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## AN EXTRAORDINARY GIFT

**D**r. Fran Shaughnessy, a former psychologist in the Philadelphia public school system, commissioned Zenos Frudakis, a world-renowned artist and sculptor, to create a work that would inspire the enjoyment of learning. Dr. Shaughnessy specified that the original work "will be given free in bronze to one who can provide us with a fine location for it in the City, where it will be seen and appreciated."

AACHS President **Harvey Steinberg (209)** entered into discussions with Dr. Shaughnessy and Mr. Frudakis, pointing out how and why Central High School would represent the ideal site for the work. Mr. Frudakis visited Central to identify an appropriate location for the 8-foot by 12-foot sculpture. Dr. Shaughnessy came as well to see Central's art collection, and to approve the gift and its placement. The piece, with appropriate landscaping, will be positioned on the North Lawn facing south.



*Sculptor Zenos Frudakis in his workshop preparing "Knowledge is Power."*

The sculpture displays a book representing the dual concepts of "Knowledge is Power" and, as noted by Albert Einstein, "Creativity is more important than knowledge." Einstein is shown emerging from the book; the large figure on the left is Charles Darwin. Among the other prominent figures are Harriet Tubman; Rachel Carson; John Muir; Ludwig Van Beethoven; Martin Luther King, Jr.; Mahatma Gandhi; Anne Frank; Winston Churchill; René Descartes; Thomas Paine; Thomas Jefferson; Henry David Thoreau; Ralph Waldo Emerson; Abraham Lincoln; Franklin Delano Roosevelt; and Susan B. Anthony.

To Dr. Shaughnessy, our deep gratitude and appreciation. To Mr. Frudakis, applause for and appreciation of your talent and work. 🍷

## ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Harvey Steinberg, 209  
President, AACHS



I spent the better part of a recent weekend at the Philadelphia School District High School Expo. Every 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student in the city of Philadelphia was invited to an exhibition of 74 (yes, 74!) high schools that come within the jurisdiction of the School District. Schools of every type—Charter, General Admission, privately operated within the District's aegis, Vo-Tech, and Special Admission School (as is Central)—had booths to show why they should be the school of choice.

Thousands of students, parents, grandparents, guardians and school counselors came to see what was being offered. The Central booth was staffed with assistant principals, students, faculty, parents and, of course, alumni. I say with pride that we were the only school with alumni at its booth. It was the most heavily staffed booth at the Expo and, importantly, the most heavily visited booth as well. At times, the visitors were standing 10 or 15 deep. We had as many as 18 people working the crowd, talking about Central, answering questions and providing information and handouts.

Those who know me well understand that I have a cynical streak that emerges sometimes when it should not. In some instances, when I am in conversation and ask a question, and the response is, "That is a very good question," my visceral, but usually unspoken, response is, "Don't patronize me and just answer the damn question." There are few things that can wipe away cynicism more quickly and more thoroughly than earnest, bright, inquisitive kids. Concerned, knowledgeable, cautious and engaged parents asked questions and expressed their angst about the choice they will have to make for the next four years of their child's life. Time after time, I really wanted to tell a child or adult, "That is a very good question." I resisted, but what I realized is that, in trying to answer these questions and allay the concerns that were expressed, I was forced to focus on why I truly believe that the Central experience is a unique and an amazing example of excellence in education.

I would tell of our being named as a 2011 U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School. This designation was given formally by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan at a conference and awards ceremony at the Omni Hotel in Washington, DC, in mid-November. The Alumni Association celebrated this honor with a dinner on the evening of November 14 at The University Club, co-chaired by **Hon. Lawrence Margolis (199)** and **Steve Klein (229)**. This is the second time that we have been a Blue Ribbon School. Reagan administration Secretary of Education Bill Bennett did the honors for the first. We are the true Two Party Nominee—Red and Blue honoring Crimson and Gold.

For many who asked about technology or computers at Central, I told them of our recent designation by *eSchool News* as their eSchool of the Month for October 2011. The *eSchool News*, a national publication, stated that Central High has one of the most exemplary programs using, teaching and making technology available to the entire school community.

I also talked about our history and heritage, the Alumni Hall of Fame induction that was going to be held, the nine truly remarkable people we were honoring and their impressive accomplishments. I never failed to remind my listeners that all of these world-changing achievers got their start at Central.

Some of the specific questions were answered with a soliloquy about the fabulous Robolancers, our nationally-recognized, championship-winning, competitive robotics team, now housed in the recently Alumni-built Joan B. Spain Robotics Lab. Or, our international award-winning Poetry Slam performer, **Kai David (271)**. Or, **Sony Mathew (272)**, a prize winner at the National Shakespeare Competition. I spoke proudly of the many Public League championships won by our athletic teams last year and the three already won this fall.

One of the subjects I discussed most frequently was the William M. King Communications, Media and Research Center at the Barnwell Library and the Spain Conference Center. In the last school year, these facilities had over 156,000 student visits. At the same time, I rightfully boasted that not one penny of School District or City of Philadelphia funds went into their construction. It was all from *our* contributions—The Associated Alumni of the Central High School of Philadelphia.

I also talked about the heralded Central High Orchestra and Choir that has visited and won youth music competitions in Vienna, Austria; Bournemouth, England; Budapest, Hungary; Israel and Canada. Some visitors asked about art, and I was able to tell them of over ten different courses that students can choose, from History of Art and an Advanced Placement Art Major to Sculpture, Photography, Web Design, and Drawing and Illustration.

But I found that what I talked about most was a culture and a climate. Many who visit and tour Central note, again and again, an overall feeling of kids having a great time: students congregating in small groups formally and informally, studying, conversing, working, playing, and discussing serious and not-so-serious topics everywhere in the school. Amidst a culture of civility, there is an overriding atmosphere that students at Central want to be there, and want to learn, work hard, and do good for the world.

Please visit, come and enjoy, and, if you are like me with a streak of cynicism, I know how to cure it. ☺

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## AN EVENING OF HONOR AND INSPIRATION


Continuing the tradition of acknowledging and honoring the achievements of Central High graduates by election to its Hall of Fame, the Alumni Association held the 17<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on October 27, 2011.

