

WASHINGTON EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Alumni

CLASS NOTES



'17 **Thomas Carney**
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Emelia Isola
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Harry Akins played on the Bullis varsity hockey team, and his club team made it to the regional CBHL finals. **Tayo Ball** played on St. Albans' JV lacrosse team. **Thomas Carney** plays bassoon in the Gonzaga symphonette. This summer he will work on his aunt's congressional campaign in Maine, followed by a family trip to southeast Asia. **Joanna Dematatis** played varsity basketball and JV lacrosse at Holton-Arms. **Karim Elkassem** was a member of Churchill High School's swim team. The team had an undefeated season, won the prestigious "Metros" swim meet, and won The MD State Championship. Karim swam in the 500 free style, recording a personal best. **Emelia Isola** played on Walter Johnson High School's undefeated JV lacrosse team. **Lily Talieh** was in a play at Holton-Arms in the spring. **Maddie Voth** continues to take cello lessons and is in the literary media and communications department (writing and film) at Duke Ellington School for the Arts. Recently, she was on the sound crew of a documentary that was filmed in Alabama with her class. She will be a production assistant for a film in Cornwall, England this summer. **Ben Wills** is thriving at Forman. He played varsity football, and varsity ice hockey. He enjoyed his photography class and made honor roll. **Nate Zola** played JV lacrosse at Landon and is on two lacrosse travel teams.



Congratulations to the Class of 2010 (l-r, top to bottom): Alexis Doyle '10 • Anthony Ware '10 • Sammi Stroman '10 • Patrick Lansdale '10 • Jonathan Butturini '10 • Mike Schmandt '10 • Lindsay Bratun '10 • Daan Groenhuijsen '10 and family • Susannah Bane '10 • Jane Boyton, Lynn Mahaffie, Shelby Mahaffie '10, Matt Mahaffie, and Grace Mahaffie '14

'16 **Maddie Blonder**
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Maddie Blonder is starting a new organization at Stone Ridge to help support countries without access to clean water. She is also working on a 7-week campaign for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, raising money for childhood cancer. She played ice hockey for Stone Ridge with **Charlotte Mensforth** and **Becca Ehrhardt** this year. Maddie, **Sarah Myhre**, and **Kim Ross** are all spending a month in Australia as part of a summer exchange program. **Peter Connolly** played on Georgetown Prep's rugby team and played varsity football. He served on student government as class representative. **Ben Deobald** went to Spain for two weeks this summer with Georgetown Prep. **Nellie Dick** joined the Pre-collegiate Regional Equestrian team. She looks forward to having an internship on

Capitol Hill this fall with Madeira School. **Felicia Gelos** played clarinet in St. Andrew's Episcopal School's orchestra as well as in the symphonic rock orchestra. She played in the band for the school musical. **Katie Hester** is in the a cappella club at St. Andrew's along with **Caroline Milne** and **Julia Topetztes**. **Caroline Milne** played a nun and bar patron in St. Andrew's production of *Sister Act* in February. She and **Felicia Gelos** will take a Spanish exchange trip to Cantabria, Spain for two weeks this summer. **Luke Murrell** is a master scuba diver and will spend six weeks in the British Virgin Islands this summer diving. He plans to study marine biology in college. He played hockey for Wilson High School. **Seb Murrell** rowed crew for Wilson High School. **Pascale Schmidt's** painting was on display at Holton-Arms' upper school spring art show and was featured on the promotional poster. Her foundational drawing for the painting won second place at Congressman Raskin's (D-MD 8th District) art competition and will be displayed in his office for one year. **Geoffrey Shaiyen** played on St. John's JV basketball team.

want more info? www.w-e-s.org/alumni

Alumni Class Notes

'15 Ryan Kyle Ryankyle36@gmail.com

Louis Akins was the captain of his U16AA hockey team; they won the state finals. He also played on the Bullis varsity hockey team. **Zoe Barnette** and **Alicia Pané** and two Stone Ridge classmates were interviewed in March by their former English teacher for *The Atlantic* magazine about naming their generation. Zoe competed in the Junior Olympics in February for fencing and has an internship this summer at Walter Reed Medical Center doing research on proteins. **Andreas Christofides** is active in track and field at Walt Whitman High School, and still composing music. **Alex Davidson** was chosen as one of two students at St. Albans who will study at Knox Grammar School in Sydney, Australia for a month this July. **Juliette Faris** is Vice President of TableTalk EHS, an organization at Episcopal High School. In this role she oversees much of the planning of community-building events and takes photos. **Piers Greenan** was inducted into the National Honor Society at Gonzaga College High School.

