

A close-up photograph of a young woman with a warm smile, wearing glasses and a vibrant, multi-colored headscarf. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in similar attire, suggesting a multicultural or international setting.

Thistle TALK

Global Positioning

Preparing students to be
citizens of the world



Congratulations to the 2007 – 2008 MATHCOUNTS® team on its first place finish in the Allegheny County MATHCOUNTS® competition and its second place finish in the Pennsylvania state competition.

(Back) Andrew Linzer '13, Junu Bae '12, Rachel Dubner '14, Rachel Evans '12, Tristan Hull '14, Sam Schreiber '13, (front) Sonu Bae '14, and Danny Balter '14 comprise the team.

Coached by Middle School teacher Heather Crowley and Upper School teacher David Hallas, the WT MATHCOUNTS® team qualified for the state competition by winning first place in the Allegheny County regional competition, in which five of the top seven finishers were WT students!



ThistleTalk Takes Gold

Winchester Thurston School has been recognized in the 23rd Annual Admissions Advertising Awards sponsored by *Admissions Marketing Report*, having won the Gold Award in the "Publication/Internal" category for *ThistleTalk*.

The Admissions Advertising Awards is the largest educational advertising awards competition in the country, and *Admissions Marketing Report* is the nation's leading marketing publication for education.

ThistleTALK

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School Mission

Winchester Thurston School actively engages each student in a challenging and inspiring learning process that develops the mind, motivates the passion to achieve, and cultivates the character to serve.

Core Values

We activate our Mission by creating a learning environment that promotes and instills appreciation for these five Core Values: Critical Thinking, Integrity, Empathy, Community, and Diversity.

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shaped by proud tradition, we prepare for an unscripted world

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About the Cover: Tenth-grader Rachel Dougherty
became an ambassador for world peace as part
of a global youth symposium on Peacekeeping,
Conflict Resolution, and Combatting Terrorism in
Muscat, Oman. Photo by Jonathan Springer '10.



Shaped by proud tradition, we prepare for an unscripted world.

The sun peeks through a veil of clouds over Winchester Thurston's Garland Field, named in honor of the late beloved alumna, Peggy McCann Garland '44. It is May Day 2008, and Lower School students form a large semicircle around colorfully decorated maypoles. They await the arrival of the eighth-graders, who ceremonially march on to the field hand-in-hand with their kindergarten "buddies." Impeccably dressed, the Kindergartners and eighth-graders begin the maypole dance while the Lower School Orchestra performs festive music. In and out, then around and around they dance until the ribbons they're holding are woven into festive braids. Following the maypole dance, eighth-graders enrolled at WT since Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten are honored in a special roll call. The ceremony ends as Lower School students parade off the field and back to classes, while parents of our Kindergarten students adjourn to the auditorium to watch their five-year-olds demonstrate their emerging performing arts talent.

Flash back to an early March evening in the Hilda Willis Room of Winchester Thurston's Upper School, where a different—but related—event takes place. WT faculty, staff, and trustees assemble to hear some of Pittsburgh's most imaginative, talented

thinkers and leaders envision the world in 2020, and explore how WT will need to prepare students for a rapidly changing society (see the story on page 4). In this, its inaugural meeting, members of WT's newly formed Advisory Board express a variety of opinions and differing perspectives. Yet a consensus emerges: Our students will graduate into an unscripted world. Unprecedented economic, social, and cultural change, they say, will require us to offer a course of study that cultivates creativity, emphasizes problem solving, encourages spontaneity, and develops resourcefulness.

On May Day we look back on tradition; through the new Advisory Board we look ahead to the future. This juxtaposition defines WT today; we are a blend of what has happened to shape us, and what will happen as we move toward what we plan to become.

Traditionally, the best academic schools offered a core curriculum that prepared students for a predictable world. "Canon," a word that refers to God's revealed Scripture, came to mean the body of academic content that students of Western civilization were schooled to know. Mastery of the canon defined academic excellence. In the future, schools will be less defined by a canon of content. Rather, the canon of the future will be comprised of skills and competencies needed to thrive in an unscripted world, and schools will

become the vehicle through which these skills are fostered.

WT is a school in transition. We still offer a traditional college preparatory curriculum, but incorporated into the learning process are collaborative problem solving and application of knowledge. WT students learn in holistic fashion, and they explore their place in a global society in myriad ways. Nowhere is this better illustrated than in the story on page 8, of our tenth-grade students who traveled to Muscat, Oman, for a global symposium, working collaboratively with students from all over the world toward solutions to peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and combating terrorism. Or consider our eighth-graders, whose study of the Holocaust and visit to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., led them to create their own multimedia installation, and then host a panel discussion on genocide, asking what they can do about the troubles happening a world away in Darfur.

WT is a school with traditions that we embrace and celebrate. Lower and Middle School uniforms, Applefest, Spring Fling, May Day, Moving Up Day, and Commencement feature our past and anchor us in our illustrious history. At the same time, we work arduously to consider our future, plan for it, and prepare our students to be citizens of the world.

New Faces on the Board



Kathy Buechel is the founder and principal of Community Investment Advisors, a philanthropic practice serving donors and families. She recently finished an appointment as a Visiting Practitioner at Harvard University's Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations, and before that, served as president of Alcoa Foundation. She also directed the foundation's operations and programs as vice president.

Buechel serves on the board of the Independent Sector, The World Affairs Council of Greater Pittsburgh, Carlow University, and Marian Manor. She was past chair of the Contributions Council of the Conference Board and was past president of Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania. She serves on the Finance Council for the Diocese of Pittsburgh and is a Mayoral Appointee to the City of Pittsburgh Ethics Hearing Board. In addition to the Advisory Council of the Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, she has worked to advance the participation of women and girls in education and in the new economy.

Buechel received an Honors A.B. in International Relations and Political Science from Brown University and a Masters of Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Buechel and her husband, Fred Egler, have two children: Moira '07; and Fred Jr., WT Class of 2011.



Ian James is CEO and founder of Red Square Systems, a company launched in 1998 to meet the information technology support needs of small- to medium-sized businesses. Before founding Red Square, James co-founded FreeMarkets, a global B2B online auctioneer now merged with Ariba. He also served in a number of senior management positions in the General Electric Company PLC (GEC), a UK company, and later with GE. His early career was in the British Army's Royal Engineers and included stints as an officer with the British Contingent of the United Nations and command of a bomb disposal unit in the Falklands.

James is a graduate of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, an organization very similar in purpose to West Point. He holds a B.S., with honors, in civil engineering from the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham. He also holds a graduate degree from Cranfield University in computing technologies.

Born in the United Kingdom, James came to Pittsburgh in 1994. He and his wife, Carol, have two children, both of whom attend WT: Noah, Class of 2018; and Ellis, Class of 2015.



Warner Macklin, is Assistant Vice President and Supplier Diversity Manager at PNC Financial Services. Previously, he was a business development specialist in Allegheny County's Department of Economic Development, and worked as an independent business consultant specializing in diversity issues.

Warner sits on the boards of the Program to Aid Citizen Enterprises (PACE); the Fund for the Advancement of Minorities through Education (FAME); James Warner Legal Recruiting and Command Protective Services, LLC. He is an Eagle Scout, and serves as assistant Cub Scout Master for Troop 242 in Sewickley.

Macklin holds dual Bachelor's degrees in Political Science and American Studies from Brandeis University. He is currently completing his studies to obtain a Juris Doctor degree at the Duquesne University School of Law.

Macklin and his wife, Janine Frazier Macklin, have two sons who attend WT's North Hills Campus: Joel, Class of 2016; and Warner, Class of 2022.



Nancy Scott is a long-standing member of the Winchester Thurston community. She taught history in the Middle School for more than 30 years, and served as the History Department Chair for four years before retiring in 2006. She also served on numerous committees at the school. Before coming to WT in 1974, Scott held teaching positions at Sewickley Academy and in the Mt. Lebanon and Middletown, Connecticut school districts. She volunteers with the Nantucket Cottage Hospital each summer, and has also volunteered with the Powdermill Nature Reserve.

Scott is a native of Greenville, PA. She lived in Connecticut for many years before returning to western Pennsylvania to attend graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh, where she earned a Master's degree in Statistics and Psychology.

Scott lives in Shadyside with her husband, Richard. The couple has two children: Richard, who attended St. Edmund's Academy; and Peter '01.

Winchester Thurston School

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VISION 2020: WT FORMS NEW ADVISORY BOARD

*Regional Leaders Weigh in on Pittsburgh, the World in 2020,
Schools of the Future, and WT*



"The essential skill is to teach
the student to confront an
unscripted, complex world."
—**Tori Haring-Smith**

When they began to discuss the concept of an Advisory Board, WT Trustee Kathleen Buechel, and Head of School Gary J. Niels wanted to create something different. "We wanted more than a group of knowledgeable people advising us on independent schools issues. Rather, we saw the Advisory Board as visionary leaders deeply committed to the region, who could help us enliven WT's ongoing and strategic efforts to make the city its campus. We believed they would expand the school's capacity to think in larger terms, to imagine a better future, and develop concrete pathways to realize ambitious visions for Winchester Thurston," says Buechel.

Drawn from a diverse range of fields and backgrounds, the Advisory Board is comprised of leaders in civic and political life, education, youth and human development, nonprofit management and foundations, the arts, science and technology, business and commerce, health and wellness, ethics, and international issues. The group will meet twice a year.

In March the Advisory Board held its inaugural meeting, in the form of a panel discussion moderated by Buechel, with an audience of teachers and trustees looking on. "A key element of the concept was to offer the Advisory Board as a professional development opportunity for our faculty," explains Niels. "And we wanted to create mechanisms for the faculty and WT Trustees to respond to what they heard and learned." To that end, processes have been developed for the faculty and board to share their responses with the Advisory Board, so an ongoing dialogue is established.

The first meeting centered on visions of the world in 2020, and how WT ought to prepare students for rapid change in globalization, technology, diversity, and other key areas. At times provocative and lively, the conversation was thoughtful and wide-ranging.

"In time, we hope the Advisory Board will link WT to the influential people and ideas shaping the region so that Winchester Thurston is recognized as a regional asset and leader in education," Buechel concludes. "As ambassadors, they will help WT forge then telegraph its future to important audiences."

WINCHESTER THURSTON
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of Pittsburgh

"Good teachers make you think, and they make you realize the importance of thinking, analysis, and of discovering the truth of that discipline."

—**Susan Brownlee**



"The school would contribute by [promoting] public service as a worthy career. There was a time when government did draw the best and the brightest; I think that's less the case today."

—**Barry Balmat**

"The thumb generation is moving so rapidly. Are you going to keep penalizing kids for IM'ing in class? You're going to have to find a way to capture and harness that activity and turn it into something."

—**Patrick Dowd**



"The British had the nineteenth century, we had the twentieth century, and the twenty-first century belongs elsewhere. And it belongs elsewhere because even in China, where people have not had the opportunity to go to school, the most talented people—three billion of them from India and China—are going to emerge."

—**Thomas Detre**

"We have to prepare children for the world. As a regional advocate, I would say, using the region as a tool to prepare them for the world is where Winchester Thurston can and should be."

—**Aradhna Dhanda**



"What we really need to do is develop the whole individual and figure out how they all fit into the world."

—**Jane Werner**

Global Positioning: Transporting WT and Its Students to World Citizenship

The world grows more environmentally, economically, and socially interdependent each day, and WT students will enter a global society in which they will work and live alongside and in cooperation with people from many different nationalities, cultures, races, religions, and backgrounds. Many of our students will pursue careers requiring them to live or travel not just in one world region, but perhaps many, or to work in virtual global teams, or to help international visitors or immigrants acclimate to our culture.

To be fully responsible and fulfilled human beings, our graduates must develop a sense of how and where they fit in the larger global picture. They will need the knowledge and cultural competence to live, work, and achieve in a global society. Over the next year, concrete plans will emerge for new and enhanced global citizenship programs at WT. Even as these plans take shape, our faculty, students, and alumnae/i are positioning themselves and WT on a global map...



UNDERSTANDING AFRICA

Learning the importance of public service to Africa's success, and the roles education and cultural awareness play in that success, WT's tenth- and eighth-grade classes attended Pittsburgh's Teach Africa Youth Forum conference, a project of the National Summit on Africa's Africa Society and The World Affairs Council, in October 2007. The program offered workshops on diverse subjects, including Africa in International Affairs, the Peace Corps, U.S.-Africa Relations, Taking Action in Darfur, and African Drumming.

Several students were particularly interested in the pressing issue of African relief aid. "People try to help, but if the locals get no say, then it isn't really economic development," observes Nathan Ong '10, "but rather forced industrialization." Students were also moved by discussions about the Sudan.

Rachel Dougherty '10 notes that "listening to the discussions about Darfur blew me away. There were so many things...that have further fueled my curiosity." She continues, "I now feel responsible to learn more about Darfur."

Students were accompanied by Upper School faculty, including English teacher Muriel Fox Alim, chemistry teacher Brenda Abbey, mathematics teacher Michael Davidson, English teacher Jill Kazmierczak, and history teacher Virginia McAuley.

