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Front Cover: 2015 graduating class
First Word

Most days for the last five years or so, I’ve gotten up a little bit early and taken a seat somewhere quiet in the house. Sitting up tall, alert, relaxed, feet on floor, hands in lap; noticing the way my body rests in place, I bring focus from my eyes to my breath. For the next minutes I keep with it, moving thoughts to breath until the timer on my phone helpfully chimes. Another day begins.

This brief mindfulness practice has been particularly helpful and apt during my no-longer-so-brief time at Lawrence Academy. Every high school has a sense of nervous expectation and possibility — it’s just the nature of the age and environment, with that extra surge of energy born of pure personal growth. In assembling this publication, I want to communicate that sense of beginning — of awareness, settled presence, poise — as it is in the air these days at Lawrence Academy.

Many of the articles in this Journal will capture this excited mix of anticipation and good practice. We have the visible and literal improvement and change in our facilities — captured in these pages, but even more sensible in a visit to campus. We have the inspirational and highly attuned sensitivity to student growth of our fine teachers — exemplified in this issue by Laura Moore and Kevin Wiercinski and, of course, felt most powerfully by our students on a daily basis.

In yet broader, deeper dimensions we have a curriculum that responds to the changes and development of both our students and our world — the curriculum as it is, as well as a more formal and forward-thinking Curriculum Project we are initiating as a school, surely the subject of future focus in this publication. And, of course, there is the everyday miracle of change in school and life, the graduations and reunions captured in these pages telling us that life is moving as it should.

There is a wonderful sense of fruition in all of this. Schools give the great blessing of time and space to encourage healthy, necessary, and natural change. They allow space for contemplation, but they also promote action. At its best, such change reaches to the very core not only of students, but of every member of a school community, the school in turn inspiring us to bring those qualities into meaningful contact with the world.

As we turn to the content of this year’s Journal, it is worth sitting for a moment to think what the school’s training and practice can accomplish: free thought, clear vision, and a fertile setting that prepare for a good day, purposeful work, a meaningful life.

— Dan Scheibe, head of school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEATURES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole Community Mindfulness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Sweet Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Moore: The Short Story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharing Afghanistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who’s Driving the College Admissions Bus?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Global Awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Featuring Our Young Alumni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AROUND LA</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW on Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA at a Glance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cum Laude Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual and Performing Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Year in Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spartan Success</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome to LA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Social and Fundraiser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founders’ Day 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FROM THE ARCHIVES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Way of Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescued From the Dustbin of History!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 Years Ago: One Man’s Memories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LA CIRCLE EVENTS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALUMNI</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reunion Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memoriam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Background

While this journal’s opening “First Word” may provide a glimpse into my own personal practice of mindfulness, let me share a few definitions of mindfulness as a concept. In general, and with credit to Jon Kabat-Zinn, mindfulness is: “Paying attention, in a particular way, on purpose, in the present moment, without judgment.” Specifically, and referencing a definition used by Dawa Phillips, a research and education specialist at the University of California Santa Barbara and the expert facilitator for LA’s mindfulness program: “Mindfulness is the practice whereby a person is intentionally aware of his or her thoughts and actions…applied to both bodily actions and the mind’s own thoughts and feelings.”

Interestingly, such descriptions may describe both an individual mindfulness practice and a community mindset or ethos. Starting in the fall of 2015, a secular mindfulness program will be fully introduced and practiced at Lawrence Academy. Current students, parents, and faculty are already familiar with the beginnings of this program, an approach that is based in a research project organized by the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at The University of California Santa Barbara. Those unfamiliar with the origins of this work will find some background here, as well as a look ahead at what will unfold. Lawrence Academy is very fortunate to be involved in this partnership and thankful for the lead funding it has received from the stalwart support of The Boston Foundation, as well as UCSB’s own grants supporting this area of research.

The Practice

Next year the Lawrence Academy community will be sitting down for a few minutes at the beginning of each of our days together to breathe and ground our thoughts and actions. The faculty (through advisory, for the most part) will be the primary means by which this practice is guided and developed, and we will be as nimble and responsive as possible in order to deliver mindfulness training and practice as effectively as possible.

This initiative, a collaboration between Lawrence Academy and The University of California Santa Barbara, began in 2014–2015 with a year of faculty training along with baseline assessment initiating the research process. The 2015–2016 year will be a pilot year for developing effective mindfulness practice community-wide. Subsequent years will hone practice while continuing the research process of tracking mood, attention, and mindset in order to measure the impact of the training on the community. Lawrence Academy will, in
Mindfulness

The Intention

Back in the last decade and in my last job, I was doing the normal business of mission-driven high schools — seeking to find the ways in which the inner worlds of teenagers might be improved. By inner, I refer loosely to that collection of spiritual, ethical, and imaginative impulses that assembles into a self somewhere around the ages of 14 to 18. By improved, I mean giving those same teenagers a sense of autonomy, understanding, and empowerment that might become a force of self-consciousness, self-governance, self-awareness — just call it a maturing and strengthening sense of self.

Mindfulness presents itself just at this intersection of self-regulation and development. By exercising and training the essential quality of attention, of full presence and awareness as a person and in the moment, mindfulness helps to assemble and govern the developing self. If it is true for a person generally, it is even more true for an adolescent person, embodying that period in which self-identification is most vigorously and definitively formed. What will be fascinating to see is how true the benefits of a mindfulness orientation might become to a whole community.

Even with the self in the middle of all of this, however, the point is not self-obsession — a characteristic that does not need particular enhancement in the adolescent years. Rather, the point is bringing the self into effective, authentic relationship with the world around it. Mindfulness begins with a single point of focus, a single, individual breath, but its intention always projects outwards through the development of a conscientious, responsible self in relationship with others, and with the world.

All of this is interesting, provocative ground, but it is worth stating strongly that a mindfulness approach is culturally and mission-appropriate for a place like Lawrence. Valuing as it does the experiential over the merely conceptual and placing emphasis on skill (not just practical skills, but personal ones: “metaskills”) over disembodied content, Lawrence already cares deeply about how the quality of intent and attention affects you in the process of taking “responsibility for who you want to become.”

The Outcome

The ability to manage, understand, and harness one’s own thoughts and actions is perhaps the master-aptitude, the skill of skills, the factor that controls the essential nature of experience. Mood and performance are massively impacted by the attention we bring to our efforts. Mindfulness focuses on fundamental methods of developing the basic quality of attention so as to be able to function, to perform, to manage, to develop, to thrive. The goal of this initiative is to enhance the flourishing of LA students and the LA community.

It is this set of qualities and possibilities that seems to have people in education, industry, health, and research so interested and excited about mindfulness. Again, it is one thing to read about these developments. It is another thing to practice them, experience them, internalize them, and benefit from them. Put simply, we are committed to this work because we feel it will be good for us and it will do good. The University of California Santa Barbara is committed to the work at Lawrence Academy because it feels it can be of great benefit in educational settings and to society in general. What could be more worthy of our attention?
by John Bishop

Sometime this fall, Cailey Mastrangelo ’15 will wake up at Hobart and William Smith Colleges and realize that, for the first time in her life, she’s no longer officially connected to the Lawrence Academy campus.

“I would actually consider LA more of a home than the physical place I reside,” said counselor Cailey this past June, between sessions of LA’s Summer Programs. “I have been at LA for 18 out of my 18 years of life.”

Buoyed by family connections and incredible memories and friendships, as well as a genuine desire to give back to her home away from home, Mastrangelo says that she’ll be back — often. Her classmates name her “most likely to work at LA” in the superlative pages of the 2015 Lawrencian.

“I grew up on campus, I pictured myself going to high school here during middle school, I spent high school here, and I could never really leave LA,” said Cailey.

The name “Mastrangelo” is ubiquitous, as her mother Donna and father Frank, both longtime faculty members with numerous achievements, now ply the roles of Spanish teacher/basketball coach and Assistant Director of Athletics/Head Athletic Trainer, respectively. Brother AJ Mastrangelo ’18 joined the club last fall.

“Cailey’s first LA graduation was in 1997, when she was three months old,” explained Donna. “She grew up in the gym and on the soccer fields, no doubt about it…and having such a strong LA connection, starting so young, helped her find the Spartan path with ease.”

The Mastrangelo family—AJ, Cailey, Donna, and Frank
But with two parents directly involved in many facets of her education, for Cailey that path as an LA student was quite unique and probably not that easy.

“It was definitely a bit intimidating at first, but I think I was able to adjust to their reputations on campus pretty quickly, and it was something to be extremely proud of,” said Cailey. “I did go through a few time periods where I was known as ‘Donna’s Daughter’ or ‘Little Frank’, but I never minded it. Adding AJ in simply completed the Mastrangelo family picture on campus, a picture I am going to miss extremely moving on next year at college.”

Cailey made no small name for herself at LA, earning several awards that acknowledged her character and dedication. Two of those accolades hold a very special place in her heart.

At graduation, she received the Faculty Award. “It speaks about the recipient making LA a place where one would wish to send a son or daughter, and hearing those words before my nam e gave me the shivers,” said the talented athlete, who also received soccer’s Donna Bibbo Mastrangelo Award.

“That award has to do with dedication to the game beyond the field, and I certainly adopted that characteristic from my mother always supporting me,” she said. “Also, nothing can make you feel more proud of yourself than receiving your own mother’s award — a legend’s award — in your final season as a high school player.”

Given her mom’s intensity on the basketball court and in the classroom, it stood to reason that not all interactions between mother and daughter were as memorable, but both say they brought them closer together.

“It was great having my mom coach me. I wouldn’t want anyone else in that position, but it was certainly a ride with its ups and downs,” admitted Cailey. “It certainly trained me at a higher level, both physically and mentally, and pushed me to be a better athlete and person overall.”

“My standards are high for all of my athletes alike, and I think it’s sometimes hard when your mother is always the one being tough on you like that,” said Donna. “On the flip side, I will treasure this experience for all of my life. How many people can say they had this experience, share these similar stories, and can look back at how unique and special this was?”

“My senior year was like the ending scene in a very happy movie,” added Cailey. “Overall, we just made sure that every little piece of the season was spent together because, though it was an unsaid topic all season, this would be our final season together. Wow, that just made me cry.”

Tears were shed by many when mother, daughter, and father last met on the Quad in May. “To me, the most special thing was just having the opportunity to present her with her diploma,” said Frank. “Cailey earned her awards on her own, because she’s kind, caring, respectful, and understanding. She makes us proud as parents. Cailey made us feel like we actually knew what we were doing.”

Looking ahead to Geneva, New York, Cailey said, “Leaving something so special and personal to me is going to be the hardest thing I have done and probably will ever do. But, I still have my mom, my dad, AJ, my LA family, and too many connections — so, even if I tried to leave a little bit, LA will always be a major part of my life and who I am.”
by Bev Rodrigues

The unveiling of Laura Rogerson Moore did not go quite as expected. Seeking her secret yearnings and hidden ambitions was a total loss. Laura herself said, “When students turn the tables and ask me what I want to be when I grow up, I say, ‘This is it. I am that person.’” Laura’s aging dog Bonnie seemed content with that assessment, too, sitting in on the conversation on the patio behind the teacher’s home.

Growing Up in Groton

Until the age of 7, Laura lived in Dedham, Mass., where her father was a teacher at Noble and Greenough. As the suburbs encroached, he opted to move further out into the country, becoming the director of admissions at Groton School. Laura would grow up immersed in the independent school world and all of its possibilities, while enjoying the freedoms that the rural life offered — and where exploration and independence were encouraged. “We had to come home from wherever we were when the 5:00 whistle blew at the fire station,” she remembers.

Laura attended elementary school in Groton, middle school at nearby Applewild, and then Concord Academy for a year, while she awaited the Groton School’s decision to go coed during her sophomore year. “I had grown up at Groton. I was like any fac brat,” she said. “When you grow up at the place, you picture yourself there.” And, because her mother was the dance instructor, she had been involved in school productions since the age of 10.

Reading and Writing

Laura considered herself a tomboy and recalled not liking to read very much. But, when her family traveled around the country in a VW bus, “with a mattress in the back with all four kids on it, I felt the need to escape my siblings and found I could do that in a book.” While attending Groton School, she wrote a 350-page novel for an English teacher, “who actually read it” and provided encouragement.

As she pursued an English major at Harvard University, her creative writing teacher suggested: “You can write. Now you just need to go live some life in order to have something to write about!” Lawrence Academy Headmaster Ben Williams agreed that she needed some experience, too, and did not hire her when
she applied right out of school. “He didn’t think I was ready,” she said, “which I see as a blessing, because I wasn’t!” After interning with some inspirational teachers at Applewild, she happened to meet up with Williams again, who reported that he was losing a dance instructor and invited her to fill that position and teach English.

Fresh Faculty Faces
When she did walk into the classroom as a 23-year-old, and one of few female faculty members, she said to herself, “I don’t have all the answers, and I’m not going to stand up here in front of kids and lecture...we’re going to have conversations, I’m going to get them to write, and we’re going to do this as a workshop.” Creating three new elective courses, she became very much a part of that period’s exciting and innovative move toward student-centered education.

It was 1983 and “poetic,” said Laura, that it was the same year Rob Moore came onboard as a Spanish teacher and soccer coach. While coaching dance daily and establishing electives in Creative Writing, Black American Authors, and 19th and 20th Century Women Authors, Laura found herself immersed in a new personal relationship. “Being together at school makes a relationship work in ‘dog years,’” she explained. “You are working together, eating together, and attending meetings together ALL the time. Time passes much more quickly than in ‘normal’ relationships.”

Cherishing Family and Work
They married the following year and enjoyed their role as dorm parents and, eventually, parents of three girls, Grace ’04, Katherine ’06, and Elibet ’09. Laura, who has published both short stories and poetry, joked, “Where I used to write longer pieces when the kids were little — because they are easy, when they play dress-up in the house all day — I took to poetry as a change in time constraints only allowed for shorter pieces.” In an effort to balance her work schedule with her young family’s needs, she established a daycare program that also served other faculty families with similar challenges.

During nine years in the dance program, Laura expanded it to be available as both a sport and an art, a new concept for the school and a time-consuming commitment. She left that role to focus on work in the English Department and introduced Honors Writing and helped develop Senior Seminar, both of which she teaches to this day, and where she strives to “inspire and allow.” Laura loves Honors Writing because students report “how the class makes them more aware of themselves, more confident about who they are and saying what they think without fear of judgement.” She loves Senior Seminar, which is required of all students who are not in an honors class, “because that is where the epiphanies occur.”

The Departmental Chair for Excellence in Teaching went to Laura in 1992. That year, when she and her growing family moved out of the dormitories, she chaired a committee which created the residential affiliate program that is in use today, which requires that other faculty members provide scheduled relief to those serving as dorm parents.

Beyond the Classroom
While ‘English teacher’ — and now chair of the department — has been her main role, the moment Laura set foot on campus, she was part of LA’s ongoing efforts to make the school education experience as effective as possible.

Beginning with her early curriculum work with the likes of Ned Mitchell and Terry Murbach, she has contributed in a multitude of ways toward the well-being of the school, its mission, and its programs. The longtime head of the Intervention Team, Laura has been involved with the I Team since its inception the year she was hired. She takes great satisfaction in offering a system that, she says, “provides a confidential response to at-risk behavior in an effort to keep students safe, healthy, and in school.” She started and oversees the student literary magazine, Consortium. Her own work has been published in magazines, a chapbook, and online by NAIS, and an article about LA teaching and the latest research about the brain will appear this fall in Independent School Magazine. She has successfully driven Lawrence Academy’s complex reaccreditation process. Currently, she is excited about — and serving as co-chair of — LA’s Curriculum Project, a comprehensive review and revision of the school’s programs.

The Goals
With 32 years of service already behind her, Laura continues to enjoy working to deliver what she thinks is the most important result, and something that colleges, she believes, now find to be most crucial: “They want us to send them people who can think and communicate and collaborate; that’s what the future demands.”

“Growing up, I wanted to be a mother, a teacher, and a writer,” Laura Moore said, smiling. “And I guess it’s no secret that that’s what I’ve become.”
We are seated at The Helmand, an Afghan restaurant in Boston. Mukhtar has invited me to sample authentic Afghan food, as authentic as it gets in the U.S. Mukhtar is animated and happy, flashing his bright smile as he identifies each dish. I can see his delight as he remembers a taste or smell from his mother’s kitchen in Kabul. While many things here are familiar to him, in just three years he has come very far from everything he knows.

