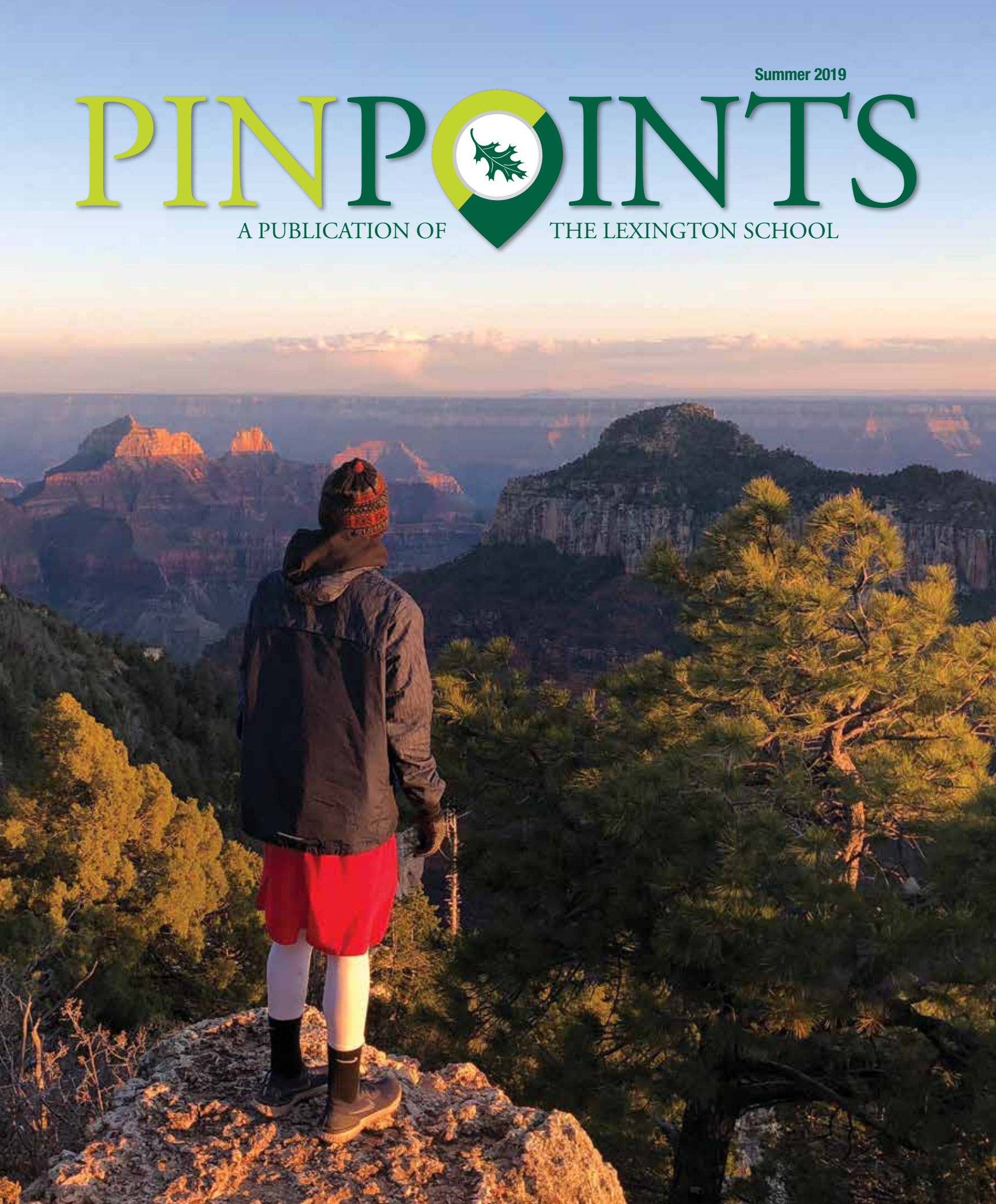
Summer 2019

PINPOINTS

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEXINGTON SCHOOL





The Class



Row 1: Gabby Dahlgren, Uma Zimmerman, Arden Stone, Samantha Harris, Leah Keelen, Penelope Kwun, Michelle Ortiz, Margaret Crothers, Destiny Eversole, Lexi Phillips, Maggie Pulliam, Avery Sullivan, Lilly Chamblin **Row 2:** Katherine Truitt, Lucy Woodworth, Justine Lofwall, Olivia Kobak, Mimi DeRossett, Laila Hernandez, Amelia Monohan, Audrey Stack, Leah Hale, Farwah Hussain **Row 3:** Caleigh Given, Willow Abedi, Zoe Schaeffer, Gigi Cornett, Katherine Croce, Mary Esther Thomas, Callie Cullins, Skylar Eads, Maggie Harrison, Meredith Bailey **Row 4:** Wick Preston, Michael Crowe, Charlie Jefferson, Will Partain, Ben Pund, Erickson Ferguson, Antony Valdes, Brayden Bell, Reed Applegate, Spencer Harston, Christain Turner, Thomas Dimakogiannis **Row 5:** George Freeman, Hudson Sparks, Wills Milward, Hayden Adams, Alex Baldecchi, Teague Roth, Carter Ashmun, Hari Sethuraman, Buntaro Yoshida, Jake Nahra, Clay Monohan, Tyler Erpenbeck, Witt Wood, Charlie Camp

# of 2019



Ms. MacCarthy gives and gets a meaningful hand clasp.

HEADLINES

May 31st was the 58th commencement of The Lexington School. Over the years, hundreds of students had shared in this collective moment. In white dresses and school ties, excited and nervous all at the same time, students gathered for the traditional last picture as a TLS student prior to taking the stage. Some students in the **Class of 2019** had been in the halls of The Lexington School since they were toddlers; some students just arrived in eighth grade, yet all were the same, as they awkwardly pinned on the corsage or positioned the roses they were to carry.

With a quick glance, the commencement of 2019 may have looked similar to the last 23 I have been part of at TLS; however, I knew this one was different for two reasons. George, our youngest child, was in this class and would be leaving TLS, and I was about to become the new Head of School.

George has spent his entire life at TLS, which has given me unique access to this class. I have known some of these children since diapers, and I have watched the group grow, mature, and become the impressive young men and women they are today. Returning from the Southwest Trip just days before, we were able to share those last moments at TLS together. I was proud of who the **Class of 2019** was, both as people and as a class.

On that cloudy commencement morning, I led the procession, and from my seat turned and watched each student walk onto stage. I had that familiar feeling I had experienced during each graduation, a sadness that it was coming to an end and the kids would be somewhere else next year. One of the magical parts of a K-8 school is the privilege of literally watching children unfold in front of you. For those of us fortunate enough to work in this space, we see childhood up close and personal – the ups and downs, the growth and challenges, the joys and the shining moments.

As I looked over at George and his classmates, it hit me. This day ended a long run of our family having a child lucky enough to be nurtured by The Lexington School. My husband, **Reid Freeman '74**, and his siblings went to TLS. All of our nephews did as well. For 51 years, TLS has nurtured children from our extended family. As the ceremony ended and that span came to an end, I felt nostalgic and happy all at once.

I am the lucky one. I get to stay, and I couldn't be more excited.



