

A Year to Remember

The 2008-2009 school year was extraordinary, by any measure. Located as we are within the greater Washington area, we had seats close to the stage on which historic changes were enacted. We were made aware of our own history when three grandchildren of founding board members graduated in May. We also have begun to look ahead to the 40th anniversary of our school's opening, which we will celebrate this coming year.

This past year, the excitement surrounding the election of our first African-American president infused our school, as graduates returned to join the crowds on the Mall, and our students and teachers ventured forth on their own and with family. At the same time, the economy suffered major upheavals that were felt collectively and often individually in our community.

Like everyone else, the Washington Waldorf School has been buffeted by these external winds. We are clearly operating in a much more challenging financial environment, and we are seeing real impacts on enrollment and charitable giving to the School. Many in our community are having a tough time. While some may say that the worst is past for the U.S. economy, we can expect to feel the aftershocks for a long time.

Still, we have persevered, inspired by the promise of Waldorf education and the potential of our students. Looking back over the arc of an entire year, it's easy to get excited about the greater vision of what Waldorf education is and what we are trying to do as a school. For most of us, however, life is in the details, and so it is at WWS.

The rhythms of the year—so important in Waldorf education—provided a steady path through the seasons. The 8th grade and senior class plays were exceptionally fine. Our lower school committed to a three-year outdoor education program involving a week-long trip in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades, with activities that dovetail with each year's curriculum. The high school developed and implemented a service learning program. Douglas Gerwin, director of the teacher training program at Antioch College, continues to visit our high school, recognizing that we are gaining new and excellent high school teachers who need greater understanding of Waldorf education. In a similar vein, Cynthia Bennett, one of our high school's founders, worked

extensively with our math and science departments. We reached out to other Waldorf schools for help in mentoring and evaluating our teachers, while we in turn sent teachers to other schools. We took steps this year to work more consciously on

but also that we can't predict what the future will bring. What we do know is that students today will need a wide range of capacities to thrive tomorrow: a discriminating intellect, flexibility, imagination, emotional intelligence, a strong moral compass, inner motivation, and more. These are precisely the qualities that Waldorf education cultivates.

In his address to the graduating Class of 2009, Lowell Monke observed that in the coming years, young people today will have to address as never before basic questions about what it means to be human, what it means to be "real," what it means to think, what it means to be born, even what it means to be alive. He underscored how our graduates had gained through their education at WWS the wellsprings from which they can draw to meet the challenges of the future.

These times call on us to be truly awake and connected to the wider streams now coursing through humanity. That is what we are about as a school. Yes, we want our students to succeed in the world and be happy.

At the same time, we also think being human is about something more. As Professor Monke put it to the graduating seniors, "...you all have been learning how to make a life, not just a living. And it is beginning to dawn on the rest of this nation what your parents and teachers have known all along: your soaring imaginations, your remarkable creativity, your playfulness exuberance, your resilience — qualities that your parents and teachers have nurtured for so long and that you seem to carry so lightly — these are the key ingredients in creating a good life, and by extension, a better world."

The next year promises to be equally full. Our 40th anniversary will be an important milestone. Doubtlessly we will all face unexpected challenges and opportunities. Whatever the future brings, you can be sure that all of us at WWS remain committed to the promise of Waldorf education and confident in the limitless capacities of our students and our community. Thank you again for your support of the Washington Waldorf School.

Natalie Adams, Faculty Chair

And 40 Years to Celebrate

WWS will be celebrating its 40th anniversary with a variety of special events throughout the 2009-2010 school year. We started this summer with the largest ever display of WWS student artwork, handwork, and lesson books outside the School, at the Bethesda Public Library. Going forward, we are planning a variety of other activities culminating in our spring gala, which will be held at the Embassy of Austria in April. Stay tuned to our web site (www.washingtonwaldorf.org) and the Washington Waldorf School group on Facebook for updates. (If you're on Facebook, our Washington Waldorf Group is a great way to stay in touch with the School and connect with the broader WWS community.) Please call the Development Office (301-229-6107 x123) if you'd like to help with these events or would like more information.

cultivating a social climate of kindness and respect. We welcomed Kim John Payne to our school for the second time, and the faculty has committed to work with him over the next three years. We deepened our work in understanding and responding to student learning challenges. The Parent Sustainability Circle made great strides in developing a lunch program using organic and biodynamic foods. The Trustees Council approved our new strategic plan (see story on page 2). We overhauled our enrollment outreach materials. We had a successful spring gala that raised much needed funds for kitchen renovation and emergency financial aid.

I think I can speak for our entire WWS faculty in saying that we have not missed our stride, and that we look forward confidently. We see in the faces of each one of our students great promise and hope for the future. Each one of them brings new and different abilities into the world. We find in the principles of Waldorf education a profound well of understanding, inspiration, and guidance.

The events of the last year remind us not only that change is an inescapable condition of human life,

WWS Completes Strategic Plan

Daniel Wacker, Chairman, Trustees Council

The WWS Trustees Council approved a final strategic plan for the School last February. The plan represents the culmination of two years of careful reflection and discussion within the entire WWS community. It answers two basic questions. What do we believe is most important as an organization? What do we want to accomplish in the next five years? Many people had a hand in developing the plan—faculty, parents, Trustees, alumni, and others—and as such, it represents the most comprehensive statement of just the kind of school community we aspire to be.

Many organizations produce such a plan, but many also find that it is all too easy for the plan to remain on the shelf once it is completed. Completing the plan is only the beginning. Realizing our goals and objectives will require sustained effort by the entire School community. The College of Teachers and the Trustees Council are both working to establish priorities and develop specific plans to meet our objectives. At the same time, we recognize that the plan may need to evolve over time to reflect new realities, opportunities, and challenges. This is a living document, but one that represents a very careful assessment of just who we are and what we want to become. We look forward to working with the entire community in carrying out the ambitious vision reflected in this plan. The plan has been available on our web site for some time, and excerpts have been featured in the Wednesday Bulletin, but we present it here for the first time to ensure wide distribution to our community.



Mission

The Washington Waldorf School cultivates each student's capacity to think clearly, feel compassionately, and act purposefully in the world. We are committed to the educational movement inspired by the pioneering work of Rudolf Steiner and advanced by Waldorf teachers worldwide.