As the youngest of five children, Mukhtaruddin Amiry knew that the resources available for his education were scarce. His older siblings, two brothers and two sisters, all left home to pursue better opportunities. And then there was the instability of Afghanistan. His family witnessed the destruction of their homeland by the Taliban, not only of cities and villages, but also of the economy. He knew he had to seek out his future, to make it happen. With two brothers in the U.S. already, it was a logical place for him to consider.

Unlike many Afghans, Mukhtar didn’t judge Americans by what was happening in their country. In fact, his first image of Americans was a good one. It was an experience his father had while working as a driver for the U.S. military in Bagram. “My father had a ganglion cyst growing on the back of his right hand. It became so painful that he drove his truck with his left
hand on the steering wheel,” Mukhtar explains. “The next day, doctors at the Military Health Center performed surgery to remove it, even though that service was supposed to be limited to only American soldiers. I remember him telling us that the nurses were so kind and the way they treated him was unforgettable.”

“What you seek is seeking you.”
— Rumi

So Mukhtar began his journey by enrolling in the Afghan Scholars Initiative (ASI, www.afghanscholars.org), an organization connecting young Afghan students with progressive educational institutions. ASI’s co-founder and executive director Qiam Amiry, Mukhtar’s oldest brother, began the scholarship program in 2006 while still at Colby College. Even with his brother as the executive director, Mukhtar had to demonstrate the intelligence, drive, and desire to create lasting change that are required to participate in the program.

Tony Hawgood, Lawrence’s director of admissions at the time, remembers ASI and meeting Qiam. “I had heard of ASI from colleagues and was immediately excited at the thought of being a part of educating Afghan youth,” says Tony. One of those recommending ASI was from right inside LA: Andrew Brescia. Qiam had attended one of Andrew’s ESL classes after hearing an NPR broadcast about the teacher’s experiences growing up in Afghanistan, and he thought he had found the right school for his new candidate — a place where he could share a bit of himself and his culture with others.

Upon hearing of Mukhtar’s acceptance in 2012 as a sophomore, Andrew requested to be his advisor. “By the 1990s, America’s relationship with Afghanistan was vastly different than when I was there as a child. Any cultural connection the U.S. had with Afghanistan was broken,” says Andrew. “I hoped that working with ASI and hosting Afghan students would help reconnect our countries.” With brothers ahead of him studying in the U.S., Mukhtar knew what to expect as an international student, and yet having Andrew as an advisor gave him a much-needed connection to his home and culture.

Mukhtar’s transition was not easy. While he was a bit older and more mature than his classmates, he struggled with his second language. He also struggled with time. As Andrew noted, Mukhtar was often late to class, with homework, and even for meals. “There wasn’t the emphasis on timeliness or studies back home that we have here. Mukhtar operated on ‘Afghan time’.” Mukhtar says he added the word “starve” to his dictionary after missing one too many meals.

Mukhtar vividly remembers meeting Andrew Brescia for the first time. “I walked into the dining hall my first day here, and there he was wearing a pakol (a traditional Afghan hat). I know he wore it out of respect and, while I was surprised, it made me feel good.”

“Wear gratitude like a cloak and it will feed every corner of your life.”
— Rumi

While language came slowly, his artwork flowed. One art exhibit early in his first year got the attention of the entire community, and it didn’t take long for his artwork to become popular on campus. It made Mukhtar happy that people enjoyed his art. He began painting portraits of classmates, campus pets, sunflowers, and scenes from his home. It was a way to share his homeland with others and honor where he came from. His largest canvas to date (see picture at left) will hang in the lobby of the Richardson-Mees Performing Arts Center as a lasting gift to LA.

One painting — Buzkashi, a game played on horseback in Afghanistan — was given to the Development Office as an auction item. This year, he donated a custom portrait. Such generosity has been Mukhtar’s way of expressing his gratitude for what was given him.

If art served as a window into his world, the Sufi poet Rumi served as Mukhtar’s spiritual guide. He often painted images of Rumi and the whirling dervishes that became a hallmark of Rumi’s followers. He used Rumi’s peaceful quotes in the wood pieces he carved. He read “Only Breath,” a poem about our common humanity, at an assembly celebrating MLK Jr. Day. It was Rumi’s words that helped Mukhtar make sense of how his future was unfolding.
By graduation, Mukhtar had earned a place on the honor roll and received five college acceptance letters, which underscores just how far he has come academically.

As he described in a speech delivered to his ESL class as part of his final exam, his feelings for America have come a long way too. “Before I began my journey to the States, I didn’t have a clear image of Americans in my mind,” Mukhtar said. “My people, I’m sure you can understand, have different thoughts about Americans; some are happy and some are not. Some Afghans see Americans as saviors, some as infidels. Some Afghans judge Americans only by seeing their soldiers on the streets in Kabul.” He is quick to add that he has a much better image of Americans now.

From the kindnesses shown to his father to the growing number of friends he has found here in Groton, his view of Americans is one shaped by love.

“As we say in Persian, ‘Ham dil e better as ham zabani ast,’” he tells us. “In English, it means love doesn’t need a common language or culture — wherever you go, seek love and make that place home.”

Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi was a 13th-century Persian poet and Sufi mystic, born in what is now Afghanistan. His poems have been translated into many languages. He believed the use of music, poetry, and dance was a path to God, and today his poetry forms the basis for much of Afghan and Iranian music.
Who’s Driving the College Admissions Bus?

by Joseph Sheppard

College admission is “much more competitive and selective than even ten years ago,” says Director of College Counseling Sean Sheehan, kicking off our conversation with the college counseling staff. Veteran counselor Jamie Sheff nods in agreement: “It’s just a completely different playing field.” Sean and Jamie, together with colleagues Kim Bohlin Healy, Chris Margraf, and administrative assistant Lisa Cooper, are guiding Lawrence’s juniors and seniors through an ever-more complex process that is increasingly driven on both sides by financial considerations. Parents struggle to pay huge tuition bills, while college admissions people are under the gun to generate more applicants, and therefore more money, every year.

Gone are the days of simply taking a tour, interviewing if you had the time, sending in an application, and then waiting a few months for a decision. In today’s admissions market, failure to show colleges that you love them — over and over — can be fatal. “Demonstrated interest” is huge — huge to the extent of being a little bit insane,” says Jamie. It’s no longer enough, she continues, for candidates to visit a college campus; they must have at least one interview, respond to every email, write every “optional” application essay, and apply Early Decision.

Moreover, at the 40 or so “most wanted” institutions, they need to apply Early Decision, or at least under the non-binding Early Action plan, to have a reasonable chance of admission.

“It’s no longer enough for candidates to visit a college campus; they must have at least one interview, respond to every email, write every ‘optional’ application essay, and apply Early Decision.”

Even though high school seniors are decreasing somewhat in numbers nationally, they are sending more and more applications. One reason, Sean Sheehan explains, is the electronic application. The venerable Common Application, which is now accepted by over 500 colleges and universities, has been online-only for several years now, and many institutions also entice applicants with their own online “VIP” applications, “SnapApps,” or with promises to waive fees or the essay requirement as a reward for early submission. A student can apply to a dozen colleges with the click of a few keys — and thousands do.

Not only are American students applying to more colleges than they used to; they are competing with a massive influx of international applicants, many from China. These students are groomed for the American university market from an early age, and, typically, required to submit a large number of applications. Lawrence’s recent senior classes reflect this trend: domestic students sent an average of 6.8 applications last year — a figure that has held fairly steady recently despite national trends — while LA’s international seniors sent almost twice that number.

Another factor is helping to propel application numbers skyward. As Sean puts it, “The line between education and business is really getting blurred.” Colleges want to build, because fancy new buildings attract applicants, and building takes money. Much of the cash is obtained by selling bonds, so colleges’ bond ratings must be high. Bond companies, the counselors explain, use “increasing applications” as one criterion for assigning a rating to an institution.
College admissions offices, therefore, are under pressure to get applicant numbers up: the more applications, the better the potential bond rating. Admissions committees have come up with creative ways to get seniors to apply — and apply early. Think of Caitlyn, a tenth-grader who gets emails from twenty colleges, all screaming, “You’re just the kind of applicant we want at Podunk U.!” Podunk knows nothing about poor Caitlyn; they bought her name from the College Board or the ACT because she fits some currently-hot criterion at the college: geographical or ethnic diversity, musical talent, having a dad who’s a CEO, etc. But Caitlyn thinks they love her, and will very possibly apply two years hence even though her grades and test scores are well below Podunk’s average. “But they must want me — they’ve emailed me six times!” Sorry, kid. They want your application, not you. And they want you to send it in early so that you’ll be counted in their applicant statistics for the next edition of someone’s “Top American Colleges.”

Some institutions fill half their freshman classes with Early Decision applicants — students whose dollars they are guaranteed to get. The “regular” decision applicants therefore face significantly slimmer chances of admission at many institutions. But they keep applying, increasing that all-important applicant pool, and colleges keep recruiting students using aggressive marketing techniques, knowing full well that most of them won’t get in. But each application is a tiny upward tic in a bond rating. Acceptance rates, particularly, again, at the “most wanted” institutions, have plummeted. One example is Columbia University: In 1986 they accepted 68 percent of their applicants; last year the acceptance rate was six percent, similar to that at many Ivy League and other top-tier schools. On the other end of the spectrum, students can find comfort in knowing that, at colleges with modest endowments, they will get in if they can pay, often with a merit scholarship as an enticement to enroll. A tuition-driven institution would rather have a student on campus at a discount than not have him or her at all.

Because paying for college is a major concern for many families, the college counselors urge parents to have an early talk with their children about financial realities, making sure the students understand the need for a “financial safety” or two on their final college lists. One bright spot in the financial picture, however, is the significant increase in the merit scholarships just mentioned — essentially, tuition discounts not based on need —
which many colleges hand out as recruiting tools to students at all levels of ability. Some are based on academic merit; others on factors as diverse as geographical distribution, leadership (often loosely defined), musical talent, or some specific extracurricular interest.

Guidance counselors and college advisors across the country must adjust to the ever-changing admissions scenario, and Lawrence’s counseling staff is no exception. The school’s counseling philosophy, strongly supported by the school’s administration and the board of trustees, has remained constant: to help each student find colleges that best fit him or her. As one staff member explained, “We’re doing much more programatically than we used to” in response to the changes. Monthly small-group meetings, each devoted to a single topic, start in November of the junior year and continue through the following December. The overriding goal is always to support students’ aspirations, while making them aware of realities and giving them the tools they need in order to cope with a process that is often irrational and unfair. Parents receive a monthly email newsletter with up-to-date information and advice; a panel of admissions officers takes part in a lively question-and-answer session at the annual Junior Parents’ College Day, an event that dates back 40 years.

A notable addition to the college office’s program is an annual visit by Peter Van Buskirk, former dean of admissions at Franklin and Marshall College and now president of Best College Fit. Mr. Van Buskirk brings his program, “The Admission Game,” onto campus in December to meet with members of the junior class, who are required to attend, and their parents, who are strongly encouraged to come and participate. After explaining how admission committees work, Mr. Van Buskirk runs a mock admission meeting, during which four different candidates are considered for admission. His sessions, the core message of which is “Find the college that wants you,” have proven not only popular with students and parents but also an effective way to educate families to the realities of the admissions process.

Through it all, Lawrence’s seniors keep getting into college, and most of them — almost 90 percent last year — attend one of their top three choices. Still, a few people are tempted to compare one class’s college matriculation list with another year, and ask why the current record isn’t as “impressive” as some previous one. The question is misguided. As Kim Bohlin Healy notes, “When Lawrence seniors have the appropriate credentials, they do get into these schools,” as many do every year. The important thing, say the counselors, is not the proportion of Ivies or NESCAC colleges on the list, but the number of seniors who will attend schools that are an excellent match for them.

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Lawrence Academy boasts a diversity of students, approximately one-eighth of whom come from other countries: the 2014–2015 Directory lists Afghanistan, Bahamas, Canada, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Norway, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe. The opportunity for students to learn from each other in their personal interactions is great.

But, the school does sit upon a rural hillside in New England, steeped in its own relatively non-diverse history and culture, with the majority of students coming from similar backgrounds and growing up with similar perspectives of the world. Those students who come from more urban areas and international locations are similarly likely to see the world through the lens of their own deeply-engrained cultural experiences.

Kevin Weircinski and Max Breiter ’16

The History Department sought to broaden student perspectives when they created a Human Geography class. “It was about six or seven years ago,” said teacher Kevin Weircinski, “and we wanted a year-long elective for seniors that wasn’t AP or Honors — and something that had a concentration of things that weren’t either American or Western.”

“This course provides students with a sense of global awareness — how the world fits together,” Kevin explained. “They may discover that familiar local issues are issues around the world, but they will also look more closely at issues like extreme poverty, famine, or the roles that women play in societies outside the Western tradition — how the other 7 billion people on the planet live.”

While topics vary somewhat from year to year, the most recent class investigated population and cultural issues such as gender, race, ethnicity, and religion; political geography — how nations govern themselves and govern together; rural
issues, such as food and agriculture; urbanization and urban issues; and resources and how they are being stressed. Each area of study requires focusing on specific cases that, as Kevin says, “take them someplace where there’s something drastic going on, with a particular kind of cultural characteristic.”

In a recent urbanization study, each student selected a city and investigated a program that city had employed to address one of its own specific problems. Topics included human trafficking in Sydney and Melbourne, Australia; sanitation in the slums of Mumbai, India; smog in Los Angeles; flood management in Dacha, Bangladesh; Cash-for-Grass programs in California; homelessness in Arizona; immigrant population in Athens, Greece; and gang violence in various U.S. cities.

Last year, students were challenged to design Public Service Announcements to support the efforts of actual agencies whose missions are to improve issues such as health practices and women’s rights in third-world countries.

Assignments range from such individual projects to group efforts like last spring’s mock trial of Monsanto, where students argued the values and risks of using the company’s genetically engineered seeds and explored the impact of their use on communities around the world. The final project last spring called for individual reports on various resource crises around the world.

There are several things about this class that appeal to students. Devan Taylor ’15 says, “The topics have more to do with today or a couple of years ago, instead of like the 1900s or 1800s, so now you’re learning about issues that are actually happening, politically and economically, around the world.” Others comment that the freedom to select issues of interest to them is motivating.

One student response, and the one that teacher’s dream of, is worth noting: “The class has really kind of opened my eyes.”
After four great years at Lawrence Academy, I studied at New York University’s Paris and New York City campuses. I graduated from NYU in 2013, wanting to stay in the city to engage in work related to my growing interests in policy and social equity. Prior experience working with children from low-income communities across New York led me to join a large network of charter schools and, implicitly, the charter school movement.

The educational landscape of New York City is defined by a host of failing schools — protected by unions and red-tape city bureaucracy — and a slew of charter networks working to combat storied marginalization and institutional immobility. Charter schools have a high success rate because, literally, they have a charter that they have to uphold and are regularly evaluated for efficacy and compliance. My network operates the largest number of high-performing schools throughout four of the five boroughs — 32 schools, and counting. Knowing all of this, I was thrilled to join the movement.

I began my work in the classroom with third-grade students, focusing on preparing my scholars for the state math and ELA (English Language Arts) exams that would determine their early educational success rates. I then transitioned to a role that allowed me to oversee special education processes, an area of particular interest, data analysis, and testing. I quickly took command of the role and expanded my reach within the network. Now, two years into my professional career, I am the acting assistant principal of a charter school in the poorest census tract of all of New York City, working to transform the school so that our scholars may be the highest achieving in the network.

When I began working for the network, I anticipated teaching for a few years before returning to school full-time. I have found, however, that the many hats I wear every day in order to run the school directly correlate to the master’s degree I am pursuing at NYU’s Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, and I see a future of educational leadership ahead of me. On any given day, I am real-time coaching my teachers, engaging with our parent population, conferencing with our legal team, making instructional and staffing decisions, fighting DOE bureaucracy, and having dance parties with our kindergarten scholars.