Una MacCarthy
Head of School

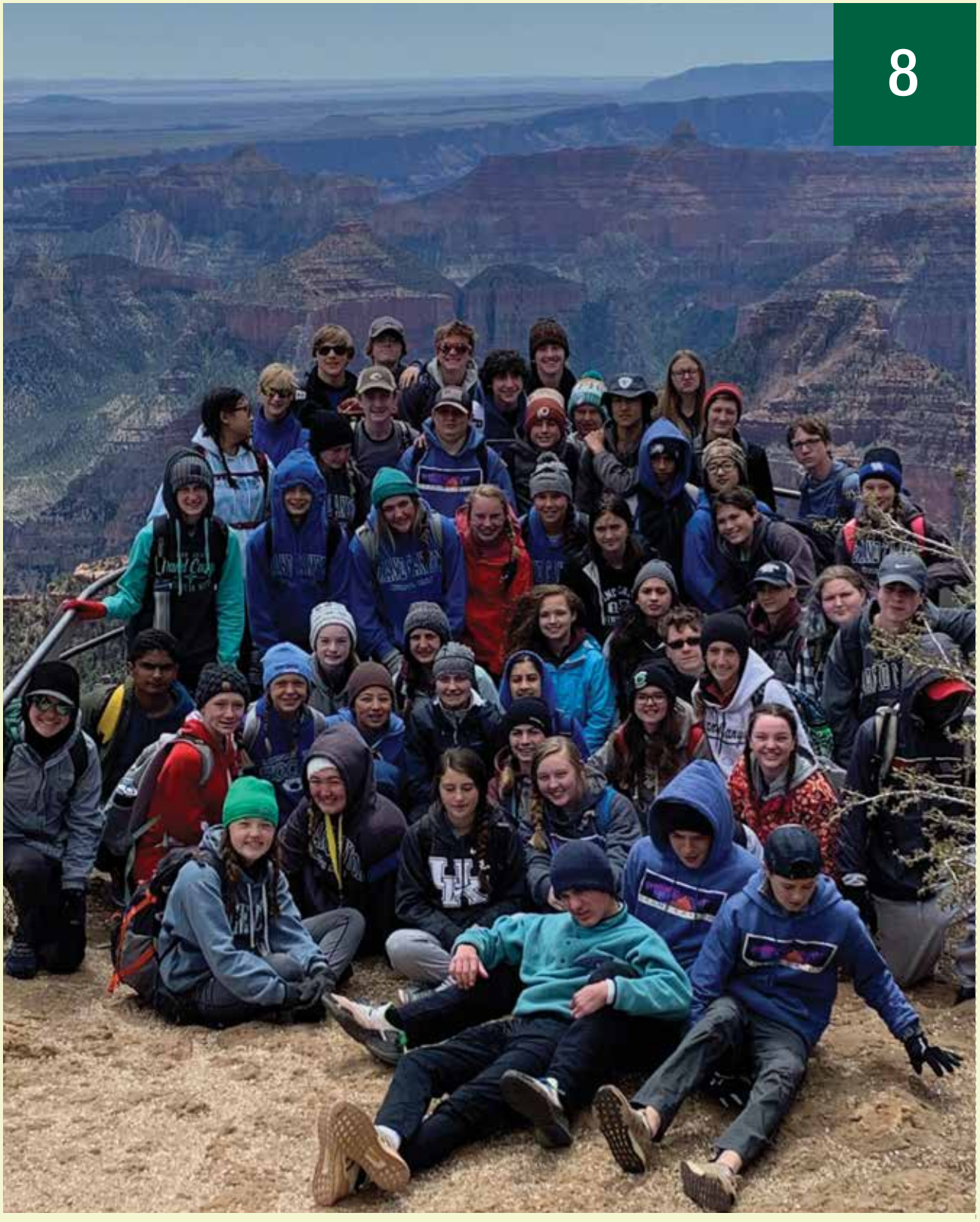
CONTENTS


4


16


18


20



8

Editor
Lucy J. McKinstry '66

Copy Editor
Ann Eames

Design
Steve Parker Design

Photography
David Coyle
Jo-Ellen Fischbach
Caitlin Hall
Tom Novitsky
Beth Pride
Scott Walz

4 FEATURE 16 ACADEMICS 18 ATHLETICS 20 ARTS 23 ALUMNI 27 DONOR REPORT

Cover photo: **Chris Johnson '89**. As the day ends at the Grand Canyon, the **Class of 2019** makes memories that will last years.
Please address comments to lmckinstry@thelexingtonschool.org.



ANYT



The **Class of 2019** learned from and laughed with **Jamie Rosenstein '08**, 25th alumni commencement speaker at The Lexington School. Her self-effacing, humorous stories of collegiate years at Cornell and Oxford, with degrees from both, in addition to her work experiences in various positions at Google, enlightened all ages of her audience. Her advice, shared with approachable friendliness, resonated: "You all have a strong foundation, a springboard from which you can launch yourself into ANYTHING."

May 31st dawned overcast, but shortly after 6:00 A.M., Head of School Chuck Baldecchi made the correct and popular call to continue with the plan for the traditional outdoor ceremony. Scarlet Gate's expansive front lawn became the graduation setting for the seventh time. The two-centuries-old ginkgo just to the left of the stage provided dappled shade as, appropriately, the sun began to shine more and more throughout the ceremony. It was a morning filled with great pride and much hope as the eighth graders processed down the aisle and up the three steps onto the stage.

Mr. Baldecchi spoke of the letters eighth graders traditionally write to him, noting a repetitive theme. "Several letters pointed to the research showing roughly 75% to 80% of humans are terrified to speak in public. The research was used to support public speaking at TLS: debates, Capstones, fifth grade musical, Kentucky Heritage Day, Kindergarten's Razzle Dazzle. It made a connection for me at TLS. TLS produces a lot of leaders. It dawned on me that if 75% of humans are terrified to speak in public and that pubic speaking is a significant responsibility of a leader, there may be a reason TLS produces so many leaders. Our



HING IS POSSIBLE

curriculum over the course of your education forces you out of your comfort zone and into the 25%. We build that public speaking muscle whether you are an introvert or an extrovert. At TLS, you are asked to step up. My hope is that you continue to use that leadership muscle in high school, college, and beyond. Continue that TLS tradition of leading."

Chris Young '90, board of trustees president, gave a comprehensive overview of the past year, with an up-to-the-minute report on the ONE School project, which will positively affect every Lexington School student and teacher. In thanking three most special people for their tremendous impact upon the success of The Lexington School, he presented honorary alumni diplomas to **Chuck Baldecchi (H'19)**, **Erin Baldecchi (H'19)**, and **Bob Thompson (H'19)**. In deep respect for Bob's 35 years of protecting and guiding the financial well-being of the school, the Board of Trustees has unanimously voted to name the soon-to-be-remodeled business office in honor of Mr. Robert "Bob" Thompson.

Una MacCarthy -- Assistant Head, Head of Middle School, and incoming Head – presented academic awards. Mr. Baldecchi, retiring Head, completed his 15th commencement by giving a diploma and congratulatory handshake to his 785th student as Uma Zimmerman walked across the stage to receive hers.

Congratulations to the **Class of 2019!**





WORLD CLASS *officers*

George Freeman: While we will not be able to enjoy the benefits of our newly built school, we are very excited for those who will, and we decided that the new One School initiative plan best represents our **Class of 2019.**





Leah Hale: With lessons in becoming our best selves, learning kindness and respect for others, and being secure in the understanding that learning was fun, our foundation as future leaders was set.

Legacy Students:
George Freeman
Charlie Jefferson
Wills Milward
Jake Nahra
Katherine Truitt
Witt Wood



Maggie Harrison: Our teachers have helped us through our TLS career no matter our circumstances, no matter how we act in class, no matter what.

