

preptalk



SPRING 2011

Flintridge Preparatory School
preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

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leads Boys' Varsity basketball to CIF

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“Surely our job
as teachers is
to puzzle, confuse,
and amaze.

– CAROLINE WALKER BYNUM
AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



On May 2, 2011, **Glenn Leisure '72** shot a **hole-in-one** at the *Flintridge Prep Golf Tournament*, winning a brand spanking new **Audi A6** from Rusnak Audi. Congratulations

to Glenn! You're among our most **DEDICATED** alumni, and it was a pleasure to see you claim this amazing prize.

(See full story in the next *PrepTalk*.)

CALENDAR

MAY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25
Spring Sports Awards and Cookout

THURSDAY, MAY 26
Short Day Schedule:
End of Fourth Quarter
Upper School Awards
Assembly, Norris Auditorium

**FRIDAY, MAY 27 THROUGH
FRIDAY, JUNE 3**
Final Semester Exams

MONDAY, MAY 30
Memorial Day Holiday

**TUESDAY, MAY 31 THROUGH
FRIDAY, JUNE 3**
Senior Class Trip

JUNE

FRIDAY, JUNE 3
Last Day of School

SATURDAY, JUNE 4
Baccalaureate and Senior
Dinner, Norris Auditorium and
Ahmanson Plaza

SUNDAY, JUNE 5
Commencement Ceremony,
Pasadena Civic Auditorium

TUESDAY, JUNE 7
Eighth Grade Promotion and
Middle School Awards,
Norris Auditorium

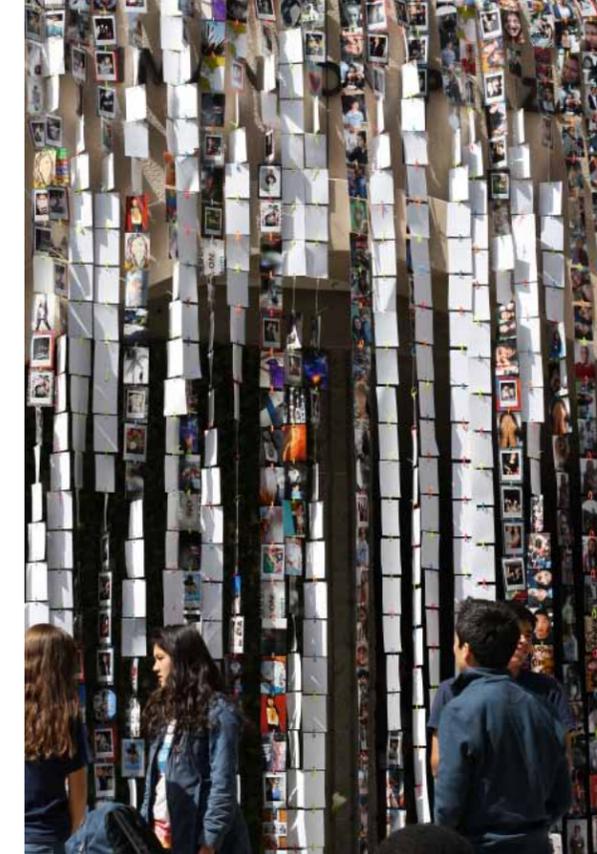
MONDAY, JUNE 20
First Day of Summer School

Front Cover: Guest Artist Libby Gerber (center) is surrounded by (clockwise from left) William Penn '15, Ari Baranian '15, and Reilly Dalleska '15 as they construct "Anthroarchitectural" In the background, Neiki Rokni '15. See story, "Mud and Glory" on page 21.

Back Cover: The 2010–2011 CIF Division 5AA Southern Section Boys' Varsity Basketball champs celebrate their historic win. See pages 3 and 22.

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Campus Beautification Club installation, Arts Week

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Web features at preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

From the Headmaster



History happens here

When I first walked onto the Flintridge Prep campus in December 1979 for a job interview, the school had been coed for exactly 90 days. Kathy Bathke (now the parent of 2009 graduate Ashley Kimmery) was the only girl in the senior class. In all the other grades there were only a few brave female souls. History department Chairman John Hamilton, puffing on his pipe during our talk, told me he still had his doubts. Could the girls measure up? By the time of his retirement seven years later, he acknowledged that they could.

My biggest assignment during my first year on the job was to teach the class in Ancient History: Western, white, and elite. I was given a box of chalk, shown the mimeograph machine, and cautioned against getting too much blue ink on my hand from the copier.

Over my thirty-one years as a member of the history department, much has changed. Studies have expanded to include the world and all its men and women. Many more races, cultures, and classes have populated our courses and our imaginations. Blackboards became whiteboards, then Smartboards. More than ever, the girls "measure up."

As the history department has evolved, so has the school, as we continue to add new chapters to our story. This year's edition is particularly rich: our first Boys' Basketball C.I.F. Championship; Caltech Day, which brought distinguished scientists to our campus; LA Day, which sent all students beyond our gates; a two-part exchange with a school in Nicaragua; a successful, heartfelt Bollywood benefit.

Since 1933, we've counted on the history department to document our story, to analyze, interpret and make sense of it. How else can we prepare for the future?

Peter Bachmann
Headmaster

On/Off Campus

History in action

It has been said that in order to receive expert status in any discipline, from singing opera to performing in the sports arena, one must dedicate 10,000 hours. Garrett Ohara '84 likely reached his 10,000 hours some time ago, having played basketball since he was a little kid. His first coach, at age nine, was Alex Rivera. Coach Rivera encouraged Garrett to come to Flintridge, where he played varsity basketball for four years.

Fast forward a few years, and now the player is the coach. Ohara had the right balance of talents and personalities on the team. He had the right set of skills to lead his squad to its **first-ever CIF Southern Section victory**. The Rebels went on to the second round of the championships. Coach Ohara was named the All-CIF Southern Section Coach of the Year, although you wouldn't know it if you asked him about it. "The team did well, and that's why I got the recognition," he says.

Those members of the team doing well include several athletes on their way to those 10,000 hours of mastery. Kory Hamane '12 and Jared Norsworthy '11 received All-CIF honors, and Kenyatta Smith '11 walked away with the award for All-CIF Southern Section Player of the Year. Kenyatta, who will play basketball at Harvard next fall, also won the John Wooden Award for high school basketball, the first time a Prep player has been so honored. "Going to Harvard means everything! I've spent my whole life to achieve this goal. I feel like it's an absolute blessing that my hard work has paid off," says Kenyatta.

The 6-ft. 8-in. senior emulates Coach Ohara when it comes to the accolades that have piled up, preferring instead to share credit with his teammates, coaches, and mom. "It starts with the team," Yatta says of his success. "Coach Ohara is a big believer in team unity. My mom taught me from day one to work hard to be faithful to my morals, and to be a good person."

Forward Jared Norsworthy appreciates his best friend's leadership on the court as much as he loves his goofiness when they're just hanging out between classes. Says Jared, "You can just be



Prep basketball coach Garrett Ohara '84, Kenyatta Smith '11, Harvard basketball coach Tommy Amaker.

sitting near him and look up and he's doing something that just seems funny. When we leave for college, what I'll miss most about him is the bonding. Just the time that we all spend together (with Jordan Whaley '11 and Sam Honch '11) is something I think we will all miss."

Kenyatta, Forward Jordan Whaley, and Ohara were even featured in a recent news segment with Mario Solis of NBC 4 Los Angeles (preptalk@flintridgeprep.org).

All the press did not go to the players' and coaches' heads; they stay "regular guys" around campus. Fellow teacher and award-winning cross country coach Ingrid Herskind says receiving an award like Coach of the Year is "a validation that you can bring out the best in student athletes, who have a lot of other things going on in their lives. You give them passion and focus at the same time. That's what Garrett did with Kenyatta, and the whole team."

Passion and focus, according to Prep womens' soccer coach Esteban Chavez, are also what make Brooke Elby '11 an outstanding player.

"Brooke is two steps ahead of everybody on game awareness," he explains. "She sees something developing, and knows she'll be part of that play. I've coached club, collegiate and high school teams for 15 years, and I've never met anybody who's been recruited for University of North Carolina (UNC), a powerhouse of womens' soccer. It's a tribute to her as a true competitor. She wants to win."

Recruited to play on their top-ranked, Division I girls' soccer team, the Prep League co-MVP and 1st team, All-CIF honoree will leave in mid-July to begin training with the Tar Heels, who have

won 20 national championships to date. "Funny, energetic and competitive," according to her teammates, Brooke plays both offense and defense, dribbling, cutting, chasing, and striking. She scored 28 goals last season.

