RUMSEY HALL SCHOOL | 2024/25 **Celebrating 125 Years of Excellence New Lower School STEM Classroom Exploring the Role of Generative Al** in Middle School Education National Parks, Lifelong Memories, and **Lessons Beyond the Classroom**





HEAD OF SCHOOL

Ian Craig P'33

ASSOCIATE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Brooke Giese P'23, '27

ON THE COVER: Mr. Ough P'23 sits with students on Balanced Rock in Marble Canyon, Arizona enjoying the view on the 2024 Grand Classroom Spring Recess trip.

TO THE RIGHT: Lillias Rumsey Sanford with her granddaughter, Helen Sanford, on the front porch of the Cornwall campus main building, c. 1910. (Collection of Cornwall Historical Society)

SUBMISSIONS & UPDATES

Alumni may contribute updated information and class notes to: Rumsey Hall School Advancement Office

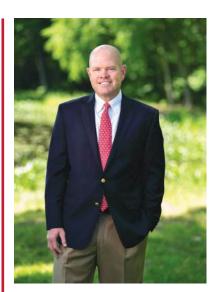
201 Romford Road Washington Depot, CT 06794 (860) 868-0535

 $alumni@rumseyhall.org \mid rumseyhall.org/classnotes$

Parents of Alumni: If this publication is addressed to your child and they no longer maintain this address, please use the above to send updated information to the Advancement Office. Thank you!

Rumsey Hall School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability in admission or employment in its programs and activities.





Dear Rumsey Community,

Welcome to a special 125th Anniversary Edition of Rarebits. This year marks an important milestone in the life of our School—125 years of excellence in education, character-building, and leadership development. As we celebrate this remarkable achievement, we take a moment to reflect on the traditions that have shaped us and look forward to the promising future that lies ahead.

At Rumsey, we have always held our traditions close. Whether it's the Blue Dog Parade, Rumsey Cookies on the School's birthday, Holiday Books and Cocoa, the Senior Dinner at Solley House, the spirit that drives our arts and athletic programs, or the lasting relationships forged in our classrooms and beyond, these traditions are woven into the fabric of the School.

Yet, as much as we value our past, we are equally focused on the future. In this rapidly changing world, we need to evolve to meet the demands of tomorrow. This is why we are thrilled to see several exciting new developments on our campus come to fruition.

Of note, we have broken ground on our new, 28-student dormitory, a space designed to foster community, collaboration, and personal growth. With age-appropriate amenities and thoughtfully crafted living environments, this dorm will offer our boarding students an additional home away from home where lifelong friendships and a sense of independence will flourish.

Complementing this is our new Bodling Academic Center, scheduled to break ground in June 2025. This state-of-the-art facility will provide students with dynamic spaces for collaborative work and innovative teaching methods. It will also provide two additional faculty residences and locker rooms for our female athletes.

But perhaps no classrooms speak more to future-thinking than our new Upper and Lower School Makerspaces. These creative environments are equipped with the latest tools and technology, from 3D printers to robotics. Here, students have the opportunity to engage in hands-on, experiential learning—applying science, technology, and engineering principles to real-world problems. These spaces will inspire a new generation of innovators and thinkers, nurturing curiosity and critical thinking in ways that are both practical and imaginative.

As we embark on this next chapter in Rumsey's history, we are filled with optimism and anticipation. Our 125th anniversary is not just a moment to honor our past but a chance to reaffirm our commitment to shaping the future. We remain steadfast in our Mission to provide an education that is both deeply rooted in tradition while being forward-looking. With every new student who walks through our doors, every new idea sparked in our classrooms, and every new innovation on our campus, Rumsey continues to thrive as a leader in education.

We invite you to join us in celebrating this significant anniversary and to look ahead to all that the future holds for Rumsey. Here's to 125 years of learning, growth, and excellence—and to many more vears of success to come.

Head of School

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Photo: "New Dorm" constructed in 1963, housed 36 boys, and stood until June 2014 when it was replaced by North and South Dorms, housing 36 boys and four additional faculty apartments.



Gregory Loss P'18, '19, '22

s announced this past summer, Ian Craig P'33 will step down as Rumsey's Head of School at the aend of the 2024–25 school year, concluding an exceptional four-year tenure. Ian's leadership has elevated our School's standing and strengthened our sense of community.

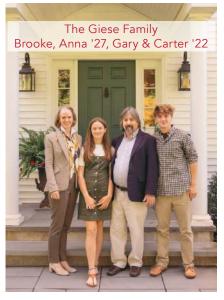
Under lan's stewardship, we have achieved record-high enrollments, launched our esteemed pre-kindergarten program, enhanced our athletic facilities, and begun a transformative dormitory project. We are immensely grateful for his contributions.

FROM THE **BOARD CHAIR**

Looking forward, we are delighted that Brooke Giese P'22, '27, a beloved member of our community for nearly 25 years and a proven leader, will step into the role of Head of School. Brooke, the Board of Trustees' unanimous choice, brings extensive academic and administrative experience, having served as Interim Head of School in 2020-21. Her deep commitment to our School's values and keen sense of team-building provide the talent and continuity needed to build on Rumsey's successes while embracing new opportunities for growth and innovation.

Over the past six months. Brooke has worked closely with the Board of Trustees and lan to ensure a smooth transition. We are confident she will lead Rumsey into an exciting new chapter with dedication. vision, and integrity.

Please join me in thanking Ian for his outstanding service and congratulating Brooke on her new role.



THE RUMSEY MEDAL OF HONOR

First awarded in 1981, The Rumsey Medal of Honor is awarded to that member of the Rumsey family who has demonstrated in their own way, great performance of service to the Rumsey community.

he 2024 Medal of Honor was proudly bestowed upon Greg Warner at a luncheon held in his honor in October 2024. Greg's seven-year tenure on the Board of Trustees, including two years as Chair, was marked by exceptional leadership and dedication. Serving on key committees, he guided Rumsey Hall through a period of transformation and led with steady commitment during the challenges of COVID-19.

Greg's decisive actions, sound budgeting, and thoughtful policies ensured the School's resilience and success through uncertainty. His leadership leaves Rumsey stronger and thriving, a testament to his vision and determination.



Gregory Warner P'17

We are deeply grateful for Greg's contributions and his lasting impact on the future of our School.

2024-2025 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Gregory Loss P'18, '19, '22

VICE CHAIR

Suzanne Blaicher P'23, '23

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Alex Murphy '00
Hyu Sang Noh P '25
Catherine O'Dwyer P'23, '25, '27
LCDR Keefe Rafferty '07
Elizabeth Schereschewsky Stout '56

WELCOME TO THE BOARD

Rumsey Hall proudly welcomed Heather Ford P'24, '27 and Hyu Sang Noh P'25 to the Board of Trustees in May 2024. Their expertise and passion for independent education will help guide the School's mission and growth. The Board plays a vital role in shaping Rumsey's future, ensuring excellence through leadership in governance, financial stewardship, and community engagement. Heather's experience in advancement and Hyu's distinguished career in finance bring invaluable perspectives to the Board.

We look forward to their leadership as we continue to build on Rumsey's legacy. Please join us in welcoming them to the Board!



Heather Ford P'24, '27

Heather brings a wealth of experience from her career in independent school advancement and her dedication to educational communities. She currently serves as the Director of Parent and

Alumni Engagement at Forman School, where she has demonstrated a deep commitment to fostering connections and supporting institutional growth.

Heather and her husband, Chris, are proud parents of two Rumsey students: Hadley '24, who is currently at Berkshire School, and Chris "Topher" '27.

A graduate of St. Lawrence University, Heather also holds a Master's degree from the University of Bridgeport. Her expertise and passion for independent education will be invaluable in guiding Rumsey's future.



Hyu Sang Noh P'25

A seasoned finance and fundraising professional, Hyu brings a wealth of expertise and a global perspective to the Rumsey community. He is the Founder of HyuTrust, a firm that advises international asset managers in raising capital

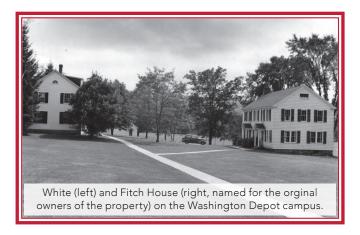
from Korean institutional investors, focusing on real estate, infrastructure, private equity, and venture capital.

