



FALL 2016

# THE Alumni JOURNAL

## THANKSGIVING DAY BREAKFAST AND FOOTBALL GAME

**G**et your tickets to the annual AACHS Thanksgiving Day Victory Breakfast, Thursday November 24th, and help the Central Athletics program.

For the special price of \$25 you get a complete buffet breakfast at Jack's Deli (8500 Bustleton Ave., Philadelphia) and a ticket to the Central-Northeast game.

Breakfast begins at 9 a.m.; the game kicks off at 10:30 a.m.

Consider sponsoring a student for \$25.

You can sign up and pay online at <https://centralhighalumni.com/events/aachs-annual-thanksgiving-breakfast/>

You can also mail a check payable to AACHS, along with attendee and student sponsorship info to:

AACHS Thanksgiving  
P.O. Box 26580,  
Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580

Please direct any questions to **Ted Rothman (205)** at 267-269-7045.

**SEE BACK PAGE FOR MAIL IN TICKET RSVP CARD!**

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# EDITORS' MESSAGE

*Merrill Freedman (208)*

*Steve Chappell (209)*

*Editors, The Alumni Journal*



Ok, so I'm not ready to take Steve Chappell's (209) face off of this Editor's Note. I know he's president now, and I also know that there are two wonderful young alumni working hard on the Journal in the background. It's just that I've had a lot of fun working with Steve, and I'm not ready to let him go, even if it's to play a much larger role in our Alumni Association. Now, don't get me wrong: he and **Jerry Kates (194)** are still going to have a last look – a final edit. So, if you find errors, just blame them.

When I took over as editor, before Steve came along, I broke my own cardinal rule of retirement. I swore that I would do nothing that wasn't fun, and I assure you, those first couple of years were decidedly not fun. I met Steve for the first time at a Capital Campaign committee meeting, and asked if he would join me as co-editor. Talk about smart moves...

The next smart, and lucky thing that happened was having **Neil Deegan (263)** and **Cynthia Lee (263)** join the editorial staff of the Journal. You'll be hearing much more from them in this Journal. They're talented and they're fun, and if I could only talk them into retirement before they reach 40, we could make a real game of this editor thing. You'll read about them in this Journal, and as they write future Editor's Notes while I take their place in the background.

Central is a very old school, but the students who walk its halls will not age more than four years from the day they entered as freshmen. So, those of us who happen to be a bit older, must always look to those who come along behind us. They know a lot, and we can learn from each other. I, for one, am enjoying the experience.

## The Associated Alumni of the Central High School of Philadelphia

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# AACHS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Chappell (209)



I am honored and flattered to have been elected as AACHS president for the 2016-2017 term. I feel privileged and, at the same time, humbled. I realize that I will need all the help that my fellow alumni can provide, and I ask you for it now, and in the future.

I pledge to honor and be guided by the legacy of an illustrious group of predecessors, the touchstones of which have been Honoring the Past and Ensuring the Future. We in many ways (Hall of Fame, reunions, etc.) continue to honor the past. It is, however, primarily for the purpose of ensuring the future of Central High School and its students that AACHS exists; our Mission Statement illustrates the point.

## MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL OF PHILADELPHIA

The purposes for which this Association is formed and shall operate are as follows:

- To encourage and support high standards of scholarship and character training in the education of students of Central High School.
- To encourage and support a high standard of teaching at Central High School.
- To encourage and support the development of activity incident to and complementary to the curriculum of the school.
- To raise and distribute funds in aid of the academic and scholastic programs of the school and activities complementary thereto.
- To maintain scholarship funds to enable deserving students to obtain a higher education

The goals noted in the Mission Statement continue to grow in import and weight. Over the recent past, we have come to understand more and more that we must rely less and less on the ability of the

School District to provide more than absolutely required to funding. We have come to understand that self-help is needed.

Self-Help is probably most required with respect to bringing the CHS facilities up to 21st century standards. To direct a fundraising campaign to renovate and add to the school, AACHS and the Central Home and School Association have jointly supported the hiring of an experienced Director of Development - Ms. Lynn Norton Robins - who started July 1, 2016. I expect you will be hearing from Lynn in the not too-distant future.

Speaking of "hearing", I was dismayed to hear that a larger than I would like number of alumni feel that they "never hear" from AACHS. We produce and maintain a website for alumni - [www.centralhighalumni.com](http://www.centralhighalumni.com). We produce the Alumni Journal you are now reading. We maintain a Twitter account. There is a CHS Alumni Facebook Page. We e-mail you with news of the organization. If you have suggestions about how you might better "hear" from us, please e-mail at [president@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:president@centralhighalumni.com) and let me know. I'm all ears.