UNC, the alma mater of Mia Hamm and other famed women soccer players, is also attractive to Brooke for its academics. She plans to study chemistry and do graduate work in forensics. Learning to divide her time among high-level club play (Arsenal FC, in the Inland Empire), Prep soccer and track, and demanding schoolwork has given Brooke skills which she brings to the playing field and the classroom. "Both science and soccer demand attention to detail," according to Brooke. "In soccer you have to know all the details on the field in order to analyze the game; in science, you have to know all the little pieces of information, and how they mesh together. I'm out-of-my-mind excited about attending UNC next fall!"



Brooke Elby '11

A Bollywood blast

Raising money, raising spirits

From the inspiration of alumni parents Geeta and Mohan Chandramohan, honorees for the night, to the glittering saris and exuberant “Jai Ho” dances sprinkled like rose petals through the evening, the “Prep Goes Bollywood” benefit March 19 was an overwhelming success, raising a history-making \$276,700.

Over 370 members of the Prep community, including faculty, incoming parents, and alumni, enjoyed the festivities at an Indian-themed Universal Studios’ Globe Theater. Chairs Sandy Law and Lauri Wax, with a committee of more than 40 volunteers and the time and talents of Prep faculty, staff, and students, put together a fantastic fundraiser for the fine and performing arts at the school.

Emcee Tom Gammill (parent of Alice ‘10 and Henry ‘08) brought an introductory video that had the audience helpless with laughter; math teacher and “The Voice of Prep” Mr. Todd Frost ‘88 served as auctioneer, and Headmaster Peter Bachmann paid tribute to the many ways that Geeta and Mohan Chandramohan have supported the Prep community, from serving on the board of trustees to creating scholarships. They were surprised by their daughter Mika ‘09 and Jasleen Singh ‘09, who performed traditional dances to the delight of the entire audience.

Throughout the night, students provided entertainment with singing, dance, and live jazz; parents admired artwork on display. The final moments included a filmed “flash mob” from the Prep Quad and a Bollywood-style dance performed by the parents on the committee.

THINK PINK: 1. Chairs Lauri Wax and Sandy Law (backs to camera) gather their committee on the big night. 2. Mika ‘09 with Mohan and Geeta Chandramohan, who were presented with the Parents Recognizing Excellent Parents (PREP) award. 3. Sampling Indian delicacies at the buffet tables 4. Dance students strike a Jai Ho pose. 5. Checking in: Jeanne Case, Laura Campobasso and Melissa Gerard. 6. Co-Chairs: Lauri Wax (l) and Sandy Law (r). They are both parents of graduates (Garrett Wax ‘10 and Emily Law ‘10) and current students (Shelby Wax ‘12 and Kyle Law ‘14).



More than language

Inspiring exchange

Committing resources to global understanding, Flintridge Prep initiated a student exchange program with Lincoln International Academy (LIA) in Managua, Nicaragua. Five Prep seniors (Kyle Eschen, Justin Farshidi, Erin Fong, Naomi Hatanaka, and Riley Wasson) visited Nicaragua last summer, living with host families and working on community service projects.

In February, six Nicaraguan students from LIA spent three weeks at Prep as the second part of the exchange. Mr. Manuel Nuñez, chair of the world languages department, organized both the summer and winter exchanges, while the Prep Parents Association provided transportation, welcome parties and Prep gear for the visiting “Nicas,” as they are called at home.

Erick Altamirano, Sunny Chung, Ruy De Magalhaes, Marvin Montes, Camille Bellota, and Joaquin Morales are all juniors and seniors in Nicaragua. Living with their host families (the Fongs, the Hatanakas, the Geragos, the Cooks, and the Watsons), the Nicas lived Prep life, attending classes, cheering on the Rebel soccer and basketball teams, sitting in on the election assembly, and hanging out on the senior patio (even if they were juniors). On weekends, the students and their hosts took in Los Angeles sights from the Magic Castle to Magic Mountain.

Perhaps the most significant part of this year’s exchange was the commitment, by both groups of students, to work together on a project for La Mascota Pediatric Hospital in Managua. LIA students had an on-going service project with the hospital, visiting with pediatric cancer patients. While in Nicaragua, Prep students got involved. They saw a huge need: financial support for patients’ families who are often far from home, without a place to stay or even food to eat.

Together, the students have come up with a series of on-going programs to raise awareness and funds for the families of La Mascota. LIA has established a La Mascota student organization. Neguiba Eslaquit, who hosted Erin Fong last summer, is the president. Ruy De Magalhaes, who visited Prep in February, produced a



Marvin Montes, Camille Bellota, Sunny Chung, and Erick Altamirano visited Prep from Nicaragua.

video for YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-m30PFrrP4>) that explains the need for funding. The video declares that students at both schools are “thinking outside the box” to get help for families in need. Meanwhile in La Cañada, both Erin and Naomi devoted their senior indepen-

dent studies to fundraising efforts for the hospital, establishing a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, creating a cookbook (Erin) and multi-club walkathon (Naomi), which raised over \$3,500.

“For me,” says Mr. Nuñez, “Our exchange program is about so much more than learning a language. It’s about understanding a culture, and the needs and issues in that culture. We want to enable students to see into schools academically, culturally and socially. We want to keep this wonderful project for the La Mascota families going. And, ultimately, we want to expand our exchange program into other areas, because this has been such a rich exchange, on so many levels, for our students.”



Tough but tender librarians Meryl Eldridge, Reggie Ursettie, and Sue Hodge sported literary tatoos for Halloween ‘07.

Shh...the librarians have a blog

(and they’ve been busy in other ways, too)

The Flintridge Prep librarians have a blog. Since February, they’ve been quietly commenting on life and times in the library in a blog they call “Very Unusual Librarians” (visit it here: <http://veryunusualibrarians.blogspot.com>). Few topics are off limits, and as anyone who’s ever been to the library knows, with these women of letters, the entertainment value is always high.

The librarians have also been busy in San Francisco for the annual AISL (Association of Independent School Librarians) conference. They visited seven independent schools, met with authors, discussed the future of libraries, and found out ways to integrate technology and promote digital literacy (plus a whole lot more). We’re sure to see these subjects come up in future blog entries. Keep checking it out!

For more activities, please visit preptalk.flintridgeprep.org



Mints for math
 Vitamin C fever: Determining the effect of heat and refrigeration
 Reaction time: boys vs. girls
WATER TOXICITY
 Oil prices and S&P—Are they in Accord?
 SQUIRTITUDE: MAXIMIZING THE LENGTH WATER SQUIRTS FROM A CAN
 Red? Color preference in ladybugs
 The Effects of Neurotransmitter-like Substances on Cell Differentiation in Hydra
 Optimizing resonant guided-wave networks
Hydraulic fluid viscosity
 Blood pressure in police officers
 Does background noise affect concentration?
 REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, RECEIVE
 Teaching the elderly how to use their cell phones
 Are short or long strides faster in a sprint?
 A Clean LA River
 Recapturing carbon dioxide; maximizing the Methanol method
 How violent video games kill focus
Dance for Club 21

Seventh graders do science, eighth graders do community service — and everybody benefits



Flintridge Prep's Science Fair is a rite of passage for seventh graders, who prepare all year as part of their science curriculum to present a project. Eighth graders are asked to create a Community Impact Project, or CIP. Meanwhile, several high school students present their advanced scientific research.

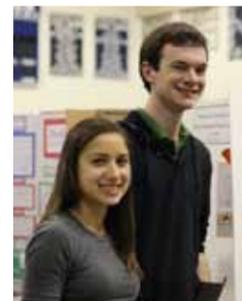
In the 2011 edition, the Best in Fair prize for Middle School Science went to Nanita Balagopal '16 for "Vitamin C fever: Determining the effect of heat and refrigeration" (pictured above, center with Erika Winter '16, Naomi Berhane '16, Maddie Weirick '16, and Kelsey Fedde '16). Ross Chase '16 won First Place, Middle School Biology for a project called "Plant growth." Dean Hathout '16 won First Place, Middle School Physics and Chemistry for "Squirtitude: Maximizing the length water squirts from a can." Jacob Brawer '16 won First Place for Behavior and Performance with his project "How violent video games kill focus."

In their Community Impact Projects, eighth graders were required to create a project that positively impacts their local community in a measurable way. Collaboration with community officials, local nonprofit organizations, and other adults is essential, so students learn vital

skills for presenting their ideas and working with others.

The Best in Fair CIP was by Bailey Thompson '15 (left). Her "Dance for Club 21" project, which is ongoing, pairs up dance students from Flintridge Prep with children with Down syndrome. Patrick Minassians '15 received an Honorable Mention, as well as attention from the local press for his project "Cookbooks for a charitable cause." Sophia Moradi '15 also received media attention (as well as Second Prize) for her project "Fundraiser for Club 21/Day of Soccer." Kyla Bradley '15, Chris Zaro '15, and Bryce Lew '15 received first prize in this category.

