



The Alumni Connection
Spring 2018

Matters

News for the Families & Friends of George Stevens Academy



from the HEAD of SCHOOL

Learning For Everyone



To my mind, one of the great strengths of GSA is our mission to serve all the families of the peninsula (and a few beyond!), not just a subset. It makes for a wonderful, fascinating, diverse, and vibrant student body. It also presents challenges to provide programming for students whether they aspire to attend highly selective colleges or plan to enter the workforce immediately after graduating, whether they show great academic interest and ability or struggle in one or more subjects.

This all means that when we add programming and courses we must do so in a way that serves all students equally, and not only a subset of our school. If we only added Advanced Placement and Honors courses, where would that leave our students for whom those courses are not appropriate? If we only addressed the needs of special education students, how would that enhance the experience of all the rest? While I greatly resist the notion that education is a zero sum game—the idea that supporting one group of students necessarily means you take support away from another—we can't be oblivious to the fact that no one program or course will serve all students equally well. So when we add, we do so in a way to be certain all students will be benefitting.

For a school our size, GSA already has a distinctive curriculum. Recently we have added:

- Advanced Placement and Honors classes: Physics, Biology, Two-Dimensional Design, English Language and Composition, and Marine Ecology Research (in which students conduct original marine science research)
- General classes: Anatomy and Physiology, Three-Dimensional Computer Modeling, Two-Dimensional Computer Animation, and Pre-Engineering
- Hands-on classes: Digital Fabrication and Boatbuilding
- Classes for students who struggle in one or more subjects: Adaptive courses, Juegos y Fiestas (for learners who struggle with language acquisition), and a Learning Center Study Hall, supervised by a teacher who provides academic support.

Many of these courses serve all our students; some are targeted to serve a subset, but in the aggregate, they enhance the experience of every GSA learner, and support every student's aspirations.

Timothy J. Seeley

Timothy J. Seeley, Head of School

GEORGE
STEVENS
ACADEMY

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Matters is a publication of the offices of Communications and Development.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Liffey Thorpe
Director of Communications
l.thorpe@georgestevens.info

Rada Starkey
Director of Development
r.starkey@georgestevens.info

Jennifer Traub
Director of Annual Giving
j.traub@georgestevens.info

Maggie Garfield '77
Development & Communications Associate
m.s.garfield@georgestevens.info

Front cover: John Brooks of Brooks Boats
Design with two of his boatbuilding students,
Ed Conte '19 (left) and Alec Witham '18 (right).
There are 10 other students in the course.

Back cover: Senior Nellie Haldane describes her
Independent Study project to GSA trustee Tyler
Knowles.



THE EAGLE'S EYE

ARS GRATIA ARTIS

Ten students in Mariel Duym's *Drawing* and *AP Drawing* classes participated in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition, one of the nation's best known and prestigious recognition programs for teens: Iris Benson-Sulzer '18, Zeya Lorio '18, Tillie Marsh '18, Mary Richardson '18, Mazie Smallidge '18, Jiachen Wang '18, Kacie Bond '19, Cassidy Bulleman '19, Genevieve Claybaugh '19, and MacKenzie Tapley '19.

Tillie received a Silver Key for her digital photograph "Down Down Down." Iris earned an Honorable Mention for her colored pencil "Self Portrait," and MacKenzie earned two Honorable Mentions, one for her graphite drawing "Hero" and another for "Self Portrait." Congratulations to all of the students who participated!



ALL THAT JAZZ

The GSA Jazz Band was awarded a Silver Medal and 2nd Place in March at the 2018 Maine State Jazz Festival

- Division IV Jazz Band MVPs were Isla Brownlow '18, trombone, and the Dale Huff MVP ("Mr. Jazz") Edward Conte '19, drums
- *Quinn & the Tuplettes* received a Silver Medal
- Division III Combo MVP was Isla Brownlow, trombone
- *Low Down* received an Honorable Mention
- *See Vu Play* received a II Rating
- Multiple Combo Division B Dale Huff MVP ("Mr Jazz") was Vu Do '18, vibes
- *Polysaccharide* received a II Rating
- Multiple Combo Division B MVPs were Jennifer McNamara '19, vibes, and Berlioz Xu '18, drums.

