

RAREBITS

RUMSEY HALL SCHOOL | 2021/22



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RAREBITS

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







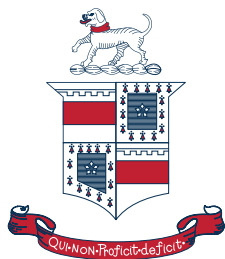
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Rumsey Hall School

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Ian Craig

ASSOCIATE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Brooke Giese P'23, '27



WEB EXTRAS

Keep an eye out for the 'web extra' icon throughout this magazine. Follow the links to online stories, videos, and photo galleries.



ON THE COVER

Upper School students pause for a moment between classes.

SUBMISSIONS

Alumni may contribute updates to:
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Dear Rumsey Community,

Most mornings I start my day early at the gym here at school. While I'm there, I generally listen to a number of different daily podcasts in order to get up to speed on happenings around the world. As you might imagine, the news isn't generally positive...and that's before I even check my TIAA-CREF app.

In the 2021-22 school year, we were challenged by COVID-19: this topic seemed to take the lead as the forerunner of our attention. The responsibility of prevailing through the trials of the pandemic provided some cover for our students relative to all that was happening around the country and the world.

Our challenge, then, is to be sure our students are informed and engaged toward their becoming participatory citizens in this, or their own country, well beyond Rumsey. It would be too easy to shelter in the northwest corner and focus on the welcome distractions of school, arts, and athletics. These healthy diversions are a welcome respite; yet, we will also engage in purposeful conversation and teach what it means to have appropriate discourse as the teachers in the room foster the discussion while sharing all sides of important issues.

To be sure, we won't use COVID as a cover for the status quo; instead, we will move forward in the interest of providing a best-in-class education for all of our students. Pushing ahead will include new electives in the arts for our VIIth Form students as well as the opportunity to participate in one of four Signature Programs in Makerspace Design, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Fine Arts Studies, and Social and Community Leadership. These capstone courses are intended to allow students to take a much deeper dive into an area of passion and foster their intellectual curiosity.

We will also advance as a school by continuing to evaluate the ISACS Survey that was completed in April. We will continue to make progress on the strategic planning process, which was cut short by the pandemic. The four main areas of focus include: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Curriculum and Program; School Size; Culture and Identity; and certainly last, but not least, Faculty and Staff.

We are also keenly aware that if we are to have top notch programming, we also need commensurate facilities. To that end, we have a board task force evaluating the campus master planning work that was completed with the help of Tecton Architects and Kaeyer, Garment + Davidson Architects.

We are moving ever-forward on these, and other important initiatives, as we head into a new school year. As we do, rest assured that we will keep our valued community members informed along the way.

Ian Craig
Head of School

LOOKING *Forward*

Four Guiding Goals as We Look Ahead

by Ian Craig, Head of School

In 1900, Lillias Rumsey Sanford of Seneca Falls, New York founded the second private nondenominational preparatory school in the United States. It was called "The Terrace: Mrs. Sanford's School for Boys" and was located in a mansion called Rumsey Hall. Today, Rumsey Hall School continues to thrive with 336 students from 14 states and 10 countries. As the school flourishes steadfastly—year after year—we've set into motion a deliberate and collaborative plan to foster an overarching environment of growth.



Guiding Goals as We Look Ahead

With intention and a marked determination, Rumsey Hall is moving forward in fundamental ways. Through sustainable plans to further our growth in diversity, academics, culture, and faculty and staff, the school is positioned to advance—together.

When the pandemic struck in spring of 2020, Rumsey was nearing an end to a thorough and thoughtful strategic planning process. We revisited the planning in the fall of 2022 in order to ensure that the tremendous work of the committees was not lost. We remain strongly committed to ensuring that the work is ongoing and intentional. The planning process and the results were organized around four key areas: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Curriculum and Program; School Size, Culture, and Identity; and Faculty and Staff.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, never more important than today, is centered around the surety

that the Rumsey community is made up of, and taught by, a diverse community—in all of the ways diversity is defined. As a crucial aspect of our success as an ever-evolving place of learning and growth, we must unwaveringly support these faculty/staff and students. Further, the cultural competencies important to a diverse institution must be taught and modeled, and related professional development must be ongoing for both faculty/staff and students. Additionally, having a curriculum that demonstrates a commitment to inclusivity is incredibly important. Developing cultural competencies, social emotional learning, leadership, and community engagement all play an important role in cultivating success in this area. To date, we



Lower School students enjoy the sense of belonging they find at Rumsey.



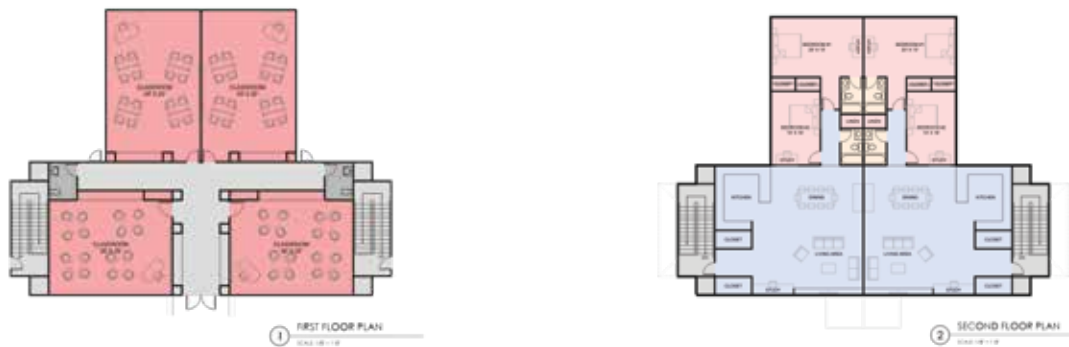
Upper School students build a cohesive community based on connection, listening, and acceptance.

began the year with a positive professional development opportunity (with several more scheduled), we are anticipating implementing the Assessment of Inclusivity and Multiculturalism developed by NAIS, and have a dedicated DEI Committee set in place to ensure these important initiatives stay top of mind.

Curriculum and Program

Curriculum and Program are at the heart of the Rumsey experience. While the aspects of the program that have made Rumsey the successful and impactful school that it is today remain firmly intact, we also need to be forward-thinking and

anticipatory about the skills and knowledge that our students will need to acquire for success ...not just in high school or college, but in life beyond those walls. Curriculum and Program certainly includes the core academic subjects, but also includes student experiences in the areas of fine arts, athletics, STEAM, residential life, outdoor education, and more. It includes not just what is taught, but how—and even where—as we take a close look at our facilities and develop best-in-class academic and residential spaces to support the incredible work of our teachers and students. We also need to examine our use of time, whether the daily or yearly schedule or examine additional offerings through



Conceptual plans for a proposed academic building renovation by Kaeyer, Garment, + Davidson Architects, PC.

our summer programs to support and challenge current students...and to attract new ones.

School Size, Culture, and Identity

As we look at School Size, Culture, and Identity, an important charge is to hold tight to the traditions that have made Rumsey special over the last 122 years; however, we must also examine current best practices in schools all over the country to see where we may be best served by evolving. This also includes reviewing our balance in the boarding and day population and geographic areas we currently serve, or hope to serve in the future. The School

Size, Culture, and Identity Committee identified the need for a vibrant pre-kindergarten program, which successfully opened this fall. We have a working group who is examining the strategic priorities for the school to include expanding our facilities to support the residential and academic programs. We also discuss access and being sure that through solid financial support, a Rumsey education is accessible to mission-appropriate students. Our greatly improved marketing efforts over the past couple of years were also born of this discussion, among others.



Artistic renderings by Tecton Architects detailing a proposed residential building on the hill across from Farnen Hall.



Library Media Specialist Valerie DiLorenzo P'15, '18 spends some time chatting with a Lower School student (left). Upper School History Teacher and Assistant Director of Residential Life Christian Anderson talks to Kindies about his volunteer work as a firefighter in Washington, CT (right).



Faculty and Staff

Rumsey Faculty and Staff, the lifeblood of the school are the most significant key to our success. Finding and retaining qualified and dedicated faculty and staff who are committed to teaching, coaching, and residential life is no small task—and is getting more challenging—but is among the very most important things that we do as a school. This certainly includes a competitive compensation model that takes into account benefits and campus housing. We are also considering the teaching load and expectations of the faculty, and the need to proactively recruit top-performers and perhaps even add an intern program to internally develop talent.

The Faculty and Staff Committee was responsible for the revised Professional Evaluation system that we successfully instituted last year and expanded this year to include administrators.

True to our motto, "Qui Non Proficit Deficit, those who do not advance fall behind", we are moving ever-forward. As we do so, we pause frequently in gratitude for the many ways our community uses their strengths and talents to build a bright future for generations of Rumsey Hall students to come.



Greg Warner P'17

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

I have been so pleased to see a sense of normalcy come back to the bucolic Rumsey Hall School campus. There's just nothing better than seeing kids being kids again! And it has been fantastic to see our new members of the leadership team steer the school in exciting directions. I hear nothing but positive feedback about the job they are doing. Of note, we successfully opened a new Pre-Kindergarten program, something the community is welcoming enthusiastically.

On behalf of the entire Board of Trustees, I once again extend my gratitude to all those parents, students, alumni, teachers, and staff whose tireless efforts, endless patience, willing cooperation, and resolute commitment to Rumsey Hall made this past year the success it was.

In sum, I can report that Rumsey Hall School is thriving, and I continue to be excited about what lies ahead for this special institution.

With thanks to all,

GW

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WELCOME TO THE BOARD

We are excited to welcome John Eren '97, P'28, '31 and Alex Murphy '00 to our Board of Trustees. We look forward to the positivity and expertise they will bring to our leadership team.



John Eren '97, P'28, '31

John is a proud Rumsey alumnus from the class of 1997. His wife, Kate Eren, serves as the Treasurer of the Rumsey Circle Parents Association, and they have two children in the Lower School.

John serves as Vice President/Engineer, and runs all daily operations at Classic Turf Company LLC, a family-owned business that specializes in the construction of post tension concrete tennis courts, basketball courts and running tracks. The company has constructed courts for universities, schools, and communities across the country, as well as for private property owners.

John received his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University in 2005 and his MBA from Southern Connecticut State University in 2011.

John and his family have recently gifted the full renovation and expansion of Rumsey's outdoor tennis courts. The new tennis courts are ready for use (see page 22).



Alex Murphy '00

Alex, an alumna from the class of 2000, is returning to our Board of Trustees after a break from her previous tenure from 2015 through 2021. During her time on the Board, she served on the Endowment Advisory Committee as Co-Chair and then Chair of the School Life Committee, the Trustees Committee, the Blue Dog Fund Committee, and the Head of School Search Committee. She took on an important role as the trustee liaison for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) task force of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Alex taught for six years in the New York Public and Charter School systems in Harlem and Brooklyn, NY. She resides in Rowayton, CT with her husband, Rumsey classmate Drew Murphy '00, and their four young children.

Alex and Drew have continued to make Rumsey a philanthropic priority, and she is eager to continue serving her school through the Board.

Alex is a graduate of Trinity College, CT and holds a Master's Degree in Education from Columbia University Teachers College, NY.