I find incredibly humbling and gratifying the work of helping to transform a school so its educators and scholars may be the best they can be. While I had not anticipated a career in educational leadership, I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with such devoted staff and exceptional scholars to change education in New York City, and to further develop the skills that will allow me to lead teams to excellence now and in the future.

submitted by Rebecca Fleischman ’09
At Lawrence Academy, Myles Kane was probably best known as a juggler.

“That started at LA. Mr. Burkholz also had this hobby and, before I knew it, I’m passing clubs with him on the Quad”, Kane recalled.

These days, Kane, a self-professed “juggler of tasks,” jumps from one cool experience to another as a freelancer based in New York City. A video producer and documentary filmmaker, Kane has seen his work featured on the BBC, ESPN, and NewYorker.com.

He's also a rapper. “The first feature documentary we made was about the Harry Potter fan community,” explained Kane. “We Are Wizards focused on what is known as wizard rock. After making the film...I started my own wizard rock band.”

“In wizard rock, you perform the music of your choice as a character from the Harry Potter books would,” said Kane. “My character is MC Kreacher, a house elf — a very disgruntled, angry little elf — who spits some very hardcore raps.”

Most unlike his alter ego, Kane grins often, especially as he talks about his adopted hometown. “I’ve lived in Brooklyn for 18 years now, almost exactly half my life; this makes me a true New Yorker,” said Kane, who recently finished a five-year stint at the The New Yorker magazine’s website.

Kane is a primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC) survivor, thanks to a liver transplant. “Yeah, it was a life-threatening sort of crossroads, but there were a lot of positives that came from it,” said Kane. “One, I’m here talking to you today, and I survived. But, what was amazing was how my friends, my family, and LA, specifically, rallied around me.”

As a day student from Pepperell, Mass., Kane said that he heard so much about the “LA community” that it began to sound trite. “It was sort of a running joke — ‘Yeah, yeah, yeah, community, community.'” But, he came to understand otherwise. In response to his family’s fundraiser to help him with his medical bills, he said, “people stepped up with money or just love and support, and I really did feel like I was sort of being lifted and carried to the finish line. I mean, I couldn’t have done it without all this help.”

LA gave him other things. “I developed into a filmmaker, musician, juggler; I really did find my voice at LA,” he said. And he values his time spent on the Gray Building’s old basketball courts.

“Film making is really difficult,” explained Kane. “It takes a lot of perseverance, and everything is pushing against you; I often think back to my time, sweating it out in these endless practices, at the point of quitting, and realizing if you push a little harder, you can really achieve greatness.”

As Kane looked back over his shoulder at Manhattan’s Freedom Tower, he considered advice he might give to current LA students. “Stay persistent,” he said, succinctly. “I actually never got a film or video job by submitting a resume, surprisingly, and it’s just been about staying active in the community. It’s hard to predict where you’re going to end up, but if you stay active and you stay persistent, things do fall into your lap.”

by John Bishop
I had just graduated from Lake Forest College with a B.A. in music. At home in Bolton, Mass., I was trying to find a path to New York City, where I wanted to write music and get paid for it. I sent “cold” emails to music houses all over the city with my résumé and references.

After hearing crickets for a month, I moved to Grand Rapids, Mich. — a “westward” decision (as opposed to a more obvious southward move to New York), but an exciting one for two reasons: I was moving downtown in a new city, and I would be near Allie Hess, who is now my fiancée.

I worked casually for a while, exploring with friends and enjoying new flavors of adulthood. Then, in the fall of 2010, I received a phone call from Explosion Robinson in New York, one of the studios I had emailed months before. They were looking to outsource composition work to freelancers, and my email had caught their attention. I began making demo tracks and, to my delight, I landed several gigs scoring TV and web commercials. I remember clicking “refresh” to see my first web spot soar past one million views on YouTube — it was an exciting time! I felt as though I had found a rare branch hanging just low enough to pluck its fruit and squeeze out some juice.

A few days before the new year, Explosion Robinson called to offer me a full-time position. Two weeks later, I was living in a studio apartment in Greenwich Village — talk about living the dream! For the next three years, I improved my skills as an audio engineer while working as ExRob’s head composer. Stephen Hermann, the owner, helped me learn to mix for television and film. I explored sound-design and voice-over work, met local talent, wrote music regularly, and became a workhorse engineer for the small sound house. I managed to get an education on a salary, while building a stellar portfolio.

I left ExRob in January of 2014 to pursue my own clients and spend more time scoring films. Having gained a network of professionals and friends in the media industry, I was able to connect with directors and producers looking for sound work. In July, I premiered my soundtrack for the indie feature *The Inquisition of Camilo Sanz* at the Museum of the Moving Image in New York City.

Engaging artists with interesting projects, sharing time, and having a willingness to try have brought more and more “branches” within my reach. Right now, I am working on a new indie feature film. I met the director through a filmmaker friend; in a city of eight million, everyone seems to know everyone else.

For me, the rhythm of a freelance lifestyle is natural. It comes with a heap of self-responsibility, but that feels basic and human. And there is the irrefutable truth that sometimes happiness means being able to ride your bike at noon on a Monday, or deciding that today work ends at 3:00 p.m. and then it’s nothing but baking chocolate chip cookies forever.

It is early yet. But so far, the juice has been worth the squeeze.

submitted by Zak Engel ’06
Piper Marshall, a self-professed “ingénue-in-training” with a personality to rival Annie Hall, perched cat-like at the edge of a lunch counter in New York City’s West Village, finishing her hearty breakfast and caffeinating herself for a busy day.

“I start at 7:00 a.m., and sometimes I’ll have Skype meetings between 7:30 and 9:00, because I’ll have to talk to people in Europe,” said Marshall. “I take care of that, I do my emails, I write a little bit, and then I try to be at school by 11:00 or 11:30.”

Right now, she’s delving deeper into art history as a doctoral student at Columbia University, but Marshall is also a published writer and editor (she recently edited the Swiss Institute catalog Descartes’ Daughter and regularly contributes to Artforum.com), a freelance curator (she’s currently working at Manhattan’s Mary Boone Galleries), and a budding media darling who’s been featured by Vogue, W magazine, Art in America, and the Observer for her curatorial skills and, in some cases, her fashion sense.

But, between punctuating sips of coffee, Marshall talked about how this person wearing a vintage denim dress, black leggings, oversize glasses, and a confident countenance might not be recognizable to her LA self — admittedly an awkward day student from Amherst, N.H.

“There are elements I would recognize, yes,” said Marshall, “like my appreciation and love for creativity and the arts and writing and this whole ‘sensorium’ it provides. But, I didn’t know it would quite end up like this.”

She attended Barnard College, thinking she would study pre-med, “but I ended up wandering into an introduction to art history class,” she explained. “It blew me away. And it really drew on different aspects of my education to that point that I hadn’t quite put together.”

Looking back, Marshall credits LA for providing the supportive framework that allowed her to test her limits, while making room for the many facets of her personality to grow and evolve.

“When I was at Lawrence, I was much more of a free spirit,” she said. Purposefully unwilling to limit herself to one particular aspect of high school — be it arts, athletics, or academics — she delved into everything. “I was nominated to do a senior honors independent project in every single — swear to God — every single subject,” Marshall said with a laugh. And, add former varsity skiing captain to the eclectic tone of her experience.

Similarly, she found herself attracted to a variety of social circles. She hung out with the science kids in the Swamp because they were “cool and curious” and “surrounded by all these gizmos and slithery slimy things.” And the drama kids: “sometimes I hung out with them, but I was never in any plays, so I didn’t really belong to that, you know?”

If she could talk to the current crop of LA students, Marshall said she’d encourage them to embrace the “possibility of and.” “There’s no one LA kid. The reason LA’s great is that you can experience such variety without having to be defined by any one thing,” she said. “And then, somehow, one year later, you’re in college, and it all comes together: You can do this and this and this and this — and those things can be reciprocal.”

And with that she finished off her latest carafe of coffee and packed her things up for her subway trip to Columbia, the next thing on that day’s schedule.
“I just charge through,” Mallory smiled during a recent Skype conversation. “I don’t like things that slow me down.” Indeed, she didn’t slow down for a moment as she talked with us during her work day at a Boston hospital. As a navigations specialist and sales associate for Stryker Corporation, a venerable medical technology company, she helps radiologists and other medical staff navigate the complex devices they provide. “Think of it as a GPS or a smartphone for surgery,” she explains, referring to one of the company’s products.

Mallory’s interest in health is lifelong, stemming from her own athleticism as well as from coping with childhood illnesses. A dedicated runner, she captained the LA cross-country team in the fall of 2004 before moving on to George Washington University, where she majored in international affairs and public health. During college, Mallory explained, “I had an amazing job and an amazing mentor, Brooke Lehmann. I worked for a company called Child Works; they do lobbying for children’s and women’s health care. We did everything from recovery from Hurricane Katrina to setting up school-based health care. I think I learned half my college education through her.”

After graduating magna cum laude from GWU in 2009, Mallory spent a summer in Maine, figuring things out while waitressing and continuing to work for Lehmann. “I’m only 21 years old,” she reasoned, “and my peers are staying at home and becoming waitresses, or nannies, or bartenders. That was totally unacceptable to me. I had thought that at 21 I was supposed to know exactly what I wanted to do with my life. This is where my mentor really made a huge difference. She re-invented herself many times.”

By way of re-invention (the first of two or three), Mal moved to Hawaii. “I knew I could drive cross-country to Colorado and be a ski instructor, because I had done that for many years — or I could just go to Hawaii.” She lived in a hostel for a week, then “my first step was to get an apartment, and my second step was to join the gym!” Hip problems had forced Mallory to give up running, a big blow to her, so she took up body-building for a while, winning third place in a local competition. Happily, Lehmann was “OK” with her working from far away and kept her employed.

Home beckoned eventually, and Mallory moved back to Boston for a while, working briefly at McLean Hospital before she found the position at Stryker. Last spring, the company had an opening in Newport Beach, Calif., and Mallory headed west once more, because she “just wanted to.”

The newest chapter in Mallory’s book of healthy things is a business she’s starting with a friend. Sport Snack will provide nutritious snacks for athletes of all ages and levels, nourishment to be consumed about half an hour after practice. In many families, both parents are working, Mallory explains, and kids are often left with nothing but “doughnuts and soda” for a post-practice pick-me-up. Sport Snack will allow parents to pre-order healthful food for their young athletes, with delivery to their doors. For now, they will purvey other companies’ products, but making their own food in the future isn’t out of the question. “Your health,” Mal says, “is more important to a successful life than even your education.” If a healthy snack can help convince a whole generation to eat better, she and her colleagues will have done humankind a great service.

by Joseph Sheppard
Where many people say, “I want to be a doctor” or “I want to be a firefighter,” I wanted to make intelligent machines. I got into Boston University with the hopes of becoming an electrical engineer. I never excelled in any class, earning the occasional A because some things just came naturally, but overall I was a low B student. My key focus was to learn about as much as possible and fill in my knowledge gaps later.

Along the way, I met some of the smartest students, sharpest professors, and best-known engineers I ever thought possible. I shared my excitement for the field easily, because I loved talking about science, math, and technology with others. Doing this garnered a giant network of friends, contacts, and potential references for the future. I never really made connections with people in hopes of using them in the future to land a job, though. I was just overjoyed to share common interests with them!

Come senior year, I had gotten a few years of robotics research under my belt in the labs at BU. Luckily, the lab I worked in belonged to one of the most esteemed dynamic systems experts in the world. Mechanical positioning and robotic motion were this guy’s art form. Towards the end of the year, I attended a lecture by one of the lead scientists at Kiva Systems in Reading, Mass. I gave him my résumé, interviewed at Kiva, and (I’ll spare you the details) got my first job out of college!

About a year into my job, things were great. I was 23, relatively successful, and had a bright future ahead. I was very happy with the people I worked with — the company, the upward mobility, and the money — but the work became custodial. As an engineer straight out of college, I had become a code janitor and not a creator. I was chatting with a friend about all this, and he suggested I visit and interview at the company he worked for, a Boston startup called Etiometry. Etiometry has nothing to do with robotics. In fact, it is a big medical science company focused on predictive analytics. Under the hood, however, is the technology, utilizing mathematical techniques and algorithms for controlling robots that I had learned about.

In October of 2013, I left Kiva, by then Kiva/Amazon, and started at Etiometry. The days were full, long, and stimulating; I began developing algorithms and software to save people, instead of to create a product. I decided to move out of my parents’ Andover house into Boston, right down the street from my new office. The walk to work is 15 minutes and it’s fantastic to wake up and take a stroll on a clear fall morning to conquer the challenges of the day.

I attribute my “success” mostly to chance. It’s completely random that so many things lined up to give me a first job, which gave me the experience to get my second job, one that I enjoy immensely. I think the best thing anyone can do is to be happy with who you are and get really excited about everything. If you’re excited about everything, your passions ultimately line up with your profession, and it enables exploration of all the other things life has to offer extra-career. This way, you’re never bored, have a lot to pursue, and find out that the meaning of life isn’t defined by others, but by what you can explore for yourself.

submitted by Peter Galvin ’08
Due to generous philanthropic support, Murbach Field’s new synthetic “field turf” will be ready for use this fall by LA’s athletes. Spectators will enjoy the new natural stone seating, which now highlights the picturesque hillside.

The old LA 3-4 building, which found myriad uses in its old location adjacent to the Schoolhouse, has found yet another mission. Relocated close to Development and Park House, it is now a “historic” home, preserved and rehabilitated into faculty housing. It will be known as the Carriage House.
The newly acquired Curry property is another exciting addition to our faculty housing. The home, which affords a beautiful view of Groton, is situated in an old apple orchard only a stone’s throw from campus, and will be known as the Orchard House.

The Media Conference Center has been in use since late winter 2014–2015. Meetings, classes, and demonstrations are just some of the ways the LA community has been able to utilize the new facility prior to its full scale deployment. Thank you to the Senior Parent classes of 2014 and 2015 (co-chairs shown in inset) for supporting this important project.
Conant Gallery
The Conant Gallery featured both visual and musical artists this year. The walls displayed the abstract, mixed-media collages of Carol Gove; a group of artists from the Peterborough, N.H., area, Soosen Dunholter, Jane El Simpson, Vivienne Strauss, and Margaret Baker; and the lithographs of LA’s own Dylan Callahan ‘10 and Leah Meserve, a Skidmore classmate. While his exhibit was showing, artist Dylan Callahan enjoyed sharing his techniques in workshops with current student artists at his alma mater. The gallery exhibits provided attractive settings for public performances by mezzo-soprano Emily Jaworski, bluegrass duo Ari & Mia, and chamber music group Trio Veritas.

Special Guest Speaker
Bunker Roy, the founder of Barefoot College in India, gave an inspirational presentation at an all-school assembly in April. His volunteer organization works in the fields of education, skill development, health, drinking water, women’s empowerment, and electrification through solar power to benefit rural people. Roy revealed the simple, practical approach that he has taken to improving circumstances in struggling rural villages. In the example he shared, he educated the women of a village to build solar panels, giving them a skill, bringing electrical power to the village, and empowering the villagers to improve their own circumstances.

Diversity Lunch Series
English teacher Khalid Bashir and Director of Diversity Programs Elkinsette Clinton were introduced to the Diversity Lunch Series concept while attending last year’s People of Color Conference. Mr. Bashir explains that the goal is to provide space for progressive conversation. “Without any intention of leading the discussions or steering conversations toward any particular beliefs,” he says, “we want to allow everyone a seat at the table in order to better learn about the diverse nature of their community.” The series was popular among the students, and topics discussed included religious diversity on campus and the recent Ferguson and Garner shootings.
Winterim

Students discover all sorts of valuable things during Winterim, both about themselves and about others, and this year was no different. Except, perhaps, for the fact that this year, an actual treasure was discovered during excavations at the dig site in Italy, where LA Winterim students have been working on their own section of an ancient village for several years now. The finding was a coin, c. 1350 (front shown), that Latin teacher Mark Mucha, who leads that Winterim, translated as (front): Robert, King of Jerusalem and Sicily, for the sake of God, and (back): The (public) office of the King values (estems) judgement.

Winter!

