

# Alumni Journal Spring 2024



CHANGEMAKERS

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

What does it take to be a changemaker? The terms changemaker and leader are often used when describing someone who is noticed, outgoing, and brave. When we imagine a leader we may think of someone who stands out in a crowd and isn't shy about voicing their opinion. I challenge journal readers to consider all types of leaders; reserved, quiet, flexible, accommodating, intelligent, compassionate, tempered, or impressionable. Central undoubtedly creates leaders of all types. Many of those leaders come back for Career Day each year, others are keynote speakers, or major donors. In some way, many Central alumni are creating pathways for others to follow from politics to prose. And how does a leader differ from a change-maker? Are they interchangeable?

My experience with leadership is first-hand. As one of the few published practicing school counselors in the country, I have been a keynote at conferences, presented at national organization meetings all over the United States, and been on the news multiple times. As a leader in my field, I see being a change-maker as having two core qualities: empathy and integrity. The changemakers featured in this journal embody both. It's always a pleasure to get to know fellow alumni through their stories. Graciously sharing a glimpse into their lives with us, I hope we all spend time reading through this edition and reflecting on the ways in which we are change-makers. Whether it be through the way we parent and make generational changes to registering teenagers to vote. Consider providing a motivational and vulnerable speech, even if it means talking to an 11th grade class about almost failing out of Dr. Lipton's physics class but recovering swiftly in the 4th quarter. Changemakers inspire and they also learn from life's unpredictability. We hope you gain a sense of inspiration and renewal this spring. Enjoy!

Alicia Oglesby, 258  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee  
Communications Committee  
Editor, AACHS Alumni Journal



## THE ALUMNI JOURNAL

### Editor

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Yvonne Dennis, 246

Stephen Chappell, 209

Merrill Freedman, 208

Neil Deegan, 263

### Executive Director

Cynthia Lech, 263

### Operations Manager

Erin Hopper

Let us know what you'd like to see in the next Alumni Journal!

[AlumniJournal@CentralHighAlumni.com](mailto:AlumniJournal@CentralHighAlumni.com)

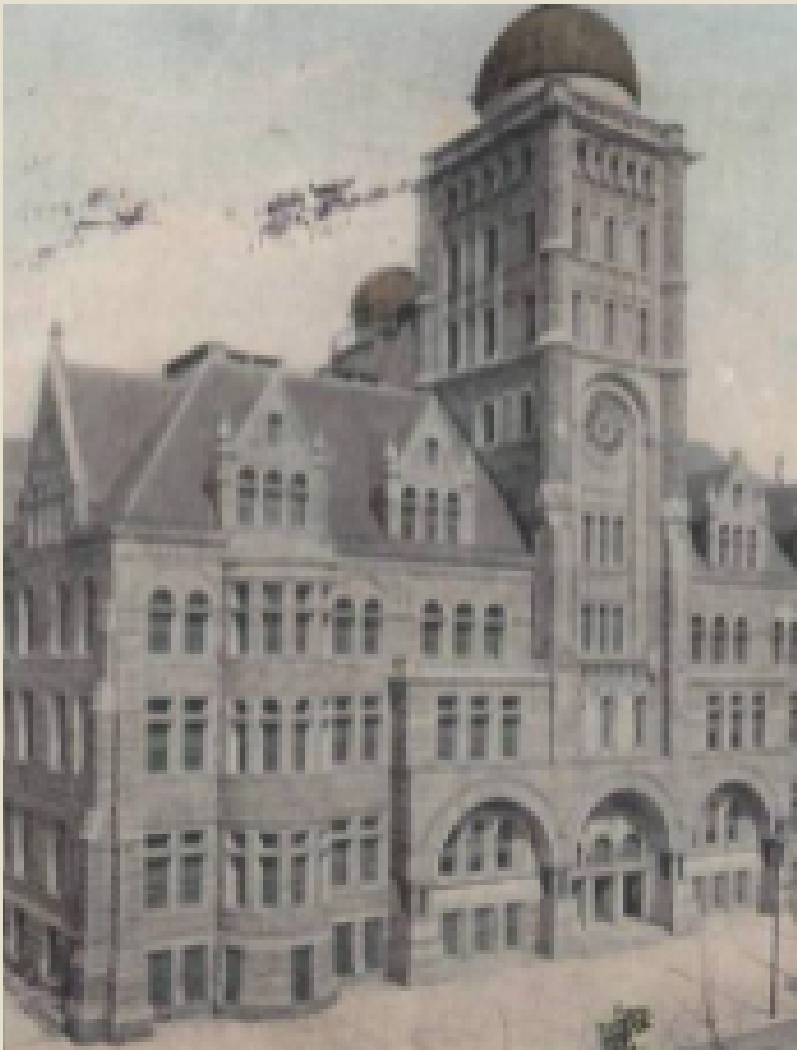
# SHARE YOUR STORY WITH THE LANCER COMMUNITY

The purpose of the Alumni Journal is to inform you about what's happening at Central and with your fellow alumni, to keep you connected to the Central community and to bring our community closer together.

We can't do it without you! Your contributions are essential to making the *Journal* a must read for all Central alumni! If you're interested in contributing on a one-time or regular basis, let us know.

Contact us at [alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com).

Also - don't forget to share your news with us! New jobs, new babies, new partnerships, or just a note to update the Central community on your life. Send them all to us at [alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com), and we'll include them in our Alma Matters section!



**SUPPORT CHS  
MAKE A GIFT!**

66

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE BEHIND THE SCENES WHO MAKES THIS JOURNAL POSSIBLE INCLUDING OUR AMAZING CONTRIBUTORS.**

**YOU ARE APPRECIATED.**

**YOUR DILIGENCE AND COMMITMENT TO THE JOURNAL AS THE COMMUNICATION TOOL FOR ALL ALUMNI IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

**THIS ISN'T AACHS WITHOUT YOU.**



You are cordially invited to

# THE 2024 ANNUAL RECEPTION

Class 277 or  
Earlier \$100

**JUNE 6, 2024**

**5:30 - 8:30 PM**

Class 278-286  
\$75

**RIVERS WATERFRONT**



**GET YOUR TICKETS HERE!**

# Join us for the Annual Reception The AACHS Signature Event

Included with your ticket is cocktail hour, dinner fare, dessert reception, and a program that celebrates the achievements of our Lancers, recognizing excellence, and the culmination of hard work, dedication, and talent of inspiring students.

**5 PM-5:30 PM** | 1836 Society Pin Ceremony – Members Only

**5 PM** | General Registration

**5:30 PM** | Cocktail Hour and Musical Performances

**6 PM** | Annual Reception Opening Remarks

**7 PM** | Keynote Speaker

**7:30 PM** | William M. Disharoon (133) Memorial Award Ceremony

**7:30 PM** | Dessert Reception

**8 PM** | Closing Remarks and Networking



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**Friend of the AACHS \$500**

**Thank you to the 231st class,  
who have committed to a class table sponsorship.**

Contact the Alumni Office at [alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com) to learn more.



# MESSAGE FROM THE 15TH CHS PRESIDENT KATHARINE DAVIS, 264

Dear Central High School Alumni Community,

As I approach the end of my 2nd year as president, I am filled with gratitude for the wonderful community cultivated at Central High School. This year has been filled with excitement, joy, and moments that I will treasure forever. As president, I have made a commitment to our students, faculty, alumni, and the city of Philadelphia to uphold the legacy and reputation of Central High School.

## **I appreciate the collective support I've received over the past two years.**

The months are flying by during the 2023- 2024 school year. It is hard to imagine that we will be celebrating Class 283 at the Kimmel Center in less than two months.

Central's Athletic teams continue to make us incredibly proud. Across this school year, we've celebrated Public League Championships in Boys and Girls Cross Country, and Boys and Girls Swimming. We are currently undefeated in Girls Lacrosse and Softball, and are the number one seed in Boys Baseball. 3 of our seniors have also committed to play at the collegiate level next year.

## **Our extra-curricular offerings at Central continue to set us apart from other high schools across the city and country.**

- RoboLancers (Robotics): The Central RoboLancers won the FIRST World Championship in Houston, Texas.
- Science Olympiad and DECA (business): Top competitors in their respective state championships.
- Debate Team: Two CHS Debate pairs will be competing in the upcoming National Debate Championship. Two 11th graders are also the highest ranked junior debaters in the state of Pennsylvania.
- Art Department: 10 Central students won prestigious Key awards at the Scholastic Art Awards.
- Music Department: Over 30 CHS represented the school in Orchestra, Choir, Band and Jazz Band All-City Festivals. CHS Jazz Band won best rhythm section award at Cheltenham Jazz Competition.
- Academics: CHS is pleased to offer over 50 AP and IB courses in the upcoming school year. In fact, over 1700 students will be taking AP and IB exams this year alone.
- College Acceptances: 283 is on pace for a record setting year. Students have been admitted to top programs including Princeton University, MIT, University of Pennsylvania, Howard University and the University of Chicago.
- Graduation: 283 Commencement will occur at the Kimmel Center on Wednesday, June 12, 2024. We are excited to return to Verizon Hall.

As alumni, we know that the years spent at 1700 W Olney Ave are unforgettable. I look forward to sharing more positive news with all of you.

Katharine S. Davis, 264  
15th President, Central High School



# MESSAGE FROM THE AACHS PRESIDENT

ROBERT "DEL" DEL FEMINE, 235

Fellow Lancers!

In thinking about the theme for this edition of the AACHS Alumni Journal, CHANGEMAKERS, I knew whom I'd highlight. **As alumni, we all realize the invaluable role that our teachers had in our personal and professional lives!**

I remembered a candid conversation with **Mr. Brooks** where he offered advice that guided me towards a more business-centric medical career at Johnson & Johnson. **Mr. Plummer's** summer assignment of a 100 page report (yes, with a typewriter) provided a pragmatic look at the discipline and detail required to learn. Finally and importantly, **Mr. Gilbert's** counsel that the highs and lows of life on and off the playing field required that, "when the going gets tough, the tough get going". I've carried those words since.

I'm confident that you are thinking of the names of your Central teachers who made a difference. They are CHANGEMAKERS! Educators who leverage civic engagement, social innovation, and entrepreneurship to mold a positive school culture that can cascade towards improving the environment and society at large.

While Central has had a legacy of educating many of Philadelphia's "best and brightest", many of those students have also faced challenges - poverty, bias, lack of modeling in education / career planning, difficult travel to school, etc. Central has also been blessed to have a rich diversity across many dimensions.

It takes SPECIAL teachers to navigate those circumstances and optimize those young minds. Undoubtedly the teachers, sorry CHANGEMAKERS, of Central High School possess and exhibit the skills, strengths, and caring needed at the "expert & best" levels.

These CHANGEMAKERS, individually and collectively, challenge to drive critical thinking; fuel the CHS students' insatiable curiosity; and mentor to create future LEADERS... **often acting as THE "guiding voice" in students' lives!**

As you read in President Davis' column, no matter how you view it - academically, through extra-curricular activities, or through community engagement... WE EXCEL!

I'm honored to complete my first year as AACHS President. I've learned a lot and we've made strides towards reaching our strategic imperatives but, **there is much more to do for the good of the school, students, teachers, and alumni across the world.**

Whether it is sharing your thoughts/ideas, time, or giving financially - we need you, however you are able to do so. For example, share some ideas on how to engage alumni or work on a committee that leverages your experience/interests. You can also honor that teacher that mattered to you by considering an individual or class donation towards our [Capital Campaign](#). This project goes to repairing and invigorating Central's 25-acre campus through a new STEM Innovation Center, Digital Media and Technology Center, Performing Arts Center, and much more.

I'd love to hear from you at [president@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:president@centralhighalumni.com). Have a great summer.

DEL

# Alumna Spotlight

## Tynecia Wilson, 275

### Empowering Communities: From Central High School to Miss Philadelphia



As a proud graduate of Central High School's 275th class, I am honored to share my journey as a changemaker, activist, and educator in our community.

My name is Tynecia, and I am deeply committed to creating positive change through education, advocacy, and community engagement.

My path to becoming Miss Philadelphia has been one of dedication and passion for service. The Miss Philadelphia Scholarship Organization, a volunteer-based entity, has been instrumental in empowering women like myself to pursue our goals and make a difference in the world.

As Miss Philadelphia, I have the privilege of making over 75 appearances throughout the year, using my platform to advocate for causes close to my heart. From serving as the Graduate Commencement Speaker for Temple University's College of Education and Human Development to representing the College of Liberal Arts as the 2020 Undergraduate Commencement Speaker Delegate, I have always been driven by a desire to inspire and uplift others.

