia join the science faculty, and she quickly became one of WRA's most beloved educators. A Reserve parent once wrote her a thank-you note that Virginia kept for more than 50 years, which read, "You have shown my son in a real and practical way what we all try to show our children: to think, to grow, and to relate to other people." She raised two daughters alongside her husband, Richard, and spent family summers hiking, boating, swimming and reading books of every kind. A lifelong intellectual, Virginia kept her mind sharp by doing puzzles, designing and knitting sweaters, and practicing square roots of numbers in her head before bed. She will be remembered as a fascinating conversationalist, a remarkable educator and a devoted supporter of social causes.

Leopold Wolf, 93, died on Sept. 22, 2022, in Phoenix, Arizona. Born in Yugoslavia and the youngest of eight children, Leo survived on his own from the age of 16 at the conclusion of World War II. He worked several jobs, became fluent in both German and English, and earned his medical degrees. Leo was married to Marianne Scheu for nearly 60 years, and the two settled in Hudson, Ohio, where Leo established a medical practice and served as Western Reserve Academy's school physician. Dr. Wolf was a beloved member of the WRA community, and all three of his sons (John '80, Jeff '82 and James '83) attended school here. Leo's remarkable early experiences as a boy surely contributed to his incredible contributions in the

field of medicine. In his free time, Leo enjoyed playing tennis, golfing and skiing, and planted every tree, bush and flowering plant with loving care around their longtime home on Simon Drive. But his favorite passion was soccer, and he remained an accomplished player well into his later years. Leo is remembered as a devoted husband, father and caregiver.

Class of 1933

Walter H. Richards, 107, died on Jan. 17, 2022, in Loveland, Colorado. Walt was born in Cortland, Ohio, in 1914 and grew up in the small village north of Youngstown. He graduated from high school in Cortland before attending Reserve as a postgraduate, during which time he was active in track, Glee Club and Octet in addition to frequenting the woodshop. Walt went on to study chemistry at Oberlin College, where he was Captain of the track & field team. While studying at Oberlin, he met Jeanne Lesser, whom he married in 1938. Following their wedding, Walt joined his father at the Richards Milling Company and eventually became the company President. He was later recruited by Rocky Mountain Methodist Homes to become Executive Director, which took the Richards family out west to Colorado. They built a house in Estes Park and moved in full time in 1982 after Walt retired. Outside of work, Walt was a passionate photographer, active church member, piano player, and volunteer with Boy Scouts of America and the Rotary Club. He and Jeanne raised four children and enjoyed spending time with their 10 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Class of 1941

William D. Peace, 99, died on April 24, 2022. He was born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1922 but grew up in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Peace family relocated to Northeast Ohio when William was a teenager, and he completed his high school education at WRA. A gifted athlete,



William participated in soccer, ice hockey and baseball. Following graduation, he joined the Navy ROTC program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and enrolled in the U.S. Navy in August 1941 at the age of 19. He stayed in college until he was called to active duty in 1943. William honorably served in the Southwest Pacific as a navigator and later as an executive officer. He went back to finish his engineering degree after World War II ended. He married Elizabeth "Libby" Rice in 1948, and together they moved to Akron, Ohio, where William was a Plant Manager for Johnson Steel and Wire. An active volunteer, church member and traveler, William was influential in every community he joined. He and Libby lived for many years in Leland, Michigan, and would spend the winter months on Amelia Island, Florida, where they loved playing tennis and golf. William will be remembered as a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Class of 1943

Dr. Robert P. Fornshell, 96, died on Feb. 10, 2022. Robert was a studious and well-respected member of the Reserve community, serving as Editor of the school newspaper and Captain of the intramural soccer team. He attended Harvard after graduating from WRA and earned a Bronze Star as a medic during World War II. After finishing his undergraduate studies in 1947, Robert enrolled at Harvard Medical School and later completed his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. Throughout his long career in orthopedics, he was dedicated to helping teach and train other physicians, often traveling to other countries to lend his time and expertise. Between skiing, golf, sailing and tennis, Robert was also an ardent sportsman. He cherished taking trips with his family, which included Cape Cod, the Caribbean, and a family-favorite horse ranch in Wyoming. Robert and his wife, Barbara, enjoyed 68 years of marriage and raised three sons.