Patricia Massaro pitched softball for the GDS varsity team, which won the ISL (Independent School League) championship this year. She also made the ISL all-league team. **Ryan Kyle** was captain of the Sidwell Friends varsity track team and plays oboe in the chamber orchestra. **Georgia McCally** and **Emma Stanfill** played on the Bullis lacrosse team this year – they won the ISL Championship. **Hadley Nolan** played for Holton-Arms' nationally-ranked lacrosse team this spring. They played in the ISL AA championship game. She had two photographs on display at Holton's art show this spring. **Morinsola Tinubu** and **Juliet Faris** were selected as "Monitors," a selective leadership position at Episcopal High School. Morinsola was also elected co-president of a new club called the Black Student Association, and will be a dance team captain in the fall. **Sophie Whiteway** played varsity lacrosse at Holton-Arms School. **Ryan Zaimi** coached JV tennis at Bullis and plays soccer.



Top-bottom, l-r: Thomas Carney '17 with LaKisha Yirenkyi at WES • Emelia Isola '17 after her Walter Johnson JV lacrosse game in April with Meredith, William, and Bill Isola, and Mehdi Elkassem, Ali Bratun (not pictured) • Louis Akins '15 playing USA Hockey • Hadley Nolan '15 and teammates appeared in *The Washington Post* this spring. (photo by Toni L. Sandys/*The Washington Post*) • Bullis varsity lacrosse team members Georgia McCally '15 (third from left) and Emma Stanfill '15 (second from right) with teammates • Brothers Josh '14 and Alex '16 Davidson • Charles Ruberl '14, William Crowdus '11, and Laurence Ruberl '12 at GDS' graduation • Christian Phillips '16 and Geoffrey Shaiyen '16 at a WES basketball game



'14 Samantha Liggins samanthaliggins@gmail.com

Cameron Harris and **Claire van Stolk** were inducted into the St. Andrew's chapter of the Cum Laude Society. **Grace Mahaffie** traveled to Italy with the Georgetown Day School's Chamber Choir during winter break. She was a Silver Key recipient in the GDS Scholastic Art Awards for her indoor still life. Grace performed in the GDS one-act plays, sang with the *A Cappella* group, and was on dance team. She will attend NYU in the fall (Silver School of Social Work). **Anna-Sophia Massaro** had a role in Madeira's production of *The Addams Family* in February. Congratulations to **Elen Stepanyan** on winning a National Merit Scholarship! She graduated from Sidwell Friends School in June and will attend Washington & Lee University in the fall and plans to study engineering. **Tayyaba Tareq** will attend University of Maryland, College Park, and plans to major in kinesiology while continuing to volunteer for the fire department. **Ben Weinberger** played varsity lacrosse for Bullis in the spring.

'13 Alya Ahmed AAhmed17@sidwell.edu Genevieve Dickinson genevieve.dickinson@gmail.com Sterling Myhre semyhre12@gmail.com Jack Szulc-Donnell thenso37@yahoo.com

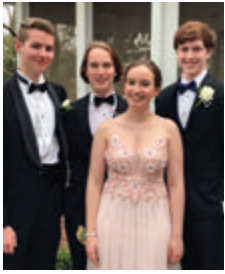
Alex Alagia and **Katherine Bowles** stopped by WES in January and attended the Geography Bee. Katherine is a two-time WES Geo Bee champion. She attends Miami of Ohio and is a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. **Sarah Collins** stopped by WES in May and chatted (in French!) with French teacher Madame Hassanzadeh. She returned from spending a year in France and is a camp counselor in Virginia this summer. She will begin her studies at University of Colorado (Boulder) in August. **Strat Forrester** is attending Ole Miss. **Amiri Hill** finished up her freshman year at Loyola of New Orleans and will continue to work with Howard County Parks and Recreation as an Inclusion Companion working with kids with disabilities at different summer camps. She is interested in political science/legal affairs. **Alex Murrell** enjoyed his first year at University of Colorado, Boulder, majoring in philosophy. He loves to go fly fishing whenever he can.