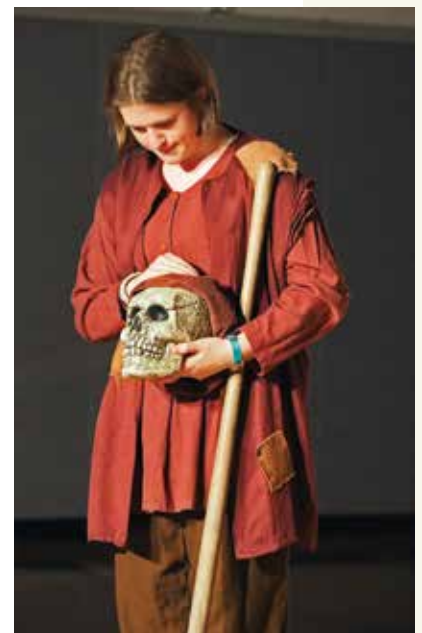


THE PLAY'S THE THING

On March 9 GSA Drama presented Tom Stoppard's comedy *Dogg's Hamlet* at the MPA One-Act Competition at Camden Regional High School. Moira McMahon directed and more than 25 students participated as members of the cast and crew. The play, first performed in 1979, explores questions about the nature of human communication, inspired by the German philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein.

Named for All Festival Cast Awards were Magnolia Vandiver '21, Ian Ramsey '18, Maira Vandiver '18, and Adam Mathewson '21. Congratulations to all!

(Right) Gravedigger Anna Trowbridge '21 holds poor Yorick's skull.



Class Reunions!

For updated information that classes have provided about reunion year plans, visit www.georgestevensacademy.org/reunions.

Class of 1967

The Class of 1967 is planning a reunion to be held in July. **Patty Leach Hutchins and Vivian Leach Grindle** will be in contact with classmates with further information. Please contact them if you would like to help.

Class of 1968

Stay tuned! A committee is being formed and plans are in the works for a 50th reunion. Information will be mailed to class members once details are in place.

Classes of 1972-1974

The Class of 1973 is celebrating its 45th with a tri-class reunion on Saturday, June 16 from 12:00-5:00PM at the home of **Pat Wardwell '76** at 718 Castine Rd (junction of routes 199 & 166A). Bring a potluck picnic to share; a gas grill will be available. The event is BYOB, and you may want to bring your own lawn chair, too.

For those who can't make the daytime reunion, there will be a nighttime get-together at Danny Murphy's pub in Castine, with attendees ordering off the menu.

RSVP by June 9 to

Joan Alley Wardwell '73 (207-326-4198)
Joan Clapp Allen '72 (207-479-6590 cell) or
Marla Atherton '74 (207-664-3968)

Class of 1998

Chrissy Beardsley Allen has started a Facebook group for the Class of '98 as a central place to plan and publicize any reunions and gatherings happening for the class for its 20th this year! To be added to the group, visit www.facebook.com/groups/210239692862773 or message "Chrissy Beardsley Allen" on FB. For classmates not on Facebook, email Chrissy at chrissylou2@gmail.com to be kept in the loop.

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

GSA Community Fine Art Show

May 14-19 at the Cynthia Winings Gallery,
Parker Point Road, Blue Hill

Parents, students, faculty and staff, and alumni are invited to submit fine art to display at the show. For more information, including the artwork submission form, visit www.georgestevensacademy.org/artshow2018 or contact Jennifer at j.traub@georgestevens.info.

Please join us for a reception with the artists on
May 14 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The gallery will be open May 15-19 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

GSA On The Road

Join Head of School Tim Seeley for a gathering of alumni, parents, and friends in Portland, Maine, May 10, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Hosted by Marion Dillon Morris P '06, P '09

For more information or to RSVP, contact Rada Starkey at r.starkey@georgestevens.info or 207-374-2800.

Joe Parson Baseball Bleacher Dedication Ceremony

Join us as we dedicate the new bleachers in memory of Joe Parson, friend and supporter of GSA baseball. Baseball Field, May 17 at 4:15. Game starts at 4:30.

Spring Concerts

Thursday, May 24

5:30 Steel Band Class & Planet Pan, Courtyard
7:00 GSA Band, Jazz Band, and "Quinn & the Tupples," Gymnasium

Golden Eagles Gathering

For alumni who have celebrated a 50th reunion
Friday, May 25th

9:30 Music by Honors Jazz Combo, Esther Wood Room
10:00 Refreshments

Alumni Gathering

For all Alumni

Thursday, May 31, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The Farmhouse Inn, Blue Hill
Complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Beer and wine available.

Giving Day

Tuesday, June 5

Stop by campus for coffee and pastries and support GSA! 7:30 to 4:00.

Graduation

The ceremony will be held on
Sunday, June 10, at 1:00 pm on the Front Lawn.

Save the date!

Concert by Noel Paul Stookey, Saturday, August 4,
to benefit the Food For Thought Fund.

Sports

2017 – 2018 Championships and New Records for GSA

Senior Ava Sealander (right) won the first ever swim championship in school history with a first place finish in the 200m individual medley at the state championship meet. She came in second in the 100m butterfly, and set new school records and personal bests in both races.