Class officers George Freeman, Leah Hale, Maggie Harrison, Zoe Schaeffer, and Penelope Kwun spoke with confidence from the podium.



Zoe Schaeffer: While rock climbing in Zion National Park on the Southwest trip, it occurred to me that there was not one person in our grade that I would not trust to belay me.



Penelope Kwun: TLS has provided a window to the outside world, so that when we go, we go with confidence.



Completing his 15th commencement, Mr. Baldecchi presents his 785th diploma to Uma Zimmerman.

HIGH SCHOOL MATRICULATIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2019

Willow Abedi ..... Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Hayden Adams ..... Sayre School
Reed Applegate ..... Episcopal High School; Alexandria, VA
Carter Ashmun ..... Lafayette High School Pre-Engineering Program
Meredith Bailey ..... Frederick Douglass High School
Alex Baldecchi ..... Charlotte Latin School; Charlotte, NC
Brayden Bell ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Charlie Camp ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Lilly Chamblin ..... Lafayette High School
Gigi Cornett ..... Sayre School
Katherine Croce ..... Sayre School
Margaret Crothers ..... Lafayette High School Pre-Engineering Program
Michael Crowe ..... Paul Laurence Dunbar High School MSTC Program
Callie Cullins ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Gabby Dahlgren ..... Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Mimi DeRossett ..... Sayre School
Thomas Dimakogiannis ..... Mount Vernon Presbyterian School; Atlanta, GA
Skylar Eads ..... University of NC School of the Arts; Classical Ballet; Winston-Salem, NC
Tyler Erpenbeck ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Destiny Eversole ... Lafayette High School & Locust Trace AgriScience Center
Erickson Ferguson ..... Lexington Catholic High School
George Freeman ..... Lexington Catholic High School Exemplar Math & Science Program
Caleigh Given ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Leah Hale ..... Lafayette High School Pre-Engineering Program
Samantha Harris ..... Sayre School
Maggie Harrison ..... Henry Clay High School Liberal Arts Academy
Spencer Harston ..... Lexington Catholic High School Exemplar Math & Science Program
Laila Hernandez ..... Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Farwah Hussain ..... Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Charlie Jefferson ..... Sayre School
Leah Keelen ..... Sayre School
Olivia Kobak ..... Sayre School
Penelope Kwun ..... Baylor School; Chattanooga, TN
Justine Lofwall ..... Henry Clay High School Liberal Arts Academy
Wills Milward ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Amelia Monohan ..... Lexington Catholic High School Exemplar Math & Science Program
Clay Monohan ..... Sayre School
Jake Nahra ..... Sayre School
Michelle Ortiz ..... Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
Will Partain ..... Sayre School
Lexi Phillips ..... Maumee Valley Country Day School; Toledo, OH
Wick Preston ..... Henry Clay High School
Maggie Pulliam ..... Sayre School
Ben Pund ..... Henry Clay High School
Teague Roth ..... Henry Clay High School Liberal Arts Academy
Zoe Schaeffer ..... Henry Clay High School Liberal Arts Academy
Hari Sethuraman ..... Paul Laurence Dunbar High School MSTC Program
Hudson Sparks ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Audrey Stack ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Arden Stone ..... Woodford County High School
Avery Sullivan ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Mary Esther Thomas ..... Frederick Douglass High School
Katherine Truitt ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Christain Turner ..... Home School
Antony Valdes ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Witt Wood ..... Sayre School
Lucy Woodworth ..... Lexington Catholic High School
Buntaro Yoshida ..... Steamboat Mountain School Global Immersion Studies; CO
Uma Zimmerman ..... The Lawrenceville School; Lawrenceville, NJ

The Southwest Trip

ADVENTURE Awaits

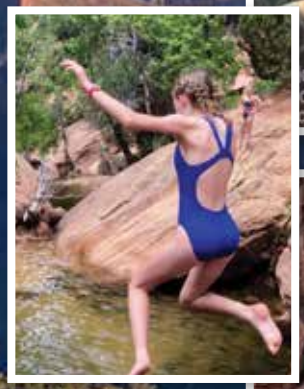




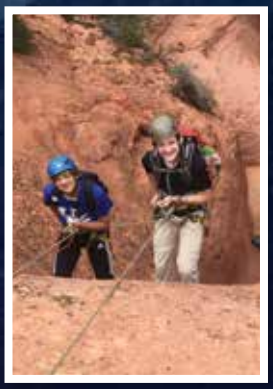




















A Bow Tie Birthday

Throughout the last 15 years, **Chuck Baldecchi (H'19)**, **Erin Baldecchi (H'19)**, **Bella '17**, **Alex '19**, and **Cade '21** have made their many contributions to the day-to-day life of The Lexington School.

As Mr. B becomes Head of School at Charlotte Latin School in North Carolina, the Baldecchis' TLS family sends them warmest, best wishes.

The Baldecchis, each and collectively, leave TLS with a school full of friends. For a thorough review of the Baldecchi years, 2004 to 2019, please see Spring 2019 *Pinpoints.*

Bow ties were de rigueur for Mr. B's surprise birthday celebration.

Daniel Sussman Leaves for New Jersey



Pinpoints bids fond farewell to the Sussman family, Daniel, Jori, **Levi '24**, and **Andrew '26**, as they move to New Jersey, where Daniel will become Director of Lower School at Far Hills Country Day School. TLS Lower School Head since 2016, Daniel grew up in New Jersey, about 20 minutes from his new campus.

The sense of TLS community has been important to Daniel, as he says, "Every child is like a story, and getting to know our TLS families' stories has been one of the highlights of our time here." He views a critical part of being a successful Lower School Head as "providing support to students and families by knowing their stories. This helps us individualize each child's program, be it an extra hug, pat on the back, or, in some cases, a gentle push forward."

Daniel is especially proud of the new Lower School Language Arts program that includes a variety of accelerated or remedial goals for reading, spelling, and handwriting. Important, too, are the continuing efforts of each homeroom teacher to promote the responsive classroom, for social and emotional learning. Classes begin with morning meeting, a time for the teacher to set the stage, as each student is welcomed and called by name. There forms a spirit of cohesion within the classroom, creating time during the day to develop relationships among students. Daniel points out that this classroom setting leads naturally into Mission Skills.

The Sussman family deeply appreciates the personal outpouring of love and support from The Lexington School community, particularly during a challenging family health situation.



a life of BALANCE

Chris Young '90, board of trustees president, bestows honorary alumni status upon **Bob Thompson (H'19)**.

From the 25th anniversary of The Lexington School to the approach of the 60th this fall, **Bob Thompson (H'19)** has been a constant and wise protector of the school's financial resources.

Giving background, **Chuck Baldecchi (H'19)** explains, "When Bob Thompson started at The Lexington School, it was just a young school trying to find its way. Now, due to Mr. Thompson's conservative budgeting and long-range vision, TLS has one of the strongest balance sheets in the independent school world."

In looking back to those early years, Bob remembers, "I was working as internal auditor for a bank in a nearby community when I got a call from Ann Eames [a faculty member on the search committee for a new Head of School] to let me know of the opening. I actually interviewed with a number of trustees in the office I now occupy. Mrs. [Betty Jo] Palmer, the board chair, was acting Head of School at the time, and the business manager had left earlier in the spring. Stuart Smith was hired as Interim Head a little later in the summer. He was a great mentor, and I learned a great deal about independent schools from him."

Over the decades, the strong sense of community has been vitally important to Bob: "I am most proud of the team of people I have worked with over the years. The business office, IT, maintenance, and food service leadership and staff have been outstanding. They have worked long hours, exceeded expectations, and done their best to serve the TLS community. The focus of everyone has always been on the success of the students."