Character and Community Life Skills

Pillars to Guide Self and Social Awareness

by Craig Ough P'23, Director of Character and Community Life Skills

Our Character and Community Living Skills at Rumsey Hall intentionally creates space for students to build their self and social awareness, form healthy and inclusive relationship skills, assess decisions and risk-taking, and develop their capacity for value-modeling. Guided by these pillars, the school's social curriculum helps form students' self-concept and multicultural awareness as they navigate the intersections of personal, family, school, and global influences. This programming considers both the wonderful and sometimes conflicted nature of interpersonal connections, and also how one can consider their impact through physical and digital mediums.

Deliberate time in an academic setting to practice this kind of work is a precious and limited resource. There is no shortage of research on the importance of how students feel emotionally, whether or not students feel like contributing members in their schools, and how that impacts their immediate and future academic progress. It's amply fair to also replace 'academic' with 'community' or 'family', or 'personal relationships'. This work is about teaching an ever-evolving life skills set and how one can be a good human being in our included Rumsey community—and any community hereafter.



Students lift each other up in order to succeed at a ropes course obstacle.

Over the last few years, the school has done extensive work weaving threads from Kindergarten to VIIth Form that unify how we perceive and instruct character growth of students. Our pillars touch on developmentally-appropriate concepts while embracing the strengths of our community. For example, the actuation of 'play' and 'trying new things' is the result of engaging instruction by our teaching staff and mentors. These two aspects of our school alone are ways we guide how to take risks, find courage, learn how to interact with others, build awareness of ourselves and others' actions; essentially ways to demonstrate healthy behavior in a safe container. Students have ample experience with crafting the teachable moment.

Dedicated time for social and emotional learning begins in our Lower School, present in the classrooms and in the community meetings. Intentionality also occurs in Lower School discussions of character words and engaging activities to develop their emerging perception of a larger world. Students in the Upper School are enrolled in discussion-based specials in the IVth to VIth Forms to further explore relationships and decision making, done through lenses to enrich their understanding of diversity and identity. All students in the IIInd to IVth Forms are also enrolled in health classes to develop awareness of how a person's environment and choices will impact their bodies.

Student agency and an emerging set of leadership skills are intended outcomes for all students at Rumsey. There is ample space for instruction, guidance, and discovery on how one uses their voice and how to practice bringing group members together

Craig Ough P'23 readies Rumsey Outdoor Adventure participants for a kayaking jaunt down the river.



in contributing and productive ways. This summer, the Lower School developed a year-long leadership program for the IIIrd Form. The VIth form is enrolled in the Cultivating Character and Community term offering, providing them with specific guidance on how to be community leaders and model values. Upper School Student Government, Lower School Student Council, prefect positions, and captains roles are the most visible spaces. Students have the opportunity to utilize their voice to make social change through the Challenge 2020 class, the Student Organized Awareness Campaign framework or activities promoted by the Lower School Student Council. Community service initiatives on the weekends provide additional access to experiential education and awareness of needs in their immediate and broader communities.

All of the desired outcomes of our pillars are part of the school's ground soil. The intention to help shape student character is present in department and division curricula. Athletic programming, which more by nature drives the idea of teams and leadership, also includes dedicated presenters to help students understand what each of those terms means, and how to use those ideas to bring these groupings together. Components of the school's residential programming extensively utilizes the pillars, such as dorm meetings, conflict resolution in the disciplinary system, but also the playful spirit and signing up for new weekend adventures.



Students participate in community-building activities.



Lower School students program Sphero robots.



Upper School students work together in Robotics class.

Technology Flourishes at Rumsey

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) Education is a valuable component of the academic experience at Rumsey Hall. According to *Education Magazine*, students who participate in STEAM classes reap the following benefits: enhanced problem-solving skills; a space to try new things; increased teamwork, cooperation and leadership skills; the ability to apply knowledge; and a mindset of adaptability.

Set in the Campus Center in Farmen Hall, the STEAM Lab, a dedicated classroom equipped with a wealth of robotics and computer devices as well as a breakout collaboration station, is staged for maximum creativity and critical thinking. With the guidance of teachers who have a passion for innovation, students learn to solve real-world problems through project-based learning. Using traditional materials alongside modern technological devices, students form creative questions and design inventive solutions.

Over the last few years, the Rumsey STEAM Program has taken root in a strong way; as a result, we are now sprouting new technology resources and courses for both Lower and Upper School students. This past year,

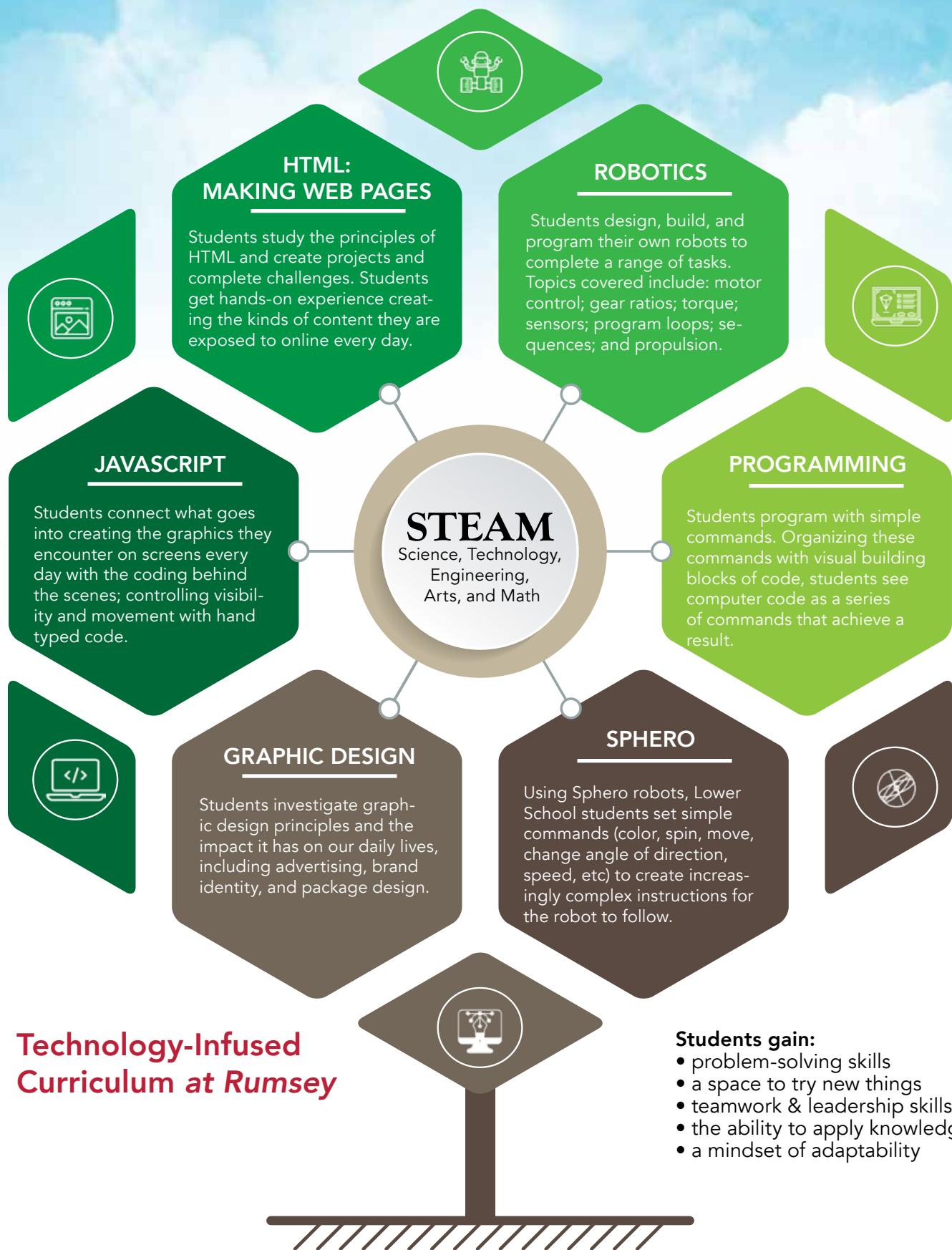
Lower School students engaged in a fun and interactive segment using Sphero robots. Students worked together to program the ball-shaped devices by creating coded commands—then eagerly observed their robot's actions. With much laughter amidst their groups, students learned from their mistakes and devised ways to successfully innovate to maneuver the robot according to their plan.

The Upper School STEAM Program includes courses in Introduction to HTML: Making Webpages, Robotics, Introduction to Programming, and Computer Arts/Graphic Design. This year, VIIth Form students have the option to participate in a deep-dive course in Makerspace Design plus 3D Printing and fabrication as part of our new Signature Programs.

Beyond these courses that rely on the synergy of the group as well as the uniqueness of the individual student's analytical skills, technology transcends all disciplines and grade levels and is integral in the daily work routine at Rumsey.



www.rumseyhall.org/signatureprograms



LESSONS LEARNED *from* PUBLIC SPEAKING

It takes courage to speak in front of friends and teachers; yet, the reward of accomplishment is worth breaking through the threshold of doubt. At Rumsey Hall, students are given the chance to experience the joy and social-emotional learning benefits of using their voice to speak in front of one another in many community-building events.

According to Certified Speaking Professional Michelle Bowden in her article, *The Life Changing Benefits of Public Speaking*, public speaking can benefit the presenter in many ways. Bowden states that individuals that articulate

A Lower School student makes announcements during Morning Meeting.

out loud in front of people—with a bigger purpose in mind—will: “feel more confident; get more involved; move better; be more fearless; be healthier; be better informed; have more clarity; embrace brevity; inspire others; create more opportunities for themselves and others; be seen as credible; and achieve mastery in general.” As a school that has been teaching children to succeed both academically and in overall social-emotional and mental health wellness for over 100 years, we understand and practice the power of public speaking. Through school-wide participation in poetry recitations, declamations, the school play, and daily Morning Meeting announcements, public speaking is an essential function of a Rumsey education.

Declamations have been a tradition at Rumsey for decades, and when it’s declamation season at Rumsey, the campus buzzes with anticipation and excitement. But exactly what is a declamation? According to the American Heritage Dictionary, a declamation is “an elocutionary recitation; the art or action of reading or reciting a literary text with the proper intonation and expression.” In other words, Rumsey Hall students are memorizing a meaningful work and then recalling it out loud publicly.

Throughout the spring term, students gather their courage to stand in front of their peers throughout Morning Meeting and English class to recite their declamation. The speeches are met with enthusiasm and encouragement from friends, faculty, and the community at large.

In the New Yorker article, *Why We Should Memorize*, Brad Leithauser states, “The best argument for verse memorization may be that it provides us with knowledge of a qualitatively and physiologically different variety: you take the poem inside you, into your brain chemistry if not your blood, and you know it at a deeper, bodily level than if you simply read it off a screen.” As a school built on the foundation of effort, we champion the energy and determination it takes to boldly speak out loud: declamations are a prime opportunity for students to find — and share — their voice.