'12 Douglas Chen-Young dchenyoung@gmail.com Grace Recka grace.recka@gmail.com

Laura Abbott, a rising junior at Vanderbilt University, departs in July for a semester abroad in Sydney, Australia. **Robert Bork** will be an intern in the office of Senator Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) this summer. He will study at Oxford, England for the fall semester with UVA. **Olivia Heflin** completed her sophomore year at University of Pennsylvania and will head to Sydney, Australia for a semester abroad in July. **William Howell** completed his second year at Parson School of Design. **Laurence Ruberl** was stage manager for the Earlham College presentation of *Macbeth* in March. This summer he has an internship at NASA in Maryland. **Erni Whitaker** is a chemistry and philosophy major at Bates College.

'11 Peter Abdo peter.abdo@gmail.com Sarah Bair soccersab@gmail.com Jake Bredhoff jake.bredhoff@yahoo.com

Sarah Bair traveled to six European countries after completing her junior year at Emory University. She met up with her WES exchange student in Paris. Sarah was selected to be one of 14 George Washington Carver interns for The World Food Prize Internship Program this summer. **Claire Collins'** boat (Princeton) won the Ivy Championships for the third year in a row and finished 5th at the Championship regatta. Congratulations to **Sarah Dickey** who was recognized as a University Scholar (top 2% in cumulative undergraduate academic standing by school) at University of Pittsburgh. **Stephen Harlan** attends Villanova University and spent the spring semester in Madrid, Spain. **James Hemus** completed his junior year at University of Utah, majoring in psychology. He enjoys hiking whenever possible. This summer he will go on a family trip to France, then go backpacking throughout Europe. Following that he will take a summer semester in Seoul, South Korea to study Korean and Asian history and culture. James occasionally sees **Isabelle Kramer**, who attends Brigham Young University. Isabelle will spend the summer in Utah, working at her internship with the Museum of Art at BYU, doing social media work and communications. She is engaged to be married in November in the Salt Lake City temple. **Lino Nuñez**



Top-bottom, l-r: Class of 2014 members at the St. Andrew's prom Nick Gelos, Case van Stolk, Claire van Stolk, and Brendan O'Donnell • Pascale Schmidt '16, Jemma Bazemore '16, and Renata Taylor-Smith '16 at Holton-Arms • Sarah Collins '13 with Madame Jacqueline in May • Anna-Sophia Massaro '14 at Madeira's graduation • WES and Sidwell Friends School classmates David Butturini '14, Elen Stepanyan '14, and Oliver Johnson '14 • Dominic Doyle '13 and his father Tom Doyle • Geneva Marquardt '17 and Lily Talieh '17 at the Spring Concert • Nipuni Obe, Zoe Barnette '15, Alicia Pané '15, and Hannah Joseph at Stone Ridge School (photo by Emily Jan)

del Arco will be an incoming Middle Market & Specialized Industry investment banking summer analyst for JP Morgan & Chase this summer. **Lizzie Moore** is a junior at William and Mary majoring in Library Sciences. She had an internship at the Library of Congress in the Children's Library. **Hunter Sells** plays goalie for the Jacksonville University lacrosse team which made it to the conference final in May. He has an internship in Santa Monica, CA this summer.

10 Lindsay Bratun
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Jonathan Butturini
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Shelby Mahaffie
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Madison Sharp
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Susannah Bane graduated May 21 from the Honors College at the University of Maryland, College Park with a BS in early childhood education and special education. She will teach first grade at JoAnn Leleck Elementary School at Broad Acres in Silver Spring, MD. She said, "I chose Broad Acres because the warm, caring community spirit there so reminds me of WES." Susannah worked on campus at the Center for Young Children, an early education lab school under the College of Education, and she was a member of Kappa Delta

Pi, an international honor society in education and served as the UMD chapter president. She spent a semester abroad in Africa where she taught at the College of Adja Penda Ba, an elementary school in the rural village of Niore, Senegal. **Lindsay Bratun** graduated Cum Laude from The University of South Carolina on May 12 with a degree in journalism (public relations). She was a recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award and is working for Weber Shandwick in DC. **Jonathan Butturini** graduated Magna Cum Laude from University of Michigan, College of Engineering, in April. He was a Teaching Assistant for the third-largest class at the university (electrical engineering and computer science 280). He took a trip to Japan after graduation. Jonathan has taken a position at Microsoft in Seattle as a software engineer which begins in August. **Phoebe Christofides**, who attends The University of Edinburgh, Scotland, has been doing archaeology digs abroad and also some folk singing on the side. **Nora Dahlberg** graduated with two majors, theatre and art and visual culture, from Bates College. **Alexis Doyle** graduated from American University in May. She was a student teacher at WES in Petie Schuessler's Grade 1 classroom from January - April. Alexis will join the WES faculty this fall as an Associate Teacher in Katie