Our Values

Healthy Development of Children and Adolescents

We respect the unique developmental stages of the human being and are committed to a vibrant pedagogy that actively cultivates our students' innate abilities to learn and grow.

A Balanced, Dynamic Curriculum

We offer a vigorous and integrated program that presents the panorama of human history, literature, foreign language, science, technology, mathematics, movement, art and music in an accessible, imaginative, and inspiring way.

Meaningful Teacher - Student Relationships

We consciously foster strong and supportive relationships between our teachers and our students, throughout the students' years at the school.

Exceptional Teaching

We engage dynamic and skilled teachers who are committed to the art of Waldorf teaching and support pedagogical excellence through ongoing study, research, and professional development.

A Diverse and Inclusive Community

We celebrate our common humanity and strive to work harmoniously with one another in an inclusive, supportive, and diverse community. To that end, we cultivate generosity of spirit, kindness, and civility among students, parents, teachers, and staff.

Respect for Nature

We provide an education that fosters wonder and reverence for nature that leads to a deep respect for, and stewardship of, the earth and our environment.

Moral Discernment

We cultivate a capacity for moral discernment that inspires personal initiative, social responsibility, and an active involvement in the world.

An Active Spiritual Life

We offer an education and seasonal festival life that nurtures the spirit of our students so they may grow to be free and purposeful adults.

Leading Commitments

Our Students...

The Washington Waldorf School will expand enrollment and attract and retain a diverse group of students with a variety of interests, talents, and perspectives, who demonstrate an ability to thrive and be energized in the Waldorf educational environment.

Objectives:

- To commit to admissions processes that help to ensure a student body capable of engaging fully in the Waldorf curriculum
- To increase diversity in our student body and celebrate the rich ethnic, cultural, racial, and socio-economic diversity as reflected in Washington DC area
- To increase the total student body by 10% by increasing retention and new enrollment and by positively affecting the inquiry to enrollment rate

Our Program...

The Washington Waldorf School will continue to deepen, expand, and enhance our programs to form a more vibrant and dynamic education that fully meets the developmental needs of our students.

Objectives:

- To review the high school curriculum and establish program priorities that ensure a creative, vigorous, balanced, and progressive learning environment.
- To launch an innovative outdoor education program aimed at developing life and leadership skills and engaging respectfully with the natural world.
- To better support our students in their learning and development by strengthening our supplemental

resource program and assessment tools

- To establish a review schedule of all curriculum practices, methods, and standards to ensure appropriate skill development
- To continue to strengthen our college counseling program in order to assist students in their ability to make discriminating choices in finding and applying to colleges and, ultimately, to gain admission to the institution that best suits their ambitions, interests, and abilities
- To increase foreign language proficiency and cultural exposure by committing to an active high school foreign exchange program and by identifying more clearly the overarching goals of the foreign language program (grades 1-12)
- To support and improve the well-being of our students by developing a health and safety program for the middle school grades
- To broaden and enliven our educational program by identifying areas in the curriculum in which diversity can be better represented in a living and genuine manner

Our Faculty...

The Washington Waldorf School will engage, support, and retain a diverse group of highly qualified, dedicated, and dynamic faculty members.

Objectives:

- To continue to support and retain faculty members by committing to a plan for improvement of salaries and overall compensation
- To increase the number of Waldorf teachers in our community by supporting the work of the NOVA Institute as an AWSNA affiliated teacher-training center
- To create an active learning environment for teachers through ongoing study, research, and professional development
- To ensure excellence in teaching by clearly defining expectations and by further developing our mentoring and evaluation program
- To increase diversity in the faculty through active recruitment, curriculum development, and outreach
- To renew our work environment through collaboration, personal connection, and positive communication

Our Community...

The Washington Waldorf School will foster meaningful relationships within our school community and participate as active and engaged members of the wider community and the wider world.

Objectives:

- To revitalize the social fabric of the school with student programs that effect social inclusion and mutual respect
- To instill values of service and social responsibility by formalizing and expanding community service and student outreach programs
- To renew our festival life in a way that welcomes and respects families of all spiritual backgrounds
- To establish personal contact and positive interaction with our neighbors through the creation of a neighborhood relations plan
- To increase parent and alumni involvement and participation by fostering connectivity with one another and with the Washington Waldorf School

Our Home...

The Washington Waldorf School will establish a stable long-term home that supports program growth and provides a healthy, beautiful, and aesthetic learning environment.

Objectives:

- To establish a long-term home by securing an extended lease or purchase of our current facility or an alternate location that is suitable to our community needs and desires
- To generate architectural designs aimed at enhancing our learning environment and accommodating program and enrollment growth
- To create healthier, more sustainable surroundings and development programs that have a meaningful effect on our environment and our well-being

Our Message...

The Washington Waldorf School will create a professional, well-coordinated and effective marketing, public relations, and outreach strategy with a strong, clear, and consistent message.



Objectives:

- To complete a comprehensive communications and outreach plan that reaches and engages key constituents
- To complete and utilize the new Washington Waldorf School logo, core messaging, and product identity package
- To create clear, professional, and effective marketing materials and advertisements with an aim toward increasing inquiry rates and visibility
- To enhance and upgrade the website to fully reflect the School's core messages and identity
- To support opportunities that help to make Waldorf education more broadly understood by our parent community and the greater community

Our Resources...

The Washington Waldorf School will strengthen our resources and assure long-term fiscal health in order to fulfill our mission, achieve our commitments, and secure our future growth and sustainability.

Objectives:

- To continue positive annual gift growth, working toward 100% support by the Trustees Council, faculty, and parents
- To effectively launch a capital campaign in support of facility expansion and enhancement or the purchase of a long-term home
- To successfully enhance donor cultivation and stewardship, as well as foundation support to the school
- To reassess and reduce individual class fundraising in order to create a more holistic, focused, and lucrative fundraising approach

Gifts from the Heart

In what was a very challenging year for the national economy, the WWS community generously donated approximately \$284,000 to the School through the annual giving campaign, spring gala, and various restricted gifts. Although this represents an 11.5 percent decline in total giving from last year's near record total, the number of donors actually increased. This is quite a remarkable result and testifies to the high level of commitment so many of us share to the Washington Waldorf School. On behalf of the Development Committee of the Trustees Council, we want to extend our deep gratitude to all who stretched so far to help support the School.