Nine distinguished alumni were inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame. **Walter P. Lomax, Jr., MD (192); Phillip Frost, MD (200); Barry R. Bloom, PhD (202); Edwin M. Epstein (202); Alan Wolfe, PhD (213); Richard B. Silverman, PhD (221); Charles R. Bridges, MD, ScD (232); Betty W. Liu (250) and Quiara Alegría Hudes (254)** took their places among the other 91 extraordinary members.

This current group of inductees includes pioneers in the fields of medicine, two Pulitzer Prize nominees, winners of awards and medals signifying the highest levels of achievement in their chosen fields, financial experts and renowned scientists and educators.

All of the honorees spoke of their gratitude for the education they received while at Central and how it prepared them to take the next step. They shared memories of teachers who were instrumental in helping to set them on the path to the careers in which they have achieved excellence.

Among the over 300 attendees at the event were 106 current Central High School students. In his remarks, CHS President, Dr. Sheldon Pavel, pointed to the connection between the current honorees and those among the students who might very well be inspired and so honored in their future.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was the genial **R. Seth Williams, Esq. (244)**, District Attorney of the City of Philadelphia. 




*From left: Dr. Sheldon S. Pavel, President; Honorees Phillip Frost, MD; Quiara Alegría Hudes; Richard B. Silverman, PhD; Charles R. Bridges, MD, ScD; Walter P. Lomax, Jr., MD; Alan Wolfe, PhD; Edwin M. Epstein; Barry R. Bloom, PhD; and Betty W. Liu; and Master of Ceremonies, R. Seth Williams, Esq.*

## THE CHS FACULTY WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP

Can you share your expertise to help out the CHS faculty? They have asked the Alumni Association for our assistance in creating a list of alumni who would be willing to communicate their experience to students, as a component of a Parent/Alumni database of potential speakers.

While many alumni do participate in Career Day, the faculty would like, as well, to be able to call on speakers on an ad hoc basis to interact with students in a particular subject area. As an example, the teacher of the Anatomy and Physiology course would welcome alumni in a health-related field to come to speak to his students, many of whom have expressed an interest in pursuing a vocation in healthcare.

Your participation will not require a great deal of your time. If you would like to help, please contact Thomas Quinn, CHS Social Studies teacher, at [taquinn@philasd.org](mailto:taquinn@philasd.org) or (215) 276-5262. A guarantee is that you will derive as much from the experience as will the students. 

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## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Merrill Freedman, 208  
Editor, The Alumni Journal



In an effort to continue to improve the quality and content of your *Alumni Journal*, I have asked **Steve Chappell (209)** to join me as co-editor. Of course, **Yvonne Dennis (246)** and **Jerry Kates (194)** will continue with their invaluable help. **Burt Spielman (218)**, laying final eyes on each article, has often assured the accuracy of the content, along with providing the wonderful layout. I thank each one, and hope we continue working together for a long time.

This quarterly publication serves at least three purposes: We report on the goings-on of our classmates; we report on the events surrounding our school; and, I hope, we are a bit entertaining. There is never a time when a significant number of our classmates fail to achieve something of merit. In the past few months, we have celebrated the outstanding achievements of the students and faculty of our school to such a degree that it makes us even more proud to be counted among its graduates. Each issue of the *Journal* reports on accomplishments and awards, but this one is special. Start by looking at the Blue Ribbon School seal on our masthead, and read on from there.

While we chose to print and mail this issue, most future *Alumni Journals* will be distributed digitally. If you enjoy this one, and wish to receive future issues, please make certain that we have your e-mail address. I've said before that I simply cannot understand the reluctance of our alumni to share their e-mail addresses with us. Please, just send a note to [chsalmuniph1@aol.com](mailto:chsalmuniph1@aol.com). We want to send the *Journal* to as many of our alumni as possible, but printing and mailing are costly, while digital distribution costs nothing but the time of the volunteers who publish each issue.

Steve will write the next Editor's Note, so I will use this opportunity to repeat my mantra — "Come back to Central." Alumni are always encouraged to visit the school. Central is not the only all-academic school in the city, but, beyond our school's academic achievement, it is we alumni who set the school apart. Our presence tells the students that Central will always remain a part of their lives. 🍎

**WHEN SUBMITTING CLASS NOTES, PLEASE  
INCLUDE YOUR NAME, GRADUATING CLASS  
AND E-MAIL ADDRESS.**

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## CAREER DAY — A NEW(ER) TRADITION

by Rudy Cvetkovic, 239

Some Central traditions can be traced back over 100 years; others are more recent. One of the latter is "Career Day," since 1999 traditionally the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. The 2011 event continued its tradition of excellence; many thanks go to **Jeff Muldawer (225)** for coordinating this effort since it began.

We also extend appreciation to more than 70 presenters who took the time to give back to the school, and to the students who worked so hard to make the day successful. The presenters were a diverse group, varied in age (representing CHS classes from the 174<sup>th</sup> to the 267<sup>th</sup>) and occupations — law, archeology, the arts and sciences, journalism, education, business, and even male modeling. A mix of new and veteran presenters contributed to the success of the day. The group was well fed prior to getting to work, courtesy of 205's "Big Ted" Rothman's annual breakfast bash for participants.

For the first three periods of the school day, speakers discussed their own careers with highly attentive students, including, for the first time, juniors and some sophomores. Previous Career Day programs were limited to seniors, but the growing number of presenters has allowed for broadened student participation. The day concluded with the presenters gathering in the Spain Conference Center to discuss their experiences in the classroom and, again thanks to "Big Ted," to enjoy a terrific lunch.

**Mike Stein (239)** had this to say to a classmate on Facebook:

"The presenters talk about whatever they want to. I had AP Computer Science last year — perfect for a techie talk. The other five classes I had this year and last, though, were not a good fit for a techie talk. So, I spent all my time there talking about my mistakes, things I'd do differently, college course selection, interview stuff, body language, firm handshakes, people skills, "soft skills," etc. Last year, I was paired with **Nick Cvetkovic (220)** for all three sessions; this year I was paired with **Whaine Norman (243)**. Both were fun to present with because we were all information technology guys and able to mesh our presentations together and come at our tips from different angles. Join us next year! If you reach one kid, it's worth it!"