My journey in education and community engagement has been further enriched by my experiences at Temple University, where I earned a Public Relations Graduate Certificate from the Klein College of Media & Communication. Today, I work in Student Activities, coordinating leadership and service programs that empower students to address critical social justice issues, including education equity, women's rights, environmental justice and more. One of the initiatives I am most passionate about is Teaching To Wellness, a community service program aimed at advocating for financial literacy and education in schools and Philadelphia communities. Through this initiative, I have had the opportunity to speak in classrooms about entrepreneurship, budgeting, and healthy relationships with money, empowering individuals to take control of their financial futures.



# Introducing Tynecia Wilson, 275 'Miss Philadelphia'

My time at Central High School laid the foundation for my journey as a changemaker. It was here that I developed a passion for learning and a commitment to service that continues to guide me today. As a **proud alumna, I am grateful for the opportunities Central High School provided me to grow and thrive.**

I am deeply honored to represent Central High School as Miss Philadelphia and to continue serving as an advocate for education, empowerment, and social change. I am grateful for the support of my alma mater and community every step of the way. Together, we can create a brighter and more equitable future for all.  
Thank you for allowing me to share my story.

Sincerely,  
Tynecia, 275



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**CENTRAL  
HIGH SCHOOL**

*Leading The Way*  
for Innovation and Creativity

Show your support for Central High School and invest in the future of our students today!

**Empower learning**

*Beyond*

**the classroom**

Give Central students the opportunity to gain new experiences and perspectives through educational trips



# EVENTS 2024

## UPCOMING

TUE. & WED.,  
MAY 21-22

SPRING CONCERTS  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
6:00 PM

THURSDAY,  
JUNE 6

ANNUAL RECEPTION  
RIVERS WATERFRONT  
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

MONDAY,  
NOV 25

CAREER DAY  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
ALL DAY

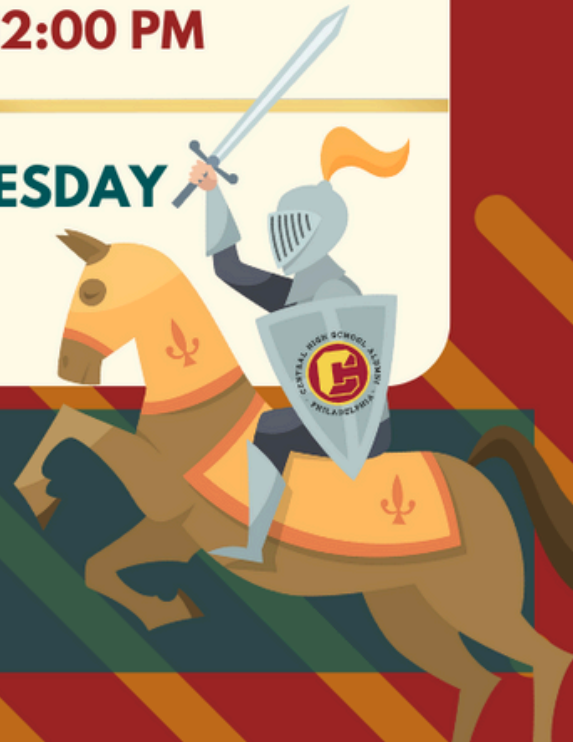
THURSDAY,  
NOV 28

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY  
BREAKFAST AND GAME  
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

TUESDAY,  
DEC 3

GIVING TUESDAY  
ALL DAY

LOOK OUT FOR FUTURE  
AACHS EVENTS ADDED  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR





## FEATURED CHANGEMAKER

# Rashida Stamps, 259 Female Coach of the Year

**Rashida Stamps, 259**, was recently awarded **Female Coach of the Year** by the Board of the Public League Coaches Association. Rashida coaches Track & Field and Cross Country at Academy at Palumbo HS. She also used to coach at School of the Future and Grover Washington Jr. Ms. Rashida was selected by the Board of the Public League Coaches Association. They received nominations from Rashida's previous and current student athletes and their families. The Public League Coaches Association awards one male and one female coach of the year for the Public League. Rashida will officially receive her award at the Philadelphia Coaches Association Banquet on May 31, 2024 I had the privilege to interview Rashida about this wonderful achievement. – **Kiana Nunn, 259 (AACHS Board of Managers)**

### What made you want to become a track coach?

Being on Central's track team was really special to me. I still hang with and have a lot of friends from that track team. It was something that I looked forward to all the time. I thought that it would be really cool to give back in that way. To create that same experience for another set of children/ student athletes, To be able to be in that space with a group of people where it's a deep connection and physically rewarding. I wanted to be a track coach because I admired how my coaches put that together for us Central students. I wanted to teach Physical Education (PE) and go to college for Kinesiology so I could be a track coach. **A lot of watching Central's track coaches gave me the foundation of who I am today.** My mentors and my experience led me to be a track coach. Coming out of Central the pressure is to be a doctor or lawyer, but I didn't connect to that. I was connected to becoming a track coach.

### Do you train your runners how you were trained? If not, what's different?

The foundation exists in that manner. A few workouts are still effective; however a lot of philosophies have changed. I do mix old and new. There is definitely still some value in the old ways. Part of being a coach is finding a balance between new and old. I like researching videos and philosophies. It gets nerdy but I love researching different workouts and practices.

### What do you think of the state of women in athletics?

I love it. I saw it coming. I played Rugby post college. And being in a semi pro team, I definitely saw the changes. It's amazing right now. Obviously, **Dawn Staley** who is from the city has done a lot and **Tina Sloane Green**. She is the founder of the Black Women's Sports Foundation. Mrs. Green was a professor at Temple and my mentor. Her life's work has been highlighting women's sports and not just traditional. She has highlighted women's lacrosse, golf and fencing. I think that girls and women pay a lot attention to the game, I am a big proponent of women's sports.

### Do you think Central prepared you?

Absolutely. I was able to get through college in 4 years. Summa Cum Laude (3.8) in college. Being in education and teaching for 21 years, I see a lot of kids that are not ready. It also prepared me for being around a lot of different people. I am grateful to have gone to Central.

### How has Central Athletics helped you as an adult?

**It really taught me discipline and teamwork.** It taught me how to be dependable and navigate relationships. Central Athletics helped me to embrace different cultures and personalities, and opened up doors to connect with different people. **I wouldn't have been the person that I am today without 4 years in track at Central.**

### Any advice for current student athletes?

**Hard Work and Balance are key.** However, it depends on your academic goals. I won't force college on my students. But you need to have the discipline to work hard regardless. Whatever the path you choose, you must have the ability to operate on a team. The ability to be resilient and to persevere. It's a mind game; every race. You must manage your anxiety. If you want something you have to work for it because it won't fall on your lap. You have to work for what you want.

### Where do you see yourself in the next 5 years?

Professionally, I work for the School District and am in my 21st year. I am the Dean of Students and I was able to create a climate that works. Coaching wise, I am having a really special year. 1st pole vaulter since 2016. The trend has been upward, God willing it's one of those years that I could retire now. It seems like a peak year. Hopefully in 5 years, the skies the limit. I would like to continue to elevate the space. That has been the trend. Crossing my fingers it's working.

### What is your favorite memory from Central?

It would definitely be something nonspecific. For instance after track practice we would be in the weight room. Even after the coach just kicked our behinds in practice, we would be dancing to reggae music flicking the lights on and off at 530pm. Riding the train home past my stop to go to City Hall just to hang with my friends then riding the bus back up. They were just super fun memories.



"It's an honor to give to the PUB and the beautiful children of our city"

# A Historical Spring Performance

Submitted by Arthur D. Magilner, M.D. (204), Class Representative



Full length painted portrait of Marian Anderson  
Laura Wheeler Waring / Oil on canvas, 1944 /  
National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution;  
gift of the Harmon Foundation

The recent announcement renaming Verizon Hall (the main musical venue in the Kimmel Center for the performing Arts in Philadelphia) to Marian Anderson Hall, brought back a dramatic moment in the lives of many of us attending Central in the auditorium in 1954.

The career of this celebrated coloratura soprano, was inspiring and revered.

**James (Jimmy) DePreist (202)** was already an accomplished musician (jazz, percussion, piano) in his high school years, and the leader of the band that played at many school dances and similar events. The yearly Miss Mirror Dance was the biggest of these events.

He eventually went on to **a distinguished career as a conductor**, including as assistant Conductor of the New York Philharmonic under Leonard Bernstein, and eventually Music Director and Conductor of the Oregon Symphony.

He was **inducted into the Central High School Hall of Fame in 2001 and received the National Medal of the Arts** from President George W. Bush in 2005.

He also happens to be the nephew of Marian Anderson.

**Jimmy arranged to have his Aunt Marian perform for us in the spring of 1954.**

Most of my classmates (204), myself included, and the rest of the student body were less than thrilled to have to sit for an hour in the auditorium and listen to “an opera singer!!!”

We were into rock n roll, pop, cool jazz, Presley, Doris Day, Sinatra, Nat “King’ Cole, et al.

Although I do not remember that roll was taken, there was a great deal of pressure on us to attend, and the auditorium was packed.

Her piano accompanist was **Dave Rosenthal, M.D. (202)** who remained a lifelong friend of Jimmy’s and occasional physician to Aunt Marian.

Needless to say, most of us were “blown away” by her performance. We had never heard a voice or performance like this before.

Certainly, a memorable occasion and a unique experience for us all.

# CLASS MATTERS. AACHS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CYNTHIA LECH, 263



The AACHS is **grateful to the classes who have come together to provide guidance and insight to future generations** on the notion of philanthropy to our high school, established gift campaigns, and continuously provide financial support that propels our mission forward.

Your thoughtful generosity and dedication to our alma mater and our school community do not go unnoticed. Your commitment and investment to our alma mater extends beyond financial contributions; **you have honored the legacy of our dear High.**

Through programs like Career Day, you have empowered current students with enhanced educational opportunities by offering invaluable guidance as they navigate their academic and professional journeys. Your commitment to giving back demonstrates the impact that collaboration of individual efforts can achieve.

The Alumni Office and the Board of Managers are appreciative of the leaders who take initiative in mobilizing your peers to give back to our Central community.

**This publication highlights a few of the classes with active class campaigns.**

As you may know, it is rare for a high school to have an alumni association, let alone one as successful as ours. We hope it inspires you to pay it forward and "school the competition" in alumni giving.

**Celebrate Central. Cherish Central. Choose Central.**

[Contributions can be made](#) via various methods including check, credit card, or securities. Additional contribution options include matching gifts, GivingTuesday pledges, IRA distributions, recurring contributions, and estate planning. **All donations are tax deductible.**

## DEAR HIGH, DEAR CENTRAL HIGH!

SPRING CONCERT » MAY 21-22

ANNUAL RECEPTION » JUNE 6

CAREER DAY » NOVEMBER 25

CENTRAL VS. NE FOOTBALL GAME » NOVEMBER 28

GIVING TUESDAY » DECEMBER 3

PLEDGE A GIFT TODAY TO DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

2024 EVENTS

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During last year's GivingTuesday campaign, the 225th class won the challenge put forth to our CHS community.

The **225GIVES campaign** is dedicated to remembering and honoring deceased class members by providing financial support to Central High School.

In celebration of their 55th Class Reunion, the campaign successfully reached its initial goal of raising \$55,000!

**This gift will support the efforts of the Social Studies Department to enhance and expand the resources used to enrich student academic experiences.**

The upgrades of two classrooms are designed to create state-of-the-art learning spaces which will promote collaboration, technology integration, and flexibility for in-classroom student group discussions.

**The AACHS congratulates the 225 and commends the class on its dedication to Central.**

Not only do they win bragging rights, but an anonymous donor made a direct gift of \$5000 to their campaign because of their efforts!

**Thank you to the 225th graduating class for showing initiative, pride, love, and support for Central.**

YAMO!!!



**Donate to 225GIVES**

# CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT SPRING CONCERTS

**CONCERT BAND & ORCHESTRA**

TUES. MAY 21, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

**JAZZ BAND & CHOIR**

WEDS. MAY 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

**CHS AUDITORIUM • PAY WHAT YOU WISH**



# SPORTS & COMMUNITY

## LOUIS BOLLING, 254

**Louis Bolling, 254**, a distinguished member of Central High School's Class of 1995, embodies the spirit of leadership and collaboration in the realm of global sports management and community engagement. His **journey has been marked by significant connections and impactful initiatives, including meeting fellow Lancer, Guilford College's 10th President and College Board Trustee, Kyle Farmbry (247)**, nearly two decades ago in South Africa.