The High School Best in Fair project by junior Nikhita Poole '12, "The effects of neurotransmitter-like substances on cell differentiation in hydra" worked with the cutting-edge area of stem cell research, while first place winner Eli Weinstein '12, also only a junior, presented, in "Optimizing resonant guided-wave networks," the results of a larger experiment he worked on while interning in a Caltech physics lab.



Dot Silverman '10 returned from Pomona College and joined Jackson McHenry '11 to help judge the Science Fair.

Globetrotting geographer Dr. Tom Gillespie '86 comes home to Prep

You may recently have read about or heard Dr. Tom Gillespie '86. The geographer and Prep grad has been interviewed in *USA Today* and on NPR about adapting the methods he has developed to track endangered species in an effort to pinpoint the hideout of Osama bin Laden. Though Gillespie and his students were about 250 miles off in location, he and his students accurately predicted the details of the hideout: urban, secure, with high walls and even a tree.

Dr. Gillespie came to Prep a month before his media blitz to talk about what he learned at Flintridge and how these lessons helped him as he pursued his future career. The first people he thanked were long-standing members of the school's science department, teachers still involved in the daily life of the school, Mr. Rob McLinn and Mr. Joe Maggio. Dr. Gillespie took biology with Mr. Maggio while he was considering studying medicine; Mr. Maggio told him to dissect the brain of a fetal pig, and when he almost threw up, Gillespie scratched medicine off the list. "Thank you, Mr. Maggio, for making the path clear for me," he said.

Gillespie went on to thank current faculty members Señor Manny Nuñez, Mr. John Ruch, Mr. Peter Bachmann, Ms. Kathleen Condell Herroon, and Dr. Robert Parker for the lessons they taught him. He remembers Mr. Ruch telling stories of his "slightly subversive" activities as a demonstrator in the 1960s. He mentioned that after a series of low grades in Spanish, he earned a B in Señor Nuñez's class. As it turned out, Spanish speaking skills ended up being very important in Dr. Gillespie's studies of endemic species of flora and fauna in Central and South America.

Dr. Gillespie thanked Dr. Parker for teaching him the programming skills he went on to use in his career and for giving him the technological curiosity that lead to his interest in GIS (Geographic



Folio Feted. The 2010 edition of *Folio*, "For the Dawns" has received outstanding recognition from two organizations that review literary magazines.

The American Scholastic Press Association awarded Prep both First Prize for Jr/Sr High Schools with enrollment 500 and under, as well as recognizing *Folio* for Outstanding Design Concept.

Even better, the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) has selected us to receive the highest award, making us one of two in California to receive this and one of 29 in the US. *Folio* has been nominated for the highest award once or twice in the past 4 years, and achieved that honor in 2005.

This is tremendous validation for the magazine, the school, and especially the creative, hard-working group of students who produce this work year in, year out, often as an independent study in their senior year. Sonora Miller '10 and Grace Jing '10 designed one gorgeous, edgy book, and Brad Kim '10 and Kevin Flynn '10 gathered and edited some great literary content.

— Mike Miley, advisor

Information Systems), which he uses to understand the landscape of dry rainforests around the world as well as the potential location of suspected terrorists. And he thanked Mr. Bachmann and Mrs. Herroon for their ability to teach him to write, question, and think.

Gillespie was enthusiastic in his discussion of conservation, and excited

students with his entertaining presentation. He spoke of work he does around the world from his early career in South America to his current focus studying the dry rainforests in the Pacific Rim.

Gillespie's work has taken him around the globe. We didn't need sophisticated technology to predict his next appearance at Prep: his 25th reunion, May 14, 2011.



Gillespie thanks Mr. Maggio and Mr. McLinn for inspiration.

For a list of student projects and awards, please go to preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

Caltech–JPL Day

Flintridge Prep sponsored its first ever Caltech–JPL Day, celebrating the remarkable intellectual resources in our parent and local community, and encouraging “the Sputnik moment” in a new generation. Grade-level assemblies were addressed by local scientists who presented their research, inspiring lively conversation among faculty and students.

La Cañada residents and JPL engineers Dr. Paul Chodas and Mrs. Jan Chodas spoke to a group of ninth graders about their work. Dr. Chodas has built software that predicts where asteroids will land and what their impacts will be, while Mrs. Chodas is the project manager for the Juno mission to Jupiter that will be launching in August. They have two sons, Mark '08 (currently at MIT) and Peter '11.

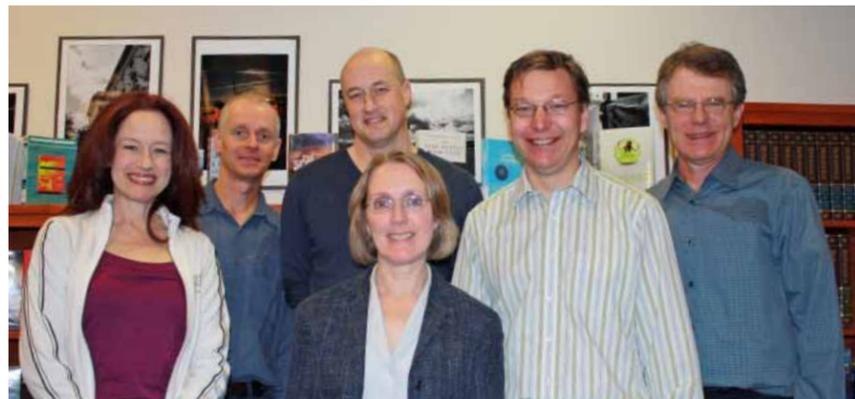
Dr. Ralph Adolfs, professor of neuroscience at Caltech and the University of Iowa, studies social cognition: faces, emotions, and how people recognize and respond to others. From video of a baby monkey, intent on a human face (which elicited oohs and ahhs from the assembled tenth graders) to slides of head-mounted gizmos that track eye movements, Dr. Adolfs enthralled and challenged his audience with cutting-edge neuroscience.

Dr. John Eiler, parent of Katie Eiler '12, is the Robert P. Sharp Professor of Geology and Professor of Geochemistry at Caltech. He spoke to eleventh graders on topics that ranged from the history of chemistry to warm-blooded dinosaurs, and encouraged students to think creatively about chemistry and the natural world.

Dr. Mike Brown, the Richard and Barbara Rosenberg Professor of Planetary Astronomy at Caltech, spoke to twelfth graders about his discovery of Eris, the largest object found in the solar system in 150 years, and the object which led to the debate about, and eventual demotion of, Pluto from a real planet to a dwarf planet. He is the author of the book *How I Killed Pluto and Why It Had It Coming*.

Emily Dickinson was channeled by Kate Randolph Burns, the author, director, and star of the one-woman show, “The Belle of Amherst.” Seventh and eighth graders enjoyed the lively play, which upends the poet’s reputation as a quiet recluse and provides a glimpse of her wry, funny personality. Though the play is not strictly on a scientific topic, Ms. Randolph Burns quipped, “Emily Dickinson was a botanist!”

Assistant Headmaster Peter Vaughn spearheaded the event. “We were inspired to bring Caltech–JPL Day to Flintridge Prep because it is important to have examples of real science, and the inspiration of scientific endeavors, on campus. High school students who value science need to see it in action. We have phenomenal individuals from within our parent body, as well as from the local scientific institutions, and it was wonderful to see so many great minds in one place—our guests interacting with our faculty and our students.”



Kate Randolph Burns, Ralph Adolfs, Jan Chodas, John Eiler, Mike Brown, and Paul Chodas inspired students at Caltech–JPL Day.



Dr. O'Brien and a clutch of seniors on the roof of the Standard Hotel.

On Tuesday, March 15, something extraordinary happened. School was in session, but no one was on campus. All the students and faculty embarked on a celebration of the essential sights, sounds, tastes, and smells that make Los Angeles unlike any other place on earth.

The excursions were the brainchild of Commissioner General Kyle Eschen '11, who says that “LA Day was a collaboration among numerous parties, and required immense cooperation from the administration, faculty advisors (Mr. Vaughn, Ms. Cooper, Mrs. Kimble, Ms. Walker-Oakes, Mr. Myers, Mr. Miley, and Dr. O'Brien), as well as student volunteers. The administration gave student coordinators a tremendous amount of free reign and control over the direction of LA Day.”

During the field trips, middle school students visited the California Science Center, while freshmen experienced the Museum of Tolerance, sophomores visited LACMA, juniors took in the sights at the Getty Center, and the seniors participated in a themed tour of downtown.

Kyle describes the encounter that led him to dream up LA Culture Day: “As I was campaigning for Commissioner General, I went from table to table at lunch, asking how we can improve Prep. One comment elicited affirmative nods from around the table.