Charitable gifts are part of the lifeblood of the School. As you have no doubt heard us say before, tuition does not cover the full cost of a Waldorf education; your donations through the annual giving campaign make up most of the difference. In effect, annual giving is the voluntary contribution we ask each family to make in order to sustain the School. Short of dramatically raising tuition or cutting back on teacher salaries and our programs, there is no ready substitute for annual giving. This year about 65 percent of current parents supported the campaign, with gifts ranging from \$10 to \$25,000. (All the Trustees and 95% of the faculty contributed to annual giving.) WWS is very grateful for each and every one of these gifts.

We want to extend special thanks to the following people who made an enormous difference as



class agents in support of the annual giving campaign: Barbara Cuthill and David Nebiker; Caitlin Mackenzie; Susan and Eric Holdsworth; Felice Stadler; Gene Shipman; Annette Leland; Gretchen Kapuscik; David Scher; Linda Reinisch;



Jeanne Feeney; Judy Penski; Debra Marshall; Lark Bergwin-Anderson; and Laurel Blaydes. Thank you, too, to Development Committee members Ji Won Park and Nancy Hirshbein for their work in helping to coordinate the class agents.

The community has been generous in other ways as well. Our spring gala and auction, This Magic Moment, raised more than \$40,000

for emergency financial aid and renovation of our kitchen. This total exceeded our goal for the event by a wide margin. The Alanna Marie Lake Endowment Fund continues to grow through generous donations from many in our community. Other restricted donations supported various special projects and events at the School, including athletics, the 5th grade Olympiad, music and art programs, and more.

We also want to recognize the many people in the extended WWS community who gave of their time and energy for the benefit of the School at our special events. The fall bazaar, spring gala, grandparents and special friends day, and others events would not happen without dedicated parent volunteers. The Parent Organization Steering Committee, in particular, was at the center of everything, and we all owe POSC members Mary Taylor, Mechelle Kulesza, Ginny Weber, Caitlin Mackenzie, Susan Barr, and Ashley Duffy a special thank you. We know too that parent volunteers make the crucial difference in fundraising for class-specific events like the farm trip, olympiad, and 8th grade and 12th grade trips.

As we contemplate the difficulties of raising funds for the School next year, which may continue to present economic challenges, all of us can draw encouragement and hope from the enormous good will and dedication this community demonstrates every day. Thank you again for all your gifts to the Washington Waldorf School and the students.

*Mary Robinson, Co-Chair, Development Committee
Chrissie Sant, Co-Chair Development Committee*

Long-Term Lease Process Moves Ahead

Although we still have a long way to go, WWS made progress during the last year in the process to secure a long-term lease on our current building on Sangamore Road.

Early in the 08-09 school year, we conducted a preliminary feasibility study to assess how much we might anticipate raising from our community for capital improvements to our current building. Not surprisingly, we found that we could probably raise more for purchasing a building than obtaining a long-term lease. The view of the Trustees Council, however, is that there is very little chance of purchasing our current property. In addition, last fall, our site committee conducted a thorough evaluation (including site visits) of properties for sale in the area that might be potentially suitable for a school. None warranted further consideration. This confirmed our overall strategy of seeking a long-term lease.

In tandem with these evaluations, our architect developed several different conceptual designs for the current building, including some that were quite ambitious. Based on our assessment of potential capital giving in the community, we asked the architects to develop a more modest conceptual design that still includes a gymnasium, new roof, new mechanical and electrical systems, and needed interior renovations. Their results give us a high degree of confidence that we could achieve much of what we want in a long-term home for the School.

The process by which the County will determine whether to grant us a long-term lease is lengthy and complex, and will account for a variety of factors, including a study of alternate public uses, the amount of capital that we are willing to commit to renovations, competing proposals for the property, our record as tenants, and neighborhood support for the School. Fortunately,

we have a favorable record with the County as stewards of the facility. While we have always tried to be good neighbors, we have stepped up these efforts. We hired a part-time outreach coordinator and have broadened our interactions with the neighborhood associations.

In recent months we have held several meetings with County officials, including elected representatives. Our early meetings have been encouraging and suggest we are on the right track. We expect that the County will within this school year give us formal notice to begin the two to three year process for determining reuse of the facility. We believe that we have a reasonably good chance of emerging from this process with a new long-term lease that will permit us to make significant capital improvements.

Donors

The Washington Waldorf School deeply appreciates all gifts from our extended community.

We have carefully checked all donor lists and have made every effort to ensure they are accurate. Please let us know of any corrections by contacting the Development Office at 301-229-6107 x123, or by email to ssmith@washingtonwaldorf.org.

Annual Giving Campaign

Membership in Giving Circles reflects all unrestricted gifts to the operating budget through the annual giving campaign. Individuals are credited with matching gifts by employers or other sources.

Visionary Circle

\$25,000 or more

Anonymous (2)

Phoenix Circle

\$10,000 – 24,999

Anonymous (1)

John and Natalie Adams
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Sant

Knights Circle

\$5,000 – 9,999

A. James and Alice Clark
Eric and Donna Dezenhall
Jeanne Feeney
Robert Roche and Nancy Hirshbein
Robin Rose and Judy Penski
Lex and Chrissie Sant

Partners Circle

\$2,500 – 4,999

Anonymous (1)
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Gurujeeet Singh and
Gurujeeet Kaur Khalsa
Gregory Mueller and Patty Deuster
Carlos Neves and Gloria Neves
Stanford J. Reinisch and
Carol Dechant
Matthew Weir

Leadership Circle

\$1,000 – 2,499

Anonymous (2)
Nevin Bender
Roger Berliner and Susan Dillon
Brad and Corinna Clark
Jim Epstein