No better segue, Mike, into the fact that, while e-mail and *Journal* announcements for Career Day presenters go out each year, it is not a bad idea to mark the Tuesday before Thanksgiving on your calendar now. A caution about Career Day: it can become habit forming. After presenting for the first time, many alumni become regular speakers as they find it so extremely rewarding. Many attest that they received even more than they gave. 🍎

## FROM THE CHS PRESIDENT

Dr. Sheldon S. Pavel  
President, Central High School



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On November 14 and 15, our Assistant Principal, Lori DeFields, and I had the honor and privilege of receiving Central's 2011 Blue Ribbon Award from U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan. The Blue Ribbon Award is given annually to schools throughout the country that have excelled as measured by their achievements in testing or in raising the achievement of low-income students. Central was recognized in both areas.



Not only were we the only school in Philadelphia so recognized this year, we were the only high school in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania so named. What did it mean? Why is it a big deal?

It is an affirmation of the efforts of our entire staff and a celebration of their hard work with our students. It is a tribute to our parents who provide the structure and support for their children. It acknowledges the continuing contribution and love of our alumni in working with us to help make Central the fine educational enterprise that it is. But, most of all, it recognizes the students. The students of 2011 learn, care, and work daily. They understand the lessons of the past and translate them into the reality of the present and the promise of the future. The multicultural environment that is the Central High School of today is different from, yet very much the same as, that of 50 or 100 years ago. This recognition by Pennsylvania and the entire country proclaims to all that we are a school where excellence matters and achievement counts. ●

## A WWII POW POSTSCRIPT

AACHS President, **Harvey Steinberg**, recently received the following letter:

Mr. Steinberg,

I'm hoping that you are the same Harvey Steinberg who requested information about German prisoners of war in the Ogontz Avenue Armory. My mother, Cornelia Quinkelen Mueller, emigrated to the USA and worked in the rectory of her uncle, Monsignor Henry Koenes, in St. Henry's Parish, 5<sup>th</sup> and Cayuga Streets, Philadelphia. St. Henry's closed long ago, but, at the time of its existence, it catered to German-speaking immigrants. Here is a photo of some POWs at the Ogontz Armory with my mother and great uncle. Uncle Henry catered to the spiritual needs of these prisoners. I actually met one of the men here years ago (the tall man with the pipe, Hans Weuthen) since he came from my mother's home town of Mönchengladbach and returned there after his POW experience. I doubt that there are many photos of the POWs there, so I'm passing this one to you for your interest. Although Uncle Henry died in 1953, so I never had a chance to meet him, I know he did a lot for refugee work and I still have many censored letters from the war. He sponsored many German immigrants to come to the USA, some of whom were Jewish and he just called them "Catholic" on the documentation, otherwise they would never have been allowed to emigrate to the USA during the war.

Thank-you,  
Cornelia Mueller  
Catonsville, Maryland ●



Mrs. Cornelia Quinkelen Mueller, front row, second from left, with her uncle, Monsignor Henry Koenes, front row, third from left, and Ogontz Armory WWII POWs, including Hans Weuthen, third row, third from left.

## SAVE THE DATE(s) WINTER 2011/2012

Tuesday, December 20 . . . . . Widener Showcase  
Thursday, December 22 . . . . . Winter Concert  
Wednesday, January 11 . . . . . Honors Convocation  
Monday, February 13 . . . . . Blood Drive  
Thursday, February 23 . . . . . International Day



by Bruce Yasgur, 216

**A**lthough Central never offered a class that taught us how to change a tire, wire an outlet or use a power saw without losing a finger, we did receive a somewhat practical education. For example, because we have a pre-collegian, our entire household takes the daily SAT challenge. Wherever they are, Dancin' Dave Newmark, Gerry Hamm, Dish, and Joe Phillips might be pleased to know that I'm batting a thousand on vocabulary, an intellectual muscle that I've exercised regularly since I first strengthened it at school. However, Norm Brous, Nick Grant, Fat Cat and the Diano twins ("Honey, I flunked the kids!") might be disappointed to learn that my math muscles, lately unflexed beyond basic computing, atrophied decades ago. I studied German in self defense, to understand the secrets that my Yiddish-speaking relatives shared about me behind my back to my face. (It worked.) Over the years, that pursuit provided a doorway into a clearer understanding of linguistics, as well as an abiding interest in my family's history and that of my many communities. My son, David, is similarly finding that his Latin studies have stimulated his interest in and appreciation of our history, languages and cultures.



Despite the latest trend toward skill training in higher ed, an academic education may be practical after all. It is possible to acquire job skills via books, videos, and on-line these days; even the tricks of the trade in some cases. I've renovated a few houses with help from various how-to books. However, I'm basically incompetent with Apples, BlackBerrys and other fruity binomial-based gadgets whose history dates back to young geniacs tinkering in garages or accelerating campus gossip from college dorm rooms. On second thought, it may be that this technology actually got started by the military and Al Gore.

I think I've come full circle by way of my introductory remarks. We need barely lift a hand to accomplish most complex mechanical or technical functions. For the former, one finger suffices to dial the carpenter, plumber or electrician; for the latter, we have kids, grandkids and young neighbors with seemingly innate abilities to untangle the mysteries of the technology that we've acquired without the foggiest idea of how it works. To them it's child's play; to many of us a collection of intimidating obstacles. In addition, the kids now tell secrets about us behind our backs 2 our faces, unless u tweet, text, or r otherwise conversant in teenspeak. At least I can word process on a computer.

Moving on, the 216's 50<sup>th</sup> reunion was an "electric experience," according to chief organizer **Michael Freedman**. I attended in spirit, if not in body, due to an injury, surgery and a recovery period, all in Downeast Maine. Thanks to Mike and **Laurence Salzmänn** for pix and updates. President **Ed Anderson** flew in from California, and I hear that **Peter Schiff** flew in, if only from

Kentucky, but in a private jet! I could hardly believe the pix. Why do some of my classmates look young enough to be my kids? Must be like my endocrinologist told me when I asked him what I should do to slow down my body's deterioration: "Get new parents." Hmm!