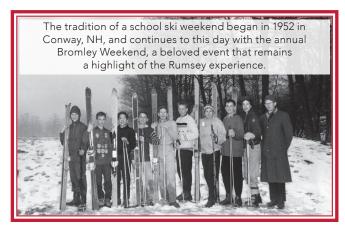
Hyu's distinguished career includes leadership roles at some of the world's premier financial institutions. He served as Director at KKR, where he oversaw real estate fundraising and syndication across the Asia-Pacific region, and as Executive Director at Goldman Sachs for 13 years, managing cross-border distribution and capital raising for private market alternatives.

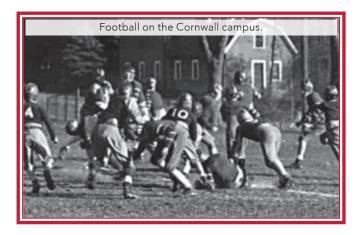
Hyu and his wife, Me Hee Ahn, are proud parents of Lyann '25. As Co-President of Rumsey's Korean Parents' Association, Hyu has demonstrated a deep commitment to the Rumsey community.

We are grateful for Hyu's leadership and vision as we look to the future.

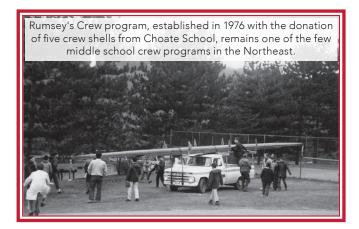
Adip into the archives...



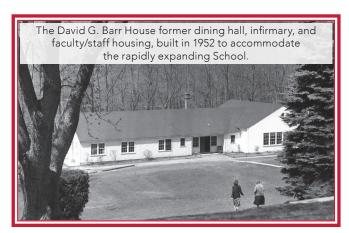


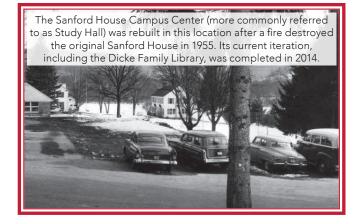








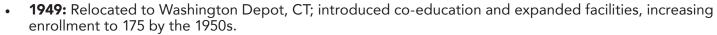




CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

A Look Back at Rumsey Hall's Rich History and Achievements

- **1900:** Founded by Mrs. Lillias Rumsey Sanford as "The Terrace: Mrs. Sanford's School for Boys" in Seneca Falls, NY; started with seven students.
- 1901-1906: Walter B. Wildman served as Headmaster; developed a structured curriculum and established the School's reputation.
- 1906: School moved to Cornwall, CT under Mrs. Sanford and new Headmaster Louis Henry Schutte P'33, '37; enrollment grew to 65 students.
- 1912: Traditions like Track and Field Day and the Declamation Prize were established.
- 1941: Leadership transitioned to John F. Schereschewsky Sr. ("Mr. Sherry") P'47, '52 '56, '64, GP'70, '71, '73, '79, '82, GGP'01,
 - '20, '23; faced challenges during WWII, with interim leadership by David Griffin Barr.



1965-1977: John F. Schereschewsky Jr. '47 ("Sherry Jr."), P'70, '71, '73, '79, '82, GP'01, '20, '23 and Louis G. Magnoli P'71, '72, '74, '77, GP'01, '02, '07 led significant growth,

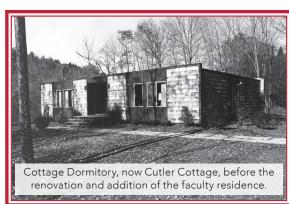
with new facilities and a focus on traditional education.

1985: Thomas W. Farmen P'97, '99 became Headmaster, introducing advancements such as computer literacy, the advisory program, and campus expansions.

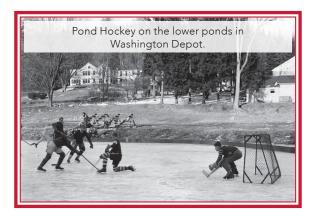
- 1995-1999: Major facility developments, including the J. Seward Johnson Sr. Fine Arts Center and significant property acquisitions.
- 2000s-Present: Continued expansion with new academic and athletic facilities; campus size doubled.
- 2016: Longtime Headmaster Tom Farmen retired; Matt Hoeniger '81, P'11, '15 became Head of School.
- 2020: Brooke Giese P'23, '27 served as Interim Head of School during COVID-19, implementing hybrid and distance learning.
- 2021: Ian Craig P'33 became Head of School; record enrollment achieved, new programs introduced, and construction projects

launched (dormitory in 2024, academic center in 2025).

Fall 2024: It was announced that **Brooke Giese** would succeed lan Craig as Head of School, beginning in July 2025.



Madame Algrant, French teacher, and Mrs. Schereschewsky, English teacher, serve tea to the students in the Main House of the Washington Depot Campus.



Rumsey Hal Cornwall, Litchfield Co., Conn. A home school for young boys in the foothills of the beautiful Berkshires. Careful preparation to enter sec-ondary schools without conditions. Particular attention to the formation of manly character and good habits. Athletics and gymnasium under careful supervision.
Unusual health record, due to pure and out-of-door life. Three hours from New ck. For catalogue and other information address LOUIS H. SCHUTTE, Headmaster

For a more complete history, visit RumseyHall.org or stop by the campus library to read The History of Rumsey Hall School, 1900-2000 written by William M. Schutte '33 & Dorothy Rochon Anderson.



WHERE INNOVATION TAKES SHAPE

Inside Rumsey Hall's New Lower School STEM Room

the heart of Rumsey Hall's Lower School, a new STEM space buzzes with activity. Now in its second year, Rumsey's Lower School STEM program is igniting more curiosity than ever, with expanded tools and hands-on projects that invite students to experiment, imagine, and build foundational problem-solving skills.

At the helm is Greg Dunbar, who has been guiding the program since its launch. Mr. Dunbar teaches students from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade, a demographic he loves for their boundless curiosity. "They haven't learned limitations

yet, which opens up so many possibilities," he explains. In his STEM classes, there are no right or wrong answers—only opportunities to explore and experiment. "When they solve a problem by building or experimenting, the ideas they come

up with are so expansive," he says, noting how these early experiences shape their approach to learning.



A Space Built for Discovery

Last year, Mr. Dunbar brought STEM learning to the Lower School by traveling from classroom to classroom with bins of materials. Seeing the potential for a dedicated space, he worked closely with Rob Brenner, Rumsey's Director of the Lower School, to turn this vision into a reality. Over the summer, a spacious new STEM room was created from part of the kindergarten classroom and is perfectly designed for young engineers and scientists. "Everything is at their height, accessible to them," Mr. Dunbar explains.

The room brims with tools and materials—from measurement instruments to robotics kits—all organized at a child's level, encouraging independence. "By the end of the year, I want

these tools to feel like part of their everyday toolbox—resources they're confident using to solve problems," Mr. Dunbar shares. "The goal is for these tools to feel as familiar as a pencil or a crayon."

Getting Comfortable Being Curious

Rumsey's STEM curriculum isn't just about gadgets; it's about instilling a way of thinking. The program emphasizes project-based learning and encourages curiosity from a young age. Recently, first graders were challenged to figure out how to make a shadow move without touching the object. Armed with flashlights, they observed, tested, and connected their findings to the movement of the sun. In another class,







third graders explored what it would feel like to touch a cloud, eventually discovering through experiments with steam that clouds are more like vapor than fluff.

"One of our main goals is to get kids comfortable with being curious," says Mr. Dunbar. With every project, students build technical skills, confidence, and resilience. "Watching a fourth grader figure out a solution after multiple attempts is incredible—they're learning that failure is part of discovery."

A Vision for Growth

Rumsey's commitment to early STEM education is rare, offering a structured approach often reserved for older students. "This is just the

beginning," Mr. Dunbar reflects. "We're seeing young students become problem-solvers, thinkers, and inventors. The hope is that they carry this mindset through their years at Rumsey and beyond."

After a recent class, Mr. Dunbar overheard a fourth-grader say, "I love STEM because it's like magic!" to which another replied, "Yeah, it's like magic, but with an explanation, so you know what's actually happening." For Mr. Dunbar, it's a perfect testament to STEM's lasting impact—equal parts wonder and understanding.