The boys basketball team (right) won its third consecutive state championship! Several of the seniors had been playing together since the pee-wee leagues, and this is quite the legacy they leave.

The girls indoor track 4x800m relay team of Eliza Broughton '18, Mary Brenna Catus '18, Gabriyah Gadsby '19, and Zeya Lorio '18 broke the New Balance Field House girls high school record at the EMITL championship, and was named to the All-Conference Team.

In the fall season, Eliza Broughton won the Northern Class C girls title, improving her personal best by 11 seconds, and placing third in the region for all classes.



Fall Sports Highlights

Boys Soccer

Eastern Maine Class C Runner-up

Awards

Taylor Schildroth '18 - PVC Class C 1st Team
Alec Witham '18 - PVC Class C Boys 2nd Team
Owen Vinall '20 - PVC Class C Boys 2nd Team
Ben Cole '18 - PVC Class C Boys 2nd Team
Chris Bennett '19 - PVC Class C Boys 3rd Team



Girls Volleyball



From Coach Bonnie Marckoon: "While we certainly did not end the season where we wanted to be, we did make huge strides improving the level of play. We implemented a new approach to the teaching of the game, which took some time for the returning members to learn. The team was very young, with three juniors, three sophomores, and seven freshmen. One sophomore and the seven freshmen had never played the game competitively. We look forward to next fall with a lot of returning members, and an incoming freshmen class with some volleyball experience."

Girls Soccer

The team made it to the Eastern Maine Quarter Final

Awards

Bess MacArthur '19 - PVC Class C 1st Team

Julianna Allen '19 - PVC Class C 2nd Team

Girls Cross Country

Northern Maine Champions

Awards

PVC 1st Team – Eliza Broughton '18,
Mary Brenna Catus '18, Zeya Lorio '18,
Mary Richardson '18

PVC 2nd Team – Grace Broughton '21
Sportsmanship Award Class C



Boys Cross Country

Northern Maine Runners-up

Awards

Caden Mattson '20 - PVC 1st Team

Max Mattson '18 - PVC 2nd Team

Ian Renwick '21 - PVC Honorable Mention



Golf

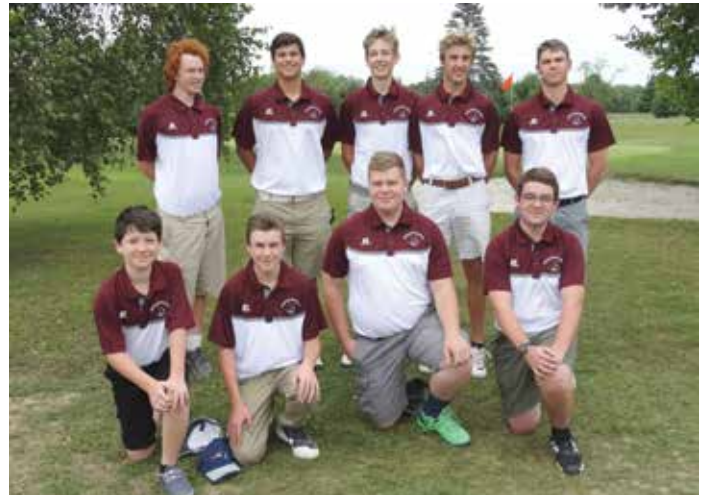
3rd Place in the State Championships Class C

Awards

Tyler McKenney '18 – PVC 1st Team

Percy Zentz '19 – PVC 1st Team

Sportsmanship Award for Class C



Senior All Academic

(6 semesters of 90% GPA or better)

Eliza Broughton

Isla Brownlow

Mary Brenna Catus

Mallory Charette

Zeya Lorio

Mary Richardson

Sophia Steinbarger

Bohan Xu

Yian Zhang

Winter Sports Highlights



Boys Basketball

State Class C Champions for the third consecutive year!

Awards:

Taylor Schildroth '18 - PVC Player of the Year Class C
PVC Senior All Star Team Class C
All Tournament 1st Team
All Tournament MVP
McDonalds Senior All Star Game
Nominated for Gatorade Player of the Year for Maine
Final three for Mr. Maine Basketball
Bangor Daily News All-Maine Boys Basketball Team
Maine Sunday Telegram All-State Team

Max Mattson '18 - PVC 1st Team
PVC Defensive Player of the Year Class C
PVC Senior All Star Team Class C
All Tournament 1st Team
McDonalds Senior All Star Game
Final ten for Mr. Maine Basketball

Stefan Simmons '18 - PVC Honorable Mention
PVC Senior All Star Team Class C

Ethan Snow '18 - Finalist for *Most Spirited Team Manager*

Most Spirited Team Manager is a national award from Varsity Brands. Ethan is one of just three finalists. He will travel to Walt Disney World Resorts in Florida for the School Spirit Awards taking place on May 12. The winner will receive a \$5,000 award for the school. Coach Carter added, "I am very proud of Ethan and really hope he wins. He is a great kid and a huge part of our team and our team's successes!"