Speaking of old guys, **Ray Tumarkin** shared 214 news: **Henry Abraham, MD**, is planning to meet with CHS social studies teacher Tom Quinn's class on Career Day. Henry shared in the 1983 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Physicians for Social Responsibility for their work in opposing nuclear weapons. The book *Nuclear Weapons and Nuclear War*, which he co-edited, is part of the Barnwell Library's permanent collection. Ray adds: "Yo, sports fans, catch U.S. District Judge **Jed Rakoff's** recent decision in *Madoff v. N.Y. Mets Owners*." The rest of us might want to check out Jed's previous slapdown of Bank of America's too-easy settlement with the SEC for alleged financial hanky-panky. BTW, Kudos to **Jeff Muldawer (225)** and Ray for organizing Career Day and to **Ted Rothman (205)** for the grub.

We're keeping an eye on Pastor **Keith Collins (237)** in his run for Delaware County Council, and an ear on bass-baritone **Eric Owens (245)**, whose performance of the title role in the San Francisco Opera Company's recording of *Porgy and Bess* we listened to, and enjoyed, on Maine Public Radio.

Got news, comments, questions? E me at [byasgur216@gmail.com](mailto:byasgur216@gmail.com). ☘

## "eSCHOOL OF THE MONTH"

**T**he *eSchool News*, a national monthly print and digital newspaper that covers educational technology in all its aspects, named Central High School its "eSchool of the Month" for October 2011. The article begins:

"Philadelphia's Central High School focuses on making technology initiatives student-centered, with an emphasis on boosting achievement—and this focus has paid off in a big way.

"Administrators, teachers, students, and parents are able to access grades, news, and pertinent communications instantly, and students have access to a wide range of applications to advance their learning. By strengthening the home-school connection, Central High School is enhancing students' chances of success."

Interviewed for the article, Brian Howland, Central High School science teacher, discussed topics ranging from how Central uses technology for advancing student learning to how the school financed its ed-tech initiatives. Asked what advice he would offer ed-tech colleagues, Mr. Howland offered the following:

1. Keep the end result (student achievement) in mind.
2. Keep lines of communication open.
3. Ensure that everything you do is student-centered."

To read the entire story, access page 73 of the October 2011 issue at <http://bit.ly/t5zmQi>. ☘

by Merrill Freedman, 208

**D**oes anyone recognize the name of our fellow alum, **Philip Francis Nowlan (111)**? That should be easy for sci-fi fans. But I digress. Perhaps I should start from the beginning:

**Edgar Davis' (184)** retirement from the Philadelphia Gas Works in 1988 marked the beginning of a new adventure that, with his wife, Selma, shows no sign of slowing down. Edgar's passion for photography, and Selma's for writing led them to becoming freelance journalists. Years before the blogosphere gave space to aspiring writers and journalists, Selma and Edgar were meeting with and writing about some of the world's most famous and interesting people. Local newspapers were happy to pay modest sums for their interviews.

My wife and I visited Selma and Edgar at their home on a chilly Friday morning. The first thing we saw was the floor covered with laminated newspapers bearing their photographs and articles. From the Tuskegee Airmen to former Secretary of State Alexander Haig, from actor Robert Wagner to actresses Stephanie Powers and Janet Leigh, the pair has interviewed a seemingly endless number of famous people. We came wanting to know stories about the people they interviewed, but found that we were more interested in getting to know Selma and Edgar themselves.

How does a retired couple, frankly journalistic amateurs, get to meet and interview so many famous and influential people? "We call and we ask," Selma said, as though the question was almost silly. Credentials? Gatekeepers? "Never a problem."

Not satisfied with that straightforward answer, I asked who was the most difficult individual to get to interview. "That would be Luther Smith." Luther Smith? "One of the Tuskegee Airmen. He lived not too far from our home, so we called to arrange an interview. When he answered his door, he didn't want to let us in, but eventually he softened, and we spent two hours in his living room hearing many stories about the war." The story of the Tuskegee Airmen—the first and, initially, the only African-American aviators in the racially segregated U.S. Army Air Force—is among the most fascinating of World War II.

The Davises' stories went on and on. Finally, I asked which of the interviews was the most interesting to them. They both agreed that it was with Alexander Haig. I wanted to know if he discussed his brief moments when he put himself in charge of the nation—and they said he had. Haig said, in a matter-of-fact tone, that President Reagan had been shot. When he was asked if anyone knew the condition of the president, no one had any information. He was asked the whereabouts of the vice president. He said that Vice President Bush was in Texas, but it wasn't clear if he had been advised of the assassination attempt. Not having been asked about the Speaker of the House—third in the line of succession—Secretary of State Haig announced that *he* had

taken charge until the facts were determined. Many of us remember those moments in 1981 vividly, but how many of us got the story from the source?

I almost missed the reference to "Buck Rogers." It seems that the Davises had interviewed the elderly son of Philip Nowlan, the creator of comic strip character Buck Rogers. They mentioned that Philip Francis Nowlan was a fellow Central alum. When I asked if they knew his class, they did not, and the son they interviewed was long since deceased. Thanks to our own archivist, **David Kahn**, we found that Philip Nowlan was, indeed, another Central alum of note. He was in the Chess Club and a member of the 1905 championship football team, and is ultimately credited with creating the story of Buck Rogers.

From an historic Central perspective, that was the most interesting discovery of the interview. What impressed me most, however, was their walk-on appearance on "Baywatch." How did they manage to get on the show?

"We asked." ●

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## A CLASSIC BATTLE FOR THE WOODEN HORSE

by Steve Chappell, 209, with a great deal of help from Jay Gottlieb, 205, Chris Brosz, 209, and David Kahn, 220

In early August of this year, local TV newscasts showed a fire consuming the “old” Northeast High building at 8<sup>th</sup> and Lehigh in Philadelphia. The item brought to mind a number of memories regarding the Thanksgiving Day battles for the Wooden Horse in my time at Central, when Northeast teams were the Archives rather than the Vikings, and Central teams were the Mirrors, not the Lancers.

My most vivid memories are those from the game in my sophomore year—1955. Northeast was considered a powerhouse team, featuring Floyd Williams at quarterback, Herb Adderly at one halfback slot and Angelo Coia at the other. Williams was a master at what is now called the option series, spinning down the line and either handing off or keeping the ball. Adderly went on to play halfback for Michigan State, and then was drafted by the Green Bay Packers, who converted him to a cornerback. He finished his career with the Dallas Cowboys and was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1980. Coia played for The Citadel and then USC; he played professionally for Chicago, Washington and Atlanta. Rounding out the backfield was Marv Sloms at fullback. The Northeast coach was Charlie Martin. (The athletic stadium at the “new” Northeast is named in his honor.)