Difficult as it is to choose favorite career highlights, Bob acknowledges, "I've enjoyed numerous things over the years, but I think the past few years have been the best, seeing alums who were students when I started, returning with their own children, and some taking leadership roles, serving as trustees on the same

committees their parents did. It's no surprise that TLS has continued to be successful."

Mrs. Susan O'Brien, The Lexington School's next CFO, has worked closely with Bob since January, her desk across the office from his, her footsteps beside his on daily campus rounds during ONE School construction. Their solid collaboration has led her to observe: "Part of Bob's silent legacy is that he has guided the financial well-being of this school. He has shepherded it through highs and lows, both administratively and financially. His integrity is unquestioned. The fundamentals of what he does need to be preserved. I have the utmost respect for Bob."

Bob speaks honestly when he says, "What I'll miss most about The Lexington School is this second family I've had for the last 35 years, the laughter, the accomplishments, the sadness we've shared, the stories about our children and the heartfelt caring about the well-being of each other."

Bob's Lexington School family offers a collective and robust thank you as he and wife, Sharon, strike the balance of enjoying time with their seven grandchildren, days at the lake, and road trips to a long list of places.



TLS board members, current and former, celebrate **Bob Thompson (H'19)** at the Apiary.

From David Lowry, Ph.D. (H'00); Headmaster 1985 - 1995

Bob had come to TLS the year before I was appointed Headmaster. We hit it off immediately, despite the fact that we came from pretty different backgrounds. I always felt Bob respected my judgment and would help me achieve the goals that needed accomplishing at that time in the school's journey. And I knew Bob was incredibly competent and straightforward. Beyond that, we shared senses of humor and perspective. Our relationship was cemented in absolute honesty and trust. We both knew our roles, and never crossed into the other's areas of expertise. We were mutually supportive, something that is essential at the top level of leadership in an independent school.

Experts tell us the most important relationship in an independent school is between the Head of School and the board chair. While that may be true, on a day-to-day basis of getting things done, the most important relationship is between the Head of School and the business manager. Thank you, Bob, for being the best partner I could ever have.





"Our relationship was cemented in absolute honesty and trust. We both knew our roles, and never crossed into the other's areas of expertise."

— David Lowry, Former Headmaster



Kentucky Heritage Day, 2012. Photo by **Bill Patterson '81**

EXTRA FORTISSIMO!

At the commencement of the Class of 2019 it sounded to some in the Scarlet Gate audience as if Dr. David Cooper, middle and lower school music teacher since 1999, played "Pomp and Circumstance" with extra fortissimo. His 21st commencement was his last time at a TLS piano.



Dr. Cooper has retired – after playing "The Lexington School Alma Mater" in 17 different performances every school year; organizing and providing accompaniment in 180 lower school assemblies, once a month for 20 years; producing and accompanying students in 17 fifth grade musicals; writing the script for, directing, and accompanying fourth graders for 20 Kentucky Heritage Days. He has spent at least two hours at the piano every school day during these last two decades. He is the second-longest-tenured music teacher in TLS history, behind Martha Anderson.

Gunnar Hamilton '08, thoroughly immersed in the current Lexington music scene along with **Philip Lillelund '07**, recalls, "What impressed me most – and I play violin, guitar, and piano a lot – was that Dr. Cooper could sight read any piece of music anybody ever gave him. He'd play it perfectly, right there on the spot, without ever seeing it before. That's pretty crazy. Another thing that amazed me were the super unique plays Dr. Cooper had us doing. He sometimes wrote the script; he played the music, of course; he was the stage director; he had a real passion for all of it. Even as young as fourth grade, it felt like we were working for an actual playhouse. That's how it felt. He's the Maestro!"

Perhaps Dr. Cooper's TLS pal Jeff Crowe says it best, "I love hearing you laughing and singing opera in the hallways – I can hear you all the way over to Scarlet Gate!"

Bravissimo, Dr. Cooper, and thank you!

A Musical Tradition

John D. Stewart, MD
Chairman, Generation V
Stewart Home & School

Friday, April 26, 2019, was a special sixth grade visit to our Stewart Home & School campus in Frankfort. It included a cousin Clara Nicol and a neighbor Laura B Friesen. But especially it included, as always, your music director Dr. David Cooper, who started this tradition in 1999 with the sixth grade class of my daughter **Magda Stewart '02**, now an equine DVM. Dr. Cooper followed with a visit by the class of our son, **John Stewart '04**, an automotive engineer, when he, too, was in sixth grade. David first heard of our program from publicity after our handbell choir performed at the White House. When TLS visited in April, our music director, Michael Ghant, and the voice choir had a gift T-shirt for Dr. Cooper, and they performed "Thank You for Being a Friend." It was a sentimental moment.

We welcome the opportunity to share the special educational experiences we have with Lexington School students, teachers, and parents.



From Branching Out Blog, Blog.thelexingtonschool.org, by Beth Pride

Numero Una!

There are twenty-plus years of TLS families and friends who know and love her. That leaves a few more decades of TLS families and friends who may not know how lucky we are. If you don't know her already, you must MEET UNA!



It's pretty easy to see how she got here. Una grew up the third of four girls in small town, Glasgow, Kentucky, where the community was close and comfortable. A love of the great outdoors took Una every summer as a kid to Rockbrook Camp in North Carolina, camper, counselor, and eventually Director of summer programs. Red-headed adventurer that she was, Una took the risk in high school and left Glasgow to attend The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, NY, where she found her love of independent education.

Community, the great outdoors, and independent school education are at Una MacCarthy's core, directly impacting the path she chose for her life's work. She completed her BA in English at the University of Kentucky and went straight into teaching middle schoolers at Hammond School in South Carolina. A few years in, she finished her Master of Educational Administration Degree at the University of South Carolina and became Middle School Head. Una never wavered on where and what she wanted to be – in school or outside of school with faculty and kids.

In 1996, Una was asked to join The Lexington School, and she's been home ever since. Una has been involved in all aspects of The Lexington School's leadership. As Middle School Head and Assistant Head of School, she was advisor to the Head of School and lead Division Head. As such, Una has been an integral part of all strategic planning initiatives, school task forces, and committees, demonstrating she is a strong implementer of resulting change.

Una: *Twenty-three years of love for this school has allowed me the opportunity to build an incomparable portfolio of administrative experiences. Collaborating with an incredible team of professionals, I am proud to be a part of this nationally-ranked school. We have come a long way. I understand the significance of transition, the need for stability, and the boldness needed to continue moving forward.*

For Una, The Lexington School is family – quite literally. She is married to **Reid Freeman '74**, and their children (Hart Freeman, **Katharine Freeman '04**, **Justin Freeman '17**, and **George Freeman '19**) have attended TLS, and she has long-standing and deep relationships with generations of TLS alums and their parents.

Una: *I love what I do because I believe in what I do. I am passionate about TLS because year after year I have seen the power of its influence in the lives of the children who walk these halls. I am energized and enthusiastic to continue the good work that is part of the history of The Lexington School.*

In seamless transition, Una serves as cultural custodian and momentum maintainer of this wonderful school community.

Welcome NEW TEAM!



Susan O'Brien

Susan O'Brien is back on campus, this time as The Lexington School's new Chief Financial Officer. After working with Bob Thompson since January until his retirement on June 30, Susan continues to keep a close and discerning eye on what transpires throughout the campus at 1050 Lane Allen Road. She is as knowledgeable discussing construction details of the ONE School project as she is deciphering financial spreadsheets.

