

ISSUE: WELLNESS

MAY 2025

AACHS

SPRING 2025 JOURNAL



WWW.CENTRALHIGHALUMNI.COM



IN THIS ISSUE

Notice of Elections.....	3
CHS President.....	4
Annual Reception.....	5
AACHS President	7
Presidents Circle.....	8
The Archives	9
Leading the Way Campaign	12
Student Spotlight	14
Event Calendar	17
Alumni Spotlight.....	18
Alumni Interview	20
Wellness Article	24
Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion..	26
Alumni Spotlight	29
Female Scholar Athlete.....	30
Column B	35
1836 Society.....	41
Reunions	42
Alma Matters	45
In Memoriam	47
Class Representatives	48



EDITOR'S NOTE

Wellness takes on many forms. Some appreciate the outdoors, where nature provides solace and peacefulness that may not be achieved as easily in the city or more clamorous areas. There is an old saying that is familiar to many: Knock on wood. This is commonly known to prevent the very thing being spoken about. Recently, in line for a treat in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, I knocked on the wooden door as I described the end of the school year coming to a quiet and undramatic close. In ancient history (and even in some contemporary spaces), the forest is considered sacred, and knocking on wood or a tree was a way of calling on nature to support and protect us human beings. So, venturing into nature is an ideal location to seek wellness.

Wellness is also seen in the form of self-care and community care. My neighbors check on each other and care for each other's plants while we are away from home. My colleagues and I spend lunch together or visit museums. I spend an allocated amount of money each month for a full-body deep tissue massage as part of my self-care routine because it makes me feel calmer and relaxed. I am typically anxious and busy, as many high-achieving Central alumni can relate to. Exercise is also viewed as a way to be well in mind, body, and spirit.

In this edition, I hope you will be inspired to re-examine what wellness means to you, your family, and your community. Wellness may be a priority today that it wasn't 6 months ago. With so many news updates and a rapidly changing society, centering on how to be well in the midst of chaos may be newly important. Take the time to reassess how you can be well and handle your daily obligations. I am certain many of you reading this are entrenched in finding ways to make the world a better place for all people. Please be well while you do it.

A special thank you to contributing editors: Rudy Cvetkovic, Sharon Kim, Cynthia Lech, Kiana Nunn, and Bruce Yasgur.

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

THE ALUMNI JOURNAL

Editor

Alicia Oglesby, 258

Editors Emeriti

Gerald S. Kates, 194
 Yvonne Dennis, 246
 Merrill Freedman, 208
 Neil Deegan, 263

Executive Director

Cynthia Lech, 263

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

AlumniJournal@CentralHighAlumni.com

NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

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

The election will be held at the Annual Reception at Rivers Waterfront on June 2, 2025.

Nominated for the Term expiring June 30, 2026

President: Robert A. Del Femine, 235

Vice-Presidents (four to be elected):

David W. Birnbaum, Esq., **265**

Karima I.A. Bouchenafa, **249**

Elina Magid, C.P.A., **257**

Cecil W. Johnson, III, Ph.D., **244**

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

Secretary: Audrey H. Pomerantz, MBA **266**

Historian: David R. Kahn, **220**

Nominated for the Term expiring June 30, 2028 (five to be elected for a full Term):

Hannah Baker, **274**

Joshua E. Liss, **247**

Alicia Oglesby, **258**

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**

The following members continue to serve until their terms expire on June 30, 2027:

Sheldon Bass, Esq., **233**

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**

(NOTE: Three positions for the Term ending June 30, 2028, and one position for the Term ending June 30, 2027 are vacant, and will be filled according to the By-Laws at a later time.)

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**

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**

BY-LAWS AMENDMENT

On November 12, 2024, the AACHS Board of Managers, as allowed by the By-laws Article IV, section 1, changed the title of the Office MASTER OF ARCHIVES to ARCHIVIST, and create a new Office titled HISTORIAN. This change shall be effective immediately, with both offices to be filled at the next Annual Meeting's Election. Upon determination by the Board of Managers, the offices of ARCHIVIST and HISTORIAN may be held by one person, and when so held, shall be referred to as HISTORIAN.

At the 2025 Annual Meeting, scheduled to be held on June 2, 2025, the following questions shall be voted upon, YES or NO

Question 1: Modify the By-laws Article V, section 6 to change all references from HISTORIAN & ARCHIVIST

Question 2: Article V, section 6, subsection 7 shall be stricken and replaced with the following language:

"The HISTORIAN shall:

subsection 7: from time-to-time report to the Board about interesting and relevant events in the School's history."

Question 3: Add to Article V, section 6 the following:

subsection 8: share custody of the Archives with the ARCHIVIST and assist them in their designated duties.



MESSAGE FROM THE 15TH CHS PRESIDENT KATHARINE DAVIS, 264

Dear Esteemed Alumni,

As the vibrant energy of spring envelops our campus, I am delighted to share an update on the remarkable progress and exciting developments that have marked the past few months. Our students, faculty, and staff continue to embody the spirit of **innovation, dedication, and community** that defines our institution.

This spring, we've witnessed significant strides in several key areas, reinforcing our position as a leading institution and preparing our students for a future of impact. The energy on campus is palpable as we approach the end of the academic year. We're in the midst of testing season, with students tackling **Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Pennsylvania Keystone Exams, and Finals**.

Our students continue to excel outside the classroom. The **RoboLancers** impressively participated in this year's FIRST World Championship in Houston, Texas. Our **Science Olympiad, Chess, and DECA (Business)** teams were top competitors in their respective state championships. The **Mock Trial** team traveled to Harrisburg, PA, and Phoenix, AZ for upper-level competitions. The **Music Department** shone brightly, with over 30 students representing the school in **Orchestra, Choir, Band, and Jazz Band All-City Festivals**. Our phenomenal spring concerts highlighted their incredible talents.

Our student-athletes have also enjoyed an incredible spring season! Our **Girls Track & Field** team came in second in the team Championship and are currently competing in Districts, with our 4x800 team looking strong for States. We have multiple teams in the semifinals right now: **Girls Varsity Lacrosse, Boys Varsity Lacrosse (who finished with an undefeated regular season), Boys Varsity Volleyball, Boys Varsity Baseball, and Girls Varsity Softball**.

Furthermore, our **Boys Varsity Tennis** team once again won the **Public League Championship**, and our **Girls Varsity Badminton team** secured their **4th consecutive Public League Championship**! Their dedication and hard work are truly inspiring.

Looking ahead, we're thrilled to announce that Central will continue to offer over fifty Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in the upcoming school year, a testament to our commitment to academic rigor and student success. In fact, over 1900 AP and IB examinations were administered this year alone.

We are also eagerly anticipating our **284th Commencement at the Kimmel Center on Thursday, June 12, 2025**. **Dr. Watlington, the School District of Philadelphia's Superintendent**, will join this year's ceremony.

Planning for the next academic year is well underway. We recently welcomed the **288th class** for their Math and World Language placement exams. We are expecting a full 9th grade class next year, representing over 100 middle schools. Additionally, **there are approximately thirty incoming 10th-grade students joining the 287th class as transfer students**.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring that a transformative education remains accessible to all students. This past quarter, thanks to the incredible generosity of our alumni and friends, our scholarship endowment has seen an increase. These scholarships are investments in future leaders, innovators, and community builders. Your continued support is truly making a profound difference in the lives of our students.

As we look ahead, the momentum generated this spring fills us with immense optimism. These achievements are not just milestones; they are stepping stones towards an even brighter future for our beloved institution. We are deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our alumni, whose dedication and generosity are instrumental in our continued success.

I invite you to visit campus soon to witness these exciting developments firsthand and connect with the next generation of leaders you are helping to shape.

Warm regards,
Katharine S. Davis, 264



AACHS ANNUAL RECEPTION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
COURTLAND C. LEE, PH.D.
226TH CLASS

**MONDAY
JUNE 2
5-8:30PM**

**REGISTER
NOW**

RIVERS WATERFRONT
1001 N. DELAWARE AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19125

The 2025 **Annual Reception** will be held on Monday, June 2, 2025 from 5:30PM – 8:30PM.

The Annual Reception is the signature event of the year and it's just around the corner!

The reception begins with a cocktail hour which provides ample opportunities for individuals to connect and collaborate.

It is followed by a dinner and program that celebrates the achievements of our Lancers, recognizing excellence, and the culmination of hard work, dedication, and talent of inspiring students, alumni and our Central community!

There will be performances from student musicians, along with a special presentation of the **William M. Disharoon (133) Award ceremony** which highlights six students who have made a positive impact on their peers and teachers, are leaders in the class, and embody the Lancer spirit.

Every aspect of this event is curated to create memorable experiences that makes it a must-attend event for anyone who loves our dear High!

This year's Keynote Speaker is **Courtland C. Lee, Ph.D (226)**. He has attained international recognition as an expert in the field of counseling.

He is the author, editor, or co-editor of seven books on multicultural counseling and two books on counseling and social justice. He is also the author of three books on counseling African American males. In addition, he has published over 100 book chapters and articles on counseling across cultures.

[Registration is still open.](#) If you would like to provide students with the experience of networking with alumni, please consider purchasing an extra ticket or tickets to sponsor students to attend. Thank you, we look forward to seeing you!

General Timeline of Events:

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 | Opening Remarks by CHS Student, **Sofia M., (284)**

6:45 PM | Special Portrait Unveiling, **14th President Timothy J. McKenna**

7 PM | Keynote Speaker **Courtland C. Lee, Ph.D., (226)**

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

7:30 PM | Dessert Reception

8 PM | Closing Remarks, Networking



The poster for the AACHS Annual Reception features a central banner with the Central High School Philadelphia logo and the event details: Monday, June 2, 2025, 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM ET, at Rivers Waterfront. To the left, a vertical section thanks 2025 sponsors: David R. Kahn 220th Class, MGA, and Rothe Florists. To the right, a yellow section details ticket pricing: \$100 for Class 277 or earlier, \$75 for classes 278-287, and \$65 for faculty/former and current students. A red button at the bottom right says 'REGISTER NOW' with the link 'BIT.LY/AACHSEVENT'.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
PHILADELPHIA

AACHS
ANNUAL
Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM ET

Rivers Waterfront

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS

DAVID R. KAHN
220TH CLASS

MGA

Rothe Florists

TICKET PRICING

Class 277 or Earlier & Friends
\$100 per person

Classes 278-287
\$75 per person

Faculty/Former and Current
\$65 per person

REGISTER NOW
BIT.LY/AACHSEVENT



MESSAGE FROM THE AACHS PRESIDENT

ROBERT "DEL" DEL FEMINE, 235

Central Family!

The state of being in good health, especially as an actively pursued goal" aka wellness something we all hope we possess but often don't think about until it is compromised. Likely, many of us never even considered the word, let alone its impact as students at Central.

Unfortunately, most students, especially high schoolers, are facing significant mental health challenges that impact their overall wellness, academic achievement, as well as life pursuits and goals.

Recent and ongoing factors:

- COVID-19 pandemic
- social media influence and peer pressure—wellness is something we all hope we possess but often don't think about until it is compromised. Many of us likely
- family life, responsibilities, and economic burden
- academic demand

As you read these, you may be thinking: "Nothing new here, and we had other stuff growing up too".