“Why do some art classes have field trips and others don't?”

Kyle didn't have a good answer to this question, but he resolved to create an art field trip for all students. The idea evolved into a culture day celebrating unique LA-centric experiences beyond the Prep campus.

For more activities, please visit preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

“We wanted to wholly involve all the students in an artistically engaging external cultural experience,” says Assistant Headmaster Peter Vaughn. It was also important, says Mr. Vaughn, for the seniors to “create a day that would live beyond their time at Flintridge Prep.”

Says Katharine Schwab '11, “I hear too often about New Yorkers who have never been to the top of the Empire State Building, or Londoners who have never visited the British Museum. LA Day was born of that fear, that Flintridge Prep students had never been to the Getty or walked around downtown or visited the Museum of Tolerance. Ideally, LA Day will help them explore new places and give them a different perspective of what it means to live near one of the world's great metropolises.”

Tomi Okuno '12 said of her trip to the Getty Center, “It was cool that we got to roam on our own,” while Sarah Wu '12 seemed to instinctively understand Kyle's original goal. Describing the grand galleries of the Getty Center, she says, “There was something about standing in that space, surrounded on all sides by beautiful things, that made me feel wonderfully happy.”

— Reported by Sarah Wu '12



(Top left, clockwise) Drawing at the Getty Center; admiring a Jeff Koons sculpture at MOCA; seniors explore downtown with Mr. Hare; navigating the Getty Center.

For as long as many of us can remember, Flintridge Prep's History Department has been housed in the 20s Building, scintillatingly close to the Senior Lawn and Senior Patio. For more than a generation, these sacred non-educational spaces have mocked students of all ages as they sat obediently, in even the most interesting and engaging classes, with the most interesting and engaging history teachers.

No room has a better vantage to the, shall we say, energy of the Senior Patio than Room 25, and in the last 30 to 40 years, no one can remember a non-history class that was taught in that room. Room 25 may remind many Flintridge scholars of US History, Government, and Investments. For some reason, today, as 20 or 30 years ago, no matter how interested you are in learning about the industrial revolution, trench warfare, how a bill becomes a law, or how big business operates, when the sun shines brightly and it feels like summer is just around the corner, all that you can hear are the sounds that emanate from that patio, beckoning.

Room 25 is currently shared by three teachers, Mr. Vaughn, Ms. Madsen, and Ms. Herskind, each possessing a wholly unique energy and style. Because of these different identities, the mess on their shared desk may remind alumni of how their brains felt just before an AP or final exam—just filled with too much information. We're certain, by the way, that the teachers responsible for these piles of books and articles can find exactly what they're looking for at a moment's notice, just like the well-prepared students can come up with a strong answer to a DBQ with a little cajoling.

Today's Room 25 differs markedly from the days of Mr. Joe Fasken, who was not quite half way into his 26-year tenure as a history teacher when the 20s building opened in 1954. Mr. Fasken's successor, Mr. John Hamilton, is legendary for his fastidious placement of desks in regimented rows; woe unto the student who moved a desk or himself (and later, herself) the wrong way.

In 2011, students' chairs are arranged in a way that seems both orderly but is mostly accidental, and would probably horrify Mr. Hamilton. Students sit in a rough circle, all facing toward the center of the room. Because the center of the room is where the action is, where the show starts, where students and teachers study and debate the large questions of history, of fact and consequence and reaction, where they gain insights into the past, and each other.

Contagious curiosity, rigorous research, unforgettable stories
History unfolds at Prep



*History class:
the hottest seat in
the house.*

When Chair Christine Madsen was asked to identify "the Gordian knot" of Flintridge Prep's history department, she found three essential strands:

- Scholarship
- Skills
- Storytelling

"All three are important," she says. "If I had Alexander's sword,¹ I would not sever this knot. The best teacher is one who can combine all three. Our goal is to empower our students to understand the how and the why of history."

Even if they might not be able to direct a visitor to the International Relations class in Room 25, Prep's history teachers of the past would recognize the passion, engagement, and teaching skills of today's faculty.² John Hamilton, who taught from 1970 to 1986, embodied those traits and passed them on to rookie teachers including Headmaster Peter Bachmann and John Ruch. Mr. Hamilton worked in the long shadow of Joseph Fasken, who taught history at Prep from 1942 until 1968.

Mr. Fasken was a colorful, influential, well-liked teacher, a favorite of many, a "good guy." A Canadian with a "unique



¹ In 333 BCE, **Alexander the Great** sliced through the huge, impenetrable Gordian knot created by the King of the Phrygians over a century before, then went on to fulfill the oracle's prophecy that whoever loosed the knot would rule all Asia. The phrase "Gordian knot" implies an insoluble problem.



² **History faculty and courses 2010-2011**
 Peter Bachmann – *Great Books, American Identity*
 Peter Chesney '04 – *7th Grade World History and Geography, 9th Grade World History I*
 Daniel Hare – *11th Grade US History*
 Antonio Harrison '01 – *8th Grade American History*
 Julian Hayter – *9th Grade World History I, 10th Grade World History II*
 Ingrid Herskind – *11th Grade US History, International Relations, Post-Colonial Africa*
 Christine Madsen – *11th Grade US History, American Government*
 Michael Mullins – *10th European History, History of Warfare*
 John Ruch – *Economics, 9th Grade World History I, American Identity*
 Michael Roffina – *9th Grade World History I*
 Peter Vaughn – *Investments*
 Vanessa Walker-Oakes – *Art History*

“The faculty of the history department at Prep launched me on my career path, even if they had no idea—and probably little hope—that they were positive influences on me.”

Chris Hughes '86

History teacher and upper school Principal, St. Paul Academy and Summit School, St. Paul, MN

and refreshing perspective on both US and European History” according to Toby Westbrook '59, he “hated teaching about the Civil War; he considered it a terrible period in America’s history,” remembers Dick Lochridge '61. Ned Sutro '64 says, “Fasken taught a passion for history as much as he taught history itself.”

“Mr. Fasken had a model which contained seven characteristics of a viable nation-state,” according to Marty Sours '58. One of the indicators was “horse-pitals,” says Tex Haines '71, who explains, “He drilled it into our bony heads that every major center of human population was accompanied by a major hospital. It has stuck with me as a profound object lesson on the value of living in a big city.” History students used Mr. Fasken’s system, recalls Marty Sours, “to recognize that Laos, for example, was what we would call today a ‘failed state.’ He was way ahead of his time.”

Toby Westbrook and Dave Norcott '59 used notes from their senior year British history class to sightsee in London long after graduation. Marty Sours, now a Thunderbird School of Management Professor Emeritus, says, “It is not too much to say that, as a result of Mr. Fasken’s grounding, I was able to earn MA and PhD degrees in international relations.”

Toby Westbrook and Dick Lochridge both went into finance; Toby earned a masters in history and says he has drawn on “the lessons of economic history” in his career. Dick, a retired management consultant profiled in the recent book *The Lords of Strategy*,³ still loves history and

reads it for fun. “I just finished Stephen Ambrose’s *The Incredible Journey*,” he reports. Mr. Fasken would be proud.

Mr. Fasken still loomed large at Prep when Dick’s little brother Scott Lochridge '71 took history classes at Prep, but his teacher was Mr. John Cavanaugh, who was on campus during some tumultuous years (1965 to 1970). “He was dynamite; he had long hair and could relate to us, and he really got us to think about history. We had a lot of reading, like *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*. I was more than well prepared to compete at Dartmouth with graduates of Eastern prep schools. Their idea was that all the fruits and berries had rolled West, but we proved them wrong!”

Dapper in his three-piece suit, the well-travelled Mr. Hamilton came to Prep in the fall of 1970, chairing the history department until he retired in 1986. While certainly not long-haired, Mr. Hamilton nevertheless related to his students, who remember him as a facilitator who encouraged critical thinking. Renowned for his storytelling and his ability to teach across the curriculum, he was “intimidating but highly respected!” according to Julie Benniardi Gunara '88. Garrett Ohara '84 remembers him as “fastidious. You were careful not to move your desk out of the structured rows in Room 25. When I think of John Hamilton, I remember his words: ‘When you talk about change you must always consider pace and degree.’”

“Mr. Hamilton’s refusal to allow a student to say, ‘me and’ or to step across a desk the wrong way were incidental to his balance of passion for the material with care for students,” says Chris Hughes '86. “His Great Books class remains the most influential course I ever took, and as I sit in my office, I see my well-worn copy of *Great Political Thinkers*⁴ with my scribbled margin notes and commentary, resting in its place of honor on my shelf.”⁵

“You have to develop a deep empathy and imagination to truly understand history.”