Susan has deep and varied ties with the school and has long played a pivotal role in the excellence of TLS. She and husband, John, are parents of **Jennifer '05**, **Michael '08**, **Matthew '08**, and **Mark '12**. Susan is also a former trustee, and was treasurer of the board from 2009 to 2012 during years of the Great Recession. She is widely credited for successfully helping steer TLS through that especially challenging time.

Susan knows and models the importance and the strength of working together toward shared goals. She encourages her many team members – the business office, IT, food service, and building and grounds committee of the board – to partner closely with all faculty and staff. She encourages integrated conversations to envision and plan for what services are needed for faculty, parents, students.

The Lexington School is fortunate to have Susan O'Brien back on campus and back on board.



Tim Alford

Tim Alford and wife **Mary Bruce Gray Alford '99**, with their children, **Gray '27**, **Virginia '30**, and **Stella '31**, combine the strength of their Mississippi family with the strength of their Kentucky family, and The Lexington School is the stronger for it all.

From Kosciusko, Mississippi, with stops in Sewanee, Boston, Nashville, and Jackson, Mississippi, Tim arrives at TLS with his Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Religion from Sewanee – the University of the South; a master's in theology, literature, and religion from Harvard Divinity School; and a master's in leadership and organizational performance from Vanderbilt University.

Tim illustrates the broad reach of The Lexington School. While at Vanderbilt, he made the warm acquaintance of Susan Touchstone, Lower School Head at the University School of Nashville. Many in the TLS family fondly remember Susan's tenure as TLS Lower School Head from 1998 to 2002. Retired now and living in San Francisco, Susan shares in TLS's happiness at having Tim in Lexington, saying, "I knew Tim when he was working on his Master of Education degree in Leadership and Organizational Performance at Vanderbilt. As part of his professional development experience there, he sought out the University School of Nashville's Head of School, Vince Durnan, as a mentor. During that year, Tim participated in all of our administrative meetings. It was during these meetings that I came to know him. The thoughtful manner in which Tim engaged with the staff endeared him to all of us. He always had relevant and meaningful ideas to share, but, maybe more importantly, I remember him being an active listener. He was universally liked, and we all knew he was bound for great things. The Lexington School is fortunate to have Tim ... and Tim is fortunate to be at TLS."



Eunice Beatty

Eunice Beatty and her husband, Anthany, are both natives of Lexington, Kentucky. Her TLS grandchildren **Kennedy '18**, **Peyton '23**, and **Embry '23**, live within four miles of her; thus, it is not unusual to find Eunice and Anthany enjoying their grandparenting roles. Eunice describes the joy and happiness of their grandchildren learning at TLS, scheduling playdates, and participating in afterschool activities as reasons Anthany first found himself serving on the TLS Board of Trustees, followed by Eunice in the same role.

Then came a new chapter in the life of TLS. In early 2019, Una was selected to become the incoming Head of School. Eunice predicted a dynamic new chapter because of Una's passion for teaching and learning, her leadership style, and the ways she engaged parents. What Eunice did not predict was Una's ask: "Will you serve as Interim Lower School Head?" Eunice says, "Saying yes to something you believe in is easy! A career in higher education, service as church Youth Director, and starting a foundation to help children and youth, are lifetime journey experiences that affect young people and develop minds." And, as her journey continues, Eunice enthusiastically awaits the first day of school as Lower School Head.

Eunice is a retired licensed dental hygienist, college professor, and college administrator. Her educational background includes a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Educational Psychology and Counseling, and Marriage and Family Science, a Master of Science degree in Education (Curriculum and Instruction), and a Bachelor of Health Science degree in Dental Hygiene. Eunice is a national W.K. Kellogg Fellow and a recipient of the National Master Teacher Award.

Eunice is saddled up at the Home of the Colts, and ready to ride. The Lexington School is fortunate to have Eunice Beatty in our lower school stirrups.

WE HAVE A STORY TO TELL.

Major assignments in school – and in life – can cause plenty of angst. But for middle school Learning Center students, their toughest assignments teach them as much about how to complete their most daunting tasks as the research itself. A two-month long biographical research project culminating in a paper and presentation teaches both confidence and lessons foundational to future success."



Detailed writing of the bio research paper precedes delivery.

Middle school students of The Learning Center have completed their three-page biography research papers, and the lessons learned throughout the two-month process are foundational.

The mission of the project as stated in teachers' written reports says, "Learning to write well is an important skill that allows students to demonstrate what they have learned about a subject as well as their feelings, thoughts, and experiences. Writing a research report requires the integration of many skills: researching, reading and analyzing, note-taking, synthesizing information, and informative/explanatory writing."

This mission statement is combined with an equally impressive, thoroughly organized, step-by-step action plan. Courtenay Macaulay, seventh and eighth grade instructional specialist, explains, "Students find this especially hard at first, as they learn the research process they'll use in high school and college. We break it down into small, achievable parts, beginning with how to determine if a person is famous enough to have a book written about them." Students find credible sources and learn to access information, reading and highlighting specific points. Using Google docs, they compose two-column notes, main ideas on the left, supporting details to the right. Each paragraph has a main purpose, from birth and early childhood, through death and conclusion. Edits and revisions are made before the next paragraph is begun. Students write introductory paragraphs – with hook, plan, and thesis last – when they know their character fully.

For the culmination, writing joins speaking, as authors present their biography research papers in the theater before a full audience. The applause they receive is well earned.

WRITE PLACE. WRITE PEOPLE. WRITE TIME.

By Laurie Nawor, Preschool and Lower School Librarian

Writers Guild is one of my favorite days of the year (second only to chicken wing day). We've had tremendously talented authors and illustrators as our distinguished guests to help celebrate our own budding talent at TLS. The children have the opportunity to listen to the visiting authors, who present how they began their journeys. Despite their wildly different life stories, it is clear to all that their journeys began with creativity, gumption, do-overs, and erasures.

Later in the day, tables are turned, and it's magical. The kids are the rock stars and present their story to their guests. At the end of a long day, my most favorite part is when a child visits with the author, usually shyly at first, for these are the people responsible for some of their very favorite characters – Otis the tractor, Ivan the gorilla, or the Princess in Black. It is not unusual to see the (big) author and (little) author, heads together, pouring over the Writers Guild book.

Okay, Writers Guild beats chicken wing day by a landslide.









SURVIVING – **AND THRIVING** – WITH SHARKS

The in-house version of *Shark Tank,* produced by The Lexington School eighth graders, was exciting and action-packed. Polished pitches showcased unique product descriptions, detailed business plans, and thorough market analyses. The students' take on the reality show focused on specific, behind-the-scenes work in preparation for presentation before the Shark-infested panel of investors.

Encouraging entrepreneurship at an early age, Dana Adamson, Central Kentucky's Traditional Bank Senior Vice President for Marketing, contacted TLS after successfully piloting the comprehensive curriculum at local high schools. Four bank representatives met with members of the **Class of 2019** a dozen times, explaining, "You will be creating a product and a business proposal as if you were planning to pitch your idea to the entrepreneurs on the TV show *Shark Tank.*"

Individually or in groups of up to three, students developed an executive summary that included the owners' and company name; the product name, slogan, and logo; the Mission Statement; and a detailed plan of the product or service. They researched potential manufacturing costs of the product, taking into special account office space, warehouse or factory rental, utility costs, product costs, labor, and advertising. Their bank advisors cautioned, "Be sure this is realistic. Research similar markets."