Some other notes of importance:

- AACHS welcomes the members of the 279th class to Dear High, and wishes them the very better in their Central careers
- Please note the date of Career Day - November 21, 2016, and sign up with **Jeff Muldawer (225)**
- Please make plans to attend the Thanksgiving Day breakfast and the Big Game.
- Please make plans to come back to school and see today's kids and today's Central.
- If you would like to communicate directly with me about anything - [president@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:president@centralhighalumni.com)

# CENTRAL PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

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This year, our fall semester began on September 7, 2016. We welcomed 2370 students through the doors of "Dear Old High", as we begin our 180th year of developing the next generation of leaders in Philadelphia. This summer, I took time to reflect upon my personal journey at Central High School. During my five years as president of our school, I have developed relationships with some of the most inspiring people in my life. Last year, our students completed over 65,000 hours of community service. Central students are not only exemplary students; they are commendable human beings who understand that they are a part of a larger community, and are responsible for sharing their talents. During my administration, we have made efforts to work with the school district, AACHS, CHS Home and School, and outside partners to upgrade access to technology for our faculty and students. We have made strides in this area and will be studying the effect it has had on our academic program, as we complete a year of self-study during the Middle State accreditation process. My belief is that the investments that we have made will support us as we challenge our students to excel in a 21st century world.

We have more Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses, athletic teams, and extracurricular clubs than any other school in our school district, city, and state. Central High School is moving forward and we will continue to offer the most comprehensive educational program in the city of Philadelphia. I invite you to visit to see what is happening on a daily basis. Thank you for your continued support.



**Timothy McKenna**  
President, Central High School

# A NEW DEVELOPMENT

Lynn Norton Robins, AACHS Director of Development

**A**ACHS now has a Development Office.

I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to lead the work of that office as the AACHS Director of Development.

In the relatively short period that I have been here, I come away every day marveling at what a truly special place Central High is, and how very special are the people associated with the school – the administration, the faculty, the students, and the alumni. I am honored to be associated with such a dedicated and accomplished group.

A reasonable question – why do we need a Development Office? The answer is straight forward – an ever-increasing need to raise significant funds to continue to provide current CHS students with the education and living experience that is unique to Central. All are aware of the Philadelphia School District funding cutbacks. In addition, Central is a high achieving, high performing school. Underperforming schools are considered to be far more in need of what monies are available.

Thanks to its many generous alumni, Central could weather to some degree the impact of funding cuts. But more is needed. More is needed to sustain critically important programs such as our award-winning robotics, athletics, art and music programs. More is needed to bring the Central physical plant up to 21st century standards. It is apparent that to achieve the “more” that is needed, a far more organized fundraising structure is required and thus the need for a Development Office.

I will need your help. Without it my chances of success lessen considerably. I encourage you to contact me by phone (215-276-5262, ext. 3130) or e-mail ([Lynn@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:Lynn@centralhighalumni.com)) or to visit me at Room 313 in the school. I would appreciate the opportunity to explain in greater detail the importance of your active engagement and support to ensure the success of the **AACHS Lead the Way** annual campaign which will begin shortly.

I look forward to working with you to **Lead the Way** to a bright future for Central.

## TAKE YOUR SEATS, PLEASE!

**T**he restoration of the fire-damaged school auditorium is complete, and many alumni have availed themselves of the opportunity to dedicate the new, upholstered seats. Opportunities remain to 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 tax-deductible donation per seat. Please use the form on this page, or donate at [www.centralhighalumni.com](http://www.centralhighalumni.com).

### AUDITORIUM SEAT DEDICATION APPLICATION

Name	Class
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Telephone	Email
Inscription (up to 3 lines; 30 characters per line including spaces):	
Single seats or rows, in groups of 9 to 23 seats, are available at \$300 per seat. Make check or money order payable to AACHS and mail to: AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580	

# AACHS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING FEATURES

## MAYOR JIM KENNEY

*Neil Deegan (263)*

Alumni, staff, students and Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney came together on a warm June 1st evening for this year's AACHS Annual Meeting and Dinner.

Outgoing AACHS President **Jeff Muldawer (225)** handed the baton to newly elected AACHS President **Steve Chappell (209)**; new board members **Neil Deegan (263)**, **Steven A. Shapiro, DO (225)** and **Jordan J. Yuter (243)** were elected by voice vote. A customized varsity jacket was presented to Muldawer by Chappell and Archivist **David Kahn (220)** as a small token of appreciation for Jeff's years of dedicated service to the Association.

Central President Tim McKenna delivered to those assembled a report on the state of the school, including the success of its academic, athletic and extracurricular programs. He also profiled the incoming freshman class.

One of the most anticipated moments of the evening was the announcement of the Disharoon Award winner. Acclaimed student athlete **Meghan Tezik (275)** was selected among a group of seven remarkable students to become this year's distinguished awardee. Earlier this year, Tezik, a resident of Bridesburg, was named the Boys and Girls Clubs of Philadelphia's Youth of the Year.

Nominees for this year's award included **Daniel Feyler (275)**, **Rosemary George (275)**, **Emmanuel Houndo (275)**, **Neil McNair Jr. (275)**, **Justina Moktan (275)** and **Kwynasia Young (275)**.



**Mayor Jim Kenney**  
Guest Speaker for the Alumni Dinner

When asked by Centralizer editor **Natan Yakov (275)** for her advice for future students, Tezik said, "Stretch yourself as far as you can go. Seize every opportunity you can because you never know where it could lead you."