McAuley teaches African culture and politics in the classroom, and she prepared with her students for the Teach Africa conference by looking at Africa in the media, reading articles about African economic and social development, and facilitating discussions about Africa. Her students compared and contrasted the often contradictory information about Africa conveyed through the media.

Throughout the conference, students were impressed and inspired by the importance of public services to Africa's success, and the roles education and cultural awareness play in that success. "Learning about African culture is important; it helps us know where and how to get involved," concludes Nathan.

OMAN:

LEADING STUDENTS INTO THE GLOBAL SCHOOLHOUSE

It takes effort to create global citizens, says Upper School history teacher Marc Fogel, who firmly advocates immersion in other cultures. Over his 20 years teaching, he has guided groups of students through Oman, Vietnam, Thailand, Taiwan, Singapore, and Indonesia.

"You can talk about diversity, globalization, the world economy," he says. "Anybody can read a textbook or an article on the internet. But when you take students and put them in an environment where they're seeing it all right in front of their eyes and talking to people, you broaden their knowledge and put it deep within them."

Last December, six tenth-graders had the rare opportunity to do just that—to immerse themselves in a different culture and work together to globally impact the future. The students, Alexandra Ashley, Rachel Dougherty, Barbara Johnson, Morgan Re, Chris Schmidt, and Jonathan Springer, along with Fogel and Upper School Director Mick Gee, flew to Muscat, Oman, for a global symposium on Peacekeeping, Conflict Resolution, and Combating Terrorism hosted by the American British Academy (ABA). They joined students from schools in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and North America in critically analyzing "traditional" peacekeeping and conflict resolution tactics and philosophies and working to create new alternatives.

"This trip was a great opportunity that our school made available for us," says Morgan. "It is imperative to talk



(left to right) Alexandra Ashley '10, Jonathan Springer '10, Morgan Re '10, an Omani resident, Christopher Schmidt '10, Rachel Dougherty '10, and Barbara Johnson '10.

with other students from around the globe to get different perspectives on the global issues of today."

The symposium, the result of a partnership between the ABA and Mercersburg Academy in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, was also part of the National Association of Independent Schools' Challenge 20/20, whose goal is to link American schools with international schools in order to explore 20 global issues, including global warming, biodiversity and ecosystem losses, poverty, education for all, global infectious diseases, illegal drugs, e-commerce rules, and international labor and migration rules.

Before the symposium commenced, students took advantage of some free time. Together with students from Mercersburg, the group explored the sites around Muscat, Oman's capital, and also spent two days staying in palm huts in the Wahiba Sands desert, two and a half hours outside of the city. They explored the dunes, rode camels, and were visited by a Bedouin family who was passing through the area.

Rachel says she was extremely surprised by how safe she felt throughout the whole trip. "With everything that the American media has projected," she says, "I wasn't expecting to feel as safe as I did, but it was an amazing phenomenon to see how much the media had blown terrorism, within the Middle East, out of proportion."

Students also experienced the Omani culture as they stayed with host families throughout Muscat—an experience they all greatly enjoyed.

Chris praises the host families who "welcomed us into their home as though we had always known them... I am extremely grateful for everything my host family has

done for me, and I will never forget the consideration and care that was shown to me from people I barely knew.”

Once the symposium began, the students were given a firsthand look at the Arab world, Islam, and oil based economies. They participated in role-playing to simulate the problems plaguing the issues of peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and combating terrorism, as



well as in brainstorming groups, team-building/leadership activities, and crisis application.

J.F.Rischard's book, *High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years to Solve Them*, was the foundation of the NAIS initiative, and the peacekeeping topic for the symposium was chosen from his list of 20 global problems. The book was required pre-trip reading for the students, helping them to prepare for high-level discussions facilitated by experts such as South African Ambassador Abba Omar, who has extensive experience with peacekeeping and conflict resolution in his native country. Omar has worked with former

South African President Nelson Mandela and with Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town Desmond Tutu for many decades.

Says Rachel, “One of my best memories was working with Abba Omar and sharing opinions on rising economic inequalities, global warming, and rising energy prices. In just a few hours, so many ideas were exposed and explored.”

Morgan says being presented with the “shocking truth” about critical issues and being required to deal with it taught her how to work with others, and gave her a broader and more diverse perspective on global issues. “We had a peacekeeping discussion with Ivano Iannelli, the UN director of development for Asia,” she recalls, “where he brought in several topics, such as Darfur, and took us through the process that UN officials go through in order to bring about a peaceful solutions.”

“People have the power to change the course of history ... Single decisions that might seem small at the time can make the difference between war and peace.”

—Jonathan Springer '10

After they had attended all the seminars and been to a number of classes, students were broken into six groups. Each group worked together to encapsulate their views on an issue—such as oil prices, pandemics, nuclear weapons,

or unequal distribution of wealth—and present them in a two-minute film to the



entire high school, teachers, and other symposium participants. The students' films are being edited together by the ABA, with the ultimate goal of presenting them as a package to the United Nations.

“My hopes for the future,” says Morgan, “are that I can be involved in solving global issues like these, and that I can be involved in embarking on an international mission for peace that will hopefully improve our world.”

As Fogel puts it, these young people are “beaming with energy.” They want to push and try to take on as much as they possibly can. By investing in programs like the global symposium—something Fogel hopes Winchester Thurston will continue to do—WT is making a sincere, important investment in our future.

For the full story, visit winchesterthurston.org



1+1+1+1: GENOCIDE AS A GLOBAL ISSUE

After a trimester long multidisciplinary unit of study, WT eighth-grade students tackled genocide from a global perspective in their exhibit “1+1+1+1...,” with a subtitle quoting Stalin: “The death of one man is a tragedy. The death of millions is a statistic.”

The exhibit, on display from mid-December 2007 through early February 2008 in the WT Art Gallery, was an introspective collection of art, poetry, and prose—inspired by true and tragic stories of genocide that came to life after a four-day class curricular trip to Washington, D.C. and the United States Holocaust Museum.

“We called the museum, “1+1+1+1,” Jordana Rosenfeld '12 says in a live, televised interview the students and their teacher, Kathryn Gaertner, gave on KDKA-TV’s “Pittsburgh Live Today” show, “because we wanted to make it known that the Holocaust was really the death of one individual plus one individual plus one individual, and not just a mass. There were personalities in that group.”

Survivors’ diaries were included in the exhibit’s life-size dioramas, which chronicled the experiences of genocide victims from Germany, Armenia, Cambodia, Rwanda, and Sudan. Combining narratives and objects—letters, suitcases, musical instruments, shoes, and more—they evoked the lives and spirits of those individuals.

The entire project was a call to action, says Yuvie Ben-David '12. “Learning about the Holocaust we

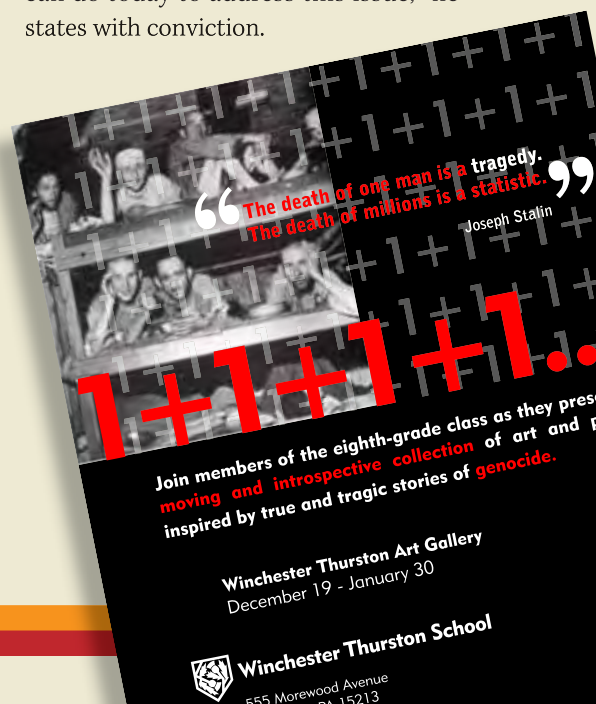


Above: The Holocaust Museum and eighth-graders preparing the exhibit for visitors. Right: A poster invites visitors to the museum.

encountered this statement: ‘never again,’” he notes, “but we’re ignoring that in society.”

Yuvie and his classmates continued to dialogue about genocide, convening an educational forum attended by students from other Pittsburgh area schools.

“We intend to keep asking what we can do today to address this issue,” he states with conviction.



For the full story, visit winchesterthurston.org

Winchester Thurston Art Gallery
December 19 - January 30

Winchester Thurston School
555 Morewood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213



Katharine Vidt '09 stands fourth from the left among award winners. Otto Chu stands at far left.

"ASIA AND THE WORLD"

WT JUNIOR HONORED IN PITT ESSAY CONTEST

An avid songwriter, dancer, and guitarist, WT junior Katharine Vidt shines as a talented artist and, in February 2008, as a celebrated student writer. Her essay for her AP English literature class won third place in the inaugural Chu Financial Management Corporation's "Asia and the World" essay contest, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh's Asian Studies Center and Global Studies Program.

Katharine's essay, titled "Giants in the Arena: The Economic Present and Future in China and India," explores the differences and similarities

between China and India and suggests China will surpass India in its leadership of the region, and may in fact overtake the United States as the next world "superpower."

Katharine and two other contest winners received their awards at a ceremony at the University of Pittsburgh with founder Otto Chu in February 2008.

For the full story, visit winchesterthurston.org



BRINGING ASIA HOME

Last October, Holly Hatcher-Frazier traveled to Tokyo to deepen her understanding of Japanese culture and better share it with Winchester Thurston students in the Asian studies courses she teaches.

A fellow in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund (JFMF) Teacher Program, Hatcher-Frazier was selected for this honor from a pool of more than 1,700 applicants by a panel of educators. The JFMF teacher program allows distinguished primary and secondary school educators in the United States to travel to Japan for three weeks to promote greater intercultural understanding.

Hatcher-Frazier spent two weeks in downtown Tokyo and one week in the industrialized suburb of Ota-Ku, meeting with government officials and educators, observing classrooms spanning elementary to post-secondary levels, and immersing herself in Japan's rich culture.

"We met with the director of the ministry of education, with individuals from the National Diet of Japan (their governmental agency), and economists. They gave us an in-depth view of their nationalized education system," says Hatcher-Frazier. "The program was amazing."

During her JFMF trip to Japan, Hatcher-Frazier heard a Japanese World War II survivor talk about the war and was compelled to reconsider just how globally intertwined our lives truly are.

"It was amazing to understand where his perspective resides and then to think about it from an American point of view. How similar and yet how different those two stories really are." She adds that this is the very kind of enlightenment she's eager for WT students to experience for themselves.

"I want them to be able to see things not just from an American point of view, but really as world citizens."

they be able to consider multiple global perspectives."

Asian studies is already an integral part of the WT curriculum at all levels. The Lower School has been implementing Asian studies elements into their curricula for many years, focused on China and India. In the Middle School, Hatcher-Frazier teaches two trimesters of Asian-related courses, and other electives



Third-graders at Ota City Michizuka elementary school welcome Holly Hatcher-Frazier into their classrooms.

As students move on and encounter individuals from different cultures, she adds, they will be able to have exchanges that are free of assumptions and stereotypes.

"It's really important that students have an exposure to a part of the world they haven't really ever visited before and have very little contact with," says Hatcher-Frazier. "It's essential that

will be added in fall 2008, including Asian art, such as anime and wood block printing, and Chinese language for sixth graders. An Asian history course is planned for seniors in the Upper School, and a Chinese language course, offered during this year's Winterim thanks to a partnership with Carnegie Mellon University, will become a new language option beginning in sixth and ninth grades.



Holly Hatcher-Frazier models a Japanese kimono for her host family, the Suzikis.

Hatcher-Frazier, along with other WT teachers, have also participated in East Asian seminars through the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA), a collaboration of several East Asian Centers at leading universities across the United States, including the University of Pittsburgh.

The NCTA offers programs designed to encourage and facilitate teaching and learning about Asia in world history, geography, social studies, and world literature. Currently enrolled teachers are Kathryn Gaertner, Middle School English; Lisa Allswede, Middle School Visual Arts and Instructional Technology; Connie Martin, third grade; Karen Gaul, third grade; and Jennifer Kraar, Lower School Librarian.

WT Partners with Confucius Institute

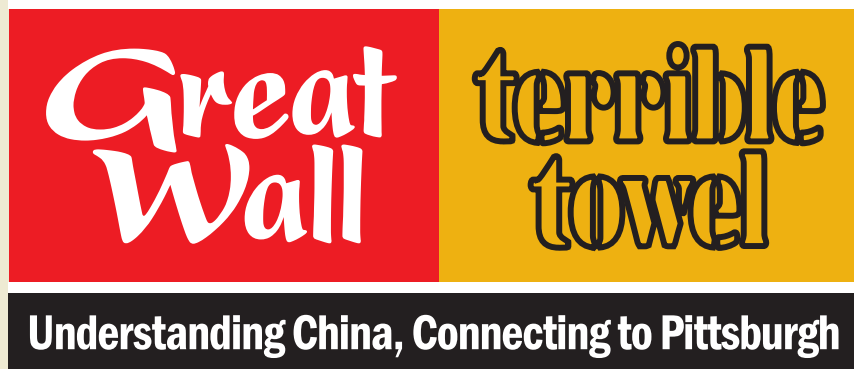
City as Our Campus took on an international dimension this winter, as WT partnered with the Confucius Institute (CI) to offer a series of lectures, *Great Wall, Terrible Towel: Understanding China, Connecting to Pittsburgh*.