True, yet consider the rising isolation that hit younger people especially hard during and after the pandemic; the increase in technology-enabled cyberbullying and algorithm-based messaging overload; and the perceived need for "academic perfection" in order to achieve a college admission and job. It's too much for these young minds, bodies, and souls. These humans are our future!

The school we love has definitely been working to help. The excellent teachers, administration, and other staff provide support, education, and guidance through family collaboration, school activity/connectedness, mental health resources, and the **LANCER CULTURE** and knowing we are 32,000 strong across the world. We are not alone!

What else can we do as an alumni base?

Share our time, expertise, and/or financial support:

- Serve on an [AACHS Board](#) committee (we especially need law, fundraising, marketing, social media, and marketing experience)
- For those of you in the healthcare, wellness, and counseling fields, consider how you might provide needed support, resources, and education for students and alumni
- Give financially as you are able - and to those who have joined the [1836 Society](#) and [President's Circle](#), we thank you for your generosity in support of the school we love so dearly!
- Come back and share your journey and roles at Career Day in November and plan a visit to the school for your reunions
- share your ideas and suggestions: president@centralhighalumni.com

So let's set the example for our YOUNG and FUTURE LEADERS. As we head into summer, find your joy. Take a walk, bike, or swim. Help someone who needs it. Make that call to a classmate. Do whatever you are ABLE TO DO for our school and the students it serves. I trust you'll FEEL WELL and help someone else to BE WELL through your generosity!

DEL, 235 (Robert A. Del Femine)
AACHS President

AACHS ANNOUNCES THE PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

Dear Alumni and Friends,

On **June 13th, 1836**, a group of visionaries signed a document that would forever change the landscape of education in Philadelphia.

With quill in hand, they founded what would become one of the oldest and most respected public high schools in the nation—**Central High School**.

Nearly two centuries later, we invite you to honor their bold vision by celebrating **Charter Day**. Whether by making a gift or engaging with our **dear High** in a way that is meaningful to you, your participation keeps Central's legacy alive.

My name is **David Kahn, 220** and in the spirit of that legacy I am proud to announce the creation of the **President's Circle—a community of dedicated alumni and friends who believe that the exceptional education and opportunities we experienced at Central come with a shared responsibility**: to ensure future generations enjoy the same.

I believe in Central's future as strongly as I value its past. It is why I have chosen to **invest \$500,000 to the *Leading the Way Campus Expansion Campaign***.

This transformative campaign will allow us to expand Central's footprint and build the world class facilities needed to provide a top-quality education worthy of students attending Central High. Planned additions and renovations include:

- A state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center
- A fully modernized and expanded STEM and Robotics Center
- A cutting-edge Digital Media and Technology Center and student commons
- New classrooms and studio spaces to support both academic and performance-based learning

As a **proud Mirror/Lancer since 1959 and an active member of the AACHS**, I have always believed in “paying it forward”—a lesson passed down by our teachers, alumni, and past Presidents of Central.

It's our time. It's our turn to give back—and I invite you to join me in leading the way.

The **President's Circle recognizes alumni and friends who make a commitment of \$500,000 or more** to this transformative campaign. While every gift matters, your leadership-level support ensures Central High continues to deliver a world-class education to every student who walks through its doors.

Thank you,
David R. Kahn, 220th Class



Crimson and Gold Forever!



FROM THE ARCHIVES

BY: JEFF THOMAS, 233, ASSOCIATE ARCHIVIST

Art Education at Central High School – A Fabulous History and a Limitless Future - Part Two (See Part One in Fall 2024 Alumni Journal)

It may be a surprise to the general public and probably to many an alumnus to discover that a splendid art tradition was founded, grew, and is still maintained at Central High School. Let's further explore our proud history of Art Education at Central.

Post-War Era to 1970s: Artistic Maturation

The post-World War II era brought significant cultural shifts, and the 1960s and 1970s saw an explosion of **social and political movements** that would have influenced art education. The rise of **contemporary art** movements such as **conceptual art**, **performance art**, and **new media** was reflected in Central High's art offerings.

- **Diverse Artistic Expressions:** The school's art curriculum became more inclusive, offering students the chance to explore a wide range of styles, from **photography** to **experimental film** to **installation art**. The diversity of artistic movements that emerged during this period prompted the school to expand its resources to include a greater variety of **art supplies** and **tools** for students.

Integration of Cultural Awareness: With the rise of civil rights movements, there was a growing interest in art that reflected diverse social issues. Central High's art program incorporated discussions of race, gender, and identity into its curriculum. Students were encouraged to use their art to address personal and political themes, which became a hallmark of artistic practice during this period.

Late 20th Century: Excellence in Arts Education

By the 1980s and 1990s, Central High School's art program had gained recognition as one of the top public school art programs in the Philadelphia area, if not the entire country.



The school's success was due in large part to its commitment to offering an academically rigorous and creatively expansive curriculum.

- **Advanced Placement and Honors Programs:** Central High began offering Advanced Placement (AP) Art History, AP Studio Art, and Honors Art courses for its most talented students. These programs provided a pathway for students to pursue higher education in art-related fields, and they helped the school maintain its reputation for producing accomplished artists.
- **Increased Community and Institutional Collaboration:** The late 20th century saw even more collaboration between the school's art department and the surrounding cultural institutions.

ARCHIVES CONTINUED

Notable Alumni: Throughout the 20th century, many **Central High art students** went on to successful careers in the arts. Many have gone on to teach at colleges, work in museums, or become well-known figures in the art world.

21st Century: Adapting to New Media and Technological Change

As we moved into the 21st century, the explosion of digital media and the increasing importance of technology in art-making led to the expansion of Central High's art offerings to include digital arts, graphic design, 3D modeling, and animation. These courses help students understand how art is created and experienced in the modern, digital world.

- **Digital and Multimedia Art:** Courses such as digital photography, digital painting, video editing, and computer graphics became integral parts of the curriculum. The increasing use of social media also gave students new platforms to display and share their work.
- **Collaborative Projects and Public Art:** Students at **Central High** have been involved in a variety of public art projects, including creating murals and installations in partnership with local community groups. The school's art program often collaborates with other disciplines such as theater and music to create large-scale, multi-disciplinary projects.
- **AP and College-Level Opportunities:** Today, **Central High** continues to offer advanced programs for students aiming to pursue careers in the arts. AP Art History, AP Studio Art, and a range of other advanced classes prepare students to enter competitive art schools or to pursue undergraduate degrees in fields such as fine arts, graphic design, architecture, and media arts.

Cultural Impact and Reputation

- **Central High's art program** has earned a reputation as a place of artistic and academic excellence. It has consistently ranked among the top public schools for both arts and academics in the region.
- **Student Achievements:** Many students have won regional and national awards for their artwork, while others have gone on to prestigious universities such as the University of the Arts, Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), Pratt Institute, and Parsons School of Design. The school's art exhibitions often attract attention from local galleries and cultural institutions, further enhancing its role in the broader Philadelphia art scene.
- **A Legacy of Creativity:** The ongoing focus on creativity, artistic exploration, and community engagement has helped ensure that **Central High's art program** remains one of the premier public school art departments in the country, and it continues to produce talented, innovative, and socially conscious artists who go on to shape the future of art.

In conclusion, **the history of art at Central High School in Philadelphia mirrors** the evolving role of the arts in education itself. From its humble beginnings as part of a classical education in the 19th century, through its expansion into the modern and contemporary art world, and into the digital age, Central High has remained a dynamic and creative institution that fosters both artistic excellence and intellectual growth.

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH THE LANCER COMMUNITY

SUBMIT NOTABLE UPDATES, AND ARTICLES TO THE JOURNAL
ALUMNIJOURNAL@CENTRALHIGHALUMNI.COM

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

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.

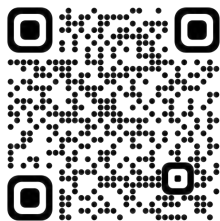
SUPPORT CHS BY
MAKING A GIFT!

LANCERS LEAD THE WAY

MAKE A GIFT MEANINGFUL TO YOU
SUPPORT CURRENT AND FUTURE LANCERS THROUGH
OUR ANNUAL AND CAPITAL FUNDRAISING EFFORTS.
AACHS IS A 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION.
EIN# 23-1618008



CHS ALUMNI
SCHOOL STORE



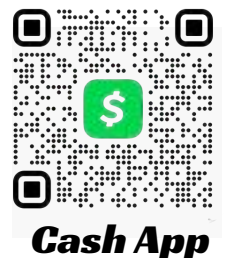
AACHS
WEBSITE



AACHS LANCERS
@AACHS



AACHS LANCERS
\$AACHSLANCERS





Leading the Way

Campus Expansion Capital Campaign

CALL TO ACTION: BE A PART OF THE LEADING THE WAY CAMPAIGN FOR THE FUTURE OF CENTRAL

The incredible campus expansion project is an undertaking and labor of love for the alumni who have committed themselves to working on it.

The **Committee members, made up of members from various classes and generations, have excitedly been reaching out to individual alumni** to communicate and share this vision for the Central of tomorrow – and to secure their financial support. And we've just scratched the surface.

Each contribution moves us closer to being able to provide future Lancers the space and resources that they desperately need.

We're making significant progress in raising the funds required for the **planned expansion of the Central campus**. But we have a way to go to make this vision a reality:

- A new wing to be built on the **North Lawn** that includes a 400-seat, state-of-the-art multi-purpose theater; acoustically optimized music, theater, choral, and dance rehearsal and practice rooms; digital production labs; and visual arts areas along with gallery spaces for exhibitions, performances, lectures, college fairs and other events; and the re-location of the music and theater departments to the new wing.
- A renovated and expanded STEM center, a digital media center, and technology-rich research areas commensurate with the **cutting-edge careers we want graduates** to be able to pursue in their future, made possible by the additional space in the existing building that the new wing allows.
- An indoor walking bridge connecting the new wing to the existing building; student commons spaces to allow **Lancer students** to have places to congregate, collaborate and spend their time in between classes; and a building-wide physical realignment, to enable related disciplines to be located in contiguous spaces.

The Committee is contacting alumni both individually and through classes, and one of our members may be contacting you or your class directly. But with **more than 30,000 alumni** in our database, it's a challenge to get to everyone personally.

continued on next page

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
Robert A. Del Femine, 235
Nate Dorfman, 268
David Geibel, 249
Mitchell Glass, 228
Jay Horrow, 228
David R. Kahn, 220
Cynthia S. Lech, 263
Allan Marmon, 204
Stephanie B. Mattei, 249
Kenneth Miraski, 263
Frank M. Nasir Jr., 262
Robert Orsher, 228
Richard E. Prinz, 212
Stanley J. Sokolove, 225
Jeff Thomas, 233
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

Campus Expansion Capital Campaign

**CALL TO ACTION: BE A PART OF THE LEADING THE WAY CAMPAIGN
FOR THE FUTURE OF CENTRAL**

We are issuing this **CALL TO ACTION** – Make your contribution to the Leading the Way campaign on our website, by check, or through a donor advised fund, family foundation, stock gift, planned gift, matching corporate gift, or recurring gift.