TLS entrepreneurs wrangled with questions that led to more questions: For what amount would you sell your product? Would people pay that price? How many buyers do you estimate? What do you expect your profits to be? Who are your target consumers? In what region or state do they live? What age and gender are they? What is their income level and social class? Who is your competition, and why are you better than they are? What are your startup costs? Where do you see your company in ten years, and in twenty? And the all-important, why should the Sharks invest in your company?

Students determined the amount of financial investment they sought from the Sharks as well as how much of the company ownership they would be willing to relinquish. They designed creative ways to pitch the product, which culminated in confident explanations and demonstrations on the theater stage with audio and video accompaniment.

With strong direction from Traditional Bank, The Lexington School eighth graders are well prepared to swim with the sharks.

HEART & GRIT

CENTRAL KENTUCKY LACROSSE ASSOCIATION CHAMPS

"They didn't skip practices for haircuts or vacations," Coach Joe Conley, middle school foreign language teacher, says with a smile, and that dedication was the key.





Reflecting on this year's huge win, **Alex Baldecchi '19** notes that it began with an equally huge loss when he says, "Because we lost last year's lacrosse championship, we really wanted to win it this year. Coach Conley gave us a talk before the season even began. He said, 'You can't do this without heart and grit.' The first game this year, we didn't win, but after that, we played insanely, with plenty of heart and grit. We practiced when we didn't have practice, and it all paid off."

Everybody associated with this team knows what Alex is talking about. While last year's championship game was being played, they practiced. It wasn't a scheduled practice. It grew organically. From the get-go, Coach Conley has admired the team's will to win, and he loved every minute of seeing each player mature throughout the months. They practiced after school, throughout breaks and recess during school, on the weekends. As they improved, they grew closer as a team. They began sending motivational text messages to inspire each other. They became more disciplined. Their determination spilled over into non-LAX areas of their lives. They were more focused on success at home and in the classroom. Parents noticed. Teachers noticed. The boys took more ownership of their sport and of their actions. For every game, they arrived one hour early to set their sights on the job at hand. Sometimes there were doubleheaders; the days were long. Coach Conley credits **Alex Baldecchi '19, Ben Pund '19**, **Teague Roth '19**, and **Buntaro Yoshida '19** as being strong eighth grade leaders who paved the way for success.

Buntaro hastens to add, "What I really liked was Coach Conley always giving us inspiring speeches about why we were the best and about winning, working harder, and determination. On the last day of practice, the Thursday before the championship game, Coach told us we would not win unless we wanted it. We wanted it badly!" Buntaro goes on to say, "This lacrosse team is like family to me. Every day at school we would meet and talk about our strengths and weaknesses."

Assistant coach for the second year, **Will Chapman '96**, also enjoyed his days and months with this team, noting, "I've been impressed with them from the very beginning, from when all the kids thanked me after our first practice. I'm proud of every one of them."

Give a robust round of applause to the Central Kentucky Lacrosse Association 2019 champion varsity boys. Now they can get haircuts and go on vacation.















With support from fourth through eighth grade student athletes, TLS athletics produces an award-winning spring season. Colts log new track and field records and a lacrosse championship, while the girls' soccer program gains respect and prominence among local club soccer programs.

Athletics: [Spring]ing into Action



WEAVING ART INTO LIFE [with friends]



Oceans of inspirational ideas filled the Preschool Art Show. Using water-themed lessons and artwork, Lori Barnett, preschool and lower school art teacher, knew how to get her students on board in the classroom preparing for the exhibition and later as part of the show itself. She had asked Todd Morrison, buildings and grounds superintendent, to construct a loom, a wooden three-foot-by-eight-foot rectangle of squares, the perfect height and length for two-year-old Acorns through second graders, individually and collectively.

The artists -- some standing, some sitting on both sides of the loom -- learned in a hurry that teamwork was essential. Enthusiastic discussion ensued. Who begins the delicate work first? Who decides where the ribbon goes next? What happens when the yarn gets in a knot?

The three-fish design was simple, and Mrs. Barnett's vision always ensured learning, even when her artists didn't know they were learning. The fish were warm colors, and the background, cool colors. Two buckets held ribbons cut in two-foot lengths: warm colors in one and cool in the other. Vibrant pipe cleaners were available for the choosing too. Each of Mrs. Barnett's 19 classes added their own creative touches during their half-hour periods, with Acorns concentrating hard for their ten-minute class times.

Set up outside the theater for the show, the loom provided popular interactive and intergenerational opportunity for artwork throughout the evening. Students became teachers, offering particular pointers to parents, grandparents, special friends, and their own teachers.

During summer vacation, rising first grader Cruz Espinoza was happy to pull away from outdoor play for a moment and talk about his newfound interest and expertise in weaving. Looking at pictures of the collaborative creation, he enjoyed demonstrating his weaving skills while he recounted the experience in Mrs. Barnett's art class. "We worked on weaving together. Even the Acorns got to do it! I love them, and I feel happy for them." He went on to say, "I was delighted to weave with Mrs. Roden at the art show. I liked using red and orange ribbon to make the fish." Cruz made sure his audience understood the intricacies of how to weave, explaining, "You make it go in a square, and the person who is on the other side puts it in again. Then it just goes all along!"







STAGE RIGHT

Top: As part of TLS's Fine Arts After-School Program, third, fourth, and fifth graders work with the Lexington Children's Theatre to produce *James and the Giant Peach.* **Just below:** Under the direction of music teacher Michael Preacely and art teacher Sarah Heller, *Aladdin,* this year's fifth grade musical, provides opportunity for the entire grade to gain in-depth experience in play production, choreography, set design, lighting, and sound management. **Bottom:** The thirteenth annual Sixth Grade Storytelling Festival is an all-day event, showcasing students who write and memorize their own stories. Storytellers integrate into their performances the elements of expression, gestures, character voices, eye contact, and articulation.





SPRING SINGS

Top: The first graders compose and present thoughtful new words to the timeless African American spiritual "I've Got Peace Like a River." **Middle:** Dazzling sounds come from third grade recorder players performing "Ode to Joy," a Beethoven hit for these talented students. **Bottom:** Dressed for the occasion, fourth graders put on a show with "The Red, White, and Blue."



Celebrating all Year!

August 22—First Day of School
Welcome New Head of School Una MacCarthy!
September 7—10th Annual TLS Tailgate at UK Football Game
September 13—Fall Festival at Scarlet Gate
September 14—Happy Birthday TLS!