CI's mission is to increase global understanding of Chinese language and culture. *Great Wall, Terrible Towel* featured Pitt experts on China, and regional leaders from the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance and World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh. They covered history, economics, culture, and

Pittsburgh's increasing business ties to China.

"Understanding China is essential to understanding world events and our own future—locally and nationally," says Holly Hatcher-Frazier, chair of WT's Asian Studies committee. "We wanted to offer adults in the WT community the opportunity to learn about this fascinating region of the world, as we prepare to do more with China in the curriculum."

"The series proved appealing to the wider community as well," adds



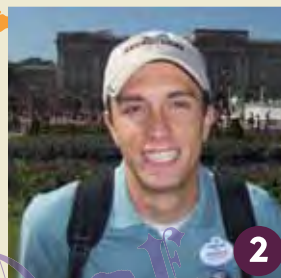
geography, and explored contemporary issues, including advances in understanding history and culture through archaeology, the impact of education on society, changing demographics, and the future of economics and international relations. The final presentation provided an overview of

Maura Farrell, Director of Institutional Advancement. "The audience included Westinghouse engineers, members of the region's China Strategy Group, local entrepreneurs, and university students and professors. It was a great way to offer our campus as a resource for the community, and we hope to do more."

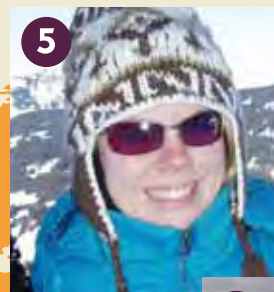




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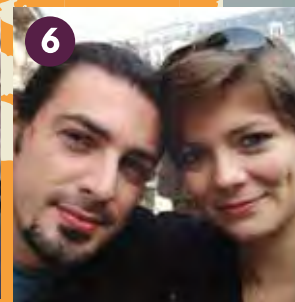
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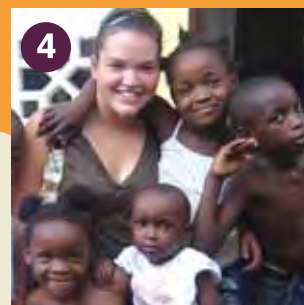
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Where in the world

Marion Montgomery Colbourne '52 lives in Toronto, Canada, where she is able to walk nearly everywhere from her downtown home. Good exercise, eh? **1**

Jessica McMichael Ortiz '90 moved to Brampton, in Ontario, Canada, with her husband, who is originally from Ecuador. The two met when Jessica was studying abroad in Quito. They have a son, Pablo.

Andrew Santelli '00 works for Adventures by Disney, a new business venture for Walt Disney Parks & Resorts. While he isn't an official resident, London, England, has become his office! His work as an adventure guide lets him engage traveling families with the stories of some of the world's greatest destinations. Mickey would be proud of this WT grad! **2**

Abby Ross '01 was an "innocent abroad" in Europe—she recently studied Italian in an intensive language program at the Scuola Leonardo da Vinci in Rome for two months, living with a group of students from Russia, Japan, Sweden, Brazil, Australia, South Africa, Germany, Switzerland, and Australia in a city apartment 20 minutes from the Colosseum. After leaving Rome, Abby backpacked for a few

days each in Paris, London, Dublin, Prague, and Munich. **3**

Katie Cwenar '05 lives in Equatorial Guinea's capital city of Malabo located on Bioko Island, where she works at the Bioko Biodiversity Protection Program to educate the nationals on the current bushmeat crisis. She was also part of an annual expedition to the caldera on the island's south end to complete a monkey census, studying the seven endemic species of monkeys on the island that are currently at critically low numbers. She takes courses at the local university, the Universidad Nacional de Guinea Ecuatorial, and volunteers at a medical clinic. **4**

Emily Flechtner '01 teaches four- and five-year olds at a bilingual English-German Kindergarten in Munich, Germany, where she is pursuing a Master's degree in Intercultural Communication and Cooperation at the Munich University of Applied Sciences. **5**

Isil Arican '90 studied at WT as an AFS exchange student from Turkey, and after graduating returned to her home country to attend medical school at the Ege University School of Medicine. After practicing medicine for a year, she moved to Istanbul to work in the insurance market. She's currently

engaged to be married, sings in a rock band, and travels the world—she visited the northern polar circle last year and plans to explore the Far East next year. **6**

Rich Homann '01 lived in Kabul, Afghanistan, at Camp Sullivan, a State Department compound across the street from ISAF headquarters. There, he conducted background security check investigations on private security personnel who were guarding the embassy. He heard and felt daily Taliban rocket and mortar attacks throughout the city, and was often struck by both the chaos of reconstruction and daily life, and the productivity of the local Afghans. **7**

Christin Zandin '88 has spent the past two years studying creative writing in Solna, Sweden. She's not sure what's next for her, but she expects to be writing a lot! **8**

Ann Latterman Shlapobersky '72 has lived in Israel for 30 years. She and her husband Eli live on a moshav, or farming community, in Kefar Kisch in the Lower Galilee. They have three grown daughters, Tamar, Karen, and Michal. She taught English as a foreign language for 18 years and completed her Master's degree in T.I.C.E. (Teaching International Communications

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14



are WT alumnae/i?

in English) from the University of London. She spent the past decade working for a publisher of English language textbooks for schools in Israel and Europe.

Allison Bouchat '87 lives in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, with her husband, and they are expecting a baby girl soon. She studied international affairs and politics around Europe and in Washington, D.C., and joined General Electric, where she works as a project manager for international IT projects. Electrifying! **9**

Yoko Morimoto Okayama '67 studied at WT during 1966-67 as an AFS exchange student. She lives in Tokyo and teaches English at a nearby university when she's not busy visiting Palau to do research on their language use, attitudes towards languages, and language policies. She lives with her husband, three children, and a dog, and loves visiting her American sister, Wendy Newstetter, in Atlanta. **10**

Peggy McMurray '57 loves living in Inverloch (Victoria, Australia) with Yankee Doodle, her poodle/schnauzer mix who barks with an American accent. She keeps busy at the local university and rides around Australia on The Mother Ship—her campervan. **11**

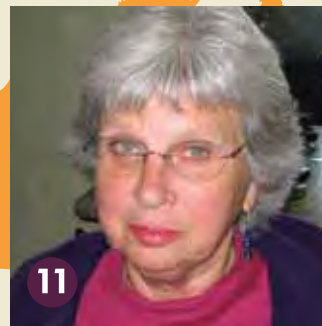
Dana Spicer McCown '54 lives in Queensland, Australia, and continues with her textile work in India, where she recently had occasion to attend two weddings, one of which was a high society affair attended by the King of Jodhpur as honored guest. **12**

Sarah Gross Fife '96 lives in Sydney, Australia where she consults for several clients, including the International Beauty Expo. She's also started working as the Administrator of the Hebrew & Religion School at her temple, and, with husband Tim, has enjoyed meeting new friends through their congregation.

Angela Ambroz '01 works as Resource Economist with the Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) and lives in Suva, Fiji, where she expects to remain until October 2009. Gradually becoming an outdoorsy person, she has immersed herself in the diverse population, nearly half of which are descendants of indentured laborers brought over from India during the colonial period. **13**

Suzanne Gurzenda '67 lives on her boat, sailing around the world. She was last seen in French Polynesia. She's been hooked on the rainbows since her first trip! **14**

11



12



WT Honors Distinguished Alumna Annekathryn Goodman '74

She brings message of hope and healing

Annekathryn Goodman, a tall, lanky woman with wavy, jet-black hair, sprints down the brightly lit hospital corridor, stopping at a room intensified by a sudden whirl of activity.

Goodman is interim chief of gynecological oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). The room belongs, for now, to Pat, her patient. Pat's blood pressure is dropping. Steadily dropping.

Pat has been battling cancer for 10 years now, and Goodman has been with her every step of the way. Now, as she draws close to Pat's bedside, Goodman is taken aback. She didn't expect this somehow.

Goodman's eyes moisten as she leans in toward her patient, her friend. "Pat," she whispers, her voice ever-calm, ever-soothing. "You're really sick." She pauses. "I don't think you're going to make it. Do you want me to do chest compressions?"

"No," Pat answers. "You're not going to be able to fix it. It's okay."

Goodman has faced death many times. And though she has come to understand death and, in many ways, accept it as part of life's journey, it's never easy. After all, she is a healer.

"We are all instruments of change and of the alleviation of other peoples' suffering," she says. "All we need is our own selves to do that."

As Winchester Thurston's 17th Distinguished Alumna for her contribution to health, healing, and humanitarianism at home and abroad, Goodman returned to campus on April 2, 2008. She delivered a poignant keynote address entitled, "Meditations on Life's Narrative;" led group discussions; attended classes with Middle and Upper School students; and more. The WT community attended a reception in her honor, including many members of the Class of '74.

After her graduation from WT, Goodman received her B.A. and M.A. from The University of Pennsylvania and her

medical degree from Tufts University, where she also completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology. Following a fellowship at MGH, she joined the staff in 1993.

She also serves as an associate professor of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive biology at Harvard Medical School, on whose behalf she recently traveled to Bangladesh to implement a pilot vaccination program to prevent cervical cancer among economically disadvantaged young women.

"Obstetrics and gynecology is an



amazing field that allows you to deal with everything from birth to death, and also with women's rights and issues of social justice," she says. Her residency in oncology inspired her to specialize. "I didn't want to refer my patients. I wanted to see how the story comes out."

And so she has. Goodman is devoted to her patients at MGH, referring to them as "my best and most excellent teachers." She is also a certified acupuncturist. "I was interested in seeing if there was another way of managing the conse-

quences of cancer," she says. "There are so many side effects, and we just don't have any good solutions."

Goodman is also interested in offering help in times of crisis. In 2003, she began volunteering with the highly-specialized International Medical Surgical Response Team-East, a cooperative effort between FEMA's National Disaster Medical System and the Department of State that is trained and equipped to establish a fully capable freestanding field surgical facility anywhere in the world.

During Goodman's first assignment to Bam, Iran, caring for survivors of the devastating 2004 earthquake, she realized there was another way she could alleviate pain and suffering: Spiritually.

"Most of the survivors in Bam were dying of grief," she says, "I didn't have any training in dealing with that level of grief. People tried to kill themselves because they really didn't see the point of carrying on."

Upon her return to the States, Goodman studied clinical pastoral education (CPE), so she could better reach out to those suffering so deeply.

Goodman describes her CPE as a personal journey of self awareness that has changed the way she practices medicine. "There is a spiritual intersection between patient and healer," she says, adding that today's emphasis on technology often forces doctors to lose touch with their roots as healers.

Goodman's passion remains evident, as she seeks to alleviate suffering on many levels—physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Part of healing, she says, is leaving the door open for magic, even in the face of the worst. "To have hope for myself, I have to have hope for my patients," she says. "What's often most important is giving them hope."

For the full story, visit winchesterthurston.org

Ursus Rising Finds a Home at WT

Sculpture symbolizes courage of beloved alumna



Eliza Hens-Greco '08 touches the nose of *Ursus* for strength and courage.

No matter what state of mind we find ourselves in, having a bit of added strength is always welcome. So we welcome *Ursus* here today, knowing that the courage to ask for help, the willingness to work as a team, the strength to persevere is inside us."

These words, spoken by Student Council president Eliza Hens-Greco '08, captured the spirit of a very special gift made by the Dorrance family this winter to Winchester Thurston School. At an intimate ceremony in January 2008, Roy and Susie Dorrance unveiled *Ursus Rising*, a 14-inch bronze sculpture of a bear by noted sculptor Don Ostermiller.

Ursus stands tall on his hind legs, his body turned to greet visitors to the Emily E. Dorrance Library with a thoughtful, upward gaze. His quiet dignity infused with a hint of inquiry and whimsy, *Ursus* exudes the kind of

courageous strength that the Dorrances, and the WT community, remember most about Emily Dorrance '93.

Susie Dorrance recounted how her daughter Emily was drawn to Ostermiller's sculptures when the two traveled to Santa Fe in 1997 and Emily admired the artist's ability to capture the form and unique personalities of the animals he represented. Emily's ongoing interest in Native American culture and history led her to purchase a silver bear paw buckle at the end of that trip, selecting a memento that symbolized strength to many Native American groups. Her own strength was tested only seven months after that trip, when, her mother recalled as she told the story of *Ursus* to the students and faculty of WT, Emily courageously faced the illness that would take her life at the age of 23.