Website: [Leading the Way](#)

Check/Mail:

Check payable to The Associated Alumni of Central High School of Philadelphia (AACHS) and sent to: The Associated Alumni of Central High School of Philadelphia (AACHS), P.O. Box 26580, Philadelphia, PA 19141-6580.

Pledge:

PLEDGES CAN BE MADE OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. ANY PLEDGE OR CONTRIBUTION OF \$500,000 OR MORE PLACES THE DONOR IN THE *PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE* WHICH HAS VARIOUS RECOGNITIONS AND BENEFITS.

Stock: [Download this form](#) to retrieve information on how to make your gift by stock.

[Matching Corporate Gift:](#) Some companies double or even triple employees' gifts to Central. Your employer might be one of them!

This is the time to remember all that Central did for you and means to you – and pay it forward so that – as we approach the 200th anniversary of Dear High – future generations of Central students can have 21st century opportunities to excel and shine.

For questions, please contact **Cynthia Lech 263**, Executive Director, at cynthia@centralhighalumni.com.

Thank you.

Steve Kasloff, Esq., 228

Chair, Leading the Way Campaign Committee

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
Robert A. Del Femine, 235
Nate Dorfman, 268
David Geibel, 249
Mitchell Glass, 228
Jay Horrow, 228
David R. Kahn, 220
Cynthia S. Lech, 263
Allan Marmon, 204
Stephanie B. Mattei, 249
Kenneth Miraski, 263
Frank M. Nasir Jr., 262
Robert Orsher, 228
Richard E. Prinz, 212
Stanley J. Sokolove, 225
Jeff Thomas, 233
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](#).

LANCER STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: NATALIE L., 284



AS WE CELEBRATE AANHPI HERITAGE MONTH AND ITS THEME THIS YEAR OF "A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP AND RESILIENCE" WE ARE PLEASED TO SPOTLIGHT SENIOR NATALIE L., (284).

“

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL SHAPED THE PERSON I AM TODAY. CENTRAL IS KNOWN FOR ITS ADVANCEMENTS AND RIGOROUS COURSES IN STEM. IT WAS ONLY AFTER TAKING THESE CLASSES THAT I REALIZED THAT CENTRAL'S SUCCESS WASN'T BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF KNOWLEDGE THE STUDENTS HAD. INSTEAD, IT WAS HOW THE TEACHERS IGNITED CURIOSITY IN THEIR STUDENTS AND THE BURNING DESIRE TO CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS OUTSIDE OF CLASS

”

Natalie is determined to break the stigma for Asian diasporas around speaking up about mental health and awareness. Natalie would like to serve as a mentor to young women in STEM—continuing the cycle of support and inspiration that helped her thrive.

Throughout her time participating in the science fairs, she has earned top awards—including first place at the Delaware Valley Science Fair, second place at the Carver Science Fair, and first place at Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science.

Beyond academics, Natalie interned with AACHS throughout high school, building strong bonds with Central's alumni community, who continue to inspire and support her journey.

Looking ahead, Natalie plans to earn a bachelors degree in neuroscience, pursue laboratory research, and ultimately become a neuroradiologist. She hopes to use connectomics and brain imaging to deepen understanding of cognitive disabilities, especially in children with autism.

“

I LEARNED THAT TRUE SUCCESS ISN'T ABOUT FOLLOWING A SINGLE PATH — IT'S ABOUT CHOOSING WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU AND SAYING 'YES' TO THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT IGNITE YOUR PASSION.

”

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE](#)

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE TO STUDENTS LIKE NATALIE](#)

Read our student publications!



Links:

Volume 4 of Afrocentric

2025 edition of Mosaic

Issue 3 of the Central Inqueerier



Equitable Excellence Scholarship Awarded to six 284th class seniors



On May 20th, six members of the 284th Senior class were awarded the Equitable Excellence Scholarship. Karr Barth Associates hosted a luncheon and honored the seniors. Hussein Hussein, Hasan Alfareeji, Xiani Perez, Mandy Chen, Susan Zhao, and Erica Zhao each received a \$20,000 scholarship and a new iPad. As part of the award each student had to name a teacher who has greatly impacted their education. They named current CHS teachers Mr. Drayton, Mr. Wenger, Ms. Durkee, Ms. Dwight, Mr. Hung, and Mr. Johns as their choices. Congratulations to all the scholarship winners. You have made us all Central Proud. Special thanks to Cathey White and 14th CHS President Tim McKenna for coordinating this program for the School District.

*Dedicate an auditorium
seat to create a
permanent legacy at
Central for you, a recent
graduate, family member,
or beloved teacher.*

CLICK HERE



CENTRAL HIGH
ALUMNI

TAKE A SEAT

Dedicate an auditorium seat to create a permanent legacy at Central for you, a recent graduate, a family member, or a beloved teacher.

www.centralhighalumni.com/givinghome

Check out the list of events for this year

THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF

**CENTRAL
HIGH SCHOOL**



Upcoming Events

**June
2**

1836 Society Ceremony

**5:00PM | RIVERS WATERFRONT
REGISTER NOW**

A ceremony recognizing new and current members of the 1836 Society.

New members will be formally recognized and receive their pin from a current 1836 Society member.

AACHS Annual Reception

**5:30PM | RIVERS WATERFRONT
REGISTER NOW**

The signature event of the year, join us as we celebrate and honor members of Central High School's community.

Annual Golf Outing

**12:00PM | RAMBLEWOOD CLUB
REGISTER NOW**

Bring your "A-ACHS game" to the annual golf outing hosted by Central's athletic department. Lunch followed by a shotgun start at 1pm along with dinner and awards at 6pm.

**June
19**

Central Sips Happy Hour

**5:00PM | Pagano's
SAVE THE DATE**

Join us at the popular outdoor happy hour event

**Aug
21**

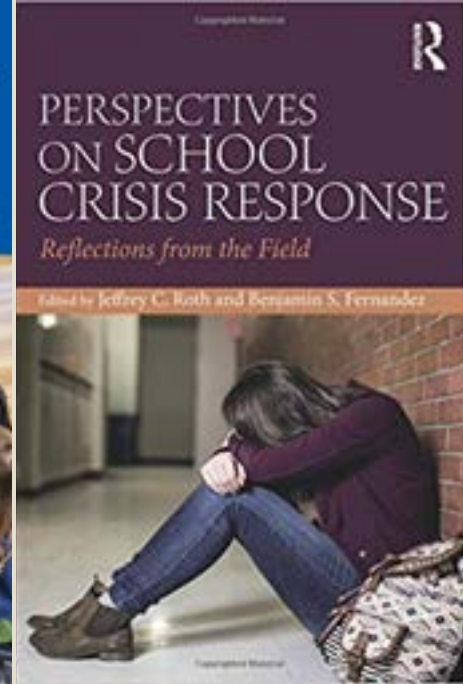
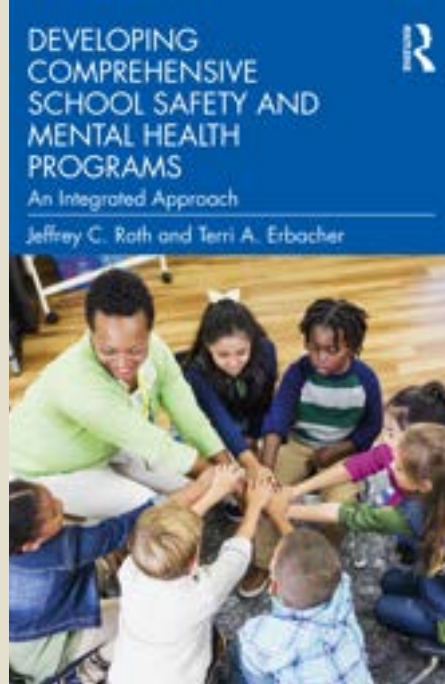
Hall of Fame Induction

**6:00PM | RIVERS WATERFRONT
SAVE THE DATE**

Join us as we induct eight alumni members into the AACHS Hall of Fame

**Oct
29**

www.centralhighalumni.com/upcomingevents



Alumni Spotlight - Jeff Roth, 222

I graduated with the **222nd class** of Central High. In **Doc Hamm's** and **Mr. Adelman's** English classes we were always writing. We wrote about books we read. We wrote about our lives. We wrote about everything. I began to love writing and to have confidence I could write well. It wasn't until years later, after retirement as a school psychologist that I found time to begin writing books. I had a subject about which I was passionate.

Among many responsibilities as a school psychologist was Team Leader of the district crisis response team. While only a small portion of my job, **leading crisis response was the most meaningful work of my career.** The help we offered was so critical that it was palpable. We saw children struggle to make sense of sad and traumatic events. Sometimes they drew comfort simply from having caring adults present during a devastating time. I developed a profound appreciation for our crisis response team that was always ready to help.

Our team bonded like sisters and brothers – **trusting, depending on, and finding strength in each other.** Crisis responders usually enter a situation with no history of serving those affected by an accident, death, or other traumatic incident. They must be open to being present and finding comfort in an uncomfortable situation – communicating care and empathy with an expression, a gesture, a phrase. A lecture or sermon is unhelpful. Establishing rapport must create the immediate impression that the responder is dependable, trustworthy, and ready to listen.

The depth of relationships in schools creates one of the unique aspects of school crisis response. These relationships are often based upon mutual respect and appreciation. Sometimes they are driven by anger and resentment. Schools provide opportunities for people to enjoy and annoy each other, engage in and resolve conflict, learn and grow together. Devastating events can deeply affect many lives. The responder must focus on the needs of those affected and opportunities to foster movement toward recovery.

continued on next page

SCHOOL CRISIS RESPONSE

Reflections of a Team Leader

Jeff Roth, Ph.D., NCSP, LP., 222



During a response, there are teachable moments when students can be helped to understand their feelings, the feelings of others, their struggle with powerlessness and despair, and their ultimate power and resilience.

After retiring I began reflecting and writing about incidents to which we responded. At first the writing flowed easily. Vivid memories were committed to paper. Later the creative process slowed. I had to organize my thoughts, pull them forth, apply research, explain best practices. Translating the manuscript draft into a coherent book meant many rounds of editing and each round meant replaying traumatic incidents. Initially writing was therapeutic, almost cathartic. Editing meant reliving incidents, sometimes with sadness, sometimes anger.

Creating a book also required that spontaneous writing blend into an organized structure. Personal narratives – stories of real-life response to crises and lessons learned, would be interspersed with chapters describing key elements of response and best practices. Compassionate stories in the voice of responders would combine an intellectual understanding of how to do crisis response with an emotional understanding of how it feels to do it. Narrative stories provide powerful learning tools, illustrating facts, but also feelings, insights, difficult decisions and challenges of being there.

It was exciting to see a book coming together that **celebrates response teams, teachers, and administrators who provide extraordinary service** during devastating events. But getting a book published is extremely difficult.

My first book, *School Crisis Response: Reflections of a Team Leader* (2015) was published independently. **I was invited to contribute a chapter**, “The Importance of Consultation in Supporting Bereaved Students” (2017) to a book published by Oxford University Press. Routledge then published a series of my books, *Perspectives on School Crisis Response: Reflections from the Field* (2018) with Ben Fernandez, *Developing Comprehensive School Safety and Mental Programs: An Integrated Approach* (2022) with Terri Erbacher, and *School Crisis Response: Reflections of a Team Leader* (Second Edition, 2023). **I am thankful that the love of writing which began at Central led to a second career as an author of books that help school communities.**

SHARE YOUR STORY WITH THE LANCER COMMUNITY

Submit content to Editor-in-Chief, Alicia Oglesby, 258, at alumnijournal@centralhighalumni.com.