Central standouts included First Team All-Public ends **Carl Bancoff (205)** and **Mickey Heinecken (207)**. Heinecken was also the punter. After Central, Mickey attained Little All-American honors at the University of Delaware, later becoming the most successful football coach in the history of Middlebury College. The quarterback was **Karl Schmalz (208)**, an exceptionally smooth ball handler, who would be voted First Team All-Public in 1956. The halfbacks were team captain **Alan Kaufman (205)** and **Rudy Maurizio (207)**. **Harold (“Biggie”) Cohen (207)** was the fullback.



1955 Central Varsity Football Team.

Len Kolenda was the Central coach, assisted by Art McNally. McNally went on to further fame (and sometime infamy) as an NFL field judge, then referee, then supervisor of NFL officials. “Mr. Mac” is a member of the CHS Faculty Hall of Fame.

Northeast was undefeated for the year; Central brought a 5-0-1 record, having tied Dobbins in a scoreless game

earlier in the year. The game was anticipated as a battle between a high-scoring Northeast offense (which had averaged more than 40 points a game) and a stingy Central defense which was said to be the best in the league. It turned out to be one of the classics in the then 63-year history of the rivalry.

Thanksgiving morning 1955 was crisp and clear, a perfect day for football. The stands at 29<sup>th</sup> and Clearfield were filled to capacity with students and alumni. The crowd expected a good football game. The crowd got a great football game, suspenseful, and notable for strategy and tactics not usually seen in high school football.

The teams traded touchdowns, and then Northeast went ahead by one TD. Late in the game, Central, just a few yards from the Northeast goal, tried a running play, but fumbled, and Northeast recovered. Northeast moved the ball a few yards and then fumbled. This back and forth was repeated a few times with Northeast ultimately retaining possession. With time running short, Charlie Martin called for Williams to take a knee in his own end zone for a two-point safety. The kick-off by Northeast after the safety left Central too far back to score, and Northeast won the game, 13-9, and the Wooden Horse until 1957.

Considering the scoring machine that Northeast was, Central’s defense was a standout in the game, keeping the score very close. Another Central highlight was the perfect execution of a quick kick. Mickey Heinecken punted the ball for 85 yards, effectively pinning Northeast downfield and probably preventing another touchdown.

If not a highlight, there’s certainly a scene I recall and still chuckle about—Rudy Maurizio absolutely refusing to come out of the game for a replacement, sending his would-be sub scurrying to get out of bounds before the ball was snapped.

Northeast went on to beat Simon Gratz for the Public League Championship (39-12), but lost in the City Title Game to LaSalle, 26-0.

For my last two years at Central, the teams split, Northeast winning in 1956, Central in 1957. Both were good games. I still recall the headline in the *Inquirer* sports pages in 1957: “Central beats Northeast as injured back stars.” The star injured back was All-Public **Joel Browndorf (210)**. But they weren’t classic games. That description I would reserve for the 1955 game.

Another memory is the number of alumni at the game. I went with a neighbor, **Len Sokolove (179)**, and was surprised that he knew as many people at the game as I did. It was good to see so many alumni supporting the team then. It would be good to see it again.

I’d appreciate hearing similar thoughts and memories, especially from members of the 1955 team. Send them to [chsalmniphil@aol.com](mailto:chsalmniphil@aol.com). 🍎



by Rachel Weber, 271

The jam-packed bleachers and rapidly waving sea of golden rally towels are a testament to the whirlwind season the Central football team has had. For the first time in many years (and to the surprise of many students) this Lancer team has charged past their opposition, crushing other teams and ultimately garnering a playoff spot.

After an initial loss to Imhotep, the Lancers dialed up the pressure and swept past Lincoln, Southern, Mastbaum, Olney, Edison, and Furness. Many of the football team's successes were crushing wins—they won five of their games by over 20 points, and shut out Southern, Olney, and Edison.

Many factors have led to this 360-degree turn in the Lancers' success. "This year we have our players in the right position. Last year we had all the talent, we just didn't utilize it," explained quarterback **Ryan Dydak (271)**. The team has had a lot of strong points this year. On offense, "Our strength is our balanced attack. When one area of offense is shut down, the rest of the team steps up," said Dydak. "Our defense has been dominant and aggressive. Our running and passing attacks are always giving their best effort," he continued.

The team is a cohesive group overall, but a few players have stood out this season. **Rich Drayton (271)** was crucial for the passing attack, with 30 completions and 441 receiving yards so far this season. **Hakeem Ellis (272)** and **Joe Kasztelan (271)** have been defensive forces, and Ellis has also rushed 50 times for 383 yards. **Jesse Gillis (272)** and **Walt Pegues (273)** have stepped up in the backfield. Dydak has been absolutely instrumental in

the team's successes this season, passing for 17 touchdowns so far.

The season has had its bumps as well. For many of the players, "Our weakness is ourselves. We have all the talent to compete with anybody—the only team that can beat us is us," said Dydak. He feels that the team performs their best when playing disciplined football and avoiding making mental mistakes.

Fan support has skyrocketed in response to the recent Lancer successes. In the past, games have received only a small student turnout. But at the October 28 playoff game against the Lancers' 4<sup>th</sup> seeded rival, Northeast, students flocked to the game in droves, screaming their support and chanting for the team. The 28–20 victory over Northeast ended with every senior in the stands sprinting onto the field in a crazy, exuberant mob.

A few brave fans even ignored the freezing 40-degree weather and painted their bodies with crimson and gold. "The football team itself definitely inspired me. I have a couple of good friends on the team and hearing about their success this year gave me the enthusiasm to want to go out there and show my full support in the best way I knew possible. It was a playoff game against our rivals—there was no way I could say no [to painting myself]" said **Walid Abdulbaki (272)**.

This Central spirit will continue to shine as the Lancers throw, run, and kick their way through the playoffs and to the Homecoming game on November 24.

[Editor's Note: The Lancers lost to Northeast, 27–20, in the annual Thanksgiving Day game.] 🍁



Quarterback Ryan Dydak (271) drops back to pass in Central's 28–20 win over Northeast on October 28.