Class of 1945

Ronald B. Waldman, 94, died on Sept. 11, 2022. Ron was born in Shaker Heights, Ohio. After he graduated from Reserve, he went on to earn a degree in economics and business at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. After working for a short time in real estate development in Washington, D.C., Ron returned home to care for his ill mother. He then helped his father run their commercial dry cleaning business. He asked his wife, Lee, to marry him after only their third date, and the two celebrated 67 years of marriage last October. Ron's career took him to New York City, where he began as the youngest member of his Morgan Stanley team and retired at age 93 as the oldest, inspiring so many along the way. Everyone will miss Ron's pithy aphorisms that always got a smile. Ron had a great enthusiasm and joy for life, shared with his wife, their two daughters, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Class of 1946

George T. Boyce, 93, died on Dec. 20, 2021. He attended the College of Wooster after graduating from Reserve and earned a master's degree in business administration from The Ohio State University. George's career as a planner included time with the Ohio Civil Defense and the Emergency Management Agency of the State of Ohio. He was also a U.S. Army veteran. A man of many interests, George enjoyed sports, music, travel and being outdoors, in addition to staying involved with church. He helped raise three children with his wife of 66 years, Barbara.

James H. Miller II, 93, died on Feb. 8, 2022, in Montgomery, Ohio. A graduate of Western Reserve Academy, the University of Toledo and the University of Michigan (M.B.A.), James was a wise, hardworking man devoted to family. He was married to his wife, Patricia, for 66 years. Following a three-year stint with the U.S. Air Force during



In Memoriam, cont.

the Korean War, James began a long career in marketing that sent the family to New York City, Denver, New Orleans and Toledo before they settled near Cincinnati, Ohio. James and Patricia raised four children together and loved to play games and do puzzles with their nine grandchildren. James' grandson, James H. Miller IV, was an Army medic who was killed in Iraq in 2005. Heartbroken, grandfather James would frequently decorate his grandson's gravesite with American flags and end each visit with a salute. He highly valued simple joys in life that included senior coffee groups, golf and volunteering. James will be remembered as gentle, kind and fun-loving.

Class of 1947

W. Gerald Austen, 92, died on Sept. 11, 2022, in Boston, Massachusetts, at Massachusetts General Hospital, the renowned institution where he revolutionized cardiac care. An Akron native known to his friends and family as "Jerry," he was a strong student originally interested in engineering and graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Jerry later applied his engineering knowledge and shifted his interests to medicine. Earning his medical degree from Harvard Medical School, he brilliantly established himself as a leading physician and surgeon in New England, was appointed Chief of Surgical Services (a position he maintained for nearly 30 years), served as professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School (the youngest ever) and in 1977 was elected President of the American Heart Association. Despite devoting his adult life to New England, Jerry never neglected his Northeast Ohio roots, visiting Akron ("one of my favorite places") and his closest friends every other month, as well as presenting to the medical community around Summit County. He was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Akron and served on the Knight Foundation Board of Trustees for 24 years. The Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron was named after him, granting \$3 million in his name to the University of Akron to support polymer science and engineering. While Jerry's contributions to the field of medicine are astounding, it is his relationships with his cherished friends and family that most define his legacy. It's no wonder that during his 2016 Akron Roundtable address, Jerry shared that he lived by a philosophy instilled by his parents:

- Get as much education as possible.
- Push the brain you have to its maximum potential.
- Be honorable.
- Work harder than anyone else because the harder you work, the more luck you will have.
- Measure your success by how colleagues view you, not by how much money you have.