Fast forward to 2022, Louis and Kyle reconnected a week before Venus Williams was to appear at Guilford College, leading to Louis attending the speaking engagement and eventually enrolling in the Master of International Sports Management program.

Louis is set to graduate in August 2024 after studying in Australia and New Zealand as part of the immersive second-year program.



**Barry Wilkins, 254**, at the 2022 US Open at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Queens, New York.



(right) Wim Fissette, Belgium's Billie Jean King Cup Captain (left), and Stacey Allaster, USTA CEO Professional Tennis & US Open Tournament Director, at the 2024 Billie Jean King Cup Qualifier at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Florida.

(left) Bubba Cunningham, University of North Carolina Athletic Director, at the 2023 NCAA Tennis Championships on the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Florida.



As a United States Tennis Association Community Outreach Manager based at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Florida, **Louis leverages his expertise to create meaningful experiences for youth and community members.**

From organizing schools and after-school tennis programs to leading discussions on sports' role in development and peace, Louis's contributions resonate far and wide through his leadership on projects including the HBCU National Tennis Championships and the American Tennis Association National Championships. His dedication to service was evident during the recent "Teach, Tour and Tennis" event for Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated (Orlando Zetas) Youth Auxiliaries participants and facilitating play at the West Lakes District Play Date at Lake Lorna Doone Park in one of Orlando's historic neighborhoods.

Louis Bolling **exemplifies Central High's legacy of leadership and impact**, embodying the values of collaboration, empowerment, and community engagement.

He is **proud to be a Lancer and represent the history and prestige of The Central High School of Philadelphia.**



# Lancer Spotlight Series



**Emmanuel "Manny" Mandel, 202**, embodies resilience, strength, and a commitment to education and advocacy. Born in 1936, Manny's childhood was marked by the harrowing experiences of the Holocaust in Hungary. At the tender age of seven, he faced deportation to Bergen-Belsen, enduring a two-year separation from his father. After immigrating to the United States, Manny found support and guidance at Central that helped him adapt to his new life. After graduation, he pursued higher education and became an esteemed psychotherapist in Maryland, dedicating forty years to helping others. Manny has shared his poignant Holocaust survivor story at national and local forums, leaving an indelible impact on audiences. His commitment to education and advocacy serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration. Manny's journey is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the power of remembrance.

**Rich Drayton Jr., 246**, is an esteemed alumni, faculty member, Athletic Director, and current Football Coach at Central High. Drayton emphasizes the role this institution had as a stepping stone in his life's journey. With experience coaching his children in Central's athletic programs, he understands the profound impact sports can have on students' lives, promoting goal-setting and perseverance. In 2023, Drayton was named the Philadelphia Eagles Coach of the Week, securing a grant for Central High School and highlighting his positive influence on players and community youth through his nonprofit, **Coaches Against Childhood Obesity**. Drayton's leadership as Athletic Director has led to continued success for Central's athletes, but he also recognizes the urgent need to update the school's athletic facilities to meet modern standards for functionality and safety. He emphasizes the importance of investing in these updates to ensure Central remains competitive and accessible for future generations.



**Owen S., 285**, is currently in his sophomore year at Central, and an active member of the wrestling team. Following in the footsteps of his Central graduate parents, **Jessica and Carl**, both from the **251st class**, Owen found inspiration in their memories and chose Central for its academic excellence and familial ties. Despite the loss of his mother during freshman year, Owen's commitment to honor her legacy drove him forward. Joining the wrestling team proved pivotal, fostering confidence and camaraderie amidst adversity. Owen's dedication and positive mindset have earned him recognition from both peers and faculty. Now in his sophomore year, he reflects on personal growth and the importance of balance. Owen's story epitomizes the strength of the Lancer community and the enduring legacy of Central High School.

# MAKING GOOD CHANGE

## CONNECTIONS

## DISTINGUISHED ACADEMICS

*Central classmates and the January 1948 class of C. W. Henry*

Submitted By:

**William L. Maxwell, Ph.D., 197**

Four graduates of the January 1948 class of C. W. Henry went to Central and became **distinguished academics; each changemakers in their own fields.**

**Edgar Schick, Jerry Needleman, Howard Temin, and William Maxwell.**

At Henry, these four individuals were nurtured by Mrs. Brandenburg, who was our home room teacher for grades 6, 7, and 8. Aware at the start of the 6th grade that she had a bright group of students, she guided the class well for three years.

**Howard Temin** was in Central class 196, advancing through brilliance to ½ grade ahead of the other three in the 197 class. Howard was a Wisconsin Professor of Cancer Research. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and became a Nobel Laureate. He is a member of the CHS Alumni Hall of Fame.

**Jerry Needleman** was a popular Professor of Philosophy at San Francisco State University.

Tall **Edgar Schick** was president at several Lutheran Colleges.

I became a Cornell Professor of Industrial Engineering and was elected to the National Academy of Engineering. I received my Ph.D. at Cornell in Operations Research.

President **Katharine Davis (264)** is also a C.W. Henry graduate and Central alumna.

**Dr. Maxwell is also an 1836 Society member** and has been nominated to be entered into the CHS Alumni Hall of Fame.

## CHS SERVICE

## PHILLY SERVICE PROJECT



The community service award for impacting those who live and work in our beautiful city was issued to Central High School in the amount of \$20,000. Central seeks to transform vacant lots into community gardens. This money will help continue the public good Central students are doing in their communities.

## THE ARTS

## POET LAUREATE KAI DAVIS 271



How does “a Black Queer multi-disciplinary artist, cultural producer and educator from Philadelphia” become a poet laureate?

**By being a truth-teller.**

**Kai Davis, 271**, grew up in the Germantown neighborhood, and was influenced by its hip-hop, jazz, and spoken word scene.

Kai received her BA in both African Studies and English with a concentration in Creative Writing from Temple University.

Kai has performed for TEDx Philly, CNN, BET, PBS, and NPR, among others. She has given readings and speeches in many notable venues, including the San Francisco Opera House, Gramercy Theatre, The Kimmel Center, and Nuyorican Poets Cafe, along with over 50 colleges across the country.

Kai has delivered keynotes and facilitated workshops at several conferences, including IvyQ, The Diversity Inclusion and Fairness Conference at Georgia Southern University, and the Black Students Alliance at Smith College.

# On Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at CHS

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is aiding the Office of Equity and Inclusion by fundraising for educational, professional and social opportunities for students, teachers, and alumni in order to foster diversity, equity and inclusion at Central.

On April 1st, a group of students embarked on a **powerful journey of remembrance and reflection** at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC.

Thanks to the incredible support of our alumni, they had the opportunity to engage with history in a profound way.

Pictured to the right, **Sheldon Bass, Esq, 233**, points to the town where his father lived and completed high school before the war. **His father was a Holocaust survivor.**



Students also had the privilege of exploring Howard University.

During their visit, our students engaged with Howard University's diverse community and learned more about its renowned academic programs and vibrant campus culture.

We are also immensely grateful to our dedicated alumni who joined us on this journey. Pictured to the left;

Front Row, from left to right: **Thurman Sanders IV, 264, Dr. Brianna Johns, 272, Kayla Cofield, 279**

Back Row, from left to right: **AACHS Board Member Sheldon Bass, Esq. 233, CHS President Kate Davis 264, AACHS Executive Director, Cynthia Lech, 263, AACHS Honorary Life Member Steve Burnstein, D.O., 222, and Sizwe Morris-Louis, 282**

Thank you to everyone who made this trip possible and for your ongoing support of our DEI initiatives.

**Support the DEI Fund!**

# A reflection from George VanHook, 231:

"On April 8th, I (and several 231 classmates) had the pleasure of chaperoning 42 Black male students on the **inaugural Central High School Pennsylvania/Delaware HBCU tour**. It was a privilege and honor to share this unique educational "expedition" with these promising young men.

The trip, which was **sponsored by the 231 Black Brotherhood**, included stops at Lincoln and Delaware State Universities. We also visited the campus of West Chester State University.

One of the **highlights of our day was visiting the Delaware Airpark**, where we learned about Delaware State University's successful aviation program. The group was able to view the rare solar eclipse from this vantage point.

Each of our tour stops were thought provoking, informative, and interactive. Moreover, the great fellowship and fun we enjoyed has opened the door for future group endeavors.

Clearly, our **HBCU tour initiative was a huge success**.

I commend **President Davis, the students, the AACHS, and my 231 classmates** for a job well done! While it would be easy to rest on our laurels, we know that much more must be done to help our emerging scholars to succeed. Accordingly, we are committed to continuing the struggle for progress.

I am confident that our strong collaboration will yield great dividends in the future.

The best is yet to come!"

**The AACHS commends the 231st Class members who have been very generous with their time, support, and contributions.**





# Dr. Lester "Les" Wurtele (202)



## Holocaust Memorial Symposium

A special thank you to our inspirational speakers who shared their stories and their parents' stories to our students during the 2024 symposium.



Daniel  
Goldsmith



Dina  
Lichtman Smith



Mary  
Romney Schaab



George  
Marcus (204)

On Thursday, April 11th, Central High School was honored to have Holocaust survivors from the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education center speak to our Freshman and Junior classes. The program has been going on for almost 20 years at Central.

Students heard from survivors **Daniel Goldsmith, Mary Romney Schaab, Dina Lichtman Smith, and George Marcus (204)**. These survivors shared their stories and their parents' stories to a captive audience of Central students. Freshman (286) and Junior (284) classes asked poignant and thoughtful questions, to which the visiting survivors had equally meaningful answers.

Despite their vastly different experiences and stories, all of the survivors echoed one consistent message: **hate is never the answer**.

This is a message we echo at Central High School and that students are sure to carry with them for the rest of their lives.

It is because of important messages and stories like these that the **Dr. Lester "Les" Wurtele (202) Holocaust Memorial Symposium** is such an important part of the Central High School tradition. A tradition that we hope will continue for many years to come.

Special thanks to Dr. Wurtele for his attendance, and to the Jewish Student Union for organizing and running the event.

# AASU Career Mixer



On Wednesday, April 24th, AASU hosted a Career Mixer and Discussion with members of our alumni community.

The activity aimed to get students engaged and thinking about their future careers through interactive games, such as speed-networking and an 'elevator pitch' competition, and a panel to close.

Overall, students and alumni alike had a great time, filling the auditorium with laughter while having an educational experience.

Special thanks to the alumni that attended and connected with our students:

**Dr. Stephen Burnstein, 222**  
**Avarisse Crawford, 270**  
**Ayana Curtis, 277**  
**Jamil Gordon, 257**

**Dr. Maya Gordon, 252**  
**Sarah Locke-Thompson, 265**  
**Dr. Elana McDonald, 251**  
**Alexander Rivera, 256**

**Tasia Scott, 272**  
**Stephanie Tisdale, 260**  
**Stephanye Watts, 262**

If you are interested in getting involved with similar events, including Career Day 2024, please reach out to the Alumni Office!

## Multicultural Showcases

Each culture week at Central was a resounding success, showcasing the richness and diversity of our student body.

**AASU's Black History Month Showcase** in February was a powerful tribute, featuring stirring performances encompassing singing, dancing, spoken word, and more.

**Multicultural Week** in March brought together numerous cultural clubs, highlighting their exceptional talents and fostering a sense of unity amid our school's diversity.

The recent **APIU Showcase** in April honored the contributions of our Asian and Pacific Islander students, further emphasizing the importance of celebrating cultural heritage.

These events, spearheaded by students, exemplify the spirit of collaboration and inclusivity that defines our vibrant Lancer community, inspiring us to continue embracing and celebrating our collective identity.





**GET YOUR TICKETS HERE!**

# THE 2024 ANNUAL RECEPTION

**JUNE 6, 2024**

**5:30 - 8:30 PM**

**RIVERS WATERFRONT**

Class 277 or  
Earlier \$100

Class 278-286  
\$75

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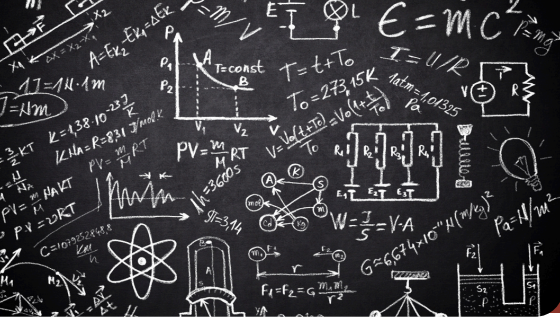


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# CHS AT THE MOVIES

## FROM HERE TO LOS ALAMOS

By Stephen Burnstein, D.O., 222

On 6/5/2018, **Robert Serber, 146** (b.3/14/1909, d.6/1/1997) was inducted along with six fellow alumni into the [AACHS Hall of Fame](#). All seven met the HOF standard, having achieved excellence in their various fields, but Serber's **unique accomplishments set him apart in a way that changed humanity**. Robert Serber received a PhD in physics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1934. Soon after, while studying at Cal Berkeley, **he met Robert Oppenheimer, later to become "father of the Manhattan Project"** and the two kept in touch.