THE JOURNEY OF WELLNESS

AN INTERVIEW WITH KARLA HAWKINS, 259

BY **GENE MARKS, 241**
AACHS TREASURER

Karla Hawkins (259), spent a number of years at the U.S. Patent Office before venturing out on her own as a patent consultant. She has been working remotely and travelling the world while serving her clients.

Gene Marks: Where are you living now?
Karla Hawkins: I'm in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Gene Marks: Out of all the countries in the world, what drew you to Vietnam?

Karla Hawkins: [During] COVID, I started traveling long-term in different countries and I was mostly in South America, and Mexico. After doing that I wanted to see what different parts of Asia would be like because that was one area of the world that I didn't really get to visit much.

Gene Marks: Did you travel as a kid?

Karla Hawkins: I started traveling in college and my early twenties. The first trip was a graduation trip from Central to the Bahamas with my mom. I just kept going to different places on spring break or if I had some time or vacation, I would always go to a different country.

Gene Marks: What drew you to Central? Was that your decision or your parents'?

Karla Hawkins: It was mine as well as my mom's. My sister and my mom went to Girls High. I wanted to go somewhere different. I really liked science and math, and I also liked swimming, so I just figured Central would be better.



Gene Marks: Did you have any favorite classes or teachers?

Karla Hawkins: Mr. Gillespie, a biology teacher, he was really cool.

Gene Marks: What was Central like in the late nineties?

Karla Hawkins: It was very diverse. I was an athlete, so I knew a lot of people who were on the swim team and on track and field. I also was into science, so I knew a lot of people who were into that. I took a lot of different electives [and] got to meet people who were interested in different things. There was an audio-visual club at the time. I had a lot of friends who were into art. I thought it was cool to be able to go to a school where you had a nice mix of people, and you could make friends with anybody.

Gene Marks: Did you have any favorite classes or teachers?

Karla Hawkins: Mr. Gillespie, a biology teacher, he was really cool. Me and a couple of friends took a science elective where we were able to leave school early and do research at a local research facility. I did some scientific research at UPenn and then [at] Jefferson Hospital. They put us in science fairs for Central. I got to leave school early and do experiments working with different animals and things like that.

Gene Marks: You left Central and went to Drexel to study biomedical engineering. What impact did Central have to prepare you for Drexel?

Karla Hawkins: It prepared me for the adjustment of a very intense math and science program. Drexel has a very good engineering program. After a year at Drexel, I transferred to Howard. A couple of friends of mine, one friend in particular who went to Central, went to Howard and some of them were on the swim team. They [told me] the coach was looking for more swimmers and they were giving out scholarships. That's eventually why I ended up transferring to Howard because I was able to be on the swim team and offset the cost.

Gene Marks: Then you went on to work in the patent office?

Karla Hawkins: After Howard, I started working at the patent trademark office on air and water filtration patents. I thought it was very interesting because I got to see a lot of information from different companies and inventors that wasn't available for the public yet. I got to see what new inventions and technology were on the rise. I had been working at the patent office for 10 years [and] once I hit 10 years, I thought, is this what I want to do forever? What else is out there?

Gene Marks: Did you have any clients right off the bat? How did you find work?

Karla Hawkins: I did quite a bit of outreach. I worked with this one department where they would fly around to different parts of the country and talk to different scientists, different universities, sometimes high school students to educate on the idea of innovation and intellectual property. I networked and did talks on my own. That's how I started meeting people who had questions or needed help with an idea they had as an invention or trademark. Since I had that background [as] a patent examiner, it put me in a good position to help people send in their applications.



THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL OF PHILADELPHIA

1836 SOCIETY PIN CEREMONY

5:00 PM • MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2025

RIVERS WATERFRONT

Gene Marks: What has it been like for an independent American woman traveling to all these countries? What advice do you have for other people, women in particular, that would like this kind of lifestyle?

Karla Hawkins: The main thing that I've learned is if you want to do something, just go for it. There's always going to be reasons not to, but there's always reasons for you to try and see if it'll work out. I've been to over 30 different countries and they're all different and have their own vibe. I think [what] stops people the fear of the unknown. I've been received differently in different countries. I'm a 5'10" browned-skin, black woman. Certain places I stand out a lot more than others. When I was in Peru, I hiked to Machu Picchu. In Peru, people are very short, so that was one place where first thing in the morning I'll get up and jog and look around the area that I'm staying in. When I do things like that, I look very different from far away. People are nice and a lot of times they want to take pictures or say hello.

Gene Marks: How have you made friends? Do you go someplace where you know people or are you starting from scratch?

Karla Hawkins: At first, I started from scratch. I started off in one part of Colombia, did some research and saw places that looked cool. I did that for a while through Mexico, Central America and South America. Now I go to places where there are people who I know, and I also have people come and visit me. A couple of people from Central sent me a message about different countries they were visiting. And I said, "I can send you some info on where to go, what to do..." Another way that I get to learn about the area is through social media and different groups like expat groups or digital nomad groups.

Gene Marks: What about languages?

Karla Hawkins: When I was at Central, I took AP Latin. With any of the romance languages, it makes those languages easier to learn. When I moved to Colombia, I learned Spanish because you're kind of forced to learn it, but I also made sure that I used it every day. In Asia, it was a bit different. I just learned like the basics like, hello, goodbye, thank you, how much is this, type of thing.

Gene Marks: What are three things about life that you'd like to share with the Central community?

Karla Hawkins: First, go with your gut instinct. Always go with your instinct in every situation. Also, you are the author of the of your own life. If you want to change things, you're able to do that because it's your life. Find what makes you happy and go for that. The third thing would be no matter where you are in the world, people are people. People respond smiling energy no matter where I am in the world. Even though there's different cultures, we're all in this world together.





THE
1836
SOCIETY

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

Reserved for members who support the critical philanthropic initiatives to preserve the robust academic experience for Central High School students today and into the future. These individuals provide an annual minimum contribution of \$1,836 or more annually.

1836 Society
Website



**SUPPORT THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
EXPANSION PROJECT**

Click to watch the
Capital Campaign Video

Mental/Emotional Health and Community Wellness

by Robert Wells, Jr., 226



The topic of Community Wellness is often examined using multiple dimensions. One model I have seen involves eight dimensions: emotional, financial, social, spiritual, occupational, physical, intellectual and environmental. When I researched this topic in 2018 I elected to use the following twelve dimensions:

- Physical Health
- Emotional Health
- Mental Health
- Social Well-being
- Safe and Sustainable Environment
- Intellectual Cultural Exposure



- Family Integrity and Support
- Collaboration of Organizations/groups
- Financial Integrity
- Vocational Opportunity
- Humility
- Spirituality

I started my examination by borrowing the following Native American quote: **“we do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.”** This compelled me to examine the subject through the lens of a greeting from Africa. The greeting does not inquire of the well-being of the person being greeted but instead is “How are the children?”

Why this approach? It is my belief that if children thrive it is because the community thrives through a collaboration of the schools, the home, and the community. **Professor Lawrence Steinberg, PhD**, wrote a number of books about adolescents. I was first exposed when I picked up a copy at **“The Lord’s Warehouse”** a sophisticated name for a thrift shop. The Book was entitled **Age of Opportunity** [lessons from the new science of adolescence]. I was so impressed with the consequences of missing this “Opportunity” that I ordered 25 copies from the publisher, sent them to the author to be signed, and gave them to teachers, judges, parents, youth leaders and public officials.

Professor Lawrence Steinberg, PhD, a prominent researcher on adolescence, emphasized the critical nature of adolescence as a period for growth in self-regulation, emotional control, and decision-making. His work also highlighted the impact of environmental factors on intellectual development, noting that poverty, trauma, and food insecurity hinder a child's potential. Steinberg’s research underscores the importance of strong community support, especially for families with limited resources.

Mental/Emotional Health and Community Wellness (continued)

Teenagers have complex emotional needs, including a sense of belonging, power, independence, and identity. Researchers like Jacqueline Amor-Zitzelburger and Dr. Bruce Naramore identify key developmental challenges, such as forming meaningful relationships, gaining career skills, and developing a personal value system. Pat Tanner Nelson, Ed.D, discusses the need for adolescents to establish autonomy, intimacy, and self-acceptance.

A personal experience I had as **Moderator for the Center for Racial Harmony** demonstrated the importance of guidance, opportunity, respect, and reasonable expectations in student success. A panel of students from different races and genders emphasized these themes, which I summarized as the acronym GORE. While the term may be awkward, it effectively highlights core principles for success.

In examining community wellness, Linda Tropp, Professor at the University of Massachusetts, suggests that most people are eager to engage in non-partisan discussions, especially at the local level. This can help bridge the national divides that make it difficult to address issues like immigration or climate change.

One way to **begin fostering such dialogue is through initiatives like the dinner table** discussions organized by the Center for Racial Harmony. On April 3, 2025, a public dinner was held, where approximately 80 community members gathered to discuss how individuals and groups can contribute to effective, healing governance. The event's focus was on fostering communication, respect, and empathy among participants.

Each table of eight discussed three simple questions, with a reporter taking notes on each group's responses. Participants were encouraged to follow the ROPE acronym: Be Respectful, Open, Positive, and Empathic. The event concluded with a presentation from Emma, a 13-year-old attendee, who shared her group's insights with the larger gathering. **This dinner marked the beginning of a series of discussions, with future events focusing on healthcare and education, and exploring the role of family in supporting mental and emotional health.**

Though it's too early to assess the long-term impact of the dinner series, the initial reception has been positive. Many attendees appreciated the opportunity to connect with neighbors, exchange ideas, and engage in meaningful conversations. As Cheryl Richardson wisely noted, "People start to heal the moment they feel heard." By fostering communication and providing opportunities for healing, community wellness can begin on a personal level and extend to the larger group.

As we continue to work toward improving mental and emotional health in our communities, we can learn from these early efforts. By building on collaboration and collective care, we have the potential to create a model that other communities can follow. **I welcome thoughts, suggestions, and examples from others working to enhance community wellness.**

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

**BY STEVE BURNSTEIN, 222
AACHS HALL OF FAME MEMBER**



DEI in the Crosshairs: Implications for Our Diverse Student Body

In recent years, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives have gained momentum across sectors—government, corporations, and education. These efforts are designed to address longstanding inequities and promote inclusive environments for people of all backgrounds, including race, gender, religion, and sexual orientation. However, recent federal actions under President Trump’s administration have posed challenges to these values, with significant implications for institutions like Central High School, one of the most diverse public high schools in the United States.

The Roots and Role of DEI

DEI efforts aim to rectify systemic disparities through strategies like inclusive hiring, cultural competence training, and affirmative action. They reflect an ongoing national commitment to ensure equal opportunities and promote a sense of belonging for historically marginalized communities.