Mayor Kenney arrived quietly during the business portion of the program, sat at a table near the back of the room and spoke with Tezik and other attendees

before taking the stage for his remarks. During his remarks, he held Central up as a shining example for schools across the city – both for the achievement of our students, but also for Central's place as the most diverse high school in the country.

But, he noted, most city schools don't provide the quality of education students deserve. The Mayor noted that during a visit to the city's prison – which includes a high school program for incarcerated youth - a student remarked to him that his program inside was the best high school he has attended.

Kenney related these comments to his administration's push to create and fund a new pre-K program for the city's children with a tax on sugary drinks, passed by City Council late in June.

A large number of students were invited to participate in the evening's festivities thanks to the generous support of alumni. If you weren't able to attend this year, mark your calendar for early June 2017 for another inspiring evening with Central students of yesterday and today.

# COLUMN A

Bruce Yasgur (216)



**Downeast Maine, early September. For those who noticed the typo, last spring's Column C should have begun: "In the heart of old West Philly, ...". Moving on.**

**M**IT linguist and social critic **Noam Chomsky (184)** has at last joined the ranks of CHS TV and film personalities, including actors **Ed Wynn (110)**, **Norman Fell (176)**, **Bill Cosby (204)**, **Philip Casnoff (226)** and **Julie Stevens (246)**, health guru **Andrew Weil (212)**, **magic mute Teller (224)**, meteorology maven **Glenn Schwartz (227)**, news anchor **Betty Liu (250)**, singers **Arthur Tracy (130)**, **Eric Owens (247)** and **Bree Sharp (252)** and, most notably, frizzy-haired Stooge **Larry Fine (132)**, with his starring role in the hit message movie *Requiem for the American Dream* (2015), an entertaining and thought-provoking commentary on Chomsky's hypothesized conspiracy to squelch American democracy. Our reviewer gives it 4 stars; Rotten Tomatoes 89. You catch it on Netflix and let us know what you think.

Speaking of hippie media, I recently heard a story on *Only a Game*, on my local public radio station, about a unique form of punishment imposed on losing Fantasy Baseball players by the winners in lieu of cash. One loser, a Red Sox fan, had to submit to being photographed wearing Yankees paraphernalia. The shame! OK, so here's a suggestion. But first, let me tell you about my final football game as a Lancer, at Northeast Field, Thanksgiving Day 1960. I was at left tackle. With less than a minute to play, we scored the game-tying TD on a "slant left" play through my hole. (No pun intended.) We didn't kick for extra points back then, so Coach Len Kolenda sent in a message to run the same play for the 2-point conversion. Instead, our QB called for a "slant right," that is, behind the right tackle. I kept my mouth shut. We didn't score the points and the game ended in a tie.

I've never forgotten that play. If only .... Ya know? But suppose, just suppose, we knew that if we didn't win we'd all have to wear Vikings t-shirts as we left the stadium? Think we'd have run that play through

uncleared ground? Just sayin'. BTW, Jeff (Lurie) and Doug (Pederson), whaddaya think about making our Eagles - owner, coaches and all - sport Cowboys jerseys after every loss? Bet we'd have a pretty good season. Just thinkin'. I wouldn't wanna make such a suggestion to the current Lancers' coaching staff, but feel free to talk it over among yourselves.

Star student **Valerie Adams Bass (250)**, recent PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Development, U of P, is a newly-appointed Assistant Professor of Youth and Social Innovations at UVA, a new resident of Charlottesville, VA and a new mother. Congrats to Val, husband Ed and daughter Elon, 4+ months old as of this writing. Star student **Jen Knapp (255)** informs us that both she and brother **Justin (253)** are now homeowners, and that classmates Malcolm Carey and Matthue Roth are gainfully employed. Malcolm recently joined Boston's ancient and venerable law firm Ropes & Gray's accounts payable management team. Former *Mirror* editor-in-chief Matt, whose wife, Itta, just had their fourth child, sometimes steals stories from famous rabbis of yore, but usually creates his own as he dispenses Jewish wit, wisdom and poetry via a variety of vehicles, including slams, shows and videos, as well as books and an on-line publication, *Hevria*. We wish you sleep, Matt.

Thanks to my wife Janice's eagle eye and high expectations of yours truly, we're about to break ground for this column by featuring a current Central student, a member of the newly-minted 282. According to a recent issue of the *Jewish Exponent*, "(f)ourteen-year-old Zoe Bailkin, an incoming freshman at Philadelphia's Central High School ... read a passage of scripture at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in an interfaith gathering." Congrats to Zoe and all of our verdant freshmen. See you in four years at an Alumni event or two.

Got a comment, question, boast or brag? Email us at [byasgur216@gmail.com](mailto:byasgur216@gmail.com). Class number, please.

# DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION 2016

Neil Deegan (263)

I've been incredibly lucky to have had the opportunity to attend the last three Democratic National Conventions. I attended the 2008 gathering in Denver as a Temple University graduate student and, in 2012, as an appointed page to the delegation. In 2016, however, I was merely a city resident with the opportunity to attend three of the four nights of the convention's proceedings.