Lionel and Elizabeth Epstein
Sean and Eva Foley
Paul Girdzis and
Adrienne Paiewonsky
Russell and Elaine Gravatt
Gary and Mimi Hetzel
Michael and Carol Joseph
David Kirby and Sarah Vakkur
Wally and Mechelle Kulesza
David and Lori Kulik
David and Marcia Leonard
Scott and Suzanne Nash
Eliza Reed and James Sutcliffe
Linda Caro Reinisch

Stacey Kornegay
Andy and Julie Lees
Michael Moncavage and
Mary Taylor
Jeff Naimon and Carla Wheeler
Greg Simon and Margo Reid
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Elizabeth Welles
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Shannon Zimmerman and
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Jim and Chrissy Bryla
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Nancy Raymond
Jane Byerley
Dana Cann and Alice Coleman
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Steve Carmody
Helen Caro
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Nina Chowdhry
Class of 2020

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David Conrad and
Paula Dinerstein
Ksenia Danylevich
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Tina Daub Dentel
Frank Disimino and Niki George
Amalya Dixon
Mark Draycott and
Alexandra Nicolescu
Richard and Kay Efron
Cindy EganFrei and
Ann Laurie EganFrei
Alvin and Lisa Ehrlich
Basil and Mona Eldadah
Tove and Susan Elfstrom



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David and Dorine Scher
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Elisa Rapaport
Timur Tunador and
Christiana Jaeger
Bruce and Virginia Weber
Salman and Inji Zaheer

Friends Circle

\$500 - 999

Anonymous (4)
Dean Adelizzi and Sherri Felton
Carlos Arrien and Raquel Gomez
Robert Barnwell and Lezlie Lawson
Michael and Susan Barr
Barbara Buchman and John Verleun
Anthony and Alison Carroll
Carlos and Ana Cavalcanti
Steven Champlin
David Clissold
Michele and Fred Coleman
Terry and John Dammann
Bill and Nancy Foster
Malvery and Murchison Henry

Community Circle

Up to \$500

Anonymous (11)
Alexandra and
Fahmey Abdelatey
Sven Abow
Hasan and Zeena Altalib
Beverly and Robert Amico
Michael Anderson and
Lark Bergwin-Anderson
Jeff and Kirsten Archibald
Steven and Lynn Babcock
Kevin Balfe and Mog Newman
Magali Barbaran
Maryke Barclay
Catherine and Henry Bell
Noel Bicknell and Caitiin MacKenzie
Helmut and Heidi Billenstein
Andrew Bishop and Tova Steiner
Philip and Nancye Bonomo
John and Mary Brauer
Philipp and Doerthe Braun
Mario Bravo-Rivera and
Brandel France de Bravo

Robert Engelman and
Colleen Cordes
Mercedes Estevez
Alphie and Cristin Fair
Ann Finucane
Ashley Flory
Tim and Lynn Foley
Dawn Fox and Emily Siegel
Kazue Fujimoto
Anouk Gazale
Zachary and Jamesen Goodman
Tom and Lisa Gray
Richard Greenberg and Ji Won Park
Robert Gricius
Lisa Griffin Howard
Carlo and Jody Grossman

Cindy Guayante
 Roy Hakes and Debra Marshall
 Frank and Anna Hall
 Hope Halleck
 Richard and Barbara Halpern
 Paul Hegland and Kristen Puckett
 Rudolf Heirman and Janet Johnson
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 Patrick Hogan
 Charles and Charise Hoge
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 Portia Imle
 Flora Ingenhousz and David Levine
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 Jeff and Donna Jacobson
 Christopher Jester and
 Laura Granata
 Isiah Johnson and Trish Mooney
 Andrew Joseph and
 Gabriele Schilz
 Michael Judge
 Pedro Junqueira and Iris Lemos
 Peter and Cecelia Karpoff
 Stephen and Yoshiko Kendall
 Patrick and Kate Kennedy
 David Khodadad and
 Manaz Tousi
 Phyllis Kornegay
 Murray and Wendy Kramer
 Kurt Kuhlmann and Lori Nicholson
 Brian and Camilla Lake
 Velma LaPoint
 Erika Latchis
 Valerie LeBlanc
 Jonathan and Annette Leland
 Eileen Levitan
 Matt Logan and Felice Stadler
 Meghan and Craig Ludtke
 Benjamin and Alexandra Luzzatto
 Alphonse MacDonald and
 Alexis delaRosa
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 Anup Mahurkar and Lisa Ruthel
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 Debbie Forst-Menditch
 Alden and Connie Meyer
 Aimen Mir and Ayesha Kazmi
 Anthony Modica and
 Pamela Trochesset
 Melissa Moncavage
 Tom Nastick and Jane Christenson
 Jack Newell and Mary Ann Latore
 Duc Nguyen and Thu Do
 Thu and Huong Nguyen
 John Noer and
 Iris Alvarez-Paz Noer
 Mirjam Nuenning
 Trina Parker



Jane Parker
 Karen Payne
 Jack and Carol Petrash
 Nancy Petrovic
 Marilee Pinkleton
 Alan and Teresa Price
 Nat Reid and Rachel Rudy
 Tamer Rifai
 Dragos and Carol Roman
 Taeko Rothstein
 Lucy Rozansky
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 Taisto Saloma
 Hishke Sambuughin
 Rick Santangelo and Monica Cody
 Neeran Saraf
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 Rob Schware and Alice Trembour
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 Marilyn Shanks
 Michael and Colette Silver
 Jeremy Small
 Marilyn and Robert Smith
 Sarah Smith
 Stuart and Robin Sorkin
 Paul Squire and Marta Schley
 Katea Stitt
 James Symons and
 Sheila Harrington
 Geza Teleki and Heather McGriffin
 Ulrike and Rodney Thorn
 Paul and Erica Tingler
 Jane Towler

John and Robin Tucker
 Al Twanmo
 Diane Tyburski
 Eduardo Valseca and
 Jayne Rager Valseca
 George and
 Mara Viksnins
 Susan E. Walsh
 Edwin Welles and
 Liz Hagerman
 Kristian Whipple
 Ben and
 Rachel Wildavsky
 Rob Willis and
 Marion Swart
 Jamie and
 Claudia Wimberly
 John Windhausen and
 Inja Stanic
 Brian and Erin Wolf
 Michael Wolf and
 Betty-Ellen Shave
 Mary Ann Wollerton
 Gary Zizka and
 MaryKay Zuravleff
 Calvin Zon and
 Laurel Blaydes