Policy Rollbacks and Executive Orders

During his first term, President Trump issued Executive Order 13950 in 2020, restricting certain types of DEI training in federal agencies and contractors. Critics argued this created confusion and weakened existing inclusion programs. The administration also supported legislative efforts to defund DEI initiatives, a trend that continued at the state level, most notably in Florida, where DEI programs in public universities were officially banned in 2024.

In January 2025, shortly after beginning a second term, President Trump signed a policy statement titled “Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing.” This document outlined a broad plan to dismantle federal support for DEI initiatives. Days later, another executive order declared that “there are only two sexes,” reversing federal contractor nondiscrimination policies and encouraging employees to report colleagues who maintain DEI programs. These decisions have raised numerous civil rights concerns among educators and civil rights advocates.



AACHS ANNUAL RECEPTION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
COURTLAND C. LEE, PH.D.
226TH CLASS



www.centralhighalumni.com/upcomingevents

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

BY STEVE BURNSTEIN, D.O., FACR 222 (CONTINUED)

Year(s)Key Events and Initiatives

2020–2021

- **Elizabeth Williams Wesley** appointed as Central’s first Director of DEI.
- AACHS DEI Committee (ADC) formed, alongside student and alumni groups such as the African American Student Union and Central Alumni for Black Lives.
- ADC launched student mental health initiatives and an alumni mentoring network for career and academic support.

2022–2023

- Planning began for educational trips to Washington, D.C., including the National Museum of African American History and Culture and Howard University.
- In April 2023, 100 students attended the trip, accompanied by alumni and **Michelle Thornton, Central’s second DEI Director.**

2024–2025

- A second cohort visited the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and Howard University.
- Planning for the 2025 trip is underway, with strong collaboration between the ADC and **President Kate Davis’s (264)** administration.

These activities not only enrich students' understanding of culture and history but also reinforce Central’s commitment to inclusivity and academic excellence.

Looking Ahead: Resilience and Commitment

Michelle Thornton’s departure for a district-level position has left a gap in DEI leadership at Central. While there is no current information about hiring a new director, the ADC remains active and committed to supporting students through programs and advocacy. Despite external challenges, the committee upholds its mission: fostering a school environment that reflects the values of equity, respect, and opportunity.

Reflections on National Trends

This letter does not attempt to speculate on President Trump’s motivations, but rather to express concern about the real-world consequences of recent federal actions. These measures, combined with growing political pressure to introduce religious curricula and restrict inclusive teaching, negatively impact students from diverse backgrounds.

In conversations with those who see DEI as controversial or unnecessary, I often ask: If your child were different in a way that made them vulnerable to exclusion, wouldn’t you want them to be treated with fairness and dignity?

Lastly, while the January 29 air crash was blamed by some on DEI policy, such claims lack credible evidence and only serve to politicize a tragedy. Let us continue to champion the values that elevate all students, no matter the political climate.

REFERENCES

(1) Z. THOMAS. FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS VOTES TO APPROVE FINAL REGULATION FOR DEI BAN. THE INDEPENDENT FLORIDA ALLIGATOR, 1/29/24
(2) E.A.REYES. TRUMP ORDERS FEDERAL AGENCIES TO RECOGNIZE ONLY TWO SEXES THAT ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE. L.A. TIMES, 1/21/25
(3) J.EDISON. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES BIBLE-INFUSED CURRICULUM. THE TEXAS TRIBUNE, 11/19/24
(4) N.GALLOGLY. THE DEI RETREAT HAS SOME NOTABLE HOLDOUTS. THE NEW YORK TIMES, 1/22/25 (5) D.E.SANGER. TRUMP BLAMES DEI AND BIDEN FOR CRASH UNDER HIS WATCH. NEW YORK TIMES, 1/30/25

“COACH ROSENFELD MADE EVERYONE HE WORKED WITH FEEL MOTIVATED AND INSPIRED TO DO THEIR BEST.”



IMPACT STORY BY PA STATE REPRESENTATIVE HON. MORGAN CEPHAS, 262

From 1998 to 2002, I had the honor of running track under Coach Rose at Central High School—an experience that shaped not only my athletic career but also my leadership and resilience. Under his guidance, our girls' track team made history, breaking barriers and setting new records. We secured three championships, including **Central's first-ever Public League Cross Country Championship** for a girls' team. We became the first girls' team from Central to qualify for the **Penn Relays Championship** of America and earned an invitation to the 1999 Nike Indoor Classic, where we placed second in the 3200-meter relay—another first for our school.

But **Coach Rose's** impact extended far beyond competition. He instilled in us a deep commitment to teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. He taught us that success wasn't just about individual talent but about recognizing each other's strengths and lifting one another up. His lessons reached beyond the track—he showed us how to navigate pressure, balance competing demands, and push through discomfort to reach our full potential.

Those lessons stayed with me long after high school, helping me earn an athletic scholarship to the **University of Virginia** and shaping the way I approach my work today. Whether in athletics or public service, the values of hard work, collaboration, and determination remain the same.

Coach Rose didn't just develop athletes—he helped shape future leaders. That's why, as a legislator, I am committed to expanding athletic opportunities for young people, ensuring they have access to programs that build character, open doors, and create pathways **to success. His legacy lives on in the lives he touched, and I will always be grateful for the foundation he helped lay for so many of us.**

Fred Rosenfeld was a lifelong Philadelphian, loving family man, and legendary track and field coach. In his long career, he won an astounding 51 Philadelphia Public League Championships. His teams at Overbrook High School and Central High School won a total of 17 public league track and field and 23 cross country titles. Additionally, he coached four championship seasons of cross country at Akiba Hebrew Academy, now Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy.

Known as “**Mr. Rose**” by his athletes, **Fred was honored as the Pennsylvania Track Coach of the Year** in 1989, 1998 and 2004. In 1991, he was named an Honorary Referee for the Penn Relays, and he coached in the 1993 Maccabiah Games in Israel. Fred was one of the creators of the Overbrook High School Athletic Alumni Association (OHSAA) and was honored to lead the induction of the first class in 1991, which included **Wilt Chamberlain**.

A memorial campaign at The Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History has been created by former students of **Coach Rosenfeld**.

To support and make a contribution, please [**click the link here**](#).



AACHS Women's Leadership Council

The Women's Leadership Council was created for and by alumnae of AACHS who hold leadership roles in their professional or personal lives. This council serves as a space to network, share experiences, and actively contribute to aligning AACHS's mission with actionable goals. Through our collective expertise and collaboration, we aim to support the vision of **President Davis (264)** and her administration, and help shape the future of the school we love.

Alumni Spotlight **Dr. Marc K. Wallack, 218**



Dr. Marc Wallack has been accepted by the Academy of Master Surgeon Educators as a member and he was **inducted in as a Master Surgeon Educator** on September 27, 2024, at their central office in Chicago.

Dr. L.D. Britt (left) and Dr. Ajit Sachdeva (right) as Co-Chairs of the Academy of Master Surgeon Educations - **Dr. Marc K. Wallack, MD (218)** is in the middle.

Dr. Wallack has been a Program Director in General Surgery and Chair of Surgery for more than four decades. In this time, he has taken two established Surgical Residency Programs off probation and kept them continuously ACGME RRCs approved both at Mt. Sinai Medical Center in Miami, Florida and St. Vincent Catholic Medical Center in New York City.

Dr. Wallack's personal educational philosophy has been that of lifelong learning. He has been blessed with having incredible mentors in Surgery to inspire him to achieve an academic surgery platform. **Through his mentors they instilled in him the value of training as a clinical and academic surgeon.** He held positions early on as Associate Scientist at the Wistar Institute and Research Consultant as the Institute Merieux in Lyon, France and at the Frederic Cancer Research Center in Frederick, Maryland, and Head of Surgical Oncology at Barnes Hospital, and also with a funded laboratory in Immunotherapy with Melanoma Cancer Vaccines at the Washington University School of Medicine. His committee service with the Association of Program Directors in Surgery (ADPS) spans from 1985 – 2007. In that time, he served on the Board of Directors for all the years, as Secretary for two years, Vice President for 1 year and as President for 1 year. During that time, he helped to set policy for the tremendous growth of this organization including combining the annual Society's meeting with that of the Association of Surgical Education. Moreover, he also worked to improve the Journal of Surgical Education.

Dr. Wallack uses his role as a Program Director to **inspire his residents to excel in surgery and to stimulate in them a strong academic curiosity.** He has had the privilege to mentor many talented young surgeons. He has made it his mission to help each one of his graduates to strive to reach their potential and instill in them the philosophy of lifelong learning. To that end, he continues to publish with his residents and aids them in obtaining prestigious Research Fellowships during their Residency via his memberships and service to various Surgical Societies. And makes it a point to **mentor and review each medical students presentations** as they rotate through Surgery at Metropolitan Hospital.

LANCERS IN ACTION



Highlighting Student Showcases

The African American Student Union's annual Black History Month Showcase highlights Black culture across the African Diaspora through singing, dancing, spoken word performances, and more. This year, CHS students curated the showcase under the theme of Black Culture Throughout Time, showing the evolution of Black Culture and its impact on the world. According to AASU Dance Choreographer Synai Rorie-Hands, "Showcase brings us all together. It makes us feel connected and proud to be authentically US. Nothing instills more pride in us than being able to share the beauty of our culture with our school community and have them celebrate with us."

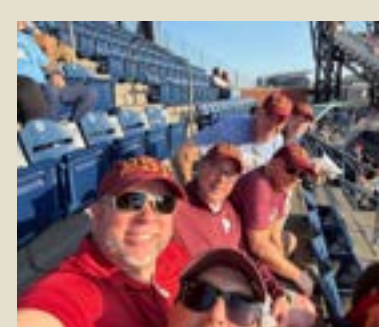
Congratulations to the Female Scholar Athlete of the Year, Amelia N., 284

Amelia was honored at the coaches association banquet and received a \$1,000 scholarship to be used for college.





Select sophomores (**286**), juniors (**285**), and seniors (**284**) visited the School District of Philadelphia for the "I AM" Youth Leadership Summit hosted by Change Our Future Foundation. Accompanied by **Walter Myrick (251)**, each student had workshops to learning how to be better leaders and also had the opportunity to connect with professionals from different career paths.



More than 600+ Central students, faculty, and alumni celebrated the 20th Annual Central Night @ Phillies in early May. Kudos to Faculty Member, **Sharon Walker**, (Italian 1-4, AP and IB Italian courses) who threw a first pitch strike.

RIDE WITH PRIDE

For PA Residents
Only

Purchase or Gift a
Lancer License
Plate



Check Out This Capital Campaign Video
Highlighting Central High School and the
campus expansion project



CHS Athletic Director Rich Drayton (246) was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame Philadelphia City All Star Chapter 2025

Although **World Teachers' Day** has passed, alumni can still make a difference by supporting Central's teachers through their **Amazon wish lists**. Our educators work tirelessly to provide an exceptional education, and this is a great opportunity to give back and enhance their classrooms. School-Based Teacher Leaders and program sponsors have carefully curated their needs to support nearly **140 teachers and 2,400 students** this year. By purchasing supplies from these lists, you help create a thriving learning environment where **students can reach their full potential**.