Peter Bachmann

Headmaster, Great Books and American Identity teacher

THE HUMANITY OF HISTORY

Every Prep student takes history nearly every year, absorbing the lessons of history as well as the multiple perspectives the department offers. It’s had an effect on the very fabric of the school, claims Mr. Ruch.

“Last week we were talking about how at Prep, you can no longer be intolerant. Hazing and bullying just would not be acceptable, civilized behavior. We can disagree in a civil fashion, and understand that a clash of ideas is not a clash of people. The history department, the way we teach, has added to that culture of tolerance.”

Fitting then, that Peter Bachmann believes, “If you know the history of a culture you develop a sophisticated sympathy for it. It’s easy to myopically view your world. History gives you the opportunity to embrace multiple peoples and personalities.”

“Teaching history is really teaching thinking,” according to Director of Faculty Development Ms. Sarah Cooper, who literally wrote the book on it.⁶ “It is how to assemble, evaluate, and cull through sources to create one’s own interpretation backed by evidence. Knowing the past allows us to see patterns and better understand our potential impact on the present and future.”

Mr. Mike Mullins agrees, “History is a skill; you are analyzing data. Whatever your profession, that’s what you need to survive.” And speaking of survival, Mr. Ruch points out, “In my classroom, you have to be on time, to have proper materials and tools, and be prepared. That works well in the real world too. Alums often tell me they enjoyed my classes because I made them think. I’ll take that!”

“I try to open my students’ minds to the wonderment, the otherness, the fascinating strangeness of the past,” says Ms. Vanessa Walker-Oakes. “By imagining difference, we also open the possibility of conceiving our present differently, becoming agents of change. That, to me, is the reason we study history.”

PASSIONATE FACULTY

Prep’s history faculty are united by their enthusiasm for their subject, says history teacher and Assistant Headmaster Peter Vaughn. “Their relationships with history have deepened their lives. They teach what they love, and they have the support and the freedom to do so. They are naturally, organically engaged with their subjects. Being a good teacher is like being an artist; you just can’t help it.” Another trait that today’s history faculty share? “Their bookshelves need to be culled on a regular basis.”

“Good teaching starts with me,” believes Mr. Mullins, who is renowned for his ability to bring war and diplomacy to life in the classroom, and who holds the Cannell Family Teaching Chair. “I get great support and encouragement from the administration; in return I can give support and encouragement to my students. We don’t have to teach so many classes, or wear quite so many hats, anymore. It gives us more time with each student, and with our subject, to find new materials, to create new approaches. For instance, I can buy movies so that in my History of Warfare class we can compare interpretations of war. *Saving Private Ryan* is about war; *The Thin Red Line* is war.”

Ms. Cooper says the history faculty leads by example. “We teach,” she says, “by showing students how to be historians: to engage with primary visual, written, and aural sources with healthy measures of both appreciation and skepticism.” “It’s wonderful,” agrees Christine Madsen, “to be able to say to our students, ‘when I write, this is what I do.’”

Ms. Ingrid Herskind is someone so fired up about her subject that she has spent two summers doing original research in sub-Saharan Africa for the creation of her elective course for seniors on

“Being a good teacher is like being an artist: you just can’t help it.”

Peter Vaughn

Assistant Headmaster, Investments teacher

African history. In addition, Ms. Herskind has studied at the London School of Economics to prepare for teaching the senior elective course on International Relations. With Ms. Madsen, she’ll attend a Stanford summer program this year on America’s Gilded Age. Professional development money supported these endeavors, and enables teachers to bring back on-the-ground insights to the classroom.

ADDRESSING AMBIGUITY

Ms. Herskind, who coaches track and cross country with the same intensity she brings to her students in Room 25, says the very subject of history itself fascinates her. “When I realized that history is a dirty business, it made studying history so much better. Most people are taught that the book is history and they never question what the source of the book is. But it’s not like math—I always admired the beauty and purity of math with its common language and an absolute result. With history there is so much more, and it’s not a clear story. I tell my students that any moment can be changed by media bias or shifts in politics, and history is constantly revised and adapted.”

Many graduates report that they first learned to question what they heard or read in the news media in their Prep history classes. Ms. Herskind teaches healthy, involved skepticism: “A good student of history is always asking, ‘How certain can I be?’”

Ms. Walker-Oakes believes that “acknowledging ambiguity is at the heart of scholarship. We make students aware of the multiplicity of viewpoints, the elusiveness of the definitive statement, the conceit of the final, so that we do not create closed-minded, uncurious researchers rather than true scholars. The excitement lies in the ambiguity.”

Mr. Vaughn says, “By tenth grade, student can have an interactive, skeptical relationship with history. In eleventh grade our teaching is highly Socratic. Students take on more responsibility; there’s a lot of back and forth in the classroom. It’s a teaching tradition here. When I came here Ruch and Bachmann taught that way and I absorbed it from them. Some students

³ Walter Kiechel III, *The Lords of Strategy: The Secret Intellectual History of the Coporate World*, (Boston: Harvard Business Press) 2010.



⁴ Alan O. Ebenstein, *Great Political Thinkers: From Plato to the Present* (Florence: Wadsworth Publishing) 1999.



⁵ Mr. Bachmann (left) took over the Great Books class from Mr. Hamilton (right).



⁶ Sarah Cooper, *Making History Mine: Meaningful Connections for Grades 5-9*, (Portland: Stenhouse) 2009. Ms. Cooper has taught middle school and high school history; she currently teaches English at Prep.



“Acknowledging ambiguity is at the heart of scholarship.”

Vanessa Walker-Oakes
Director of College Counseling,
Art History teacher

leave here with a fully developed point of view; some leave ready to engage differing points of view in college.”

Mr. Mullins teaches sophomores and seniors. “In tenth grade, we lean on the textbook; I say here’s the data, but things are changing all the time. For instance, here’s the Great Depression, and here’s our economy today. But in twelfth grade, in History of Warfare, we can study on so many levels, taking as an example John Keegan’s work—he analyzes WWI through anthropology, ethnography, ethography, even neurology. Seniors can understand the historiography,⁷ the approaches, the idea that Imperialism, which we learned about in World History, has costs and benefits to both cultures.”

Ms. Cooper helped shape Prep’s history curriculum that, “from seventh grade, begins looking at primary sources, showing that we construct history from the opinions of many. If we do not introduce such ambiguity early, we run the risk of telling a dry and monolithic story. Prep’s history teachers love the subject largely because they thrill to the multiple perspectives of history—that, and the great stories you can tell.”

Karina Ortiz ‘09 cites Mr. Vaughn’s cinematic approach to US History. “He made it into a movie that I’ve never forgotten. I still have notebooks from his class outlining everything he said. Even though I was in his ‘reg’ class, he pushed me to take the AP and I ended up with a 5 on it!”

Ms. Madsen says the storytelling faculty can rivet a classroom with a vivid description or well-chosen anecdote. “Among my favorites are the story of D-Day, and the friendship that developed between Roosevelt and Churchill during World War II.”

Mr. Ruch says he’s not only a storyteller but, “a question asker too. I just told the story about the Gracchi in Rome. We

discussed the question I pose to every world history class, and related it to the current Egyptian revolution: can you save the system by breaking the system?”

Cris Ramón ‘02 wandered into Mr. Mullins’ classroom to talk about guitars in his freshman year. As a sophomore he took Modern European History, a class remembered among alums for Mr. Mullins’ riveting, humanizing description of trench warfare. Ramón got the details as well as the grand overview, and some serious inspiration. “Few people have been as influential on my personal and intellectual development as Mike Mullins. His emphasis on the intersection between broad historical trends and the diverse experiences of different historical actors has continued to inspire me to study how collective actions can influence broad political and social change.” In fact, Ramón received a Fulbright scholarship to study immigration in Spain in 2008.

DIGRESSION AND DEBATE, THE RADIO AND THE INTERNET

Drew Prickett ‘00, a renewable energy advocate, says he uses his history major “every time I need to read critically, think analytically, or communicate persuasively.” He says those were the qualities prized by Ms. Herskind, who had “amazing energy.” In a post-class debate about their favorite US Presidents, she argued for Andrew Jackson (“rattling off 20 reasons”) and Drew proclaimed the virtues of Ronald Reagan. Ultimately, they compromised and mutually settled on Lincoln.

Ms. Herskind clearly practices what she teaches. “I like talking about the things that make me uncomfortable. I want to know more about a topic myself, so I dive in. I read everything. We’re all big readers in the history department, and we love new challenges. The meatier and more complex a topic is, even if I don’t understand it myself, the more I want to get into it. I want to go into different areas, because there are so many ways to unravel problems. And I love those moments when you go off in a direction in class and you can still pull students back in to the original topic.”