2024 AWARDS & PRIZES

Commencement Class Speaker

Levi Harper Cherosnick '24

The Annual Dining Hall **Prefect Award**

Caroline E. Stern '24

The Prize for the Greatest Improvement in Scholarship

Terry Yiming Mao '24

The Richard M. Wachcic Junior **Athletics Award**

Brooke White '28 & William Neff '27

The Prizes for the Best All-Around Male and **Female Athletes**

Elizabeth Ensign '24 & Dylan Wafle '24

The Edward B. Whitney Prize for **Excellence in Declamation**

Caroline E. Stern '24

Barnes Tyson Cup for Excellence in Conduct

Tyler Roderick '24

The Prizes for the Greatest Improvement in Athletics

Olivia Ensign '24 & Ulrich Linn '24

The Cody Montana '08 **Memorial Paddle Out Award**

Dayeon "Zoey" Lee '24

John E. Calhoun Honor Cup for Excellence in Scholarship and Athletics

Louise M. Traina '24 & Griffin Hawley '24

The David Loyd Memorial Prize Yune "Sophie" Park '24

The Mariorie Hull Barr Citizen-Ścholar Prize

Diana E. Klemm '28

The Lawrence Larkin '16 STEAM Award

Hanliang "Alan" Zhou '24

The J. Mitchell Magnoli '77 **Memorial Award**

Xiran "Daisy" Xiao '25

The Scott Evans Seibert '92 **Memorial Award**

Zachary Calore '26

The John Craft Faculty Cup Jack Murdica '24

The Memorial Award

Mingyu Lee '24

The Duff Community Service Cup Krissy Zhu '24

The Alfred L. Hart II '65 Fine Arts Cup

Mingxuan "Katie" Yin '24

The Ryan J. Whelan '89 **Memorial Award** Cooper Bunce '25

The Award for Excellence

Hadley Ford '24

The John F. Schereschewsky, Jr. '47 **Memorial Award**

Nicolas Morales '25

The Gabriella Bass '94 **Arts Award**

Justin Barfield '24

The Rose Algrant **Memorial Award**

Oliver Antov '26

The Henry B. Van Sinderen **Memorial Award**

Aaron Humphreys '25

J. H. Murch Cup for Perseverance and **Worthy Endeavor**

Glenn Gustave Jr. '24

Award for Leadership Elizabeth Ensign '24

Award for Merit Krissy Zhu '24

Lillias Rumsey Sanford Head of School Cup

Wonseok "Ben" Lee '24





The Rumsey Hall Class of 2024

Justin Daniel Barfield Ahyun "Irene" Chang Nahyun "Lina" Chang Victoria Chapula Salgado +Levi Harper Cherosnick Seunghu "Ryan" Chun Priscila Cortina Ricci **Brady Grant Curtiss** Leonidas Michael Detroyer Yunfang Dong +Olivia Wade Ensign +Elizabeth Grace Ensign Hadley McKnight Ford Glenn Gustave Jr Alexander Han +Griffin Hawley Rossana Isita Quintana Tiffany Jin +Zachary Owen Kocienda Charlotte Avery Kohler +Edward Michael Kowalchick III Dayeon "Zoey" Lee Mingyu Lee Wonseok "Ben" Lee

+Daniel Patrick Lufkin Jeronimo Manzano Perez de Salazar Terry Yiming Mao +Jack Murdica Paris Alexandros Ninios Bonham Rocket O'Marra Jacob Obenshain Yune "Sophie" Park +Adelyn Leahy Perreault Tyler Henry Racine Tyler Roderick **Brett Matthew Rubino** Henry Leo Saliba +Ulrich Gunther Santos Linn Oliver Paul Schemm Jeonghun "Jason" Shin Keith J. Shine Jun Won "Christopher" Son Caroline Elisabeth Stern **Louis Thomas** +Louise McLeod Traina **Artur Troshin** Dylan David Wafle Liam Patrick Walsh

A. Anthony Walters III A. Aaden Walters IV Jinshou "Mikey" Wang Ariel Mi Xu Mingxuan "Katie" Yin Jingqi "Amy" Zhang Hanliang "Alan" Zhou Krissy Zhu

+Charter Member—enrolled since Lower School

Permanent Class Presidents: Elizabeth Grace Ensign Wonseok "Ben" Lee

Blue Dogs embark on their next adventure at top secondary schools.



CLASS OF 2024 ACCEPTANCES & MATRICULATIONS:

Asheville School, NC Avon Old Farms, CT Berkshire School, MA Blair Academy, NJ Brewster Academy, NH

Burr and Burton Academy, VT Canterbury School, CT

Cheshire Academy, CT

Choate Rosemary Hall, CT

Cushing Academy, MA Darlington School, GA

Frederick Gunn School, CT

Governor's Academy, MA

Greens Farms Academy, CT

Hebron Academy, ME

Hotchkiss School, CT

Immaculate High School, CT Kent School, CT

Kents Hill School, ME Loomis Chaffee School, CT

Mercersburg Academy, PA
Millbrook School, NY
Milton Academy, MA
Peddie School, NJ
Phillips Academy, Andover MA
Pomfret School, CT

Proctor Academy, NH

Saint Andrew's School, FL Salisbury School, CT South Kent School, CT St. George's School, RI St. Mark's School, MA Stevenson School, CA Suffield Academy, CT Tabor Academy, MA Taft School, CT

The Hill School, PA
The Hun School of Princeton, NJ

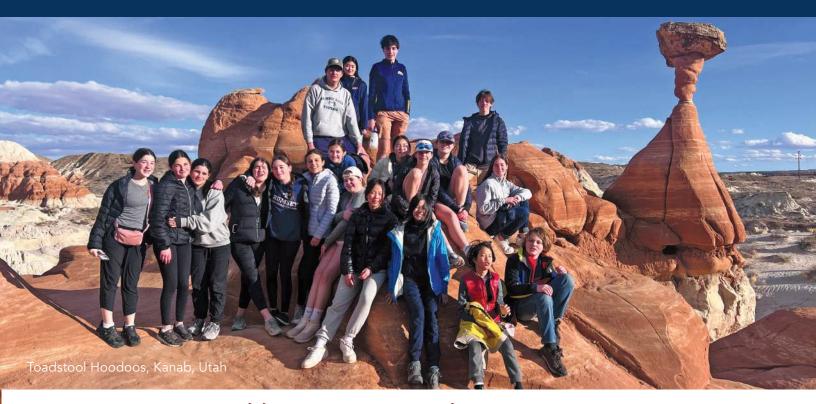
Trinity-Pawling School, NY Westminster School, CT Williston Northampton School, MA

Worcester Academy, MA

Bold—Matriculations







Rungey Hall Grand Classroom Adventure

uring Spring Recess 2024, Rumsey Hall students in Vth-VIIth Forms embarked on an unforgettable journey to the breathtaking National Parks of the western United States, organized in collaboration with Grand Classroom. The trip featured awe-inspiring hikes and stunning views at iconic locations such as the Grand Canyon and Zion National Park. Students had the opportunity to connect with nature, strengthen friendships, and create lifelong memories in some of the country's most remarkable landscapes.

Beyond the adventure, this experience also offered invaluable educational and



Mr. Ough, Ms. Quinones, and Mr. Kinsella in Zion National Park.

personal growth benefits—students gained a deeper understanding of the natural world, built confidence through challenges, and broadened their perspectives by immersing themselves in new environments. This enriching experience was led by faculty members Sean Kinsella P'22, '23, '26, Craig Ough P'23, and Ali Quinones.

Photos below from Zion National Park, Utah: On the far left, a Jeep Tour in Peekaboo Slot Canyon, and on the far right the Canyon Junction Bridge over the Virgin River.







Creating HEALTHY HABITS for Rumsey Hall STUDENT ATHLETES

by Nicole Pease P'30, '34, Athletic Trainer

Rumsey Hall, being an athlete is more than just competing—it's about learning to balance academics, extracurricular activities, and social life while fostering habits that promote lifelong well-being. To thrive in this dynamic environment, our students focus on rest and recovery, maintaining a nutritious diet, and managing their various responsibilities effectively. These practices not only contribute to individual success but also to the strength of our teams and community.

One often-overlooked pillar of student life is the importance of proper rest and recovery. With early mornings, rigorous academics, and extracurricular commitments, it's easy for students to fall short on sleep. At Rumsey Hall, we prioritize teaching students the value of rest, which is fundamental for cognitive function, emotional well-being, and overall health. The American Academy of Sleep Medicine recommends 9-12 hours of sleep per night for children ages 6-12 and 8-10 hours for teens aged 13-18. Consistent sleep patterns support memory, mood regulation, and physical recovery. To help foster good sleep habits, we've introduced initiatives through our cell phone policy, which includes a "tech closet"—a dedicated space where students can store their phones during the day and overnight. By stepping away from screens, students can truly rest and recharge, both mentally and physically.