**"Dreams are lovely. But they are just dreams.
Fleeting, ephemeral, pretty. But dreams do
not come true just because you dream them.
It's hard work that makes things happen.
It's hard work that creates change."**

Excerpt from Shonda Rhimes’s Commencement Address at Dartmouth University, 2014, recited by Clementina Marquez Gelleni '22, winner of the The Edward B. Whitney Prize for Excellence in Declamation



LOWER BOAT REGATTA

An aerial photograph of Lake Waramaug. The lake is dark blue with some white wake from a boat. The shoreline is covered in dense green trees. A small white house with a brown roof is visible on the shore. The sky is bright blue with wispy white clouds.

cham

Varsity Crew races in the Lower Boat Regatta on Lake Waramaug.



www.rumseyhall.org/regatta

No "Oar"dinary Season

The Varsity Crew Team Brings Home the Lower Boat Regatta Trophy

by Liz Butler P'20, '23, Assistant Athletic Director, Varsity Crew Coach

Crew 2022 had a special season. The return to a full practice and racing schedule built excitement right from the start. Nearly 50 athletes tried out for the team this spring; 24 rowers and five coxswains were selected based on their effort, stamina, rowing experience, and ability to listen and accept coaching. Right from the first 2000m test, the coaches got a sense of the raw power and potential of this team.

Though April winds pushed the team off the water on several occasions, everyone remained positive and focused. We started to master the basics, launching and landing the shells, how to safely maneuver the crews on the water, and how to translate our power into boat speed. Each day it seemed we were able to come together as a team and move the boats a bit faster.

Thanks to the generosity of many parents, both the Girls A and Boys A crews were able to train and race in new boats this spring. This built our confidence and determination to win. The Boys 8 opened the season

against Salisbury in near gale-like conditions. We could only find about 250m of calm water to race in; yet, in the first 10 strokes, Rumsey quickly took the lead in each piece. Then we headed to Hotchkiss to race in both 8s and 4s. It was a cloudy day and the lake was perfectly still. This would be our longest race of the season at 1500m. Rumsey Crews were not intimidated. The coxswains steered straight and we blazed down the race course winning all races. The following week at Berkshire, both the boys and girls A and B crews came together to cross the finish line by open water. It was evident from Coach Kinsella's fist pumps that not only were we rowing well, but we were fast.

As the Lower Boat Regatta date approached, we began to work on our mental preparation. How do we handle ourselves when we're behind? How do you push through pain and still row well? What happens if we get off course or the wind shifts? All this effort and practice honed our focus and determination.



Varsity Crew Captains Mel Rundall '22 and George Sullivan '22 accept the Lower Boat Regatta trophy.



The Crew team practices on a chilly spring day (left). Fans of Blue Dog Crew cheer on the Varsity Crew team during the Lower Boat Regatta (right).



May 18th, Regatta day, was picture perfect—70 degrees, partly sunny, and very little wind. The first race was the girls C. Coxswain Raegan Bertuglia '23, stroke Ally Deng '23, three-seat Natalie Klemm '23, two-seat Jaidee Promphan '22, and bow Sol Park '23 were ready to race. It was close and the girls came from behind to win the race in the last 250m. That's when we started to get excited. Each time down the course, the Rumsey boats would accelerate out of the start and fly for the first 500m. They kept their effort up and were cheered on by parents and friends as they approached the 750m buoy. Then they sprinted the last 250m to win most races by open water.

We ended the day winning eight of nine races with several crews earning two or three first place medals. Captains Mel Rundall '22 and George Sullivan '22 proudly accepted the coveted oar trophy on behalf of the team. The oar was returning to Rumsey for the first time since 2013! After an amazing team barbecue organized by the families and the coaches and coxswains getting tossed in Lake Waramaug, the team returned to campus to ring the bell and announce the championship win.

We are already thinking about next season with nearly half of this year's team returning. Each Blue Dog athlete is determined and driven to keep the oar on our campus!



Varsity Crew team members practice for the race in the Francis M. Ryan Indoor Rowing Facility.

STEPPING UP THE GAME IN **BLUE DOG TERRITORY**



The outdoor tennis courts, now The Eren Family Tennis Center, are durable and beautiful post-tension concrete, with modern 8 ft fencing, and a stunning paint scheme including Rumsey's mascot painted onto the court itself! We are so grateful for the generosity of the Eren Family for this meaningful gift to the Rumsey Hall campus and athletic program.

Renewed Athletics Facilities & Livestream Capabilities

The Blue Dog spirit is hard to match. It's full of grit, determination, and a drive for success—all the while exemplifying Rumsey's core values of honesty, kindness, and respect. Knowing the value that a strong athletics program adds to our community, we've enhanced our athletics facilities and added in new features to our athletic program.



The indoor tennis courts were updated with a complete surface renovation and new lighting.



The Lufkin Rink can now be used year-round with the addition of a turf field.



Varsity games for sports played on the Paul Lincoln Cornell Athletic Field and Roy Field and in the Blue Dog Gym can now be viewed via livestream.

FEATURED ATHLETE

Regina Osorio Mijangos '22

Regina Osorio Mijangos '22 scored 31 goals in her first and only season as a Rumsey Blue Dog soccer player. She burst onto the scene scoring multiple goals per game as well as providing assists to her teammates. It was obvious from the very beginning that Regina was a remarkable soccer player. She was a leader on and off the field and always put maximum effort into every game and practice. Because of her efforts, she earned the Rumsey Hall Blue Dog award for Varsity Girls Soccer. Soccer Coach Carmine Buono states, "I am so proud of everything Regina accomplished and wish that Rumsey could have had more than one year with her! I am thankful to have had the opportunity to coach Regina and wish her the best in all the future holds for her."



Regina's teammates congratulate her after she makes a goal.



Martin Wong, *Persuit (El Que Gane Pierde - He Who Wins Loses)* 1984 acrylic on canvas, 48 x 72 ins.

\$1.1 MILLION DORM DECOR

Martin Wong Painting Hanging in Cutler Cottage Painting Set to Travel the Nation

For decades, a highly valuable Martin Wong painting hung silently in the common room of Cutler Cottage, a riverside boys' dorm on the far reaches of campus. Day in and day out, middle school students hurried by the large, 48 x 72 inch canvas—unaware that the magnificent evening cityscape would eventually be worth over a million dollars.

In the fall of 2021, Wong's piece *Persuit (El Que Gane Pierde - He Who Wins Loses)*, 1984, was sold by Hindman, an internationally recognized fine art auction house, for \$1.1 million, netting the school \$900,000. *Persuit* was donated to Rumsey Hall School in 1989 by Allen Finkelson, a parent of three Rumsey Hall graduates and former long-term trustee and board chair.

Finkelson, a long-time supporter of the arts at Rumsey

and for whom the campus art gallery is named, donated three works of art to the school. He was thrilled to discover that one of the paintings had become an American treasure, stating, "I was surprised to learn of the painting's enormous appreciation in value. For me, its sale and use of proceeds is the culmination of my lifetime devotion to the school and a clear acknowledgement of all the school has meant to the Finkelson family."

In August 2020, the school learned that Martin Wong had become a well-known artist and the market for his works had risen drastically in the last few years. Associate Head of School Brooke Giese P'23, '27 knew precisely where the painting was exhibited on campus, and, hearing of its potential value, quickly had it removed from the dorm common area and secured it in a safe place.



2021 P·P·O·W exhibition featuring Martin Wong's *Nocturne at Ridge Street and Stanton*. *Persuit* will be on display at the P·P·O·W Gallery in the fall of 2022. For more information, visit ppowgallery.com.

“Imagine all the living moments when a Cutler Cottage student would look up at the painting and notice a star in the constellation, the moonlight reflecting off the fence, or the glow from a window, and for an instant be transported.”

–Brooke Giese, Associate Head of School

Wong (American, 1946-1999) an openly-gay, 20th century painter of Chinese descent, is known for his stunning pieces that portray ethnic identities and cultural references. His work is often depicted as a mixture of social realism and visionary art.

The bidding process for *Persuit*, the cornerstone piece of the auction, was heated until the gavel dropped. In the end, the Art Bridges Foundation triumphed as the new owner of this visionary painting. Art Bridges exists

to expand access to American art, particularly in locations where it is difficult to access art.

Persuit will continue to inspire a multitude of viewers as it travels to museums and galleries throughout the United States. The painting is currently on display at the P·P·O·W Gallery in New York, NY and is slated next to be featured in *Phraseology* at The Bass Museum of Art in Miami Beach, Florida.



Cutler Cottage dorm students in 2006 (top) and 2016 (bottom) pose in front of *Persuit*.



Cutler Cottage dorm students in 2008 pose in front of *Persuit*.

Spooner & POND HOUSE

For more than 50 years, the Spooners have shared their family with Rumsey students, faculty, and staff, welcoming them in to find a home at the school. This spring, we honored their legacy by naming and dedicating the Spooner Pond and Spooner House dorm.



Seth Kornblau '85, Kiernan Flynn '85, and Richard Kelstein '85 express their appreciation for Rick Spooner.



The Spooner family is recognized by the naming of Spooner House.



The Rumsey community gathers at Spooner Pond to remember Rick Spooner.

Surrounded by the assured stillness of nature and accompanied by the music of cascading water, our community honored the memory of our beloved former Associate Head of School, Rick Spooner. Alumni, faculty and staff, former faculty, family, and loved ones gathered together at the far pond on campus to reflect on the many ways Rick blessed our school and to pay tribute to his legacy. Head of School, Ian Craig, officially declared that the body of water and surrounding area would now be known as Spooner Pond. Additionally, the undeniable positive impact of the entire Spooner family



Clayton Ketchum shares memories of Rick Spooner at the dedication service.

"I took comfort in Rick's calm and thoughtful presence. Most of his "work" was unseen, his words and perspective slowly taking root below the surface, only to be realized later. These seats by this pond on this field and the dorm up the hill provide that same sense of comfort. The wisdom will arrive in the form of the heron in the shallows, late afternoon sun, or a cool breeze through the trees—it is that quiet presence that Rick was for so many."

– Clayton Ketchum P'14, '17

(his wife Celine and children, Jason '88, Ali '90, and Stephen '94) on Rumsey Hall was acknowledged in the naming of Spooner House, formerly Foothills One.

Rick shaped and guided the landscape of the community at Rumsey

Hall, all the while celebrating its culture. Over time, he became a part of the foundation of the school. Rick wore many hats during his time at Rumsey, he was: a coach; an advisor; a leader; a teacher; a husband; and, a father. He shepherded many students through adolescence,

mentored young teachers, and counseled dear friends. He was known to be the champion to the underdog and he was always willing to listen.

Rick's daughter, Ali, continued Rick's legacy as a dedicated

Our family was both moved and surprised at the beautiful dedication of Spooner Pond and Spooner House. Scott Blum, Gary Lord and their staff did a great job creating a beautiful, tranquil environment that I know my dad would have appreciated. Our new and old friends shared such kind words about my father at the dedication. We were also brought to tears with the renaming of the Foothills 1 dormitory, which I had lived in for 14 years with great dorm neighbors and a number of outstanding young students who I was privileged to watch over and witness them grow. I look forward to returning to campus and visiting the pond and Spooner House to reflect on a wonderful childhood and teaching career. Thank You Rumsey.

- Ali Spooner Linley '90



Ali Spooner Linley '90 accompanies the Jason Spooner band at Rumsey Hall's Alumni Day dinner.



teacher, devoted advisor, competitive coach, talented singer, and chief advocate for the girls on campus. As Rink Manager for the Blue Dog hockey teams, his son Stephen has a noteworthy presence on campus. Much like his father, he can speak easily with students about their favorite video games or the latest music trends.