Worthy of note this year, winter brought record snowfall to New England and the LA campus. The National Weather Service announced 108.6 inches in Boston, breaking a 1995–1996 record by an inch. Lawrence Academy’s maintenance crew and groundskeepers were out straight for the entire season, keeping up with the clearing of snow and ice dams. With their hard work, and in spite of several school delays and cancellations, the school pulled through the season just fine — and there were lots of beautiful scenes to be appreciated.

Service Highlights

The 2015 Relay for Life Committee, led by juniors Hannah Donovan, Emily Pisacreta, and Lisa Li, reported raising over $10,200 for the American Cancer Society. Seniors Jillian Clymer and Taylor Poucel were central figures in LA’s Community Service group, whose efforts included running fundraisers to support a Stop Hunger Now project on MLK Jr. Day that provided over 11,000 packaged meals for distribution. In October 2014, Taylor Goodman-Leong ’17 was among the ten adults and six students inducted into the Caring Institute’s Caring Hall of Fame. The honor, awarded to her at a ceremony in Scottsdale, Ariz., recognized her sustained commitment to For the Love of Erika, an effort that she began ten years ago in response to a friend’s inoperable cancer.
Poetry and Slams
LA has embraced both the traditional and the modern in poetry competitions and now holds the long-standing junior class Judith French Poetry Recitation Competition and a poetry slam each year. Vietnam’s An Tran won the traditional recitation with W. S. Mersin’s “Yesterday.” The other finalists were: Billy Adic, Maya Cratsley, Hannah Donovan, Kyla Floresca, Sophie Hager, Demitri Jackson, Riley Noel, Aiden Perry, and Katelyn Reichheld. For the more demonstrative poetry slam, students in Senior English Seminar study spoken word and perform original pieces for their classmates, who then select representatives to perform before the school. This year, the second annual SES Slam featured Meredith Long, Courtney Spence, Jack Murphy, Gabriella DiVincenzo, and David Pyne.

Mees Visiting Scholar
Now playing the lead role on Broadway in his own original, highly acclaimed musical, Hamilton, Lin-Manuel Miranda found time to come by the LA campus in October as a J. William Mees Visiting Scholar. The talented musician, playwright, and actor spent two days in classrooms and assemblies, sharing and delighting participants with his inspiration and expertise. “It takes a person of some substance and some brilliance to do that — and an ability to reach out,” Head of School Dan Scheibe remarked. “That’s what this whole thing was set up to do. But we have exceeded expectations, I think, with this one, because what we most dream about is pure inspiration.”

Grandparents’ and Special Friends’ Day
Maybe it’s improved healthcare, or maybe the word has just gotten out — at any rate, Lawrence Academy is thrilled to see steadily increasing numbers of grandparents and other significant friends attending this special day that celebrates their involvement in their students’ education and life experiences. Reports are that it is especially rewarding to sit in on the classes, which most often require some participation by the guests, and which frequently remind them of their own challenges and triumphs. Cum Laude Day activities also take place on this day, and those visitors who have students being recognized for their achievements enjoy being present for the awards ceremony.
MLK Jr. Day

In what has become a powerful and productive annual event, the LA community once again focused their efforts on celebrating Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy by dedicating the day to community service and workshops that further his message. Freelance journalist Haider Hamza, a native of Iraq who has lived through four major wars there, gave the keynote address to open the day’s activities. His presentation focused on everyday life in a war zone and highlighted the human behavior of both Iraqi civilians and U.S. soldiers caught in the war. He advocated, in the spirit of Dr. King, political discourse through non-violent communication and debate.

NGP Museum

A final exhibit in May displayed the efforts of all members of the ninth-grade class in culminating projects that use the skills they have learned throughout the year, each containing scientific research, writing, and artistic elements. The collection brings families, teachers, and fellow students to explore the informative and often entertaining variety of interests and talents. There were displays about peanuts, sharks, happiness, comedians with mental illness, Disney princesses, domestic violence, Peter Pan, psychopaths, sailing, Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome in veterans, galaxies, the human will to live, and the death penalty — to name just a few.

Mountain Day

Actor and psychologist Dr. Michael Fowlin kicked off the traditional Mountain Day at an all-school assembly, acting out scenarios that challenged his audience’s views of bigotry and intolerance — before everyone headed off to a challenging day that is more likely to reveal examples of inclusivity and support. Senior Oren Karp furthered the tradition during his graduation speech in May. He said he had picked up a rock at the top of the mountain in September, and he pulled it from his pocket: “Here’s that rock from the top of Mt. Monadnock, and I would like to give it as a gift to Coby Goodrich [’16], so he can bring it back up to the top of the mountain next year.”
Kris Ansin ’03 – 2015 Greater Good Award

Kris Ansin ’03, the recipient of this year’s Greater Good Award, serves as the Executive Director of Mali Health, a Cambridge-based organization whose mission is to reduce maternal and child mortality in resource-poor communities in West Africa. Specifically, they would improve access to quality primary care at low costs, while increasing the capacity of and participation in local health systems.

While the group’s focus is on the most vulnerable families in the peri-urban communities of the Mali capital of Bamako, Ansin’s goal is to develop a program that will be replicable elsewhere, a vision that is supported by a 2014 grant from Grand Challenges Explorations, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

After attending LA, Ansin studied at George Washington University before earning a Master of Public Health Degree in International Health and Development from Tulane University. He has worked with USAID, Ashoka, and the Africa Maven Group Consulting Firm and has experience with programs in India, South Africa, and Mali. He currently splits his time between Boston and Mali.

The Greater Good Award is made possible by a grant from the Lawrence Academy Endowment Fund for Service, Social Justice, and Global Awareness, created in 2005 by Jay Dunn ’83 and his family.

Three generations of Kris Ansin’s family represent dedication to non-profit endeavors in education and human rights issues around the world: (L–R) brother Ryan Ansin ’08 (2012 Greater Good Award recipient), father Ken Ansin ’83 (recipient of the first Greater Good Award in 2005), 2015 Greater Good Award recipient Kris Ansin ’03, grandfather Ron Ansin (longtime trustee and 2002 Founders’ Day Award recipient), and mother Cheryl Ansin.
Cum Laude Prize Recipients 2015

The Freshman Book Prize in English for Reading
Isaac Mukala '18

The Freshman Book Prize in English for Writing
Paul Toly '18
Luc Fox '18

The Class of 1957 Award
Julian Travis '16

The Brown Book Award
Maya Cratsley '16

The Mansfield Branigan Memorial Prize
Xinyan (Angel) Xie '17

The Harry and Ann Davidson Prize
Margaret Davey '16

The Dartmouth College Book Award
Paige Beede '16

The Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Medal
Julian Travis '16

The Rensselaer Mathematics and Science Award
Philippe Lessard '16

The Eleanor and Cameron Smith Poetry Prize
Gabriella DiVincenzo '15

The Holmes Prize
Kunmanee Bumphamante '15

The Language Prize
Heather Downing '15 (French)
Oren Karp ’15 (Spanish)
Oren Karp ’15 (Latin)

The Thompson English Prize
Sihan (Lisa) Li ’16

The Class of 1965 Prize for Art
Mukhtar Amiry ’15

The Class of 1965 Prize for Music
Ethan O’Dell ’15

The Class of 1965 Prize for Theatre
Gabriella DiVincenzo ’15

The Class of 1965 Prize for Dance
Elizabeth Morrison ’15

The Peter S. Yozell ’41 History and Social Sciences Award
Aoife Hughes ’15
Alexandra Stahr ’15

The May Sarton Poetry Prize
Alice Goodman ’15

The Tower Mathematics Prize
Edward Hacala ’15

The Francis A. Head Award for Excellence in Journalism
Connor Melvin ’15

The Anne and David Rosenthal Prize for Literary Appreciation
Shelbie McCormack ’15


Missing from the photo: Jonathan Harlan ’16, Craig Waldie ’15, and Colley Mastrangelo ’15.

Cum Laude Society Inductee Jared Bernson ’15 celebrated the day with his grandfather Bob Bernson ’51 and father Ted Bernson ’80.
Artistic expression, in myriad forms, is an integral part of LA life for virtually all students. At the end of each term, students display their work in the Black Box Theatre, on the RMPAC stage, and in the halls of the Gray Building. Both serious artists and students discovering their artistic side for the first time produce work of impressive variety and creativity of expression.

FALL

Demitri Jackson ’16 and Luke Benoit ’17

Sophie Hager ’16, Aiden Travis ’18, James Finneral ’16, Talman Fortune ’16, Lucia Stein ’18, and Zack May ’17 in As You Like It

Lucy Opalka ’16, Yoon Koh ’17, and Subin Kim ’17

Artwork by Ade McCullough ’17
WINTER

Annie Warzecha ‘15 and Ryan LaPointe ‘17 in Home & Away

Artwork by Jess Niemann ’16

L–R: Aaron Williams ’17, Frank Wu ’17, Eric Viera ’16, and Jenny Lin ’16

Artwork by An Tran ’16

Honors Theatre Ensemble performs Lungs: L–R: Talmage Fortune ’15, Katelyn Reichheld ’15, Gabriella DiVincenzo ’15, and Gary Lai ’15

Artwork by Stephanie Ploof ’16

Artwork by Clara Gorbeña ’15

RICHIE CARDILLO ’15 AND AMADU KUNATEH ’15

LA Singers, L–R: Jesse Trainor ’18, Mileena Huang ’18, Victoria Brandvold ’17, Wendy Wang ’15, Angel Xie ’17, and Lucia Stein ’18

SPRING
The Year in Sports

**FALL 2014**

**Girls’ Soccer**
Coach: (head) Kim Healy, (asst.) Kiley Home and Theresa Ryan
- ISL Record: 6–4–2; Overall Record: 10–5–2
- Post-season: 0–1 (loss in penalty kicks in NEPSAC quarterfinals)
- All-ISL: Devan Taylor ’15 (All-State), Laura Lundblad ’17
- ISL Honorable Mention: Kristina Tower ’15, Hannah Davis ’15

**Boys’ Soccer**
Coach: (head) Colin Igoe, (asst.) Chris Ellsasser and Cam Labeck
- ISL Record: 14–1; Overall Record: 18–2
- ISL Champions; NEPSAC Class B Champions
- All-ISL: Amadu Kunateh ’15 (ISL Player of the Year, All-State Team, All-Region Team), Paul Schnebly ’15, Mo Tshuma ’15 (All-State Team), Max Breiter ’16
- ISL Honorable Mention: Alex Walter ’16, Aiden Perry ’16

**Field Hockey**
Coach: (head) Samantha McMahon, (asst.) Melanie Dexter and Elena Beleno Carney ’97
- ISL Record: 1–11; Overall Record: 1–14–1
- ISL Honorable Mention: Shelbie McCormack ’15, Laura Zavri ’17

**Volleyball**
Coach: (head) Steve Engstrom, (asst.) Dina Mordeno
- ISL Record: 2–12; Overall Record: 3–15
- ISL Honorable Mention: Carmen Lyons ’15, Gabrielle Reuter ’16

**Boys’ and Girls’ Cross-Country**
Coach: (head) Kacey Schneider ’04, (asst.) Nathanial Cabot and Larissa Smith
- ISL Record: Girls’ 0–13–0; Boys’ 0–14–1
- Overall Record: Girls’ 0–14–0; Boys’ 0–15–1

**Boys’ Hockey**
Coach: (head) Robbie Barker ’00, (asst.) Sean Sheehan ’87
- ISL Record: 5–9–1; Overall Record: 7–16–2
- All-ISL: Craig Needham ’17, Mike Robinson ’16
- ISL Honorable Mention: Jamie Swiggett ’17, Evan Dahi ’16

**Girls’ Hockey**
Coach: (head) Kevin Potter, (asst.) Mike Mastrullo and Melanie Dexter
- ISL Record: 12–1; Overall Record: 16–9–2
- All-ISL: Devan Taylor ’15, Brittany Colton ’16, Kelley Potter ’15
- ISL Honorable Mention: Laura Lundblad ’17, Nicole Saber ’16

**Football**
Coach: (head) Paul Zukauskas, (asst.) Sean Sheehan ’87, Geoff Harlan, Rick Arena, and Andrew Healy
- ISL Record: 7–1; Overall Record: 8–1
- ISL Co-Champions; NEPSAC Hugh Caldera Bowl Champions; ISL Sportsmanship Award
- All-ISL: Chris Garrison ’15 (ISL MVP, All-ISL, NEPSAC Co-Player of the Year, The Boston Globe All-Scholastic, Boston Herald All-Scholastic), Austin Luckey ’15 (All-NEPSAC), Nick Lynch ’15, Tim Preston ’15 (All-ISL, NEPSAC), David Pyne ’15, Craig Waldie ’15, AJ Dillion ’17 (All-NEPSAC)
- ISL Honorable Mention: Jake Cassidy ’16, Demitri Jackson ’16, Doug Rodier ’16, Finn Dirstone ’18

**Boys’ Basketball**
Coach: (head) Kris Johnson, (asst.) Kevin Wiercinski
- ISL Record: 11–14; Overall Record: 12–15
- All-ISL: Nicholas Lynch ’15, Tim Preston ’15
- ISL Honorable Mention: Luke Benoit ’17

**Girls’ Basketball**
Coach: (head) Donna Mastrangelo, (asst.) Libby Margraf and Joe Bibbo
- ISL Record: 10–2; Overall Record: 22–4
- All-ISL: Emily Pratt ’16 (NEPSAC Class B All-Star), Gabrielle Reuter ’16 (NEPSAC Class B All-Star), Erin Antosh ’17 (NEPSAC Class B All-Star)

**Wrestling**
Coach: (head) Zachary Bates, (asst.) Andrew Brescia and Mike Metzger
- ISL Record: 4–8; Overall Record: 8–11
- Post-season Record: 9th at Graves
- ISL Honorable Mention: Francis Corvino ’15 (All-New England), Aryan Haghighat ’18 (All-New England), Julian Travis ’16

**Skiing**
Coach: (head) Jon Kaiser and Erin Lawler
- All-ISL: Brian Potter ’15
- ISL Honorable Mention: Thomas Gross ’16

After her final season on the girls’ soccer team, Devan Taylor ’15 holds the school record of 43 career goals. Over the years, the two-time captain earned three team offensive MVP titles and two ISL honorable mentions; as a senior, she was named All-ISL and All-State and was recognized by the ISL coaches as one of the most dangerous offensive players they have seen in the league. A twelve-letter varsity athlete, Devan also excelled in both hockey and softball. In addition to her athletic skills, her outstanding leadership qualities — on and off the field — prompted both the faculty and the varsity coaches to acknowledge her contributions with graduation prizes. Devan will play hockey for the Wildcats at the University of New Hampshire next year.

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**AROUND LA**

**FA11 2015**

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**Skiing**
Coach: (head) Jon Kaiser and Erin Lawler
- All-ISL: Brian Potter ’15
- ISL Honorable Mention: Thomas Gross ’16
With an overall record of 22–4 and their best season in 20 years — just shy of the 1994–1995 team’s 22–3 record — the girls’ basketball team placed third in the ISL and were semi-finalists in the Class B NEPSAC championship. Three Spartans, all of whom will return next year, were among the ISL’s top scorers: Gabrielle Reuter ’16 (third with 15.0 ppg), Erin Antosh ’17 (fourth with 14.9 ppg), and Emily Pratt ’16 (sixth with 12.1 ppg). Named both All-ISL and NEPSAC Class B All-Stars, they competed alongside some of the most talented players from all over New England at NEPSAC’s Super Sunday All-Star event at Loomis Chaffee School in March. Both the girls’ and boys’ basketball teams had the opportunity to play in an exhibition event at Boston’s TD Garden this season, and pictured here on the Celtics’ home court are, front, L–R: Kristen Parry ’18, Hannah Davis ’15, Jailannette Marquez ’15 (co-capt.), Bailey Mastrangelo ’15 (co-capt.), and Gabrielle Reuter ’16; Back row, L–R: asst. coaches Joe Bibbo and Libby Margraf, Tate Jordan ’17, Erin Antosh ’17, Emma Collins ’16, Emily Pratt ’16, Elise Bojanowski ’16, and head coach Donna Mastrangelo.