As proud alumni, you know the profound impact Central's faculty can have. Let's come together to support the next generation and continue the tradition of excellence at Central High. **Thank you to our amazing teachers and alumni in education who shape lives every day!**



Central High's Computer Club Founder - Thoughts on Tech Lee Felsenstein, 219



Lee Felsenstein's (219) experience as Chief Engineer of the Central High School Computer Club (founded 1959 by his older brother **Joe – 213**) drove him away from computers for a decade. During that time Lee attended the University of California at Berkeley, where he became caught up in the Free Speech Movement in 1964. Emerging into the newly hatched counterculture he set out on a lifelong quest to find (or create) the technologies necessary to enable a new world of community and possibility like the one he had fortuitously experienced in the successful Berkeley struggle for student political rights.

Along the way he led the project to develop the first public-access computer-based social media system, became centrally engaged in the development of the personal computer industry, and designed several early personal computer products, two of which were exhibited with credit in the Smithsonian for 19 years.

Lee has just published his book describing that process (“not an autobiography but a biography of some ideas”) that he discovered and developed along the way. Titled “**Me and My Big Ideas – Counterculture, Social Media and the Future** (FelsenSigns, 2024), it is a 250-page memoir and polemic in which he dismisses A.I. as “Artificial Stupidity” and roasts today’s social media giants as turning us into “livestock in information feedlots”. “It is not light reading”, comments Felsenstein. A final section of the book is written as a tutorial for future creators of social media systems, describing desiderata for the kinds of systems that we will need to replace our current silos and amusement parks. Ever the engineer, he continues to design his version of the kind of social media that might enable us to escape from the status of products fed by algorithms.

“In writing the book I confirmed that in the Venn diagram consisting of “1960’s Student radicalism”, “Counterculture”, “Personal Computers” and “Social Media” there is one person at the intersection of all – and it is me.” (And he is not sorry.)

The book is available in electronic and paperback form – see
www.FelsenSigns.com for more information.



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.*

So, now in our eighties we're slammin' it, maties -
Still writin' our stories and publishin' books
And no, I don't kibbitz 'bout photo exhibits
Or makin' our bacon while losin' our looks.

The Brass have suggested that our theme be Wellness. We are right in step, with the focus on our classmates who have continued working into our 9th decade in the pursuit of our physical and mental overall wellness, and offer examples of our classmates' ongoing contributions to society. We dedicate this column to a recently departed classmate.

Internationally-renowned cellist **Ronald Lipscomb** studied music in his early years at both Central High and Settlement Music Schools. Ron went on to study at The Manhattan School of Music and at The Marlboro School of Music with Pablo Casals. In addition to having performed with The New York Philharmonic under Leonard Bernstein and Erich Leinsdorf, and with The American Symphony Orchestra under Leopold Stokowski, Ron's love for all styles of music led him to appear with popular entertainers that included Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis, Jr., Issac Hayes, Marvin Gaye, Gladys Knight and James Brown. Locally, Ron was a member of the Fairmount Strings Quartet and as a faculty member of the Bryn Mawr Conservatory, Eastern College and Drexel University, as well as a number of community service programs. Ron passed on in January, yet his humanity and his art live on in his recordings and in the memories of those of us who had the good fortune to know him and his music.

After 50+ years of teaching and writing, **David Chanoff** is still cranking out histories like The Holocaust and biographies like that of 19th century Philadelphia abolitionist Anthony Benezet, that we should know about and serving as a teacher and scholar in residence at academic institutions including Brandeis, Tufts, and, once upon a time, at Helsinki (Finland) Technical University. That's another whole story.

Stories? **Paul Cherry's** travels have taken him through a teaching gig at Central, to being a Philadelphia lawyer, and, most recently, going to jail in sunny Sarasota Florida, where he serves as the seniormost (i.e. oldest) full time public defender in the Sunshine State (we're guessing). In his spare time, Paul manages to maintain an updated list of our comings and goings as our much-appreciated class correspondent. For all our sakes we wish Paul a long and healthy life!

C O L U M N B

CONTINUED

Roger Cooperman has been living and working abroad - most recently in Austria, creating and, we suppose, playing, “games for high IQ ICU professionals and trainees ... designed to promote neural development in the brains of players,” so as to “preserve (our) mind(s) in these mindless times.” In his spare time, Roger’s been working on “a new ... geometry that ensures vectors return to their original orientation after parallel transport despite the curvature of spacetime.” Sounds like Einstein on steroids. In any case, that’s Roger’s story, and he’s stickin’ to it.

1964 Tokyo Olympic rowing Gold Medalist **Stanley Cwyklinski** has transitioned from being a career naval officer specializing in marine salvage, to deep-sea diver and explorer, to managing toxic oil spills and, most recently, to consulting when he has the time and inclination. At home in California, Stan’s work and sport have taken him from Japan to England to Antarctica and places along the way. His autobiography is titled *My Lifelong Jottings During Peace and War*. A college racing trophy, awarded annually at the Knecht Cup Regatta, has been named in Stan’s honor.

Electrical engineer and integrated circuits designer **Bob Dobkin** went from building Central’s cyclotron and winning high school science fairs to patenting over 100 inventions and co-founding Linear Technology Corporation, which, until 2017, produced integrated circuits for telecommunications, cell phones, industrial and automotive electronics and military and space systems, among other applications. Since retiring, Bob has been consulting with electronics companies for profit and tutoring graduate students for fun.

Don Dyen’s brush has seldom, if ever, been without paint for the last 65 years. His portraits and illustrations are widely recognized for their unique representations of famous athletes, astronauts, movie themes, political, industrial and political collections and posters. Don even has prints on limited-edition calendars, in *Time* Magazine, and in the Library of Congress.

Federal criminal defense attorney **Alan Ellis** has shared with us that he’s planning to shelve his law books for good after he completes the cases he’s currently working on; one in NYC and two in Hawaii. Practicing law has given Al the opportunity not only to live in California’s Marin County, but to practice on an international platform, leading to a Fulbright teaching stint in Shanghai, where he fell in love with his Chinese “minder” and wound up marrying her. Mazel Tov to the happy couple!

Movie producer (eg. *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, *Swipe Fever*), author (eg. *The 7th Python*), and audio/documentary producer **Mark Forstater** has chosen this decade to launch his latest project: a hub of creative expression emphasizing the history and culture of the Jewish People, The People of the book. Mark writes: “The Jewish Brand is the first Jewish charity using cutting-edge technology and next-gen AI to build a cultural force ... designed to flood the internet with positive, pro-Jewish ... content.” Godspeed in this latest venture, Mark.

C O L U M N B

CONTINUED

Climate Policy Initiative Director and Stanford Law Professor Emeritus **Tom Heller** shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore for his contributions to the worldwide effort to decrease environmental destruction by, among other things, incentivizing the energy/economic systems of both large and small nations to go green. At last report, Tom is still making the effort, and we have his back.

Also at last report, lawyer and legal scholar **Henry Hertzfeld** is still circling the globe attending conferences on space law as more countries and companies become involved in the space race. When he's not hurtling through the atmosphere, Henry hangs out in his office at George Washington University in D.C.

Marc Kaplin's law firm has been a pioneer in the area of land use issues in Pennsylvania for the major international players in AI and data storage. Along with Tom and Henry, Marc has been making a living by staying ahead of the curve in his field of law. And, having seen him at the last reunion, the former gymnast, like his former teammate and my former teaching colleague **Bristol Rush**, has been staying in shape.

Since transitioning from full-time to "gig" employment, **Stephen Poppel** has been engaging in a number of activities for fun and/or profit, returning to his earlier careers teaching Modern European history with attention to the German Jewish community; consulting and lecturing in financial risk management for individuals and groups; and serving as a biomedical ethicist on institutional review boards for both human and animal research. Steve's many hobbies include one of our favorite - bread baking. Mmm!

Long before and since retiring from teaching in Philly, **Bristol Rush** has been buying, renovating, renting and selling properties. Once a Central gymnast, Bristol's secrets to staying "sharp as a pistol" include working on his own or with one of his crews, exercising, walking and keeping up with his wife. The Stomp lives on!

"They" say that old artists never die; they just run out of color. But **Laurence Salzmann** still boasts a full spectrum, as well as exhibitions of his work here and abroad. Next time you're in the Powelton Village neighborhood, catch Larry's local (and international) color at his Blue Flower Press on Lancaster Avenue.

COLUMN B

CONTINUED

Ivan Weiss has no beef about raising cows and pigs (kosher bacon?) on his Vashon Island farm in Washington State, where he's been getting his daily dose of fresh air since 1979 while reporting the local news from the mid-1960s till earlier this century. He still contributes his opinions liberally, especially on local sports and politics.

Yours Truly has given up the law office, but still goes to court a couple of days a week to pinch-hit for other attorneys. It gets me out of the house and gives me an excuse to wear one of my many sport coats and ties that I accumulated over the decades, except for the double-knits, all of which **Janice** "repurposed" right after she moved in. Besides, one of my seldom-worn and moth-eaten woolen suits should produce some pretty nice ashes to leave with her when the time comes.

To this point, **Column B** has been all about MY classmates. Many of us have lived long enough to celebrate that longevity; especially some who are still bustin' our humps to earn a paycheck or have something to do other than retire to the pickleball court or the recliner. And there's at least one classmate we never had because of vagaries in the promotion system in elementary school. **Charlie Miller** skipped over 3A directly into 3B, thus matriculating and **graduating from Central as a member of the 215**, rather than my **216**. And we would have been the richer for it. **Charlie** went on to be a banker, a ticket broker, and back to his roots as an accountant. More importantly, his heady hobbies have brought happiness to all who know him. For years, parties at **Charlie's** floated on very quaffable homebrews. More recently, he and wife Gina have been producing their own private label wines, gifting and flogging them and donating the profits to their favorite social and political causes. Throw in lots of travel and, **Charlie**, you have the best of both (or is it all 3?) worlds.

Got kudos, questions, news or complaints?
Write us at byasgur216@gmail.com, especially if you'd like to contribute to this column or become a junior editor.

**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.

Complete the form, and you're on your way to sharing your news in an upcoming Alma Matters!

CROATIAN CULTURE AND PROBIOTIC CULTURES

BY ANNALISA JANČIĆ (NEE QUINN) 279



A few months ago, I **married and moved to Croatia**, my husband's homeland. Here, I have noticed a slower pace of life. They tend to their homes and gardens. People opt to walk and shop locally. Homemade meals with whole foods are savored and mealtime promotes conversation. These elements have been disappearing in our modern society.

It seems that in an effort to promote efficiency, we have a worse situation for our well-being. **Wellness has no shortcuts.** It requires good habits, and that may seem impossible with demanding responsibilities. I do not want to make it seem easy, but I encourage you to begin with small steps. A change I've personally made is making and drinking a probiotic drink that is popular in this part of the world.

Kefir has been consumed for centuries. It is made by fermenting milk with a culture of bacteria and yeast called "grains." The grains were possibly born from storing milk in animal skins, a unique microbiome. For years, this drink was kept a secret because many believed it was a divinely gifted superfood.



Kefir has more beneficial microorganisms than yogurt. Compared to supplements, it is less expensive and more bioavailable. It is low in lactose and offers an array of nutrients. By making it yourself, you can customize the results and have a new batch daily. **Here are the basics so you can evaluate if it's something for you.**



In addition to animal milk, you will need kefir grains which can be found in some stores, online, and maybe from a friend. You will need a stainless steel or plastic strainer. Cheesecloth will also work. Alongside that, use a plastic, wooden, or stainless steel spoon. Do this in glass jars, because plastic allows kefir to grow in cracks. Do not allow sustained contact with reactive metals. To close the containers, use lids or napkins.