Balancing activities is another critical component of a healthy lifestyle. At Rumsey, we encourage students to explore diverse interests—from academics to athletics and beyond—but we also emphasize the importance of balance. Overcommitting can lead to stress and burnout. Our faculty and advisors work closely with students to teach effective time management skills, helping them prioritize tasks, set realistic goals, and find time to recharge. Students learn to advocate for themselves, say "no" when necessary, and seek support when they need it.

To thrive in this dynamic environment, our students must focus on rest and recovery, maintain a nutritious diet, and manage their various responsibilities effectively.

Nutrition is equally vital to the well-being and performance of

our students. Rumsey Hall partners with CulinArt, our dining services provider, to offer nutritious, thoughtfully curated menus that fuel both body and mind. From colorful, balanced meals to engaging "pop-up" events and "try it" opportunities, students are encouraged to explore and enjoy a variety of healthy foods. Whether tasting a new vegetable or enjoying a farm-to-table option, Rumsey students learn that good nutrition is

both accessible and enjoyable.

By prioritizing sleep, maintaining balance, and embracing healthy eating, Rumsey Hall students are set up to thrive in all aspects of their lives. These habits enhance academic performance, bolster athletic achievement, and enrich the overall school experience, leaving our students energized and fulfilled.

For All Rumsey Hall Families, Students, and Alumni

While these principles are particularly important for our student athletes, they benefit everyone in our community. Whether you're a parent, grandparent, alum, faculty, or staff member, embracing healthy habits can transform your daily life. Prioritize rest, find balance, and fuel your body with nutritious foods. Together, as a Rumsey family, let's commit to a lifestyle that supports long-term health, happiness, and success.





BLUE DOG ATHLETICS

We Believe in EFFORT, COURAGE, and nurturing the DRIVE FOR SUCCESS.



















ATHLETICS SPOTLIGHT:

Blue Dog Bikes Hit the (New!) Trail

At Rumsey Hall, mountain biking isn't just an activity; it gives students a chance to explore the outdoors, develop lifelong skills, and enjoy a unique athletic experience. This year, the Blue Dog Bikes debuted Rumsey's very own mountain biking trail—a newly developed course that stretches nearly three miles, located on the former Bronson Farm property acquired in April 2018.



By next season, Rumsey will host its first races as part of the Housatonic Mountain Biking League. Blending fun, fitness, and competition, mountain biking embodies Rumsey's adventurous spirit, offering students a chance to try something new, challenge themselves, and simply enjoy the ride.

R-U-M-S-E-Y, R-U-M-S-E-Y, R-U-M-S-E-Y RUMSEY! RUMSEY! RUMSEY!



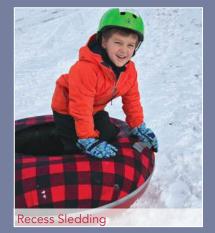
Art & Fun AROUND CAMPUS



ASAP! Orchestra Performance

















Upper School Concert Performance



Lower School Spring 2024 Musical



Washington Fire Department



















































JPPER |







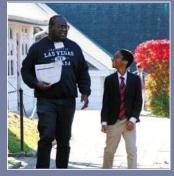




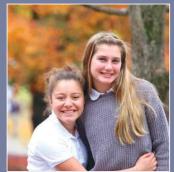


























Brooke Faison, Library Media Specialist earned a BA in Psychology Based Human Relations and a MA in International & Intercultural Service. She began her library work as a library clerk for Washington Primary School and then moved into the role of Library Clerk/Education Technology Specialist. Since 2022 she has been the Education Technology Specialist for Booth Free School and the Burnham School.



Jeff Gaudet, Director of **Technology** comes to us from Vermont Academy where he was the Director of Technology, and also served as Varsity Lacrosse Coach. Prior to VA. Jeff was the Director of Technology at the Montessori School of Denver. He has a BS from Franklin Pierce University.

Welcome **NEW FACULTY** STAFF 2024-25



Emily Gribbin, Upper School English is a Taft graduate who earned her BA and MA from the University of Connecticut in English and Curriculum and Instruction. Prior to Rumsey, she taught English to high school juniors at Bristol Eastern High School and 6th grade English in the Taft Summer Program. She has been a volunteer in Peru and Guyana where she worked with low-income students. Her coaching responsibilities include Varsity B Field Hockey and Boys Varsity Basketball.



Luke Hilliard, Upper School Math graduated from Gettysburg College with a degree in Mathematical Economics. He served as a Student Assistant for the Men's Basketball team, helping them reach Centennial Conference semifinals in back-to-back seasons. Prior to Rumsey, Luke worked at Millbrook School where he helped lead the Boys Varsity Basketball team to NEPSAC Finals in Class B for the first time in school history. Luke teaches math and coaches the Boys Varsity Basketball team and Recreational Tennis.



Julia Holton, Upper School Latin earned her MSc in Classical Art and Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh and BA from Kenyon College. An independent school graduate of the Rivers School, she was most recently a 6th-8th grade Assistant Latin Teacher at Rivers where she also coached basketball and softball. At Rumsey, her coaching responsibilities include Cross Country and Recreational Tennis.



Guy Kennedy, Upper School English grew up on a boarding school campus where his father worked. He received his BA in English from Manhattan College where he was also a member of four different honor societies. An aspiring writer, he served as a Special **Education Paraprofessional** at Barnstable High School and recently volunteered in Beersheva, Israel. His coaching responsibilities include Boys Varsity Soccer and Recreational Skiing.



Julie Lombardi P'16, '18, '21, 4th Grade Assistant Teacher is a Groton School graduate with a BS from the University of New Hampshire. She has a long-time connection with Rumsey and has been a Head Teacher at the Kent School Early Learning Center since 2011. Previously, she was Director of Weekend Activities at Forman School. She has coached girls lacrosse, basketball, and ice hockey.



Chad McGinnis, Database Manager/IT Support has been a Systems Manager/ Development Manager for Keuria Dr. Pepper for the past seven years after serving Unilever as a Sr. Business Systems Manager. He has certifications in Microsoft Platforms, Product Management, UX Design, and Artificial Intelligence. He holds an MBA from Fairfield University and a BS from the University of Connecticut.



Christina McKeon P'28, Learning Skills is a Friends Academy graduate with a BA from Hobart and William Smith Colleges and an MA in Teaching and Learning from National University. She has taught 6th Grade English, History, and Creative Writing at various schools, including Chase Collegiate, and is the author of a children's book. A stand-out high school athlete, she now coaches girls lacrosse.



Olivia Tarman, Upper School French, graduated from the Cook Honors College at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Most recently, she taught at the Académie Nancy-Metz in France and has also worked with Duolingo as an independent contractor, translating course content in English, Arabic, and French, and developing a CEFRaligned curriculum. Previously, she was an immigration paralegal with Klasko Immigration Law Partners in Philadelphia. At Rumsey, she teaches French and coaches recreational tennis.



AnnMarie Sarbello, Library Assistant earned a BA in Communications and a MS in Elementary Education. She has most recently been an Independent Literacy Coach while working as a Library Clerk for the Region 12 School District. Prior to that she served as an elementary education teacher since 2001.



Sarah Sullivan, Lower School Art Teacher was an asset to Rumsey this past year as she supported the Lower School performances and our technical theater program. She has served as a middle and high school theater and visual arts teacher at Westtown School, and has been involved in Technical Theater and Theater teaching at North Broward Preparatory School, Groton, and Buckingham, Browne & Nichols. She received a BA from Smith College and an MFA from University of California, Irvine.



Rachel Szala, Director of Marketing and Communications, earned a Dual BA from Ohio State University and an MPA from NYU. With over 15 years of experience in marketing communications and brand strategy, Rachel has served as Director of External Affairs at NYU Wagner and most recently as Associate Dean of Communications & External Relations at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.



Jessie Weinberg P'26, Learning Skills is a Reading and Literacy Specialist with over 25 years of experience, most recently as an Independent Reading and Literacy Specialist and a Literacy Consultant in New York City. Prior to that, she was a Reading Specialist at the Town School after teaching second and fourth grades. She earned her BA Magna Cum Laude from Carleton College, and her MS Ed in Reading and Literacy from the Bank Street College of Education.

A Q&A WITH PETER GREEN

Can you tell us about your journey and what led you to become a teacher? What inspired you to pursue this career?

I grew up in New England boarding schools, with my father serving as the Head of Rectory School for 17 years. I began my career at The Fessenden School, a junior boarding school outside Boston, so coming to Rumsey feels like a full circle after years in various day schools. My parents, lifelong educators, profoundly inspired me. Their careers in New England boarding schools, along with childhood experiences like dinner table discussions, campus walks, and overheard phone calls with parents, shaped my values. Teaching was more than a job for them, and I share that perspective. Although I've held administrative leadership roles, I've always led with the spirit of a boarding school teacher.