His wit was present even on the morning of his death, when he remarked to his family, "Maybe it's finally time to retire."

Paul M. Jones Jr., 92, died on Jan. 26, 2022. Paul was born and raised in Medina, Ohio, making him a seventh generation Medina native. He attended Colgate University after graduating from WRA and served in the Korean War from 1951 to 1953, after earning his degree. In 1962, he met a Hudsonite girl named Hannah Hart through a connection with his favorite WRA faculty member, Jiggs Reardon. He immediately tried to find ways to meet her again, and they eventually wound up being invited to the same party by mutual friends. After six months of dating, they were married for 55 years until Hannah's passing in 2017. Paul's career successes included 40 years with TCI Leasing, decades of involvement with hospice, and achieving his dream of opening a community bank, which was named Western Reserve Bank. He was also a founding member of the Community Design Committee, which worked to redesign and beautify downtown Medina. Paul was adored by many, but especially by his three daughters, Katy, Merritt and Kristina.

David F. Sheldon, 93, died on June 2, 2022, in Bainbridge Island, Washington. At Reserve, David was active on the soccer and swimming teams and was described as intelligent, quick-witted and adaptable — so much so that he was selected to study for a year in England after graduating from WRA. David performed so well that his year abroad substituted for his freshman year in college. After a short stint in business, David eventually entered the field of education and became Middlesex School's third Headmaster, a position he held for 26 years. David is remembered as a committed philanthropist, serving on nonprofit boards and volunteering his time. His passion for books, dogs, small boats, fishing and bicycles continued to the very end of his life, and many will greatly miss seeing



him bicycling way too fast for a man in his 90s. David is survived by three sons and two grandchildren, whom he adored.

Class of 1948

Dr. Walter F. Keitzer, 90, died on Jan. 21, 2021, in Plano, Texas. Walter was born in Akron, Ohio, in 1930 and was a highly involved student during his four years at Reserve, excelling most in the sciences. He would go on to attend the University of Michigan for both undergrad and medical school, earning the Medical Center's annual Research Achievement Award in 1964. Walter served as a medical officer in the Navy and taught surgery at the University of Missouri College of Medicine. He had four children and three stepchildren with his wife, Mary Lou.

Llewellyn Pearce, 91, died on Jan. 10, 2022.

Class of 1949

Dr. John W. Rechsteiner, 90, died on March 17, 2022. After graduating from Reserve, John attended Oberlin College while serving in the U.S. Navy Reserves. He attended The Ohio State University for his medical degree and began his career as a general practitioner before specializing in allergy and immunology. In 1954 he wed Sherril-Ann Gillette, to whom he would be married for 68 years. A resident of Springfield, Ohio, John belonged to the First Christian Church and the Rotary Club and was an influential member of the community. His passion and ability for photography began while he was at Reserve and continued throughout his life. He put the skill to use while taking trips with Sheri and their three children.

Robert G. Peterson, 90, died on Jan. 7, 2022. After growing up in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, Robert captained both the football and baseball teams while attending WRA. He made many of his longest-lasting friendships at Reserve and earned a high compliment in his WRA yearbook, which read "Everyone just liked Robert." He had a notably quick sense of humor and a generous spirit. While earning his economics degree from Amherst College, Robert played football and baseball before being drafted into the U.S. Army. He served in LaRoche, France, and would later enroll at the University of Michigan for his M.B.A. During his

time in Ann Arbor, he met Wanda, his wife of 52 years. The Petersons moved to Saratoga Springs, New York, where Robert had a long career with Continental Insurance. He was the proud father of three children and grandfather of five. Whether Robert was traveling, coaching sports, writing poems or listening to music, he left a profound impact on everyone who knew him.