In 1943, Serber began working on the Manhattan project at Los Alamos at the latter's behest and became his confidant, being charged with the provision of a formal orientation to all prospective employees, including his wife, Charlotte Serber, nee Leof who was the chief librarian at Los Alamos and had security clearance just like her husband.

His entire lecture series was later formally published as the Los Alamos Primer,\* but a mimeographed version was given to all attendees of Serber's 1943 lectures. Thereafter, **Serber became a key figure in all aspects of the Manhattan Project**, even naming the two bombs, Fat Man (Hiroshima) and Little Boy (Nagasaki). Since I cannot begin to understand the physics principles that were used to create the bombs, I will not go there except to say that Serber was deeply involved at many levels.

Read more about Robert Serber and his story [here](#).



Detail of group photo of Shelter Island Conference, 1947. Robert Serber is in the second row, just left of center, in front of the drapes; Hans Bethe, with the frizzy hair, is just to the left of Serber, in the rear; Robert Oppenheimer is the fifth from the right, in the second row; Richard Feynman is third from the right, in the rear, Institute for Advanced Study archives (albert.ias.edu)







# COLUMN B

BRUCE YASGUR, 216

This edition of the column is dedicated in memory to **Mrs. Janice Yasgur**, Bruce's loving wife who was a co-editor for all of the Column B publications.



**NOW WE ARE EIGHTY WE'VE DONE IT ALL, MATEY;  
WE'VE RIDDEN THE WAVES AND WE'VE CONQUERED THE AIR.  
WE'VE TAKEN A STAND AS WE SETTLED OUR LAND,  
AND WE'VE BUILT OUR ESTATE BY OUR SWEAT AND BY HAND.  
YES, NOW THAT WE'RE EIGHTY WE'RE EVER MORE CLEVER.  
WHY DON'T WE STAY EIGHTY FOREVER AND EVER?  
(WITH APOLOGIES TO A.A. MILNE)**

At 80 and having served as a teacher, a coach, a lawyer, an older brother and brother-in-law, a husband and a father, I'm occasionally turned to for advice. Sometimes I even offer it unsolicited. So if I may: **stay in touch with your classmates and your fellow Centralites, whether *Mirrors or Lancers*.**\* They will be your friends for life, possibly even more than college and work friends. Reunions offer opportunities to start, restart and continue dialogues, even after years of sitting them out. I'm always amazed at how, with just a word, a classmate's familiar voice brings me back to where we were months, years or decades ago. Seeing them is even better. Hey! At this age, we don't know how long any of us'll be around, so we may as well party while we can. And many of us have been change makers in bigger or smaller ways. This column is for those who have helped to change our lives for the better but are no longer here to join us. To wit:

**Janice** and I drove to DC one spring weekend to catch the cherry-blossoms, **visit my classmate Ian Portnoy, 216**, and take in the recently-opened US Holocaust Museum. Ian was not only a talented scholar, athlete and attorney; it turned out that he was on the Museum's board of trustees. He offered us tickets, which we gladly accepted, saving us hours of queueing. Later that weekend, it was a treat to spend a few hours with Ian and other CHS alumni at a DC-area reunion. At Central and throughout his life Ian had been a runner, remaining slim and muscular – habits I wished I'd made the effort to cultivate for myself. Meanwhile, soon after I was awakened from a lengthy coma in 2019 following a heart attack and complications, I was saddened and stunned to learn that Ian's ticket had been punched early in 2020.

I hardly knew **Michael Cohen, 216**, back at school, however I did notice through the years and reunions that Mike, an engineer and successful management consultant, managed to maintain his youthful appearance while most of us kept aging in place. By our **61st reunion** in October 2022, Mike stood out for his good looks along with the rest of the *216 Shayne Punnim Quintet*: **Marc Kaplin, Ron Lipscomb, Miles Radoff, and Bristol Rush**. In 2023, Mike left his young bride a widow and his classmates bereft.

The class also lost our two *Iron Men*: Engineer, motorhead, pilot and my close friend through high school and college, Virginia's **Billy (William Samuel) Finkel** took off to *The Great Beyond* in 2016. Florida's *bon vivant* and serial entrepreneur **Gary Sherman** and I corresponded regularly over the past few years over poetry and philosophy. Gary lifted off of this mortal plane in January.



Janice (Cambridge Rindge and Latin 19-something) and I found ourselves spending more and more time visiting doctors and hospitals and reading more obituaries than good books. So many obits share the bios of those who were agents of change, and so many of those change agents were Central alumni and faculty.

Among these were class valedictorian, physician, peace activist and summer camp owner/director **David H. Hausman, MD (176)**; Philly clothing manufacturer, entrepreneur and community leader **William M. (Bill) Schwartz (186)**; politically-active furniture distributor/trucking executive and Drexel Business School mentor **Jerome Neff (190)**, Central language teacher and MG mentor **Sylvain Boni, PhD (193)**; beloved Philly physician - who still made house calls! - **Harvey A. Harris, DO (210)**; radiologist, hospital department chair, music enthusiast and traveler **Richard M. (Rick) Weismer, MD (220)**; our soft-spoken, upbeat, longtime phys-ed teacher, coach and Dean of Discipline **Joseph (Joe) Nolan**; and our long-serving Librarian, also a music critic and mentor to many a Philly and foreign-exchange student, **John V. Politis**.

I am hoping to attract a coauthor or two who'd like to add his or her input to this column or begin their own column to take its place in time. Contact us to express your interest or share your thoughts about anything Central at [byasgur216@gmail.com](mailto:byasgur216@gmail.com).

Thanks to Olney grad\*\* and **Central Coach Steve Korsin** (ret) for his input, insight and inspiration. To all of you, be well and be in touch.

\* The mascot was changed through a vote in 1960. I, for one, remain a *Mirror*.

\*\*They chose to be known as Trojans, while in those days we of the "**Crimson and Gold**" stripe were proud to be known as *Mirrors*.





# 'STARRING WILLIAM YIP'

AN INTERVIEW BY  
GENE MARKS, 241 - AACHS TREASURER

**William Yip (264) is a Grammy nominated American record producer, audio engineer, songwriter and musician. Among other ventures, Yip is an owner of Studio 4 Recording in Conshohocken, and Memory Music, an independent record label he launched in June 2015.**

**Gene: Why did you choose to go to Central?**

Will: My brother and my older cousin went to Central. Basically, I followed in their footsteps. I'm from a first-generation Chinese family. We immigrated to Manhattan, then my dad moved us to Philly so he could open a restaurant.

**Gene: How did you get into music and what role did Central play?**

Will: When I first started playing drums as a 10-year-old, I knew I was going to be involved with music for the rest of my life. Going into high school, I had no expectations other than I wanted to do well, and I wanted to keep playing music. The first day I stepped into Central, I noticed how eclectic it was. It was a melting pot of the city. At Central, I met so many people from the first class of the Paul Green Rock Academy which has become a monster at that point. The first time I picked up drumsticks was when I knew I wanted to pursue music but in high school I found a niche where I saw a path for a career. I had a lot of very supportive teachers. I remember a student talent show and I played drums with a mish-mosh of people and my teacher pulled me aside and said, "Will, you're meant to do this. I've come across that a few times in my life. You're a star."



**WILLIAM YIP, 264  
RECORD PRODUCER, AUDIO  
ENGINEER, SONGWRITER,  
AND MUSICIAN**

## **Gene: So you didn't feel like an outsider?**

Will: Not at all! At Central, you had a place to fit in. It was so cool, and I recognized early that it was the top of the top in terms of the people and the work ethic. Everyone there's trying to be the best. I'm attracted to people who inspire me to do better and Central gave me the safety net so that I could be myself. It was a place where you could become friends with anyone no matter what their background. Their intellect was a little higher in terms of understanding one another. I'm forever grateful for that.

## **Gene: Tell me about the people you met at Central.**

Will: I always had this weird identity crisis where I didn't fit in with white people, I didn't fit in with black people and I'm not "Asian enough" for my fellow-Asians because I was so focused on playing drums. On my very first day I sat at lunch with two random kids who remain my best friends today. One's a very successful music director and the other's a successful chef. We also met other people who played music. I would play in punk bands after school with other kids, but I kept my circle tight.

## **Gene: Where did you go after Central?**

Will: I went to Temple. It was my decision, between Penn or Temple. I always felt I had a decent work ethic, but I was seeing other kids at Central who worked hard and it drove me. I just wanted to work harder than everyone while focusing on my music.

## **Gene: How did you get started in the music business?**

Will: It was all music. I was already working in studios since the age of 14. I interned for free, took out the trash, whatever needed done, for three years. When I was 16 I started to record bands for small amounts of money in my mom's basement. There were music people at Central who guided me to venues to play in Philly. I played drums, I tour managed. I remember at one of the venues, a sound guy came up to me and said, "You should check out Studio 4." I remember thinking, that's where they track Billy Joel, Boyz to Men, The Fugees and Lauryn Hill who is my favorite artist of all time. I eventually became a partner there in 2013 and was lucky enough to work and tour with Ms. Hill for about five years.

**Check out William's Discography at**

**<https://willyip.com/>**

**Gene: And then another big break came in 2015?**

Will: Yes! In 2015 Atlantic Records approached me and said “guitar music’s coming back and you’re at the forefront of it.” I was like, what? I’m nobody. And they said, that’s how this starts. Just last year one of the songs we recorded back in 2012 became the third most viral song in the country on TikTok. Right now, the hottest band around is Turnstile. I was lucky enough to do three of their records. They’re going to go down as one of the biggest hard-core bands and I was lucky enough to spend time building that relationship.

**Gene: And since then you’ve dabbled in many ventures.**

Will: Yeah, I’m doing a lot. In 2013 I became a partner at Studio Four and in 2015 I started this independent record label called Memory Music as a resource to help my friends put out music. I own a company called Blackwood Custom Drums. I’m also part owner of a metal bar opening this year in Philly called Doom.

**Gene: Let’s go back, if you were to talk to yourself as a kid in high school, what would you say to yourself?**

Will: I would’ve said to try to take it easier. I’m still trying to get better at this. Even now, every decision I make seems like the most important decision in the world. That’s just not true. The song I’m working on now is not going to make or break my life. It might make it, but it’s not going to break me.

**Gene: It’s not an easy lesson at any age, right?**

Will: True. And this sounds very cliché, but if you love it, do it. Keep doing it. When you’re eighteen, nineteen that’s the time to invest in yourself even though not everyone might have the resources. But if you love it, you’ll find a way. There are great musicians and producers who I work with that work a day job. They bartend. They still find those three hours every day to make songs. One singer who I was just working with yesterday, he no longer has to work his day job because his band blew up. But up until last year, he was working an office job from home. He found a gig he could do from anywhere so he could tour. So, if you love something you’ll find a way.

**Gene: Is there anything else about your time at Central that people may not know about?**

Will: I was 264’s prom king! [laughs]



# Repudiation of Discriminatory Real Estate Covenants



**SUBMITTED BY MARSHAL GRANOR, 232**

**Marshal Granor, 232**, was instrumental in the December, 2023 passage of Pennsylvania Act 54 “Repudiation of Discriminatory Real Estate Covenants.” Marshal conceived of the need for the statute and the resulting bill’s language as he stepped down as Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section in 2020. He worked through the PBA’s approval process then assisted as Representative Justin Fleming of Harrisburg won **almost unanimous legislative support for the bill.**

Although racist and other discriminatory deed covenants are no longer enforceable, they remain in the title records. Many homes in Philadelphia and elsewhere prohibit sales or occupancy by Black, Italian, Catholic, Jewish, Asian and other named groups. Model discriminatory covenants were promoted by the US Department of Commerce in collusion with the precursor to the National Association of Realtors® in the 1920’s, and they spread very quickly throughout every state. Coupled with lender redlining, these covenants were very effective in denying housing to many minorities in neighborhoods throughout the US.