As the relatively new sport for the Spartans gains momentum, LA’s own track records are challenged and broken each spring — there were 16 this year. This season, however, All-ISL recipients Nick Schutz ’15 and Demitri Jackson ’16 set the bar by breaking championship meet records. Team MVP and 2014–2015 student body president, Nick earned the ISL coaches’ award while claiming four school records at the ISTA meet in May. He placed third in the 200m and the 4x100 relay, first in the 100m (10.87 seconds), and won the long jump with a new meet record of 23’5”. At the ISTA meet, Demitri contributed to the third place finish in the 4x100m relay, placed fourth in the high jump, and won the triple jump with a new LA record of 45’2”. At NEPSA, Demitri scored an extraordinary 30 points and earned the title of meet MVP after winning both the long jump (20’10.5”) and triple jump (43’11”) and setting a new meet record for javelin (178’1”). Demitri now holds four LA records. Both the boys’ and girls’ teams won the “homeless track meet” this spring, a competition created for teams without their own facilities.

**SPRING 2015**

**Boys’ Tennis**  
Coach: (head) John Curran  
• ISL Record: 1–13; Overall Record: 1–15

**Girls’ Tennis**  
Coach: (head) Kim Healy  
• ISL Record: 2–10; Overall Record: 3–12  
• All-ISL: Shelbie McCormack ’15

**Boys’ Lacrosse**  
Coach: (head) Andrew Healy, (asst.) RJ Swift  
• ISL Record: 2–12; Overall Record: 4–13  
• All-ISL: Will Noel ’15  
• ISL Honorable Mention: Paul Schnebly ’15

**Girls’ Lacrosse**  
Coach: (head) Samantha McMahon, (asst.) Kiley Home  
• ISL Record: 0–11; Overall Record: 2–11  
• All-ISL: Emma Collins ’16

**Baseball**  
Coach: (head) Chris Margraf, (asst.) Robbie Barker ’00, and Jarred Gagnon ’03  
• ISL Record: 9–6; Overall Record: 11–10  
• All-ISL: Richie Cardillo ’15, Jack Harlan ’16  
• Honorable Mention: Zach May ’17, Matt Killian ’18

**Softball**  
Coach: (head) Theresa Ryan, (asst.) Hannah Hallock  
• ISL Record: 7–2; Overall Record: 8–4  
• All-ISL: Devan Taylor ’15, Kaitlyn Rooney ’16, Emily Pratt ’16  
• ISL Honorable Mention: Anna Jewel ’16

**Boys’ and Girls’ Track & Field**  
Coach: (head) Larissa Smith, (asst.) Nathaniel Cabot, Adam Green, Natasha Huggins, and Kacey Schneider ’04  
• All-ISL: Nicolas Schutz ’15, Demitri Jackson ’16

**Golf**  
Coach: (head) Kevin Weirincski  
• ISL Record: 4–3; Overall Record: 5–4  
• All-ISL: Hannah Gheifi ’16 (The Pippy O’Connor Independent School Girls’ Golf Champion 2015); Patty Witney Award Kingman ISL Golf Tournament Champion 2015)
They fell to South Kent School on penalty kicks in the 2013 NEPSAC final, but the ISL champs wound their way through the NEPSAC tourney in order to beat the Cardinals on PKs in the 2014 championship game on November 16. “This is the ultimate picture,” Head Coach Colin Igoe mused of the team photo, taken just moments after LA outlasted South Kent 4–2 on penalty kicks. “We said, ‘We’re here and we’re close to the goal, but it’s step-by-step,’” explained Igoe, who added, “It’s defending properly, it’s moving the ball and, in the end, they won the championship.”
**Football**  
“They love the game of football,” said Head Coach Paul Zukauskas of his Hugh Caldera Bowl champion Spartans, who defeated Williston Northampton School in Easthampton, Mass., on November 15. “They wanted to win and they cared about each other. You can win football games that way.” That much is certain, as his ISL champions’ 35–34 win in the NEPSAC championship game raised their season record to 8–1.

**Golf**  
After shooting a 75 to take first place at the all-female Pippy O’Connor Tournament in East Providence, Rhode Island, on May 11, Hannah Ghelfi ’16 shot a 71 and earned the individual title at the ISL’s coed Kingman Tournament in East Bridgewater, Mass., the following week. Ghelfi’s one-under-par championship score also helped LA to a third-place tie, just eight strokes off the lead.
A beautiful spring day greeted all visitors to the Lawrence Academy campus on Friday, May 29, as the school graduated its 222nd class.

“This wonderful class here gives us reason to celebrate and rejoice,” said Head of School Dan Scheibe, who added, “They also give us pause to reflect.”

Graduation speaker Charles M. Sennott pointed out to the Class of 2015 that reflection — and the storytelling that may come afterward — can also be one’s life work. “All day long you are getting small pieces of content which you can assemble,” said the renowned journalist. “Storytelling will be at the center of everything you do.”

Senior speaker Aleice Goodman, who ran track at LA, likened her four years to a 400-meter race. “The first 100 meters are completely fine…and that’s freshman year,” said Goodman. “The 200-meter mark is definitely sophomore year; this is a place where we float and get the hang of things.”

“Junior year is the acceleration phase…and senior year is, without a doubt, an exact replication of the final 100 meters. This is also where we emerge,” she added, “dressed elegantly in our caps and gowns, as winners.”

Classmate Oren Karp’s speech was, perhaps, the most reflective on the day. “Not knowing is underrated,” said Karp, whose father Arthur is a longtime LA history teacher. “For what is life without wonder?”

There was no wondering about these seniors, as their accomplishments inside and outside the classroom were many. “You make us as hopeful as you make us proud,” said Mr. Scheibe.
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<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Faculty Award</td>
<td>Cailey Mastrapangelo ‘15</td>
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<td>The Benjamin Davis Williams Prize</td>
<td>Amadu Kunateh ‘15</td>
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<td>The Ferguson Prize for Leadership</td>
<td>Devan Taylor ’15</td>
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<td>The Whitehurst Prize</td>
<td>Aleice Goodman ‘15</td>
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<td>The Mary Elizabeth Chickering Prize</td>
<td>Shelbie McCormack ‘15</td>
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<td>The Richmond Baker Prize</td>
<td>Devan Taylor ’15</td>
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<td>The Raymond A. Ilg, Jr. Award</td>
<td>Timothy Preston ’15</td>
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<td>The Pillsbury Prize for General Improvement in Scholarship and School Duties During the Course</td>
<td>Kyle Gillen-Hughes ‘15</td>
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<td>The Treisman Prize for Superior Scholastic Achievement</td>
<td>Oren Karp ‘15</td>
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<td>The Pillsbury Prize for Character and Conduct</td>
<td>Samuel Weaver ‘15</td>
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<td>The Grant Award</td>
<td>Jaliannette Marquez ‘15</td>
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<td>The Howard W. Glaser ’55 Award</td>
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<td>The Melvin W. Mann Award</td>
<td>Margaret Madigan ’15</td>
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<td>The Proctor Award</td>
<td>Kendra Mac ’15</td>
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<td>The David Thomas Kinsley Prize for Public Speaking</td>
<td>Gabriella DiVincenzo ’15</td>
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<td>The Tom Park ’29 Memorial Award</td>
<td>Paul Schnebly ’15</td>
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<td>The Adrian Chen ’92 Award</td>
<td>Mbongeni Tshuma ’15</td>
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<td>The Head’s Award</td>
<td>Jillian Clymer ’15, Aoife Hughes ’15, and Connor Melvin ’15</td>
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<td>The Harvard Book Prize</td>
<td>Philippe Lessard ’16</td>
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<td>The Carl A. P. Lawrence Award</td>
<td>Demitri Jackson ’16</td>
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<td>The James E. Baker Prize</td>
<td>Elise Bojanowski ’16</td>
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<td>The Thomas B. Warner Memorial Prize</td>
<td>Jack Harlan ’16</td>
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<td>The David Soren Yeutter Memorial Award</td>
<td>Renee Perkins ’16</td>
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<td>The Margaret Price White Award</td>
<td>Taylor Goodman-Leong ’17</td>
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Shawn Suzuki  

devan Taylor, Heather Downing, and Aoife Hughes  

Haizhi (Gary) Lai  

Dan Scheibe and Bruce MacNeil ‘70  

Robert Nadel  

Brad Marcolini  

Shelby Kuchta and Shelbie McCormack  

Nicholas Schutz  

Kelly Potter, Will Noel, Lizzie Morrison, and Kristina Tower (Rachel Pigula in back)  

Stephanie Ploof, Francis Corvino, and Catherine Morgan  

Eric Ekberg, Sam Weaver, and Craig Waldie  

Dong Mei Sarafan, Hannah Currie, and Tatianna Serfel  

Brian Burns and Sara Anderson  

Qingtian (Tami) Tu and Ali Stahr
Class of 2015 Matriculation

American University (3)
Bard College
Bates College (4)
Bentley University (3)
Boston College
Boston University (3)
Brandeis University (3)
Bridgewater State University
University of British Columbia
Brown University
Bucknell University
Butler University
Chapman University
College of Charleston
University of Cincinnati
Claremont McKenna College
Colby College (2)
Colgate University
University Colorado at Boulder (2)
Columbia University
Connecticut College (4)
Curry College
Dartmouth College
University of Delaware
Denison University
Elmira College
Elon University
Endicott College (2)
Fairfield University (3)
Fordham University
The George Washington University
Gettysburg College
Grinnell College
University of Hartford
Hobart and William Smith Colleges (3)
College of the Holy Cross
Ithaca College
University of Kentucky
Loyola University Maryland
Maryville University
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami
University of New Hampshire (3)
New York University (2)
Northeastern University (2)
Providence College (2)
Quinnipiac University
Roger Williams University
Sacred Heart University
Saint Anselm College (2)
Saint Joseph's College, Maine
Saint Michael's College
Santa Clara University
Skidmore College
Smith College
Sophia University
Syracuse University
The New School-Eugene Lang College
Trinity College (4)
Tufts University (3)
Union College
Utah State University
Utica College
University of Vermont
Washington University in St. Louis
Wheaton College
The College of Wooster

Kyle Gillen-Hughes

Amadu Kunateh surrounded by family

Annie Warzecha, Erik Ekberg, Craig Waldie, and Sue McKenna

Hannah Currie
Welcome to LA

Nancy Lotane joined the Board of Trustees this year for a four-year term. Nancy is Chief Operating Officer for the Global Private Equity business unit as well as Chief Human Resource Officer for Bain Capital globally. She and her family live in Carlisle and daughter Katie is a member of the class of 2016. In addition to her career at Bain, Nancy donates her time as a volunteer liaison to the National Charity League and is a Pan Mass Challenge volunteer. She and her husband Philip currently chair the Parent Annual Fund. She looks forward to deepening her connection with the LA community as a trustee.

Will Abisalih joins the science team in the NGP and comes to LA from Pentucket Regional High School in West Newbury, Mass. A graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and Rochester Institute of Technology, Will holds a BA in Microelectronic Engineering and an MS in Material Science and Engineering. An avid athlete, Will enjoys skiing, cycling, tennis, and squash. He will serve as a dorm parent on campus and will coach two seasons as well.

Another NGP hire is Sarah Beanland, who will cover Tony Hawgood’s sabbatical leave. Sarah holds a BS in Science-Business from the University of Notre Dame and a M.Ed from Harvard. Sarah’s career has spanned business and educational platforms as well as military installations, as she is also a captain for the Corps of Engineers in the U.S. Army.

Sara Davey ’10 returns to LA as an intern in the Admissions Department. After LA, Sara graduated from Boston College and holds a BA in Communications. She also worked with the BC admissions department. She most recently worked at SapientNitro as a junior associate program manager. Sara will also coach two sports.

Megan Denault joins the Development Office as director of alumni relations. A graduate of the Hotchkiss School and Brown University, Megan holds a BS in Anthropology and an MS in Globalization from University College, London. Megan also served as associate director of alumni relations at Hotchkiss School until she joined LA. No stranger to our community, Megan’s younger sister Emily graduated from LA in 2012. Megan will also serve in the residential program and be a student advisor.

Joining the Music Department is Stephen Colby. Stephen holds a BS in Music Education from Plymouth State University. He comes to LA from the Bale Elementary School in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he was the general music teacher for grades K–5. In addition to working with the LA band, Stephen will manage the recording studio.
Bev Rodrigues retires after 21 years of LA service, although she will be anything but idle! Music is and will continue to be a staple of her life, and she will also do some travelling — some of it by bike or on foot. Retirement also affords her more time to spend with her 96-year-old father, and with the publication of her family genealogy. Happy to have been a part of the communications team all of these years, she looks forward to her new adventures.

Kacey Schneider ’04 steps away from her CSC history position at LA to take a position at Marin Academy (a private, coed, day school) in San Rafael, California, where she will be teaching 9th- and 10th-grade history. In addition to teaching, she will be the head girls cross-country coach and co-lead their Model UN. She plans on living in downtown San Francisco and looks forward to life on the west coast!

Chris Ellsasser leaves his role as Director of Studies at LA for an opportunity at the Cambridge School of Weston, where he will become the Academic Dean. He and his family are excited about joining the CSW community’s efforts to provide students with an educational experience framed by concerns for social justice and stewardship of the environment.

After three years at LA in the Admissions Office, Kathleen O’Shea looks forward to being home in New Hampshire. While she has no immediate employment plans, having a son in college and a daughter at KUA will keep her focused and busy.

Michelle Waldie, history teacher and Director of Summer Programs is moving with her family to Atlanta, Georgia.

Eliza Foster joins the History Department. A graduate of St. George’s and Williams College, Eliza holds a BA in History. She comes to LA after working on the west coast at the Episcopal School of Los Angeles, teaching and serving as the athletic director. A hockey player, Eliza will coach two seasons and serve in the residential program as a dorm parent.

Assisting in the counseling department is Cynthia Petelle. Currently Cynthia is a clinician at Boundaries Therapy Center working with adolescents, children, and families. Previously she served as the director of counseling at Cushing Academy. She earned her BS at Northeastern University, as well as an MS in Counseling Psychology.
Framed by a beautiful evening and a picturesque location, *Invite & Inspire*, the 2015 Parents’ Association Annual Spring Social and Fundraiser, held on the McDonald Library terrace, was a resounding success.

Over 200 parents and friends joined Dan Scheibe, his wife Annie Montesano, MC Tony Hawgood, and many members of the faculty as $45,000 was raised for Lawrence Academy’s Annual Fund.

Mr. Scheibe expressed his gratitude to the event committee — especially Chair Kristine Melvin (Katherine ’13, Connor ’15, and Kenzie ’17) for her leadership, vision, and hard work — as a dedicated team of parents came together to present a wonderful affair under the clear tent overlooking the rolling hills of Groton. With the backdrop of a gorgeous LA sunset, which gave way to a clear night full of stars, Director of Dining Services Kurt Cassidy (Liam ’15) and his team provided a diverse, delicious menu and excellent service and presentation.

As always, LA forwards a sincere “thank you” to the entire parent community for its outstanding support of this event: an important evening that furthers the mission of LA and contributes to the pursuit of excellence in all areas of school life.
Founders’ Day 2014

Head of School Dan Scheibe opened the Founders’ Day celebrations on October 24, 2014, by sharing details of the actual event of the school’s founding: “On March 26, 1792, a group of the most prominent men in Groton met to talk about a town academy. They read the subscriber’s document, and signed it. It must have been a glorious event to be savored by the assembled. During the previous one hundred years, meetings in the town had focused on political strife, oppressive taxation, war, and Indian attacks. They determined that their new Republic would be born with not only faith in liberty and democracy, but also with institutions of education. Among this group were two alumni of Dummer Academy, six Harvard College graduates, twenty-three who fought in the Revolutionary War, three ministers, two deacons, four lawyers, two doctors, two storekeepers, two innkeepers, and thirty farmers.” Concerned citizens from all walks of life founded the school, and an annual Founders’ Day tradition now acknowledges members of today’s community who have contributed in significant ways to its ongoing success and heritage.