Class of 1950

John "Jack" F. Wilson, 89, died on Feb. 28, 2022, in Boulder City, Nevada. While attending Reserve, Jack met Sue Calvin at a formal dance. He and Sue were married in 1954 while Jack was attending Yale on a full scholarship to pursue electrical engineering. He earned his master's degree from Yale in 1956 and got a job with Hughes Aircraft, which brought Jack and Sue to the West Coast. Together they raised five children. They divorced in 1976, after which Jack became President of Frederick Electronics in Frederick, Maryland. There he met Joanne Spurrier Smith, to whom he was married until her passing in 2001. During Jack's career, he also spent time as Vice President of ITT World Communications in New York and oversaw a special project for years in London, England. He earned his pilot's license and also pursued boating and teaching safety classes at Lake Mead. In 2006 Jack met Gale Westphall and married her in 2007.

Class of 1951

George W. Gray, 88, died on May 5, 2022, in Atlanta, Georgia. George played varsity soccer and basketball while attending Reserve and shared that he had fond memories of a senior prank that involved relocating all the silverware from the dining hall into the Chapel pews before an all-school gathering. After graduating from Reserve, George studied political science at Haverford College and spent two years in the military. He received his M.B.A. from Harvard in 1959 and became the CFO of Royal Crown Cola. For 58 years, George was married to his wife and best friend, Maggie Brubaker Gray, who survives him. He was known for his love of family, laughter, travel, reading, puzzles, and a good beer or gin martini.

Thomas S. Clark, 89, died on April 17, 2022. Tom was a resident of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, since 1971, when



In Memoriam, cont.

he moved south to start a sports car sales business. He attended WRA as a postgraduate for a brief period before earning admission to Denison University, where he studied business. Being an ROTC cadet at Denison, he was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. Tom served during the time between the Korean and Vietnam wars, rising to the rank of Captain. He married his wife, Early, in 1956 and returned to the Cleveland, Ohio, area after four years of service. It didn't take long for Tom to discover his love for machinery and automobiles, and he quickly got into racing and collecting sports cars. He won the 1967 National Championship in Formula C racing, and after stepping away from the driver's seat, his entrepreneurial spirit led him to start selling exotic cars. Tom and Early became key players in the boom of European sports car purchasing in South Florida as they raised three children. Tom was described as a hospitable and gracious host, always willing to open his home for a night of food and fun with friends.

Robert E. Little, 89, died on July 25, 2022, in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Described as friendly, wholesome and reliable, Bob was a beloved member of the Reserve community during his school days and well beyond. Though his name may have been "Little," his heart and his impact at Reserve were big beyond measure. In his early years, he was best known as a "Little twin," along with his twin brother John. The brothers left their mark as devoted siblings and friendly rivals in every activity. Bob remained in the Cleveland area through his career as a commercial banker and enjoyed playing golf into retirement. Serving as co-Class Correspondent for his graduating class, Bob helped Reserve maintain connections with alumni. A beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend to many, Bob Little will be hugely missed.

Class of 1952

Sidmon J. Kaplan died on Sept. 16, 2022. Before even attending Reserve, Sid met Barbara Bing Kaplan, his wife of 64 years, at a dance school. The two continued to dance throughout their lives at proms, formals and weddings, paying homage to early days. After graduating from WRA, Sid continued on to Washington and Lee University and basic training in the Army. A lover of travel, it's no wonder that Sid built his own travel agency, Landseair

Travel, eventually merging with Prescott, Ball and Turban, becoming the largest travel business in Cleveland. His favorite destinations included Sydney; London; Bermuda; New Orleans; Sun Valley, Idaho; Gainesville, Florida; Boothbay Harbor, Maine; and, of course, Hudson, Ohio. Sid was an extraordinary volunteer for his school and spent countless hours working with the Advancement Office to raise funds to establish both The Frank H. Longstreth Endowed Scholarship Fund and The Kaplan Endowed Scholarship Fund. He was a highly respected member of the Class of 1952 and will be sorely missed.