Swimming

Ava Sealander '18 Wins First State Swim Championship in GSA History!

Girls finished 8th at PVC Championship

Boys finished 7th at PVC Championship

Awards:

Ava Sealander '18 -

1st Team PVC All Conference

PVC All Star in 500m freestyle and 100m breaststroke

PVC Swimmer of the Year

All State Team



Girls Basketball

Awards:

Mazie Smallidge '18 - PVC Senior All-Star Team Class C

Team Award

Northern Maine Class C Sportsmanship Award



Indoor Track

Girls 800m relay team set a new Eastern Maine Indoor Track League record

Awards

PVC 1st team - Girls 800m relay team: Eliza Broughton '18, Mary Brenna Catus '18, Gabriayah Gadsby '19, Zeya Lorio '18

Mary Richardson '18 -

EMITL Individual Sportsmanship Award



Senior All Academic

(6 semesters of 90% GPA or better)

Eliza Broughton

Mary Brenna Catus

Ellie Gellerson

Zeya Lorio

Mary Richardson

Ava Sealander

Mazie Smallidge

AP Calculus Independent Study & Internship Program Woodworking Alternative
 Course Contracts ArtsFest Steelband AP Biology Culinary Arts Volleyball
 Advisory Senior Debates MLTI Laptops Creative Writing 2D Illustration
 Home Repair & Maintenance Haystack Mentorship Program Jazz Band
 Sailing Experiential Education & Outdoor Leadership One-Act Play Swimming
 Green Team Ocean Studies Latin Economics Poetry Out Loud Physics
 AP Human Geography Industrial Arts Physics Architectural Drafting
 Hancock County Medical Mission Chess Team AP Statistics Tennis Current
 Affairs Computer Programming Boat Building Holiday Angels Cross-
 Country Robotics Maine Writers Basketball AP Literature GSA Day Soccer
 Student Ambassadors Forensics Gender Sexuality Alliance Advanced Fitness
 Advanced Engines **Why give to GSA's Annual Fund?**
 Softball Cultural Club Writing for TV & Film Photography Resource Room
 Street Law AP Drawing Fall Musical Lilla Bowden Speaker Earthworks Dance
 AP Environmental Science Astronomy World War II to Vietnam Outing Club
 Community Art Show Psychology GSA Library Chemistry Assembly Golf
 Jazz Combo Math Team Indoor Track The Holocaust Public Speaking MIT
 Splash! Philosophy Senior Hike Printmaking Book Awards Journalism Student
 Council Personal Finance Marine Science Digital Fabrication Music Theory ISOS

Examples of budget items the Annual Fund helps pay for:

\$10

basket-making supplies for two students in Mrs. Horne's ArtsFest workshop

\$30

one case of copy paper for classroom materials

\$60

one soccer ball

\$100

one calculus textbook

BECAUSE THE STATE-SET TUITION ISN'T ENOUGH...



...FOR WHAT YOU FIND AT GSA.

The difference between the cost of a GSA education and tuition from towns is \$2,177 per student.

As a Town Academy, GSA accepts the state-set tuition as full payment.

Did you know?

Learn more about
The GSA Difference:
www.georgestevensacademy.org/findoutwhy

The Annual Fund helps make up the difference—gifts in any amount add up!

To be an exemplary school, GSA counts on support from alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, trustees, and friends.

\$150

one acetylene tank rental per semester for Industrial Tech class

\$300

one stereo microscope

\$500

transportation for one cross-country team meet in East Machias

\$1000

one MacBook Air laptop for one student for four years

Make your online gift to the Annual Fund at www.georgestevensacademy.org/onlinegift

Alumni Donors: Giving Back to GSA

GSA continues to provide extraordinary academic and extra-curricular programs, thanks in part to the hundreds of alumni who "give back" year after year.

Thank you to the 180 alumni who have made a gift to GSA so far this fiscal year.*

If you haven't contributed yet this year, we hope you will be inspired to join with fellow alumni in making a gift.

Donations benefit all areas of the school and can be made in honor or in memory of a special teacher, coach, family member, or friend.

**as of March 31*

1937

Paul Townsend

1940

Julie Ledien St. Clair

1943

Lucy Herrick Ledien

1947

Florence Pert Conley

1950

Madeline Clement
Elaine Christy Wessel
Norris Wessel, Sr.