This is one such covenant from the deeds to 44 homes in the Germantown section of Philly:

“That at no time hereafter forever shall any of the said properties be owned, occupied, or leased by any persons other than those of the Caucasian race. That at any time hereafter forever if any person or persons of any other race occupy any of the said properties or any portion thereof, it shall be permissible for any owner or occupier of any property hereinbefore mentioned to evict the same by force of arms or by action at law, and any title given by any deed to any person other than that of the Caucasian race shall be null and void.”

In the 1920’s, many immigrants were not considered “Caucasian” or “White,” leading one community in Erie, PA to include this in their deeds: ...the grantees, their heirs or assigns shall not sell, lease or convey the property herein described to any person of Polish, Italian, Austrian, Russian, Hungarian, Slavish or Negro descent, or to any other person or persons whose reputation is such as would not be desired.

**Act 54** allows any Pennsylvania land owner with discriminatory covenants such as these on their title to record a repudiation document which voids these restrictions. All county recording fees are waived, so the process is free. Marshal is now teaching about Act 54 to County Bar Associations, local Realtor® Associations, title insurance professionals, and anyone else who will listen. His efforts at helping to highlight and solve this historical abomination have led to his receiving the **PBA’s President’s Award in May of 2024.**



You are cordially invited to



# THE 2024 ANNUAL RECEPTION

Class 277 or  
Earlier \$100

**JUNE 6, 2024**

**5:30 - 8:30 PM**

Class 278-286  
\$75

**RIVERS WATERFRONT**



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Contact the Alumni Office at [alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com) to learn more.

# Meet Changemaker,

**Dr. Harris Klear, 221**

**Congratulations for being awarded the esteemed Temple University Gallery of Success Award!**

The Temple University Gallery of Success celebrates outstanding professional achievement, inspiring students toward their future. Representing Temple's 17 Schools and Colleges, Gallery of Success honors the impressive accomplishments of some of our most esteemed alumni.



The Award Ceremony was held at Mitten Hall on Friday, April 5th, 2024.

**Dr. Harris Klear, 221**, was born and raised in Philadelphia. Klear graduated from **Central High School in 1964 with honors**. He attended Temple University for undergraduate Liberal Arts studies and transferred to Temple's School of Pharmacy. He then transferred to Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine, graduating in 1971. He completed his one-year residency at Parkview Hospital in Philadelphia.

In 1973, after practicing in Rahway, NJ for one year, he opened a practice in Riverside, NJ, thereafter, expanding offices to Medford, Mt. Laurel, Delran, and Marlton, NJ. Dr. Klear has been board-certified with the American Board of Podiatric Surgery in Foot and Ankle Surgery since 1981.

He joined Temple's School of Podiatric Medicine Alumni Association 20 years ago and has served as its president for two years. During his tenure, he raised nearly \$250,000 for podiatry student scholarships through yearly continuing education programs. Dr. Klear has also been the golf chairman for the last three golf outings.

**Dr. Klear regularly participates in Central High School's Career Day**, presenting a career in podiatry; participates in the student externship program allowing students to shadow his work; regularly attends the Dean's Picnic, greeting incoming students; lectures 4th-year students on practice management; and has lectured for Podiatry Content Connection and Berman Lasers. He is also on the Podiatry Board of Visitors and a member of the Conwell Society.



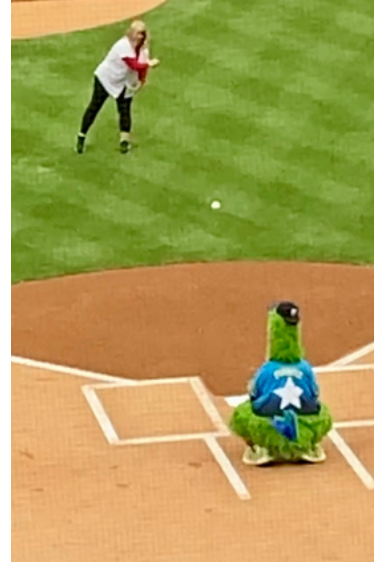
# CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM SEAT DEDICATION







19th Annual  
**CENTRAL Night @**



Thank you to students, parents, faculty, alumni, and friends who participated in making the 19th Central Night at the Phillies a huge success. Over 600 tickets were sold. Kudos to Assistant Principal Harrington who threw a first pitch strike! Great win for our 1st Place Fightin' Phils! Keep an eye out for more exciting Central events soon!



# **GIVING TUESDAY**

**DECEMBER 3, 2024**

**Make a gift to support Central High!**

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# WHO KNEW HE WAS SO NICE?

## BILL DOMBRO, 231

Along with my best friend **Nate Epstein (231)** and dates we went to a **Central High Annual Meeting** at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel. This was sometime in the 1980's.

The **featured speaker was Elliot Richardson** who had held numerous cabinet level positions in the Nixon and Ford administration.

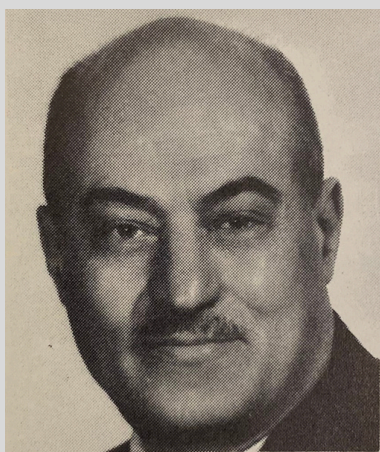
Seating was totally random and I found myself next to a charming older gentleman who was bald and had a handlebar mustache. When I first met him I thought his mustache was reminiscent of Snidely Whiplash.

Later in the evening I was to find out how wrong I was! This gentleman kept the table entertained with amazing stories. I failed to notice that my good friend Nate was turning green at the gills and it was not from the food.

After we left the reception Nate asked me if I knew who I had sat next to at dinner. I replied that it was a nice old man who was an alumnus. It was then that Nate dropped the bombshell...that it was **Ming the Merciless**, one of the most demanding teachers to ever walk the hallowed halls of Central.

Who knew that **Elliot Cades** was such a nice person?

### CHS Faculty Members Dr. Hamm and Mr. Cades



Mr. Elliot Cades



Ming the Merciless



# Congratulations to the RoboLancers on their Victory at the World Robotics Championship!



Central High School's robotics program serves over 100 students. After school, the **RoboLancers** and **LANCE-A-LOT** are two large student-led [FIRST Robotics Competition](#) (FRC) teams. And during the school day, the Robotics Class comprises two smaller [FIRST Tech Challenge](#) (FTC) teams. An after school Programming Club rounds out the program offerings.

Established in 1999, the team has grown from a handful of students whose sole purpose was to build robots, into the school's largest student-run organization whose main goal is to inspire students across Philadelphia to pursue careers in science and technology.

The **RoboLancers** learn important leadership, management and financial skills as they oversee a large and complex operation. They also learn about STEM from each other, from their mentors, and from their coaches. They are given the tools to apply their knowledge, and learn about potential STEM career paths with the goal to turn ideas into physical creations.

The **RoboLancers** of Central High School, a FIRST Hall of Fame team, is entering its 26th season. The team's mission is "To inspire and prepare the next generation of STEM leaders in Philadelphia."

Just last month, they won the **2024 FIRST Championship in Houston, TX**. Robot Driver **Yona K. (284)** played a crushing defense that shut out world-class opponents in the finals.

This makes for **back-to-back success for the RoboLancers at the world championship**, where last year the team won the top judged award, the **FIRST Impact Award**, recognizing the RoboLancers' work to spread STEM opportunity to Philadelphia public school students over the last decade, principally through the nonprofit Philadelphia Robotics Coalition, which the team founded in 2016.

The **RoboLancers** are looking for additional sponsors and mentors to help support their mission, gathering resources and know-how to continue growing the team's technical program, and to power a network of teams in our region.

**Support our RoboLancers** in their continued effort of offering a STEM education to the youth of Philadelphia.



# BRIDGE LEADERSHIP FOUNDERS DAY



**The Bridge Leadership Program** was created at Central High School in 2020.

“It served as a catalyst for building meaningful relationships among students from diverse backgrounds. As students from various ethnicities, cultures, and experiences came together in this program, they embarked on a journey of understanding, empathy, and camaraderie.” – **Jaylah C., 284**

This mentorship program connecting upper and lower classmen offers a valuable opportunity to cultivate leadership skills and foster community, especially as incoming ninth graders navigate their transition to a new environment.

Since its inception, the program has supported hundreds of ninth graders from classes **283, 284, 285,** and **286**, as well as provided mentorship training to 66 Bridge Big Siblings each school year.

The program has also hosted 3 Summer Programs, virtually and in-person, and has hosted Parent/Family workshops, serving as a Bridge for new families at Central.

On April 3rd, **the Bridge Leadership Program hosted a Founder’s Day Celebration** reception to honor graduating seniors and recognize the key stakeholders who made this program possible.

When expressing the importance of the program and in celebrating Founder’s Day, Bridge faculty advisor, **Mr. Kenneth Hung** emphasized that the Bridge Leadership Program was ***created by students, for students.***

He shared a powerful message that resonated with the audience:

“**There’s a golden thread** that connects you to past students who face the same challenges that you may be facing right now, but chose to do something about those challenges, not just for them, but for everyone at the school.”

As we look to build a better future, we must reflect and learn from those that have walked the same halls. The Central High community has an incredible network of alumni that have laid the foundation for future students to succeed.

# BRIDGE LEADERSHIP FOUNDERS DAY

**Keynote speaker, Dr. Keith Leaphart, 251**, shared a powerful story with the students on how the Central community changed his life and professional trajectory.

“There was no roadmap, there was no one to guide me in any specific direction. It was the network at Central that actually made me who I am today and helped me to get to where I am.”

**Dr. Leaphart**, a first-generation college student who has broken through barriers to become a successful physician, entrepreneur, and philanthropist is currently serving as the Chief Health Equity and Community Impact Officer at Thomas Jefferson University.

**Committed to equitable access and securing opportunities for economic mobility of all young people**, Dr. Leaphart is a founding supporter of the Bridge Program.



**Amanda Glenn** (Faculty & CHS Parent) and **Dr. Leaphart, 251**

After a successful celebration in the auditorium, the event moved to the Spain Conference Center for a reception highlighting the work of the **Bridge Photography Committee**.

Dedicated to documenting and showing the core ideas of what it means to be a student in the Bridge Leadership Program, students came up with four themes they felt best described the program: **student leadership, diversity, starting new beginnings, and making memories**.

Led by fellow student leaders who have experience being in the program and as photographers, the students took pictures over the course of the school year that reflected those themes, and wrote an artist statement explaining their selection for the exhibit.

The Bridge Leadership Program stands as a **testament to the creation of a safe and welcoming school for incoming students** to learn from current students, their peers, and faculty members as they prepare to transition to a rigorous academic program at Central.

As we honor our graduating seniors and celebrate the achievements of our students, let us also **recognize the invaluable contributions of our alumni**, such as Dr. Keith Leaphart, who continue to inspire and uplift future generations.

**Together**, as a united Central community, we embark on a journey of growth, resilience, and collective success.

**Donate to Support Student Activities**

# IN MEMORIAM

BELOW IS A LISTING OF OUR FELLOW ALUMNI WHO HAVE PASSED SINCE OUR LAST EDITION.

ALL ARE LISTED HERE BY NAME AND CLASS NUMBER.  
WE ARE ALL CENTRAL HIGH ALUMNI.