Jenkins Garage
 Microsoft Giving Campaign
 Nova Institute
 Summer Square Condominium
 TARGET
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Restricted Gifts

Gala Sponsors

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 John and Natalie Adams
 Ashley Flory
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 Chris and Vivian Hartenau
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 Jane Byerley
 Michele and Fred Coleman
 Malvery and Murchison Henry
 Jeff Naimon and Carla Wheeler
 Paul Girdzis and
 Adrienne Paiewonsky
 Wally and Mechelle Kulesza
 Linda Caro Reinisch
 Edwin Welles and Liz Hagerman

Gifts made at the spring gala in support of emergency financial assistance

Anonymous (4)
 John and Natalie Adams
 Michael and Susan Barr
 Doug Belling and
 Bailey Whiteman
 Jack and Cecelia Benson
 Roger Berliner and
 Susan Dillon
 Andrew Bishop and
 Tova Steiner
 Barbara Buchman and
 John Verleun
 Jane Byerley
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 Brad and Corinna Clark
 Michele and Fred Coleman
 Jimmy Daukas and
 Meg Royce
 Ashley Flory
 Paul Girdzis and
 Adrienne Paiewonsky
 Chris and Vivian Hartenau
 Malvery and
 Murchison Henry
 Stacey Kornegay
 Phyllis Kornegay
 Wally and Mechelle Kulesza
 Alicia and Landman-Reiner
 Leslie LeFever
 Gloria Leon
 Victoria Mansuri
 Steve and Marie Maurer
 Russell Miraglia and Leslie Straus
 Michael Moncavage and
 Mary Taylor



Corporations and Foundations

Ahold Financial Services
 (Giant Supermarket)
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 Demeter's Pantry
 Dougherty Dental Corporation
 Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
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 Steve Smith and JLee Newell
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 Chuck and Debbie Spitulnik
 John and Kathie Stone
 Susan E. Walsh
 Bruce and Virginia Weber
 Edwin Welles and Liz Hagerman

**Gifts made at the spring gala
 in support of kitchen renova-
 tions and parent sustainability
 circle lunches**

John and Natalie Adams
 Michael and Susan Barr
 Nevin Bender

Charles and Charise Hoge
 Jeff and Donna Jacobson
 Pedro Junqueira and Iris Lemos
 Stacey Kornegay
 Alicia and Landman-Reiner
 Leslie LeFever
 David and Marcia Leonard
 Victoria Mansuri
 Russell Miraglia and Leslie Straus
 Scott and Suzanne Nash
 Mikeljon Nikolich and
 Gretchen Kapuscik
 Eliza Reed and
 James Sutcliffe
 Linda Caro Reinisch
 Peter and Mary Robinson
 Lex and Chrissie Sant
 David and Dorine Scher
 Sarah Smith
 Steve Smith and JLee Newell
 Stuart and Robin Sorkin
 Chuck and Debbie Spitulnik
 Paul Squire and
 Marta Schley
 Bruce and Virginia Weber
 Amy Wollerton
 Jan Zika and Eszter Szabo

**Gifts to the Alanna
 Marie Lake Endowment
 Seed Fund**

Beverly and Robert Amico
 Ksenia Danylevich
 Dawn Fox and Emily Siegel
 Tom and Lisa Gray
 Chris and Vivian Hartenau
 Christopher Kendall and
 Susan Schilperoort
 Brian and Camilla Lake
 Mike McKenna and
 Eileen Haley
 Karen Peiffer
 David Spitulnik and
 Diana Cohen
 Jay and Nancy Spitulnik
 Calvin Zon and
 Laurel Blaydes
 Class of 2009

**Other
 Restricted Gifts**

John and Natalie Adams
 Brad and Corinna Clark
 Randy Dentel and Tina Daub Dentel
 James and Ada Ruth Dogger
 Wally and Mechelle Kulesza
 Steve and Marie Maurer
 Bill McLucas and Paula Kashtan
 Michael Ratliff
 James C. Reeves and
 Carol A. Parsons
 Linda Caro Reinisch

Jane Byerley
 Carlos and Ana Cavalcanti
 Ivan and Kathy Charner
 Brad and Corinna Clark
 Jimmy Daukas and Meg Royce
 Randy Dentel and
 Tina Daub Dentel
 Ann Finucane
 Dawn Fox and Emily Siegel
 Kate Gage
 Judith Graff and Jeffrey Caudill
 Richard Greenberg and Ji Won Park
 Luis Hernandez and Miki Yanai
 Gary and Mimi Hetzel



Stuart and Robin Sorkin
 Eduardo Valseca and
 Jayne Rager Valseca

Gifts in Kind

**Donations of goods or ser-
 vices to the live and/or silent
 auction at the spring gala**



Natalie Adams
 All Fired up
 American Plant
 Laurent Andre
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 Robert Barkin and Susan Biddle
 Henry Beale
 Jack and Cecelia Benson
 Booktopia Books and
 Gifts for Children
 Barbara Buchman
 Jack Burbridge
 Ana Cavalcanti
 China Pavilion
 Gina Coll
 Comet Ping Pong
 Tove Elfstrom
 Kazue Fujimoto
 Dr. Harold Goodman
 International School of Music
 Kumait Jawdat and Virginia Ibarra

Trish Mooney
 Wally and Mechelle Kulesza
 Ela Lair-Kordik
 Jonathan and Annette Leland
 Juli Litzkow
 Middle C Music
 Mom's Organic Market
 Michael Moncavage and
 Mary Taylor
 Scott and Suzanne Nash
 Lori Nicholson
 Mikeljon Nikolich and
 Gretchen Kapuscik
 Palisades Community Band
 Chris Payton
 Puppet Company at Glen Echo
 Regal Entertainment Group
 Restaurant Nora
 Taeko Rothstein
 Siiri Saloma
 Sangamore Chamber Singers
 Emily Siegel
 Debbie Spitulnik
 James Sutcliffe
 David Toran
 Uno's Chicago Grill
 Uriel Pharmacy
 Washington Revels
 Carla Wheeler
 Wild Bird Centers
 Woodmont Grill
 Miki Yanai
 Eszter Szabo
 Calvin Zon

Other gifts in kind

Paolo DePetrillo and
 Sandy McDougall
 Eric and Donna Dezenhall
 Wally and Mechelle Kulesza
 Debra Turkat

Class Notes

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all alumni and their families who provided updates to us. It is exciting to see how everyone is progressing, and we think you will agree with us that WWS graduates truly shine!