Rothwell's Transition class. **Andreas Gizaw** graduated this June from UC Davis as a biological sciences major in June. He starts a post-baccalaureate program at University of Maryland, College Park. He had an internship as a clinical research associate at the UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. His plan is to attend medical school after taking some time to travel. Andreas enjoys playing soccer. **Daan Groenhusen** graduated on May 5 from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, completing a triple major consisting of entrepreneurship, marketing, and professional sales. He is spending the summer traveling and will move to New York in August. He has taken a consulting job with InnoLeaps in Manhattan. **Hunter Heflin** graduated from University of Pennsylvania on May 14 with a degree in politics, philosophy, and economics and a minor in consumer psychology. His plan is to continue making hip-hop and rap music. He just released his newest EP, "Far From Perfect" which is available for streaming on Apple Music, Spotify and SoundCloud. Hunter also was a fundraising coordinator for Camp Kesem. He took a trip to Europe after graduation. **Emi Hinds** graduated in May from St. Olaf College. As a student she was involved with theatre productions. **Patrick Lansdale** graduated from Northwestern University in

June. **Shelby Mahaffie** was honored as Marshal and graduated from University of Chicago with honors with a double major in economics and public policy in May. Shelby will work in Chicago as a research analyst for Urban Education Institute. **Dana Martin** graduated in May from Trinity College with degrees in political science and communications. She has accepted a position with Guidepoint in New York City beginning in June. In between, she and sister **Carolyn '12** are traveling to Greece to see if the beaches there are as nice as in Rehoboth, DE. They look forward to meeting the people and exploring the sites, as only a WES graduate knows how to do! **Campbell Peterson** graduated from Babson College and is working toward his Masters of Accountancy this summer. **Kyle Rushford** graduated from Virginia Tech on May 12. **Na'Kia Simpson** is working on her degree in biology from Bowie State University. She is the manager of the Bowie State modeling team. She worked at WES in the Extended Day program and as a substitute teacher this school year. **Evan Sanders** graduated from Elon University in May and is working for PricewaterhouseCooper in McLean. **Mike Schmandt** graduated from Vanderbilt University in May. **Madison Sharp** graduated in May from Bard College, majoring in hu-



L-R: Pascale Schmidt '16 with her painting at the Holton-Arms art show • Katie Hopper, Caitlin Lennon, Laurie Sparling, Nick Lellenberg, Nancy Wright, Giovanna Massaro '18, Anna-Sophia Massaro '14, Patty Donnelly (Massaro), Patricia Massaro '15, and John Massaro at Giovanna's performance of *James and the Giant Peach* • Amiri Hill '13 at Loyola University of New Orleans this spring • 2013 classmates Katherine Bowles and Alex Alagia at the WES Geo Bee

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man rights, with a concentration in Latin and Iberian studies. Last year she had a job in immigration law. She will study for the LSAT this year. **Sammi Stroman** graduated from Yale University on May 21. She majored in global affairs. **Anthony Ware** graduated this spring from Mullenburg College. Anthony was a standout track and field team member and record holder and a recipient of The Carl E. Grotheen Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Psychology. It is awarded to a student who best exemplifies the emergence of excellence through the study of psychology. **John Wells** graduated from Vanderbilt University on May 11. **Rachel Weinberger** graduated in May from University of Southern California. Her father, Mark Weinberger, gave the commencement address. **Aaron Zaimi** graduated from Bucknell University in May with a BS in markets, innovation, and design. He will work at PN Hoffman in DC. **Nick Zaimi** graduated from University of Richmond in May with a BS in business administration with an emphasis in finance and a BS in Latin American, Latino, and Iberian studies. He will work for Safford Auto Group.