When Roy and Susie Dorrance came across the *Ursus Rising* sculpture on another trip to Santa Fe last year, they immediately thought of Emily and of Winchester Thurston's bear mascot. "Dan Ostermiller's bear belonged at Winchester Thurston!" they agreed, and graciously donated the sculpture to the school that, in their eyes, is "rising" and "stands tall among its peers, both regionally and nationally."

It is the Dorrances' wish that *Ursus Rising* will become a "touchstone" for WT students. They also expressed their hope that when students touch *Ursus*, they will feel the "strength and the radiant smile of a Winchester Thurston student who has gone before them, who loved this school and her time here, and who wants life for them to be filled with wonder as it was for her."



Upper School students and faculty listen as Susie Dorrance reflects on the significance of *Ursus Rising* to Winchester Thurston.

Cultivating Female Scientists

Girls in grades two through five have a standing lunch date with science.

Each week beginning in spring 2008, a female scientist comes to WT for a lunch with WT's female Lower Schoolers. The scientist talks about her career while the girls eat; then, she facilitates an experiment or hands-on science activity.

"We wanted to teach girls about science careers and let them know that those careers are just as much for girls as they are for boys," says program founder and WT science and technology teacher Kelly Vignale. "There has been a big increase in the number of women in science and technology fields, but not enough—we need to get girls interested in the lower grades and build the foundation to pursue science as they get older."

Vignale and Julie Goff, a cell biologist at the University of Pittsburgh and mother of WT second-graders Emily, Gordon, and Isel, have arranged for 10 female scientists to participate in the lunch program, many of whom are WT parents or grandparents. One speaker, retired Carnegie Mellon University professor Linda Kauffmann and a WT grandmother, spoke about her work with the Animal Rescue League of Western PA Wildlife Center in Verona, where she cares for baby opossums. She brought in several preserved specimens, which the girls examined enthusiastically.

Another guest scientist, Jeanne Van Briesen, a Carnegie Mellon professor, the co-director of the Water QUEST Center, and mother of fifth-grader Jonathan, spoke to the girls about water quality in urban systems. She taught them how to build a rudimentary water filtration system using a plastic bottle. The girls used various filtering substances, like pebbles and sand, to clean some dirty water. "I liked seeing how clear the water got after we put the dirty water through



Retired Carnegie Mellon University professor, Linda Kauffmann, engages the girls during the first L3 meeting.

rocks, pebbles, sand, cotton, and gauze," says second-grader Norma Cusin, commenting on the experiment.

The program—dubbed "Ladies Who Lunch and Learn," or "L3"—has been extremely popular with girls in the Lower School. "You get to learn about cool stuff with your friends," confirmed third-grader Josie Sobek. Her classmate Katie Pressman agreed, adding "I like eating, listening to the speakers, and looking at what the speakers brought." Vignale estimates that she sees about 30 second- and third-grade girls at her Thursday lunches, and between 20 and 25 fourth- and fifth-grade girls at her Friday sessions, including some students from the North Hills Campus. She plans to repeat the program next year, and has encouraged her students to participate in the "Girls in Science" after school and summer programs run by WT fourth-grade science teacher Kristen Hannan. Vignale is also recruiting women scientists, engineers, and mathematicians to volunteer as guest speakers for next year.



Third-graders create living wax museum

In February 2008, WT's third-graders created a "Wax Museum of Pittsburgh" to learn about—and bring to life—many of the city's most influential and notable figures, both past and present. Each student researched a famous Pittsburgher and wrote a biographical narrative about that individual. Students created simple costumes to dress up as their chosen Pittsburgher, and then used their narrative to write and memorize a short script. Assembling in their classrooms-turned-wax-museum, students stood frozen, as "wax sculptures," until visitors pressed a paper button at their feet, at which point they came alive and recited their prose. Above, a special surprise guest, former Pittsburgh Mayor Sophie Masloff, stands with her "wax figure," third-grader Harley Smith.

Happily Ever After

Out of Storytelling Club emerge confident young lads and lassies

When can a boisterous billy goat make you peacock proud? When do ghoulish ghosts, horrid henchmen, and wicked wizards make a mousy missy magnanimous?

When you're a member of the Brilliant Bookworms Storytelling Club, a group of WT third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders who have discovered—and fully embraced—the fine art of storytelling.

Lower School librarian Jennifer Kraar leads this popular after school club, along with two Middle School mentors. Since its inception in 2004, Brilliant Bookworms has grown from a handful of students to nearly 20. Two WT students, Emma Bangs '12 and Charlie Lehman '12, participated in the National Storytelling Conference which was held in Pittsburgh in summer 2006 and brought back ideas, such as storytelling games based on traditional folklore, to make their storytelling more process oriented rather than performance oriented. Through much practice—and heaping doses of fun—the children learn to work with others, respect one another, and take pride each other's work.



"Telling stories gives children confidence and makes them feel good about entertaining others."

—Jennifer Kraar

Kraar describes how one shy fourth-grader came to her after giving an oral presentation for her class's Greek Day. "She said to me, 'Mrs. Kraar, going in front of people at Brilliant Bookworms helped me a lot.' She was thrilled. I'm amazed at the transformation some of these kids go through as a result of practicing storytelling."

The Bookworms tell their stories regularly to audiences, both at school and in the community. They have told their folk and fairy tales at the Carnegie Library; at a city-wide celebration of reading, entitled "Storywalk"; and at their own Pajama Party Storytelling Benefit, whose proceeds helped a library in Mississippi which was destroyed during Hurricane Katrina.

Earlier this spring, Kraar invited Emmy Award-winning storyteller Bobby Norfolk to WT for two days, during which he worked with Lower and Middle Schoolers in the classrooms and performed in a community-wide evening of family storytelling. Norfolk relayed his personal life story of stuttering as a child and being pushed into drama, only to discover the power and feel-good effect of performance.

The Bookworms, especially, were inspired. According to Kraar, they immediately began adding theatrical enhancements such as sound effects to their stories.

"Storytelling is unique in that it is more fluid and interactive than a play or a musical performance," says Kraar. "If the audience laughs at one part, the storyteller can embellish the story right then and there. A relationship builds between audience and storyteller. And for the storyteller, that's empowerment. That's exhilaration. That's a feeling they'll never forget."



Storyteller Bobby Norfolk entertains students.

Creating Intergenerational Connections, Raising Ravenous Readers

Senior adult reader inspires love of books



Mrs. Skavish reads to WT North Kindergartners.

Mrs. Skavish, a sprightly 72-year-old woman with a broad smile and twinkly eyes, has the rapt attention of a wiggly gaggle of Kindergartners who can't wait to see the next new book she pulls out of her satchel.

Skavish is a senior volunteer at WT North, dropping into the Kindergarten class each Thursday morning promptly at 9:00 a.m. to read aloud to the eager children who love hearing her tell stories as much as she enjoys her interaction with them.

"I would love to raise a generation of bookworms," she states. A resident of St. Barnabas Retirement Village, she volunteers as a reader for Emanuel Episcopal Church's "Up for Reading" program and with the Head Start program, both in the Manchester section of Pittsburgh.

"Sometimes I ask children, 'What's your favorite bedtime story?' and they look at me with blank faces. Too many children aren't being read to. They're watching TV before bed. To me, that's very sad," says Skavish.

Lynne Raphael, WT North Kindergarten teacher, agrees. Wanting to do more to expose her Kindergartners to books, she instituted a Senior Adult

Readers program three years ago. "One of the biggest untapped resources for teachers is the senior adult population—retired folks who are still physically active and mentally sharp. The quality and quantity of children's books out there today is so high, and there is never enough time for teachers to read."

"You want to do everything possible to expose children to books, to develop a lifelong love of reading. Senior adult readers can be such a help."

—Lynne Raphael

Allyson Baird Sveda '84, mother of WT North first-grader Andrew and WT North second-grader Robert, serves as Development Director of St. Barnabas and put Raphael in touch with a number of senior adults who were screened and well-suited for the program.

"Our readers demonstrate a very generous spirit towards the children. The children, in turn, respond to them

more as grandparents. They become very attached. Both are building precious connections."

In Raphael's classroom, Mrs. Skavish reads to the children—three or four at a time—with great animation, peppering the stories with her own commentary and observations, and providing word definitions where necessary, making the experience an interactive dialogue with her young audience. She brings children's books from her own personal collection, which grows continually along with her love of reading to children.

Skavish's storytelling style is like that of a skilled educator. Patiently listening, gently nurturing, and subtly instructing, she engages the students in an active process of listening and discovery. Her natural affinity for teaching belies her professional background; she was not a teacher, but a nurse!

"I graduated from high school in the mid-50s with very low self esteem. I thought, 'I could never be a teacher; who would ever listen to me?'" says Skavish.

Not only do the children listen to her, they greet her with bear hugs and unbridled enthusiasm.

"I like Mrs. Skavish because she brings lots of fun stories," says Sydney Monteparte '20 as she quickly claims a seat on the comfy couch right beside Skavish.

"We love reading time, and we love books," Sydney's classmate, Sydney Andrews '20, adds.

Raphael summarizes the plot of her successful Senior Adult Readers program: "It serves the purpose of immersing young students in good literature. So there's the reading part—encouraging reading and building those skills. And then there's the joy of it, which is really the point—when children discover that a good book is the most wonderful escape!"

The architectural design of WT's North Hills Campus is featured in a January 2008 supplement to *Architectural Record* entitled, "Schools of the 21st Century." Architects Roxanne Sherbeck and Sara Snyder of Bohlin Cywinski Jackson received a nationally competitive Citation from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in March 2007. The campus was one of only 14 educational facilities to be recognized with a 2007 AIA Educational Facility Design Award.



Leading by Doing

Students make a difference in Pittsburgh through Leadership Academy

What is leadership? What are the responsibilities of a good leader? How do you become a leader?

WT Middle Schoolers are exploring these fundamental questions through the Leadership Academy, a comprehensive approach to developing leadership skills and social responsibility. The program is built upon the philosophy that leadership begins with character.

Adam Brownold, Middle School social studies teacher, and Jeff Cronauer, physical education teacher and Department Chair, head up the Leadership Academy and have expanded the program into "a truly integral part of the Middle School experience," according to Brownold.

The Leadership Academy grew out of an outdoor education program focused on team building, self-reliance, and self-awareness, called Leadership Lab. "The program began in the 2005-2006 school year, with experiential challenge and training activities specifically built around the needs and strengths of Middle School children," explains Cronauer. "Leadership Lab was about finding out who you are, and part of that

is pushing the boundaries a bit, both physically and mentally. It's about being a little scared."

Today, thanks to the creation of the Robert and Megan Glimcher Leadership Fund (see story on page 31), these experiences have been enriched with the addition of student-driven community



High ropes activities build leadership skills.

service designed to effect change.

"Rob [Glimcher] was the impetus for expanding the Leadership Lab program," explains Brownold. "He said, 'Let's get the kids out there into the community,' rather than our original concept of leaders coming to the WT community to speak to the kids."

So in 2007-2008 each grade level heard presentations from community leaders and then chose a project—tied to a specific cause—which was developed and worked on throughout the year. The sixth grade adopted Western PA National

Wild Animal Orphanage, collecting supplies, conducting site visits, and putting on a talent show to raise money that was donated to the organization. The seventh grade partnered with the Fundraising and Volunteer Departments of Children's Hospital. Forming small groups, the students collected supplies, books, games, and puzzles for the hospital's Caring Carts; created bound poetry books; and donated \$1,600 raised through a silent auction. Other seventh-graders delivered materials to patients at the hospital, cleaned the toy room, and did window painting. The eighth-grade taught language skills, as well as life skills such as hygiene and cooking, to 11 adults and 15 children of Prospect Park, a group of resettled refugees now living in the Baldwin section of Pittsburgh.

"We had a day where we invited the Prospect Park families to WT. The students cooked up a feast on charcoal grills set up in the back parking lot. They played with the children on scooters in the gym, and out on the playground. Meanwhile, other students demonstrated proper hygiene and safe food handling to the adults," explains Cronauer. "You could see on [the students'] faces how much they cared."

Next year, each grade level will have the chance to choose a new cause, or follow through with an established one. In any case, this hands-on approach to building leadership through character is—and is sure to be for a long time to come—a cornerstone of the WT Middle School experience.

Sixth-grade talent show rocks to raise money for Western PA National Wild Animal Orphanage.



Embracing Differences, Effecting Change

Under the guidance of committed faculty, WT students take seriously their responsibilities as the next generation of leaders and strive to effect change both at home and abroad. Nowhere is WT's commitment to diversity more evident than in the actions of its students and faculty. This year, they have ventured outside of their comfort zones to tackle such issues as xenophobia, leadership, racism, and more.

SDLC provided a forum for students to discuss diversity issues, collaborate on developing solutions to implement in their schools, and build networks of friends and allies in the ongoing struggle to achieve tolerance and harmony.

The students participated in cross-sectional teams of "family groups" and "home groups," in which trained peer facilitators guided them in intense dialogue and sharing. The participating

stance in a debate over whether gay and lesbian individuals were "capable of raising children," a topic she "hadn't expected to be so controversial—[she] thought everyone was on [her] side; they weren't." Kat thought that the SDLC was "hugely beneficial" because it "helped her clarify [her] own opinions on issues of diversity, multiculturalism, and respect, as well as to understand the [differing] opinions of others."