Follow us - #60StrongTLS

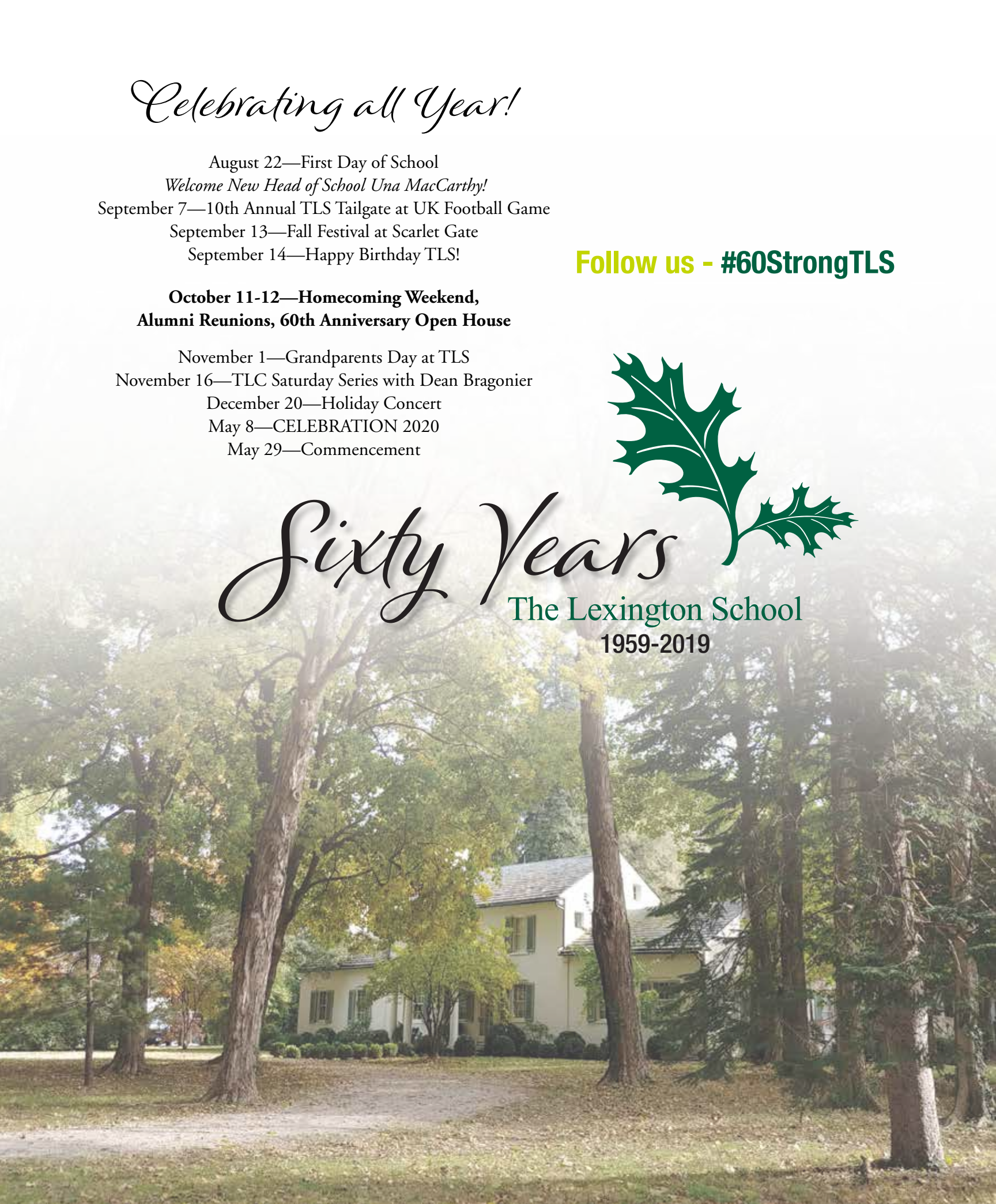
**October 11-12—Homecoming Weekend,
Alumni Reunions, 60th Anniversary Open House**

November 1—Grandparents Day at TLS
November 16—TLC Saturday Series with Dean Bragonier
December 20—Holiday Concert
May 8—CELEBRATION 2020
May 29—Commencement

Sixty Years

The Lexington School

1959-2019





KAITLIN CHAMBLIN ’98

Kaitlin Chamblin ’98 and Alistair Hodgson welcomed their son, Whitfield Hicks Chamblin Hodgson, “Whit,” on November 14, 2018, in Los Angeles, California. Kaitlin is happily taking time off work as a private chef to focus on their son and to pursue her interests in painting, photography, and writing. Alistair is a broker with Christie’s International Real Estate, based in Manhattan Beach. He also works as an entrepreneur, pursuing business opportunities in the emerging cannabis industry.

Kaitlin is quick to say, “It seems crazy, but we started looking at schools for Whit while I was pregnant. Finding a wonderful school is very important to us because of the special time I spent at TLS and a similar experience Alistair had at schools in England. No joke, we’ve even thought about moving back to Lexington just so Whit could go to TLS! I honestly think about TLS on a regular basis, as my time there truly enriched my life and shaped the person I am today. The teachers were so incredibly passionate about their work, the students, and the entire TLS community. While I’d rather get a root canal than sit through a biology or chemistry class, those teachers gave their best efforts to inspire me with their passion for science. I’ll forever be indebted to all the teachers at TLS for nurturing and fostering my individual spirit.”



TYLER BROMAGEN ’02

Caroline and **Tyler Bromagen ’02** have taken wholeheartedly to their parenting role since their sweet daughter, Reese, was born March 18, 2019. Tyler is self-employed in the Lexington real estate market. A former nurse practitioner, Caroline, is now a stay-at-home mom.

Life always seems to come full circle.

CIERA PROCTOR ’11

I attended The Lexington School from Kindergarten through eighth grade and then went to Lexington Catholic High School when I was also hired by TLS for two years as an extended day employee and for three years as a summer camp employee. I earned my Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at Centre College, and have begun work for my Master of Accounting degree.

Throughout January, 2019, I had the incredible opportunity to intern in the TLS business office by shadowing Mrs. Susan O’Brien, the school’s new CFO. I have been able not only to reconnect with my TLS family, but also to learn how the school operates on a day-to-day basis. A school is a business like anything else; budgets have to be made and employees have to be paid, so I am thankful for the chance to learn from where my education first began. There was no better place to continue my education than to return to my TLS roots.

I have now worn many different hats at TLS, from student, to extended day employee, to summer camp employee, to an intern in the business office. What hat will come next? I’m not sure, but I have no doubt that TLS has another one in store for me.



In Memoriam



Jeff Darsie, Barry Stilz, Pat Madden, Nicho Nelson, and Wyn Morris

JEFF DARSIE '78

Jeff Darsie '78 was beloved.

The thousands of people whose lives Jeff touched and bettered speak loudly and emphatically to the man he was.

Jeff died April 5, 2019, after a long battle with cancer.

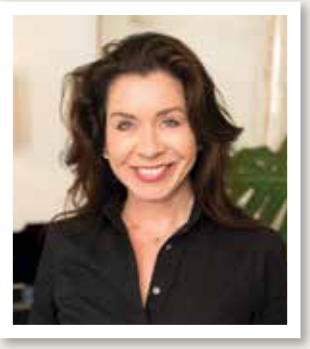
"He was one of the TLS brotherhood," **Nicho Nelson '78** says. "We're guys [**Hampton Adams '78**, **Jeff Darsie '78**, **Pat Madden '79**, **Wyn Morris '78**, **Nicho Nelson '78**, **Barry Stilz '78**, and **Jon Wellinghurst '78**] whose friendships began in Montessori, Kindergarten, first grade, and when Jeff arrived at TLS in fourth grade, he fit right in, like he'd been in the group since we were four-year-olds. We all still got together annually."

Nicho continues, "Toward the end, when we all knew Jeff had only days left, it was standing room only in his hospital room at Johns Hopkins. Friends flew in from all over the country, where he had been an important part of their lives. They traveled from Kentucky; New Hampshire, he was a Phillips Exeter Academy grad; North Carolina, a UNC Morehead Scholar; Michigan, law school grad; Washington, DC, legal eagle in the Department of Justice Honors Program; and Maryland, Assistant Attorney General. Though he never married, Jeff was in more weddings than all of us put together. He was one of the wittiest, smartest – genius-level smart – people I will ever know. The thing I love about Jeff the most was that even though he was brilliant, he treated you as a dearest friend."

Jeff is tremendously missed.