'09 Kelsye Little
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Bethany Mark
prettyfunnyprincess@gmail.com

Claire Bork graduated from George Mason University in May. **Rachel Gutschmidt** works as a senior analyst at Hearts & Science in NYC. **Lloyd Howell** graduated Cum Laude from St. John's in May with a degree in Business Management and French with a minor in International Studies. He studied abroad and visited Rome, Sevilla, and Paris. Lloyd was very active on campus through several

channels: he was an intramural supervisor for the recreation department; captain of the club basketball team; participated in various clubs/academic course groups including the Executive in Residence program, the Global Microfinance Program, and the RISE Network (mission of increasing retention of minorities in the university). **Zoe Palmer** graduated in May from Arcadia University with a BA in art/art therapy. She and her parents are going on a heritage tour to China, including Hunan, Changsha. **Nick Recka** is living in New York, working for Third Bridge, a company that provides private equity firms, hedge fund, and strategy consultants with the information about investment opportunities. **Kiran Siddique** is living in New York City, working at a consulting firm.

'08 Aszanai Jones
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Ben Martin
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Ben Martin tells us that he is working in marketing and sustainability at Enviva LP, a biomass energy company based in Bethesda. He works closely with customers in Europe, which gives him the opportunity to use his German and French (merci à tous mes professeurs de Français à WES). He is also finding time to play the flute with a few groups in the area.

'07 Shannon Egan
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Jack Metelski
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Grace Lilly recently started a stationery company called Nice Paper Goods. What makes it different from other stationery stores is that the writing sets are "ready-to-send,"

complete with USA Forever stamps, to encourage note and letter writing. The online store web address is: www.nicepapergoods.com. **John Gill** is pursuing his masters degree in real estate from Georgetown University and anticipates a December graduation. **Jorman Heflin** is living in South Carolina and is working toward a masters degree in plant biology. **Clark Pastrick** is pursuing his MBA at Georgetown University with a real estate focus.

'06 Chloe Lansdale
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Clark Pastrick
Clark.pastrick@gmail.com

Jamie Durling graduated from Yale School of Law in May. He will clerk for the sixth circuit in Ann Arbor, MI. **Spencer Heflin** is living in North Hollywood, CA, taking science classes; he plans to apply to physical therapy school. He holds a philosophy degree from Elon University.

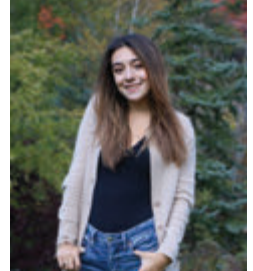
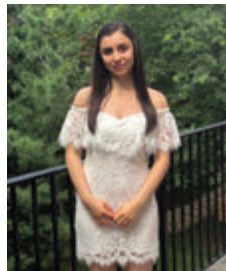
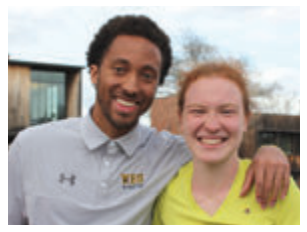
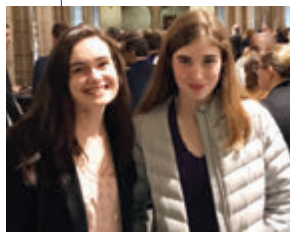
'05 Kristin Maller
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Jon Rice
Jonathan.rice@me.com
Charis Whitnah
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Mehdi Elkassem chatted with **Chewy Economides** and her family at a Greek festival in Potomac in May. She and her husband Stephanos Andreou are owners of a Latin-Asian fusion restaurant, Sakerum, on 14th Street, NW in DC, which opened in August 2016. **Alice Peifer** graduated from Middlebury College in May 2017 and spent last summer taking a publishing course at Columbia's School of Journalism. She is an assistant editor with St. Martin's Press in NYC. **Caroline Quill** just completed her second year

of law school at The George Washington University. It was nice to hear from **Jonathan Rice** in January. He continues to work as an undergraduate admission officer at the University of San Francisco and is excited to have picked up the DC area as one of his recruitment territories. He graduated in May with a MA in strategic communication. He often sees WES classmate **Jordan Meeker** who also lives in San Francisco. **Emma Whitaker** substituted at WES in art this winter and spring and it was great to catch-up with her. She and her family moved to California and then onto Italy, following her mother's work as an anthropologist. Emma attended high school in Italy, near Bologna, graduated from Emory University, and attended art school at Maine College of Art. She is a middle school and high school art teacher and is an artist, working in collage, oil painting, and ceramics.