Brooke Giese, Associate Head of School, spoke fondly of how Rick mentored her, saying, "Rick didn't always tell me what I wanted to hear, but he told me what I needed to know. I think this is why adolescents, particularly those who had encountered some struggle, were so drawn to him. Rick gave straight answers, sound advice, and frank feedback ...from a place of love."

As a school, we treasure the time we had with Rick Spooner in leadership. We hope Spooner Pond will be a peaceful place to reflect in peace and seek the wisdom that Rick blessed us with for 47 years. We are honored to rename Foothills One as Spooner House in recognition and celebration of the Spooner family's legacy at the school, and the home they created for so many children who passed through their doors.

"Rick—we will remember your legacy as we continue to make this place a home for future generations of Rumsey students. Here's to the Spooner family, whose soul is wrapped around this place and who have shared so much of their family with us."

—Brooke Giese P '23, '27, Associate Head of School



Rick Spooner greets students with a warm smile in 1990.



w·a·l·k

to experience empathy

Rumsey students cross the finish line for the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Men's March in center Litchfield.

There's an old saying that goes, "you don't know what it's like until you walk a mile in someone else's shoes". And...that's exactly what a group of Rumsey Hall students did this spring. Students tossed aside their sandals and sneakers and donned bright red pumps instead...and then walked a mile in them. Why would middle school boys take on such an adventurous and challenging undertaking? They wanted to identify with the countless number of women who have been victims of domestic violence and assault.

The Rumsey Hall Community Outreach program gives students the opportunity to participate in a variety of engaging events like this throughout the school year. As participants of Walk a Mile in Her

Shoes®: The International Men's March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault & Gender Violence, Rumsey students learned that they have an important role in remedying stereotypes. They learned to take a solid "stand" ... even though it may feel a bit wobbly to begin with!

The Walk a Mile event was organized by the Susan B. Anthony Project, a local nonprofit located in Torrington, CT. The Susan B. Anthony Project's mission is to promote safety, healing, and growth for all survivors of domestic and sexual abuse and advocate for the autonomy of women and the end of interpersonal violence.

The march began early on a sun-drenched May morning



"I felt it was very important for me to change a lot of my friends' perspectives and hopefully prevent a lot of unfair situations involving domestic abuse. After the mile, we gathered to discuss what we learned and promised each other we would never commit such an act."

—Xavier Sanchez '23

on the quaint Litchfield Green. Along with the dozen Rumsey Hall students, men from all walks of life filtered into the bustling event in the town square, eager to do their part to increase awareness of domestic violence. From there, they selected a pair of red pumps provided by the Walk a Mile volunteers in their size. Quickly, Rumsey students experienced the difficulty of walking in high heels; yet, with persistence (and a little help from wads of red tissue paper), they prevailed.

Their equilibrium mostly in check, the students strode confidently to the starting line to begin their mile-long heeled trek through town. As the starting signal rang out, that Rumsey Blue Dog spirit propelled the students onward at a clipped pace. The enthusiasm of the Rumsey

participants was evident as they—perhaps forgetting that this wasn't a race—took a measured lead amidst the crowd of marching men.

Rounding the finish line with exuberance, the Rumsey Hall students were cheered on by their classmates and the local community. After the march, the students gathered with Rumsey faculty members to discuss what they learned and how they felt as they metaphorically stepped into the shoes of someone who has experienced violence. As young people with the power to shape their lives and influence others, they vowed to never be among the statistic of men who abuse another person and promised to keep each other accountable to do the same.



A student shows off his fashion sense of red pumps and Rumsey sports socks with sweat pants (left). A group of Rumsey marchers and supporters ready for the event (right).

Mental HEALTH

“Rumsey Hall School is committed to a whole-child approach to education and believes that teaching academics and teaching an attitude of mind are of equal importance.” - Excerpt from the Rumsey Hall Mission Statement

The first sentence of Rumsey’s mission statement clearly identifies ‘attitude of mind’ as a crucial tenet for success at the school and in life as a whole. Therefore, along with our rigorous academic curriculum, we ensure the mental health of our student body is a priority.

George Webb, Rumsey’s School Counselor, is at the helm of our mental health program. He states, “Mental health is unavoidable. It’s an issue that is talked about constantly. I think it’s just part of human development and understanding— how to take care of ourselves. You’re going to face adversity and you’re going to have issues; but, how do you ask for help?”

George’s office is located in the

Health Center—easily-accessible to any student who seeks care. As a first-time boarding school counselor, George was delighted to discover he could comfortably form relationships with the students by having a steady presence in their comings and goings. “Because Rumsey is a boarding school, it’s a tight-knit community,” George explained. “There are many hands on deck...there are so many faculty here looking out for the kids.”

George hopes to schedule a meeting with each student to create a route of recollection back to his office should that student need mental health resources during their time at Rumsey. “At the very basic level, I’m teaching them the concept of brain development,” George says. “The neurological science of

creating pathways enables them to understand it’s okay to ask for help. Many times, these students have never had a counselor before: I’m the first introduction to mental health.”

As we strive to activate and expand the power of a child’s inner voice through character and community living learning programs and overall school culture, we’ll continue to champion the mental health of our students. As our counseling program roots deeper, we look forward to playing a role in teaching children to care for their mental well-being by seeking resources that can help ...whenever they need it and wherever they are located in the future.



George Webb, School Counselor.



The counseling office features a variety of hand-held objects for students to feel grounded.

BE YOUR *Best* YOU

Each year, members of the Senior Class choose a theme for the year. In 2021, they chose "Be the Best You" as the guiding phrase to unify and inspire the student body. Members of the Class of 2022 Senior Committee shared their thoughts on what the theme means to them:

"To be the best you to me means to do whatever you do to your fullest extent without regret." -Austin Tucker

To be the best you means to take what others want and need into account, but always valuing yourself the most at the end of the day. -George Sullivan

"Being the best you means being yourself, always putting in maximum effort no matter what you're doing, and living life with no regrets."

-Liam Kinsella



"Being the best you doesn't have to be big. Doing small kind things are good ways that everyone can be their best selves and help other people. Sometimes focusing on yourself can impact everyone around you also. So making sure that you feel good about yourself can make a big difference in your life and the people around you."

-Caroline Traina

"To be your true self involves becoming the best version of yourself. As simple as that may sound, authentic self-discovery necessitates courage and perseverance. You must move away from distracting, erroneous beliefs that confuse or distort your self-perception in order to approach your core self."

-Frederica Rodriguez Cisneros

"To me, being the best me means making the community better with my own skills and talents. It means affecting people around me with kindness and spreading positivity every day." -Jami Huang



Bold Earth, Bold Legacy

The Matthew C. Kraft '09
Memorial Award for
Leadership

Matt at a peak in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Matt, his friend, and his family dog, Otto, completed the 170-mile Cohos Trail, which starts in New Hampshire and finishes in Canada.

Matt Kraft '09 began his time at Rumsey in 2001 as a Primes student in the Lower School. Growing through the ranks to the Upper School, he embodied Rumsey's core values of honesty, kindness, and respect through and through. There's even a tale of a rescue operation enacted by him on campus: a classmate stung by a bee... Matt, swiftly carrying her to the Health Center. He safely delivered her to the waiting nurse, only to realize he had sustained multiple bee stings in his courageous effort to get her help.

It's no wonder that the Rumsey Blue Dog Matthew Kraft went on to become Captain Matthew Kraft, a platoon leader with the 1st Battalion/7th Marines at Twentynine Palms, part of the 1st Marine Division. During his tenure with the Marines, Matt chose the most difficult courses and additional training programs to enhance his skill set in the great outdoors. From Infantry Officer

courses through mountain leadership training at the Winter Mountain Warfare Training Center, he tested his resolve and commitment to the Corps. and the Marines under his command.

An avid outdoorsman, Matt loved to explore the beauty of nature. Any chance he could get, he accepted the challenge to push himself through ambitious hikes and wilderness experiences. So, when Matt's unit was scheduled for duty in Afghanistan, he embarked on a pre-deployment immersion in the rugged outdoors to ready himself for the tour. On February 24, 2019, he set out for a two-week backcountry ski adventure through the High Sierra Route, a difficult trek through the California mountains.

When Matt didn't appear on the date of his journey's end, a massive, 13-agency search of the High Sierra



Matt competes in a cross country meet for Rumsey Hall in 2006.

“We're honored that Leah had a chance to reach beyond her comfort zone and experience some of the challenges that wilderness hiking can throw in your path. Overcoming obstacles during a tough hike—as in life—can be daunting but can also be extremely rewarding. We look forward to future Rumsey Hall students following in Matt and Leah's footsteps.” — Greg & Roxanne Kraft P'09

Route and the Sequoia and Kings National Park was conducted. Finally, on April 11, the Marine Corps released an official statement that Matthew died on March 15 after being “overcome by severe winter storms.”

As a school that values effort and treasures the outdoors, we honor the life that Matt lived. We grieve in the tragedy of this loss of a former student and remarkable man.

Along with his family and friends, we endeavor to inspire more students to live in the example set forward by Matt; subsequently, in 2021, the Matthew C. Kraft '09 Memorial Award for Leadership was established. With gratitude for the generosity of Liz and Kelly Martin P'06, '07, '09, '11, '15 and others who knew and loved Matt, this award funds an outdoor leadership adventure for a Rumsey VIth Form student.

In its inaugural year, the award was given to Leah Rydingsword '23, a vibrant student who is also known to tackle difficult challenges in and out of the classroom. Through Bold Earth Adventures, Leah ventured into the wilds of Arizona, Utah, and Nevada with eleven other students and three skilled outdoor guides.

Leah shared why she applied for the award, stating, “I wanted to get out of my comfort zone and try something I had never done before. But, when I arrived, my first



Matt and his family dog, Milo, at Steep Rock in Washington, CT.

thought was, what did I get myself into? Everything was so new—new sensations...new people. But that thought was quickly washed away with excitement when I met everyone.”

From rock-climbing “The Visionary”, a 115-foot rock face, to hiking the narrows of Zion, to canoeing down the Black Canyon River, the trip was packed with opportunities to overcome difficulty. “The biggest challenge for me was camping, because I’ve never been before. Also, rock climbing was very hard because I was a little scared to climb,” Leah admits. “I overcame each challenge by pushing myself to do it. I told myself that ‘I would only be here once in my life’. I didn’t want to look back on the trip wishing I had done something.”

Leah describes her trip as transformative. She reflects, “I loved it so much. I was able to be in the moment and just look around at the beauty that surrounded me. I’m grateful for the gift given to me through the Matthew C. Kraft ’09 Memorial Award for Leadership. I feel appreciative for the example Matthew set—to get outside, to challenge myself.”

As for the Rumsey community, we will also continue to honor Matt’s values of striving for excellence and his love for the outdoors. And, we will continue to ask students to push themselves—to explore and lead—as we know that Matt would have done.



Leah conducts an electricity experiment at Rumsey.



The group canoes in the Black Water Canyon (left). Leah climbs a 70-foot rock face in Utah (right).

“Matt Kraft's example taught me to go outside and to experience new things like rock climbing, camping, hiking, two weeks without my bed, getting out of my comfort zone. These experiences will always be an important part of my life.”

• Leah Rydingsword '23



Leah does a handstand at the rim of the Grand Canyon.



STACIE DEGRAZIA '09

Math Teacher

What interested you in teaching math?