1951

Jean Cousins Kelley
Carroll Nevells

1952

David O. Locke

1953

Ferol Bisset Candage
Katherine Keefe Smith

1954

John Maresca
Phyllis Leighton Pemberton

1955

Kenneth Flannery
Patricia Hutchins Flannery

1956

Beverly Wescott Cecchini
Amy Ferguson Gray
Dale Gray

1957

Margaret Leach Austin

1958

Dennis Robertson

1959

G. Eckley Herrick
Elaine Snow Porter
Terrance Gray
Janice Woods Prior-Crofoot
Gail Piper Ogilvie

1960

Karyl Ricker Hayes
Eileen Leach Webber

1961

Sharon Abbott Garcia
Carol Moon Masler

1962

Samuel Woodward

1963

Sandra Grindle Clapp
Peter Clapp
Edie McVay King
Robert Phillips
Dolores Ladd Robertson
Donald Wescott

1964

Philip R. Condon
Gleason Gray
Sharon Leighton Gray
Ruth Clapp Hutchins
Wayne Hutchins

1965

Martha Sylvester Condon
Susan Torrey Gundersen
Dennis Rackliffe
Dale Robertson
Annette Lutz Schoof
Nancy Lymburner Stoller
David Stover

1966

Nancy Butler Hastings
Gloria Howard
Margaret Dow Rackliffe
Joanna Stover Raible
Jon Woodward

1967

Robert L. Gray
Bruce Grindal
Linette Bridges Grindal

1968

Allen Hooper

A L U M N I D O N O R S

1969

Patricia Leach Astbury
Gerald Blodgett
Bernice Bartlett DeBlois
Claire Babson Gray
Kathleen McClure
Noddy Wessel

1970

Michael Astbury
Dorrance Atherton
Mark Gross
Della Leach Martin
Freida Lowell Peasley
Nancy Billings Sherman

1971

Lionel Howard
Dennis Robertson
Patricia McKay Robertson

1972

Eric Allen
Joan Clapp Allen
Joanne Barrett
Richard Bowden
Alta Gross
Edward Turner

1973

Geoffrey Anthony
Patricia Astbury Clapp
Robert Clapp
Ed Wardwell
Joan Alley Wardwell

1974

Marla Atherton
Amy Bartlett Turner

1975

Andrew E. Birdsall
Bryan McVay

1976

Mary Ann Hooper

1977

Jennifer Durnbaugh Denlinger
Maggie Garfield
Elizabeth Austin Rosemeier

Scott Rosemeier
Gus Williamson

1978

Jackie Gray Bowden

1979

Jeffrey Allen
Kathleen Carroll Eaton
Larry Gray
Dana Leighton
Deborah Venno Ludlow
William Rioux
Mark Taplin
Sharri Venno

1980

Merton "Bill" Bunker
David Gray
Michelle Tarr Karcher
Vaughn Leach

1981

Eric Anderson
Marjorie Austin Gray
Mark D. Gray
Sally Rankin McVay
Veronica Ames Taplin
Lori Herrick Wessel

1982

Allison Hill Charles
Leslie Clapp
Marianne Smith Mulherin
Ann Allen Rioux
Anne Schroth

1983

Leanne M. Bateman
Jennifer Hutchins Bryant

1984

Michael Bryant
David Giroux II
Kristina Anderson Stephens

1985

Christy Johndrow Gontarz
Sally Mills
Troy L. Staples

Megan Thomas
Michelle Condon Wassink

1986

John Canady
Stacia Eaton Nevin
Toni Grindle Staples

1987

JoDee Lymburner

1988

Jeffrey Galipeau
Lisa Carey Lemov

1989

Jesse MacNair
Jennifer Sittnick Pulvino

1990

Maria Cousins Woodward
Peter Woodward

1991

Lydia Gray Garrant
Emily Biss Wilson

1992

Molly Wanning Cooper

1993

Zoe Robbins Tenney

1996

Jamie Austin MacNair
Heather Snow

1997

Emily Lewandowski Hildebrand
James Hildebrand
James Inglis

1998

Sarah Rosemeier Cutter
Amy Foss

2000

Peter Collier
Justin Kaley
Michelle Astbury Schildroth

2001

Natasha Allen
Jeffrey Baroody
Jennifer Friend Baroody

2002

Jacob Berkowitz
Sarah Clapp
Noah Tapley

2003

Michael Astbury

2005

Jessica Driscoll Astbury
Jenny Berkowitz
Daniel Gommel

2009

Grace L. Bell
Rosalind Brokaw
Lilian Day Thorpe

2010

John Ludlow
Max Reiter

2011

Jessica MacCannell

2013

Madeline Heilner
Will Ludlow

2014

Johniqua Clark
Alexander Heilner
Oliver Scott

2015

Catherine Nevin
Madison Politte
Anna Ludlow

2016

Richard Acampora
Abigail Frost
Grace Hylan

2017

Benjamin Politte

Cait Robinson '05

Bringing Communities the Stories They Need



Photo credit: Alyssa Michaud

At GSA, Caitlin Hylan '05—now Cait Robinson—never sought the limelight of the stage. However, during senior year, she found herself acting in plays.