The advent of social networking tools like Facebook, Linked In, and others has made it much easier for everyone in the extended WWS community to stay connected. While the notes below generally focus on students who graduated from the WWS high school, we are also delighted to hear from those who attended WWS but may not have graduated from WWS.

Anyone who attended WWS is considered to be an alumnus of the School, and we would be very happy to stay in touch. You can send updates, corrections, and suggestions to ssmith@washingtongwaldorf.org, call us at 301-229-6107 x123, or fill out the Contact Us form on our website, www.washingtongwaldorf.org. We also invite anyone interested in WWS to join the Washington Waldorf School group on Facebook. It's a good place to see what's going on in the school and connect with other alumni and current families.



Mr. Petrash with Class of 2003, circa 1993.

1980s

Bonnie McClelland (1988) is the WWS High School coordinator. With the graduation last June of her son Chris, she becomes the first alumna to have a child graduate from WWS.

Elena Day (1988) lives in Florida, where she is a movement theater performer, "devisor", and teacher. (www.elenaday.com). Last spring she visited WWS and conducted an improvisation class with Victoria Mansuri's (1988) 4th grade class.

Victoria Mansuri (1988) is a Waldorf teacher, who just completed a year as the interim 4th grade teacher at WWS. She is also a busy actor, and appeared in a production of Hamlet at the Spotlighters Theater in Baltimore this summer.

Kate Slaugh (1989) works at the National Archives and (with season tickets) is a dedicated Washington Nationals fan.



Ileana Anderson (2006) climbing in the Andes.

1990s

Elenia (Efron) Guzik (1990) and her husband Brian have an eight-month-old daughter, born on Thanksgiving 2008.

April Lanman (1990) lives in Germany on the Bodensee with her husband Felix and their four young children. She plans to study midwifery when the children are a bit older.

Amye Parker Mason (1990) has moved back to New Hampshire after living in West Virginia. She and her husband Shawn have three children. They have their own business, The Mountaineer Yellow Pages and the Connecticut River Valley Yellow Pages.

John Selway (1990) lives in New York City where he works as an electronic dance music composer, producer, and DJ. He releases music on various record labels that specialize in dance music,

including his own CSM Records. (www.selwaymusic.net) In addition to creating music, he travels world-wide to perform in clubs and at festivals, including most recently events in Japan, Honduras, Czech Republic, and Germany, and upcoming engagements in Argentina, Colombia, and Spain. After these trips he expects to take time off, as he and his wife Eugenie are expecting their first child this summer.

Ravi Kroesen (1992) has been living in Portland, Oregon, for the last 16 years but is moving to New York City to pursue his music career. You can hear his music at www.djravi.net.

Justin Rood (1991) is a reporter for the Investigative Unit of ABC news. He lives in Washington, DC, where he and his dog, Gus, are restoring a historic row house.

Aman (Liev) McLeod (1992) spent the summer teaching a law course at night, writing articles, and supervising home improvement projects, while his wife Agnieszka and their children visited her family in Poland. He and Agnieszka now have two children, ages six months and three years.

Karan (Kay) Khalsa (1992) lives in Purcellville, Virginia, where she owns and manages Spirit Voyage Records, a small independent record label that produces Sacred World Music. (www.spiritvoyage.com) She has an eleven-year-old son who was born in India, where she lived and worked for seven years.

Jessica Krivant Wilson (1992) lives in the Washington, DC area. She has two children and works as a senior associate at Creative Associates International, a development consulting firm.

Alison Restak (1993) lives in Miami, Florida, where she works at the director of an outpatient psychiatric program. She is also a harpist who performs at weddings, receptions, and other events. (www.alisonharpist.com)

Charlie Mayer (1994) is Director of News Operations at National Public Radio. He and his wife, Rachel, have two children, ages two years and seven weeks. Charlie and Rachel were married at Hawthorne Valley Farm, and he has returned there every year since first visiting the farm in third grade.

Joanna Härmä (1995) is working on an education improvement project in Nigeria funded by the UK Department for International Development, which is providing technical assistance to the Nigerian government to improve basic education for children up to age 14. She

will be in Nigeria through at least 2010. Before going to Nigeria, she founded Free Schools-India and completed her PhD in international development. Last December she was Visiting Scholar at Columbia University, and visited a high school seminar at WWS.

Lee Richardson (1995) lives in Virginia with his wife Jennifer and their 20-month-old daughter. He is a software engineer, and founder and CEO of Automated Architecture, Inc., an IT company that offers rapid applications development tools for web site development and other projects. (www.blueink.biz)

Mikaela Bufano (1996) lives in New York City where she is an Associate Producer with Fox News, working on the Fox Report with Shepard Smith.

Debra Courage (1996) lives in Northampton, Massachusetts, with her partner and their three-year-old son. They are expecting a second child this summer. She is a self-employed artist, who works with individuals on unique, commissioned pastel drawings. Her work can be seen at www.debracourage.com.

Vashti Kelly (1997) lives in Miami, Florida, where she works at a non-profit organization and is enjoying a life, while she considers pursuing a PhD and a new career.

Zephyr Mays (1997) graduated from Coast Guard Officer Candidate School last January. He and his wife Jessica then moved to Pensacola, Florida, for 12-15 months of helicopter flight training with the Navy.

Heather Phythyon (1997) teaches kindergarten in Fairfax County Public Schools and is a candidate for National Board Certification in Early Childhood. She also works as a certified massage therapist and Reiki Jin Kei Do Master. She got married last summer, and is looking forward to relearning German and Spanish this summer.