Dr. David R. Seidman, 87, died on Jan. 26, 2022. Dave attended Reserve for his final two years of high school after attending Shaker Heights High School for his freshman and sophomore years. He once wrote in a letter, "I came to Reserve very much a nerd.... WRA was the first of many steps in connecting with and understanding people." He would go on to attend MIT for both undergraduate and master's degrees, earning his Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University in 1963. Dave worked in the D.C. area for many years in executive technology assessment roles.

Class of 1953

Rannells Bauman, 86, died on April 1, 2022. A lifelong resident of Columbus, Ohio, Ran spent his career as a commercial real estate agent. He entered Reserve in 1949 after attending the University School in Columbus from first through eighth grades. He played football, basketball and tennis as a Pioneer. In 1957, Ran graduated from The Ohio State University and married L. Yvonne Surtman, to whom he was married for 56 years. Ran loved to golf, attend Ohio State football games and travel to the family cottage in Powassan, Ontario. His Christian faith was very important to him, and he was an active member of Grace Polaris Church. After Yvonne's passing in 2013, Ran spent more time in Canada, where he met Margaret Sommerville. Margaret and Ran were married in 2018, and she survives him along with his two sons, Robert and James.

Class of 1954

James "Ron" Rhodes, 85, died on Aug. 31, 2022, in Hinckley, Ohio, a community in which he made many significant contributions over the course of his lifelong



residency. Ron, nicknamed “Dusty” during his Reserve days, displayed great maturity after losing his father his freshman year and stepped in to operate a golf course his dad had established prior to his death. Surely this formative experience contributed to his career trajectory. Hinckley directly benefited from Ron’s advocacy of 2-acre minimum lot sizes, protecting its rural roots, and the establishment of a full-time police department, a historical society and many other community buildings. Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Hinckley Citizen of the Year Committee, Ron has a legacy that will live on in the community forever. Ron will certainly be remembered for his service in the U.S. Air National Guard and his contributions to a community that he loved, but anyone who knew Ron knew him as a servant of God, gardener, nature lover, patriot, statesman, Star Trek fan and practical joker. He cherished his wife, June; his children and his grandchildren, and Ron never missed an opportunity to support the ones he loved.

Class of 1955

Jerry B. Gapp, 84, died on Dec. 25, 2021. Born in Meadville, Pennsylvania, Jerry and his brother, Bruce, both attended Reserve. In a letter written by the WRA Faculty Guidance Committee, Jerry was described by the line, “There is no more thoughtful or loyal citizen in the school.” He graduated from Colgate University in 1959, where he studied accounting and finance. A few years later, Jerry earned his master’s degree from Binghamton University and worked as a CPA in Elmira, New York. He was an encouraging mentor to many, including the accounting students he taught at Elmira College, fellow members of First Presbyterian Church in Elmira, and the many charitable organizations he served as a board member. A dedicated family man, Jerry and his beloved wife, Paula, raised five children and made some of their favorite memories boating at the family cottage in Canada and at Central Oak Heights. Jerry was known as an avid reader, a generous giver and a man of high integrity.

T. John Kominis, 85, died on July 13, 2022, in Hawkins, Texas. An exceptional athlete at WRA, John earned varsity letters in football, basketball (which he co-captained) and track, and was described as the best athlete in the school. John continued on to Case Western Reserve University

for his undergraduate studies as well as dental school. John had an illustrious career in the field of dentistry and cherished his friends and family.

Class of 1956

Edwin “Ned” W. Wright, 81, died on March 13, 2019.

Ned played soccer and swam at Reserve before heading to Denison University. He earned his teaching certificate from The Ohio State University and worked for years as a teacher at Upper Arlington High School. A lover of classic cars, Ned was part of the Classic Car Club of America, Rolls Royce Owners Club and Auburn Cord Duesenberg Club. He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Marjorie; four children and five grandchildren.