Throughout the week, Center City was electric with the energy of tens of thousands of delegates, guests, elected officials and media enjoying all that Philadelphia has to offer.

For delegates, each day began with a breakfast and credential pick-up meetings featuring state elected officials and candidates as speakers.

During the day, delegates were free to attend events, caucus meetings of the party and other meetings around the city, or spend that time taking in the sights and sounds of the city.

By evening, delegates made their way to the Wells Fargo Center by charter bus (or – for savvy delegates – the Broad Street Subway) for the day's main business.

After the convention is concluded for the evening, delegates attend any of a number of late night parties hosted by state delegations and interested organizations. Delegates and guests attended events at venues as varied as the National Museum of American Jewish History, Union Transfer, the former Bok High School and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Blocks around the Wells Fargo Center were cordoned off to create a secure campus including a temporary transit station for charter buses and Uber, a huge media camp and food. Food trucks and Xfinity Live were open for those interested in grabbing a bite before entering the venue (where lines stretched around the concourse on night one). CNN set up a more exclusive "CNN Grill" for notable guests near their broadcast position at Xfinity Live.

Walking around the secure campus and inside the convention hall, I ran into friends, former colleagues, and spotted a unique mix of notable folks – including

New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio, Geraldo Rivera of Fox News (being transported on a golf cart), Game Change co-author John Heilemann and Karl Rove.

Just walking to grab lunch in Center City during this week, it would not have been a challenge to run into a television personality like Philadelphia native Chris Matthews in a Starbucks, as I did, or a legendary civil rights icon like Congressman John Lewis, as a friend recounted.

Inside the hall, seats are, of course, at a premium. Delegates are mostly seated on the floor and in lower level sections, while guests take in the proceedings from the upper levels and club boxes. Speeches by President Obama, Vice President Biden, Senators Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders, President Bill Clinton and Secretary Clinton were accompanied by well produced video introductions.

But, what you may have missed at home were speeches by Mayor Jim Kenney, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, Senator Bob Casey and a collection of transformative leaders from communities across the country. Imagine the excitement of seeing a local representative, advocate or perhaps a friend or neighbor with a unique story, on the national stage – if even for a moment. Those moments were plentiful at this convention.

I had the opportunity to participate in the convention's activities during three of the four nights of the proceedings, and toured the city on Thursday afternoon to take in the energy that was palpable citywide.

In addition to the business of a convention – including nominating a candidate for president – the goal of a national political convention is to unite the party, and to energize party leaders and faithful to work to elect their chosen candidate. In that, this convention succeeded.

But, what I am truly left with is just how incredibly our city performed and appeared on the national stage, and just how remarkable a job the city, police, SEPTA and the Philadelphia Host Committee (led in part by **Jordan Schwartz (256)**) had done in bringing this event together seamlessly. Let there be no question after this convention, and last year's visit by Pope Francis, that our city can do big things.

2016 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION



# A CENTRAL FRIENDSHIP

*Merill Freedman (208)*

After several telephone conversations with **Bill Kott (171)**, we arranged to meet during my last trip to Southern California. Unfortunately, I had a klutzy fall, which did damage to an already failing knee, making the drive impossible. Nevertheless, I found that our Central connection has led to a friendship that I have come to value.

Bill is 94 years old – only slightly unique among our alumni; I've met several Central men who've reached their 90's. Of course, meeting, or at best, chatting with someone, does not constitute a friendship. When a man calls me to check up on the results of my knee surgery, we've moved a bit beyond chatting.

After hearing the beginning of Bill's remarkable story, I wanted to do an in-person interview, so I could hope to organize what should be a novel into a short piece for the Journal. I wanted to see his wall of mounted medals – both from the USA and France. I was mesmerized by his stories about the Battle of the Bulge, and of marching through France. I enjoyed hearing of his great admiration for General Patton. (I had an uncle whose feelings for the great general could not be described as "admiration.")

When we spoke of different phases of his life, Bill's common theme was, "I was just doing my job." Graduating from Central at age 16; joining the army as soon as he was of age in 1942, and "doing his job" as an infantryman, until, while on route to Japan, the war came to an abrupt end. He remained in California after discharge for the service, and earned five (5) degrees. He became a dentist, then a physician, and at that point, I'll have to find out more.

What is unique for me, is that this man and I have become friends. What a rare privilege! This friendship makes me think of one of my pet peeves about our alumni. We remain close with our class, but rarely take our friendships beyond that. My own 208 classmates enjoy our reunions, and regularly turn out for each (60th in 2017). Like most alumni, they generally don't turn out for Central alumni events. I wish I could convince my friends of how much they're missing. Our many generations of Central men and women have so much to share with each other. We all belong to this very exclusive club: We are Central alumni.

## HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE EVENT

The eighth annual Holocaust Remembrance Event at Central High School was held on April 25, 2016. Alumni Holocaust survivors who spoke at the event included **Manny Mandel (202)**, a survivor of Bergen Belsen who was rescued on the Kastner train and **George Marcus (204)**, who was able to leave Germany with his family in 1939 after his father, who had been in a concentration camp, was released.