As for the time commitment, experiment with the following factors to fit your taste and schedule: ambient temperature, air exposure, grain-to-milk ratio, and lactose content. The most exciting part of customization is the optional second fermentation with fruit, adding flavor and effervescence. Refer to trusted sources to know how your results should look.

[To read the full article, please click here.](#)

The finished product can be refrigerated and enjoyed within two to three weeks. Start with a small amount. You may experience negative symptoms if you have poor gut health. After some adjustment, you will feel good not just in digestion but overall. The effort is worth the benefits for your body and wallet. **You will find that probiotics are integral elements of wellness!**

AP GOVERNMENT & POLITICS CLASS AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL



Seniors in the AP Government & Politics course explored the United States Capitol, talking with representatives and visiting the offices of state and local Congresspeople.

Shout out to teacher **Mr. Horwits (251)** for putting together this amazing event!

CHS HOLOCAUST SYMPOSIUM

Central High School welcomed Holocaust survivor, George Marcus (**204**), attended the annual Dr. Les (**202**) Holocaust Symposium. Mr. Marcus shared his and his family's story of survival. The final message to the students was the impact we each play in making the world a kinder, more inclusive place for all human kind—and to never forget the harrowing accounts of the Holocaust.

From left to right: Holocaust Survivor George Marcus (**204**), Dr. Lester (**202**), Sheldon Bass, Esq., (**233**), son of Holocaust survivor), Chuck Feldman (**229**), Steve Korsin (former faculty), and David Kahn (**220**).



**VISIT THE INTERACTIVE
HALL OF FAME WEBSITE**

THANK YOU, HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE



The Central High School Alumni Hall of Fame



SCAN ME

— Touch to View —

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 or learn more at <https://centralhighalumni.com/1836-society>.



192 Joseph Field	221 Jack Pinkowski	240 Daryl L. Pereborow
193 Harry C. Poehlmann	221 Joel Zumoff	241 Robert S. Bacheler
194 John T. Williams	222 Stephen L. Burnstein	241 James Chih-Cheng Ding
197 William Maxwell	222 Charles Rose	241 Gene J. Marks
199 Harmon Spolan	224 Charles Long	242 Aubrey B. Jones
202 Barry R. Bloom	224 Harvey B. Tessler	243 Joseph J. Murray
202 Lester Wurtele	225 Alan Daroff	243 Marc Reider
203 William Comanor	225 Thomas DeRogatis	244 Anonymous
203 Charles Weiss	225 Robert A. Figlin	244 Michael Liu
204 Arthur Magilner	225 Arnold Kalman	246 Calvin Allen
204 Allan Marmon	225 Arnold New	248 Steven M. Springer
208 Leon Malmud	225 Stanley Sokolove	249 Karima I.A. Bouchenafa
210 Hans B. Greenberg	226 Marc Weingarten	249 David Geibel
210 Paul Hirschman	227 Robert C. Master	249 Stephanie B. Mattei
210 Stanton M. Pikus	228 George J. Bean	249 John W. Terembula
211 Marvin S. Samson	228 Donald A. Chernoff	250 Ronald K. Matthews
211 Leo Braudy	228 William F. Conway	251 Kyle D. Andeer
211 Ira Brind	228 Mitchell Glass	251 Nicole Bolt Anderson
213 Michael Nissman	228 Frank Greco	251 Keith Leaphart
214 Mark S. Dichter	228 Jay C. Horrow	253 Jerome Bailey
214 Larry Harad	228 Stephen I. Kasloff	254 Laisand Kan
214 Lawrence Kerson	228 Jeffrey Perry	256 Scott Greenberg
214 David Laurence Klein	229 Thomas Arasz	256 Jason Weldon
214 Fred J. Levin	229 Alan David Bedrick	257 Frieda J. Rakhman
215 Fred Gorsen	229 Frank Gruber	257 Kathleen M McElwee
216 Edward Boehner	229 Stephen Klein	258 Steven Khov
216 Henry Frank	230 James B. Lam	258 Chloe M. Mohr
216 Robert Kelberg	230 Steven Adelman	258 Anix P. Vyas
216 Edward L. Soll	230 Kenneth L. Goodson	259 Christopher Guido
218 Arthur S. Lazanoff	231 Kenneth Berman	263 Michael Birnbaum
218 Thomas J. Schaefer	231 Cary L. Flitter	265 Joel A. Modayil
219 Steven J. Hausman	231 Jerrold A. Walton	Friend Gross Family Foundation
219 Michael M. Sherman	232 George Mosee Jr.	Friend Spain Family Foundation
219 Robert M. Stein	233 Martin Sankey	Friend Richard Cooperstein
220 George W. Campbell	235 Robert A. Del Femine	Friend J+M Engineering
220 David Fineman	238 George Allen Williams	Friend Leonard & Marjorie Stalow Johnson
220 David R. Kahn	238 Will B. Dunham	Friend Konrad Kording
220 Robert Wolfe	239 Paul Duffy	Friend The Susquehanna Foundation
221 Jack Pinkowski	239 Marvin H. Johnson	Friend Carol Parillo
221 Joel Zumoff	240 David H. Pascoe	Parent Greenberg Family



REUNIONS

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



209

202 will host its 71st reunion on Wednesday, June 4th at dear High! The class has consistently held a reunion annually which always includes a tour at CHS!

To attend this reunion, please contact **Bob Becker (202)** through the alumni office.



223 60-Year Reunion was held on May 4, 2025 at The Sofitel following a spectacular student-led tour held at CHS.

The class is currently establishing a **223** Class Gift Campaign to support the **Capital Campaign!**

209 celebrated their 67th reunion in May. On Thursday, May 29, they held their dinner at Positano. They also had a school tour at Central which included a student musical performance, remarks by **President Davis (264)**, **Jeffrey Thomas (233)** associate archivist, and **Cynthia Lech (263)** AACHS Executive Director, as well as a catered lunch, musical performance and a tour of the building. Past President **Jeffrey Muldawer (225)** joined and provided opening remarks which were well received.



214

215 65th reunion plans are in the works for late May or early June 2026. Please contact **Gerry Kean** or the reunion committee with any questions.

214 celebrated its 65th reunion at CHS which included remarks, a catered lunch, and a tour of the building followed by lunch at the Blue Bell Inn. **Marv Weinstein**, chairperson of the reunion committee, shared that "Our years at Central were formative influences on our lives and careers. The mention of Central High School, and particularly the 214th graduating class, brings with it very special memories and friendships. Our 65th gave us all the opportunity to relive those memories and visit with old friends."

REUNIONS

234 will kick off their 50th reunion on October 18th with a tour of Central High School beginning at 11:00 AM. Following the tour beginning at 6:00 PM, 234 will be at the Holiday Inn on City Ave for the Golden Anniversary Reunion. 234 has created a class gift campaign with a goal to raise at least \$45,000 for a new scoreboard. At this time the 234 class has raised over \$30,000 with pledges that will put the class at or potentially over our goal.

239 is pleased to announce that they have secured a date and venue for their 45th reunion on Columbus Day Weekend 2025! Due to COVID, the last in-person reunion was 10 years ago, so they hope to see you there.

Friday, Oct 10: tour and lunch at Central; Saturday, Oct 11: dinner at the Middletown Country Club in Langhorne, PA, 4-8pm, and afterparty at the New Wave Cafe.

More info to follow. Email Rudy (rudychs@gmail.com) with any questions, and check out their FB group.



249 kicked off their 35th reunion tour on May 21st at Central with a successful completion of their matched donor gift initiative initiated by John Terembula. The tour included a student-led tour, light dinner and networking, followed by the Spring Concert.

The class will also gather on Saturday, July 26 at Bala Golf Club from 6-11pm. The theme is "Black Out." Cost is \$100 per person and includes cocktail hour, cash bar, dinner, photobooths, a DJ, party favor, and photographer.

Please RSVP to Maria by July 12th via the [Google Form](#). Check out the 249 FB Group for more information.

259 The graduating class that brought Central High School into the 21st century will be celebrating their 25th class reunion this year. 259 will bring their high school spirit and Philadelphia pride together on Friday, November 28th at The Felt Factory. 259 plan to have a big presence at Central Career Day and will plan to have a school visit that week leading up to the 25th. Email 259chsreunion@gmail.com for more information.

264 The moment 20 years in the making is finally here! 264 left the halls of Central in June 2005, and in June 2025, we will gather to celebrate, reminisce, eat, drink, and dance together at Yards Brewery in Philadelphia on June 28, 2025.

269 is celebrating their 15th reunion in November. Planning started in April. Be on the lookout for more details on location and tickets in the coming months. In the meantime, please follow the class Instagram page @centralhighschool269 and be on the lookout for a Google Form as they update the class directory. Email CHS269Reunions@gmail.com with any questions.

274 will celebrate their 10th reunion this fall. Follow on Instagram @274_chs for updates.



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL OF PHILADELPHIA HALL OF FAME

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 29, 2025
RIVERS WATERFRONT



MASTER OF
CEREMONIES
REL DOWDELL (248)



RICHARD F.
AMERICA (205)
ECONOMIST



RICHARD DUNHAM
(233)
JOURNALIST



JEROME S.
ENGEL (222)
PROFESSOR



ROBIN EUBANKS
(231)
MUSICIAN



WILLIAM MAXWELL,
PH.D (197)
PROFESSOR



DAVID OH, ESQ. (237)
LAWYER, POLITICIAN



SHARIF STREET, ESQ.
(251)
LAWYER, POLITICIAN



MARC
WEINGARTEN, ESQ.
(226)

NOMINEES FOR THE 2025 INDUCTION



ALMA MATTERS

KIANA NUNN, 259

Central High School welcomed Holocaust survivor, George Marcus (204), to the annual Dr. Lester (202) Holocaust Symposium. Dr. , Mr. Kahn (220), Sheldon Bass, Esq., (233), Chuck Feldman (229) were among the guests in attendance.

Jason Henderson (249) documentary I Am A Martial Autist 2 won Best Director at the 16th Annual LA Webfest 2025. “I Am A Martial Autist 2” is more than a film — it’s a movement for inclusion, understanding, and empowerment. It can be found on Amazon Prime Video and Tubi.

Andre Agard (261) owns Philadelphia Gymnastics Academy.

Terrance Barnes (261) was on the ballot for the Norristown Municipal Council District 1 primaries.

Congrats CHS Athletic Director Rich Drayton (246)! He was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame Philadelphia City All Star Chapter 2025 Class!

Chloe Harris (254) was a speaker at the Trans Day of Visibility Flag Raising Event in Philadelphia.

Dr. Andrew Weil's (212) Anti-Inflammatory Diet has been named a Best Diet for 2025 by U.S. News & World Report. Unlike typical weight-loss diets, it emphasizes anti-inflammatory foods for optimal health. Fuel your body with nutrients and sustained energy while tackling inflammation.

Jon McGoran (240) his latest book “The Price of Everything” is now officially on sale.