- |                                       |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>180</b> Robert F. Spees            | <b>201</b> Robert Gerson                | <b>220</b> Dr. Clifford N. Steinig, D.O |
| <b>181</b> Frederick J. Boehlke       | <b>201</b> Sheldon Weisman              | <b>220</b> Rick Weismer, M.D.           |
| <b>181</b> Jules Silk*                | <b>202</b> Douglas Dove**               | <b>222</b> David S. Rasner, Esq.        |
| <b>181</b> James Squadrido, M.D.      | <b>202</b> Stanley C. Fenster           | <b>223</b> Michael Sloane               |
| <b>182</b> Alvin "Archie" Fagan       | <b>202</b> Ralph S. Gee Jr.             | <b>225</b> Alan Carr                    |
| <b>183</b> Alfred C. Erickson         | <b>202</b> Chick M. Golden, Esq.***     | <b>225</b> Dr. Steven Fineman           |
| <b>184</b> Alfred I. Rosenthal        | <b>202</b> Stanley Marinoff             | <b>225</b> Rob Rosen                    |
| <b>186</b> William M. Schwartz        | <b>203</b> Robert J. Moss, Esq.         | <b>227</b> Steven R. Arkans             |
| <b>188</b> Richard H. Knox, Esq.      | <b>203</b> Larry Radbill                | <b>228</b> Robert Bernstein             |
| <b>188</b> Norman N. Kohn, M.D.       | <b>204</b> Elliott M. Heiman, M.D.      | <b>228</b> Harry Mitsuo Doe             |
| <b>189</b> Alan J. Vogenberg          | <b>204</b> Chip R. King Jr.             | <b>229</b> Julian A. Richter            |
| <b>190</b> Jere J. Neff*              | <b>205</b> Edward Feierstein            | <b>231</b> Larry A. Cook                |
| <b>191</b> Phil J. Alterman, PE*      | <b>205</b> Larry Feinstein              | <b>231</b> John H. Mantas, CPA          |
| <b>191</b> John H. Ball               | <b>205</b> Frederick P. Kober           | <b>231</b> Robert Ordo                  |
| <b>191</b> Robert W. Poole            | <b>205</b> Elvin J. Marged              | <b>232</b> Don Barella                  |
| <b>192</b> William H. Flank           | <b>205</b> Mark D. Rinis                | <b>232</b> Wayne Alexander Foster       |
| <b>192</b> Joseph S. Stevenson        | <b>206</b> James H. Kelch Jr.           | <b>232</b> Lewis Marc Merkin            |
| <b>193</b> Norman H. Cahan, CPA       | <b>206</b> Dr. Marty Leshner, PhD       | <b>232</b> Nick Snapir                  |
| <b>193</b> Perry Ostroff              | <b>209</b> Dr. David Carl Rilling, M.D. | <b>232</b> Daniel Worton                |
| <b>194</b> Robert Leonetti            | <b>210</b> Bruce James Campbell         | <b>236</b> John R. Beecham III          |
| <b>194</b> Ervin Zucker               | <b>210</b> Dr. Harvey Alan Harris, D.O. | <b>237</b> Deecan Tyrone Plummer        |
| <b>195</b> Ed Benoff, Esq.*           | <b>210</b> James Victor Snyder, M.D.    | <b>238</b> Michael Tripp                |
| <b>196</b> Barry Bricklin, PhD        | <b>211</b> Mark J. Paul                 | <b>239</b> Carl Marcus Hill             |
| <b>197</b> Bernard Clyman             | <b>212</b> Marvin Wasserman             | <b>239</b> Kenneth Byron Smith          |
| <b>197</b> G Paul Fishman             | <b>213</b> Frank Curt Davis Jr.         | <b>241</b> David Powers                 |
| <b>197</b> Robert William Kalish      | <b>213</b> Michael H. Levin             | <b>244</b> Alander W Garris             |
| <b>197</b> Armand Mednick             | <b>214</b> Stephen J. Bloom             | <b>246</b> Daniel Bergkoetter           |
| <b>197</b> Allan Porter               | <b>214</b> Richard Saul                 | <b>249</b> Ken Woo                      |
| <b>197</b> Don Rapaport               | <b>214</b> Chuck Tishgart, CPA          | <b>250</b> Christina Maria Luciano      |
| <b>197</b> Alyn Rovin                 | <b>216</b> Dr. Richard Jaffe            | <b>251</b> Milton Richardson            |
| <b>197</b> Dr. Edward C. Weiss, M.D.  | <b>216</b> Gary Sherman                 | <b>252</b> Keith Waters                 |
| <b>197</b> Jonas Harding**            | <b>217</b> Arthur Boswell               | <b>261</b> Don Ricardo Harrison Jr.     |
| <b>198</b> Donald Lee Morgan, Esq.    | <b>218</b> Robert August                | <b>269</b> Miguel Lopez                 |
| <b>199</b> Jerome Gamburg, Esq.       | <b>219</b> John Machemer                | <b>273</b> Mike L. Hazzard              |
| <b>200</b> Alan Dabrow                | <b>220</b> Stefan Dorosz                | <b>Faculty</b> Lori DeFields            |
| <b>200</b> Richard C. Winchester, PhD | <b>220</b> Clifford Epstein             | <b>Faculty</b> Dr. Lawrence Lipton      |
|                                       |   | <b>Friend</b> Bertram Levy              |

**Class rep = \***

**CHS Retired Faculty + Alumni = \*\***

**AACHS Retired = \*\*\***

Should you learn of the passing of a fellow alum, please forward information including name and class number to [obituaries@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:obituaries@centralhighalumni.com) so that we may update our records and note their passing in the Journal. Thank you.

# CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

The Alumni Association's Class Representatives Committee strives to maintain contact with every class through its designated representative. Thanks for all you do!

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 you have any questions or concerns regarding your class rep, or apply for or recommend someone for a vacant rep position, please email the Alumni Association at [alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com). If you would like to contact your class rep, please email the Alumni office in care of her or his name.

**-Rudy Cvetkovic (239), Class Rep Chair**

<b>180</b> Julian Reinheimer	<b>222</b> Mike Radel	<b>252</b> Gina Meissler
<b>182</b> Len Garrett	<b>223</b> Neil Kleeman	<b>253</b> Mike Ambrosius
<b>186</b> Norman Salvat	<b>224</b> Saul Langsam	<b>254</b> Lisbeth C. Lopez-Little
<b>189</b> Saul Carroll	<b>225</b> Stanley Sokolove	<b>255</b> Broderick Jones
<b>192</b> Irv Matusow	<b>226</b> Zachary Rubin	<b>256</b> Dan Taraborrelli
<b>193</b> Stan Fischman	<b>227</b> Gary Koupf	<b>257</b> Angela Reale-Povia
<b>194</b> Jerry Kates	<b>228</b> Bob Barthelmeh	<b>258</b> David R. Hildebrand
<b>199</b> Bob Rosenstein	<b>229</b> Frank Piliero	<b>259</b> Jeff Goldberg
<b>200</b> Mark Kay	<b>230</b> Larry Plotkin	<b>260</b> Natalie Zitter
<b>201</b> Jerry Keyser	<b>231</b> James Mascaro	<b>261</b> Chantay Thompson
<b>202</b> Robert Becker	<b>232</b> Hon. John Younge	<b>262</b> Canh Trinh
<b>203</b> Philip Remstein	<b>233</b> Jeff Thomas	<b>263</b> Justin Simmons
<b>204</b> Arthur D. Magilner	<b>234</b> Kevin Stepanuk	<b>264</b> Michael Segal
<b>205</b> Ted Rothman	<b>235</b> Robert Del Femine	<b>265</b> Gina Bryan
<b>206</b> Robert J. Stern	<b>236</b> Mark Lomax	<b>266</b> Agin Thomas
<b>207</b> Arthur Hausman	<b>237</b> Dominic Orlando	<b>267</b> Janan Ashton
<b>208</b> Marshal Greenblatt	<b>238</b> Joe Deal	<b>268</b> Chansey Ten
<b>209</b> <b>Vacant</b>	<b>239</b> Rudy A. Cvetkovic	<b>269</b> Alexis Jenkins
<b>210</b> Paul Hirschman	<b>240</b> <b>Vacant</b>	<b>270</b> Nikita Shah
<b>211</b> Bill Labkoff	<b>241</b> Nick Taweel	<b>271</b> Ramon Guzman
<b>212</b> Otto Mills	<b>242</b> David C. Mack	<b>272</b> Natalie Brosius
<b>213</b> Jeff A. Weiner	<b>243</b> John Loesch	<b>273</b> Cam-Tu Vuong
<b>214</b> Steve Green	<b>244</b> <b>Vacant</b>	<b>274</b> Anh Cao
<b>215</b> Gerry Kean	<b>245</b> Jonathan Kine	<b>275</b> Rucksar Rahman
<b>216</b> Paul Cherry	<b>246</b> Julie Stevens	<b>276</b> Michael Behanan
<b>217</b> Elliot Brodsky	<b>247</b> Tracy Allen	<b>277</b> Chris Carson
<b>218</b> Barry Brait	<b>248</b> Keeya Branson Davis	<b>278</b> Tristan Jennings
<b>219</b> Mike Love	<b>249</b> Maria Carpenter Yanga	<b>279</b> Viktor Shamis-Kagan
<b>220</b> David Kahn	<b>250</b> Audra King	<b>280</b> Julia Pastor
<b>221</b> Chuck Steinberg	<b>251</b> <b>Vacant</b>	<b>281</b> Buky Alliyu
		<b>282</b> Owen Setiawan

# ALMA MATTERS

**Fred Goldstein, PhD, FCP, (212)** was invited by the European Society of Medicine to discuss his thoughts on the current situation regarding significant expansion of new drugs and dosage forms available for prescribing in the US market, and its impact on medical education. His paper on this topic, "Advanced Processes for Clinical Pharmacology Evaluation in Board Exams" was published in the December 2023 issue of their Medical Research Archives journal.

**Cavin Jones (234)** was featured on CBS Philadelphia for painting artwork in St. Vincent DePaul Roman Catholic Church in in the Germantown section of Philadelphia. When the church needed renovations, it decided to rethink its artwork and prioritize representation. Jones brought the ideas to life through is magnificent paintings.

**Andy Innocenti (235)** owns Innocenti Family Wines in Langhorne, Pennsylvania. They started a micro winery in 2020.

**Rob Sobol (238)** and his group "New Social Voyeurs" has a Vinyl Release Party on Saturday June 1, 9 pm at the Dawson St. Pub.

**David Ebenbach (249)** is an author and am beyond excited to share that his 3rd novel, "Possible Happiness"—which takes place partly at Central—is now available for pre-order! Dear High—looks like thy mem'ries never do die!

**Jamie Klingler (254)** was named Chief Communications Officer of Tomorrow Group in London. Jamie is known for her expertise in social activism.

**Dr. Camika Royal (254)** author, educator, philosopher, keynote, coach and activist was honored in the Urban League of Philadelphia's Women's History Month series for "her dedication and commitment to educating our youth is one of the many reasons she is a champion for change and a brighter more equitable future."

**Iman Jones (255)** and assignment editor for CBS Philadelphia for 20+ years was featured in their Pulse Poet Promo. Iman is also an artist, photographer, mosaic painter and emcee. He also has an album titled "Sleepless Pills for Independence" under the pseudo form NaNome.

**Rashida Stamps (259)** was selected by the Board of the Public League Coaches Association as FEMALE COACH OF THE YEAR!

**Leah Murphy (260)** is a featured author is the upcoming book "Triumph in the Trenches: Navigating Success for Black Professionals" Written from the perspective of 22 accomplished and successful Black professionals in corporate, nonprofit, academia, civil service and healthcare, this anthology shines a light on the harsh realities many Black professionals face in the workplace It is officially available for pre-order

**Kazmir Davis (260)** who is the Principal at Youth Build Philly Charter School was featured with her students on Good Day Philadelphia. Kazmir and her students joined Good Day to discuss how the school is helping them earn their high school diploma just one year, and gain access to educational and vocational programs.

The Lucky Well Incubator Restaurant is led by **Chef Scott Sumsky (261)**. Check them out for dinner if you are ever in the Spring Garden/Callowhill area. Really delicious food and a nice variety of options for all palates!

Congratulations to **Sydney Carter (Andrews) (269)** on for her innovative portrait of school board member Joyce Wilkerson which is displayed at the School District of Philadelphia building.

**Donovan Dixon (278)** has been named a Rhodes Scholar. A first-generation college student, graduated summa cum laude from NYU with a B.A. in Public Policy. He will attend Oxford University in the fall, where he plans to receive a Master's of Philosophy in Comarative Social Policy.

**Blake Mayberry (278)** is currently ranked 15th in the nation for batting average (.422) and represents Central High on the field at St. Joseph's University, a top 50 NCAA D1 program.

## Share Your Updates with AACHS

Another friendly reminder to share your news with us. New jobs, new babies, partnerships, or just a note to update the Central community on your life. Send them to us at [alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com) and we will include it in our Alma Matters section.



# CLASS GIFT FROM 218 SPEAKER SERIES



Through the generosity and support of **Central High School's 218th graduating class a Speakers' Assembly Program** has been developed for the sophomore and junior classes as a way of supporting students in their educational journey.

How did this come about? When planning the **218 class 60th reunion**, the reunion committee realized they had never "gifted" Central in prior reunions. They decided the time had come.

Various suggestions were put forth, like redoing the tennis courts or donating to the future communications wing. However, the committee realized that almost all of the class gifts currently go to students who are leaving the school. Instead, the committee decided that the current student body deserved a "piece of the action."