Ernie Gross, who was imprisoned at Dachau, Annalise Noosbaum, who survived Terezin and Auschwitz and David Tuck, who was in a ghetto before spending time in multiple concentration camps, including a sub camp of Auschwitz related their experiences.

Also speaking was Don Greenbaum, a soldier with the U.S. Army unit which liberated Dachau, and saved Ernie Gross' life. In recent years they have become very good friends.

Each year the speakers tell very compelling stories. Look for the announcement of the ninth event, and make every effort to attend.

# REUNIONS

**207** On November 19, 2016, the class will hold its 60th reunion at the Sheraton Society Hill. Contact Art Hausman – [ahausman@comcast.net](mailto:ahausman@comcast.net)

**208** October 7, 2017 – 60th reunion. Details to be announced

**231** Their 45th reunion is scheduled for 10/7/2017 at the Platinum Grill, Chestnut Hill.

**235** The 40th reunion of the 235 will be held on November 12, 2016 from 6 to 9 PM at South Bowl, 19 E. Oregon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19148. Cost is \$40 per person; cash bar; free parking. Spouses and significant others are invited. To RSVP and for information contact DEL ([rdel53@comcast.net](mailto:rdel53@comcast.net)).

**255** 20th reunion is coming up on 11/25/16 – 8PM – 12AM at the latse Ballroom, 2401 S. Swanson St.. Philadelphia 19148. The price \$75; \$37.50 reserves your place.

**260** The 15- year reunion will take place on 11/26/16 from 8:30PM to 12:30AM at the Loews Hotel, 12th and Market Streets.

**265** The 10th reunion will be held on 11/26/16 from 7 to 11 PM at Bourbon Blue, 2 Rector Street, Philadelphia, PA 19127. The cost is \$65 per person.

**266** The 10th reunion will be held at the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing on 11/25/17.

**270** The 5th year reunion will be held at 8PM, Friday, November 25th at Vesper, 223 S. Sydenham St., Phila., PA. Contact Nikita Shaw – [shawnikita21@gmail.com](mailto:shawnikita21@gmail.com) or Diane Kim – [kimdiane@gmail.com](mailto:kimdiane@gmail.com).

# ALMA MATTERS

**195** J. Ronald Klenk reports the following: "I have been in Compeer, a program for people in recovery from mental illness, with a matched friend for fifteen years. Because we no longer live in the same town, we meet once a month or so. On my 83rd birthday, (13 May), we celebrated with a nice lunch at Ruby Tuesday's in Conshohocken, as well as homemade cupcakes to share with other residences of Presbyterian Village".

**198** Stanley Cohen, Bernard Gross and their wives recently visited Israel. Coincidentally, the bus that took them to the airport was numbered 198.

**207** Joseph Baker spent a career in Otolaryngology. "I started my ENT residency at Tampa General in 1966, and, but for two years at the USAF Medical Center Write-Patterson (1969-1971), have been in Florida ever since. After I closed my practice in June, 2006, I did some locum tenens work in Williamsport, PA and all over North Dakota. My last assignment was in 2012, after which I decided to hang it up."

**238** Anthony E. DeMarco, D.O., F.A.C.O., F.P., a resident of Kennett Square, PA, was recently installed as the 105th president of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) a statewide organization for physicians holding the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree.

**238** Art Dengel, Jr. has been named Director of Trust and Private Banking for Kish Bank in State College, PA. Please feel free to contact Art at [Art.Dengel@Kishbank.com](mailto:Dengel@Kishbank.com).

**255** Jocelyn Edathil reports that she matriculated at Villanova, then went on to Medical School at Penn State, graduating from the MD/PhD program (PhD in Organic Chemistry). After completing her Internal Medicine Residency at Temple University Hospital she took a position as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at Temple.

Dr. Edathil is pleased to share that she was she was to take her first vows with the Sisters of the Imitation of Christ on August 6, 2016.

**263** Dr. Michael Birnbaum (brother of board member David Birnbaum, Esq. 265) is leading research at the world-renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) aiming to engineer new methods to more potently mount an immune response to cancer and infections. Feel his energy in this Q & A as he talks about his work, his life and the unique CENTRAL biology program that put him on this amazing path. <https://centralhighalumni.com/2016/09/unique-central-biology-program-helped-shape-cancer-research/>

# IN MEMORIAM

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# STUDENT ARTISTS' CORNER

Featured art student, **Camren Randleman (276)**

Currently taking AP Studio Art

Interviewed by **Angela Myronovych (276)**

**AM:** What are some highlights from your CHS experience?

**CR:** Being part of stage crew and set design. I've been able to incorporate building sets and working as part of a crew into my high school career. I've met new people and become more confident.

**AM:** What is the greatest way you've been able to use your creativity?

**CR:** Within my own personal artwork. I've learned how to express my ideas on paper and to use different media which I might not have opened myself up to had it not been part of the lessons.