The group left Boston with a



Members of the Diversity Club: Hillary Ramsey '08, Hayleigh Edwards '10, Tianda King '09, Jimyse Brown '10, Ashley Jones '09, Nef Umeh '08, Muriel Alim, Addae Pinkeney '10, and Khalipha Misawa '10.

Students Leading by Example

Last November, six Upper School students attended the National Association of Independent Schools' Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC) in Boston. Apart from the conferences, the delegates from WT had a rare opportunity to meet students at Harvard University Law School's Legal Clinic and visit the W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and African American Research.

WT students—Ashley Jones '09, Mimi Ngokion '09, Kat Vidt '09, Chris Bangs '10, Khalipha Misawa '10, and Rosie Mahorter '10—felt that these family and home groups provided some of the most valuable experiences of the conference, giving them a chance to discuss challenging topics like socioeconomic status, race, gender, and sexual orientation.

Mimi remarked that she was surprised to find herself to be in the minority when she took the affirmative

renewed commitment to celebrating diversity back home, with ideas on how to apply what they learned at the conference to WT. The students gave a diversity presentation to the Board of Trustees in April.

Khalipha stressed the importance of taking time out of the regular school day to address these difficult subjects, noting that these topics are "sometimes more important than learning about equations or Beowulf" because they force individuals and groups to examine

and challenge their assumptions about sensitive social issues.

Building Connections for Educators of Color

While their students were participating in the SDLC, three WT faculty members—Jessica Orr, fourth grade, City Campus; Bill Fitch, first grade, City Campus; and Muriel Alim, Upper School English and Chair of WT's Community Life Committee—attended the concurrent NAIS People of Color Conference (POCC), also in Boston. The POCC provides support and networking opportunities for teachers and administrators of color, as well as allies in independent schools, as they pursue strategies for effective and informed leadership as champions of diversity and tolerance in their home institutions.

Keeping the Civil Rights Movement Alive

A commitment to diversity and multiculturalism at WT can also be seen in the introspective and articulate work of individual students. This year, seven students placed in the prose category of the 2008 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Writing Awards for high school students, sponsored by Carnegie Mellon University. This is the eighth year in a row that WT students have taken top honors in the prose category. Morgan Gilbreath '09 and Adam Saad '08 shared the first prize in the High School Prose category for their essays "Sunday Morning in the Hill District" and "The Definition of Who I Am," respectively. Morgan's essay was also published in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* on January 20. Three WT students were runners-up in the prose category: Ben Charley '08 for "X-Box Live and I," Hillary Ramsey '08 for "Life," and Nefertiti Umeh '08 for "What A Day." Helen Bunker '10's essay "What A Joke," and Phallon DePante '08's essay "Your Stereotypical Bi-Racial Child," both received honorable mentions.

Understanding the History of Race in America through Art and Artifacts

As part of its celebration of Black History Month, WT invited noted artist and educator Emory Biko to display his collection of African American art and artifacts, "The Museum of the African's Experience in America," in the Dorrance Library in February. Biko has amassed a collection of more than 13,000 objects that chronicle the history of African Americans in the United States, and he frequently loans items to institutions for exhibition and to serve as resources for teachers who deal, directly or indirectly, with the issues of race and ethnicity. He hopes his museum will help to promote racial understanding and healing and serve as a resource for civil rights and human



rights organizations.

Biko's collection is made up of diverse objects, from used Ku Klux Klan garments to paintings of rapper Tupac Shakur, that are related to racial



Jesse Irwin '12 ponders a montage of Biko's images.

segregation, civil rights, and anti-Black caricatures, and which represent the incredible diversity of the African American experience.

Middle School art teacher Mary Martin '88 commented, "It was wonderful that Biko had personal stories about each piece. In some instances, he dealt directly with the individuals that he purchased the items from," hearing firsthand the sometimes troubling or controversial provenance of the artifacts. A used, stained Klansman uniform created the most buzz. Biko described how he called the seller in Virginia and arranged to drive from Pittsburgh to meet him. Nervous from the start, he cautiously made the trip along with a friend. When the seller mentioned he could supply more of the garments on a regular basis, Biko fled, frightened and checking his rear view mirror the whole way back.

Martin reflected, "The students showed a genuine interest in his work and his stories, and they were glad they decided to visit the exhibit with me. The stories really brought each piece to life."

WT Orchestra and Jazz Band strike a vibrant chord

"The past five years has been a period of tremendous growth for the orchestra,"

John Maione explains, "we've just had an amazing influx of talent."

Maione, Middle and Upper School performing arts teacher, Private Music Lesson Coordinator, and winner of the 2007 Jane L. Scarborough Award for excellence in teaching, is talking about his musical "superstars." Students like Yin Yin Ou '08, a pianist, and Michael McCarthy '08, a violinist, have helped Maione build the Upper School Orchestra from a small ensemble into a strong, 13-member group that has capably performed a challenging, full-scale orchestra repertoire.

Maione first came to WT as a guitar teacher in 1994, when many students would spend their free time playing guitar in the hallways. He remembers hearing several of them jam

and thinking, "Man, that sounds good!" He realized he needed to get the kids out of the hallway and into a classroom to channel their energies, so he created the Guitar Ensemble, his first foray into ensemble work at WT.

Shortly after that, he formed the Jazz Band, which has remained one of the most popular music groups at the school. Students play arrangements of classics that are tailored to the available instrumentation. "We've never had a traditional jazz band," explains Maione. "That's four trumpets, five saxes, four (trom)bones, and a

rhythm section—we've only had one trombone player in the whole time I've been here!" He recalls students who have played oboe, clarinet, French horn, and other nontraditional



Hazel Bohner '10 on keyboards.



John Maione rehearses with the Upper School Orchestra for Evening of the Arts.

instruments in the ensemble, which is open to all students.

There is also quite a bit of crossover between the Orchestra and the Jazz Band. Michael McCarthy remarks, "Although I have been largely focused on classical music...I welcome any sort of exposure to other great music such as



Erik Schmidt '09 on sax.

jazz," which gives him the opportunity to improvise his own melodies. Each ensemble "demands something different from me as a musician, which is what I love about being able to play these two different styles of music."

The WT Jazz Band recently teamed up with the internationally renowned jazz recording studio MCG-Jazz, part



The Jazz Band performs with MCG-Jazz guest performers Paco Mahone A'94 and Marty Ashby.

of Manchester Craftsmen's Guild in Pittsburgh's North Side. This *City as our Campus* collaborative has enabled students to record their own music at the state-of-the-art MCG studios, meet and jam with professional jazz musicians, and host MCG artists for jazz concerts and demonstrations at WT.

"Working with jazz greats Marty Ashby and Paco Mahone A'94 was a unique experience that not many high school bands get to have," remarks sophomore pianist Hazel Boehner. "They treated us like fellow musicians, like they would treat their own band members."

Maione emphasizes that this kind of exposure to professional musicians is essential, particularly for students of jazz, which is more about creativity than technical precision. "[Students] need to hear

professional artists to develop their improvisational skills and to learn about different jazz styles."

Collaborating with MCG-Jazz has benefited the entire WT community, not just the music students. "This program has allowed for a musical connection to the whole school, and has created an educational opportunity for the entire student body to learn about jazz," he says.



Sam Boehner '08 on drums.

Spring Break in Florida: Gearing Up for Play



For 56 WT students who spent eight days together in Florida over Spring Break (Sun! Sand! Surf!), it was all about play.

Exhausting workouts. Sunrise teambuilding exercises. Endless practices and scrimmages. This is the stuff of play when you're a member of WT's lacrosse teams, which traveled to Cocoa Beach for an intense week of preparation for the upcoming season.

Fast becoming an important tradition at Winchester Thurston, this annual trip—now in its fourth year—is a chance not only for players to hone their athletic skills, but also to bond as a team. Enthusiasm for this spring training excursion has increased each year. This spring, 30 of the 31 members of the boys' lacrosse team, and 25 of 27 members of the girls' team, participated.

Adriane LaRussa, Head Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach, comments that the trip provides "enough time to prepare for the first game" and affords a chance to "teach

new players new skills, offense, defense and midfield...while allowing returning players to further develop their playing level." She sees the trip as a great chance for her students to grow and unify as a team, and observed that their season "would drastically be affected without this opportunity."

Darrell Schmitt, Head Varsity Boys Lacrosse coach, exclaims, "We spend as much time practicing as we do sleeping," describing the demanding schedule that includes at least six hours each day of practices and scrimmages.

The teams' home base is the Cocoa Expo Sports Center, an enormous sports complex that hosts various youth, high school, and college sports teams for camps in baseball, soccer, softball, lacrosse, swimming, volleyball, football, and more.

Beyond all the hard work that goes into the training camp, there is free time for relaxing on the beach, swimming, shopping, and sightseeing. LaRussa recounts highlights such as teambuilding on the beach, watching dolphins and stingrays jumping out of the ocean, and, of course, the "priceless memories and genuine bonding."

Schmitt agrees, remarking that a high point for him was taking those students who were freshmen during the first trip in 2005 on their final senior trip. They have witnessed the evolution of the trip, Schmitt explains, and have seen it shape the team into a strong contender each season.



(Left to right) Tianda King '09, Hayleigh Edmunds '10, Elisabeth Clauss '08, and Isabel Zehner '10 enjoy some free time between practices.

EXPECT GREAT THINGS: CLASS OF 2008 ACCEPTED TO TOP COLLEGES

Congratulations to the Class of 2008, members of which have been accepted to some of America's outstanding colleges and universities:

Albright College
Allegheny College
Bard College
Boston University
Bucknell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
University of Colorado
Dickinson College
Earlham College
Harvard University
Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Liberty University
Miami University of Ohio
University of Miami
University of Michigan
Middlebury College
Northeastern University
New York University –
Tisch School of the Arts
Oberlin College
Ohio University
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia University
University of Pittsburgh
Point Park University
Princeton University
Roanoke College
University of Rochester
Sarah Lawrence College
Stanford University
Swarthmore College
Tufts University
Vassar College
Washington and Jefferson College
Wesleyan University
University of Wisconsin
The College of Wooster

The Class of 2008 has been awarded more than \$1.3 million in academic merit scholarships by the colleges to which they have been accepted. Merit scholarships are offered to students in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements.

Faculty in the news



Kristin LeBeau-McClintock presented at the Third Annual Audrey Beth Finch Women's Conference, The Other Side of Beauty: Impact on a Woman's Sense of Self. Her presentation was entitled "Children's Understanding of Body and Identity through Dance and Movement Education." In fall 2007 LeBeau-McClintock was invited to choreograph for and perform with the Duquesne University New Music Ensemble for a performance of Pop Culture. LeBeau-McClintock has been extremely active with Attack Theatre, noted nationally as one of "25 to Watch" by *Dance Magazine* in 2007. In addition to conducting outreach performances at local schools and community centers and collaborating with dancers and educators to find ways to develop and include dance in the physical education curriculum, she performed in *Preserve and Pursue* in January 2008, *Someplace, Not Here* last fall, and *Red Dust* last spring.

Cheri Hanczar and Katheleen Russell, on behalf of Winchester Thurston School, hosted *Sing Fest*, the Pennsylvania Music Educator's Association's (PMEA) annual event. One hundred students and their teachers from 45 schools participated in a variety of

activities culminating in a concert. Steve Dziekonski was the guest conductor, and dance sessions were taught by WT teachers **Kristin LeBeau-McClintock, Gina Ruiz, and Sally Sherman**. Last summer, Hanczar attended a Teacher Residency at Fallingwater with

teachers from all over the U.S. They explored architecture and the approach to different pedagogies within art, math, science, and performing arts. Russell has been asked to teach Orff instruments and World Drumming at the Alle-Kiski Music Day Camp this summer.



Kelly Vignale traveled around Mexico City and the state of Michoacan, Mexico, in March 2008 with 32 teachers from across the U.S. and Canada to visit the wintering grounds of the monarch butterflies. "There were millions of monarch butterflies in an area the size of a football field in the Sierra Madres in Mexico. We hiked to 9,000 feet to find the masses of monarchs and found them huddled in the trees, flying in the sky, and coming down to the ground to drink water from the puddles." Besides visiting two reserves, they visited a silver mine, museums, pyramids, an agave plantation, Tzintzuntzan (the capital city of Michoacan, Morelia), and Lake Patzcauro. They also delivered books and friendship bracelets made by WT Lower School students to a school on the island of Pacanda.



Dan Rosenberg attended the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) conference in Minneapolis in November 2007. **Rachel Cunningham** attended the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education



(PAGE) conference in Harrisburg in April 2008. Rosenberg serves on the Board of PAGE as the Director of Membership and Public Relations and the Awards Committee Chairperson.

Jill Machen led 14 WT students in the smash hit *Seussical* in February 2007 at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Greater Pittsburgh. Jill has been directing, producing and choreographing the JCC Senior High Shows for the past 20 years. She also directed and produced another successful *Campus Superstar* show for the Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh. The show involves all of the universities in and around the Pittsburgh area.