A typical history classroom may get from A to B via a discussion of X, Y and Z, (or *aleph*, *sigma*, and *ku*)⁸ with debate and discussion along the way. According to Mr. Bachmann, “We never try to discourage extreme views at either end of the pendulum. We want to expose students to challenges, we want to empower them to defend their views. We give a fair shake to both sides. But Prep’s an implicitly moderate culture. Nothing lives on the extreme for very long here.” Indeed, alums like Maral Beyzaei ‘05 remember, “The classroom atmosphere was always open, not threatening, and ripe for learning. No one feared to speak.”

Damon Aldrich ‘90 recalls being able to absorb the lessons of the fall of the Berlin Wall—which occurred on his birthday, November 9, 1989—thanks to his history teachers. “We were very aware of how incredible the moment was, given the human suffering that had taken place behind the ‘Iron Curtain’—the understanding of which was certainly a product of the lively and engaging conversations Prep encouraged every day on current events—political and otherwise.”

No longer do students huddle around the radio for news, like Spencer Murray ‘44 did, listening to President Roosevelt declare war on Monday, December 8, 1941, along with the entire school. Since the advent of the Internet, Prep’s history faculty has enthusiastically embraced students’ expanding research capability. “I like that we can check on details of the Potsdam Conference right in class,” says Ms. Madsen. “The Internet is what our students live and breathe. But I encourage them to always go deeper, and to try to identify their source, that source’s perspective. I wouldn’t want to go back to teaching without the Internet.”

Students visit the Chandramohan Library to use primary source databases like ProQuest Historical Newspapers. Now even seventh graders can experience the thrill, formerly reserved for graduate students in dank university basements, of reading original documents to answer questions and draw conclusions.

MANY THREADS/ MANY STORIES

Prep’s history department is moving forward to offer more breadth and more perspectives. Next fall, a new Chinese Studies senior elective, created by Andy Gaskill ‘00, will incorporate Chinese language, culture, history, and philosophy.

The US History AP exam will soon be revised by the College Board to reflect more critical thinking, a move Ms. Madsen welcomes. It acknowledges the central place that the teaching of history has always occupied when it comes to learning to analyze and synthesize. According to Mr. Bachmann, “History crosses over into all parts of the curriculum. We are moving in an interdisciplinary direction overall. I can see an environment class that would take in science, history, geography, literature, geology, art.”

Prep’s youngest students, taught by Peter Chesney ‘04, are already participating in tomorrow’s history. Seventh graders begin their study of world geography with an unanswerable question: “Is it possible to have a strong economy and a healthy environment?” The class then moves to a study of LA’s history and environment. Mr. Chesney explains, “I want students to understand, on a very personal basis, that random fluctuation and changes come from living in a city like this. ‘History’ is not always a forward march to a pinnacle of progress; there are ups and downs, trade-offs and compromises. History is dynamic.”

To illustrate the future of history at Prep, Ms. Madsen tells one last story. “Our very first assignment in US History is to read two accounts of Columbus’ landing side by side—one on the far left, by Howard Zinn, and one to the right of center, by Paul Johnson. I ask the students if they’d like to read them both all year long, in alternating chapters. This year all but one said they longed for the middle path. But I point out to them that the middle of the road is a point of view as well.

“There used to be a single narrative—now there is no one narrative. I love suggesting to the students that if they end up teaching history, it will not be the same history that they are learning today, in 2011. But I’m sure of one thing. They’ll still be telling great stories.”⁹

⁷ **his-to-ri-og-ra-phy**

(*n*): The narrative presentation of history based on a critical examination, evaluation, and selection of material from primary and secondary sources and subject to scholarly criteria. Central to all historical discussions in academic institutions.

⁸ **Aleph**: The first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, related to “alif” in Arabic, “alpha” in Greek and “A” in Latin.

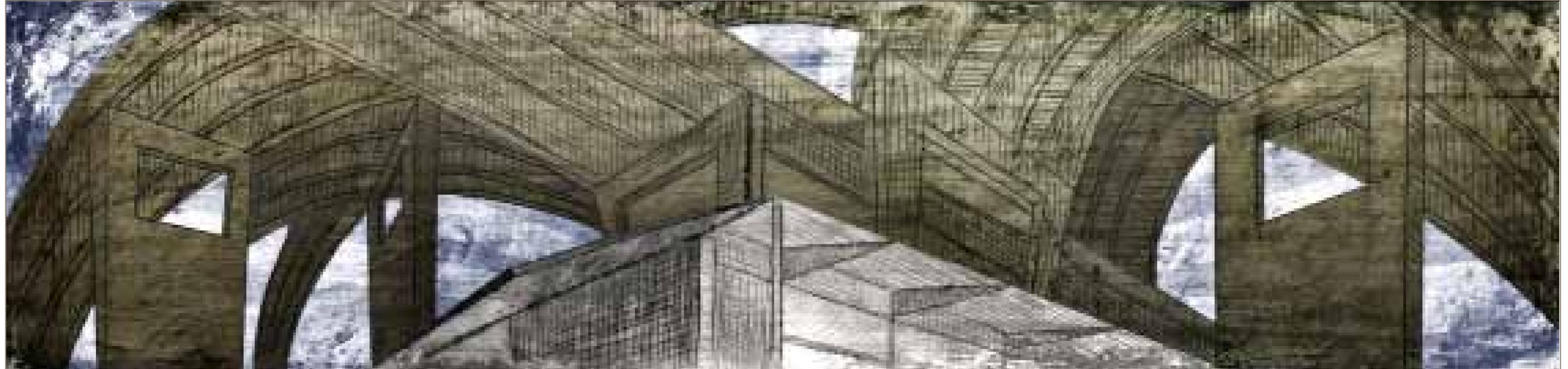
Sigma: Greek letter derived from the Phonician “shin” and related to the Latin “s.”

Ku: The Japanese character Ku can mean the number nine.

⁹ Images like these may inspire stories told by future teachers and students of history in Room 25.



TO TURN ONE'S NECK
WHILE DRIVING TO BETTER
SEE THE CAR CRASH



rubberneck

Neocon Pompeii cradle of civilization moon landing mustard gas bilateral talks democratic republic McCarthy hearings trench warfare locomotion Berlin Wall banana republic developing economies industrial revolution ROI Tigris and Euphrates Reconstruction NATO apartheid Bay of Pigs Gutenberg Dust Bowl Bronze Age Tang Dynasty socialism Lascaux Franz Ferdinand Jim Crow Iron Curtain SWOT analysis Influenza epidemic canoe Hindenburg Plymouth Rock Pop Art Manhattan Project renaissance tsunami DMZ Mason Dixon NGO diplomacy pre-emptive strike WMDs rational choice theory jingosim EU hospitals deforestation export. Room 25.



Room 25

Today, if you are dropping into Mr. Vaughn's Investments class, you might be face to face with the raw energy of the man peppering you with questions and cajoling you when you give an incomplete or (worse) less than intelligent answer. If it's Ms. Herskind's class on Post-Colonial Africa or US History, you're in for a YouTube video or a highly amusing PowerPoint presentation, to which you're expected to respond with your out-of-the-box thinking. With Ms. Madsen at the helm in US History or Government, you'll be hearing riveting stories of Omaha Beach or rehearsing a debate.

Together, inside Room 25, teachers and students tease out the interconnections of history. Looking into the tangle of seemingly random events, they attempt to construct a narrative, or at least make some sense of events. Each class time marks a new effort towards understanding. The collision of ideas, guided by faculty, mimics the arrangement of chairs in the room: seemingly accidental, it is all oh-so-intentional.

We wanted to capture this sense of wonder and excitement in a new and unique way. We loved the fact that across from such an amazing nexus for learning, Room 25, is the Senior Patio, a daily reminder of distraction and privileges that come with being heavily invested in learning while being almost out of here.

We called on an about-to-graduate senior, Jonathan Shin '11, Mr. Flintridge Prep, to help us represent this space. For his senior independent study project, he took on Room 25, "the dirty business of history," (to quote Ms. Herskind), and all that goes along with teaching and learning history at Prep.

Jonathan has a perspective that no member of the Prep faculty or administration could possess, simply by being a second-semester senior right now, still in, but on his way out, of Prep. He took on this unique design challenge with a level of intellectual curiosity and academic studiousness that is exemplified by all Prep scholars, whatever their chosen subject. Jonathan became absorbed by the way information is processed and repackaged, that through the efforts of the teacher and the student, with the room as a vehicle, new versions of a story emerge.¹⁰

¹⁰ Jonathan Shin '11 reflects on his independent study interpreting Room 25 for *PrepTalk* at preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

Spotlight

The Modern Mummy Project

The Modern Mummy Project was an ambitious undertaking that allowed our five-student team of artists (Sarah Wu '12, Andrew Olson '12, Jack Purvis '12, Julia Miller '12, and Casey Cousineau '13) to explore the worlds of narrative photography, design, and sculpture. With the Herakleides Mummy as a model, we constructed a modern mummy, with a story that we created over the course of three months.