"I was a terrible math student when I was at Rumsey and throughout High School; however, in a calculus class in college, my teacher, Ms. Viola, changed my mindset about math. She broke down math in a way that the light bulb in my head went off. Her teaching style was friendly and genuine and her ability to captivate students is what prompted me to dive into math."

How is Rumsey the same as when you were a student here?

"The sense of community is still there...that same feeling of support. I know I can turn to anyone and they'll assist me. I see that as a teacher helping my own students—feeling

that connection with them. When I was a student here, my Mom had open heart surgery, and Rumsey helped me realize this was a family. Even coming back as faculty, things have changed, but there is that overwhelming feeling of support and warmth."

What do you do in your spare time?

"Currently, I'm an EMS volunteer—it's been the best experience. I've met so many people in the town of Washington and it feels great to give back to my community. Plus, if there was a medical emergency on campus, I can be the bridge between the ambulance and the school."

What do you coach at Rumsey?

"I coach field and ice hockey and lacrosse. I started my athletic career as a little kid here at Rumsey in fifth grade. I played on the boys ice hockey team until eighth grade because there wasn't a girls team. I went to the Head of School, Mr. Farmen, and asked if we could start a girls team. He told me that if I could find a coach and roster to go ahead. So, former teacher Georgina Duff agreed to coach and we got 12 girls to play. We fundraised for jerseys and gear and were

the first Blue Dogs girls ice hockey team! Now, we have girls going to college to play D1 ice hockey: it's unbelievable to consider how far we've come."

What prompts you to keep excelling at Rumsey?

"I keep seeking to grow in the classroom, dorm, and as a coach. Every year I look back to see what I accomplished and ways I can improve. I take pride in everything I do so I can be the best I can for the girls. As a role model, I want to live up to that."

What are you looking forward to in the future?

"I want the future to be as exciting and as fun as it is right now. I enjoy how hard my work is and look forward to the tough days at practice or in the dorm—working through emotions with the students. I love where I work, but it's a lifestyle. It's who I've been since I was ten years old."





KARIN MADDUX

IIIrd Form Teacher

Where were you before you came to Rumsey?

"I taught Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and Second Grade at an international school in Hong Kong. I moved there in 1994 while I was in the process of getting my master's degree and then went back there in 1996. When we moved back to the United States, I was looking for a teaching position that connected me to my community, so when the position teaching IIIrd Form at Rumsey came up, I was thrilled!"

What do you like about teaching at Rumsey?

"Everything. I love the kids, the campus, and the collegial atmosphere. At Rumsey, everyone has everyone's back. There's such a great energy here: everyone is welcoming, friendly, and positive."

How do you infuse Rumsey's core values of honesty, kindness, respect, and effort into teaching?

"Respect: I treat the students like people, not like children. As a result, they are given the respect they deserve and respect me as well. Kindness: we infuse kindness into our lessons every day and build on the students' preexisting knowledge. Honesty: I wear my heart on my sleeve and say it like it is. I'm a straight-shooter and the kids know where they stand with me from the first time they walk into the classroom."

What does 'Rumsey Effort' mean to you?

"We need to recognize that kids are different. Effort looks different from student to student. We recognize, celebrate, and support every child daily. If a student is

putting everything into something and not getting recognition, they'll feel frustrated and stop trying. That's why we create a steady stream of positive reinforcement and also work with parents to support their child in the best way."

What are your thoughts on Rumsey's "Outdoor Classroom"?

"Being in a big space allows your mind to grow. The more you can do outside, the bigger the world is for you. We read outside or go for walks, the Afternoon Enrichment Program utilizes the campus, and we bring in naturalists from the Pratt Center. Social interaction outside is different than it is indoors: our campus lends itself to outdoor socialization. Then, the students can go back and learn in the classroom—they're much more attentive because they can play outside first."

How have you grown since you've come to Rumsey?

"I have grown in a lot of ways. Here, I can be more collaborative—having a team teacher to talk through grade level ideas has been great and there's so much support from leadership in academic initiatives. I have a solid foundation in teaching academics, but I keep introducing new ways to keep it fresh for the students and myself. I'm always trying new things to keep it different and mix it up."

Outside of Rumsey, what do you like to do?

"I love cooking and became a crazy foodie during the pandemic. I also love gardening, walking, hiking and spending time with my kids and husband. Walking my yellow lab, Stella, is a favorite pastime as well! To recharge, I read as much as I can."



SNAPSHOTS of Culture

Breathtaking photos taken by Jami Huang '22 were selected for ASAP! Celebration of Young Photographers showcase. Huang's works of art were in the top 60 photos selected out of 300 submissions from 27 schools throughout CT.

Huang states, "I think that these photos represent my memorable experiences as a photographer because one is taken in inner Mongolia while the other is taken in Gannan. Both show lives of people who are far away from mine, and sceneries that many people won't see every day. I treasure these pictures because I was provided with the opportunity to travel to these amazing places, was able to visit the people there, and captured these moments through the lens of my camera. I hope

people can see these pictures as snapshots of the culture and nation I come from, which some might never be able to see in person."

Jami's photos transported viewers to faraway places: though Mongolia and Gannan are thousands of miles from Rumsey Hall, students and faculty were prompted to imagine what life is like amidst cultures drastically different than ours.

Jami's work was displayed at the ASAP! gallery event for viewers from the surrounding region to enjoy. Rumsey Hall students and art enthusiasts attended the event to support Jami's creative endeavors.

Construction, Photograph by Jami Huang





Isolation, Photograph by Jami Huang

“As my best me, I impact my world by making friends and being kind to everyone around me. I am the best me when I help Mrs. Kolpak tour educational consultants and answer their questions, I am the best me when I work with the rest of the Senior Committee and Mr. Perreault to arrange school events, and I am the best me when I contribute to my sports team as well as to my classroom discussions. Being the best me might seem hard, but in truth, it becomes easy when you focus on every small thing ahead of you.”

— Jami Huang '22



Jami is interviewed by the press at the ASAP! gallery event.



Wilson Xie '22, Chloe Im '23, and Lily Toby '23 attend the Scholastic Art Awards at the Hartford Art School.

SCHOLASTIC ART AWARD WINNERS



Silver Key Chloe Im '23
PAINTING: *Black Swan*



Honorable Mention
PAINTING:
Peace in Mind



Silver Key
Wilson Xie '22
MIXED MEDIA:
Amazon



Silver Key
Lily Tobey '23
MIXED MEDIA
Music of a 13-year-old girl during a global pandemic

Artists at Rumsey are given the space, resources, training, and encouragement to thrive! Congratulations to Chloe Im '23, Lily Tobey '23, and Wilson Xie '22 on their awards from The Scholastic Art and Writing competition. We celebrate these artists and the work of their dedicated teachers, Mrs. Rydingsword.

Θέατρον: Seeing the place we live in.

The Performing Arts program at Rumsey is the bridge to a new place of seeing—of deeply perceiving—ourselves and our role in the world around us.

The word theater comes from the Greek word theatron, which means “the seeing place”. Students who stretch themselves to act in front of their peers are most certainly in a unique seeing place as they take on the perspective of a different character. The audience also is transformed into an unknown seeing place as they witness and contemplate a scenario unfolding on stage. Both the actor and the spectator perceive the world we live in from outside their normal standpoint. In doing so, they have the opportunity to examine and reflect on the truth and nature of a multitude of social situations.

The Rumsey Theater Company created a magnificent occasion for seeing in their spring theater production of *After Hours*. After weeks of hard work memorizing lines, staging positions, creating a remarkable set, and choosing costumes, the Upper School students presented a memorable show to the students, faculty, staff, and parents of the school. Under the direction of Alecia Evans P’ 18, the actors shone in their abilities on stage. The students delivered their humorous lines with impeccable timing, ultimately cracking up the audience—time and time again.

The performance was more than just hilarious: the underlying message of *After Hours* also prompted the

attendees to consider what it means to choose a path “outside of the box”. In the play, Danny, a store mannequin, decides to manifest his future in a different way than what had been ordained for him. The overarching message of the pursuit of justice became clear as the mannequins worked together to fight crime. The slapstick humor of two ill-prepared crooks resulted in roars of laughter from the crowd of peers and parents. In the end, the robbers were apprehended; moreover, in a twist of fate, they faced the judgment otherwise meant for Danny. The thieves received a sentence that was Danny’s ticket to freedom: the audience was left pondering the concept of justice from a new “seeing place”.

In the coming year, the art department at Rumsey is thrilled to expand their performing arts curriculum. In addition to reinvigorated music offerings that include Boomwhackers, world percussion, drumming circles, and hand chimes, Vth Form students will participate in Acting 101 and Improvisation. In this new course, students will explore the fun and creative atmosphere of the stage using classic acting techniques and scene work. They will bring characters to life through improvisation, stage combat, vocalizations, and props. Additionally,, they will also create short musical themes with instruments and electronic music to elevate their scenes.



JONATHAN KAY '72

A talented craftsman with the warmest of personalities, Jon Kay '72 fills his days with connection to family, friends, and helping others. Throughout his life, he has maintained relationships with his classmates and continues to bless the school with his artistry.

This past spring, Jon and his delightful wife Becki returned to the Rumsey campus for Alumni Day. Jon says, "To me, it's like going back home. It's such a beautiful area. There's so many memories and everyone is so welcoming and nice. It's refreshing to go back and recharge." As this was the first time the school held the reunion since the pandemic began, the day was filled with fond recollections of Rumsey memories with fellow classmates.

Jon recalls his time at Rumsey as being a pivotal experience in his academic journey, stating, "Of all my educational experiences, Rumsey was the best. I learned the most." He shared that a teacher that impacted him greatly was

Charlie Pavék. "I'm grateful for the philosophy Mr. Pavék taught us," he continues, "that everything is beautiful and to be considerate of other people. If a line formed for an event, he would make everyone turn around so the back of the line was then the front! He had a big impact on my life."

Rumsey declamations and the public speaking students were encouraged to do during Morning Meetings also empowered Jon. He claims, "Rumsey changed me. A lot of a child's confidence is formed at that age; so, when my brother passed away, I gave the eulogy because I felt comfortable due to the public speaking I did at Rumsey."

After his time as a boarding student at Rumsey, Jon attended his local high school and then matriculated to Paul Smith's College in Hotel Management. Ultimately, Jon discovered he had the innate gift for woodworking and using his hands to create and fix intricate objects with dexterity. He found a fulfilling career path in gunsmithing, restoring and fixing rare and antique shotguns. When seeking

a career path, Jon advises, "Find whatever you're really good at, then you'll be happy with what you do."

Jon has also devoted much of his life to volunteer work in his community. As a volunteer firefighter for 14 years and president of the volunteer fire department for eight years, Jon continues to model Rumsey's core values and emphasis on leadership to those who need it in times of crisis.

This past spring, Jon learned that the Varsity Crew team at Rumsey won the Lower Boat Regatta trophy, a worn-down oar that was falling to pieces. He volunteered to use his expertise in woodworking to restore the oar trophy for the league. Jon is thrilled to give back to the school in such a meaningful way. He says, "Rumsey gave me a foundation. For instance, I learned that if you're having a hard time, do the best you can and things are eventually going to turn out okay. It's the whole effort thing: if you put in the effort and keep with it, you'll get it. It all depends on how badly you want it."