**AM:** What kinds of materials?

**CR:** Things like charcoal and acrylic paints... I found out that I don't hate them as much as I thought I was going to (laughing).

**AM:** What's your favorite medium?

**CR:** It's still watercolors. I like that the paint moves by itself and doesn't need to be as controlled as much.

**AM:** What's been your greatest learning experience, either in or outside the classroom?

**CR:** As far as school in general, learning to speak up for myself and not being afraid of interacting with people.

**AM:** Like during the critiques and stuff...

**CR:** Yeah. (smiles)

**AM:** What are some unique opportunities you've taken advantage of because you're at Central?

**CR:** Well, there's AP Art. I don't think I would have that opportunity at most schools. Also, the art supplies. As I said, at Central, I've gotten to use lots of different media. I also enjoy learning in science and English. I like learning in general, and I feel like Central is a really good place to do that.

**AM:** It's like it's the perfect combination of academics and art.

**CR:** Yes.

**AM:** It's hard to believe, but you're a senior now. What do you hope to do when you graduate or what college do you want to go to?



**CR:** I want to go to Drexel University at the Westphal College of Art & Design and study fashion design with a concentration in costume design. And after that, to use those skills and work in that area.

**AM:** Who is someone who inspires you? Could be a celebrity, a teacher, anyone...

**CR:** I would have to say my dad to be honest. He's a really perseverant person. He doesn't give up, even when it looks like the odds aren't in his favor. Also, he puts me back in the right mindset - like when I might be worrying about something too much or really overthinking it. He's also a really creative person.

**AM:** What do you like aside from art?

**CR:** I really like to read and watch movies. I like immersing myself in someone else's story. It's interesting because it gives you other people's perspectives.

**AM:** What makes you want to do fashion or costume design? What motivates you?

**CR:** I've always been drawn to it since I was little. Also the influence of other people. My mom had a background in sewing.

**AM:** Your dad has a theater production company too.

**CR:** Yes, I've gotten to make costumes with my dad and his company. It's another form of creativity. Seeing it on people and seeing people look their best. It's really important how

people acknowledge you. That's why I want to do high end fashion and evening wear. I like seeing people present themselves in a really nice way.

**AM:** How do you think you've changed the most at Central?

**CR:** My artistic skills have improved a lot I think. Just looking at my portfolio of work from when I was applying to high schools compared to what I am doing now while applying to colleges, it's just way different. Also being more confident in myself and not worrying so much what other people think.

**AM:** Becoming an artist, basically.

**CR:** Yeah. And a better person.

# CLASS REPS

The 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.

The Association has launched an effort to confirm the suitability and dedication of every rep, new and existing. As a result, several changes and vacancies have occurred. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your class rep, or if you would like to apply for or recommend someone for a vacant rep position, please email the Alumni Association at [alumoffice@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumoffice@centralhighalumni.com). If email is not an option, please call (215) 927-9550. If you would like to contact your class rep, please email the Alumni office in care of her or his name. (Email addresses are not shown here in order to avoid their being harvested by spammers.) Note that the current class reps list begins with the **181<sup>st</sup>** Class; for reps for prior classes, please

contact us.

- |                                 |                                  |                                      |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>181</b> – Jules Silk         | <b>205</b> – Ted Rothman         | <b>231</b> – Fred Ratner             | <b>257</b> – Angela Reale-Povia  |
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| <b>198</b> – Stanley H. Cohen   | <b>222</b> – Mike Radel          | <b>248</b> – Keeya Branson Davis     | <b>274</b> – Anh Cao             |
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| <b>201</b> – Sam Wurtzel        | <b>225</b> – Paul Roseman        | <b>251</b> – Leigh Whitaker          |                                  |
| <b>202</b> – Bob E. Spivak      | <b>226</b> – Zachary Rubin       | <b>252</b> – Gina Meissler           |                                  |
| <b>203</b> – Philip Remstein    | <b>227</b> – Gary Koupf          | <b>253</b> – Mike Ambrosius          |                                  |
| <b>204</b> – Arthur D. Magilner | <b>228</b> – Bob Barthelmeh      | <b>254</b> – Lisbeth C. Lopez-Little |                                  |
|                                 | <b>229</b> – Frank Piliero       | <b>255</b> – Broderick Jones         |                                  |
|                                 | <b>230</b> – Larry Plotkin       | <b>256</b> – Dan Taraborrelli        |                                  |

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# ART DEPARTMENT

During the 2015-16 school year there were many highlights in the Art Department of Central High School. Students participated in programs with local arts organizations and institutions, received numerous awards for their artworks, created amazing set designs, and participated in a number of art exhibitions, including Central's very own Art Expo.