Partygoers Fly WT Airlines at annual benefit

An around-the-world extravaganza drew a crowd of more than 300 parents, alumnae/i, employees, and friends of WT on Saturday, March 8, 2008, as *Fly WT Airlines*, the school's annual benefit hosted by its Parents Association, really took off.

With mock passports in hand, guests traveled to eight exciting locales—Argentina, Scotland, Jamaica, France, Morocco, China, Thailand, and Pittsburgh—to bid on auction items, feast on native fare, and dance to live music. WT's Upper School was transformed into a global marketplace in which mock airline personnel and travel agents assisted “passenger” guests who “flew” from country to country—i.e., room to room—with first-class treatment.

The global adventure grossed an unprecedented \$121,895 for the school. Benefit chairs Carole King, Loretta Stanish, and Susan Sweeney worked with more than 100 dedicated volunteers, including Parents Association president Betsy Thompson and key volunteers Tracey Reading, Lynn Schraf, Adam Leong, Audrey Glickman, Joanne Averch, Michele Morris, Mary Jean Rusak, Anita Prizio '81, Kathy Bishop, Kate Stainton, Abby Miller, Amy Fields, Noreen Tompkins, Laurie Winslow, Jeff Robbins, and many more.

for the full story, visit
winchesterthurston.org



Co-chairs Carole King, Loretta Stanish and Susan Sweeney



Janie Arensberg Thompson '57 and Harry Thompson



Janine and Warner Macklin



Anne Malloy and Henry Posner III



Michael and Betsy Thompson



Abby Robinson '03 and Steve Robinson



Jay Silberblatt, Lori Sisson, and Steve and India Loevner



Dave Gilbreath and Lynn Schraf

FEEL THE BEAT

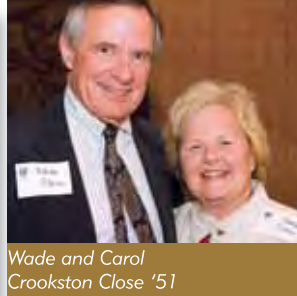
WT AND MCG JAZZ CELEBRATE THE BEST
OF CITY AS OUR CAMPUS



Gray Garland and Bill Strickland



Carole Oswald Markus '57 and
Vincent Johnson



Wade and Carol
Crookston Close '51



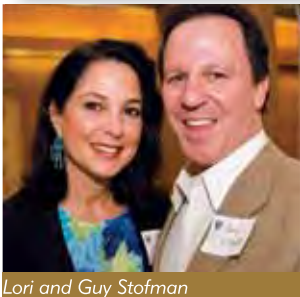
Roy Dorrance



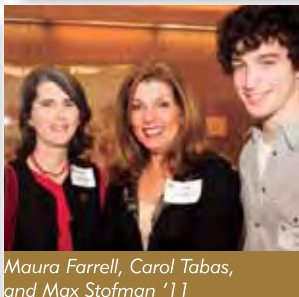
Megan Hall Dooley '70
and Matt Dooley



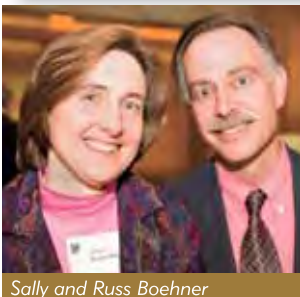
Kathy Buechel



Lori and Guy Stofman



Maura Farrell, Carol Tabas,
and Max Stofman '11



Sally and Russ Boehner



Kathy Sutcliffe, Beth Kuhn,
and Ashley Maida

Celebrating the best of *City as Our Campus*, more than 60 WT supporters gathered at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild on April 10, 2008, to toast the two-year partnership between WT and MCG Jazz. Praise for the partnership, in which WT students experience jazz at the feet of the masters, was given by Gary J. Niels, Head of School, and John Maione, Upper School performing arts teacher and Private Music Lesson Coordinator.

Bill Strickland, President and CEO of Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, spoke of the thrill visiting jazz musicians get when working with WT students. "Our artists were welcomed and celebrated by the students at WT in a way that doesn't often happen. They felt respected and valued, and I can't tell you how much that means," Strickland said. He continued, "We are giving a lot to this partnership, but we are getting as much as we're giving. That's how a partnership should work."

Strickland declared, "I think it is a moral obligation to make sure this new generation has a knowledge of, and a respect for, the legendary jazz musicians who created this art form, to create a community around music and music education. You have helped us do that and prove that when we put the kids in front of the music, they respond." He encouraged guests to stay and enjoy the evening's concert by jazz guitarist Chuck Loeb, whose performance at WT earlier in the day entertained and engaged the entire Upper School.

for the full story, visit
winchesterthurston.org

Thinking Also of Others, Nancy Steigerwalt Dwyer '37 Makes a Meaningful Gift



“I remember Miss Mitchell as indomitable,” says Nancy Steigerwalt Dwyer '37. “She said, ‘If you do not involve yourself in your own community, you have no right to condemn the management of it.’” Miss Mitchell’s words have resonated with Nancy throughout her life, as she has consistently held volunteer positions of leadership in raising money for scholarships and supporting libraries and the senior center in which she and her husband of 65 years live today.

As president of the Alumna Association when the venerable headmistress passed away, leaving the future of WT in doubt, Nancy and a small group of determined women spearheaded the successful effort to purchase the school from Miss Mitchell’s estate, establish it as a non-profit corporation, and set it on course to become the excellent institution it is today.

“WT was so much a part of my life. I received the Alumna of the Year honor in the year of WT’s centennial, 1987. It made a big impression on me when Polly Rowles '31 gave a substantial gift to Winchester Thurston. But it was during a conversation with Molly Cannon Stevenson '72, the daughter of my classmate Katharine Kountz Cannon '37, who suggested that I leave a gift for WT in my will. Molly is an experienced fundraiser, and I am grateful for her suggestion.”



Nancy Steigerwalt Dwyer '37

MEMBERS OF THE MISS MITCHELL SOCIETY

Marybert Englert Allen '40*	Edna Rieck Graham T '11*	Eleanor M. Reilly,
Ann E. Armstrong T '29*	Jeanne Logan Hardie '34*	Honorary Alumna
Barbara Abney Bolger '52	Rosanne Isay Harrison '56	Alan D. Riester*
Arthur E. Braun*	Lida B. Johnston*	Dorothy Dodworth Scullin '47
Eleanor Harbison Bream '31*	Eugene S. Kerber	Bonnie Solomon '48*
Herbert Briggs Jr.*	James Craighead Kuhn*	Marianna Epstine Specter '58*
Marion Weis Cohen '44	Lucille Showalter Leggett '11*	Janet L. Stevenson '16*
Marion Montgomery Colbourne '52	Loretta Lobes '88	Molly Cannon Stevenson '72
Nancy Steigerwalt Dwyer '37	Louise Baldrige Lytle '51	Allyson Baird Sveda '84
Mary Campbell Eckhardt*	Jocelyn Hulme MacConnell '43	F. Irene Thomas,
Virginia A. Elliott T '26*	Carole Oswald Markus '57	Honorary Alumna
Eleanor Lanz Ericson T '17*	Gertrude Dally Massie W '18*	Ruth Weimer Tillar '41
Elizabeth Braun Ernst '25*	Anne Forncrook McCloskey '45	Rosalie Morris Voorhis*
Harriet Adler Feldman '57	Edith Allerton Miller*	Gaylen Westfall
Margaret J. Garner T '18*	Frances Alter Mitchell '30*	Carol Spear Williams '57
Mabel L. Gillespie*	Judy Apt Nathenson '69*	Norma Weis Wilner '40*
Ethel C. Goodreds '22*	Jane Dunn Prejean '36*	

*Deceased

If you have included WT in your plans, please let us know so that you can be properly thanked and welcomed into the Miss Mitchell Society. For more information, contact Gaylen Westfall, Director of Development, at (412) 578-7530 or westfallg@winchesterthurston.org, or Alison Wolfson, Director of Alumnae/i Relations, at (412) 578-7529 or wolfsona@winchesterthurston.org.

Robert and Megan Glimcher Leadership Fund

As a business person and a philanthropist, WT trustee Robert Glimcher understands how important leadership is to build a successful career, and to be a productive and engaged citizen. So he and his wife, Megan, who are parents of Layne (Class of 2017) and Brock (Class of 2020), wanted to help Winchester Thurston



Rob and Megan Glimcher

develop citizens who not only understand how to be leaders, but who will practice leadership toward making a difference in their communities and in the larger world. In 2007, with a multi-year pledge to the school, they endowed the Robert

and Megan Glimcher Leadership Fund to support the Middle School Leadership Academy (see story on page 20). The Glimchers' gift generates income that provides ongoing support for this program.

Because of the Glimchers' generosity, Middle School teachers Adam Brownold and Jeff Cronauer have expanded what was the Leadership Lab, an outdoor education program focused on team building and self-awareness, into a comprehensive Leadership Academy.

"The program is growing and becoming a truly integral part of the Middle School experience at Winchester Thurston," says Brownold.

"To me, leadership encompasses civic responsibility, philanthropy, problem solving, and initiative," says Glimcher. "Megan and I appreciate Winchester Thurston's experiential approach to learning and intention to develop engaged citizens. It's important to us, and we wanted to support it, especially in Middle School, when social learning is so important."

Endowment Q&A



What is Endowment?

Endowment is a school's permanent "savings account." Winchester Thurston's Endowment, a fund comprised of charitable gifts, is invested so that it will grow over time. A small portion of the fund's balance (5%) is paid out on an annual basis, and used to operate the school.

How does a strong endowment help Winchester Thurston?

A strong endowment links past, current, and future generations by providing resources that enable the school to maintain and enhance the quality of education in perpetuity. Endowment is typically used to:

- Support financial aid and scholarships
- Enhance extraordinary programs
- Equip and maintain facilities
- Fund faculty chairs and professional development

What is the value of Winchester Thurston's Endowment?

Currently valued at approximately \$10,000,000, WT's Endowment is relatively modest compared to those of similar schools in our area. The National Association of Independent Schools endowment benchmark is \$25,000 per student; WT's is currently valued at \$16,000 per student.

How does WT ensure the health of its Endowment?

The Board of Trustees oversees the Endowment. An Investment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee meets regularly with an investment manager to monitor the Endowment's performance.

The fundamental objective is to prudently manage and invest the Endowment assets to achieve maximum long-term growth of principal at an acceptable level of risk, while allowing for a payout of funds to support current operations. The Board has established policies on investment practices and asset allocations, and spending rules. Independent auditors review the Endowment funds and Endowment spending each year.

How can a gift be made to Winchester Thurston's Endowment?

Donors can honor or memorialize a family member or friend through a gift to Endowment. Named funds can be created for gifts that meet specific thresholds for scholarships, programs, prizes, or faculty development.

Gifts of cash and securities are ideal assets that can easily be designated to Endowment. In addition, alumnae/i and friends are encouraged to join the Miss Mitchell Society, which was established to recognize donors of bequests, charitable trusts, life insurance policies, or charitable gift annuities.

class notes

2006

Don Michael Mendoza

was cast as an extra in the Touchstone feature film *Step Up 2: The Streets* and participated in *Christmas in Washington*, TNT's annual special that is performed for President George W. Bush and was aired on network television in January, 2008. Don Mike was one of eight people cast in Stephen Sondheim and Richard Rodger's musical, *Do I Hear a Waltz?* at American University. He's been offered a permanent part-time position at 88.5 WAMU, Washington, DC's NPR affiliate station, for the rest of his career at American University. As a Broadcast Journalism student, he has made invaluable networking connections and met fascinating people such as David Gregory, Jim Lehrer, Senators Arlen Specter (D-PA) and John McCain (R-AZ), Former NATO Allied Commander General Wesley Clark, Second Lady Lynne Cheney, and 39th U.S. President Jimmy Carter. pinoyboy06@aol.com



2005

Maureen Washburn

traveled to rural Tanzania last summer with a group of Pitt students and worked at a school to teach women basic bookkeeping, computer skills, agriculture, and tailoring to help them start their own small businesses. maureen.washburn@gmail.com

2002

Mike Roth lives in Chicago and has been playing music full time with the band,



now called *Cobalt & the Hired Guns!* They released an album on May 3, 2008, that they recorded at the Chicago Recording Company (*Smashing Pumpkins, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Michael Jackson, etc.*) The band worked with a producer for the first time! His name is Brian Humphrey, and he has worked with bands such as *State Radio, Diana Ross, Bruce Springsteen, and the Hives*. You can hear the new album at www.cobaltandthehiredguns.com michael.roth@oberlin.edu

2001

Richard Homann

graduated from George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs with a Master's degree in Security Policy Studies in May 2008. Richard worked in Kabul, Afghanistan last summer for the State Department through a private military company. richard.homann@gmail.com

Abby Ross left her job in Washington, DC for a European adventure. She took an intensive language study in Italian at the Scuola Leonardo da Vinci in Rome for two months and lived with a variety of other students from Russia, Japan, Sweden, Brazil, Australia, South Africa, Germany, Switzerland, and Australia in a city apartment about 20 minutes from the Colosseum. Upon leaving Rome, Abby backpacked for two weeks, stopping for a few days each in Paris, London, Dublin, Prague and Munich. She met a ton of fascinating people, and was able to speak

Italian in every country to order food, ask for directions, or just practice with anyone she met. abby.ross@gmail.com

2000

James Edwards is a production manager at the Arundel Barn Playhouse, a summer stock theatre company



in Maine; he's also the fall Technical Director at Surfflight Theatre in Beach Haven, New Jersey. Last summer James met former President George H. W. Bush and Barbara Bush. They came to the theatre to see their daughter-in-law in a show and invited the entire cast and crew to their house for dinner and entertainment. JamesDEdwards33@yahoo.com



Dan Sadowski and Barbara Holmes attend the October, 2007, wedding of Emily Kramer '00 and Matthew Abbinanti '00.