Finding a way to do this was not easy, but discussion brought back memories of some of the speakers and presenters we were privileged to see in the auditorium during our 4 years.

It was decided that the sophomore and junior classes deserved the same wonderful experiences today. The **218 established a fund to bring in speakers** for the underclasses so that they will have wonderful memories of such programs just like those we 218-ers discussed.

The Speakers' Program Committee outreached with **Nicole Anderson, 251**, who is an agent to speakers for industry and private practices. She provided information and guidance for exactly what the 218 conceived. (**A Central graduate promulgates class to class assistance, no matter your number.**)

By bringing successful and interesting individuals, including alumni, to share their stories, students gain exposure to diverse career paths, industries, and real world experiences. This exposure not only serves as motivation, but also facilitates valuable networking opportunities and potential mentorships.

When presented to the class, this idea of a Speakers' Assembly Program received a unanimous vote of approval, which was seconded by the alumni association. Further, since this program was aimed at the sophomore and junior classes, it was felt that student input was essential to the selection process. The mechanics of this selection process are still being formulated, but the 218 is heartily behind it and has collected sizable donations already – not enough yet to ensure that the fund will replenish itself, though.

So, if you, too, **see the benefit to students presently attending Central, please consider bringing the fund closer to fruition and perpetuation with your own donation.** It will be gracefully and greatly appreciated.

If you feel you might contribute by being a speaker, please submit your name to the alumni association at [alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com) with the subject: **218 Class Speaker Series.**

# REUNIONS



To get details regarding your class reunion, contact [reunions@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:reunions@centralhighalumni.com) or learn more at <https://centralhighalumni.com/reunions>.

**210** held their 65th reunion luncheon at the PUB in Pennsauken, NJ, in November 2023.

**212** celebrated their 65th reunion on May 3rd, 2024, at Central that included a school tour, luncheon, and time to reconnect with their classmates.



**222** celebrated their 60th reunion with a tour and luncheon at Central High on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. Classmates traveled from across the globe to be in attendance for the joyous occasion.

**217** hosted an 80th birthday celebration at Central High School on Monday, April 15th, 2024 that included a luncheon, school tour, and robotics demonstration by the talented RoboLancers.



**233** returned to Central High for their 50th reunion on Fri, April 19, 2024. They enjoyed a tour of the school, a luncheon at the Spain Conference Center, and music by the Central String Quartet. Later, they celebrated at Citizens Bank Park, witnessing the Phillies' victory. On Saturday, sixteen classmates explored historic sites in Old City Philadelphia before lunch at Reading Terminal Market. The reunion concluded at the Wyndham Hotel, where 120 attendees enjoyed a reception, dinner, and heartfelt testimonials about the enduring significance of Central in their lives.



50 YEARS - REUNION



APRIL 19-20, 2024



# REUNIONS



To get details regarding your class reunion, contact [reunions@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:reunions@centralhighalumni.com) or learn more at <https://centralhighalumni.com/reunions>.

**237** held their 45th reunion at Chickies & Pete's in South Philly back in November.

**243** hosted a mini reunion at Chickies & Pete's in South Philly back in November.

**242** celebrated their 40th reunion during the weekend of February 23rd to 25th. On Friday the 23rd, they visited Central High and had a tour and luncheon. Other weekend events included a celebration at Le Meridien Hotel in downtown Philadelphia, as well as a Reunion After Party, Sunday Brunch, and Sixers' Watch Party.



**252** celebrated their 30th reunion back in November 2023 at The Abington Club in Jenkintown, PA. It was a successful celebration of the incredible years spent together at Central High.



# 228 SHARES WISDOM ON HOW TO LEVERAGE YOUR CLASS REUNION AND GIFT CAMPAIGN

WRITTEN BY: JAY HORROW, MD (228)  
CHAIR, 228 CLASS GIFT FUND  
1836 SOCIETY MEMBER

You can leverage your next class reunion to benefit Central students going forward.

The 228 provides a case study of this process. At our 45th year reunion in 2014, former class president **Steve Kaplan** challenged his classmates to create a fund of \$228,000 for the 50th year reunion, to support and benefit Central students. At the time, it was a bold and difficult goal. A classmate experienced in institutional fund raising whispered to me, “It’ll never happen.”

It did.

Today, now planning our 55th year reunion this coming November, the 228 Class Gift Fund continues to benefit the school and its students.

While the Fund has made substantial contributions to experiential trips; to the capital campaign; to physical school improvements – air-conditioners for classrooms; the campus expansion project; the athletic facilities initiative – 228’ers view its smaller grants to student projects and groups as the most satisfying.

Here are four initiatives that we’re proud to have helped with this school year: two provided enrichment opportunities to students that the school district cannot support; two provided basic needs.

**AFROCENTRIC**, a student-run magazine highlighting Black student art, music, and poetry, needed funding for printing and publishing its issues. We encouraged them to apply for a 228 Gift Fund grant. Treasurer **Shane J. (283)** and sponsor Mr. Palazzolo did so; the group received \$3734 towards the costs of printing several editions of Afrocentric this year.

Shane shared that “On behalf of the entire club, we **thank you for your continued support of our magazine.** These grants will help pay for the cost of printing our annual magazine.”

**DECA**, a non-profit organization that prepares students in hospitality and tourism, marketing, business administration, and finance, has a chapter at CHS. Chapters compete at state-wide and national meetings where students learn and hone business skills.

The CHS chapter wanted to send 29 students to the state competition at Hershey, PA this past February, but lacked sufficient funds to support transportation and housing for that large a group and its chaperones.



# 228 SHARES WISDOM ON HOW TO LEVERAGE YOUR CLASS REUNION AND GIFT CAMPAIGN

Chapter president **Una L., (283)** and club sponsor Mr. Grow applied for a 228 Gift Fund grant of \$3971 to supplement the more than \$7000 in funds on hand.

Following their participation, three students joined a ZOOM meeting with 228'ers at which they put their newly learned skills to work with a presentation of their experience at the state-wide competition.

“We would like to show our gratitude to the alumni, the 228th Class, and Central High School for their support and funding. This experience was only possible because of their generosity and belief in us as students and future business leaders.” **Ali-Anass M. (284)**

When the winter holidays approached, the 228 polled its members to contribute to a separate fund providing supermarket gift cards to families challenged with food shortage. **Nate Abney (228)** runs this process, which assists dozens of families of current CHS students each year.

CHS President **Kate Davis (264)** has a discretionary account maintained by the **228 Gift Fund**. Typical uses include providing winter coats for students facing cold weather without suitable clothing; appropriate dress wear for students facing interviews without suitable clothing; and other humanitarian support.

The 228 provided thousands of dollars this year to maintain the account, knowing **it directly impacts Central students and their families.**

Think how your class could make a difference in the lives of current Central students, if, at its next reunion, it started a similar fund.

**To compete with well-funded suburban schools, Central needs funds for enrichment opportunities.**

Pick a goal – we found dollar figures incorporating our class number a productive tool.

**The AACHS can assist in setting up a class fund, if you wish.**

**Do it now – don't wait until your 45th year Reunion.**

**The AACHS is proud of the 228th class for their continued generosity, support and love for our dear High. Their commitment to building a better pipeline of philanthropic giving is admirable.**



**GET YOUR TICKETS HERE!**

**THE 2024 ANNUAL RECEPTION**

**JUNE 6, 2024**

**5:30 - 8:30 PM**

**RIVERS WATERFRONT**

**Class 277 or Earlier \$100**

**Class 278-286 \$75**

**BECOME A SPONSOR TODAY!**



# UPCOMING REUNIONS



To get details regarding your class reunion, contact [reunions@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:reunions@centralhighalumni.com) or learn more at <https://centralhighalumni.com/reunions>.

**202** will be celebrating their 70th reunion on Friday, June 21st at Central High School.

**205** will be hosting a virtual Zoom reunion on Monday, June 17th. Exciting program highlights include insights into CHS Today, A Humorous Retrospective by playwright and Emmy Award-winning TV writer, Lee Kalcheim, as well as plenty of time to engage with classmates.

**238** will be celebrating their 45th reunion this upcoming Fall. More information to follow.

**253** is having their 30th reunion on Saturday, June 29 from 4 - 8pm EDT at foundation. (699 North Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19123). Join your classmates as you all celebrate three decades of memories, laughter, and friendships. Get ready for a night filled with music, dancing, and nostalgia. Don't miss out on this special in-person event with old friends and new faces. Let's make this milestone one to remember! \$50 Ticket price includes food. There is a cash bar. There is also a discount code for the beautiful hotel, so make a night of it! Please note- this event is strictly for attendees 21+. [Register here.](#)

**258** are planning a reunion that includes events on Wednesday, November 27th, and Saturday, November 30th. The 27th will feature a class tour of Dear Old Central High. More information to follow. On the 30th, the 258 will gather at Attico Rooftop located at 219 South Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19107. The evening will include a buffet of two salads, two sides, two entrees, and two desserts, with a cash bar. The cost is \$75 per person.

**263** is excited to announce that the reunion committee has been planning our 20th year class reunion! The event will be held sometime in November 2024. More details to follow. Please join the Class FB page for more details: Central High School 263.

**268** is actively planning their 15th reunion for Thanksgiving weekend, trying for Saturday the 30th. For more info email Chansophea Ten at [ten.chansophea@gmail.com](mailto:ten.chansophea@gmail.com), or check out the FB group at Central High School 268.

**273** The reunion planning committee is thrilled to announce our upcoming 10th year reunion this fall! Stay tuned for important updates from [central273hs@gmail.com](mailto:central273hs@gmail.com), and don't forget to join us on Instagram @chs273alumni for all the fun memories and exciting announcements leading up to the celebration.

# WANT CHS GEAR AT YOUR REUNION?

# BOOK THE CHS MOBILE STORE!

- HOODIES
- T-SHIRTS
- SWEATSHIRTS
- ZIP HOODIES
- POLO SHIRTS
- HATS
- VISORS
- CAR MAGNETS
- AND MORE!



## CENTRAL ALUMNI STORE

# YOU CAN ALSO BUY CENTRAL MERCHANDISE ONLINE HERE!



# *Leading the Way* for Innovation and Creativity Capital Campaign

Meeting weekly, a diverse group of seventeen Central graduates has brought together a wealth of experience, expertise, and fresh perspectives. With committee members spanning generations and professions, this team has become the driving force behind revitalizing the [\*Leading The Way for Innovation and Creativity Capital Campaign\*](#).

Phase I of the Campaign – Infrastructure for the new and existing buildings, creating a new vehicular driveway and parking lot on the old Blacktop, and a new loading dock for the campus – has already been completed.

Phase II – is the building of a state-of-the-art, multi-purpose Performing Arts Center - housing classrooms, rehearsal spaces, student commons areas and other amenities for the Arts and Music department - connected to the historic building by an enclosed bridge that will also serve as a student commons area.

*But that is only the next step in a once-in-a-generation metamorphosis.*

Once the Performing Arts Center is built, the moving of all music and theater-related facilities to the new wing will open desperately needed space for growth and renovation in the existing building.

Phase III – includes the creation of a new and expanded STEM Innovation Center, additional student commons space, departmental reconfiguration to align related disciplines in contiguous areas, and overall building improvements for athletics and school-wide.

***Leading The Way signifies a transformative transition for Central.*** Overdue for growth and expansion, our 'dear High' has been bursting at the seams, constrained by the limitations of its current infrastructure.

An expansion of our current facility will not only alleviate spatial constraints but will also be the genesis of a logistical realignment and intentional coordination of like disciplines.

Some might argue that the goal of securing enough funds is too ambitious. But when has Central, ***Mirrors and Lancers*** alike, ever failed to meet a challenge?

One of the first steps taken by this newly formed committee was to enlist the support of a seasoned consulting firm.

## Capital Campaign Committee Members

Stephen I. Kasloff, 228  
*Chairperson*

Nicole Bolt Anderson, 251

Nevena Bosnic, 266

David W. Brown, 239

Sarah P. Cadbury, 249

Katharine S. Davis, 264

Neil Deegan, 263

Robert A. Del Femine, 235

Sherrell W. Ganges, 254

Ramon A. Guzman Jr., 271

David R. Kahn, 220

Cynthia S. Lech, 263

Stephanie B. Mattei, 249

Frank M. Nasir Jr., 262

Richard E. Prinz, 212

Stanley J. Sokolove, 225

Alim M. Young Sr., 274

To learn more about the Capital Campaign and how you can contribute to this transformative endeavor, please **visit our website:** [CHS Leading the Way Capital Campaign](#).