Jeff Darsie '78



MARISA MARCIANI MORGAN '85

By Jennifer Smith Erickson '85 and Candy Parsons Higgins '85

When we alumni think of The Lexington School, we cherish most our lifetime friendships. It always amazes us that you can go 20 years without talking to someone, then one day that person moves to your town, and it instantly feels like TLS all over again. It doesn't matter how much time has passed when one has a TLS friendship. We just pick up where we left off in Miss Cowling's history class. This is exactly what happened with Marisa.

We hadn't talked to Marisa since ninth grade graduation. One day, I was flipping through the real estate magazine in Nashville and, lo and behold, there was Marisa, gracing the front cover. I reconnected with her on Facebook, and the following week, in the summer of 2015, Marisa, Candy, and I were having lunch at Green Hills Grille, rekindling awesome memories and catching up on the last 25 years, talking about where our **Class of 1985** friends landed. Always full of energy, never lacking for words, and decked out from head to toe in the latest fashion: that was Marisa.

For the next year and a half, we reconnected over monthly lunches, and that 25-year absence vanished.

Our friendship with Marisa evolved and took new meaning on February 13, 2017, when we received calls to come to the hospital. In the waiting room, friends and family came together, and we were again reconnecting with her sisters, **Dr. Kara Marciani '87** and **Cristina Marciani '89**, and parents, Dr. and Mrs. Marciani. We spent long hours together, praying for Marisa's recovery. We had the pleasure of meeting her handsome boys, Brady and Hagan, such amazing, fun-loving guys; we immediately saw Marisa's energetic spirit and love for life. With Marisa's tenacious will, devoted friends (she had many), family, and prayers, she fought a very hard fight for another two years. The selfless caretaking of Mrs. Marciani and Cristina during this time is an example to us all.

Once a Colt, always a Colt, so if Marisa taught us anything, she taught us to enjoy the day and to live life to the fullest, because you do not know what tomorrow will bring.



Aoife with Peter Gandolfo and his sons, Matthew and Alec.

AOIFE LYONS ’88

Classmates, friends, and admirers of **Aoife Lyons ’88** mourn her death on April 18, 2019. The Lexington School family offers warmest condolences to Deirdre Lyons, her mother, and to Holly and **Mark Lyons ’92**, Aoife’s sister-in-law and brother. Dr. Pearse Lyons, Aoife’s father, predeceased her.

Aoife graduated from Henry Clay High School in 1992 and the University of Notre Dame in 1996. She held a doctorate in clinical psychology from DePaul University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University.

Longtime dear friend **Meg Foster Sullivan ’87** speaks from her heart when she says, “Aoife was just so many wonderful things. She was the most loving, loyal friend. She was the most generous, caring soul. She was one of the hardest working people I’ve ever known, and she helped so many with her innate wisdom on how to make people feel better about themselves as well as the world around them. In tribute, many of her friends posted photos of Aoife holding their gleeful children. The photos spoke volumes as those kids adored Aoife – she made them feel so special. She just made all of us feel so special. She had knack for it. I will love her and miss her forever.”

Peter Gandolfo ’89 shares thoughts too: “My first memory of Aoife is from first grade. She visited Mrs. Meekins’s classroom to show us her kilt. Her hair swept to one side, she was the epitome of style and grace at the age of seven. I’m grateful that she was part of many pivotal moments in my life, including my first trip to France, prom, Notre Dame, and so much more. I will miss her talent on the violin, her invaluable parenting advice, and her unwavering friendship.”



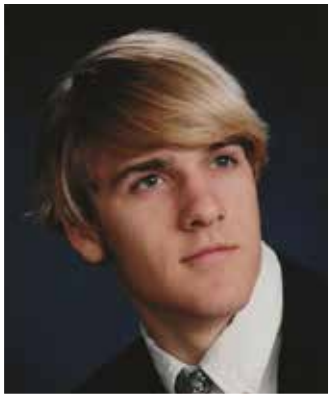
Classmates, teammates, and dear friends: Kevin Wilkes, Charlie Dalton, Kav Milward, and Abe Scarr.

KEVIN WILKES ’95

Lexington School friends celebrate the incredibly vibrant life of **Kevin Wilkes ’95**, who died July 21, 2019. Son of Gayle and Dr. Jim Wilkes, brother of **Trevor Wilkes ’91** and **Scott Wilkes ’01**, Kevin began TLS in PreKindergarten in 1983 and made lifelong connections with his friends and classmates through ninth grade.

Charlie Dalton ’95 speaks of the great friendship he and “K” shared, the loyalty that was such an innate part of Kevin’s being. “We played a lot of sports together and he was one of my best friends. In second grade, I was really impressed with his drawings and his great artistic creativity. The ninth grade show was a particular highlight, when K, Kav [**Milward ’95**], Andrew [**Grimes ’95**] and I did a little dance at the end; it was a fun endpoint for us at TLS.”

In his eulogy at the funeral, **Lincoln Brown ’95** said, “Kevin was so smart, top 10% in school, an Eagle Scout, had an MBA, naturally gifted, beloved, charming, the most fun person you ever knew, good looking, chiseled (ladies loved K), tender hearted, cared more for others than himself. A gifted athlete - a heck of a soccer player, elite skier, all-star in hockey. An adoring uncle, son, and brother.” Lincoln went on to say, “For those of us who grew up with K, he added so much life to our years, unending laughter, and a bit of irreverence - but never in a malicious way, he was just brave and fearless. I was thinking about my Top 10 memories with K and it was like a Sportscenter highlight reel mix of absolute chaos and uncommon kindness. This depth of friendship doesn’t just come from a few laughs, but is the return of unwavering loyalty over many years.”



Kevin Wilkes ’95

THE PADDOCK
YOUR TLS CONNECTION

ARE YOU IN THE PADDOCK? Join today!
WHAT IS THE PADDOCK? The Paddock is a professional networking site for The Lexington School! It is available to TLS alumni, parents (past and present), faculty/staff, and grandparents.

- Stay informed about upcoming events
- Connect with members of the TLS community
- Post and search for jobs
- Find a mentor
- Seek career advice

ANNOUNCING the NEW and Improved Mobile App

Take your TLS network wherever you go by downloading The Paddock App today. Visit www.TLSAlumni.com to find easy-to-follow instructions.

www.TLSAlumni.com

The Paddock App provides full access to your TLS network with mentoring opportunities, alumni events, jobs, and more.



The Lexington School
ALUMNI WEEKEND
60th ANNIVERSARY

OCTOBER 11, 2019

Celebrating our 60th Birthday and our Reunion Classes

2009 and 2010: **10** Year Reunion
1999 and 2000: **20** Year Reunion
1989 and 1990: **30** Year Reunion
1979 and 1980: **40** Year Reunion
1969 and 1970: **50** Year Reunion

For more information,
visit the Events Tab of The Paddock: **www.TLSAlumni.com** or
email smyatt@thelexingtonschool.org.



The TLS Alumni Association invites you to enjoy food, fun, and BIG BLUE EXCITEMENT!

Saturday, September 7, 2019

UK vs. Eastern Michigan University

KET (front lawn)

at the corner of Cooper Drive and Sports Center Drive

4:30 P.M. Tailgate | 7:30 P.M. Kickoff
All friends of The Lexington School are welcome!

The Lexington School

1050 Lane Allen Road
Lexington, KY 40504-2018
859-278-0501
www.thelexingtonschool.org

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ATLANTA, GA
PERMIT NO. 3259

The Lexington School admits students of any race, religion, color, sex, national, or ethnic origin.

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING



Ms. MacCarthy and some of her middle school students, the **Class of 2001**, make grand music together in the late 1990s.