Almost a hundred art students benefited from an exciting partnership with the Barnes Foundation that included intensive learning opportunities fully funded through the generosity of Joan and Bernard Spain (198). Sculpture students visited the museum where they investigated the metalwork in the Barnes collection, as well as the objects that were displayed in the special exhibition *Strength and Splendor: Wrought Iron from the Musée Le Secq des Tournelles, Rouen*. Students learned the differences between forging and casting from local artists, John Philips and Gina Michaels. Later, students visited the artists' foundry in Germantown and experienced their own sculptures being cast in bronze. Art 2 students participated in a program that centered around the special exhibition *Picasso and the The Great War, Experimentation and Change*, which included works from 1912 – 1924 when Picasso shifted back and forth between the cubist and classical modes. Central art students took on the roles as station guides for both the general public on a PECO Sunday and for members of the staff at the museum, during their final visit there. Finally, students had the great pleasure of experiencing their paintings and drawings inspired by Picasso's work displayed in the library of the Barnes Collection.

Seven Central students participated in a docent training program through the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art (PAFA) and received Certificates of Achievement, free membership and earned our school a free field trip to the museum. Student docents were **Xin Li (275)**, **Tavian Rocket (276)**, **Begimay Ahmatova (276)**, **Mary Elizabeth Greeley (278)**, **Avery Adeshigbin (276)**, **Asher Lentz (277)**, and **Qianyi Zhao (275)**. Forty-three students in Central's International Baccalaureate program enjoyed the end of the year trip to PAFA, where they were led by their fellow student docents through the collection and into engaging conversations about the art.

Central High School's Art and Music Departments collaborated on multiple programs. The talents of our students were shown off through the dynamic and colorful set designs for *Seussical the Musical*. Thanks to student captains, **Celia Hutton-Johns (276)** and **Camren Randleman (276)** and all the members of the set design and stage crew advisory and club for their great creative effort and incredible hard work on the set designs. The Art Department again collaborated with the Music Department during the finale of the Spring Music Concert when students' films were projected in synch with the live musical performance of *Toto's Africa*.

Art students received a number of awards for their artworks that were displayed in the Philadelphia Sketch Club's High School Art Exhibition and the Philadelphia School District's Young Artists Show. Scholastic Art & Writing awarded to our students two Gold Keys, three Silver Keys and thirty Honorable Mentions. Students also won top prizes in the regional contests for the Labor Day poster and button designs, the poster design sponsored by the Philadelphia Chapter of The Links, Inc., and the Dad Vail Regatta poster

artwork. Lists of students and their class numbers are provided.

Finally, the Art Department totally enjoyed sharing hundreds of student artworks here in the main hallway of Central High School during the Art Expo. This event was a true celebration that in addition to great art, included demonstrations of digital design, printmaking, and clay throwing. There was face painting, a photo booth, costume contest and the edible art contest which also served as our source of tasty desserts. We hope that if you're still reading, it's because you are interested in the arts at Central High School and that you will join us for this school year's Art Expo. Mark your calendar for April 27, 2017, 4 – 7 PM. Hope to see you there!

## Young Artists Show

**Award:** *Center for Learning through the Arts* - Xin Li (275), Ludia Sim (275), Zayim Abdul-Wakeel (275)

**Award:** *Cheltenham Camera Club* - Molly Creamer (275), Tahira Bradley (277)

**Award:** *Delta Sigma Theta* - Soleil Dancy-Taliaferro (277)

**Award:** *Gladys Bloch* - Camren Randleman (276)

## A+ Art Celebration at City Hall

Agra Damsyik (277), Isabella Sorrentino (278), Sandy Duong (277), Yanling Sun (277), Zayim Abdul-Wakeel (275)

## Labor Day Poster Art Contest

**Poster Contest:** Kymblye Clark (277)

**Button Contest:** Veronika Zotova (275)

## Philadelphia Chapter of The Links, Inc.

**First place:** Denada Shurdha (275), **Second place:** Madolin Mast (278), **Third place:** Jennifer Le (275)

## Dad Vail Regatta

**First Place:** Angela Myronovych (276)

## Scholastic Art Awards

**Gold Keys:** Jiamei Huang (275), Ani Nele (276) **Silver Keys:** Kymblye Clark (277), Xin Li (275) - two Silver Keys, Krysta Walicki (278)

**Honorable Mentions:** Begimay Ahmatova (276), Kymblye Clark (277), Jiamei Huang (275) - two Honorable Mentions, Aminul Kabir (275), Xin Li (275) - two Honorable Mentions, Madolin Mast (278) - three Honorable Mentions, Fozia Mohamed (278), Angela Myronovych (276) - four Honorable Mentions, Ani Nele (276), Camren Randleman (276), Gabriel Richman (275), Christopher Rinehardt (275), Ludia Sim (275) - two Honorable Mentions, Desiree Smith (276) - two Honorable Mentions, Van Tran (276), Krysta Walicki (278) - five Honorable Mentions, Shahvteeaylah Williams (276)

## Philadelphia Sketch Club Awards

**Peace Award:** Desiree Smith (276), **Printmaking Award:** Begimay Ahmatova (276), **Bob Jackson Award:** Ashley Garcia (278), **Center for Learning Through the Arts Award:** Molly Creamer (275), **Patricia Wilson-Schmid Award:** Naeem Allen-Stills (275), **Philadelphia Award:** Huanchi Chen (275). "Healthy citizens are the greatest asset any country can have."  
- Winston Churchill

# A CAREER HELPING PHILADELPHIANS TO #GETCOVERED

*Christina Kappiuzhathil (263)*

Like many high school seniors, I was excited by the prospect of college and “adulting”, this excitement in stark opposition to the crippling realization that I hadn’t the slightest idea what I wanted to do with my life. I did know that I’ve always enjoyed helping people, and that I wanted a career in a field which allowed me the opportunity to work with people. And so, I chose nursing.