# Leading the Way for Innovation and Creativity Capital Campaign

## Capital Campaign Committee Members

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David W. Brown, 239

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David R. Kahn, 220

Cynthia S. Lech, 263

Stephanie B. Mattei, 249

Frank M. Nasir Jr., 262

Richard E. Prinz, 212

Stanley J. Sokolove, 225

Alim M. Young Sr., 274

To learn more about the Capital Campaign and how you can contribute to this transformative endeavor, please **visit our website:** [CHS Leading the Way Capital Campaign.](#)

Under the leadership of committee chair, **Stephen I. Kasloff, Esq., 228**, the AACHS contracted with Brian Lacy and Associates to refresh the Campaign Case Statement and provide a strategy and structure to complete all aspects of the Campaign – including the new Performing Arts Center, the expanded STEM Center, tennis courts, technological upgrades, and many other innovations.

As we prepare our historic building for a grand reorganization, we envision the emergence of the new and expanded STEM Innovation Center, harnessing the synergy among science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; the movement of the Art Department classrooms to the fourth floor – near the sunlight; performing artists taking to a glorious new stage and rehearsing in space appropriate for their exceptional talents; department reconfiguration and much more.

These renovations will preserve the rich heritage and architectural significance of our alma mater while enhancing its functionality and accessibility – nurturing creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. This interdisciplinary approach will prepare our students for success in an ever-evolving world for generations.

**As we stand on the cusp of a new chapter in our school history, the stage is set for the next phase.** Equipped with a compelling Case Statement, a dedicated committee, and the unwavering support of our alumni network, we are positioned to embark on this journey with confidence and determination.

The Ninth President of Central High School, **Dr. William H. Cornog, 146**, once said, *"At Central, we enter to learn, and go forth to serve."* **Together, we have the power to turn dreams into reality and to leave a lasting legacy that will enrich the lives of future generations of students and artists.**

The road ahead might not be linear, but what in life is? One thing of which we are confident, is that the future is filled with promise and possibility for each student that sets foot across the threshold of our *Dear High*.

In unity and purpose, let us continue to **lead the way**.

Will you join us as we inspire others on this remarkable journey of growth, opportunity, and transformation?

# 1836 SOCIETY

Named in honor of the year that Central High School was chartered, the **1836 Society** is reserved for donors of **\$1,836 or more** to the AACHS.

**With an annual minimum gift of \$1,836**, members of the 1836 Society are invited to an annual Members-only reception and recognition at the AACHS Annual Meeting each June where each new Member is presented with an 1836 Society pin.

Donors may join the 1836 Society through a donation or pledge of \$1,836 or more annually.

Donors who have previously made donations in the same fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) may add to that amount to reach a cumulative gift of \$1,836. Matching gifts made through your employer are also counted in the total.

To learn more about the 1836 Society, contact AACHS Executive Director Cynthia Lech at [development@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:development@centralhighalumni.com) or learn more at <https://centralhighalumni.com/1836-society>.



<b>192</b> Joseph Field	<b>220</b> Robert Wolfe	<b>240</b> Daryl L. Pereborow
<b>193</b> Harry Charles Poehlmann	<b>221</b> Jack Pinkowski	<b>241</b> Robert S. Bachelor
<b>194</b> John T. Williams	<b>221</b> Chuck Steinberg	<b>241</b> James Chih-Cheng Ding
<b>197</b> William Maxwell	<b>221</b> Joel Zumoff	<b>241</b> Gene J. Marks
<b>198</b> Bernard M. Gross	<b>222</b> Stephen L. Burnstein	<b>242</b> Aubrey B. Jones
<b>198</b> William R. Smith	<b>222</b> Charles Rose	<b>243</b> Marc Reider
<b>198</b> Howard W. Zucker	<b>224</b> Charles Long	<b>244</b> Anonymous
<b>202</b> Barry R. Bloom	<b>225</b> Alan Daroff	<b>246</b> Calvin Allen
<b>202</b> Lester Wurtele	<b>225</b> Thomas DeRogatis	<b>247</b> Joshua E. Liss
<b>203</b> William Comanor	<b>225</b> Robert A. Figlin	<b>248</b> Steven M. Springer
<b>204</b> Allan Marmon	<b>225</b> Arnold Kalman	<b>249</b> Karima I.A. Bouchenafa
<b>206</b> Stanley C. Foster	<b>225</b> Arnold Louis New	<b>249</b> Stephanie B. Mattei
<b>208</b> Leon Malmud	<b>225</b> Larry Sklar	<b>250</b> Ronald K. Matthews
<b>210</b> Paul Hirschman	<b>226</b> Marc Weingarten	<b>251</b> Kyle D. Andeer
<b>211</b> Leo Braudy	<b>227</b> Robert C. Master	<b>251</b> Nicole Bolt Anderson
<b>213</b> Michael Nissman	<b>228</b> Jay C. Horrow	<b>251</b> Keith Leaphart
<b>213</b> Alan Wolfe	<b>229</b> Thomas H. Arasz	<b>253</b> Jerome Bailey
<b>214</b> Mark S. Dichter	<b>229</b> Alan David Bedrick	<b>254</b> Laisand Kan
<b>214</b> David Laurence Klein	<b>229</b> Frank Gruber	<b>256</b> Jason Weldon
<b>216</b> Edward Boehner	<b>229</b> Stephen Klein	<b>257</b> Frieda J. Rakhman
<b>216</b> Henry Frank	<b>230</b> Steven Adelman	<b>258</b> Steven Khov
<b>216</b> Robert Kelberg	<b>230</b> Kenneth L. Goodson	<b>259</b> Christopher Guido
<b>216</b> Edward L. Soll	<b>231</b> Kenneth Berman	<b>265</b> Joel A. Modayil
<b>218</b> Arthur S. Lazanoff	<b>231</b> Cary L. Flitter	<b>Friend</b> Spain Family Foundation
<b>218</b> Thomas J. Schaefer	<b>231</b> Jerrold A. Walton	<b>Friend</b> Richard Cooperstein
<b>219</b> Steven J. Hausman	<b>232</b> George Mosee Jr.	<b>Parent</b> Andrei Thomas-Tikhonenko
<b>219</b> Robert M. Stein	<b>233</b> Martin Sankey	<b>Parent</b> Bonnie Greenberg
<b>220</b> George W. Campbell	<b>235</b> Robert A. Del Femine	
<b>220</b> David Fineman	<b>238</b> George Allen Williams	
<b>220</b> David R. Kahn	<b>239</b> Marvin H. Johnson	

# NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

The Committee on Nomination and Elections, David R. Kahn, 220, Chairperson, presents the following nominations for positions on the Alumni Board of Managers.

The election will be held at the Annual Meeting, at Rivers Waterfront on June 6, 2024.

Information on how to participate in the annual meeting will be sent via email and posted at [centralhighalumni.com](http://centralhighalumni.com) shortly.

## Nominated for the Term expiring June 30, 2025

President: Robert A. Del Femine, 235

Vice-Presidents: (three to be elected):

David W. Birnbaum, Esq., 265

Karima I.A. Bouchenafa, 249

Elina Magid, C.P.A., 257

Treasurer: Gene J. Marks, C.P.A., 241

Secretary: Audrey M. Pomerantz, 266

Master of Archives/Historian: David R. Kahn, 220

## Nominated for the Term expiring June 30, 2027 (eight to be elected to a full Term)

Sheldon Bass, Esq., 233

David W. Brown, 239

Sherrell W. Ganges, 254

Ramon A. Guzman, 271

Michael Horwits, 251

George D. Mosee, Jr., Esq., 232

Julian D. Perlman, Esq., 256

Alim M. Young, Sr., 274

## The following members continue to serve until their terms expire on June 30, 2025

Hannah Baker, 274

Solomon David, Esq., 265

Cecil Johnson, 244

Joshua E. Liss, 247

Alicia Oglesby, 258

Barry W. Rosenberg, Esq., 229

Steven Shapiro, D.O., 225

Jordan Yuter, 243

## The following members continue to serve until their terms expire on June 30, 2026

Nevena Bosnic, 266

Rudy A. Cvetkovic, 239

Stephen J. Klein, 229

Stephanie B. Mattei, Psy.D., 249

Kiana Nunn, 259

Stanley Sokolove, 225

Charles E. Washington, Jr., 249

Kenneth Wong, 232

## Honorary Life Members

Stephen I. Kasloff, Esq., 228

Eugene N. Cipriani, Esq., 229

Gerald S. Kates, 194

Allan L. Marmon, Esq., 204

Hon. Gene D. Cohen, 214

Arnold H. Shiffrin, 205

Hon. Charles E. Rainey, Jr., 233

Hon. Arnold L. New, 225

Hon. John M. Younge, 232

Lester Wurtele, M.D., 202

Hon. Denis Cohen, 228

Stephen L. Burnstein, D.O., 222

## Past Presidents

Charles S. Steinberg, 221

Alan D. Budman, Esq., 229

Jay S. Gottlieb, Esq., 205

Hon. James R. Roebuck, 219

Theodore G. Rothman, 205

Stephen S. Green, Esq., 214

Richard E. Prinz, 212

David R. Kahn, 220

Jeffrey A. Muldawer, Esq., 225

Neil Deegan, 263



# Barnwell Honors Convocation - 283rd Graduating Class



Convocation is a time in which Central High School honors and recognizes members of the senior class who have received national recognition in The National Merit Scholarship Competition, Advanced Placement Program, and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program.

There are multiple award levels:

- **AP Scholar** – Score a 3 or higher on at least three AP exams.
- **AP Scholar with Honors** – Score a 3 or higher on at least four AP exams. Have a minimum AP average of 3.25.
- **AP Scholar with Distinction** – Score a 3 or higher on at least five AP exams. Have a minimum AP average of 3.5.
- **State AP Scholar** – Awarded to one male and one female in each state. Score a 3 or higher on more exams than anyone else in the state. Have the highest AP average among all in-state students who scored a 3 on the same number of exams.
- **National AP Scholar** – Score a 4 or higher on at least eight AP exams. Have a minimum AP average of 4.

**On Monday, April 22nd, we honored the 94 students** from the 283rd graduating class that received the following honors with an average score of 3.84 out of 4.0.

This year Central also had the following students receive recognition:

- **AP Scholar - 55 Students**
- **AP Scholar with Honor - 22 Students**
- **AP Scholar with Distinction - 17 Students**

We are also recognizing IB students who scored in the top 10% of all International test takers on one or more International Baccalaureate exams. There were 5 students in this category.

There are three students who have qualified as a National Merit Finalist. This is an annual academic competition among high school students for recognition and college scholarships that began in 1955. Finalists compete with all other Finalists in their state or selection unit for one of the 2,500 National Merit \$2500 Scholarships. Winners are selected by a committee of college admission officers and high school counselors.

The City of Philadelphia's **Chief Education Officer, Dr. Carrera, Ed.D, Associate Superintendent Tomás Hanna,** and **HSA President Leslie Medley,** were in attendance as the keynote speaker and special guests for the Barnwell Honors Convocation.





## SUPPORT CENTRAL TODAY!

**YOU** CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR CENTRAL'S STUDENTS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW WITH A CONTRIBUTION TO THE AACHS AT [CENTRALHIGHALUMNI.COM/GIVINGHOME](https://CENTRALHIGHALUMNI.COM/GIVINGHOME)

IF YOU SUBSCRIBE TO ANY SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNT, WATCH THE NEWS, OR READ OUR EMAILS, YOU'LL KNOW THAT #GIVINGTUESDAY IS A GLOBAL GENEROSITY MOVEMENT STARTED IN 2012 AS A SIMPLE IDEA TO ENCOURAGE FOLK TO DO GOOD.

AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE OVER 300 GIFTS MADE BY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS, WE ARE ECSTATIC TO REPORT **\$172,000** WAS RAISED DURING **GIVING TUESDAY 2023!**

A HEFTY THANK YOU GOES OUT TO **DR. BARRY BLOOM (202)**, WHO GENEROUSLY MADE A \$50,000 MATCHED GIFT.

HIS GIFT WILL GO DIRECTLY TOWARDS FUNDING A **SUMMER SCHOLARS FUND** THAT WILL AWARD GRANTS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS BETWEEN THEIR JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEARS TO ATTEND ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS TO EXPLORE THEIR INTERESTS IN THE HEALTH SCIENCES.

## SAVE THE DATE DEC. 3, 2024 GIVING TUESDAY 2024