Class of 1957

Robert Neuwirth, 82, died on May 18, 2022. Bob was described by Reserve faculty as “a lively boy with varied potentialities,” a description he certainly lived up to after graduating from WRA. Bob was famously known as Bob Dylan’s sidekick during the 1960s, and he was an artist himself in every sense of the word. From being a painter to a folk singer-songwriter, and from producing to performing, Bob’s outlets for expression knew no limits. He was someone who propelled people forward. Notably, he wrote songs with Janis Joplin and went on tours with Bob Dylan, playing a significant role in the careers of both legendary musicians. Bob studied art at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts. His artistry would go on to span six decades as he maintained his own solo music career, painted prolifically and explored numerous creative ventures that included producing documentaries.

Class of 1959

Rudolf “Chip” V. Ganz, 80, died in February 2022. A natural born leader, Chip was the Editor of the newspaper during his Reserve years. He was a Harvard graduate and spent years living in Switzerland, where he worked in hospital supply manufacturing in a managerial role. His wife, Linda, tragically died in 1978, leaving Chip on his own to raise their two sons. Chip later relocated to the Boston, Massachusetts, area for a Vice President position with Travenol Genentech Diagnostics.



In Memoriam, cont.

Class of 1964

Robert A. Houston, 75, died on Jan. 20, 2022, in Dayton, Ohio. Bob was described as “one of the most outstanding athletes to attend the Academy” and a highly important member of the Reserve community. In football, swimming and track, Bob was a gifted and enthusiastic leader. After attending WRA, he graduated from Wittenberg University, where he played football and studied business administration. At Wittenberg, Bob met Nancy Jane Miller and married her in 1969. Bob’s involvement in athletics spanned his entire life; he became a referee in the Ohio High School Athletics Association and spent over 25 years as an official, all while staying very active through his own interests in jogging, golfing and exercise of every kind. Bob earned his M.B.A. from the University of Dayton and spent part of his career as the Vice President of Hydroelectric Lift Truck, Inc. He also worked for the Hyster Company in Greenville, North Carolina, retiring in 2010. He and Nancy were very involved in church, golf clubs and YMCA boards, in addition to raising two daughters. They were married for 40 years until her passing in 2009.

Jeffrey P. Minns, 75, died on April 17, 2022. Born in Akron, Ohio, Jeff spent much of his childhood in northern Vermont, visiting family and fishing with his grandfather. He attended Reserve on a full scholarship and was co-Captain of the soccer team, among his many involvements on campus. Vermont became his permanent home after graduating from WRA, starting with his undergraduate studies at Middlebury College. After working at markets, a tavern and a dairy during and after college, Jeff embarked on a long teaching career at Vergennes Union High School. He taught English for years and eventually pivoted to teaching computer skills, all while coaching soccer and wrestling. Jeff and Joy Ostovitz were wed in 1976, spending many happy years together and raising two children. Although Jeff preferred to stay home, Joy eventually convinced him to travel with her, and he ended up loving their trips to Hawaii, Germany, Austria and Hungary.

Class of 1967

Robert W. Manning, 73, died on Dec. 9, 2021. Bob was known as a devout man of faith, a detailed storyteller and a passionate Pittsburgh sports fan. His Reserve years came

in two segments; due to a knee injury playing sports, Bob had to spend time at home and recover from surgery. Determined to return to Reserve stronger than before, he re-enrolled at WRA, helped lead a championship-winning soccer team, and was a widely admired Chapel speaker. In his adult life, Bob was an active volunteer with charitable organizations and a loving father to Caitlin (Mulkerin), Ryan and Matthew Manning.

Class of 1968

Peter Van Snook, 72, died on April 30, 2022, and is described as a strong leader, faithful husband, diligent father, dedicated papa and loving dog dad. At Reserve, Peter enjoyed riflery and served as a counselor at a boys’ summer camp in Wisconsin, leading a cabin group in canoeing, riflery and trap shooting. A varsity soccer player, Peter was extraordinarily hard-working and committed to the community. Later in his life, Peter most enjoyed spending time with his wife of 50 years, camping, riding motorcycles, boating and line dancing. He embraced every new hobby and interest his family dreamed up and proudly coached Little League baseball, co-led a Boy Scout troop, and accompanied his wife to dog and horse shows without complaint. Peter will be missed as the steadfast anchor in his family.