Under the direction of Amy Grant, auditions for *Alice in Wonderland* were set up as workshops. Trying out felt more like playing games, and something “clicked” for Cait: theater—and maybe adolescence, too—wasn’t about dressing up and being the prettiest or most popular; it was about being silly and having fun. “Amy made me understand the force of joy is what drives all sorts of performance, even ones that aren’t comic,” Cait recalls.

At Bowdoin College, Cait stumbled into theater once again. Challenging herself the first semester to do something different each night, she ended up auditioning for a play one evening. She was cast, did more plays, and took an acting class. Despite encouragement from professors and peers—including a “cute boy” named Bari, who is now her husband and a professional actor—Cait realized she didn’t really like acting.

“I always liked watching other people and observing patterns,” she says. Majoring in English and Theater, Cait decided to switch from acting to directing. She credits Bowdoin with encouraging her to try new things. “My professors asked, ‘What do you want to do this year?’ and the school provided resources for me to experiment and be creative,” she explains.

In her senior year, Cait met with legendary playwright Edward Albee when he visited Bowdoin. She was directing one of his plays, and he encouraged her to take her own approach to his work. Another Pulitzer-Prize winning playwright, Suzan-Lori Parks, came to campus, and Cait became fascinated with her work, choosing *Topdog/Underdog* to direct in her final semester. Cait embraced the raw emotion of the play, in which familial relationships and American history are intertwined.

Now a freelance director and 2017-18 Senior Directing Fellow at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Cait loves collaborating with playwrights and bringing their stories to life. She champions the work of regional theaters, which strive to offer communities “the kinds of stories they need to hear.” As a director, she looks for plays that are challenging and provocative, yet accessible.

Among the nation’s first regional theaters, the Playhouse has two performance venues, including a 225-seat space for intimate shows like *Be Here Now*, a play commissioned by the Playhouse that ran in March. Cait served as assistant director and was thrilled to have the playwright,

Deborah Zoe Laufer, on site for the rehearsal period. “Laufer is an exciting playwright for right now,” says Cait. “She takes quirky characters and makes them feel universal.” The play takes place in a packing and shipping center and touches on themes of finding joy and taking responsibility for becoming who you want to be.

Musicals and other big productions, like *Treasure Island* this spring, are performed in the Playhouse’s 650-seat theater and can involve highly technical elements such as fight choreography, music, ensemble staging, and automation, each managed by a specialized team. “The role of assistant director involves looking at the production with a macro view and seeing what’s needed to fulfill the director’s vision,” Cait says. Her role changes with each show, depending on which aspects need support.

Other than audience talkbacks, almost all of Cait’s work takes place in the rehearsal room. She doesn’t mind the long days during technical rehearsals, but admits that working from project to project can be challenging. “You have to get comfortable not knowing where you’ll be in

six months and trusting your intuition,” she says.

She draws inspiration and support from her husband and his acting career, even when they are working on shows in different cities. “At the end of the day, there is nothing better than the person you are with understanding what you’re doing,” attests Cait. “His success is my success, and vice versa.”

For those interested in a theater career, Cait points out, “There are a million ways to work in theater, and a million kinds of jobs. Every person’s path is individual.” She advises young devotees to focus more on people skills, relationship building, and self-advocacy than on

getting the lead in the school play. “Just stick to it, and be stubborn,” she says. “You have to choose yourself first; no one is going to choose you. Always be ready to advocate for yourself.”

Next on deck for Cait is the ideal project for a freelance director. Dramatic Repertory Company offered her the chance to select a play to direct, and Cait was ready with a Boston playwright’s

work she had directed in workshop format and knew she wanted to bring to DRC’s Maine audience.

The play is *False Flag* by Walt McGough, which runs from June 1-10 at Portland Stage’s Studio Theater. It involves issues such as survivalism, gun ownership, and surveillance, while addressing the human need to attach meaning to senseless occurrences. Cait’s last time working in Portland was for DRC in 2015, when she directed *Gideon’s Knot*, one of her favorites among the shows she has done to-date. Cait also worked as a Directing and Dramaturgy Intern for Portland Stage Company in 2010-2011 and as an Education Intern for the summer of 2011. She is looking forward to “coming home” again to Maine.