Our first step was to envision our mummy. Was he young or old at the time of his death? Was he a vagabond or a worldly traveler? And what would his life journey teach him?



Over lively discussions, the mummy's story gradually began to take shape: a boy who had grown up in a rigid, affluent environment, escaped the draft, and journeyed from East to West, expressing his own manifest destiny. His last days were spiritual; we wanted him to settle down in his own home having lived a full life, without the constraints of his childhood.

Since we needed to procure a tangible mummy for our images, we decided to create our own. We wrapped one of our classmates in plastic, and then created a mummy around his body using plaster soaked linen strips.

We then shot images to represent each aspect our mummy's life. Using the cyanotype process, we contact-printed our chosen images onto pre-sensitized fabric, selecting the most powerful images to apply to the mummy's body. We made prayer flags from the remaining photos, and created an amazing, life-size installation of narrative art all under the direction of Visiting Artist Lindsey Ross.

— Sarah Wu '12



The King and I: Kevin Cheng '14, Karen Komine '11, Caribay Franke '12, Alexis Slater '12, Austin Roy '13, and Natalie Rose Schwartz '13.

Shall we applaud?

We at Flintridge Prep clearly love our theater, and the crowds assembled for each performance of *The King and I* March 10 through 13 demonstrate how much love we have to give. Despite the fact that the opening night performance competed directly with a Boys' Basketball CIF playoff game, the auditorium was full, just as it was for every night to follow.

Several sold-out performances is no small feat when you consider that easily 15 to 20 percent of the Prep community couldn't be in the audience because they were part of the production. The ensemble cast was made up of 54 dancers, singers, and actors—many onstage for more than half of the show. The cast was joined by a small orchestra, a tech crew that was more than 20 strong, and an untold number of volunteers who managed lavish costumes (on loan from the traveling production!), hair, and makeup.

The performance embraced the core of community and culture at Prep, which is in the middle of a year-long celebration of visual and performing arts. Performing Arts department head Rob Lewis worked with his cast to "mine the gems of international relations, the historical study of Siam in the 1860s, and the notion of progress so that they draw connections to their academics." But Mr. Lewis and the rest of the performers didn't stop there. With deep consideration for cultural significance, performers spoke three languages—Pali, Thai, and English—and used a variety of world dialects. An opening prayer celebrated the learned mind, while the second act performance of "Small House of Uncle Thomas" embraced all that is wonderful about Thai culture and Western ideals.

For more photos, please visit preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

Arts Week

A series of concerts, art exhibits, and film showings marked student-sponsored Arts Week, March 14-18. See photo on page 1.



Mud and Glory

With the guidance of guest artist Libby L. Gerber, the collaboration of ceramics teacher Susan Babson, and the willing participation of every ceramics class from 8th grade to advanced (as well as students who volunteered to participate), "Anthro-architectural" came into being between the Randall Building and Jorgensen House, on what used to be the Junior patio. (See front cover.)

Made of square, unfired clay tiles individually ornamented and threaded on tall pieces of rebar, the project began quietly down in the art rooms. It moved to the middle of campus on Monday, March 14, with students carefully stacking the clay pieces onto towering poles.

The project intrigued passersby who paused to watch the progress of the mysterious forms. Aproned students, covered with clay slip and clambering on ladders, mortared tiles into graceful stacks that recalled Watts Towers.

Ms. Gerber named the project "Anthroarchitectural" because the towers are organic and resemble humans, but also have the structural components of buildings. It was expected that the delicate structures would erode over time in an outdoor environment.

On Friday, March 18, the final layer of mulch was laid down and the project was finished in time for the Film and Music Festival that night. It was a perfect example of a community art event, the likes of which had never been seen on campus.

And then it rained. And rained. It poured Saturday night and it really poured on Sunday. California's drought was officially over, but Monday morning, the project had eroded into the mulch, with only the muddy rebar remaining.

Destruction is the goal of Ms. Gerber's works. In March, in California, everyone thought that Prep's project would last a week or two. But Mother Nature had other



plans, which made Ms. Gerber both sad and sanguine. "I would have preferred it if people had had more time to enjoy it, but I actually love the way in which it fell apart."

Ms. Babson agrees, "It was beautiful and organic. You couldn't expect it to happen any better." A gallery of photos of the creation (and destruction) of "Anthro-architectural" can be seen at Ms. Gerber's website, www.libbygerber.com.

The Seagull takes flight

Mr. Rob Hamlyn directed Chekhov's *The Seagull* in April. The dark comedy, which ends in tragedy, explores the nature of art and society against the context of a radically changing Russian society. Below, left to right, Ivan Verbinski '14, Kellan Rohde '12, and Lily Manuel '13 each have secrets and regrets in *The Seagull*.



The Student Choreography Showcase
Air apparent

Artistry, performance quality, and risk-taking were all in evidence at January's Student Choreography Showcase. Each class spent a semester studying a genre of dance through the work of choreographers, learning and internalizing signature moves, then created their own works that showed mastery of movement, tone, and style, and helped connect disparate traditions like world music and jazz, modern dance, and hip hop.





BASKETBALL

Boys' Varsity:

CIF and LEAGUE CHAMPS!

The Boys' Varsity basketball season could only be described as historic. The boys showed the depth and resourcefulness of a team that could win CIF. In fact, the Rebels had a stupendous record overall, with 24 wins and 7 losses. The team's record in league was 7 wins and just 1 loss. The Rebels spent most of the season ranked first in their CIF division, and true to the prediction, they defeated Muir to clinch the CIF Division 5AA Southern Section championship—a first in Flintridge Prep history.

While Harvard-bound Kenyatta Smith '11 was a star (see story on page 3), winning All-CIF Player of the Year, as well as a prestigious John Wooden Award for his outstanding skills, other players shone as well. Jared Norsworthy '11 had a memorable performance in the championship game, scoring 10 of his 14 points in the third quarter. He was named to the All-CIF First Team. Kory Hamane '12 was another All-CIF First Team selection, averaging 12 points and 4 assists per contest. Jedrick Eugenio '13 and Robert Cartwright '14 also made strong contributions, being named to the All-Prep League Second Team. Other key players were Jordan Whaley '11, Kareem Ismail '13, Sam Honch '11, and Kyle Hamane '14.

The '11 Rebels were fun to watch because they were unselfish, played aggressive defense, and put a lot of points on the scoreboard. The team set school records for wins and points scored. Regarding the team awards, Kenyatta Smith was named the Most Valuable Player. Jared Norsworthy received the Coaches' Award, and Robert Cartwright received the Most Inspirational Award.

Boys' Junior Varsity: The Junior Varsity boys' basketball team had a stellar season this year. The Rebels thrived on an intense half-court defense, tenacious rebounding, and solid offensive ability. Each player worked hard and bought into his respective role on the team. Sophomore Tyler Weakland '13 led the team in scoring from the guard position, while MVP Harrison Jung '13 proved to be a great leader as team captain. Derek Wong '13 paced the team with his strong defensive prowess and Chadd Cosse '13 was a force down in the paint. Led by great scorers and key role-players, the team enjoyed a record of 17 wins and 3 losses with an undefeated record in league play. The Rebels enjoyed an average margin of victory of 19.1 points per game and finished the season on a 9-game win streak. Highlights of the season include beating Sierra Canyon and sweeping rival Pasadena Polytechnic School in 2 games.

Girls' Varsity: The girls' Varsity basketball team had a transitional year, with only 2 players returning from last year's Varsity team. At the beginning of the season the girls faced some strong competition, and while the wins didn't come easily, the level of competition prepared the team for league play. In a league where the top 3 teams all made the CIF Finals, the girls finished tied for 4th with a 5-7 record, qualifying for the CIF playoffs. In the first round of Division 4AA, the girls got a home game against 12th seed Paso Robles. The girls played hard and trailed by 5 with 3 minutes left before losing by 10, finishing the year 8-16 overall. Kristin Shum '11 and Maya Okamoto '14 led the Rebels this season, along with outstanding contributions by all the players, including Kimberly Kim '12, Katherine Bogaard '13, Katharine Yamamoto '14, Gabby Zen '13, Kinsey Thompson '13, Shelly Kim '11, Serendi Lau '11, Gwen Anderson '13, and Jennifer Shintaku '14. Maya Okamoto was named 1st Team All Prep League, and Kristin Shum was named 2nd Team All Prep League. With only 2 seniors graduating this spring, the future is very bright for the girls' basketball program.