How long have you been teaching at Rumsey Hall, and what drew you to this school specifically?

I'm beginning my fourth year at Rumsey Hall. I came to Rumsey in 2021 from New York City, so one of the things that drew me here was the natural environment surrounding the School, however, it was also a great opportunity to return to junior boarding school work. Boarding schools, and especially junior boarding schools, allow teachers like me to have a more expansive impact on the lives of students. We spend so much time with the students here at Rumsey, and this creates the potential for genuinely meaningful and lasting relationships. I find it much easier to teach character and values because I live where I teach.

What subjects/grades do you teach, and what do you enjoy most about teaching them?

I teach U.S. history to 7th and 8th-grade students, as well as ESL history to international students who are just learning English. Teaching middle school is particularly rewarding because students are beginning to tap into their abstract thinking skills. They start seeing the bigger picture and learning how to synthesize information. It's exciting to watch them quickly develop the ability to follow and engage with a historical narrative.

How would you describe your teaching philosophy? How has it evolved over the years?

My teaching philosophy has evolved significantly. Early on, I focused on delivering content, but now my approach centers on helping students scaffold knowledge and develop higher-level thinking skills. I'm less at the center as an instructor and more attuned to where students are in their learning journey. Today, I create classroom environments where students think critically and independently, working across disciplines to synthesize information and create cohesive historical narratives. My

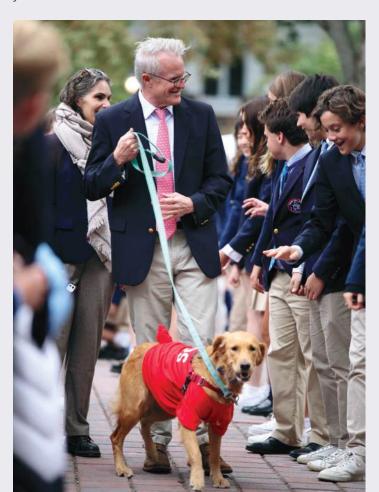
goal is to equip them with the intellectual agility they need to navigate an ever-changing landscape.

Which sports do you coach, and what do you enjoy most about coaching student athletes?

I coach soccer, hockey, and lacrosse. What I appreciate most about coaching is the opportunity it provides to teach teamwork. The idea of setting goals and working together to achieve them is crucial to learn early on. While not every competitive team fosters this, many do, and it's incredibly valuable when they do.

What do you enjoy doing outside of teaching? How do your hobbies or interests influence your work?

I exercise and take hikes with our dog, Maddie. The area is great for hiking and jogging, so I try to take advantage of that. I also try to read a lot in my spare time, particularly history. I enjoy reading about history and also about teaching because I'm always striving to learn more and improve as an educator. At this point in my career, it would be easy to start coasting, but I consciously avoid that by continuing my education, both formally and informally. Teaching requires flexibility and a willingness to adapt, so I push myself to stay open to change and step out of any comfort zones I've developed over the years.





PETER GREEN P'26, '28

Upper School History
Boys' B Soccer Coach
Boys' B Hockey Coach
Boys' Varsity Lacrosse Coach
Cutler Cottage Dorm Head



FROM CARPENTRY TO COMMUNITY:

Jeff Traver on His Journey at Rumsey Hall

hen you first meet Jeff Traver, it's easy to see the affable, easy-going personality that makes him a beloved figure at Rumsey. But spend a little more time with him, and you'll uncover the depth of his connection to both the students and the School itself. Jeff, now in his sixth year at Rumsey Hall, has made an indelible mark on campus life—not only through his role as a Project Manager on the Facilities and Maintenance Team but also as an influential figure in the lives of students who pass through his woodworking classes.

Jeff's journey to Rumsey Hall began, perhaps serendipitously, when he bumped into an old friend, Scott, on the streets of their hometown, Watertown. "We'd gone to high school together, even grammar school," Jeff recalls. "Scott was looking for help. I was working as a self-employed carpenter at the time, but it seemed like the right moment for a change." Six years later, that chance encounter brought him to a new chapter in his career, one that's proven to be especially fulfilling.

A Lifelong Carpenter with a New Mission

Jeff's roots in carpentry run deep, dating back to 1988 when he first entered the field. "I started from the ground up, like many do," he says, "and it's been a part of my life ever since." His skills were quickly put to use when Gary Lord, the woodworking teacher at Rumsey, asked for his help with the growing program.

The woodworking classes offer students a hands-on introduction to the craft. "For the younger kids, we don't let them use the power tools," Jeff notes, "but they're comfortable with hand saws, screw guns, that sort of thing." As students move to the Upper School, they get the opportunity to use more advanced equipment, including power tools, which opens up even more creative possibilities. "The projects are always driven by the students' creativity," Jeff says. "We throw it out there the first day—'What do you want to build?' And they run with it. You'd be surprised at what these kids come up with."

One memorable project involved a boy who built a small workbench, only for his mother to discover that it wouldn't fit in her car. "She thought she was just going to carry it out, but it was a legit workbench," Jeff says, chuckling. Another student designed a car big enough to sit in, complete with a windshield and stickers for headlights. A girl from the Upper School built a small wooden couch, which now sits in her family's mudroom.

Building More than Just Projects

The woodworking classes are about much more than just creating objects—they're about creating connections. "You get to know the kids on a personal level," Jeff says. "You see who they are, who their friends are, and sometimes class even turns into a little competition." He recounts a recent moment when a girl in the Upper School woodworking class outpaced a boy screwing pieces of wood together. "She did it twice as fast!" Jeff laughs, emphasizing the good-natured spirit of the class.

The Upper School students work on more advanced projects—sometimes even creating items for the School's Auction—and things that can actually be used by the School. "One year, a group of students rebuilt the gazebo by the river," Jeff recalls. "They took such pride in it, and you can see the difference. When they take ownership, it becomes a part of them."

A Personal Connection with Students

While Jeff's craftsmanship shines in the workshop, it's his ability to connect with students that has truly made him a standout member of the community. "One of my favorite parts of the day is doing morning traffic," he says. "I get to greet all the kids and hear about their sports. It helps me get to know them better."

His connection to the School's athletic programs runs deep, especially considering his own background in sports. "I coached soccer for years, and my wife and I met playing competitive volleyball, so I love following what the kids are doing." Jeff recounts the story of a sweet, quiet girl who invited him to her hockey game. "I didn't expect her to be so aggressive on the ice. It was a whole different side of her, and it was amazing to see."

A Life Rooted in Community

For Jeff, his time at Rumsey Hall is not just about the work, but about the relationships he's built. Whether it's a student in woodworking, a teacher needing a custom-built desk, or a parent marveling at their child's creation, Jeff has woven himself into the fabric of the School.

"I get to walk into faculty homes on campus, fix things, and get to know their pets," he laughs. "It's more personal than just a job." And as for the students, Jeff's impact goes beyond the classroom. "When they see something they built, like a picnic table or a cornhole set with the Rumsey crest, it means something to them."



CREATING A HOME AWAY FROM HOME:

Jillian Dufresne's Impact as Rumsey Hall's International Student Coordinator

Rumsey Hall's International Student
Coordinator, Jillian Dufresne has built a
role that reaches far beyond conventional
expectations. She has become the heart of Rumsey's
efforts to support and connect with its international
students and their families, ensuring each student feels
valued and at home.

Ms. Dufresne's connection with Rumsey's international community began even before she formally assumed this role. With experience living abroad and a love for languages and cultures honed in Mexico and the Dominican Republic, she felt an immediate affinity for Rumsey's diverse student body. When COVID-19 disrupted traditional routines, the school saw an urgent need for a dedicated role to help international students adapt and thrive. Ms. Dufresne stepped forward, transforming how Rumsey welcomes and integrates students from around the world.

Her role is hands-on and deeply personal. Each summer, Ms. Dufresne and Jennifer Kolpak, Rumsey's Director of Enrollment Management, meet virtually with every new international student and their family, going beyond basic

When I visit, the families go out of their way to show me their world. It's an amazing way to understand our students more deeply, and it is a privilege to represent Rumsey abroad."

language assessments to truly understand each child's personality, interests, and needs. This careful preparation ensures each student is welcomed by familiar faces, matched with a supportive roommate, and paired with an Advisor who can ease their transition to life at Rumsey.