Class of 1969

Bruce Ferguson McKean, 70, died on May 7, 2022, in South Portland, Maine. An excellent swimmer and self-taught musician, Bruce performed in The Grapes of WRath band and was deeply inspired by the music of the ‘60s and ‘70s. He continued to play in college, performing both as a soloist and lead guitarist, practicing guitar for hours daily to prepare for gigs. Post-college led him to the field of education, where he taught as a middle school English teacher, coached basketball and track, and mentored a group of students in a band. Bruce is survived by his wife, Karen; his brother, Kevin McKean ‘67; and many cherished friends and family members. He treasured his life in Maine for the food, crisp weather and beloved company.



Class of 1971

Donald James “DJ” Humphrey II, 70, died on Aug. 21, 2022, in Columbia, South Carolina. DJ attended Logan Elm High School his freshman year before enrolling at Western Reserve Academy. Described as an excellent leader with a quick mind and a fine sense of humor, DJ quickly became a valued member of the Class of 1971. He graduated from Calvary Chapel Bible College in Indianapolis and went on to work as a self-employed real-estate broker for many years. DJ is survived by his son, Collin; brother, Mark; sisters, Creagh and Shauna; granddaughters, Ava and Mila; and numerous cherished family and friends.

Class of 1977

Peter W. Field, 64, died on April 22, 2022, at home in Kennebunkport, Maine. Peter grew up in Columbus, Ohio, before attending Reserve, where he lettered in soccer and track, volunteered as a tutor with Upward Bound, and “earned the affection and high regard of faculty and peers alike.” His college years at the University of Colorado in Boulder helped Peter discover his love of adventure and the outdoors, whether in the form of mountain biking, skiing, camping or hiking. He raised four sons with his wife, Ann, and made lasting memories, taking them on adventures all over New England and the western United States. Peter’s career in business took many directions, including real estate, hospitality, operating businesses and working with investment funds both large and small. He was known for his integrity, good nature, and the way he could say so much with just a simple smile or nod of the head.

Class of 1980

Julie M. Hanna, 59, died on Jan. 21, 2022. Julie studied French and English at Duke University after graduating from Reserve, and her long teaching career began with two years in the Peace Corps. She lived and taught in Zaire, now known as the Democratic Republic of the Congo. After returning to the United States, she earned her master’s degree from Kent State University while teaching in the Akron Public Schools. She spent 25 years teaching at Revere High School before retiring in 2018. She is survived by her husband, Jesse Wright, and many loving family members and friends.

Class of 1986

Clemont Robert “Rob” Austin IV, 53, died on March 6, 2022. At Reserve, Rob was co-Captain of the soccer team, Editor of the Reserve Record for two years, and a dorm prefect. Upon graduating, he was awarded the Bicknell Prize for “his continuous and substantial contributions to the life of the school.” Rob matriculated to Stanford University, where he walked on to the soccer team, studied abroad at Oxford as a visiting scholar, and graduated in 1990. His involvement at Reserve continued on in the form of teaching, as Rob taught English for five years in addition to coaching soccer and baseball. The J. Ward and Marion Keener Prize, given to the most outstanding young faculty member, was awarded to Rob. His knack for business led him back to graduate school for his M.B.A. from Case Western Reserve University, and he ventured into a career in supply chain management that took him all over the country for jobs with several firms. While he excelled at basically everything, Rob was described as supremely humble, loyal and caring. Those who knew him best agreed that “there was nobody else like him.”



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REUNION
WEEKEND
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Mark your calendars for June 2-3, 2023.