Jenni Spitulnik (1997) completed her MA in Folklore at George Mason University, where her thesis focused on the use and decoration of dressing rooms in the Broadway show, CHICAGO. This fall she will begin a PhD program at the University of Missouri - Columbia as a G. Ellsworth Huggins Fellow, where she will also be teaching composition and rhetoric. She anticipates that her PhD will be in English, with Folklore as her primary field.

Chris Moses (1998) is a software engineer for a defense contractor in Maryland. He and his wife Elizabeth have a son, age two, and recently moved from Ellicott City to Columbia, Maryland.

Manfred Elfstrom (1998) works for the International Labor Rights Forum in Washington, DC, collaborating with universities and non-governmental orga-



WWS students, circa 1990.

nizations in China to carry out programming aimed at strengthening protections for Chinese workers. This fall he will be moving to Canada for a year to continue his current work.

Kate Wotring (1999) is a full-time piano teacher and massage therapist. She will be returning to school next year to pursue a PsyD in music therapy.

2000s

Josh Courage (2000) was voted Washington DC's Best Personal Trainer of 2009 through the Washington City Paper. (www.joshcouragetraining.com) In April 2010, Josh is planning to bike from San Francisco, California, to Washington, DC, with the aim of raising \$50,000 for Children's Hospitals.

Sophie Toolanen (2000) will be starting an internship this fall as part of her masters degree program to become a psychotherapist.

Caitlin Shelley (2000) returned last year from a 27-month stay in northern Thailand where she was a Peace Corps volunteer working on education and community development projects. She now lives in Washington, DC, and

works for an international development consulting firm.

Diana Calcagano (2001) is a full-time graphic design student at the Art Institute of Washington. She also manages her family's deli full-time in Bethesda. She lived in Miami, Florida, for five years after graduating from WWS and may move back after completing her program at the Art Institute.

Brian Spitulnik (2001) continues to appear in the cast the Broadway musical CHICAGO, for which he has been named Dance Captain. This fall he will be entering the MFA program in Nonfiction Writing at Columbia University. His play *Angels Twice Descending* had a workshop performance in July in New York.

Tom Doi (2002) lives in Maryland where he has been leading outdoor trips for children. He has been spending winters in Jackson, Wyoming; Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Salt Lake City, Utah. He also spent a year traveling and living in New Zealand and Australia.

Miriam Elfstrom (2002) is wrapping up a three year stint with Teach for America, working on their recruitment team in New York City. This fall she will begin her Master of Public Health degree at Emory University in Atlanta, where she expects to focus on issues of access to health care, especially among women and immigrant communities.

JD Dolan (2003) is an Infantry Platoon Leader with the Army's 10th Mountain Division. His unit is deploying to Iraq in October. He has also been selected for assignment to the 75th Ranger Regiment. He will join his new regiment next year.

Jeff Johns (2003) is beginning his last year at the Brooks Institute in Santa Barbara, California, from which he expects to graduate with a BA in Visual Journalism in Spring 2010. Last fall he photographed southern India as part of the Svava project that resulted in a full color book and DVD. (<http://documentary.brooks.edu/india/>) More recently he was a producer with a similar documentary project in Chile, which will premier in Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles next spring.

Anabella Aspiras (2004) is working on an accelerated (BSN) nursing program at The Johns Hopkins University, after completing her undergraduate degree at the University of Maryland, where she majored in Government and Politics with an academic focus on Develop-

ment. At Johns Hopkins she has also been accepted into a masters program in Maternal Healthcare (Certificate of Midwifery or Public Health). She is especially interested in international healthcare, and plans to complete a program in public health transitions this spring in Haiti or the Dominican Republic.

Natasha Blank (2004) graduated from New York University last year with a degree in Holistic Health, and, more recently, graduated from the Institute for Integrative Nutrition as a Certified Holistic Health Counselor. She is currently launching her Holistic Health Counseling practice in New York City, offering free health consultations and phone sessions for long-distance clients. (www.natashablank.com)

Greg Clark (2004) will be graduating from Guilford College this December with a BA in Psychology and a Studio Arts Minor in Painting. He recently completed his senior seminar undergraduate study entitled *The Effects of Color on Emotion*.

Ellen Jeffrey (2004) is living in Gaithersburg, Maryland, where she is a program manager assistant with URS, a global design and engineering firm, working onsite at a Lockheed Martin project.

Lief Klockner (2004) is working in the Washington, DC, area and preparing to apply to law school.

Jackie Menditch (2004) graduated from George Washington University and moved to San Francisco, California, where she is working at a law firm and enjoying life on the west coast.

Greg Oliver (2004) has been travelling and participating in a variety of internships while exploring career options. At present he is considering starting an aquaculture business in Latin America,

Jordan Schware (2004) has co-founded a company called The Gear Movement, based in Boulder, Colorado. The company is an eBay store that helps pro athletes, pro teams, retailers, manufacturers, and others sell their new or old inventory or "gear." (www.thegearmovement.com) He previously worked as a mechanic for several professional cycling teams, including Toyota-United, Rock Racing, KBS/Medifast, and Ouch-Maxxis.

Alden Towler (2004) is continuing his Fulbright research on food habits and

health (specifically metabolic syndrome) in Kathmandu, Nepal, through this September although his grant formally ended in July. With his main finding being an abundance of processed carbohydrates in urban Nepalis' diet, he is currently working on a business and service project to make brown rice a more affordable and desirable commodity in Kathmandu.

Jacob Ehrlich (2005) graduated from Hampshire College last spring, where he completed a senior honors thesis entitled *Consequences: The FDA's approval of Biosynthetic Recombinant Human Growth Hormone for Children with Idiopathic Short Stature*. He plans on entering law school in the fall of 2010. In the meantime, he is



Rachael Chamberlin and Julia Johns (Class of 2007).

hoping to do editorial or legal work. This summer he travelled extensively in Europe with Rob Sorkin (2005).

Max Spitulnik (2005) completed his BFA from the University of Michigan and is now living in New York City. Last June he appeared in *Room 16*, a new musical based on the Watergate break-in, at the Palace Theater in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Hannah Beal (2006) will be a senior at the University of Vermont, where she has an internship that combines the food salvage program at UVM, the local youth farm called Healthy City, and cooking/serving meals at the food-shelf of Burlington. She also works in the kitchen at American Flatbread. She spent last semester in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Meghan Chaney (2006) will be a senior at Savannah College of Art and Design this fall. Over the summer she interned at the Textile Museum in Washington, DC. This winter she will be interning with a wallpaper designer in New York City.