Khalif Harris (259) was appointed Chief Operating Officer of City Teaching Alliance

Two of Dr. Elena McDonald’s (251) outpatient pediatric practices, have been recognized by The Philadelphia Inquirer as 2025 Philly Favorites for Best Pediatrician. Memphis Street Pediatrics was awarded gold, while Pizzica Pediatrics secured the bronze.

Nicole Anderson (251) spoke on a panel for African American Chamber of Commerce for the Women’s Business Empowerment Luncheon on March 14. She shared insights on building wealth, growing your business, and creating a lasting legacy alongside amazing women leaders

Friday Saturday Sunday has its Lovers Bar nominated this year in the Outstanding Bar category in the 2025 James Beard Award. Congrats on your nomination Chad Williams (257)!

Machine Shop, the South Philadelphia bakery, is up for Outstanding Bakery in the 2025 James Beard Award. Congrats on your nomination Emily Riddell (263)!

Congratulations to Dustin Paul, DO (262) for being recognized through the Exceptional Moments in Teaching program for the month of January at Penn State College of Medicine.

“Jump In! with Coach John Thomas” (244) podcast is available on Apple Podcasts.

Congratulations to Njemele Tamala Anderson (247) for being recognized with the Citizen of the Year award. Njemele is an educator at Science Leadership Academy @ Beeber.

Teller (224) returned to Philadelphia to celebrate 50 years of magical partnership with Penn.

Christopher Ulmer (266) celebrated ten years since he started *Special Books by Special Kids*.

Gregory Wright (266) was the inspiration behind the Gregory in the Abbott Elementary tv show.

Courtland C. Lee, Ph.D (226) will be the keynote speaker at the 2025 AACHS Annual Reception.

Richard Schwartz (228) wrote an award-winning biography, “The Man Who Lit Lady Liberty, The Extraordinary Rise and Fall of Actor M. B. Curtis.”

Jamie Klingler (254) had her first cover story and it is one she is incredibly proud of. Gisèle Pelicot as Person of the Year while Time Mag went the opposite route. Jamie thinks of Mrs Green from Writing for Publication senior year for 254 and Mrs Eisenberg who taught her English class that year.

Mark McCann (253) completed the 2025 Boston Marathon in a time of 3:12 or roughly 7:22 min/mile. Mark ran Cross Country and was All Public while at Central. He resumed running due to a promise (lost bet) that he would resume running if the Eagles won the Super Bowl in 2018.

Mike Schleigh (253) recently joined Hill Wallack LLP of counsel where he handles various forms of litigation and serves as the Solicitor for The Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging where he handles cases protecting elders from abuse and exploitation.

Congratulations to the following Central Lancers who ran the Broad Street Run: David Brown (239) , Ramsey Haver (259), Stephanie Mattei (249), Schuyler Simms (260), John Johnson (251), Jamie Gauthier (255), Luigi Borda (243), David Birnbaum (265), Krissy Kapeghian (264), Derek Quitmeyer (259), Jen Malloy (252), Jennifer Hui (250), Steven Thornton (253), Kate Richmond (255), Eugene Wong (266), Neil DiFranco (257), David Watson (258) Philip Dang (260), Helen Lam (260), Sokon Lonh (260), Kayin Ly (260), Albert Tanjaya (275)



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.

[Complete the form](#) and share your news in an upcoming Alma Matters!



Jessica Bonn, MSW (243) and her father Dr. Jerrold Bonn (202) were keynote speakers during Women's History Month.

Ms. Bonn is one of the first women to attend Central High School, and she and her dad played a pivotal role in the effort to integrate Central to its now co-education existence.

This event was the kickoff event for the [218th Class Speaker Series!](#)



IN MEMORIAM

BELOW IS A LISTING OF OUR FELLOW ALUMNI WHO HAVE PASSED SINCE OUR LAST EDITION UNTIL THE CLOSE OF SUBMISSION DATE.

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

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 178 Sylvan Eisman | 208 Joe McHoul | 229 Charles D. Pigliacelli |
| 182 Michael Singer | 208 Robert McNutt | 229 Robert Waldman |
| 183 Jack Aaron | 208 Ted Spivak | 235 Michael K. Freedman |
| 183 Michael Nasevich | 209 Walter Kalin | 239 Warren Carter Jr. |
| 184 Joseph Boardman | 209 Richard Rosenfeld | 239 Rocco Nicholas Cedrone |
| 184 Robert Chapman | 211 Dr. Mark Horman | 240 Butch D'Ambrosio |
| 185 John Bogdan | 211 Bob Rubin | 241 William P. Gooden |
| 186 Dr. Norman S. Knee, D.O. | 212 Howard Finkelman | 243 Jim Malloy |
| 186 Harry McKeon Jr. | 212 Dr. Bill Lipshutz | 244 John Albert Funari |
| 188 Bob Mazer | 212 Dr. Stephen Paul | 250 Andrew J. Schafer |
| 190 Leonard Moses | 214 Dr. Lou Stern | 251 Todd Jones |
| 190 Len Shore | 215 Dr. Ronald Abraham, DO | 252 Troy Vasaturo |
| 192 Irving Goldfinger | 215 Spencer Field | 254 Edward H. Marshall, III |
| 192 Alvin Saltzman | 216 Morris Rossman | 262 Reisel Berger |
| 194 Leonard Klein | 217 Robert Nelson | 263 Ajesh K. Kurup |
| 194 Jay Ochroch | 217 William H Rheiner, Esq. | 267 Kyle Johnson |
| 196 Jack Godfrey | 218 William S. Baker | 268 Kalichianne P. Nurse |
| 198 Jerry A. Cooke | 218 Stephen R. Goldman | 271 Shurouq E. Osman |
| 198 Maurice Gelb | 218 Rev. Lou Temme | Faculty Willard Crawford |
| 199 Herbert Demby | 219 Steve Blum | Faculty Reginald Speir |
| 200 Richard Bobrow | 220 Roger M. Wolfman | |
| 200 Dr. Donald Stoltz | 222 Allen Castor Jr. | |
| 201 Neil Hankin | 222 Jay S. Harris | |
| 201 Dr. Arthur Seiderman | 223 Mark Sokoloff | |
| 202 Harry Barg | 225 Dr. Charles Bolno | |
| 202 Bob Marburg | 225 William Clee | |
| 202 Eli Shefter, PhD | 225 Ronald Kalstein | |
| 204 Mel Black | 225 Steven P. Tengood | |
| 204 Alan D. Lewis | 226 Lance A. Diernback | |
| 204 Andrew Newman | 226 Alan Riggall | |
| 204 Dr. Martin Rosenfeld, MD | 227 Ronald L. Pelberg | |
| 204 Milton Rubin | 228 Terry Polis | |
| 206 Stephen J. Harmelin, Esq. | 228 Ira Semanoff | |
| 207 Phil Gerson | 229 Harold Feld | |
| 208 Roger Geyer | 229 Ira W. Luke | |

Class Rep or Data Person * 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 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, Class Reps, for all that you do!

In order to ease our administrative burden, the Class Rep is the official liaison between your class and the AACHS. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your class rep, please email the Alumni Association at alumnioffice@centralhighalumni.com. If you would like to contact your class rep, please email the Alumni office, or Rudy (email below). If there is a vacancy for your class, and you've been active in your class (reunion committee, Class Gift, Career Day, etc.), and would like to apply for or recommend someone, please email Rudy (rudy@centralhighalumni.com). The Class Rep is a working position, not an honorary one.

Rudy Cvetkovic (239), Class Rep Committee Chair

180 Julian Reinheimer	223 Neil Kleeman	254 Vacant
182 Len Garrett	224 Saul Langsam	255 Broderick Jones
186 Norman Salvat	225 Stanley Sokolove	256 Dan Taraborrelli
189 Saul Carroll	226 Zachary Rubin	257 Angela Reale-Povia
192 Irv Matusow	227 Gary Koupf	258 David R. Hildebrand
193 Stan Fischman	228 Bob Barthelmeh	259 Jeff Goldberg
194 Jerry Kates	229 Frank Piliero	260 Natalie Zitter
199 Bob Rosenstein	230 Larry Plotkin	261 Chantay Thompson
200 Mark Kay	231 James Mascaro	262 Canh Trinh
201 Jerry Keyser	232 Hon. John Younge	263 Justin Simmons
202 Robert Becker	233 Jeff Thomas	264 Michael Segal
203 Philip Remstein	234 Kevin Stepanuk	265 Gina Guidry
204 Arthur D. Magilner	235 Robert Del Femine	266 Agin Thomas
205 Ted Rothman	236 Mark Lomax	267 Janan Ashton
206 Robert J. Stern	237 Dominic Orlando	268 Chansey Ten
207 Arthur Hausman	238 Joe Deal	269 Alexis Wallace
208 Mickey Greenblatt	239 Rudy A. Cvetkovic	270 Nikita Shah
209 Joe Nathanson	240 Vacant	271 Ramon Guzman Jr.
210 Paul Hirschman	241 Nick Taweel	272 Natalie Brosius
211 Bill Labkoff	242 David C. Mack	273 Cam-Tu Vuong
212 David Axelrod	243 John Loesch	274 Anh Cao
213 Jeff A. Weiner	244 Vacant	275 Rucksar Rahman
214 Steve Green	245 Jonathan Kine	276 Michael Behanan
215 Gerry Kean	246 Julie Stevens	277 Chris Carson
216 Paul Cherry	247 Tracy Allen	278 Tristan Jennings
217 Elliot Brodsky	248 Keeya Branson Davis	279 Viktor Shamis-Kagan
218 Barry Brait	249 Maria Carpenter Yanga	280 Julia Pastor
219 Mike Love	250 Audra King	281 Buky Alliyu
220 David Kahn	251 Vacant	282 Owen Setiawan
221 Chuck Steinberg	252 Gina Meissler	283 James Waskito
222 Mike Radel	253 Mike Ambrosius	

UPCOMING BOOKED EVENTS:

- **AACHS Golf Outing:** *Thurs June 19, 2025*
- **249:** *Saturday July 26, 2025*
- **239:** *Saturday October 11, 2025*
- **234:** *Saturday October 18, 2025*
- **AACHS Hall of Fame:** *Wed Oct. 29, 2025*
- **Turkey Bowl:** *Thursday Nov. 27, 2025*
- **259:** *Friday Nov. 28, 2025*

**DON'T SEE YOUR REUNION? HURRY UP
AND BOOK NOW! HAVE OFFICIAL CHS
MERCH COME TO YOUR EVENT!**

Check our calendar for available dates

<https://centralhs.philasd.org/chs-mobile-store/>

1836 SOCIETY

Reserved for members who support the critical philanthropic initiatives to preserve the robust academic experience for Central High School students today and into the future.

www.centralhighalumni.com/1836society



CENTRAL ALUMNI STORE

CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT THE ONLINE STORE



SUPPORT DEAR HIGH 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.

**SAVE THE DATE DEC. 2, 2025
GIVING TUESDAY 2025**

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A
GIVING TUESDAY MATCHING DONOR?**

CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE TO EXPLORE HOW YOU CAN MAXIMIZE YOUR IMPACT AND HELP SUPPORT OUR ALMA MATER IN THIS MEANINGFUL WAY.

ALUMNIOFFICE@CENTRALHIGHALUMNI.COM