Tickets for False Flag are available at www.dramaticrep.org.



The cast of Pinocchio, by Toby Hulse, which Cait (at right) directed for Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. Photo credit: Mikki Schaffner.



Nolan Ellsworth '13

Helping Young People Find Their Voices

As an Education Intern at Portland Stage Company this year, Nolan Ellsworth '13 is enthusiastic about all the ways he gets to bring theater and literacy to kids aged 4-18, including in-school workshops, student matinees, youth ensembles, performances of children's storybooks, and adaptations of Shakespeare.

In a program called Directors Lab, actors perform a version of *Julius Caesar* for high-school and middle-school students. "A lot of these young people have never seen a Shakespeare play before," Nolan says. "Afterwards, we get to be co-teachers in their classrooms, talking with them about the play and what it meant to them."

The internship program is demanding—Nolan often works 6 days per week—but rewarding in its mission. "Portland Stage's education model is in the spirit of the community theater I love," says Nolan.



(Above) Nolan as Oberon, with Aiden Ford '13 as Titania, in *Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Spring 2012 One-Act Play. (Right) A special theater memory for Nolan is that his brother, Walker Ellsworth '17 also played that same role (and wore the same overcoat!) with Maira Vandiver '18 as Titania four years later.

Nolan attended Middlebury College as a Theater and English major interested in acting and playwriting. For three summers, he worked with New Surry Theatre's "Youth Theater Speak" program, which he co-directed last year. Helping teens find confidence in their voices and speak up about issues in front of an audience was energizing and shifted his perspective. "It captured the idea that theater is about community and very different people working together," he says, as opposed to professional acting, which can be competitive and alienating.

Nolan recalls the important role theater played for him throughout his teenage years. "Living in that world with your friends, trying to figure out who you are and find a way forward—that was what made me fall in love with theater," he reminisces.

A magical moment with his cohort was convincing GSA drama director Moira McMahon to take on *Into the Woods* their senior year. "Moira trusted us with this really challenging Sondheim show," he shares. "I got to be with friends at The Grand and pull out all the stops."

Nolan still enjoys acting and is excited to have a part in an upcoming performance of *Eurydice* with The Fenix Theatre Company. He is also trying some new things. As part of the stage crew for one of Portland Stage's main shows, Nolan was trained on the light board, something he had never done before.

"Portland feels like the ideal place for me right now," says Nolan. He is close enough to stay involved with New Surry Theatre yet immersed in an artistic community that offers him new challenges. Once the internship ends, Nolan has his next job lined up: teaching summer camps for Portland Stage. "Empowering young people through theater has become my passion right now," he affirms.

(Top) Erin McCormick '00 as Rosemary confronts the curmudgeonly widower Tony, played by Michael McFarland, and (Bottom) alongside GSA alumnus Patrick Harris '98 as Anthony. Both photos courtesy Whittling Fog Photography

Erin McCormick '00

Erin Elizabeth McCormick '00 has taught Drama and British Literature at GSA for 13 years. In her spare time, she pursues her love for and education in the Performing Arts through opportunities such as The Arts and Passion-Driven Learning Workshop at Harvard taught by members of Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble and the Globe Theatre, workshops at Shakespeare and Company of Massachusetts, and locally, training with the New Surry Theatre (NST) Company.

Erin made her NST debut this past year, directing small productions of *The Lion in Winter*, *The Browning Version* (which included GSA alumni and students Griffin Shute '16, Spencer Bowden '16, Adam Mathewson '21 and Magnolia Vandiver '21), directing upcoming theatre readings of *Winslow Boy*, and acting in *Outside Mullingar* alongside fellow GSA alum Patrick Harris '98.



Class Notes

1950s

Jan (Woods) Prior-Crofoot '59 reports that the Alumni Association has arranged to hold its annual banquet at Blue Hill Consolidated School on June 8. She also sends out congratulations to *Horace '57 and Sylvia (Conner) Wardwell '59* on their retirement after 57 years running Wardwell Oil.



1960s

Larry Merrill '62 has been out in Maine waters paddling a kayak every month for 301 consecutive months—that adds up to 25 years! The *Bangor Daily News* published an article on March 14 recognizing Larry's achievement.

From *Jim Farr '64* (top photo): "I spent 2 weeks in French Polynesia again—the last two weeks of January—on another Paul Gauguin cruise, visiting the Society Islands (Huahine, Taha'a, Bora Bora and Moorea) and the Tuamotus Archipelago (Rangiroa and Fakaraava), which are also UNESCO-protected sites for SCUBA and snorkeling with incredible coral reefs. It was a fantastic time, of course, especially since it was -22° here a week before I left!"