'04 Sofia Selowsky
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Jeffrey Scholl
Jeffr3354@aol.com

Sadie Lansdale was ordained at the River Road Unitarian Church on May 13 and lives in North Carolina. **Sofia Selowsky** continues her career as an opera singer (mezzo soprano) and is based in Houston, TX. She had the role of Rosina (debut) in Houston Grand Opera's production of *The Barber of Seville* earlier this year. **Jessica Trent** lives and works in Williamsburg, VA. She is a civil engineer involved with the Route 64 project. **Forrest Wright** has accepted a job at WES to be a Kindergarten Associate teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. He is very excited about joining the faculty at his old school.



Top-bottom, l-r: Sarah Bair '11 in Paris with her friend Julie whom she met through the WES French exchange program • Sarah Dickey '11 and sister Caroline Dickey '18 at the Honors Convocation at University of Pittsburgh • Hunter Heflin '10 performing at UPenn's "Spring Fling" concert in April • Claire Butler '09, Patti Collins, and Kelsye Little '09 at a Madeira reunion • Juwan Reid '08 and Ryan Kyle '15 at Sidwell Friends track meet in April • Nora Dahlberg '10 • Andreas Gizaw '10 and Selome Gizaw '11 and parents • Elen Stepanyan '14 on graduation day • Alexis Doyle '10 with Bill Isola, Trina Curtis-Belote, Petie Schuessler, Danny Vogelmann, Mary Lee Nickel, and Mehdi Elkassem in April • Isabelle Kramer '11 in Sundance, UT this spring



Top-bottom, l-r: Emma '08 and James '11 Hemus at the top of Lion's Head mountain, Cape Town, South Africa, December 2017 • Shannon Egan '07 and Fran Caterini at the MLK Chapel • Suzanne Tully, Liam Tully '08, and Tonya Finton in Charleston, SC • Forrest Wright '04 and Jen Chin at WES Auction • Mehdi Elkassam, Chewy Economidis '05, with Chewy's parents Dina and Frank Economidis and family members at a Greek festival, May 2018 • Jamie Durling '06 at his graduation from Yale Law School

'03

Sarah Whitaker is a PhD student at Emory University studying anthropology.

'02 Carolina Richards

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It was exciting to read about **Austin Bisnow** and his band, Magic Giant, in a recent issue of a Landon School magazine. The three-member band was formed in Los Angeles in 2014, playing indie folk, indie pop, and alternative rock.

'01 Sarah Jones

Sarah.whitney.jones@gmail.com

Charlie Pfeifer graduated from Georgetown law school with a JD and an LL.M in tax. He is a tax lawyer with PricewaterhouseCoopers in NYC. His wife, Elisabeth Avallone, whom he met in law school, is also an attorney.

'00 Anne Glassie

aglassie@gmail.com

Laura Bastos Jenkins and her husband announced the birth of their second child, Claire Elizabeth, born on September 13, 2017. Big sister McKenna is very excited about her baby sister. **Mike Pfeifer** graduated from UVA law school and is a political law attorney with Dentons in DC. **Mike Procelli** and his wife Kate are expecting their first child this fall.

'99

'98

'97 Nate Guggenheim

Nate.Guggenheim@WFP.com

'94 Charlotte McCormack

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'93 Palmer Seeley

Palmer_Seeley@caryacademy.org

'92 John Pinto

johnp1979@yahoo.com

'91

It was nice to see an article featuring designer and textile "genius" **Caryn Cramer** in the March issue of *DC Modern Luxury* magazine. her own firm in DC, Caryn Cramer Textiles. She holds an English Literature degree from Carleton College, a law degree from Vanderbilt, and a masters in interior design from the Corcoran College of Art & Design. Caryn also worked for a textile maker in Denmark.

'90 Ashleigh Freer Parr

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'89 Stephan von Schilcher

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'88 Rebecca (Schneider) Luria

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Congratulations to **Sally Steponkus** and her husband Tom Roche, who welcomed their daughter Elizabeth "Libby" Roche on November 16, 2017.

Former Faculty News

Ellen Gagné is working with an interfaith refugee support group to provide transportation and tutoring for two Afghan families who have recently arrived in Montgomery county. **Maryalys Hopkins** will move to Bemidji, MN, to be closer to her son and his family. **Jackie Thornton** traveled to Australia last summer. More than 16 Founding and past faculty members had a nice luncheon at WES with "lifer" members of the Class of 2018 in April.

In Memory & Sympathy

Quidir West '07 passed away in February 2018.

Former PE teacher, basketball coach, and EC French teacher, **Jamie Shaw** passed away on April 30. He taught at WES from 1999-2002. He lived in Canada.