Founders’ Day Award: Ann Conway

Ann Conway of Hollis, New Hampshire, was presented with the school’s highest award, the Founders’ Day Award for service to Lawrence Academy. In 2004, following the graduation of children Jay ’98, Sean ’01, and Molly ’03 from Lawrence Academy, Conway became a member of the Board of Trustees; she retired recently after ten years of service. Fellow trustee Kevin Anderson ’85 spoke of her contributions to the school. “Her work and accomplishments as chair of the Community Life and Diversity Committees will forever be a part of LA’s vision and growth as a diverse, inclusive, and caring school,” he said. Her leadership in developing a strategic plan to achieve diversity among faculty and internship positions, he noted, was the work of “a sincere, collaborative, inclusive committee leader, always cheering, welcoming, and striving for the best.”

Kathy Peabody Memorial Book Award: Susan Hughes

Susan Hughes of Groton was presented with the Kathy Peabody Memorial Book Award. Student proctors and peer counselors collaborate to select the recipient of the award, which is given to a member of the non-teaching Lawrence community who helps to create a secure, positive environment in which all members of the community may achieve their best. Seniors Oren Karp of Pepperell and Amadu Kunateh of Lynn represented the two student groups as they thanked Susan Hughes, assistant to the head of school, for “being a friendly person who will go above and beyond for LA students.”

Greater Good Award: Oren Karp ’15 and Jillian Clymer ’15

Seniors Oren Karp of Pepperell and Jillian Clymer of Acton were co-recipients of the school’s Greater Good Award. The award, which is given to students each fall and to members of the alumni body each spring, recognizes those who strive to use their education to benefit the greater good of humanity. Seniors Heather Downing of Harvard and Gary Lai of Hangzhou, China, both members of the Cum Laude Society, presented this fall’s awards.

At LA, Oren co-founded C.L.A.S.S. (Courtesy, Leadership, and Selfless Service), a student group that encourages respect and community engagement, and acted as secretary for a student diversity awareness group called Umoja. A day student, he is also active in his own community, serving as president of the northeast region of the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) and working summers as a counselor at Camp Pathfinder in Ontario.

Jillian came to LA with a history of community service and soon became the head of the Community Service Club, which encourages and provides opportunities for student involvement. Each year, she opted for service projects for her Winterim sessions, working at HeadStart, teaching local children and helping to build a community center for the people of El Mango in the Dominican Republic, and volunteering in remote villages in both Peru and Ecuador.

The Greater Good Award is made possible by a grant from the Lawrence Academy Endowment Fund for Service, Social Justice, and Global Awareness, which was created in 2005 by 1983 alumnus Jay Dunn and his family.
A Way of Life

*Daguerreotype of Nathaniel Holmes Bishop III (1837–1902)
By Bev Rodrigues

Long before the phrases “experiential learning” and “out of your comfort zone” were popular, one young Lawrence Academy student epitomized that Winterim attitude by pursuing his own self-driven adventures — in fact, he seems to have made it a way of life.

In the autumn of 1852 — 163 years ago — Nathaniel Holmes Bishop III of Medford, Mass., enrolled at Lawrence Academy as a student in the Classical Department. The few academic records remaining from that period in the school’s history seem to indicate that Mr. Bishop made good use of his opportunities.

He served as president of the Debating Society, which also took the responsibility of publishing a student newspaper, The Gleaner. With the country in the throes of conflict over the issue of slavery, and with Civil War on the horizon, one Gleaner reports that the debate of the week explored the white man’s treatment of both “Indians” and “negroes.”

An avid outdoorsman who had completed a 300-mile trek in the Green Mountains of Vermont during the summer prior to his enrollment, Bishop promptly initiated the Lawrence Academy Pedestrian Club. A spring 1853 Gleaner reports on the club’s expedition to Shaker Village in nearby Harvard. Sixty years after its establishment, that community, according to the article, had 170 members and appeared to be a welcoming place “where neatness, industry, and order prevail.” The students reported a tally of 160 miles covered during their numerous nearby excursions.

At some point in 1853, Bishop disappeared from any school records and there is no indication of his having graduated — not unusual at a time when students enrolled anew for each term and attended for varying amounts of time. What Bishop did do, however, was go off in pursuit of his own personal education — and he kept journals. The 17-year-old recorded in his own notes: “…throughout the walk he has gone with his eyes open and gives us a book, written at seventeen, that will make him renowned at seventy. It is teeming with information, both on social and natural subjects…This quiet ‘walk’ of the American boy…is a study that extends beneath the surface.” Bishop provides details of the creatures and plants that he observes, relates interactions with the characters he encounters, and describes his new experiences.

“The old and decomposed head of the ox was now brought to the fire. Its contents — the brains, &c. — were scooped out, and thrown into the pot, and with the addition of a little salt the stew was complete. At any other time the sight of such a mess would have disgusted me, but things were changed now, and, faint with hunger, I watched the boiling of the stew with no little interest.” — from The Pampas and Andes

At the end of his South American adventure, Bishop shipped from Valparaiso around the “Horn” and back to Boston and soon settled into a cranberry-growing business in Ocean County, New Jersey.

While his business expanded, his love of nature, a curiosity about water-going vehicles, and a quest for adventure took him on two other journeys that were recorded in future publications.

An 1874—1875 undertaking is captured in The Voyage of the Paper Canoe, published in 1878. He and a traveling companion made their start in Québec, where they set off in a 300-pound cedar-planked canoe complete with mast, sail, rudder, and oars and headed down the St. Lawrence and across Lake Champlain. Quickly realizing that the vessel was too cumbersome, Bishop had a 58-pound paper canoe constructed in New York and continued the journey alone on a route that essentially provided a pre-survey of what would become known as the Inland Waterway to Florida. Once again, he was touted for his ability to recount his travels with spirit, humor, and keen observation. Both British and American reviews of his book called it “capital,” with England’s Pall Mall Gazette noting that the author “especially shines in his delineation of the liberated and enfranchised negro.”

Before another year had passed, in December 1875, he set out to test the limits of yet another boat that had captured his imagination, the sneakbox. A vessel first designed and built in 1836 by seaman Captain Hazelton, who originally called it the “devil’s coffin,” it was outfitted with sail and oars and had a concealed central compartment that prompted both of the intriguing nicknames. Bishop slipped his sneakbox into the waters of the Monongahela River in Pittsburgh, Penn., and headed west.

During this 2,600-mile voyage, he notes hazards, such as negotiating the flowing winter ice masses in the Allegheny River, and highlights, such as visiting the ancient repository of relics at Indian Mound in West Virginia. His route took him along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, where he dealt with heavy steamer traffic, to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, and across Florida’s rivers to the Atlantic — the details of which he recorded in Four Months in a Sneak-Box, published in 1879.

On his return from this excursion, his unusual vehicle, named the Centennial Republic in honor of the country’s 100th anniversary, was put on display at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, and later at the Smithsonian Institute.

At his home, Bishop reportedly always had several boats and canoes that he enjoyed
tending to and writing about, and his articles appeared in *Forest and Stream* and *The American Canoeist*. At an 1880 meeting at Lake George in New York, a suggestion that he had been promoting for several years came to fruition when many separate canoe clubs joined together to create the American Canoe Association, which he served as secretary for its first six years.

While Bishop’s travels took him far — by 1900 he owned properties in New York, California, and Florida — he and his wife, Mary Ball, had a deep commitment to their New Jersey community that was reflected in a generous bequest that was designated for and used to create the Ocean County Library in Tom’s River.

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Drawing of the Centennial Republic on the cover of *Four Months in a Sneak-Box* (notably an artist’s rendition and not an exact image of Bishop’s vessel)

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Sometime last winter, math teacher Leslie Breton emailed me with a question. She had found an old songbook in a pile in the faculty room and, knowing that I’m interested in things musical, she asked if I would like to see it. She mentioned that, by the way, there was a notation: “Page 152 LA.”

Leslie left the book with Susan Hughes in the Head’s office. It was, indeed, the old songbook that had lain open to Page 152 on the piano in the study hall, back when morning assembly was “chapel” and we sang a hymn every weekday, and the school song — all three verses — on Saturday mornings. There was even a 3x5 card inside with Arthur Ferguson’s signature. He had been the music department, such as it was, earlier in his career and had certainly played from this book on many a morning.

Piano and songbook disappeared around 1969, after Mr. Ferguson’s retirement. For decades, the song, sung in strange keys and often accompanied by strange instruments (or none), would be dragged out a few times a year on state occasions. Here was the original piano accompaniment — to a tune that wasn’t ours originally, but Princeton University’s. It was called “The Orange and the Black.” LA’s text was written around 1922 by Harriet Adams Clark, wife of the senior master of the school, and first sung in 1923.

A copy of the precious manuscript is now in the hands of Jenny Cooper, Lawrence’s dynamic new music teacher, and we may hope that, like a restored masterpiece, the music of Page 152 will again accompany us “as we pledge in new devotion, ‘Lawrence, Lawrence, Here’s to Thee!’”.

— Joseph Sheppard

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*Noted images are courtesy of Ocean County Library local history collection; all rights reserved. Thanks to the enthusiastic and helpful staff there; to independent researcher Ken Cupery for his insights; and to Lawrence Academy historian Paul Husted for bringing this story up from the deep end of the files of the Jeffers Heritage Center.*
A 75th reunion is coming up for the class of 1941, Bennett Black’s class. It seems an appropriate time to pass along recollections that Ben shared during a 2008 interview with Bev Rodrigues on campus. Someone who maintained a strong connection as a Lawrence Academy alumnus and who frequently provided his service as a contractor to the school, Ben, who passed away in March 2015, knew and loved the property in a hands-on way for most of his life and enjoyed passing along the following snapshots of his high school years. They are direct excerpts from his 2008 commentary.

“…my mother was born in Groton… the whole family ran a dairy business and peaches and apples and everything… we moved to Melrose because my father was working in Boston, but we spent every spare minute of our time up here, so I really got to being around LA around 1935, 1937.

“It was a growing time for the Academy… one of the first things they did was to develop that field down there where the pond is…and dug that pond, so they could have skating facilities. Before that, there was a pond over back on Lover’s Lane there, if you go by the Country Club. It wasn’t too convenient… so they built that pond and they put up boards, and a couple of years later, they built a little house there… it’s still there.

“It was ice on the pond, but it was perpetual work. It’s not like you run the Zamboni around it a couple of times and it’s ready to go… Norm Grant was head of everything in those days and he’d go down there nights and spray the
pond with a pump…pumping it out of the pond.

“In ’38 we had the hurricane…Groton was devastated, because the main street was lined with these big elm trees…I think the Academy was closed for three weeks. I know the public schools were, because they had no electricity…nothing. You couldn’t get down the main street for days, because they didn’t have chain saws, they just had hand saws…We did have running water. They hooked up a farm tractor with a power [system] to run the pumps here and in West Groton.

“My mother] came up here, and Fred Gray was the headmaster then, and they negotiated terms…I could come here for room and board for $650 a year. If I’d help the head man doing the grounds, they’d take another hundred dollars off…I worked on the grounds in ’39, ’40, up to ’41 when I graduated.

“Of course there was the school building [which burned in 1966]…The classrooms were on the third floor—the first floor was Fred Gray’s office, the business office, and one classroom, and the gymnasium was the whole second floor. That wasn’t too big, I’ll tell you. You could throw a basketball from one end to the other.

“But we could sit up in the window and look out at the main street, and that was the beginning. And troops were going by…trucks going on maneuvers…We had a French teacher, his name was Cushman…now don’t pay any attention to that,” he says, ‘the Germans are advancing right now, heading towards Paris, but the minute they get to that Maginot Line — you’ve heard of that big fortification outside of Paris — the war will be over like that.’ Well…we heard the radio and the Germans had come to the Maginot Line and, instead of storming the Maginot Line, they went right around it. They had a lottery to be drafted, and [Cushman]…was one of the first in Groton to go into the service.

“Frank McPartland…had all of these grounds to take care of…and Bigelow Hall…they were all heated by coal burners, and he had to keep them going at night and he was up 24 hours a day, really. He had me and another fellow to help, and he did have a full-time carpenter that worked inside. Frank… and Mike Sheedy would meet every morning at 6:00 and they’d walk the grounds and you could…see Mike pointing to here and to there — what he expected to be done before the next morning. Mike owned the Groton Leatherboard, the West Groton mill that employed half of Groton, and the other mill employed the other half.

“It was quite interesting, with a hundred kids, no girls, all boys. We had six teachers…English, Mr. Ferguson…Cushman taught language…Holt was the math teacher, Dev Holt, and he was the house director in Bigelow Hall. He was on the first floor and I was on the second, right above him. Geez, every single noise, we could drop a fork and he’d be out the door. Alright, Black, what are you doing up there?’ But he was a great teacher, I learned more in the first week than I did in Melrose in a year. And Norm was a good teacher, too…Mr. Tower was the history teacher…and Malcolm sort of jumped around, he could teach two or three things and fill in.

“In ’41 we had a forest fire, after the hurricane, and all the trees were down…the fire started way over on Chicopee Row almost into Dunstable. It burned for three days, went right through here, all the way to Westford and down to Tyngsboro. We had…300,000 feet of pine lumber all stacked out in the field drying, and the fire burnt that.

“I was getting ready to play lacrosse that day and we had a fire whistle in the Town Hall…we didn’t have radios in those days. When the fire whistle blew, you knew there was a fire, but you didn’t know where it was. But they had numbers...Main Street and all down Lowell Road…is 23. So, Frank says ‘Come on, Black,’ because he was Deputy Chief — I mean he was everything, you had to be in those days…there were only 1,500 people in town.

“I’m in my spikes and shorts and we jumped in the only pumper truck we had and went way down to the fire, and, geez, within minutes it was into the tops of the trees and roaring. And Frank said, ‘We’re going to get out of here!’ and we just took off pulling the hose behind us…at night it would die down and the wind would come up the next morning.

“In those days, they had an agreement with the Groton School, all the public schools, the Lawrence Academy, Electric Light, Water Company…that, in an emergency, they’d…send all the students down to help. In fact, there was a state truck they kept in Groton for these fires.

“Groton only had two trucks in those days, and I’d already gone with the town truck, but we had Bill Foley — his father was the District Attorney in Boston — and I can’t think of the other kid’s name — he was head of the State Police — and Mickey Quinn, his father was the Police Chief in Chelsea…we all lived in Bigelow Hall. They knew where I lived, because they used to come down there on weekends…and they all jumped on the state truck, and they saved our house and barn, but they couldn’t possibly save all the lumber.

“So, of course, in those days we didn’t have the scholarships to play football or hockey or anything else…and Cain was, I remember Cain’s mayonnaise, he was in that class. He was a good hockey player…we had quite a group.

“In those days we couldn’t play the Groton School. They figured it would be too much of a rivalry…The only time we could go downtown from here was Wednesday afternoon after 4:00 and Saturday after 2:00…We couldn’t go at the same time as the Groton School, but there was never a fight or anything that I ever knew about.