Throughout the year, Ms. Dufresne organizes events that bring the School community closer to the traditions and celebrations of Rumsey's international families. Recent events have included the Grito, honoring Mexican Independence Day, and a Mid-Autumn Festival celebration with tea, mooncakes, and traditional Korean food provided by Rumsey's Chinese and Korean parents. "The parents are incredible," Ms. Dufresne shares. "They care deeply about building community and helping students understand each other's cultures. It's one of the most rewarding aspects of my role."

Beyond these celebrations, Ms. Dufresne regularly travels to students' home countries, building strong relationships with families and experiencing firsthand the places her students come from. "When I visit, the families go out of their way to show me their world. It's an amazing way to understand our students more deeply, and it is a privilege to represent Rumsey abroad."

One of Ms. Dufresne's most memorable experiences with students was on her birthday last year when she was on weekend duty. A group of students from Mexico approached her with an impassioned request—they had just discovered that a beloved South American band was performing in New York City, a rare opportunity they couldn't bear to miss. The concert was at Madison Square Garden, and they pleaded with her to take them, explaining, "They never come around; we'll never get this chance again!"

With Rumsey's support, Ms. Dufresne arranged for the trip, and soon enough, she and the girls were headed to Times Square for a pre-concert dinner at a Mexican restaurant, bringing a taste of home to the students. During the concert, one of the girls' fathers called, urging them to go to a specific entrance where they would get the chance to meet the band backstage. "Seeing the girls' faces light up as they got closer to their idols, speaking in Spanish and savoring every moment, was priceless," Ms. Dufresne recalls.

For Ms. Dufresne, the evening exemplified the joy of creating these "small, fun moments" that allow students to feel connected to their culture and themselves, even while far from home. In her view, her role is about more than coordination; it's about fostering connection, compassion, and ensuring that every student feels a sense of belonging—no matter how far they've traveled to get here.





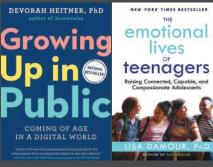
JILLIAN DUFRESNE

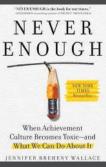
ESL Department Chair
Assistant Director of Residential Life
Upper School Spanish
Hilltop Dorm Head
Varsity Volleyball Coach
Yearbook Club Advisor



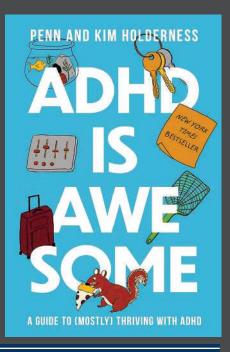


FACULTY BOK CLUB









his summer, our Faculty engaged with insightful works addressing the intersection of technology and mental health, the nuances of achievement culture, and strategies for fostering depolarization. During opening of School Faculty meetings, they convened in groups to discuss these selections, and the insights gained are actively informing our teaching practices in the current academic year. As lifelong learners, our Faculty relish these discussions, embracing opportunities to broaden their perspectives and enhance their educational approaches.







LEARNING TO DEPOLARIZE

Helping Students and Teachers Reach Across Lines of Disagreement

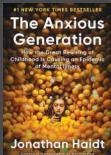


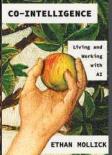
KENT LENCI

Honestly
Honestly

with Bari Weiss

PODCAST









South S





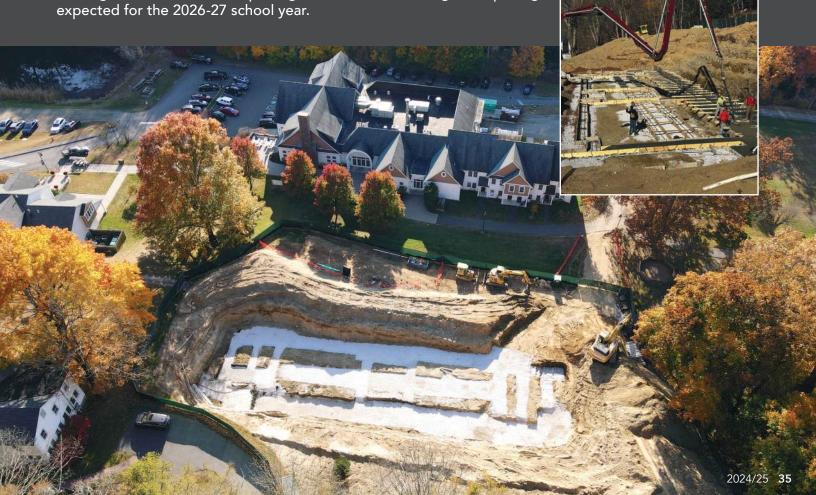




Christian Anderson, Associate Director of Advancement, checks on the dorm's progress at the factory; meanwhile, on campus, the foundation for the new dormitory is being poured.

Building Futures ONE BRICK AT A TIME

Construction of the new dormitory is progressing smoothly, with a grand opening set for Fall 2025! Anticipation is growing as the highly awaited new quad takes shape. In June 2025, construction will begin on the Bodling Academic Center, replacing Fitch House, with its grand opening





CHARLES FREDERICK PORTER II '94

Resilience, Accountability, and a Lifelong Journey to Inspire Others

Charles Frederick Porter II '94 has worn many hats since his days at Rumsey Hall: actor, writer, father, and even celebrity life coach. For Porter, the journey has been about so much more than career titles. His life has been marked by resilience, both on and off the field, and a deep-rooted commitment to accountability—a core value he now helps others build as an "Accountability Coach."

A natural athlete, Porter's early Rumsey days were filled with sports memories that he still cherishes. He vividly recalls one game against The Frederick Gunn School when he hit a home run that splashed into the river beyond the baseball field. "We were getting stomped at first, but then we just started hitting bombs," he recalls

with a laugh. "I think I batted .500 that season. Rumsey was about those moments of triumph, the big swings that stick with you."

This passion for sports carried him to Duke University, where he played football while pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Cultural Anthropology. His time at Duke prepared him for

the next leap: moving to Los Angeles to chase a career in acting. Over the years, Porter appeared in films and network television series, eventually gaining acclaim in roles on Without a Trace and in feature films abroad.

Charles path took a sudden turn in 2010, when he was diagnosed with stage four lymphoma. It was a moment that shifted his world entirely. Facing grueling treatments, he tapped into a strength he describes as "brainwashed for greatness" — a commitment to fortifying his mind and spirit against the toughest challenges. After years of relapses, intense therapies, and even a successful bone marrow transplant in 2023, Charles fought back. Today, he's cancer-free and full of gratitude for every day he's given.

During his recovery, Porter found solace in writing, publishing three books of poetry, inspired in part by an English teacher he remembers fondly from Rumsey. "Mrs. Ryan saw something in my writing back then and encouraged it. That stayed with me, and writing became a powerful outlet."

Porter's passion for storytelling also found a powerful outlet in film, with Finding Faith marking his latest project, set to premiere in 2025. The psychological drama stars Paula Patton and Loretta Devine and tells the story of Faith Mitchell (Patton), a mother navigating family struggles, financial hardships, and personal grief—a

narrative of resilience that Porter knows well.

That theme, resilience, underpins his work as an accountability coach today, where he channels his own life lessons to help clients of all ages, including young children of actors and athletes in

Coaching goes beyond sports. I teach these kids

to face adversity without letting

it derail them. That's something

I learned at Rumsey, and it's at

the heart of what I do now."



Malibu, build mental strength. "Coaching goes beyond sports. I teach these kids to face adversity without letting it derail them. That's something I learned at Rumsey, and

it's at the heart of what I do now."

Porter's advice for current Rumsey students is simple but profound: "Surround yourself with those who push you to imagine and then support you in getting there. Rumsey did that for me. It was a place where I started to stretch my mind, making friends from all over

the world. You'll learn more than just facts; you'll learn to dream bigger."

To stay connected or learn more about Porter's work, you can find him at charlesfporter.com and follow him on Instagram at @brainwashedforgreatness.



REFLECTIONS ON GROWTH:

Alumni Share the Impact of Rumsey's 9th Grade Year



NICHOLAS M. CORNELL '08

I remember the first Morning Meeting of my 9th grade year, held bright and early in the study hall. As with any new school year, the room was filled with excitement, a hint of nervousness and many brand new LL Bean backpacks and pencil cases. At the end of this first Morning Meeting, all under-form students remained seated, and the ninth graders exited first onto School Street.

While the walk from my advisor group to the back of the study hall was just a few milliseconds in time, I remember those steps being filled with a unique sense of pride that the 9th grade class led the charge of the student body and set a tone for the year ahead. This experience was symbolic of my 9th grade year as Rumsey encouraged leadership skills and consistently reinforced the responsibility that comes with being a role model.