Julia Dann (2006) will be a senior at the College of Wooster where she is a Sociology and Africana Studies major. She recently returned from four months of studying music and social justice issues in Fortaleza, Brazil.

Lucy Engelman (2006) will be a senior at Oberlin College, where she is majoring in Cinema/Visual Arts and was accepted into the Senior Studio Honors program. Over the summer she, along with WWS alumna Ileana Anderson (see photo, page 8) and former classmate, Annika Bushman, backpacked in Patagonia for three weeks and made it all the way to Ushuaia, Argentina, the southernmost city in the world.

Eryn Lake (2006) recently returned from five months living in Sao Paulo, Brazil, where she volunteered at Monte Azul Communitarian Association and ACOMI, an anthropological social initiative in the slums outside Sao Paulo. She is three semesters away from graduating from Warren Wilson College, with a major she designed called "Education as a Force for Social Change."

Abby Wacker (2006) will be a senior at Haverford College.



She spent last semester studying at the University of Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh, India, and also did some traveling and volunteering at the end of the semester. Over the summer she worked as a camp counselor at Hawthorne Valley Farm summer camp.

Madeline Elfstrom (2007) will be a junior at William & Mary this fall, where she is majoring in Environmental Policy and Latin American Studies. At William & Mary, she is manager of the RealFood Williamsburg Cooperative. Over the summer, she lived in the highlands of Ecuador, teaching English

and researching the impacts of agrochemicals on the local indigenous community.

Emily Conrad (2007) will be a junior at Connecticut College, where she is co-president of the Renewable Energy Club. Last February she helped coordinate Powershift 09, a national youth summit during which 12,000 young people gathered in Washington, DC, to promote clean energy and environmental justice. Following up on



Anabella Aspiras, Bethany Courage (Class of 2004).

Powershift she helped found the Connecticut Climate Youth Action Coalition. This summer (and part-time during the school year) she worked for an environmental consulting firm in Portland, Maine, conducting wind power feasibility studies and developing climate action plans for colleges and universities. Over the summer, she also participated in her sixth trip with the Appalachia Service Project (ASP).

Julia Johns (2007) spent the summer as a coworker at Camp Hill Village USA (a residential community for special needs/mentally disabled adults in Copake, New York). This fall she will be a junior at Scripps College, spending the fall semester in Copenhagen at the Danish Institute for Study Abroad in a psychology program focusing on children with special needs. She will then be spending her spring semester in Durban, South Africa, working a commu-

nity health program through the School for International Training (SIT).

Eli Mellen (2007) will be a junior at the College of the Atlantic, in Bar Harbor Maine, where he is majoring in Human Ecology, with a focus on literature/social theory and animation. He spent the summer as an intern at the Aprovecho intentional community in Cottage Grove, Oregon, studying organic gardening, sustainable forestry, and appropriate technology.

Ava Petrash (2007) will be a junior at Wake Forest, where she has a dual major in English and Sociology. This summer she participated in a three-week bus trip through the Deep South studying race relations through the Sociology Department at Wake Forest. During the rest of the summer she interned at a newspaper in Atlanta, Georgia, through VOX Teen Communications, while also working on an initiative to encourage urban teens to lobby for change in the Georgia Juvenile Code so that it reflects the inequalities and challenges they face.

Max Silver (2007) will be a junior at Carleton College, where he is majoring in Film Production. Last semester he studied photography in New York, Rome, and Prague.

Lindsey Small (2007) is living in Los Angeles, California, where she is interning with the Universal Music Group, working at an online grocery store, and enjoying the beach.

Hetta Towler (2007) will be a junior at the University of Colorado, where she is majoring in International Affairs. Next February she will be studying in Chile for a semester. In the meantime, she has been working at a restaurant, while travelling this summer to music festivals around the country.

Anschell Maile-Moskowitz (2008) will be a sophomore at Frostburg State University where he is studying to become a professional trainer, and enjoys being an offensive lineman on the Frostburg football team.

Joe Sandman (2008) will be a sophomore at the University of Michigan, where he is leaning toward a major in Political Science or Public Policy. This summer he interned with the office of Congressman John D. Dingell (D-MI).

Sandi Wacker (2008) will be a sophomore at Haverford College. This summer she was a riding counselor at Camp Rim Rock for Girls in Yellow Spring, West Virginia.

Class of 2009

Juan Ayllon – Gap year then
New York University

Keenan Carmody – Montgomery College

Julien Hemmendinger – SUNY Fredonia

Alex Hill – Ursinus College

Leslie Johnson – Towson University

Julia Lair – Montgomery College

Adam Lees – Ursinus College

Dylan Lin – Guilford College

Francis Louvis – Growing his custom
design tee shirt business

Allie Miraglia – University of Maryland,
Honors Program

Emma Parker – University of Redlands

Nathan Robinson – Goucher College

Chris Roman – Montgomery College

Amber Rounds – Smith College

Melanie Schutt – Gap year working
with horses

Nathan Sewall – University of Texas

Tom Sherrad – Omega Studios School
of Applied Arts and Sciences

Zachary Smith – Haverford College

Colin Taliafero – Sterling College

Ryan Taliafero – Sterling College

Meagan van Schilfgaarde – College of
William & Mary

Bridget Wilkins – University of Tampa

Cary Zon – University of Oregon

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Class of 2009



Front row (sitting) L-R: Meagan van Schilfgaarde; Julia Lair; Amber Rounds; Cary Zon; Leslie Johnson

2nd Row, L-R: Adam Lees; Bridget Wilkins; Emma Parker; Melanie Schutt; Allie Miraglia, Juan Ayllon; Julien Hemmendinger

3rd Row, L-R: Nathan Robinson; Colin Taliaferro; Tom Sherrod; Dylan Lin; Ryan Taliaferro

4th Row, L-R: Francis Louvis; Nathan Sewall; Keenan Carmody; Chris Roman; Zachary Smith; Alex Hill