## CLASS NOTES

10

**155—The Reverend Dr. Thomas S. Logan**, the oldest living black Episcopalian priest in the country, received an honorary doctorate from Cheyney University at the school's May 2011 commencement. At 99 years of age, he would like to hear from classmates at (610) 626-2780. People who met him at the most recent Alumni Hall of Fame event say he looks not a day over 80. His brother **Leonard (164)** is living in New Jersey.

**185—Len Finkelstein** and **Jay Rosen** note that their remarkable class has purchased—thus far—one full row of auditorium seats.

**198—Bernard Gross** tells us of the notable coincidence that all of the male attendees at a recent meeting of the condominium board of 1820 South Rittenhouse Square were Central alumni. Along with Bernie were **Paul Jaffe (184)**, **Phil Kendall (186)**, **Paul Gross (204)** and **David Fineman (227)**.

**210—Dr. H. Michael Zal's** new book, *Dancing With Medusa: A Life in Psychiatry*, is now available at [authorhouse.com](http://authorhouse.com); [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), including Kindle; [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com); [booksamillion.com](http://booksamillion.com); and in most retail outlets.

**214—Hon. Jed S. Rakoff** of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York has been in the news this summer and fall with his rulings in the litigation requesting the return of the \$700 million in principal withdrawn from Bernard Madoff's fund by the owners of the New York Mets baseball team.

**216—Robert Wert**, after serving over 20 years as the executive director of Blank Rome LLP, has been named a senior director at the firm. He and Howard I. Hatoff, a retired Blank Rome partner, just co-authored (for the fifth time) the *Law Office Policy & Procedures Manual (6<sup>th</sup> Edition)* for the American Bar Association's Law Practice Management Section.

Bob continues to work developing the bed and breakfast that he and his wife Grace renovated in Montrose, Pennsylvania ([www.rosemontbb.com](http://www.rosemontbb.com)), and overseeing the operation of the Montrose Country Store. In addition, Bob has just become the vice president and general counsel of Extruded Thermoset Composites, Inc., Newtown Square, Pennsylvania ([www.etcocominc.com](http://www.etcocominc.com)).

**216—Dr. Harry Collins**, of the Haven Hospice at the JFK Medical Center, Edison, New Jersey, was named Hospice Medical Director of the Year by the New Jersey Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

**223—Hon. Richard B. Teitelman** was elected Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri, effective July 1, 2011, for a two-year term.

**232—Dr. Walter Di Gioia** is practicing medicine in Italy, where he has become a permanent resident.

**233—Vincent T. Lombardo** reports that after 27 years with the office of the Ohio Attorney General (30 years as a lawyer), he retired on September 30, 2011. He plans to simply enjoy life with his wife of over 29 years, Barbara J. Stanford. He has no plans to practice law.

**235—Ivan R. Iwaskiw** has co-authored with Barbara L. Dash "The Mystery of Yakiv Orenshtain's Little Red Riding Hood," an article published in a special issue of *Slavic & Eastern European Information Resources* devoted to "Slavic and Eastern European Visual Works on Paper in the Washington, DC Region" (v. 11, no. 2-3, 2010). The Art Libraries Society of North America has awarded a Certificate of Merit. Both authors are librarians at the Library of Congress. Barbara is a niece of the late **Sam Dash (178)** and a relative of other distinguished CHS alumni.

**245—Major Jackson** was one of the distinguished poets who performed at the Trinity Church at Broadway and Wall Street in New York City on Saturday, September 10, 2011, honoring the victims of 9/11.

**247—Dr. Daniel Lee**, co-author of the book *Do What You're Built For*, founded the DWYBF Foundation which includes the Positive Reentry Program. The Foundation works with federal, state and county correctional facilities as well as committed members of local communities to assist individuals in positive reentry into the community.

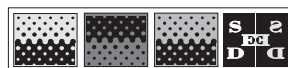
**258—David Hildebrand's** new book, *Walking Marina*, is an interesting exposé of the world of male modeling. David has had several readings in Philadelphia, and anticipates doing several more. Read more about him on page 13 and visit his website, [www.drhildebrand.com](http://www.drhildebrand.com).

**260—Jennifer Gillyard** presents her first book, *From Dreams, Through Wrestlings, To Fulfillment: Poems of Growth*, five chapters of thought-provoking poetry covering a wide range of topics for all ages. See Jennifer's website, [www.jennigillyard.com](http://www.jennigillyard.com).

**265—Shira Lawrence** recently visited Central. She is living in Israel, a commissioned officer who has just finished her three-year military service, serving as a weapons instructor. Shira will begin her studies of International Relations and Arabic at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

**270—Jordan Konnell** was awarded the Robert G. Porter Scholarship at the American Federation of Teachers Conference this summer.

**270—Tiffany Perez** was recognized by Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter for her long-term outstanding volunteer effort at the Lighthouse Community Center in North Philadelphia. 🍎



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## Do You Know THE SCHOOL SONG?

by David R. Kahn, 220,  
AACHS Archivist

A point of pride for Central grads is being able to sing the School Song at the drop of a hat (or a command invitation from a certain **William H. Cosby, Jr. (204)** to join him onstage and sing). In our Archives, we have many versions of Song Books. They contain hymns, folk songs, football cheers and, of course, the School Song, along with other Central High songs.

Starting in 1922, the Barnwell Foundation published these case-bound books at regular intervals, edited and arranged by Professor Thaddeus Gorecki.

I was delighted to find an earlier version, entitled *Central High School Song Book, First Edition*, in the form of a pamphlet, published, I think, in 1913 or 1914. All of the songs in this edition, except the one we know and love, and the "Old Songs of C.H.S." and "Cheers and Yells," were written by **Stewart C. Barnett (118)** and **George F. Kearney (120)**. The title page tells us it was published by "E. Rosenbaum, '13, 1821 Diamond St, Philadelphia," but I find no record of his graduating that year (119<sup>th</sup> or 120<sup>th</sup> Class). In addition to the songs, it contains many advertisements, which I assume were to offset the cost of publication.

Kearney and Barnett's first song is entitled "Central High School," and begins, "O let us sing of Central High, our alma mater true; O let the crimson banner fly, the finest colors that ever flew." — a little different from the song we're all familiar with. They also wrote a piece entitled "Crimson and Gold."