Jon is restoring the Lower Boat Regatta trophy oar for the Rumsey Varsity Crew team.

GENEVIEVE ZASADA '05

For Captain Genevieve Zasada '05, soaring through the wide open air in an F-16 is more than a job, it's a calling. As a fighter pilot for the U.S. Air Force's 121st Fighter Squadron in Washington, D.C. Air National Guard, Genevieve has proudly served the nation in both domestic and international missions since 2017. Most recently, Genevieve was deployed in Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. She states, "The time I spent serving overseas was rewarding work and it was exciting to be out there. It was meaningful to fly such an important mission."

After her tenure at Rumsey, Genevieve attended Watertown High School and matriculated to the University of Hawaii, where she earned her BBA in Finance. Shortly after graduating college, she decided to pursue her pilot's license after visiting an aviation museum. Realizing that attaining and maintaining her passion for recreational flying was costly, she began applying for scholarships and grants to achieve

her goals. She was the recipient of 23 scholarships, including the Alex Gilmer Flight Scholarship, a fund dedicated to students who aspire to be pilots. Empowered with education and the grit to keep pursuing her passion for flight, Genevieve decided to make a career out of being a pilot.

As an active member of the The Ninety-Nines, Inc.®, International Organization of Women Pilots®, Genevieve was able to tap into the collective resources of countless women pilots who trailblazed this career path. "I learned to be my best," Genevieve remarks. "But, I also learned that failing and making mistakes is an important and intricate part of getting better."

In an effort to give back to the role models in her life and the programs that helped her succeed as a pilot, Genevieve works with younger women through a mentorship program. She says, "It's important to mentor the younger generation. It's essential to make sure everyone has a stepping stone to be able to succeed."

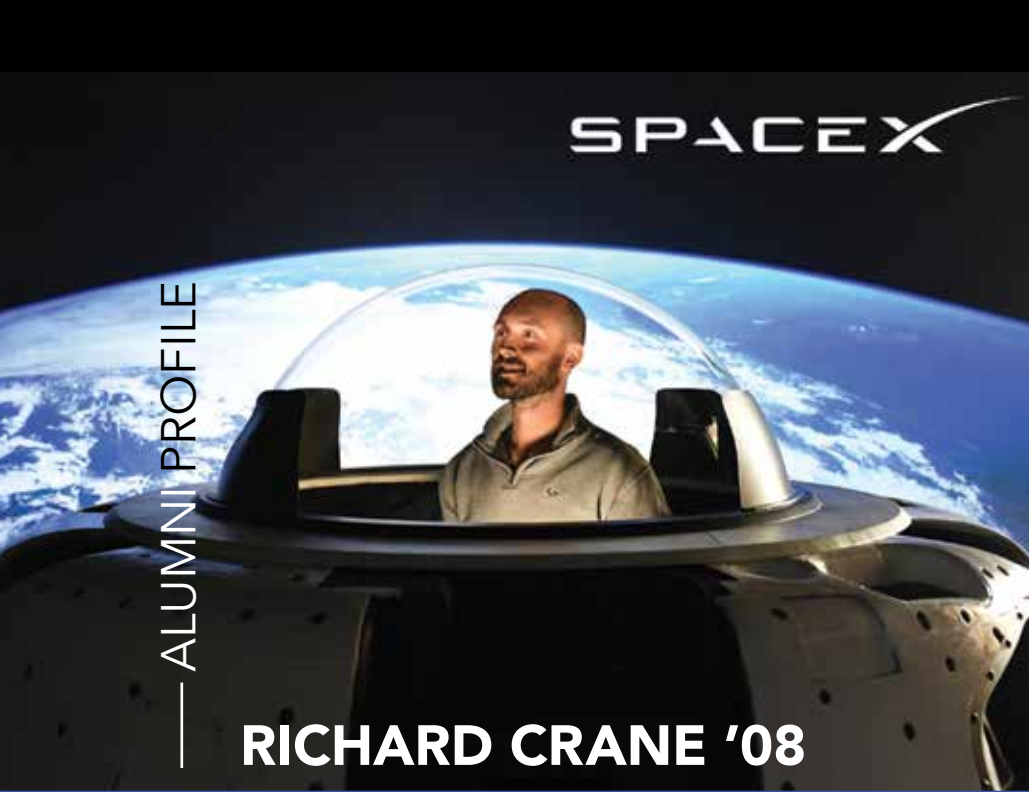
From her journey as a Rumsey Hall day student to the dauntless pilot accomplishing paramount missions in faraway lands, Genevieve has learned to take bold actions. For instance, she remembers gathering her courage to appear with her guitar at the cookie line with other members of a newly-formed punk rock band. "My friend, Lucy Phillips, and I started a punk band during our club time," Genevieve recalls. "We were also taking a History of Punk Music class, so we felt pretty confident in our punk rock skills! We all brought our guitars down to the cookie line—just so everyone could experience some punk rock in the middle of the Rumsey school day."

As a full, mission-qualified wing, Genevieve is living out her dream to fly—even in the most challenging of missions. She hopes to be promoted to flight lead, where her duties will increase to being in charge of tactical maneuvers and decisions during close-air-support and air-to-air combat. From there, she wants to be an F-16 instructor pilot.

Her work safeguarding people in her country and abroad adds significant value to the personal meaning of her profession. "Yes, it's dangerous," she admits. "But I wouldn't want to do anything else."



Genevieve performs air-to-air refueling from a KC-135 over the Middle East.



—ALUMNI PROFILE

RICHARD CRANE '08

To many, the word failure holds a negative connotation; however, for Richard Crane '08, failures have been a catalyst for exponential growth in his career path. Richard is a life support systems engineer at SpaceX for the corporation's Dragon vehicle—the only US based spacecraft that can carry passengers to and from Earth's orbit and out into the great beyond. "It's a different level of excitement," Richard explains, "when you're the one making sure people can breathe up there." Previously, Richard worked as an Integration and Test Engineer, validating the health of stage one, two, and engine thrust structures.

He began his journey at the avant garde space exploration technology company as an intern studying mechanical engineering at Drexel University. Richard admits, "If I had known what a big name SpaceX would eventually be, I probably would've been more nervous going into it. My internship there taught me how to be an engineer, what responsibility is,

and how to navigate to a resolution. That six-month internship changed the course of my life: from Rumsey, to Tabor, to Drexel, to SpaceX."

At SpaceX, the driving force to success is to test to failure, and then try again. Richard credits his time at Rumsey for first teaching him to accept failure and push forward and to seek guidance for problem resolution. He states, "At Rumsey, I learned that I can meet with adversity and not be deterred—that I could instead seek out wisdom from caring teachers. The support was always there to let you fall but still get up and learn from your mistakes. That ethos still aligns with how I work with the incredible people at SpaceX: I can put my time in, seek out subject matter experts, and solve the problem at hand."

From his years as a Blue Dog at Rumsey to uncharted territory at SpaceX, Richard believes that understanding how failures—from a small mishap as a budding (and admittedly dissonant) singer in Mr. Craft's choir to a catastrophic explosion on the

launch pad—can reveal ways to grow even more.

Richard recalled a specific project within the early Starship development campaign at SpaceX where a prototype he was working on for six months blew up on the pad: "An important part of engineering is to do something that is challenging—to cover as many bases as you can, and then test. Test, test, test. And learn from any failures along the way. You can expedite your growth by pushing yourself and going outside of where you feel comfortable. One thing that has helped SpaceX advance exponentially is that we are willing to fail. And for me, every step in my life is the same—I learn from my failures and then use that knowledge to take my next step—it makes sense."

When he's not contributing to giant leaps in humankind's charge into the final frontier, Richard can be found playing tennis (a skill he learned at Rumsey!), sailing the southern California coastline, or traveling with friends and family.



The SpaceX Falcon 9 is a reusable, two-stage rocket safe transports people into Earth's orbit and beyond.

JOY BANG '19

Joy Bang '19 has been excelling and winning awards as a student at Choate; yet, she still reflects fondly on her time at Rumsey. "Though it's been a few years since I've been at Rumsey," Joy shares, "in my heart, I still feel like a ninth grader."

It was as a ninth grader in her VIIth Form year at Rumsey that Joy discovered her love of Biology. She states, "I have to thank Mrs. Butler for sparking my interest in biology. Ever since I took her Honors Biology class at Rumsey, I've been drawn to that area."

It was that spark that ignited Joy's desire to embark on a mission to develop a novel method to safely store DNA. "The essence of the project was to store any kind of data into DNA using its sequences and to safely preserve the information stored within it," Joy explains. "One of the big drawbacks of using DNA to store information is that it can easily be denatured. I found a way to preserve the information stored in a DNA storage model using a protein that encapsulates mitochondria—allowing it to be preserved."

dria—allowing it to be preserved."

In January, the Regeneron Science Talent Search, a prestigious math and science research competition, named Joy as a semifinalist and one of the top 300 scholars in the nation for the project.

Joy was awarded \$2000 for the competition, which she donated to Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS), a non-profit agency whose mission is to help refugees and immigrants establish new lives, strengthen hope, and contribute to the vitality of Connecticut's communities. Over the last few years, Joy has volunteered regularly with refugee organizations and brought her passion for displaced people back home with her to South Korea.

After completing her EMT training this past year, Joy discovered a way she could use this training to personally help refugees in her country. "Having worked with refugees before, this experience inspired me to teach first aid to escapees," she says. "I made a video series that

teaches basic first aid and uploaded it online. I also organized seminars to teach first aid to North Korean escapees in South Korea with high risk jobs."

Joy is also an avid ice hockey goalie, an athletic endeavor she first tried as a Rumsey Blue Dog. "I remember my coach, Ms. DeGrazia, telling me to be more fierce and bold on the ice because at the Upland Tournament, I kindly asked my opponent, 'excuse me, can you please move?' She suggested that next time, I push her out of the way. From that, I learned to find my voice and be more courageous off the ice as well." Being a goalie taught Joy to step out of her comfort zone and try new things, a trait that she plans to bring with her to Stanford University next year. Joy played ice hockey throughout her time at Choate and is excited to play for Stanford during her years as a college student.

As she looks forward to her time at Stanford, Joy is holding an open mind when it comes to declaring her major. "Nothing is for sure," she admits. "I may pursue pre-med, biology, or chemistry. Or maybe get my master's in computer science. I'm excited to try as many things as I can and try different electives before declaring my major."



Joy completes an experiment at the Choate Science Center. Photo by Tiffany Xiao, The Choate News

CELEBRATE THE CLASS OF 2022



from Lower School to Graduates...

CHARTER SENIORS



Members of the Class of 2022 that began their Rumsey journey as Lower School students pose with the Kindies class.



Associate Head of School Brooke Giese and Head of School Ian Craig begin the Commencement processional.