After a year full of these opportunities, I look back and know how prepared I was to take on the educational journey that was ahead. This journey was complimented with a strong sense of confidence and honed leadership traits; something I know I gained by spending my 9th grade year at Rumsey.



YIRAN (JAMI) HUANG '22

It's very hard to explain to those who've never been a Senior at Rumsey what the experience was truly like. Now, as a Senior at a rigorous secondary school, balancing roles like Head Tour Guide, Club Head, and Captain of a varsity sport, I can confidently say that my 9th grade year at Rumsey was the foundation that prepared me for it all. At a young age, in such a supportive environment, this experience colors your perspective, shaping your independence and leadership.

The 9th grade year at Rumsey is a gift. One of my most vivid memories is walking across the stage to receive my diploma as Permanent Class President at Commencement, and seeing the entire crowd, led by my classmates, rise to their feet in applause. My pride in being a Blue Dog, and in having met such influential peers and teachers at a young age, reached its peak in that moment. I told myself that Rumsey would always be home, and three years later, I still hold the same conviction.



CHRIS LIU '21

After attending online school for almost a year since the spring of 2020, I was eager to go back to the Rumsey campus for the spring term of my Senior year, back to the community I loved. I cherished each day at Rumsey, each walk from Hilltop to Farmen Dining Hall, each Senior barbecue, each crew practice, each common room talk with Ms. Dufresne, and each meeting with my advisor Mrs. Mandl.

My Senior year at Rumsey taught me the value and the gift of community: it makes our lives better and more meaningful even during difficult times. I am very grateful for Rumsey for all the memories, lessons, and life-long friendships. My experience there has impacted me in so many positive ways.

A Look Back...

Excerpt from *The History of Rumsey Hall School*, 1900-2000 written by William M. Schutte '33 & Dorothy Rochon Anderson on the ninth grade year:

"The Ninth Grade: Since its founding in 1900, Rumsey Hall had always been an elementary school ending with the eighth grade (Sixth Form). When Mr. Sherry, Jr. joined the School in the fall of 1965, he encouraged the formation of a ninth grade (it had first come up at a Board meeting in July of 1961) and so the Seventh Form (so named because no one wanted to re-name all the lower Forms and thus confuse 65 years of nomenclature) was officially inaugurated for the 1966-67 school year. The advantages were, and are, many."



CHAMONIX HUNTER McADAM '15

I chose to stay at Rumsey Hall for my 9th grade year because I wanted to build on the strong foundation I had established in earlier grades. The supportive environment and close-knit community made it an easy decision. Staying allowed me to deepen my friendships and take advantage of the School's academic and extracurricular offerings, which really enhanced my personal and educational growth.

My 9th grade year was crucial in preparing me for high school. The academic programs challenged me, and the small class sizes meant I received personalized attention from teachers if I ever needed extra help. Additionally, I was able to carry the relationships I formed to my next school, Canterbury School, where many of my Rumsey classmates also attended. Rumsey encouraged my confidence in academics, while it also nurtured my friendships that made transitioning to high school smoother.

I would encourage 8th graders to take the leap and stay for 9th grade! It's a unique opportunity to solidify friendships and dive deeper into subjects you love. Embrace all the extracurricular activities available—whether it's sports, arts, or clubs—because those experiences enrich your time at School. The community support you receive during this year is invaluable.











Auction & Celebration

he 2024 Rumsey Hall School Auction & Celebration was a spectacular evening of community, tradition, and music, raising an astounding \$175,000 to support Rumsey's Mission and programs. This year's event held special significance as we celebrated 125 years of excellence and tradition.

Since its founding in 1985 by former Trustees Judith Auchincloss P'87 and Lynette Cornell P'72, '74, '84, '86, the Rumsey Hall Auction has been a beloved tradition, bringing our community together to support the School. This year's celebration was no exception, featuring an online silent auction, a thrilling live auction, a raffle, and a night filled with shared purpose and joy.

Adding to the evening's magic, guests rocked the night away with Four Track, a NYC-based 70's rock & roll band that brought soulful celebrations, buttery jams, and contagious boogie grooves to the stage. The band,

THANK YOU!!! THE 2024 AUCTION & **CELEBRATION** RAISED \$175,000!

featuring two Rumsey parents—Sophie MaCallum P'26 on lead vocals, keys, and guitar, and Nick Stern P'23 on bass and vocals—energized the crowd and made it a night to remember.

This incredible event was made possible by the dedication of our Co-Chairs, AnaCristina Joseph P'29, '31, Ledlie Mosch Pastor '92, P'27, '29, and Michele Shapiro Deshpande P'33, along with our hardworking committee: Kathya Bendek P'26, Kate Eren P'28, '31, Alexa Geovanos Devino P'33, Christina Klemm P'23, '25, '28, Marisa Schmidt P'31, '33, and Danielle Young P'22, '23, '26.

Thank you to everyone who joined us on October 18 and made this night unforgettable. Your generosity and spirit ensure that Rumsey's legacy continues to thrive for generations to come. Here's to 125 more years of tradition, excellence, and community!







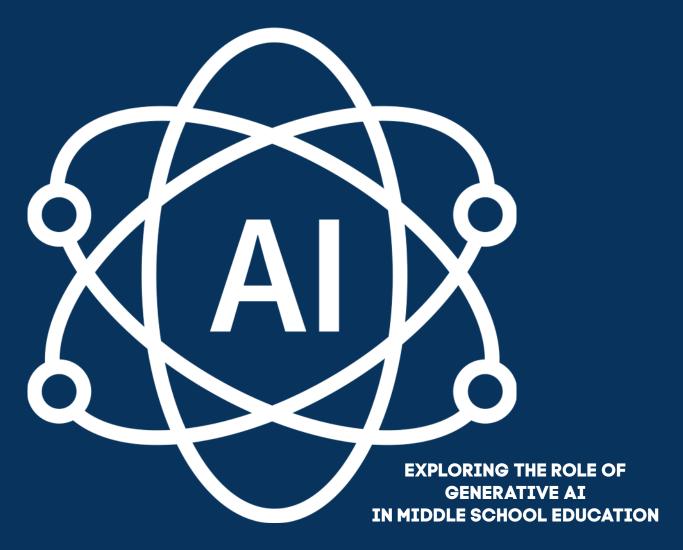












BY BROOKE GIESE P'22, '27

IS EVERYWHERE!

The term "Artificial Intelligence" was coined by American Computer Scientist, John McCarty in 1955 at a Dartmouth College conference. McCarty is also responsible for proposing the concept of "time-sharing systems" allowing multiple users to interact with a computer simultaneously.

Siri, Alexa, and Google Assistant use AI to interact with the user.

Streaming platforms like Netflix and Spotify use AI to learn your preferences and create tailored suggestions.

Spam and phishing attempts are filtered through your email using Al.

Al is used in the medical field to help diagnose diseases, personalize treatment plans, and accelerate the process of bringing new drugs to the market by analyzing large amounts of data.

Al is used in the transportation industry to develop self driving cars, manage traffic, and predict maintenance.

In the Financial sector IA is used to detect fraud, manage and execute trades quickly, and to assist costumers with chatbots.

Fun facts about AI generated from ChatGPT 40 siting Facts.net as the source.



Rumsey Hall, we are always looking for new ways to engage students and make learning more meaningful. Generative Al is an exciting and evolving resource that is helping to shape the way our teachers approach instruction. Think of it as a new tool in the toolbox, one that opens doors to more personalized learning experiences. But like all tools, it requires careful use, thoughtful integration, and the steady guidance of a skilled teacher.

BENEFITS

One of the primary advantages of generative AI in middle school education is its ability to personalize learning experiences to individual students. Our faculty, like Liz Butler P'21, '23, have found creative ways to use AI to enhance their teaching. For Liz, AI has been a helpful assistant, generating practice problems and creating a range of engaging scenarios for students to solve. By differentiating the curriculum, Liz supports a variety of learners, ensuring that each student receives the tailored attention they need to succeed.

Al's versatility also enables creativity and critical thinking. For instance, Karen Saxe utilizes Al to generate both strong and weak examples of essay conclusions or thesis statements. This allows her students to analyze and assess their own work, practicing their skills in identifying strengths and weaknesses. Karen also uses Al to suggest thematic book pairings for her classes to help her suggest enrichment reading for students who are eager to extend their learning.