Condolences to **Elizabeth '99** and **Will Rawson '94** on the passing of their mother, Mary Rawson, in June.

Calendar 2017 - 2018

SEPT.

7 FRI Welcome Back Party & Alumni Reunion
5:30-7:30 p.m.

JAN. 2019

11 FRI Alumni Reunion Pizza Party: All Alumni/ Faculty Basketball Game; and Parents Reception
5:30 p.m.

MAR. 2019

2 SAT Auction Gala at WES
6:00 p.m.



l-r: Austin Bisnow '02 of Magic Giant, on the cover of his band's album cover • David Butturini '14 and brother Jonathan Butturini '10 at David's graduation • Emma Whitaker '05 with LaKisha Yirenkyi, substitute teaching at WES • Shelby '10 and Grace '14 Mahaffie at Grace's graduation • Class of 2017 Maddie Voth, Emelia Isola, and Tatiana Johnson at the Founders Day picnic • Dana Whitten '00 with WES teacher Julianne Haggerty at a concert • Caryn Cramer '91 • Kat O'Kieffe Cusani-Visconti '88 with her sons Luca and Alessandro, and their father, Marco, at WES in June

Alumna Abroad



Emma Hemus '08 in London

Emma Hemus, a graduate of Madeira School, earned her undergraduate degree in chemical engineering and a minor in biomedical engineering from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. She also spent a semester abroad in Singapore, which inspired her to study Chinese. During that time she traveled extensively to South Korea, China, and Malaysia and taught an SAT prep course in chemistry. Currently Emma is in a masters program at Imperial College London, studying biomedical engineering with an emphasis on biomaterials and tissue engineering. She will submit her dissertation and complete the program in mid-September. She loves living in London.

We caught up with the well-traveled WES graduate on her perspective on living abroad.

"I think that coming from a very international family and having parents who both enjoy traveling themselves instilled in me a desire to experience as much of the world as possible from a young age."

Meeting people from cultures different to your own reminds you to keep an open mind—something I think is especially important these days.

London is a very cosmopolitan city. Walking down the street you will hear English, but also a multitude of other languages. One of the things I particularly like is that since the other students in my program are from all over the world, everyone comes from a slightly different background, and therefore no one feels out of place.

I would like to work in London when I graduate, though I would also be open to moving to a new city should the opportunity arise. In the meantime, I hope to travel elsewhere in the UK, and also in Europe, during the time I can afford to spend outside of the lab. My brother James '11 will be in Europe this summer, so I hope to meet up with him in Greece for a long weekend."



Class of 2014 Reunion

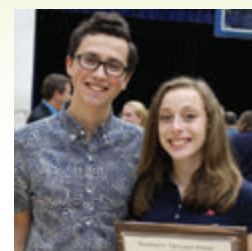
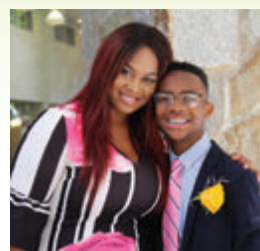
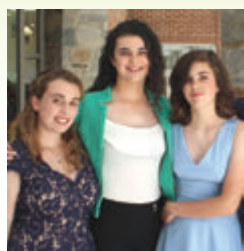
Many thanks to the Helmanis family for hosting the 2014 WES Reunion on April 27!



L-R: Athena Skoufias, Anna-Sophia Massaro, Claire van Stolk, Brendan O'Donnell, Josh Davidson, Jack Helmanis, Lawrence Redmond, Aadil Husain, Nick Gelos, Case van Stolk, Anders Groeshel, Grace Mahaffie, Sam Liggins • Grade 3 teachers reunite: Mahnaz Husain, Jackie Thornton, and Anne Smalley

Alumni @ GRADUATION June 4, 2018

L-R, top to bottom: Tendai '18 and Tayo '17 Ball • Carl Hampe, Marian Hampe '11, Margaret Marcus, Frances Hampe, and Margaret Hampe '18 • Celia '18 and Caitlin '16 Cooper • Tamilore '16, Mayokun, Moniola '18, Kemi, and Olasupo Odunsi • Anna-Sophia '14, Patricia '15, and Giovanna '18 Massaro • Na'kia Simpson '10 and Isaiah Horne '18 • Joy Alycia '18 and Isabelle '11 Kramer • Ian '18 and Geoffrey '16 Shaiyen • Peter '11 and Sabina '18 Abdow at the Awards Assembly



Tell us about life after WES.