2022 COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

The Edward B. Whitney Prize for Excellence in Declamation:
Clementina Marquez Gelleni '22

The Annual Dining Hall Prefect Award:
Regina Osorio Mijangos '22

The Prize for the Greatest Improvement in Scholarship:
Ewan Worrell '22

The Richard M. Wachcic Junior Athletic Award: **Brianna White '25 and Patrick O'Dwyer '25**

The Charlotte Underwood Library Award: **Veronica Antov '24**

The Prizes for the Best All-Around Male and Female Athletes:
Radley Grace Cherosnick '22 and Austin Willis Tucker '22

The Prize for The Boarding Scholar Having the Best Conduct Record:
Ewan Worrell '22

The Prizes for the Greatest Improvement in Athletics:
Nina von Steiger '22 and John Shepherd Loss '22

The Cody Montana '08 Memorial Paddle Out Award:
Xaviera Manzano Perez de Salazar '22

The Prize for Outstanding Scholar-Athlete: **Caroline Fair Traina '22 and Jongwon Yun '22**

The David Loyd Memorial Prize:
Yeejune Cho '22

The Marjorie Hull Barr Prize:
Oliver Antov '26

The Lawrence Larkin '16 Technology Achievement Award:
Tianhe Zhang '22

The J. Mitchell Magnoli '77 Memorial Award:
Shawn Clarke '23

The Scott Evans Seibert '92 Memorial Award:
Katherine Cashel '23

The Faculty Cup:
Yiran "Jami" Huang '22

The Memorial Award:
Liam Stephen Kinsella '22

The Duff Community Service Cup:
Ji Yee Chung '22

The Alfred L. Hart II '65 Fine Arts Prize: **Leo Nagasaki '22**

The Ryan J. Whelan '89 Memorial Award:
Gunnar Ough '23

The Award for Excellence:
Xuan (Claire) Lin '22

The John F. Schereschewsky, Jr.'47 Memorial Award:
Michael Dell'Aera '23

The Gabriella Bass '94 Arts Award:
Ning Xu '22

The Rose Algrant Memorial Award:
Elizabeth Ensign '24

The Henry B. Van Sinderen Memorial Award:
Aniyah Thomas '23

Prize for Perseverance and Worthy Endeavor:
Stanley Joseph Hayes '22

Award for Leadership:
Jack Giles '22

Award for Merit:
Akari Kamigaki '22

Head of School's Cup:
Charles Eugene Cosgriff III '22





The Rumsey Hall Class of 2022

Alvi Ahmed
 Chelsea Caroline Altamirano
 James Joseph Assard
 Camila Aymes De Oteyza
 Hezekiah Dyer Benson
 Samantha S. Brooks
 Morgan Brown
 Ana Chapula Salgado
 Radley Grace Cherosnick
 Sophia-Catrina Panchenkova-
 Chigirinskaya
 Hyunjae "Henry" Cho
 Yeejune Cho
 Juyoung "Kyle" Chun
 Ji Yee Chung
 Charles Eugene Cosgriff III
 Riccardo de Corato
 Runsheng "Daniel" Gao
 Jack Giles
 Hanna Elizabeth Gleason
 Stanley Joseph Hayes
 Yiran "Jami" Huang
 Shuqin "Veronica" Jiang
 Boden C. Johnson

Akari Kamigaki
 Victoria Alexandra Kenton
 Yujin "Evelyn" Kim
 Liam Stephen Kinsella
 Sebastian Komaritsky
 Xuan "Claire" Lin
 Guangrun "Richard" Liu
 Yutao "Jacob" Liu
 John Shepherd Loss
 Maria de Lourdes Lujan Lalieu
 Viktor Maag
 Xaviera Manzano Perez de Salazar
 Clementina Marquez Gelleni
 Isabella Marquez Gelleni
 Napatsorn Carla Mongkhonvanit
 Nicholas Edward Montenecourt
 Sofia Emily Montenecourt
 Leo Nagasaki
 Jake Richard Newman
 Regina Osorio Mijangos
 Jaidee Promphan
 Aidan Nand Puri
 Ruida "Dylan" Qiu
 Federica Rodriguez-Cisneros

Melanie Rose Rundall
 David Santos Garza
 Daniel John Shelters
 Yixuan "Fiona" Shen
 Mana Shida
 Yoohyun "Andrew" Shim
 Emilio Sobrino Gulias
 George Xavier Sullivan
 Hirosato Tokugawa
 Alexandra Sofia Torres
 Caroline Fair Traina
 Austin Willis Tucker
 Wyatt Christopher Tuff
 Nina von Steiger
 YaoWei "Nick" Wang
 Ewan Worrell
 Anfeng "Wilson" Xie
 Jiaru "Alice" Xu
 Ning "Camila" Xu
 Noah Young
 Jongwon "Brian" Yun
 Tianhe "Nick" Zhang

Permanent Class President:
 Yiran "Jami" Huang

Blue Dogs go on to excellent secondary schools.



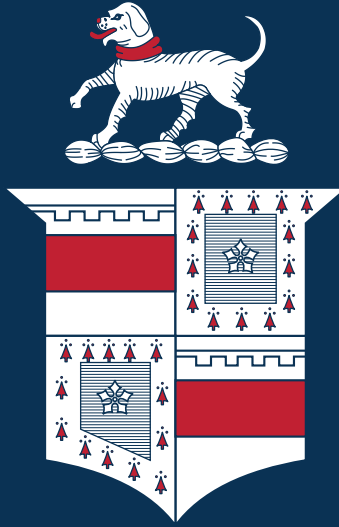
WHERE THE CLASS OF 2022 ENROLLED:

Matriculations

The American School Foundation, Mexico
Balboa Academy, Panama
Beijing City International School, China
Berkshire School, MA
Blair Academy, NJ
Brewster Academy, NH
Brooks School, MA
Burr-Burton Academy, VT
Canterbury School, CT
Choate Rosemary Hall, CT
Colegio Vista Hermosa, Mexico
Forman School, CT
The Frederick Gunn School, CT
Governor's Academy, MA
Gulliver Prep, FL
The Hill School, PA
Holderness School, NH
Hoosac School, NY
The Hotchkiss School, CT
Kent School, CT
The Lawrenceville School, NJ
Loomis Chaffee School, CT
Mercersburg Academy, PA
Millbrook School, NY
North Broward Preparatory School, FL
Peddie School, NJ

Portsmouth Abbey, RI
Proctor Academy, NH
Riviera Preparatory, FL
Salisbury School, CT
St. Mark's School, MA
St. Paul's School, NH
Suffield Academy, CT
Tabor Academy, MA
The Taft School, CT
Technologico de Monterey, Mexico
Thomas Moro School, Mexico
Washington Academy, Venezuela
Westminster School, CT
Westtown School, PA
Wilbraham & Monson, MA





CLASS

notes

CLASS OF 1945

Paul Garrigue writes: "From Rumsey, I went to Exeter and Harvard. I married in 1959 and had three children, now in Maine, Richmond, and Chappaqua, NY. My first wife died in 2001 and I married Susan, whom I had known as a teenager."

CLASS OF 1950



Ted Hodge '50 holds up his vintage Rumsey banner, which he gave back to the school as a gift during his road trip around the country.

Ted Hodge stopped by Rumsey's campus at the very end of 2021 and bumped into History Department Chair Robert Mandl P'07, '11, '15 with whom he shared stories about his time as a student on the Cornwall campus. After Rumsey, Ted went on to a school in Washington, DC, and then on to Cornell, after which he entered the United States Marine Corps. He entered a career in the "trust business" with a bank, settling in Colorado.

When he came by campus in December, he mentioned he was just touring the country and, somehow, the car steered him toward Rumsey.

CLASS OF 1955

Ginna Fishburne writes: "[Joe and I are] enjoying our retirement and starting to get out and about! Delighted to see Rumsey and students doing such amazing thing

CLASS OF 1962

Woody Mosch writes: "My son-in-law Ben Pastor is the new Director of Advancement. In the fall, all four grandchildren will be at Rumsey, and I can't tell you what a great place Rumsey is to have these four grow up. Rumsey is a school that has thrived through the pandemic. Give it all the support you can."

Doug Randall, III writes: "We merged our real estate company of three states with Compass Realty. We were ranked 130th in the country in volume sales before joining Compass... We also have four great-grandchildren, ages 4-8. And we have a winter place in Boynton Beach, Florida if anyone wants to get together."

CLASS OF 1970



Left to right: Paul Slocum, Bill Tuttle, and Madison Ford

A holiday get-together with **Paul Slocum** (left), **Bill Tuttle** (center), and **Madison Ford** (right) in Birmingham Michigan. Best to the entire Rumsey Family!

CLASS OF 1972



Jon Kay sent us this picture in July 2022: "Saw some old Rumsey pals last night... A lot of great Rumsey tales were told!" Pictured from left to right are **Jon Kay '72**, **Clay Gates '70**, and **Skip Gardella '72**.

CLASS OF 1972 (CONT.)



Ian Craig, Don Long, Rick Butler

We received a visit from **Don Long**, who was up from the Washington, DC area, in early August 2021. He shared stories of his time here and fond memories of fellow '72 classmates Dale Mitchell and Sam Secor. Director of Residential Life Rick Butler P'20, '23 gave Don a tour of the campus, including a close-up look at Lufkin Rink.

CLASS OF 1973



Photo of Scott Schereschewsky '73 submitted by Peter Rowan '73.

Peter Rowan writes: "Like many people, I spent a healthy portion of the last several months ensconced at home sorting things out and reorganizing as much as possible—or, at least, personally feasible. In doing so, I came across this great Polaroid shot I took of **Scott Schereschewsky '73** in our dorm in September of 1971. It certainly is difficult to deny the impressiveness of the pose being struck. And the fact that it is now fifty years later, a fond and reminiscent chord was struck as well.

It is without question that Rumsey was a transformational and essential cornerstone of my youth, and for that, I have continued to give thanks as I have made my way along through life's humble journey.

After a lengthy career in the field of counseling, I have recently retired from my position with the New Hampshire Department of Education and hope to spend as much time as I can up at our place in the White Mountains. Best to all!"

Clark Weber has joined the inclusive Chicago Gay Men's Chorus. The Chorus will perform in Chicago on December 3, 2021, at The Harris Theater for Music and Dance, as well as in Skokie and Beverly, Illinois on December 3rd and 4th, respectively.

Clark continues his work as an international advocate for individuals with mental health issues. He resides in the Hyde Park neighborhood in Chicago and remains a diehard fan of the Cubs and the Bears. He is in the process of teaching improvisation skills at a well-known improvisation school.

CLASS OF 1985



Bindu Padmore '85 Wotorson P'16 was on campus in early October with her husband Michael and their son Mehkai for a chat with Former Director of Admissions Ben Tuff P'22, '24.

CLASS OF 1999



Sending the warmest of congratulations to **Austin Farmer** and his wife on the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Lillian Mali Farmer, born on 2/22/22.

CLASS OF 1993



Katie Swiderski '93 Jefferson visited campus just before the school closed for Thanksgiving Break to tour the school with her daughter Freya.

CLASS OF 2000



Clayton Ketchum, **Manuel Alejandro Grullon**, **Manuel Grullon '00**, **Mario Andres Grullon**

Manuel Grullon was on campus with his sons Manuel (left) and Mario (right) for a visit with Admissions in October. In between meetings and catching up with members of Rumsey's faculty and staff, they were able to take a quick photo with Director of Secondary School Placement Clayton Ketchum P'14, '17.

CLASS OF 2000 (CONT.)

Shiva Jeyapalan received his Master's Degree in Networking Telecom Technology and Computer Science from Central Connecticut State University in December 2021. He started his new job as an Accounting Manager and Data Entry Clerk for St. John God of Health Care in April 2022.