“We played Governor Dummer and even Exeter Academy. And we played the University of New Hampshire freshmen — that’s why I went there. We played Boston Latin. We had quite a hockey team, even though they were playing on rinks where they could skate every day, most likely. But, when we skated, Norm Grant was a good coach, that’s the poor man coach — baseball, hockey, basketball, and taught science and physics — oh, what a worker he was. Great man.”
LA Circle Events

BOSTON – NOVEMBER 2014

L–R: Bryce Stocks ’11, Kara McLaughlin ’10, Kelsy Scamman ’10, Josh Elowe ’11, Jessica Peterson ’10, and Angelica Bishop ’10

L–R: Danny Roop ’06, Katherine Moore ’06, Kelly Barry ’06, and Patrick Donoghue ’06

L–R: Joanne Lovejoy, and Karen ’82 and Paal Brandvold

ON CAMPUS – DECEMBER 2014

Alumni Council President Sue Barron ’86, Jonathan Mangini ’14, John Curran (faculty), Ellie Wildman ’14, and Lauren Chin ’14

L–R: Ellie Wildman ’14, Admissions Associate Val Templeton ’89, and Julie Mitchell

L–R: Sheighla Wall ’14, Meghan Bentley ’14, and Sara Rosenberg ’14

DENVER – FEBRUARY 2015

Front Row, L–R: Mike Cunningham ’64, Andrew Milmore ’03, Andy Franklin ’88, and Chris Hughes ’83; Back row: L–R: Director of Annual Giving Geoff Harlan, Assistant Head of School Rob Moore, Luc Cisna ’94, Mike Muscatello ’05, Walt Wright ’04, TJ Tanberg ’03, Head of School Dan Scheibe, Ryan Chase ’03, JD Sawyer ’08, and Kevin Menard ’98
SAN FRANCISCO – FEBRUARY 2015

L–R: Lauren and Greg Boro ’83, Lauren Schwartz ’83, and Rob Moore

LOS ANGELES – FEBRUARY 2015

Front Row, L–R: Stacy Sibley-Ackerman and seated Colin Havey ’06, Standing, L–R: Mike Rweyemamu ’88, Chaz Gagné, Rob Moore, Bruce Fox, Meg Lewis ’10, Keith Mueller ’75, Brayden Ackerman, Trustee Jay Ackerman ’85, Naomi Schatz ’85, Dan Scheibe, Lynne Hartwell ’08, Vickie Coleman ’83, Hannah Shea ’09, Derick Coleman, Annie Montesano, Chris Hazzard ’03, Amanda Shaw, and Laura Hazzard
WASHINGTON, DC – APRIL 2015

L–R: Robb Bunnen ’73, Karl Fredriksen Wade ’02, Trustee Kevin Anderson ’85, Tom McCuin ’85, Courtney Bishop ’06, Alex Nessa ’06, Jennifer Byrd ’85, Jeff Leahey ’82, Maria Graceffa Taylor ’89, Katharine Gagné ’85, Dan Scheibe, Anthony Williams, Witney Schneidm an ’70, Tom McCann ’81, Adrienne McCann, Ned Selian ’85, Rohil Chandhok ’11, and Michael Titcomb ’12

NEW YORK CITY – APRIL 2015

Jack Hurstak ’87 and Trustee Brad Hobbs ’82

Alumni family and friends at AOL

L–R: Tim Armstrong ’89, Donald Armstrong ’87, and Chris Nuñez ’86

L–R: Myles Kane ’97, Rob Moore, and Elizabeth McDonough

Sue Barron ’86, and Sukey Caceres Novogratz ’85

Dan Scheibe and Andre Eaton ’87
GAGNÉ GOLF TOURNAMENT – OCTOBER 2014

L–R: Liz Gross (Jess ‘15, Thomas ‘16), Mary-Wren vanderWilden (Peter ’14), Dan Scheibe, Sue Barron ’86, and Nancy Morrison (Lizzie ’15)

LEADERSHIP DINNER – OCTOBER 2014

Leadership dinner guests gather in MacNeil Lounge

Ted and Peg Bernhardt (Chris ‘13, Harrison ‘18), Maddie and Tom McCormick (Daniella ’14, Brennan ’19)

L–R: President of the Board of Trustees Bruce MacNeil and Linda MacNeil, Tracy and Eric Groves (Madeline ’13, Mitchell ’17)

Trustee Kevin Anderson ’85 and former trustee Ann Conway
LA CIRCLE EVENTS

CHINA OUTREACH – APRIL 2015

L–R: Zion Tam, Adrien Chen ’92, Zoe Chan, Rob Olsen, Peter Choi, Dan Scheibe, James Choi, Director of Development Betsy Cote, Kitty Choi, Cheuk Ling, Isabelle Favrier, and Charles Boulas

Front row, L–R: Min Jin, Betsy Cote, Xiuhua Zhang, and Cheng Song; Back row, L–R: XueJun Li, Yugi Wei, Jianping Fan, Rob Olsen, Ruiguang Ou, Lao Zhu, and Dan Scheibe

Shanxia Gu, Betsy Cote, and Yangin Wang

L–R: Hui Jin, Dan Scheibe, Majun Sun, Betsy Cote, Ellen Zhao, Rob Olsen, Chunyou Xue, and Jian Jian Lai

L–R: Dafu Wang, Baojuan Huang, and Rob Olsen
Senior Parent Gift

This year, as part of the Senior Parent Gift (SPG), parents of students in the Class of 2015 had the opportunity to support the first step in a carefully planned, multi-year effort to enhance LA’s campus.

Under the leadership of co-chairs Nancy and Charlie Morrison (Lizzie ’15) and Steve and Jen Swan Stone (Ben ’15), the class raised $458,000 to support both the Annual Fund and the upcoming redesign of the school’s entrance from Route 119. Of the monies raised, $200,000 went to the Annual Fund and $258,000 is designated for the first phase of the project.

Clearly, there could be no more visible legacy than an attractive and welcoming entrance that will be every visitor’s first impression of the school. The leading function of the 2015 SPG initiative involves the reconstruction of the actual entry and arrival to campus — which LA intends to relocate and redesign in order to allow more direct and appealing access from Groton’s Main Street to the heart of the school. Later steps of design will redirect parking and traffic away from the Quad to reinforce LA’s academic and residential identity, all the while improving safety and circulation.

As a precursor to future Campus Master Plan elements, this improvement to the campus landscape will bring practical and aesthetic enhancements that will have a powerful effect on Lawrence Academy’s identity for generations to come.

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day

Each February, parents provide those who work to support the LA community, both faculty and staff, with an outstanding luncheon in the MacNeil Lounge — an event eagerly anticipated by all. Providing this year’s delicious spread were:

Front row (sitting) L–R: Shenna Shepard (Tansey ’18), Chuck Dutton (Adam ’18), Tracy Groves (Madeline ’13, Mitchell ’17), and Martha Joumas (Kathleen ’09, Will ’10, Meghan ’13, Tim ’15), Second row (sitting) L–R: Stephanie Parry (Lindsey ’16, Kristin ’18), Jennifer Masser (Lauren ’15, Emily ’16), and Eileen Liang (Ethan ’18); Back row, L–R: Catherine Walker (Alex ’18), Sheri Bojanowski (Elise ’16), Christine Lorden (AJ ’17), Jill Adie (Billy ’16), Kim Clymer (Eliza ’13, Jillian ’15), Kathleen Barron (Ashley ’18), Maria Beck (Jakob ’18), Bo Murphy (Tanner ’14, David ’16, William ’17), Dwight Long (Louisa ’17), Eileen and Doug Long (Meredith ’15, Donald ’17)

Welcome Sheri Bojanowski as the 2015–2016 PA Chair
Your gift to LA’s Annual Fund supports every aspect of the school’s operating budget, including: academic programs, financial aid, classroom supplies, faculty compensation, professional development, athletic uniforms and equipment, performing and visual arts, student life and activities, maintenance of buildings and grounds — everything that makes a Lawrence Academy education one of the best.

Please consider making Lawrence Academy one of your top philanthropic priorities by making a gift to LA’s Annual Fund today. Your support provides a measurable impact on advancing the mission of the school and enhancing the exceptional education an LA student receives.

Please visit the following link: www.lacademy.edu/onlinegifts
Hello Fellow Alumni, Families, and Friends,

As I begin my second year as Lawrence Academy Alumni Council president, I want to congratulate and welcome the Class of 2015 as the newest members of the LA Alumni Association. This club boasts over 4,500 members; fellow graduates who are proud of all that you accomplished at LA. While you are all well on your way to the next chapter in your life, we on the 20-member Alumni Council promise to work hard to keep you informed, involved, and connected to campus.

This past year was chock full of events designed to foster that connection in grads from every class. November’s LA Circle Event at Church in Boston had over 100 guests in attendance and December’s brick oven Pizza Truck gathering here on campus featured some very tasty options before former Spartans walked over to Grant Rink to watch current LA students take to the ice. Many other gatherings were held in places like Denver, Los Angeles, New York City, Washington, D.C., Cape Cod, and even China.

My personal favorite was the NYC gathering at AOL headquarters hosted by Tim Armstrong. There, I was able to re-connect with my roommate, Sukey, whom I hadn’t seen in 30 years!

And, of course, we can’t leave out Reunion Weekend 2015 — one of the largest attendances ever, with the very well-represented Class of 1965 back on campus celebrating their 50th.

This coming year promises to be just as exciting, so please be sure we have your current contact information, check out www.lacademy.edu’s new site design, and follow LA on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Other great ways to stay connected include joining our LinkedIn group or downloading the free LA Alumni App for iPhone and Android.

Hope to see you all back on campus — or maybe at the top of the Empire State building — soon.

Go Spartans!

Sue Barron ’86
Alumni Council President
thebarrons@comcast.net
On June 5 and 6, it was time for alumni to return to campus, take over the Quad, and look back on their LA experience. Led by the Class of 1965, who returned nearly 40 members to Powderhouse Road, over 220 alumni, friends, and family availed themselves of the opportunity to reminisce in familiar (and unfamiliar) campus spaces.

Several generations of alumni spent a great deal of Friday night and Saturday swapping wisdom — much of it in the guise of stories — at numerous events and locales in and around campus.

On Friday night, the Class of 1965 met in MacNeil Lounge before joining Mr. Scheibe and his wife Annie Montesano at Park House for a dinner honoring their 50th Reunion. Concurrently, many other classes were represented at an open house barbecue hosted by English Chair Laura Moore and Assistant Head of School Rob Moore.

Saturday featured breakfast on the Quad, campus tours, and the sixth annual Tom Warner ’75 Memorial 5K Walk/Run. Following a Remembrance Service at LA’s Memorial Garden, 20-year faculty, their retired brethren, and former students gathered for the Alumni Awards Luncheon.

The Athletic Hall of Fame induction officially ushered the 1965 tennis team, Richmond Baker, Tori Wellington Hanna ’97, Craig MacDonald ’95, Bill Stewart ’39, Tony Voce ’00, and Tom Warner ’75 into legendary Spartan status.

Afterward, photos on the McDonald Library terrace prefaced a party on the Quad.

Considering the array of opportunities the weekend provided for alumni of all ages to mingle and share their stories, Head of School Dan Scheibe remarked: “That is our business, and that is what we’re about. This is that timeless — or as I like to say eternal — job of passing down wisdom from generation to generation.”
Reunion Weekend June 5 and 6, 2015
Reunion Weekend June 5 and 6, 2015

5th Annual Tom Warner ’75 Memorial 5K Walk/Run

Front row, L–R: Jay Ackerman ’85, Head of School Dan Scheibe, Rich Johnson ’74, Patrick Warner ’80, Sandy Sweeney Gallo ’75 (former faculty), Kristen Sinclair, Brooklyn Sinclair, and Brayden Sinclair; Back row, L–R: Catherine Herries-Smith ’75, Director of Annual Giving Geoff Harlan (P ’16, ’18), Kevin Sinclair, Bryan Smith ’85, Andy Durham ’65, Kathryn Maynes ’74, Assistant Head of School Rob Moore (P ’04, ’06, ’09), Annie Montesano, Jeff Brown ’65, Robin Martin Adams ’75 (P ’95), Debbie Grinell, and Tony Sampas ’74

Rob Moore, Jay Ackerman ’85, Bryan Smith ’85, and Dan Scheibe

Rich Johnson ’74, Tony Sampas ’74, and Patrick Warner ’80

Patrick Warner ’80 with Geoff Harlan

Patrick Warner ’80 and niece Kristen Sinclair

Marty Dunn ’85 and Jay Ackerman ’85

Catherine Herries-Smith ’75 and Robin Martin Adams ’75

Rich Johnson ’74 and a photo on t-shirt of Tom Warner ’75
Reunion Weekend June 5 and 6, 2015

Annie Montesano with Janet and Vinney Giuliano ’65

George Wheatley ’50 and Director of Development Betsy Cote

Bill Stafford ’70 and Chuck Will ’70

Sue McKenna, Barry Ansins ’85, Rob and Laura Moore

Jessica DeVito ’10 and College Counselor Jamie Sheff

Rich Johnson ’74 and Kathryn Maynes ’74

Bryan Smith ’85, Carol Barry ’81, and Todd Marcus ’85

Trustee MacNeil ’70, Bob Bittenbender ’85, and Debbie Grinnell ’65

Mary Mitchell with Betsy and David Smith ’65

Nick Hamel ’10 and John Plummer ’10

Marty Dunn ’85 and Barry Ansins ’85

Ollie Manice ’65, Rob Orchard ’65, and Ted DeSaulnier ’65

Richmond Baker, Andy Durham ’65, Bill Simkins ’65, and Edi Baker

Tony Andresen ’70 and Bob Kimball ’70

Ted DeSaulnier ’65 and George Peabody

Trustee Bruce MacNeil ’70, Bob Bittenbender ’85, and Debbie Grinnell ’65

Mary Mitchell with Betsy and David Smith ’65

Nick Hamel ’10 and John Plummer ’10

Marty Dunn ’85 and Barry Ansins ’85

Trustee Bruce MacNeil ’70, Bob Bittenbender ’85, and Debbie Grinnell ’65

Mary Mitchell with Betsy and David Smith ’65

Nick Hamel ’10 and John Plummer ’10

Marty Dunn ’85 and Barry Ansins ’85
Reunion Weekend June 5 and 6, 2015

Mark Haman — 2015 Faculty Appreciation Award

By vote of the alumni body, English teacher Mark “Doc” Haman, whose LA career spans 33 years and counting, was presented with this year’s Faculty Appreciation Award at the reunion luncheon. Jamie Cogliano ’01 represented the sentiments of many as he spoke of the ever-popular “Doc’s Doggie Products” and, more significantly, the valuable lessons gained as a student in Doc’s classes. “His patient exploration of the material and attention to student insight shows that, even though he’s discussed the same thesis dozens of times — with thousands of students — he knows he does not have it figured out. After all this time, he’s still excited, driven, and fully expects to learn something new from each reading and each student.” Haman held the Darling Faculty Chair for excellence in teaching from 1997 to 2002.
The 2015 Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony at LA


The 2015 HOF Inductees

William J. Stewart – Class of 1939
Football Official/Three-Season Coach and Player

Thomas Warner – Class of 1975
Hockey/Cross Country

Richmond Baker – Faculty 1955–2001
Athletic Director/Coach for Basketball/ Baseball/JV Hockey

Victoria Wellington Hanna
Class of 1997
Soccer/Basketball/Lacrosse

Craig MacDonald – Class of 1995
Cross Country/Hockey/Golf

Anthony Voce – Class of 2000
Football/Hockey

1965 Tennis Team

Hall of Fame Master of Ceremonies Rich Johnson ’74, Paul Stewart, Dan Scheibe, and Director of Athletics Kevin Potter

The attending members of the 1965 Tennis Team: L–R, Richard Boothby ’66, Kit Tucker ’65, Andy Durham ’65, Chandler Grinnell ’65, and Bill Aldrich ’65 (Not present were members: Doug Crawford ’68, Jeff Hamilton ’67, Bobby Orchard ’65, Wayne Spacek ’65, and Jimmy Wright ’67.)
At reunion, members of the 1994–1995 girls’ soccer team celebrated the history that they made 20 years ago as LA’s first female team to earn a New England Championship title. L–R: Beth Frissora ’95 (co-capt.) holding the championship plaque, Valerie Cheney Nygren ’95 (co-capt.) holding the championship bowl, coach Donna Bibbo Mastrangelo, Laurie Baker McLaughlin ’95, Tori Wellington Hanna ’97, and Tasha Taiste ’95 holding the team championship photo. At the event, but missing from the photo, was Kristi Lagis Pedroli ’95.
Berklee College of Music in Boston has created a new award in honor of emeritus College trustee Paul “Lefty” Wennik ’56. Given annually to “an outstanding student who exhibits academic and performance excellence in the Music Business/Management program,” the award honors Paul’s many years of service to Berklee, first as a lecturer in the music business/management department, then as a member of the board of trustees, which he joined in 1984. From 1992 to 1999, Paul also served as chairman of the Educational Affairs Committee, where he studied and appraised the quality of Berklee’s academic programs, personnel projects, and student life programs, and made recommendations to the board. He also served on the college’s Institutional Advancement Committee and the Committee on Membership. Guitarist Zack Kressaty of Montville, N.J., is the first recipient of the Paul Wennik Award.

1967
Dana Hardy ’67, a 42-year veteran of Centinel Financial Group, has been inducted into the company’s Hall of Fame for 30 years of “Achieving Client Excellence.” At his induction, Dana spoke to peers and colleagues across the country on his eight points of succeeding in life and business.