Doing clinical rotations as a second-year nursing student, I saw many patients with chronic health conditions, conditions which could have perhaps been prevented had these patients had access to regular, preventive care. As fulfilling as I found nursing to be, I realized that I wanted to work on the prevention side of healthcare. The path to doing so involved the pursuit of a degree in health sciences and, subsequently, a Master’s in Public Health.

In 2010, President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Care Act (ACA) into law – with the goal of ensuring that all individuals have access to quality, affordable health insurance. In 2015, Pennsylvania expanded its Medicaid program to further increase access to health care for lower-income Pennsylvanians.

I believe that health care is a fundamental right for all Americans. I focused my graduate studies on community health and health policy. The courses I took helped me better understand health care laws and how much the landscape of health care had failed Americans for so many years, and how to alter that landscape.

Millions of uninsured and underinsured Americans were struggling to pay for the most basic of services including primary care visits, prescriptions, and preventative screenings. Those covered by employer plans risked losing coverage if they lost their job or, if they had individual coverage, losing it if they became ill or injured.

I began my work with the Health Federation of Philadelphia’s Outreach and Enrollment program in 2013, during the ACA’s first enrollment period. As the program coordinator, I work with a team of passionate individuals to help the uninsured to better understand their options, and ultimately to enroll into coverage.

Since 2013, my team has helped over 18,000 individuals apply for coverage, submit appeals for denied coverage, and to select physicians. We answer questions about the relationship between taxes and health insurance, and explain how coverage is to be used.

We collaborate with a variety of local and regional partners – including the City of Philadelphia’s health centers, Community College of Philadelphia, the Free Library of Philadelphia and Enroll America – in an effort to reach as many people as we can.

Over the past year I’ve had the opportunity to participate in several important health policy meetings, including a sit-down with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Sylvia Burwell, and Kevin Counihan, the CEO of the Federal Marketplace. These meetings have provided an important platform for us to discuss and advocate for the state of health insurance enrollment in Pennsylvania.

Access to quality, affordable health coverage and care is critical to staying healthy, avoiding illness and catching potential problems early. This year’s open enrollment period for the Marketplace begins on November 1 and ends January 31, 2017.

Since 2013, the uninsured rate in Pennsylvania has been cut nearly in half – but hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians remain without coverage. If you or someone you know have questions regarding health insurance, or need coverage, our team can provide you with unbiased information and resources on a variety of health insurance programs including: CHIP, Medicaid, and Marketplace.

Call our navigator hotline (215-977-7255), reach out by email ([navigator@healthfederation.org](mailto:navigator@healthfederation.org)), or make an appointment using the Get Covered Connector at <http://www.GCAConnector.org>.

SUPPORT THE ARTS AT CENTRAL, COME OUT TO THE SHOW!



*The*  
**ARTS** *at*  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

*- Presents -*

*Charles Dickens'*

**A**  
**Christmas**  
**Carol**

DECEMBER 15TH  
3:30PM

DECEMBER 16TH  
6:00PM

DECEMBER 17TH  
1:00PM & 4:00PM

Central Students & Alumni ~ \$5

Children Under 3 ~ \$5

General Admission ~ \$10

AUDITORIUM

## THANKSGIVING DAY RSVP

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUESTING

Make check or money order payable to AACHS and mail to:  
AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580

## THANKSGIVING DAY BREAKFAST AND FOOTBALL GAME

Get your tickets to the annual AACHS Thanksgiving Day Victory breakfast, Thursday, November 24.

For the special price of \$25, you get a ticket to the Central vs Northeast game and a complete buffet breakfast at Jack's Deli, 8500 Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia. Breakfast begins at 9:00 A.M.; the game kicks off at 10:30 A.M. Please make checks payable to AACHS and mail to: AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580, or purchase your tickets online at <https://centralhighalumni.com/events/aachs-annual-thanksgiving-breakfast/>.



## YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF

*to be a dues paying member of the Associated Alumni of Central High School of Philadelphia*

Read about the exploits of former classmates in the Alumni Journal. Keep in touch with old friends. Support the efforts of the Alumni in improving the technology available to students and faculty, maintaining the appearance of the school and creating scholarships and prizes for graduates and more!

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ Work Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me as:	Life Member	Annual
Classes 224-270	\$500*	\$50
Classes prior to 224 and after 270	\$350*	\$50

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Make check or money order payable to AACHS and mail to:  
AACHS, P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580

## ALMA MATTERS SUBMISSIONS

When submitting, please include your name, graduating class, and email address.

**AACHS P.O. Box 26580 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19141-6580**

*[alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com)*