1999

Amy Hirschman can see the Warner Bros. Studios when she steps outside her home in Los Angeles. She has worked as an account executive in the advertising department at Nikkei America, Inc., a Japanese newspaper, for about a year. In November 2007, Amy went to a special screening of an episode of NBC's *Heroes in Hollywood* and had her picture taken with Jack Coleman, who plays Noah Bennett, or "HRG." amyhirschman@gmail.com



Amy Hirschman with Jack Coleman

1997

Azadeh Geer Masalehdan wed Ethan Robert Block of Shadyside on September 29, 2007, in Pittsburgh. Azi is currently in the dissertation phase of her Ph.D. at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Social Work. azirocks@gmail.com



Josh Hefferen '97, Dresdyn Hefferen, Azadeh Masalehdan Block '98, Vanessa Wilson '96, Lauren Wilson '96

1996

Tiffany Baxendell Bridge took a standup comedy class at the DC Improv in February 2007 and has been performing at open microphone nights since then. In January 2008 she acted as emcee at an actual comedy club north of Baltimore for her first real club gig. Tiffany.joy@gmail.com

Sarah Gross Fife and Tim are still living in Sydney and having a wonderful time. Her sister, **Rachel Gross '02**, visited this May. While work keeps Sarah and Tim busy, they still find time to explore, travel and to take it all in. If any WT alums are planning to visit Australia, please get in touch! sarahfife@gmail.com



Sarah Gross Fife, Juli Tomaino, Hannah Grannemann, Rory Hughes '96, and Rachel Gross '02.

Hannah Grannemann graduated this May with an MFA in Theater Management from Yale School of Drama, and an MBA from Yale School of Management. She and her fiancé, Joey, are planning to move to Chapel Hill, NC, where Hannah will be the managing director of PlayMakers Repertory Company and Joey will

work in advertising. Hannah is the new and proud aunt of William Neil, the son of her brother, **Matt Grannemann '94**, and his wife, Andrea, who live in New Jersey. William was born in August 2007. Hannah stays in close contact with **Juli**



Tomaino and celebrated her birthday together in NYC in November 2007. She also had a great time meeting up with **Sarah Gross Fife** in NYC on her first visit back from Australia. hgrannemann@att.net



Matthew Grannemann '94 and son, William Neil.

1995

Kristin Trabucco recently moved back to the 'Burgh from NYC to work as a set production assistant on a film called *The Road* with Viggo Mortensen and Charlize Theron. It is super long hours but she is having lots of fun tramping through the mud and snow in the woods of PA! vilandra.buffy@gmail.com

1994

Erin Herward Thurston enjoyed catching up with **Susan Finkelpearl '92** and **Alyssa Caroselli** during the WT gathering in Washington D.C., with Gary Niels last January. Erin continues to teach second grade in the Fairfax County Public Schools and she and Adam very much enjoy raising their son, Patrick, now a happy, curious toddler. erinthurston@hotmail.com

1992

Anastasia Kozak Leonard and Keith welcomed Harrison Alexander Leonard on January 7, 2008. He came into the world three weeks early at 5 lbs, 11 oz and 20 inches. AnastasiaMLeonard@eaton.com

1991

Robin Saks Frankel and her husband, Adam Frankel, welcomed their first child, a son, Maor Saks Frankel (aka "Max") on February 8, 2008. Max, Mommy, and Daddy live in NYC and are all doing great! robinsaks@yahoo.com



Keeya Mitchell '91 with her husband, **Marcus Charleston**, and daughter, **Sierra**. The photo was sent in by **Carol Crookston Close '51**, who was pleasantly surprised to bump into a fellow WT alum at a coffee shop in Beaufort, SC.

Christine Marie Phillips Gregory teaches science at Heyworth High School and achieved National Board Certification in 2007 by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS®). mmechris@aol.com

Dorothy McLaughlin was married April 28, 2007 in Berkeley, California, to Joel L. Sachs. Her sisters, **Mattie McLaughlin Schloetzer '95** and **Sarah McLaughlin Lee '95**, were bridesmaids. **Kathleen Metinko** and **Alunda Gryzbek Edmonds** attended the wedding with their husbands, Jan Kniffen and Jonathan Edmonds. Joel and Dorothy moved from San Francisco to Riverside, California. Dorothy works as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Central District of California and Joel is an assistant professor of biology at the University of California, Riverside. dorothyinsf@yahoo.com

1988

Jacqueline Marks Ledo and **Wendy Marks Pine '90**, their parents, and their families, Julia Ledo, 28 months; Jenna



Ledo, 15 months; and Brian Pine, 11 months; enjoyed a Caribbean cruise in December 2007. If anyone is in the South Florida area, Jacki and Wendy would love to hear from you! jacki6@aol.com or wendymarks@bellsouth.net

1986

Tracy Marasti Hawkins and her husband Len just had their fourth child, a boy, in January, 2007. They have three boys and a girl: Theron, Adam, Kate, and Logan. They live in northern Virginia, and Tracy works part-time as a technical writer for Booz Allen Hamilton. tam2tmh@verizon.net.

1985

Julie Tarasevich Dever and Mike welcomed daughter number two in May 2007. Maeve Elizabeth Dever weighed in at 8½ lbs and 20½ inches. Big sister, Margee, is thrilled! julie.dever@bnymellon.com

Alison Guy Persichetti

resides in Fox Chapel. She and her husband, Nathaniel, are proud parents of Rachel and Ava. Alison is a vice president of treasury management at PNC Bank. Persichetti@pnc.com

Deborah Tenenouser Hochman

lives in Plantation, Florida with her husband Jeffrey and

their three children, Leo, 10; Jack, 8; and Sophie, 3. Deborah tells many stories to her kids about her years at WT and they have had a chance to meet some of her WT friends. They love to drive by the school when visiting Pittsburgh so they can hear another story. Deb recently became the director of

My Jewish Discovery Place, a hands-on, interactive children's museum. She is excited for the opportunity and hopes all will visit if you are in south Florida. debhochm@bellsouth.net

1982

Jennifer Solow writes, "Thanks to a few lucid moments in ninth-grade French, I am able to partially understand my own novel, *The Booster*, now out in French translation. I'm working on two new novels now: one takes place in Mill Valley, where I live; the other, an art mystery, was inspired by Mrs. Peterson. I hope to tell you more about them soon. Griffin and Tallulah are getting bigger and bigger, and it comes as no shock that they both have a rebellious and creative streak. I'm happy



Emily Hetzel '83 and **Anne Scheuermann '75** suited up as **Oliver Onion** and **Jalapeño Hannah** in the Great Pierogie Race at a Pittsburgh Pirates game at PNC Park on May 6, 2008. They won the opportunity to participate in this zany race as winning bidders at WT's annual spring benefit.

to announce that my partner, Tom Jacoby, has shifted to husband status. It's been that way for a few years now; we were just keeping it all under wraps—second marriages need a little extra cocoon. I'd love to hear from old friends and new.”
jennifer@jennifersolow.com

1976

Lynn Snyderman reports that life with her kids, Jillian, Jesse, and Hannah, and her husband, Lew, is good. She is currently adjusting to her new position as staff attorney for Justice Debra Todd of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, who was recently elected and is the only woman on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. It is quite an adjustment, but is a welcome challenge. Lirwin18@aol.com

1975

Randy Lyon Mayes continues to don her motorcycle gear and ride her 1976 Honda CB 400F around eastern North Carolina. She is currently the secretary of the Board of Directors of the



Gary J. Niels, Pam Levy Cohn '80 and Lisa Levy '84 in Washington, D.C.

Vintage Japanese Motorcycle Club of North America (www.vjmc.org) and an avid collector of the smaller vintage motorcycles (90-400cc), but also boasts a 1980 Moto Guzzi V50 (500cc). She and her husband, Warren, have approximately 35 running motorcycles, and are often heard responding to people's gasps, "Well, how many is too many?" And, as far as horsepower goes,

Warren's Christmas present to Randy in 1981, Joker, a Quarter Horse, is still very much alive



AND kicking! "By all estimates, he is about 37 years old and loves to be ridden." Randy is glad to see WT and the students doing so well in so many areas. She is very proud to have been a 13-year veteran!
rlyon007@yahoo.com

Anne Bolanis Standish has loved working at WHYY, managing THE WAR project and being part of the Wider Horizons team, but is off to a new and exciting career opportunity. Anne joined The

Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association as the development and outreach director in March, 2008. The WVWA is a 50-year-old land trust located in Ambler, PA. The mission of the association is to protect the quality and beauty of the Wissahickon Creek and to enhance life in the watershed.

1974

Meg McKean Taylor has been Head of Robert C. Parker School, a Pre-K to 8 independent school, outside of Albany, NY for the last five years. Folks can visit her blog from the school Web site, parkerschool.org. Daughter, Alex, works in NYC in branding. Greer loves Colorado College, studying comparative lit and journalism. Hildy will head off next fall to either Colorado or Oregon. Step-daughter, Monica, loves Elon College, and stepson, Nick, works in Albany at a tech start up company. Last summer Dick and Meg vacationed in Maine with **Josie Patterson** and her husband, Ben. It was great hiking, biking, kayaking, and yakking. We hope to see **Leslie (Hash) Brown** and family in Maine this summer. "I miss Pittsburgh and all my friends from WT North! My girls loved their days at WTN and WT, too! WT has been a huge and wonderful part of our lives."
mckmeg518@hotmail.com

1972

Pamela Schaper Cabalka was elected to the Board of Trustees of Roanoke College. She serves as a Director of the MN Golf Association and is past president of the Edina Country Club, the first and only female president in the 80-year history of the club.
plcabalka@aol.com



Gaylen Westfall and Alison Wolfson visited Jane Scarborough on Cape Cod in October 2007.



Members of the Class of '74 celebrating with Annekathryn Goodman – L-R: Carolyn Lebeau Hughes, Cynthia Labriola Tumolo, Betsy Hurtt, Cathy Sherman Steinitz, Annekathryn Goodman, Leisel Locke Lengyel, Katherine Fisher, and Judith Hoover.

she has been active for many years and is enjoying being on the other side of the academic fence. She and her husband, John Nickum, have finished restoring a 1750 single-house in Charleston, South Carolina's historic district, and spent their first winter there enjoying the beautiful, friendly city where you can walk almost everywhere. Their garden was on the famous Historic Charleston Preservation tour of homes and gardens this spring. If you are headed south next winter, take a detour and stop in Charleston and say hello. Linda hopes to be able to join her class for that big reunion this year. ljlearn@verizon.net

1952

Marion Montgomery Colbourne continues to be involved in a variety of activities at the church including greeter, member of the Leadership Council and Lay Pastoral Visitors Team, and lay minister for Holy Communion. Because of her visits to patients at Grace Hospital, she was asked to speak at a memorial service for one of the men she was blessed to have known and visited there.

1971

Carol Amore's traveling TIGERS exhibition has launched at the Discovery Science Center in Santa Ana, California. The award-winning Digi-Track climbing wall has created a great deal of attention in the use of high touch and high tech for the TIGERS exhibition. Some of the inventive interactive exhibits include Carnivore Capture and Canine Bite Force; they encourage visitors to engage physically with the force of the tiger's jaws and claws to learn how the tiger hunts. Another exhibit, Inside the Tiger, shows rare and remarkable tiger "CAT" scans through a sliding monitor that looks into a tiger's head, heart, spine, chest and abdomen, as featured in *National Geographic's Ultimate Cats* television show in fall 2007. Check out Carol's fascinating work at www.wildlifeworlds.com. camore@mindspring.com

1968

Margie Balter made her first appearance in NYC since the debut of her well-received CD, *Music from my Heart*, in May 2008 at the historic Steinway Hall. mbalter@dslexxtreme.com

Linda Hildebrand Case has been living in Abilene, Texas since 1974. She has been an elementary school principal for 11 years. Her husband, Marc, is the head basketball coach at a local high school. They will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this August. It's been 10 years since Linda has been to Pittsburgh, but she's planning a visit this summer! lindaprinc@aol.com

1958

Linda Lear's prize-winning biography, *Beatrix Potter: A Life in Nature*, published last year, appeared in paperback in both the US (St. Martin's Press) and the UK. Linda is going on another lecture tour of the UK in May. Linda was elected to a second term on the Board of Trustees of Connecticut College, where



Susan Pekruhn Glotfelty, Joanne Johnston Bowser, and Barbara Berkman Ackerman join together to make plans for their 50th reunion on October 17-18, 2008.