Beyond the classroom, Al tools can streamline administrative tasks, such as attendance tracking, freeing up teachers for more interactive teaching. By analyzing student performance data, Al can identify trends and highlight areas where students might drift off course, allowing teachers to intervene early and provide targeted support. Peter Green P'26, '28 uses Khanmigo, Khan Academy's Al tool, to adjust reading levels for complex

texts, keeping challenging topics accessible for all students. With tools like ChatGPT, Peter can even break down texts into manageable sections, making them more understandable, and tailor reading assignments to keep them targeted and age-appropriate for the day's lesson.

CHALLENGES

Of course, like any new tool, the integration of generative Al in middle school education presents its own set of challenges. One significant concern is over-reliance—using Al too much risks diminishing the importance of human interaction. At Rumsey Hall our teachers strike a balance, ensuring that while Al plays a supportive role, it doesn't overshadow the personal connections and critical thinking that are crucial to developing well-rounded cognitive and interpersonal skills.

Additionally, AI-generated content can sometimes inadvertently reinforce biases or generate content that is inaccurate or untrue. Our teachers are mindful of these limitations and are vigilant about ensuring that AI is used responsibly and ethically in the classroom.

Lastly, data privacy is a significant concern with AI. We take this seriously, making sure that student information is protected while using AI tools. At Rumsey Hall, safeguarding our students is always top priority.



THE PATH FORWARD

Generative AI offers exciting opportunities to enhance middle school education at Rumsey Hall. But it is essential we integrate these tools thoughtfully and carefully. With the steady guidance of our dedicated teachers like Liz Butler, Karen Saxe, and Peter Green, we ensure that Rumsey Hall students benefit from cutting-edge technology while continuing to develop the critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills needed for their future.















Rumsey ON THE ROAD

NEW YORK CITY RECEPTION MAY 10, 2024





















MR. ANDERSON &
MR. KETCHUM VISIT HONG
KONG, SHANGHAI, BEIJING,
TOKYO & SEOUL
AUGUST 2024



MR. CRAIG, MRS. GIESE, MRS. KOLPAK & MR. PASTOR VISIT SEOUL & SHANGHAI NOVEMBER 2024





CLASS OF 1954

Fred Sopher '54 writes: Together with my wife, Joyce, and our adorable sons Samuel and Raphael. All keeping well. We look forward to having the pleasure of visiting RHS sometime in the future and always on happy occasions. With all our kindest thoughts to everyone at RHS from our family.

CLASS OF 1963

Caroline Baldwin Lewis '63 writes: At last I'm a grandmother. Quentin Daniel Drew Lewis born 12.5.23. If we lived closer to Washington, I would make sure he had the Rumsey Hall experience.

CLASS OF 1969

Katherine Mowbray-Miche '69 writes: I have been in the Worcester area for 50 years this year. All is good... Two grandsons, my daughter + son in law live nearby and Rumsey always holds a warm place in my heart.

CLASS OF 1973

Deborah Mulligan '73 writes: I am a Certified Scrum Master (CSM) and am currently working in the area of Information Technology (IT), while going for my Agile Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) certification. I love what I do for a living supporting various organizations.

CLASS OF 1987

Becky J. Christy '87 writes: This past August, Carmen



Valls-Martinez '87 and I spent a few amazing days together in Madrid, Spain. We visited the Prado Museum, Plaza Mayor, Puerta del Sol, El Retiro Park, The Royal Palace, and La Almudena (the most popular church in Madrid), as well as many other incredible sights. We enjoyed a Flamenco show and fine dining,

so walking over 17,000 steps each day made up for our enjoyment of delicious meals.

CLASS OF 1994

Charles Porter '94 writes: Thank you to those who reached out to me and my family. The marrow transplant was a success! Currently I am producing a film called Last Meals with Samuel L. Jackson.

CLASS OF 2000

Webb Bland '00 is an automotive photographer living in LA. You can follow him on Notbland.com.

Patrick Sheehy '00 is doing well in Jackson, WY with his wife, Jessica of 3 ½ years and son, Paddy. He is still working in the fly fishing industry.

Laura Compton Treleven '00 writes: Days before Thanksgiving in 2022, we welcomed Kate Ilys to the family fold. She completes the unit, and her initials (KIT) indicate. Months away from my 40th birthday, I am in a city I love (Tacoma, WA) with a wonderful, supportive partner Ross.

We have two lively and compassionate girls and a little furry munchkin, Fox, at our heels. Life is undeniably good. I lead design efforts for an aerospace and defense component manufacturing



startup out of LA, which allows me to jump into the sunny weather once or twice a month. My eldest, Sloan is approaching the age I was when Rumsey first became part of my story and it has changed how I view my time there. It's odd how time does that. Here's a photo of the family taken late last year.

CLASS OF 2005

Jordan Leventhal '05 and his wife, Julie, welcomed their first child, Jonah Asher Leventhal, on August 28, 2024! Jordan, currently a Product Strategy & Planning Manager at Walt Disney World Resort, can't wait to bring Jonah to meet Mickey Mouse and his friends.

CLASS OF 2008

Richard Crane '08 and Zara Wysockey were married on August 8, 2024 at Cabra Castle in Ireland. Richard is a Senior **Propulsion Engineer at Space** Exploration Technologies.





L to R: Peter Linn P'10, '24, Mack O'Shea '09, Tim O'Shea P'09, '10, & Uli Linn '24 tee up for a hole-in-one day!



L to R: Harry Keeshan '72, P'07, Steve Kavanewsky '72, Jon Kay '72, and Skip Gardella '72, P'09, '09 at Skip's home on the Connecticut shore.



L to R: Ted Barbeau, Jamie Scott '97, Will Barbeau, Ben Pastor P'27,'29, John Eren '97, P'28,'31, Kate Eren P'28,'31, Eva Devino '33, Mike Devino '94, P'33, Ledlie Mosch Pastor '92, P'27,'29, Alexa Geovanos Devino P'33, Alexandra Eren '31, Sophia Devino, Adeline Pastor '29, Lillian Pastor '27, and Avery Eren '28 hit the slopes at Big Sky Resort in Montana for Spring Break 2024.



Geoffrey Zampiello '91 enjoyed attending the Bridgewater Country Fair in Bridgewater, CT in August 2024 with his wife, Amanda, and daughters, Morgan (10) and Emma (7).



We'd love to hear from you!

Keep us updated with your latest milestones, stories, and address changes.

ALUMIN



On Sunday, January 19, 2025, we welcomed over 40 alumni and their families back to campus for our beloved Annual Alumni Hockey Game! With players and spectators ranging from the Class of 1962 to the Class of 2024, it was truly a special day.





























"Down in the valley where the trout stream lies", we remember

Downey J. Stancs P'70, '71, '73, '75, '76, GP'08, '11 April 1931–April 2024

Rumsey Hall School fondly remembers Downey J. Stancs, a cherished member of the Rumsey community whose legacy lives on through his extraordinary contributions. A devoted father, Downey entrusted Rumsey with the education of his five children and remained a steadfast supporter of the School long after they graduated.

Downey's most enduring gift to Rumsey is the beloved School Song, Dear Old Rumsey, in which he aptly captured the enduring spirit of the School. Generations of Rumsey students and alumni have sung his words with pride, their voices echoing the deep connection to a school that is "not a school, but my dearest friends." His lyrics beautifully capture the essence of Rumsey—the friendships, the memories, and the indelible mark the School leaves on every heart.

Through his children and grandchildren, and in the timeless melody of the School Song, Downey J. Stancs' spirit will forever be a part of the Shepaug Valley. As we sing Dear Old Rumsey, we celebrate his life, his legacy, and the profound love he held for this special place. Thank you, Downey, for giving us a song that continues to unite and inspire us all.

DEAR OLD RUMSEY

Down in the valley where the trout stream lies, Dreams of my childhood days gone by, Down where the Berkshire foothills end, Lies not a school, but my dearest friends.

I want to go back, to Dear Old Rumsey,
Hearin' ya' call, I'm comin' back to you next fall.
My home in the Glen, in the Shepaug Valley
Even though I was small then
I felt so tall when I went to Rumsey Hall.

Remember football, Clef Club, Red and Blue, Effort List and Bromley, too. Since I've been away from you, Life's been one long weekend blue. Please

Carry me back to Dear Old Rumsey.
I had a ball those lovely years I spent at Rumsey.
Down on the banks of the Bantam River.
Even though I was small then I felt so tall
When I went to Rumsey Hall...Rumsey Hall!





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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 2024-25 Annual

supporting our 2024-25 Annual fund.

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





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