1970s

Marla Atherton '74 is completing her 39th year working at Blue Hill Memorial Hospital.

Stormi Wentworth '77 has returned as GSA's softball coach for the 2018 season.

1990s

Chrissy (Beardsley) and Lucas Allen, both Class of '98, (middle photo) live in Blue Hill with their two children, Adie and Corwin. Chrissy is Development & Outreach Director at Blue Hill Heritage Trust and serves as Vice-President on the Blue Hill Peninsula Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Luke received his MA from Michigan State University in Political Science and is currently self-employed, volunteers for several local nonprofits, and is an aspiring writer. Both enjoy their work and service for nonprofits that support the community, and both find it hard to believe it is their 20th reunion year!

From *Nikki Robichaud '98* (bottom photo): I went to engineering school after high school but felt like I was missing my calling to help others, so I walked away from an engineering scholarship to pursue a nursing career. I graduated nursing school in 2004, and have never looked back. No regrets! I'm a strong advocate for patient safety and outcomes, using my skills as a Clinical Quality Coordinator for EMMC after being ICU/ED director at MCMH for the past several years. I'm currently pursuing a dual major in Master's of Nursing Degree and Healthcare Administration/Leadership. My 10-year-old daughter, Taylor, is vivacious and passionate for the arts, enjoying music and dance. She is a blessing and keeps me focused on striving to be the best version of myself possible."



2000s

Ricky Leighton '06 (top photo) recently moved to Portland, ME with his wife Sarah, where they both work in the arts. Ricky's work includes video production for law firms and small businesses, screenwriting, and documentary work for the Princeton Theological Seminary.

Fiona Schubeck '08 (second photo) moved back to the Blue Hill area from Seattle in Fall 2016 and is happy to be working at GSA this year as the steelband director. She and her wife, Sarah, were married in January and welcomed their daughter, Sylvie Lucia Neve Schubeck, into the world on March 9. Sylvie was born swiftly and safely in the water at home at 2:05am during one of the many March snowstorms Blue Hill has seen this year.

2010s

Emmett Scott '11 (third photo) shares: "Since GSA and Ithaca College, I have had the opportunity to perform and study a wide variety of music. One of the most rewarding experiences has been joining the Ithaca-based band Big Mean Sound Machine (www.bigmeansoundmachine.com), a group that specializes in instrumental funk and afrobeat. The band draws heavily from influences like Fela Kuti, Miles Davis and James Brown, and we strive to make people dance and experience new types of sound. We recently performed at the Miami Grassroots Festival but play up and down the east coast and Midwest. Playing with such gifted and knowledgeable musicians has been a learning experience every day." Emmett stopped by GSA along with **Grace Bugbee '12**, who also works in the music industry, to talk with Mr. O's Band class about their music careers.

From **Mary Prescott '13** (fourth photo): "I became engaged on February 17 in Mystic, CT to my boyfriend of three-

and-a-half years, Paul Danielson. We plan to get married in 2019 or 2020. We're both working as engineers in the greater Worcester, MA area. I work on design and treatment of public and private drinking water systems as a Consulting Environmental Engineer for Tighe & Bond in Worcester, and I'm also pursuing my Masters Degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute."

Bolin "Alex" Wang '16 reports on a business venture he and **Jingzhe "Peter" Zhang '14** (below) launched—making and selling Maine blueberry jam! "The idea of blueberry jam came from going to school in another state, where Peter and I found that it is hard to buy Maine blueberries and blueberry jams. We always wanted to start a business in college and, last summer, decided to give it a try. We spent a month-and-a-half in Maine learning about the markets. We also learned to make the jam from scratch and visited stores to sell our products. From there, we brought our products to Massachusetts and are selling them at a store. We enjoyed the process and learned a lot about how to turn an idea into reality."





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Senior **Nellie Haldane** describes her Independent Study and Internship project to GSA Trustee **Tyler Knowles**. Nellie's ISIP mentor was Deer Isle artist **Holley Mead**.

"For my Independent Study I wanted to make a powerful statement. Over the course of two weeks I collected trash that had washed up on the local beaches and attached it to a whale that I had made out of papier-mâché, cardboard, and chicken wire. The purpose of my project was to show the pollution that occurs in the oceans, even in our own little part of the world here, and how much of a true issue it is. I aimed to open the eyes of the people who live here so they are aware of what is happening and to encourage them to make a difference."

One hundred and twenty juniors and seniors presented their work at ISIP Exhibition Night on March 21 in the GSA gymnasium, well-attended by families and friends and interested community members.