Connie Smith Franklin '51 and her husband, Joe, join Gary J. Niels and his wife, Elizabeth Patterson, on a visit to Washington, DC in January, 2008.

She also attends two home Bible studies. Two of Marion's daughters and their families live in the Toronto area.
mcolbourne@rogers.com

Jean MacIntyre has lived and worked most of her adult life in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Meanwhile, after the 2007 reunion, Jean read a paper, "Dance in Caroline Comedies" at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Minneapolis. She gave a spin-off from this, "Masque Upside Down in Richard Brome's A Jovial Crew," in Vancouver, BC, at the Pacific Northwest Renaissance Society's annual conference. jmacinty@gmail.com

1941

Ruth Weimer Tillar worked with the annual Virginia Garden Week Tour in Emporia, VA. She is busy attending meetings for the Hospital Auxiliary, DAR, and Woman's Club in several cities. Ruth looks forward to going to Italy for two weeks in June with her son Tom, who will be hosting the Virginia Tech trip. rtillar@verizon.net

Former faculty member **Bill Diskin** and his sons caught up with **Erin Shulz '04** at a Queens University lacrosse game. billdiskin@gmail.com



Bill, Ben, and Jakob Diskin with Erin Shulz '04

Class Notes

Please send us your news and photos! Send information to Alison Wolfson, Director of Alumnae/i Relations, Winchester Thurston School, 555 Morewood Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 or wolfsona@winchesterturston.org.

Class notes do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Winchester Thurston School or the editors of ThistleTalk.

In Memoriam

The following members of the WT community will be missed by their classmates, friends, students, and colleagues. We offer sincere condolences to their families.

Eliza Miller '32, September 3, 2007

Betty Lou Girts Dell '41, December 12, 2007

Pam Whitcomb Larsen '70, November 1, 2007

Condolences

To **Holly Carlson Campbell '56**, on the death of her husband, Cary Campbell, October 11, 2007.

To **Lisa Whitcomb Capra '76**, on the death of her sister, **Pam Whitcomb Larsen '70**, November 1, 2007.

To **Beverly Diebold Green '60**, on the death of her husband, Thomas "Pat" Green, February 23, 2008.

To **Patricia Watson Kammerer '68**, on the death of her husband, Larry Kammerer, October 20, 2007.

To **Ann Gare Keck '42** and **Mimi Keck '66**, on the death of their husband and father, Frank Miller Keck, Jr., March 12, 2008.

To **Kate Rogal '02**, **Jacob Rogal A'06**, and former Trustee, **Jim Rogal**, on the death of their grandfather and father, Alvin Rogal, November 6, 2007.

To **Robin Kann Sonnenklar '79**, on the death of her mother, Sondra Kann, October 22, 2007.

To **Patty Packer Suhody '75** and **Nancy Packer '79**, on the death of their father, Francois Paul Louis Henri James Packer, February 25, 2008.

To **Amelia Irvin Yeager '76** and **Janet Irvin Steitz '78**, on the death of their mother, Jane Simpson Irvin, January 2, 2007, and their father, W. Arch Irvin, Jr., December 9, 2007.



SAVE THE DATE: REUNION 2008 OCTOBER 17 – 18, 2008

Especially for the Classes of

1933, 1938, 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963,
1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998

For the full story, visit
winchesthurston.org

Can You Help Us Find These Lost Alums?

The following reunion-year alumnae/i are lost. Please contact Alison Wolfson, Director of Alumnae/i Relations, at (412) 578-7529, or wolfsona@winchesthurston.org, if you have information on how to reach them. We want to be sure they are included in the fun!

1933

Betty Kraus Hilsdorf

1938

Christine Wisser Crouch
Dorothy Alpern Gutman
Pauline Leichliter Landrum
Margaret Martin
Mary Felix Shirley
Jane Ward

1943

Ellen Card Donnell

1948

Dorothy Davis
June Turner Gallucci
Mary Louise Hull Joslyn
Elizabeth Parrish Keddie
Janet Terman Newman
Dale Johns Patton
Sarah Leaman Schenck
Sherrill Joyce Shiras

1953

Marjean Booth
Janine Drouard
Nancy VanAntwerp
Mary Winston

1958

Phyllis Ferguson Borrell
Carolyn James
Carol McNally Sargent
Lois O'Dessa Weiss
Katheryn Jameson Wolf

1963

Lee Lochhead Davis
Blaine Deutschendorf
Ingrid Bredeson Fogel
Sally Nettorou Forsman
Nadezhda Freedman
LindaKaufman Larsen

Margaret Swan Lewis
Margery Stamen Miller
Susan Stickel Navarro
Mary Spindler Vomachaa
Peggy Lenson Weil

1968

Linda Paddock Barlow
Christina Sponsler Bowker
Allison Carr
Wendy Franklin Flanel
Ellen Harris
Sharon Lampl
Patricia Parke
Erica Siegal
Jane Wolk Specter

1973

Holly Louis Franks Christman
Mary Concannon Oldak
Tyra Roelandt
Myra Shugerman
Amy Snyder
Christine Soffel
Emily Sandberg VanHazinga
Patricia Wattenmaker
Wendy Weil
Claudia Widgery
Elizabeth Wilson

1978

Lisa Greenwald Benison
Amy Chosky
Wafa Fahim
Susan Gillinger
Marcie Glick
Teresa Gonzalez-Rodriguez
Mary Knight
Leisha Primas-Humphrey
Sandra Sommerfeld
Ann Holladay Weiss

1983

Pamela Aranson Adelsheimer
Amy Cohn
Natalie Chetlin Moritz
Rachel Rawson
Heather Scott
Barbara Levine Weiner

1988

Yassamin Alsahlani
Erica Heidinger
Erica Herb
Kirsia Jackson
Kristen Jansson
Sylvia Lai
Sarah Madlock
Ann-Shirley Opong
Monique Parker
Holly Sheets
Anne Smyth
Yasmine Stewart

1993

Mary Ellen Gallo
Niveen Ghattas
Tisha Ghee
Jaleh Mansoor

1998

Eun-Hee Cho
Mariel Isaacson
Young-chul Kim
Hui-Yu Lo
Matthew Orgass

The WT Fund:

Fuel for the engine that drives a WT education.

A butterfly habitat in the Lower School science wing to help nurture a lifelong love of science and nature. A LEGO Mindstorms kit for the robotics lab to help young learners develop stronger problem-solving skills. New athletics equipment for sports teams to help athletes train and compete at their very best.

These are just a few ways your gift to the WT Fund can make a difference to today's Winchester Thurston students. In the classroom, on the stage, and on the playing field, our students benefit every day from the generosity of our community's support of the WT Fund—the engine that drives and sustains our school's high levels of performance.

Thank you to those who have given. Your participation in the 2007 – 2008 WT Fund makes an impact on each student's growth and future.

And for those who wish to give, a gift envelope has been included with this issue of *ThistleTalk*. Or, visit www.winchesterthurston.org – Giving – Make an Online Gift. Please make your gift by June 30, 2008 in order to be included in this school year's drive.

Questions? Please contact Dionne Brelsford, Director of Annual Giving, at (412) 578-7533.



\$150=

A butterfly habitat in our science wing that helps to nurture a life-long love of science and nature.

POWERED BY
TheWTFund

\$250=

A new Lego Mindstorms kit for the robotics lab that provides students with the building blocks for stronger problem-solving skills.



\$500=

Equipment for sports teams that helps WT athletes train and compete at their very best.

Tax dollars for WT scholars

If your business pays PA taxes, Winchester Thurston can reap the benefits.

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) offers PA businesses a way to contribute to schools like WT while receiving up to a 100% tax credit.

Savvy business owners have already given WT nearly \$200,000 at no cost to them!

For more information about this

win-win plan that benefits both you and WT, visit www.newpa.com or call Gaylen Westfall, Director of Development, at (412) 578-7530.

Plaid Magazine Earns Two Gold Circle Awards

Student-produced publication features artistic and literary talents

Plaid, Winchester Thurston's literary magazine, has been recognized by both the National Council of Teachers of English and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the oldest and most prestigious national competition for high school publications and which attracts more than 10,000 entries annually.

"Last year's edition of *Plaid*, entitled *Penultimate*, was the school's fiftieth, so it was especially nice for it to garner these accolades," says the publication's faculty advisor, English teacher and department chair Jill Kazmierczak.

The magazine won two Gold Circle Awards from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). In the category of "Single Illustration Not Based on Photographic Material," Margaret Kross '07's "Woman's Portrait" won third place; in the category of "Photography Portfolio," Hermine Azedeh Harrison '08 took a fourth place Credible Mention.

When she took over as faculty advisor, Kazmierczak took four students to the CSPA's annual conference to "further educate them about publishing." She also encouraged the *Plaid* staff to submit the magazine to the CSPA competition, which each year draws more than 13,000 entries from high schools across the country.

"The fact that *Plaid* won two Gold Circle Awards in its first year of competition is incredibly impressive," says Kazmierczak. "Every aspect of a magazine is being adjudicated," she explains, from content to cover design, typography, and illustration. "Our goal for next year is to win a Gold Crown Award," the highest recognition given by the CSPA to a student print or online medium for overall excellence.



Hermine Harrison '08's "Blue House"



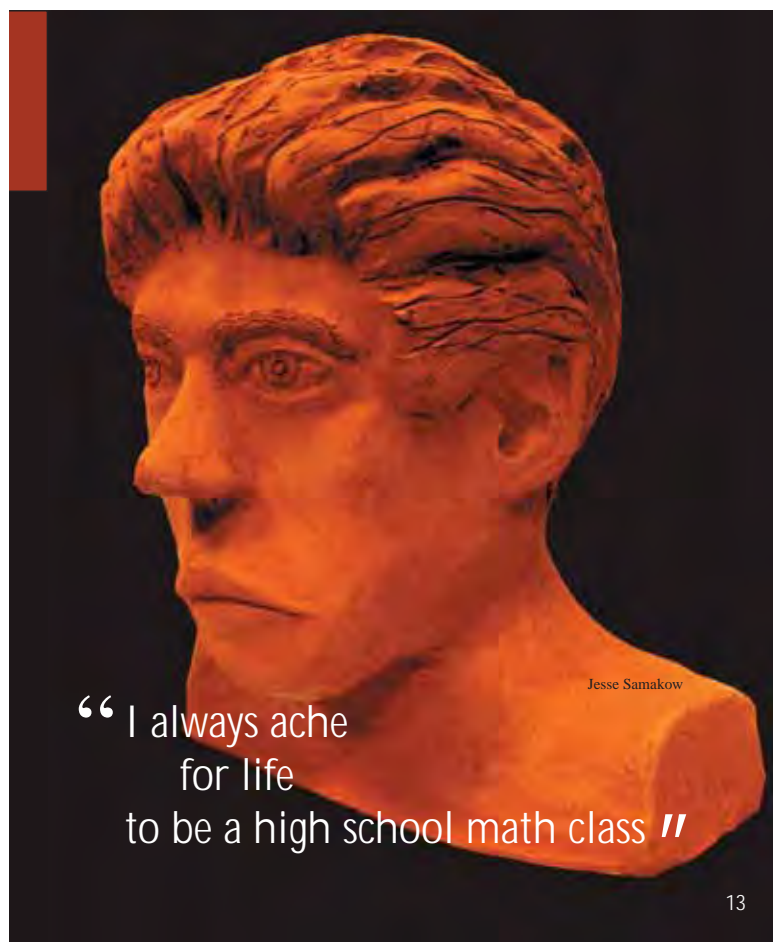
Margaret Kross '07's "Woman's Portrait"



Pages from Plaid 2008, entitled, "Maculate."



"The selections of art and literature must be married" to be sure they work together in a complementary fashion, says Kazmierczak, but the editors try to include as many pieces as possible to be truly "reflective of the whole school, and to celebrate the wide range of talent." WT students



"I always ache
for life
to be a high school math class"



have always proven extremely talented in scholastic writing, she continued, adding that they usually earn top scores on English AP exams, verbal SATs, and in other writing competitions. *Plaid* presents a different challenge and opportunity to students, allowing them to expand their talents into the realm of creative writing.

This year, *Plaid* published two editions. *Plaid's* Upper School edition, entitled *Maculate*, follows the magazine's traditional format, although with an "edgier" feel than in previous years. *Plaid Global* celebrates the writing and artistic life of students from the entire school community, with a particular focus on the varied ethnic, linguistic, and cultural backgrounds of WT students.

Plaid Goes Global

Plaid Global includes submissions from the entire school community, with a particular focus on ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity. Read more about *Plaid* inside.

The Iron Gates Closed Behind Us

the barbed wire
that smoke
those flames
the last nights

the soup
the bread
the bell
the clubs and whips

We ran in the freezing wind
We were chased outside
We breathed in air filled with fire and smoke
We had ceased to be men

The soup tasted of corpses
The prisoners disappeared
I felt the sweat running down my back
I fainted

We're on the threshold of death
Wait.
Clench your teeth and wait.

Found poem from Elie Wiesel's *Night*: Zoe Zissu, '12

Photo: Hermine Harrison, '08



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