After WES I went to Sidwell Friends School in Washington, DC. WES prepared me in so many ways—honestly, I could spend the rest of this page listing them out! Key among them was Reverend Baker's Religion class. She encouraged us to debate and discuss the meaning behind the texts we read, sparking my interest in speech and debate. This became my main extracurricular activity at Sidwell!

Mr. Wahl was also a defining influence—I still point to his seventh-grade Geography class as the reason I've been interested in economics. He really changed my life. At Sidwell I tried to make anything and everything I did relate to this interest.

Now that you are entering into your senior year at University of California, Berkeley tell us what enticed you to enroll in that school.

My obsession with economics drew me to UC Berkeley. UC Berkeley has the world's best public and development economics programs. I remember separately talking to professors at two different universities both saying they had lost their best to UC Berkeley. My dream was to do research with Emmanuel Saez, who has almost single-handedly created public economics as a serious field of study.

Tell us about your major and anything new you're involved with.

I started as an Economics major, but being in the Bay Area, this "tech startup" craze was everywhere. So, I decided to see what it was about by taking an introductory computer science class, and by my sophomore year I ended up adding it as a second major. I love it, and I have a lot of ideas for what to build to solve real world problems. Freshman year I started a company with my roommate, CKPantry, an on-demand delivery service for popular snacks and candy in our dorms. By sophomore year I had worked on Presidential Actions, an app that allowed you to easily see every executive order or decision made by the White House. We had about 3,000 users at our peak. I interned in San Francisco at a tech startup, Way2B1, and then this year a couple of friends founded a data analytics startup, Archer, that I decided to join in on. I've been working on Archer for the past year, on product, business development, and software engineering.

At the same time I've still retained my love for economics. I did research predicting interest rates using machine learning methods on federal reserve documents. I'm starting my honors thesis this semester, and I'm about to ask Emmanuel Saez to be my thesis advisor!

Your teachers recall your enthusiasm for debate while at WES. Does this still hold true?

Absolutely. Most of my friends jokingly refer to me as the least 'Computer Science' among my group because I'm always pulling people aside to discuss and debate new government actions, market changes, etc. To this day, people call me crazy for being a member of Berkeley College Republicans and Cal Democrats; with all the political activism and tension at UC Berkeley regarding free speech, I spend a large chunk of my time debating and understanding people at both ends of the political spectrum.



Ali Ahmed '11

Ali Ahmed '11

Tell us about your travels.

My parents work for the World Bank Group, so travel has always been a big part of my life. They were born in Pakistan and naturally I've spent a lot of time there visiting the rest of my family. The world's a beautifully complex place. Understanding the historical and cultural contexts that inform different opinions is invaluable in today's world. I try and do that before visiting a new city. WES recognized that—what was great about the France and Italy trips was that we got to study exactly that before going to the country.

What is the last book you read, aside from school assignments?

I just read *Radical Candor* by Kim Scott. It's about how to be a great boss without "losing your humanity" as the author puts it. I'm on a nonfiction streak right now but I've actually mostly read fiction. Ever since Mrs. Durling's reading challenge I don't think I've stopped. She really encouraged us to set concrete goals to read outside of the classroom.

Or what do you like to do with your free time?

Honestly, most of my free time is spent working on Archer or political tech side-projects. But when I do have the time, I cook. Usually it's either American-Chinese food or Pakistani food. I get it from my parents—they're both incredible cooks.

What are some of your fondest memories as a WES student?

It's hard to give one answer for this—they vary. One in particular was during the Utah trip. I was paired with James Hemus '11, this guy who I hadn't really talked to and wasn't in any of my classes. It was during that trip that we became good friends, so much so that I still keep up with him. I actually saw him in Berkeley over spring break!

Another was learning to solo as part of the after-school Jazz band. I remember looking up to Hunter Heflin '10, our first-chair saxophonist, and learning to solo from him and the really great teachers that WES had. I still play. At UC Berkeley I was part of UC Jazz for my first year and I still regularly go to shows with my original UC Jazz ensemble.

What advice would you give to a current WES student?

Make the most of it! At WES you take so many classes in a such a variety of things, it's a time where you can really find what you love and dive into it. Whether it's acting in the eighth-grade play, learning biology with Mrs. Earle, or speaking French with Madame Hassandzadeh—whatever that passion may be, you'll find it somewhere at WES.