Then the School Song appears, as we know it, written in 1907 by **John L. Waldman**, **Horace M. Shell** and **Francis A. Wade**, all of the 112<sup>th</sup> Class. In our current publications it is titled "Central High," but, in the 1913–14 book and the 1922 Barnwell editions, it is called "To Central High." Little mysteries such as this are likely to remain forever unsolved.

George F. Kearney went on to study at the University of Pennsylvania, where he became an active member and chairman of the Play Committee of the Philomathean Society. The group had great influence on university life,



active in the performing arts and publications, according to the Society's Sesquicentennial History, published in 1965. In the "It's a Small World" department is the fact that two of my Central 220 classmates, **Arthur Shapiro** and **Lesley Phillips**, were members of Philo and participated in the preparation of the aforementioned historical paper.

Finally, I've been unhappy for many years that our school fight song, "Swing Out," has been left by the wayside and forgotten. So here it is:

*SWING OUT! Behind the men who fight for  
the Crimson and Gold.*

*SWING OUT! And let the foe make way for  
the charge no line can hold.*

*SWING OUT! In resolute array for  
new glories yet to be.*

*SWING OUT! And lift your chin, fight through,  
and win to vic-to-ry.*

Perhaps, with an appropriate gender change ("men" to "ones"), we will sing it once again at a future Thanksgiving morning football game. 🍌



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## IN MEMORIAM

153 — Harold Berger  
 162 — Marvin Cominsky, Esq.  
 167 — Lt. Col. Frank Belitsky  
 168 — Jerome Grossman  
 169 — Edgar Wolfman, Jr.  
 173 — Melvin Wean  
 176 — Bernard Wolfman, Esq.  
 178 — Joel Gershman  
 179 — Leonard Sherman  
 180 — Silas J. Ginsburg, MD  
 180 — Sanford Greenberg  
 181 — Rabbi Reuben R. Levine  
 181 — Edward Veith  
 184 — Hilliard I. Smith  
 185 — Justin H. Brenner  
 186 — Milt Silver  
 187 — Sidney Greenblatt  
 191 — Karl Sacks  
 191 — Edward Edelstein

194 — Robert A. Bernhard, MD  
 200 — Karl Hershman  
 202 — LeRoy M. Kotzen, MD  
 202 — Alan B. Hinerfeld, DDS  
 203 — Arnold M. Medvene, PhD  
 203 — Bernard Glassman, Esq.  
 205 — Hon. Robert C. Daniels  
 205 — Joel M. Goldstein  
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 209 — Reginald Bryant  
 221 — Peter Zito  
 228 — Michael J. Zawislak  
 229 — Andrew Worthy  
 235 — Walter M. Iwaskiw  
 239 — Aaron L. Clary  
 240 — Paul Schwartz  
 241 — Arthur Langford  
 266 — Nathaniel M. Kirkland

Faculty — Edward Veith (181)  
 Faculty — George V. Famiglio

## TAKE YOUR SEATS, PLEASE!

The restoration of the fire-damaged school auditorium is proceeding well, and many alumni have availed themselves of the opportunity to dedicate the new, upholstered seats. Alumni can dedicate a seat "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" family or individuals you wish to honor. Classes can organize and purchase entire rows. A brass plate will memorialize each dedication. Seats are available for a \$300 donation (tax deductible) per seat. Please use the form on this page, or donate at [www.centralhighalumni.com](http://www.centralhighalumni.com).

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## PREPARED, SOMEWHAT, FOR AN ATYPICAL CAREER

by D. R. Hildebrand, 258

**A**t Dear Old High, there was a refrain so familiar it could have been the school's slogan: "There is nothing," the adage went, "that Central won't prepare you for...."

By and large, it was true. Central prepared me for seemingly everything. Mr. Brooks' chemistry classes prepared me for medicine and engineering and solving complex equations. Ms. Evans' gym classes prepared me for the long jump, the free throw, for hitting home runs. Mr. Speir, of course, prepared me for organizing large-scale events by way of Multicultural Day, Women's Day, Career Day—at which alumni would surely remind me that there was nothing for which Central wouldn't prepare me. I am, make no mistake, well prepared.

And yet I struggle sometimes, to see how Central prepared me for modeling.

Yes. For modeling.

Was it the way my teachers swayed and swaggered so gracefully, so effortlessly in front of the blackboard? Was it the way Dr. Pavel, in his magnificently gray argyle sweater vests, sauntered down the hall? Was it all the doughnuts my classmates sold, day after day, fund-raising dutifully at the second floor alcove? I have speculated at great length. And Central, contrary to popular belief, could never have prepared me for modeling.

I'm standing with my torso twisted in a knot, the sun burning holes into my retinas and the photographer telling me to keep twisting, keep turning, stop blinking. What are the odds that I'm diagramming complex sentences in my head or wishing Dr. O'Donnell had given me more problems to test my understanding of Game Theory? The stylist is adjusting every crease inside my crotch and my ribs feel like they're going to explode.

I'm at a casting for Target or some other prodigious client cramming thousands of models over the course of a week into an un-air-conditioned studio in the Chelsea section of New York City. Everyone is sitting on the floor sweating like cattle before the slaughter. Am I regretting having taken Hebrew instead of Latin? No one has asked me for a translation of Leviticus.

I walk into my agency and I see that fifteen models from a board previously carrying one hundred have just been dropped. Though I came to discuss my career, I see that one agent is negotiating a booking in London, another is entertaining clients from Paris, a third is handling some crisis in L.A., and I have to negotiate charm, wit, and apathy to be heard. Is it likely that I care if I scored a five on my AP U.S. History exam?

Eh.

Modeling, of course, is not the most typical or foreseeable of professions. I didn't decide at random one day that, after years of scholastic pursuits, I would suddenly about-face and strike a pose. Modeling was meant as an income. The question, simply, was as a complement

to what? Academic writing or creative writing? I was a graduate student at the University of Chicago, refusing to acknowledge that my passion was for fiction. I had been taught to think and to write both critically and creatively and it was this opportunity to dedicate myself to either that proved the value and depth of my education. Central might not have prepared me for modeling, true. Yet as far as writing is concerned, as far as thinking independently, communicating effectively, turning ideas into reality, it offered me a complete spectrum of options, none of which will ever go out of style. ●



D. R. Hildebrand's debut novel, *Walking Marina*, is an exposé of the male modeling industry in New York City. His website is [www.drhildebrand.com](http://www.drhildebrand.com).