Clai White, Clayton Ketchum, Nulty White

There was a mini Rumsey reunion at the apple orchard when Director of Secondary School Placement and Financial Aid Clayton Ketchum P'14, '17 (center) bumped into **Clai White '03** (left), **Nulty White '00** (right), and Nulty's son (seated) at Averill Farm in Washington, CT.

CLASS OF 2002

Hunter Gifford is now the in-house audio engineer for The Eastern in Atlanta, GA.

CLASS OF 2007



On August 21, 2021, **Christopher DePaola** married Sky Drazek at Candle Light Farms in New Milford, CT after the postponement of their August 2020 wedding. They met on the Hobart Crew Team. They live in Arlington, MA, and are both working in the Boston area.



Ron Medina got married in January 2022 at the 1 Hotel in South Beach surrounded by his closest friends and loved ones. He and his wife Shelby live in Fort Greene, Brooklyn, and sometimes visit the Rumsey campus. Ron, along with his company StayMarquis, is in the process of purchasing a waterfront investment property in Litchfield County that will be available for rent starting September 2022.

CLASS OF 2008



Will Murphy and Ben Tuff

Will Murphy stopped by campus to visit with faculty and staff just as the Rumsey community started the Winter Break. He was able to catch up with Upper School English teacher Doug Kolpak P'13, '15, '17; Former Director of Admissions Ben Tuff P'22, '24; and Athletic Trainer and Upper School Science teacher Mike Waller '08 and to meet new Head of School Ian Craig.

CLASS OF 2009



Trish Silvernail, Devone Pommills, Andrew Meza, Michelle Rittler

Devone Pommills and her fiancé Andrew stopped by campus on their way through town after attending a wedding in the area. They used the trip as inspiration for their own wedding, which was on August 4, 2022.

CLASS OF 2011

Tom O'Connor, the parent of **Sydney O'Connor**, writes: "Sydney was promoted to Associate at Angelo Gordon in New York City in 2021."

CLASS OF 2012



Sean Kinsella, Stuart Cheney, Chris Dyball

Stuart Cheney visited campus in September and reunited with Upper School History teacher Sean Kinsella P'22, '23, '26 and Math Department Chair Chris Dyball P'28, '27.

CLASS OF 2013

Tom O'Connor, the parent of **Gillian O'Connor**, writes: "Gillian graduated summa cum laude from Middlebury with a degree in Political Science. She now works as an analyst at M33 Growth in Boston."

CLASS OF 2014

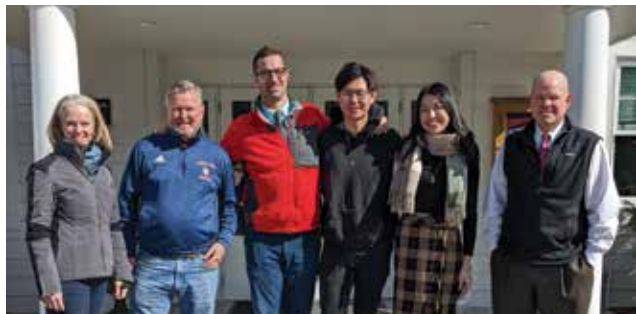


Toby Ketchum writes, "It was quite a final year of college (I think I am done with school, but you never know!) I finished off my athletic career with a 19-1 season, capturing the Centennial Conference Championship and advancing to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Division 3 tournament. I graduated from Dickinson College and moved to Boston to begin working for Rapid 7, a cyber security software company, as a Business Development Representative."

CLASS OF 2015

Mimi Dattilo touched base with Rumsey in May. She tells us she's currently a junior at the University of Connecticut majoring in Speech Language Pathology.

CLASS OF 2017



Brooke Giese, Jay Przygocki, Ben Tuff, Peter Geng, Wendy, Ian Craig



Peter Geng and Carmine Buono

We've been fortunate to catch up with so many members of the Class of 2017 this past year. **Peter Geng** and his girlfriend stopped by campus over President's Day weekend and visited with many members of Rumsey's faculty, including Associate Head of School Brooke Giese P'23, '27; Athletic Director Jay Przygocki P'00, '03; Former Director of Admissions Ben Tuff P'22, '24; and Head of School Ian Craig. Peter also bumped into Upper School Math teacher Carmine Buono P'28, '29.



Jillian Dufresne, Haruka Masamura, Jennifer Kolpak, and Yuka Masamura

Yuka Masamura and her sister **Haruka Masamura '18** visited campus in August on their way to their first year at their respective colleges. Yuka graduated from Hotchkiss this past June and is headed off to Boston University. Haruka graduated from Exeter in June and will be starting her freshman year at Brown. They are pictured here with ESL Department Chair / International Student Coordinator Jillian Dufresne and Director of Director of Enrollment Management Jennifer Kolpak P'13, '15, '17.



Clayton Ketchum, Trish Silvernail, and Colby Moran

Colby Moran visited campus in early February 2022. Here he is with Director of Secondary School Placement and Financial Aid Clayton Ketchum P'14, '17 and Assistant to Advancement Trish Silvernail, looking at his yearbook from 2017 and reliving some fond Rumsey memories.

CLASS OF 2018



Grace Yang and Clayton Ketchum

Grace Yang stopped by campus in January to visit with Director of Secondary School Placement and Financial Aid Clayton Ketchum P'14, '17.

CLASS OF 2019

Simon Aldridge, the father of **Julian Aldridge**, shared that Julian has been named one of more than 5,000 candidates in the 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. According to a press packet provided by the U.S. Presidential Scholars Office, "the candidates were selected from nearly 3.6 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2022. Inclusion in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character, and involvement in community and school activities." Julian is currently in his final year at Winchester College in the United Kingdom and is applying to universities in the United States and the U.K.

Simon goes on to write: "We often think about how brilliantly his experience at Rumsey set him up for success in high school, the many talented teachers that he had the privilege of being taught by, and the special culture and values of the school."

Thomas Mooney shared that he will be attending the University of Denver beginning in Fall 2022.

CLASS OF 2019 (CONT.)



Clayton Ketchum, Brooke Giese, Kenny Zhang '19, and Christian Anderson

Just as activity on Rumsey's campus was starting to slow down for the Thanksgiving Break, **Kenny Zhang** popped in for a visit with Director of Secondary School Placement Clayton Ketchum P'14, '17; Associate Head of School Brooke Giese P'23, '27; and Assistant Director of Residential Life Christian Anderson.

CLASS OF 2021



Junho Lee '21 and Charleigh Newman '21

Junho Lee and **Charleigh Newman** enjoyed a mini-reunion at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Connecticut, where Charleigh was playing lacrosse for Millbrook. Junho has attended all of Charleigh's games at Choate, proving that Rumsey friendships endure.



We'd love to hear from you!

Visit rumseyhall.org/classnotes to send us your class notes.



We Remember Janice Magnoli

Jan Magnoli was a treasured member of the Rumsey Hall community for nearly 40 years. She began her career at Rumsey Hall in 1965 and retired from her teaching position in the Language Skills Department in 2008.

Jan received the Rumsey Medal of Honor in 2008, a distinction reserved for people who have helped define the essence of Rumsey Hall. She and her husband, former Head of School, Louis Magnoli, raised four children, Mark '71, Jeff '72, Susan '74, and Mitch '77, at Rumsey Hall.

Their family has left an indelible mark on the culture of our school: we are grateful for the many ways Jan blessed the students, faculty, and parents of Rumsey Hall over the years.

Her impact will ripple forward for generations to come.

"Jan's legacy at Rumsey lives on through the lives of all the students with whom she worked. From Jan, students learned that effort is the key to success and developed an appreciation for their personal gifts and talents. Jan's influence extended far beyond the classroom, she cheered athletes from the sidelines, applauded performances from the audience, and shared meals at the community table, helping so many young adolescents navigate the path toward young adulthood. Jan was a pillar of the Rumsey community, supporting her students in every facet of school life."

- Brooke Giese P '23, '27, Associate Head of School

IN MEMORIAM:

Edgar Benditzky '38
Colin Doane '47
John Winslow Hincks '44
Derek Johnsen '81
Jon Korper '48
Jacqueline Kuhn '75
Guy LaBalme '44
John Lunan '68
Lincoln Nininger '72

Frank Rawlinson '64
Stephen Rinaldi '92
Eliza 'Lydee' Scudder '66
Anthony Thacher Sears '48
Jon B Utley '48
Alden Young Warner, Jr. '44
Bryan Young '64
Kirk Rowell Koenigsbauer
Jaqueline Ostrander

New at Rumsey

"Change is inevitable. Growth is optional." – John C. Maxwell

PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

Rumsey Hall is finding new ways to grow! This year, we are opening a Pre-Kindergarten program for three and four year olds. Based on a dynamic balance of curiosity and connection, students will experience the benefits of a Rumsey education from the beginning!



www.rumseyhall.org/prek

Innovation & Entrepreneurship



Makerspace Design



SIGNATURE PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS

In the Upper School, we added in the Signature Programs option for VIIth Form students. In these courses and workshops, students will have the extraordinary opportunity to take a deep dive into a specific area of study and create a capstone project.

Fine Arts Studies



Social & Community Leadership



Ring the Bell for Rumsey!

Every gift to Rumsey's Annual Fund gives our students and faculty access to the best teaching and learning resources! These opportunities, and countless others across our campus, are made possible through the generosity of Rumsey Parents and Alumni. Please consider "Ringing the Bell" for Rumsey and supporting our 2022-23 Annual fund.

For more information, please contact Michelle Rittler, Associate Director of Advancement at (860) 868-0535 or by making a gift online at rumseyhall.org/makeagift.





It's a **Wild** LIFE AT RUMSEY

You don't have to look far at Rumsey to be in awe of the wildlife in our backyard. From majestic herons to adorable fox kits, students learn firsthand the importance of caring for our planet.



At Rumsey, venturing outdoors is an important part of learning. Our sprawling 230-acre campus teems with wildlife: from river amoebas, to tadpoles, to bullfrogs ...all the way to herons and foxes. Observing the patterns, cycles, and energy of the animals in our natural habitat teaches us a lot about our own lives. When students at Rumsey spend class time outside, they have the unique opportunity to observe these breathtaking creatures firsthand.

This year, our resident red fox family—nestled in their den under a faculty member's garage—provided our community with a direct viewpoint of nature. Safely away from student foot traffic, the playful kits ventured out to explore as they matured. Through the eye of campus cameras and careful observation standpoints, students were eyewitnesses to the growth (and cuteness!) of the growing kits. We remain in close contact with our local DEP for guidance on how to live alongside these friendly creatures and continue to educate our community on how to live safely with them on campus.

These honorary Blue Dogs are teaching the Rumsey Hall community to reflect on our role as caretakers of the Earth and have prompted many discussions on how to be better stewards of our planet. In understanding how our actions can affect the natural habitat of creatures we see every day, our commitment to building a sustainable future is strengthened.

**“Creativity is the Blue Heron
within us waiting to fly;
through her imagination, all
things become possible.”**

– Nadia Janice Brown

Our resident Blue Heron soars gracefully over the pond, causing us to pause and reflect on the beauty of the natural world we share our campus with.



Rumsey wildlife photos: Ross Mortensen,
Associate Director of Marketing and Communications.



RUMSEY HALL SCHOOL
201 Romford Road
Washington, CT 06794

Parents of Alumni:

If this publication is
addressed to your child and
they no longer maintain
this address, please send
updated information to
alumni@rumseyhall.org.

Thank you!