1968
Vincent Chao ’68 writes, “My son Max just graduated from UC Santa Cruz, majoring in Environment Studies and Economics, with a minor in I.T. He spent his junior year abroad at Hong Kong University and learned some Chinese. He plans to work and travel for a couple of years before going to graduate school. I have a travel business in Germany welcoming students (ages 14 to 22) to Europe for two weeks every summer. They will live on a lake for a week, sailing, windsurfing, horseback riding, etc., and spend the second week visiting Germany, Paris, and Luxembourg. Anyone interested?”

1969
Don Black ’69 sent photos of his dad, Captain Ben Black ’41, who since passed away. See the photos and read about him in the “In Memoriam” section (p. 73).

1971
Ira Dale ’71 and Penny, his wife of 31 years, are living in San Antonio, Texas. He writes, “We are both working and enjoying warm weather. Our family continues to live in North Dakota, so we get to experience the very cold weather too. Where has the time gone, 43 years since graduation?”
Hugh Glazer ’73 was selected to be a Business Advisor in the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses at Babson College National Cohort, which just graduated over 90 CEO-Scholars. The GS10K is a national $500 million investment by Goldman Sachs to spur growth and job creation in small businesses. With the launch of 10,000 small businesses at Babson College, the National Cohort, business owners from all 50 states, now have the opportunity to participate in the program. This Babson program connects small business owners with a nationally-sourced class of peers for 12 weeks of practical business education. If you know of a CEO or company who could benefit from this program, please share this link with them for more information: https://www.10ksbapply.com/

Tim NoYES ’80 is CEO of Proton Therapeutics, a Waltham, Mass.-based biotech company that went public in October with a $61 million IPO. The company is one of a record-breaking number of early-stage drug developers to go public since early 2013.

Scott Sloan ’83 ran in the Boston Marathon last April. With him to help him celebrate the day and his 50th birthday are Chris Rogers ’83, Darren Messina ’83, and Jay Dunn ’83.

Bryan Smith ’85 and his family are spending a year in southern Spain on the Costa del Sol. “We’re billing it as taking a year of retirement before we retire (and are too old!), he writes. “We will learn Spanish and our kids (8 and 10 years old) will be enrolled in a local school, taking all of their classes in Spanish. Hopefully Rob Moore will feel obligated to visit me and ‘all’ the other Lawrence alums there next year!”
1989
Bryson Lang ’89 and Heidi Ousler ’92 were married on July 21, 2012, at Heidi’s family’s home in North Andover, Mass. Heidi’s bridal party included her two sisters, Kristen Ousler Sanchez ’86 and Nicole Ousler ’89. Also in attendance were DJ and Erica Reynolds Hager ’88.

1990
Ginger Wade ’90 has been living in Hamburg, Germany, for the last nine years, where she runs a small translation and language consulting firm that helps business clients with international communication skills. She devotes her ample free time to songwriting and playing music on the streets and in the clubs of Hamburg and throughout northern Germany. Her website is www.ginger-wade.de if you want to hear more.

1998
Rachel Cram Halliday ’98 sent us this update: “I am still living in California and enjoying my new job teaching sixth grade earth science at The Athenian School. My children, Annie, 4, and Ben, 1 1/2, are growing quickly and keeping Kyle and me busy with lots of adventures and exploring.”

Allison Clear Fastow ’98 and husband Will are the proud parents of Samuel Eliot Fastow, who entered the world on October 27, 2014, at a healthy 8 lbs., 1 ounce.

1999
Kevin Hill ’99, a financial professional with Centinel Financial Group, LLC, in Needham Heights, Mass., was named a 2015 Five Star Wealth Manager by an independent survey conducted by Five Star Professional. The award recognizes a select group of wealth managers in the Boston area who excel in quality service and client retention. Kevin is a multi-year consecutive winner of the award and his selection was announced in the February 2015 issue of Boston magazine. In addition to achieving this distinction, Kevin was recognized for qualifying as a member of the Million Dollar Round Table, considered the premier association for financial professionals.

2000
Rick Wake ’99 and his wife Pamela welcomed son Dominic into the world on September 14, 2014, weighing 7 lb., 7 oz. Dom lives with Mom and Dad in Jersey City, New Jersey.

2001
Emily Avery-Miller ’01 and Zhe “Ocean” Li were married on October 3, 2014. The couple is living in Watertown, Mass. Emily is an instructor in the first-year writing program at Emerson College and external relations manager at ENE (Environment Northeast), a non-profit organization that researches and advocates innovative policies to tackle environmental challenges while promoting sustainable economies.

2003
Ann (Steward) ’03 and Brendan McGuire ’01 celebrated their first anniversary and are looking forward to an anniversary trip to Germany and Austria this fall.

Eliza Brown Goehry ’03 welcomed her first child, Jackson, with husband Dan Goehry.

2006
Allison Clear Fastow ’98 and husband Will were the proud parents of Samuel Eliot Fastow, who entered the world on October 27, 2014, at a healthy 18 lbs., 1 ounce.

2007
Rick Wake ’99 and his wife Pamela welcomed son Dominic into the world on September 14, 2014, weighing 7 lb., 7 oz. Dom lives with Mom and Dad in Jersey City, New Jersey.

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Emily Avery-Miller ’01 and Zhe “Ocean” Li were married on October 3, 2014. The couple is living in Watertown, Mass. Emily is an instructor in the first-year writing program at Emerson College and external relations manager at ENE (Environment Northeast), a non-profit organization that researches and advocates innovative policies to tackle environmental challenges while promoting sustainable economies.

2009
Ann (Steward) ’03 and Brendan McGuire ’01 celebrated their first anniversary and are looking forward to an anniversary trip to Germany and Austria this fall.

Eliza Brown Goehry ’03 welcomed her first child, Jackson, with husband Dan Goehry.
Laurie Gilmore Fairchild ’03 welcomed her first child Daniel with husband Michael Fairchild.

**2004**

Mary Vallege ’04 and Adam Kolloff ’02 were married in Kennebunkport, Maine, in July.

Grace Moore ’04 writes, “After graduating from UCSF as a Family Nurse Practitioner in June 2014, I am working at Santa Rosa Community Health Centers in Northern California completing a yearlong NP Residency training program in full scope primary care.”

Ryan Siegrist ’04 married Katherine Wallis from Glendale, Calif., on July 5, 2014, in Baltimore, Md. Lawrence Academy alumni in attendance were Tracey Siegrist ’02, Molly Bagshaw ’04 and Emily Bentinck-Smith ’04.

**2005**

Matt Steward ’05 started a new job with the Harvard Faculty Club.

**2006**

Karyn (Socci) Dietz ’06 and husband Christian are the proud parents of Logan Maeve Dietz, born on June 27. Logan entered the world at a healthy 9 lb., 12 oz. The family lives in Rochester, N.Y., where Karyn works as a licensed mental health counselor.

Zak Engel ’06 and Allie Hess have announced their engagement. No definite wedding date has been set, but Zak writes that they’ll tie the knot “most likely sometime late this year or in 2016.” (See more about Zak on page 18.)

On May 25, 2014, Dan Roop ’06 married his high school sweetheart, Abbie Morse of Littleton, Mass. The wedding was held over Memorial Day Weekend at the Ocean Edge Resort in Brewster, Mass. LA family in the wedding party included Sarah Roop ’09, Best Man Ben Roop (Bromfield School ’14), and Matt Beaulieu ’06. Also joining in the festivities were Julian Ropers ’07, Joe Beaulieu ’99, and retired faculty member Bill Mees.

Alec Oot ’06 and Helen Kiesling ’07 were married on June 20 at Bay View in Gloucester, Mass. The couple is living in Seattle.

Nina Serach ’07 and Jeff Lauer were married on July 26, 2014, in Salem, Oregon, where Nina is working as development coordinator for major and planned giving at Willamette University. A number of Spartans, both family and friends, attended the happy event, as the accompanying photo shows. Nina and Jeff’s mailing address is 3717 Owyhee Ct. SE, Apt 1, Salem, OR 97302.

**2007**

Jon Steward ’07 started a new job this past year with Wayfair, a Boston-based online company that sells furniture.

Greg Steward ’07 started a new job with the Groton Police Department.

Ashley Wheeler ’07 is celebrating her recent engagement to fellow Harvard University alum, Tyler Ott.

Emily Lindemuer ’07 and Liam Loscalzo were married in Hawaii this past July. The couple is living in Boston while Emily, a 2011 McGill graduate, pursues her Ph.D. in Health Sciences and Technology through a joint Harvard-MIT program.
2010
Luke Yavorsky ’10 graduated from the University of Delaware as a civil engineer and is employed at AECOM, a Massachusetts firm that works with clients in more than 150 countries “to design (including planning, architecture, and engineering), build, finance, operate, and maintain diverse types of infrastructure.”

Frances Hamilton ’10 is working in the annual giving department of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund. She also works part-time for the Boston Bruins Foundation, for whom she ran in the Boston Marathon last April. Frances wrote us prior to the race, “This is truly a dream come true for me, as I will be racing on the same course as my brother and my dad.” The Foundation is a non-profit organization assisting charitable organizations that demonstrate a commitment to enhancing the quality of life for children throughout New England.

Kara McLaughlin ’10 met up with a group of classmates in London last March.

2012
Luke Olsen ’12, an employee at Stonehedge Inn & Spa in Tyngsboro, Mass., was at the State House on Massachusetts Tourism Day, May 13, 2015, to receive a Massachusetts Hospitality Award.

L–R: Kara McLaughlin ’10, Kelsey Scamman ’10, Jordan Lovejoy ’10, and Jessica DeVito ’10 in London

2014
Lauren Chin ’14 did a three-month internship last fall at the Mariposa Foundation in Cabarete, Dominican Republic, where Tricia Suriel, parent of Tatiana ’16, is the executive director and describes her organization as “investing in sustainable solutions to end generational poverty.” Lauren spent the spring in Tibet and entered Brandeis University this fall.

Faculty
Former LA wrestling coach Chris Ingram has published his debut novel, Hey Kemosabe! The Days (and Nights) of a Radio Idyll. According to the press release, the story “takes readers on a rollicking ride through the sixties and seventies during the heyday of Top 40 personality radio at New York’s Musicradio WABC.”

L–R: Lauren Chin ’14, Olivia Cooper ’14, and Rachel Sharf ’14

Presenting the award to Luke Olsen ’12 were: L–R: Deb Belanger, Executive Director of the Greater Merrimack Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau; Richard Doucette, Executive Director of Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism; State Senator Eileen Donoghue; State Representative Colleen Garry; State Representative Cory Atkins; and State Senator Eric Lesser.

L–R: Kara McLaughlin ’10, Kelsey Scamman ’10, Jordan Lovejoy ’10, and Jessica DeVito ’10 in London

At Reunion Weekend 2015

FALL 2015 | 70
Bantam Ballyhoo

Congratulations to the Class of 2012’s Nathaniel (Nano) Heilbron and Tyler Whitney, both of whom helped Trinity College men’s ice hockey achieve a record-setting year in 2014–15. With a program-best 25–3–1 overall record, Trinity went 16–1–1 in NESCAC play and received an at-large berth into the Division III tournament. The Bantams then reeled off four straight victories to capture the first NCAA title in program history. Tyler, a forward, tied for second in the country with five game-winning goals, while in goal Nano went 20–3–1 with a .934 save percentage and 1.96 goals-against average.

Jumbo Achievement

Conor Helfrich ’12 and the Tufts University Jumbos continued their Division III dominance with a second consecutive National Championship. Conor, a third-team All-American, was selected as the Most Outstanding Player in Tufts 19–11 comeback victory over Lynchburg College. Helfrich, a midfielder, won 23 of 31 faceoffs, added 13 ground balls, and scored on his only shot to give Tufts their sixth goal of the contest.
In Memoriam

Joseph R. Hegarty ’38 died on April 5, 2015. A superb athlete, he played football at Boston College, as well as minor league baseball after graduation. Joe always came to Reunion at LA, and at other times he could often be seen on the school’s tennis courts.


Warren Buchanan ’47 died on July 17 at the age of 86. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Jessie; his son, James Buchanan and a daughter-in-law, Lisa Buchanan; a daughter, Lawrence Trustee Deborah Barnes and son-in-law, Steven Barnes; three grandchildren, Stephanie, Lindsay and Eric Barnes ’13; and many nieces and nephews. A 1951 graduate of Lowell Textile Institute, he was president and owner of Graniteville Foundry in Westford, Mass., where he, along with his brother John, operated the family business. After his brother's retirement Warren continued to run the business until his own retirement at the age of 81.


Richard D. Whitney ’50 passed away on June 26, 2014.

David Baker ’56 died in December 2014 at his home in Natick, Mass., after a series of illnesses.

Michael "Butch" Cook ’56 passed away at home in Sunapee, N.H., in 2012. He was President of the Class of 1956 and captain of the 1955 football team.

David Fenton ’76 died July 8, 2014, after a battle with cancer.

Alexis Mouyiaris ’99 passed away recently. English teacher Laura Moore recalls this gifted student and still uses a piece of fiction he wrote in his senior year as a model of how to write well.

Richard H. Gagné

Dick Gagné, longtime French teacher and coach at Lawrence, died of natural causes on February 5, 2015, at the age of 85. A fixture in the classroom and on the athletic field, he helped build a strong language program during his tenure as department head. He often claimed, with a smile, that his French 3 was “the hardest language course in the school.”

Dick coached many sports over the years, choosing, as time went on, to put his experience to work at the sub-varsity levels, because “that’s where you need the best coaching.” One of his JV-B soccer players stated that he had “never had so much fun playing on a team. Gags loved what he was doing and kept us laughing.” Dick remained a presence on campus after retirement, cheering on teams and, every fall, taking part in “his” annual Gagné Classic Golf Tournament. Hearing of Dick’s passing, one alumnus spoke for many: “Gags was one of my favorites at LA. He left a permanent mark on all of us.” Predeceased by his son Richard, Dick is survived by his children Charles and Katharine and their families and by his former wife Margery.

Dick Gagné at the console of the Academy’s first language lab, c. 1960
Arthur F. Blackman

Former Lawrence trustee and parent (Phoebe ’74 and Bella ’76) Arthur Blackman died at his Groton home on February 15, 2015, at age 90. A graduate of Noble and Greenough and Harvard University, Mr. Blackman was in turn an army pilot and flight instructor, a businessman, an educator, a public servant, and an ardent conservationist. He was actively involved in Groton town politics, serving on almost every town board, including the Board of Selectmen. He served on Lawrence’s board of trustees from 1974 to 1999 and was an honorary trustee until his death. In 1999, he gave the commencement address to LA’s graduating class. In addition to Phoebe and Bella, Mr. Blackman is survived by his wife of 63 years, Camilla, as well as two other children, Oliver and Camilla (Mim), and their families.

Bennett Raddin Black ’41

Ben Black passed away on March 22, 2015, at his home in Groton at the age of 92. Born in Everett, Mass., he attended Lawrence Academy, graduated from the University of New Hampshire at Durham in 1947, and worked at Hardware Mutual in Boston, before settling back in Groton to work a dairy farm and start a trucking and excavating business.

During his lifetime, many benefitted from his commitment and service. The long terms that he held in his various roles in the Town of Groton — as police officer, volunteer fireman and then fire chief, member of the Groton Water Commissioners’ board of directors, and Sealer of Weights and Measures — tally up to an impressive 116 years of collective time in service to his town.

Ben served his country as a bombardier on a B-24 Liberator in the Pacific Theatre during WWII. With the 370th Bomb Group of the 13th Air Force, known as the Long Rangers, he flew 39 missions over hostile territory, many of them exceeding 12 hour’s duration. He is credited with disabling the largest Japanese battleship ever built, the Musashi, by dropping three 1,000-pound bombs on its stern, mid-, and foredeck during the Battle of the Leyte Gulf in October 1944.

Ben’s wife of 64 years, Mildred, predeceased him, and he is survived by their four children, Donald ’69, Robert, Bennett Jr., and Lucy, and their families.

In a note to Lawrence Academy, Don noted: “There were two centerpiece social events that he looked forward to in his later years. One was the Memorial Day Parade, the second was the Golden Alumni luncheon at the Academy in May. Those were always days that he marked on his calendar and carried fond memories from. The last hat he wore had the LA insignia emblazoned across the front. Someone once said, ‘It is not the years in your life that count, but the life in your years.’ He lived a life that had both. And yes, he will be missed.”

(See notes from an interview with Bennett on p. 48.)
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