## REUNION UPDATE

**198**—The 60<sup>th</sup> reunion is to be held May 19, 2012. Contact **Stanley Cohen** at [scohen@crbcp.com](mailto:scohen@crbcp.com).

**208**—**Mickey Greenblatt** announced that the 55<sup>th</sup> reunion will be held May 18–20, 2012, at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia. Keep in touch with Mickey at [mg840@columbia.edu](mailto:mg840@columbia.edu).


**209**—**Steve Chappell** notes that the 55<sup>th</sup> reunion will take place May 17 and 18, 2013.

**237**—**Andy Heller** is beginning preparation for the 35<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2013. Follow the class website, [www.centralalumni.com/class237](http://www.centralalumni.com/class237).

**251**—**Leigh Whitaker** announces that the 20<sup>th</sup> reunion will be held on Friday, May 11, 2012 from 8:00 P.M. to midnight at Romano's Catering, 1523 East Wingohocking Street, Philadelphia. For more information, please go to [www.251reunion.com](http://www.251reunion.com). ●

## ATTENTION, FLORIDIANS!

**A** South Florida Alumni Event will be held at the end of February. If you live or winter there, please let us know your address. More information to follow! ●

**T**he Alumni Association's Class Representatives Committee strives to maintain contact with every class through its designated representative. In order to ease our administrative burden, we ask each class to designate just one person to serve as the official liaison between the class and the Association. If no one is listed for your class and you are willing to serve, please contact **Pete Forjohn (235)** at (610) 558-1559 or **Rudy Cvetkovic (239)** at [rudyc69@msn.com](mailto:rudyc69@msn.com). If you cannot reach your class representative, call the Alumni Association office at (215) 927-9550 or e-mail the Association at [chsalmuniph1@aol.com](mailto:chsalmuniph1@aol.com). 

### CLASS REPS

<b>156</b> —Vic Nagelberg		<b>221</b> —Chuck Steinberg	<a href="mailto:csteinberg@jagermgt.com">csteinberg@jagermgt.com</a>
<b>163</b> —Albert Dukow		<b>222</b> —Mike Radel	<a href="mailto:mail@chs222.com">mail@chs222.com</a>
<b>168</b> —Herb Clofine		<b>223</b> —David Forstein	
<b>170</b> —Jim Siciliano	<a href="mailto:jsiciliano@comcast.net">jsiciliano@comcast.net</a>	<b>224</b> —Saul Langsam	<a href="mailto:lawmaster9@aol.com">lawmaster9@aol.com</a>
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<b>175</b> —Bernard Gross	<a href="mailto:gross18@comcast.net">gross18@comcast.net</a>	<b>227</b> —Joe Grossman	
<b>176</b> —Ted Krouse	<a href="mailto:drtk203@aol.com">drtk203@aol.com</a>	<b>228</b> —Marc Anmuth	<a href="mailto:manmuth@aol.com">manmuth@aol.com</a>
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## MAKE THE NEW ALUMNI DIRECTORY THE BEST EVER

by Harvey Steinberg, 209

The Alumni Association is preparing important written material and photographs to be included in the 2012 edition of the *Alumni Directory of Central High School*. This latest revision also provides an opportunity for you to write anything you would like to accompany your listing—a poem, a story, a biography of no more than 300 words—your choice. You may also submit a photograph of your choosing—you, your family, you and friends.

Please don't miss this opportunity to make your Central High School *Alumni Directory* the best it has ever been

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If you have not yet responded, please call (800) 927-2756. Remember, there is no obligation, other than updating your information. However, if you do choose to purchase a book, it benefits the School. So think of giving a little back.

I know that all of our alums are very busy people, but do both you and me a favor by taking a few minutes to complete this task. No replies will be accepted after January 23, 2012. 🍓

## CONCERT INAUGURATES REFURBISHED AUDITORIUM

On Monday, November 28, the Central High School Music Department presented an inaugural concert celebrating the completion of the auditorium restoration.

After opening remarks by Dr. Sheldon Pavel, President, and **Harvey Steinberg (209)**, AACHS president, the Music Department took the stage.

To begin the program, The Central High School Choir, directed by Benjamin E. Blazer, sang the stirring Sephardic folk song *Durme, Durme*. Their next selections reflected the holiday season: *Journey in Peace*, incorporating a traditional Hebrew prayer, by Andy Beck and Ben Cohn; and *Carol of the Bells*, originally written by Ukrainian composer, Mykola Leontovych, with contemporary lyrics by Peter J. Wilhousky. The choir's segment finished with the traditional South African hymn, *Siyahamba*, composed by Andries van Tonder, in an arrangement by Anders Nyberg.

The full Central High School Orchestra, conducted by Stephen Wilensky, appeared next, and brought the audience to its feet with a superb performance of Gioachino Rossini's *Overture to L'italiana in Algeri*.

The String Orchestra then offered the *Concerto in G Major* by Antonio Vivaldi, after which the full Orchestra returned to perform the *Overture to The Merry Wives of Windsor* by Otto Nicolai.

The combined Orchestra and Choir joined for the finale—a rendition of the Central High School Song which moved even those guests who hadn't heard it sung before. "Dear High" was the perfect end to a perfect evening. 🍓

Let others sing of college days,  
Their Alma Mater true.  
But when we raise our voices,  
'Tis only High for you.  
We'll ne'er forget those days gone by,  
Those glorious days of old.  
When oft we sang the praises of  
The Crimson and the Gold.  
  
Dear high, dear Central High  
Thy mem'ries never die.  
Thy honor we'll cherish and  
Laud it to the sky.  
On ballfield or in life,  
In peace or deadly strife,  
For thee we all will labor,  
For thee, oh, dear old High.

But when at last we leave behind  
Thy shelt'ring portals wide.  
Thy honor still we'll cherish,  
Whate'er may us betide.  
And when we congregate again  
With tuneful voice and strong,  
With joyful hearts once more we'll sing  
This same old glorious song.  
  
Dear high, dear Central High  
Thy mem'ries never die.  
Thy honor we'll cherish and  
Laud it to the sky.  
On ballfield or in life,  
In peace or deadly strife,  
For thee we all will labor,  
For thee, oh, dear old High.

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