Girls' Junior Varsity: The JV girls' basketball season was very successful. With a roster of only 7 girls, we definitely had our work cut out for us. The girls worked really hard and came together as a team to finish second in league with a 9-3 record and a 13-5 record overall. Everyone contributed to the success of the season and became better basketball players and teammates during the season. Grace Cha '13 led by example, working hard in practice and playing smart in games. She averaged 9.3 points per game and was definitely a sparkplug for the team. Sophomores Olivia Gaines '13 and Callan Gies '13 led the team in rebounds. Towards the end of the season, both girls were routinely rebounding in double digits. Chadwick was clearly the strongest team, so the battle was set for 2nd place in a very competitive league. Late in the season, we had a hard loss to a team that we then had to face again in the last game of the season. With the 2nd place finish on the line and with only 7 players, 2 battling illnesses, the girls came together as a team, gave everything

that they had, and avenged their earlier loss, clinching 2nd place. It was a great way to end the season!

Boys' Middle School: Even though their overall record may not show it, this year's 7th grade boys were very competitive in each game that they played. The focus each year with the 7th grade team is to get them to know each other's skill level in practice so they can play as one during the games—and most of all to have a fun experience. All 13 boys played in each game this season and showed great improvement, heart, and spirit throughout the season in both offense and defense. This foundational year shows great promise as these players grow through the program.

Last year, as 7th graders, the 8th graders went through a learning period of getting to know each other and...WOW! The 8th grade boys came 1 game short of not only repeating as champions, but repeating for a 3rd straight year! The goal for the 8th grade team each year is to get into the tournament and to perform at their best when their best is needed. The Rebels placed 2nd in league with a 5-1 record and won the 1st game of the tournament by beating Mayfield Jr., only to fall short in the finals to Pasadena Poly. All 11 players played their roles perfectly throughout the season and it was a joy to see them support each other and grow as one. Both teams were coached by Bob Loughrie.

Girls' Middle School: The 8th grade girls had a great season, falling 1 win short of going to the 8th grade tourney this year. It was a bit of a heart-breaking year since 3 of our losses came within the last seconds of the game, and by fewer than 3 points. The girls fought hard in every game and made every opponent work hard, making for a fun and exciting season. The award winners for the 8th grade team were Erin Kim '15 (MVP), Ronni Cuccia '15, and Trishta Dordi '15.

The 7th grade had an amazing run as they went 7-1, just 3 points away from a perfect season. Tala Ismail '16 (MVP) led the team in points with an average of over 15 points a game. Nanita Balagopal '16 and Naomi Berhane '16 were award winners as well.



CHEER

On February 19, the cheer-dance team attended the Sharp International State Championship dance team competition at Knott's Berry Farm. The team's jazz routine placed 1st in its division and the team's lyrical dance routine placed 2nd. In fact, the jazz routine received the highest score of all of the routines at the competition, placing 1st overall!

On April 9, the cheer-dance team competed in a Sharp International regional competition at Burbank High School. Both the jazz and lyrical routines came in first for their small group divisions. The routines went on to win the larger overall lyrical and jazz divisions. To cap off a spectacular competition, Prep's team was named Master Grand Champions of the competition.

EQUESTRIAN

Claire Shaffer '14 represented Flintridge Preparatory School in two shows held by the Saddleseat & Western School League of Greater Los Angeles. Claire participated in 2 classes, Freshman Saddleseat Equitation and Freshman Saddleseat Horsemanship, earning the 2nd place red ribbon in both classes, in both shows. She has earned a total of 72 points for Flintridge Prep in the three shows in which she has competed. Hannah Warde '11 is competing in the Varsity Division, and Maddie Jones '12 is competing in the Novice Division. Hannah finished 2nd in the October Varsity Jumper Division, earning 20 points. Maddie Jones debuted at the 2nd show on December 5th, earning 4 points in the Novice Division, 1 for Equitation and 3 for Hunter.

WATER POLO

Girls' Varsity: What a great season it was for the girls' water polo team. Similar to the boys' program, this young team's growth transcends wins and losses, with both programs relying on teamwork and positive thinking. At no point was this more evident than the late-season battle at perennial Prep League powerhouse Chadwick. The girls were coached by 3 members of the boys' water polo team, Jack Purvis '12, Kellan Rohde '12, and Patrick Hickey '12. The final score of this game and others becomes insignificant when compared to the team's heart and dedication. The girls won 2 games this year and were a part of many close contests that could have gone their way. Playing in the extremely competitive Prep League continues to strengthen our program. With a young team of 2 returning starters and only 2 seniors, this was an exciting season.

Led by captains Savy Hart '13 and Evie Bettmann '11, every player found a multitude of ways to make a contribution. Offensively, newcomers to the team Kate Woolley '12 and Suzanna Tam '12 provided a powerful 1-2 punch on the Prep counter-attack. Savy and Evie served as defensive anchors for the Rebels, and the team was kept in many tight games thanks to the efforts of Sarah Gilman '14 in the cage. Perhaps the comments by Chelsea Rappaport '13 best sum up the season: "Our hard work brought us closer together while raising our level of play—I am proud of this team and our season."



SOCCKER

Boys' Varsity: The boys' Varsity soccer team took to heart everything that was conveyed to them and they were eager to grow from whatever obstacle was thrown at them. With an overall record of 5-11-2, and great victories over Maranatha and Village Christian, games included outstanding play by David Russell '11, who was awarded 1st Team All-League, and Eric Kazangian '11, named to 2nd Team All-League.

Boys' Junior Varsity: The season started with excited new players. Michael Weinstein '14 and Robbie Carroll '13 quickly took on the role of co-captains and pushed their teammates. The season began and it was like a rollercoaster. The players who stayed until the end played spots they were not used to, but excelled in carrying out their assignments. A player like Daniel Nieto '13 quickly took on goalkeeping and improved in the position. The team really came together when they played Poly at home. With only 1 sub on the bench, the team played their hearts out and pulled away with a 2-1 victory.

Girls' Varsity: **LEAGUE CHAMPS!** The girls' Varsity soccer team, coached by Esteban Chavez and assisted by Chris Mendoza and Sean Beattie, had a spectacular season, going 18-4-2 for the year. Led by co-captains Brooke Elby '11 and Alina Okamoto '11, the team won the Prep League with a mark of 8-1-1 and made it to the quarterfinals in the CIF Division III playoffs. The team recorded the 1st outright Prep League championship, the 1st back-to-back league championships, and the first CIF Division III quarterfinal appearance in the history of Prep girls' soccer.

Elby (see page 3) had a league-high 28 goals, while Okamoto and Arielle Baptiste '12 led the team in assists with 10 and 11, respectively. The defense (which allowed only 12 goals during the regular season, best in the division) was sparked by Connell Studenmund '12, Whitney Cohen '13, and goalie Casey Cousineau '13. In the CIF Division III playoffs, the Rebels defeated Diamond Bar (3,100



students) and Cypress (2,400 students) before narrowly losing to #1 seed Ayala (2,100 students).

Both Elby and Studenmund were named co-MVPs of the Prep League and to the first team of the All-CIF SS Div. III team. The Rebels will be in a good position to try for a "three-peat" next year with an outstanding roster of returning players, including girls named to the Prep League first team (Studenmund, Lyon, Cousineau, and Kelleher), second team (Cohen), and to the All-CIF Southern CA Div. III second team (Lyon) and third team (Cousineau).

Girls' Junior Varsity: The JV girls' soccer team ended with a record of 11-3-1, winning all but 1 of their league matches. Cassie Redding '14 led the team in scoring with 11 goals and was voted offensive player of the year. Marisa Wang '13 was 2nd in scoring with 7 goals. Other notable offensive performances came from Roya Gheissari '14, Michaela Weibe '14, Sophie Heflin '14, and Lydia Linna '13. In fact, 15 players on the 16-person squad scored at least 1 goal this season, making the total goals scored over 50! The defensive line for the team was led by MVP Mary Ruth Ngo '13, and her co-sweeper Kate Kersting '13. Their efforts helped to keep the total goals scored against the team to 8. Defensive player of the year was awarded to stopper Mari Paulson '12, who set the tone for the team's attack-oriented style of play.

Boys' Middle School: The boys' middle school soccer team had an exciting season, finishing with a record of 2-3-0. Many of the boys on the team have a habit of kicking a ball around together on the field after school and had been doing so for months leading up to the season. That explains the remarkable cohesiveness of the group; it seemed they had been playing together for ages even in the first game. Their great skills, pace, and passing combinations made each game a pleasure to watch. The boys were spirited and competitive but always gracious in defeat. The MVP was Timothy Bates '15, Most Improved Rawson Chase '16, and the Coaches' Award went to Ari Baranian '15.

Girls' Middle School: After some initial shuffling of players at the beginning of the season, the 7th and 8th grade girls joined forces to form a combined middle school soccer team. As is often the case with middle school sports, there were very experienced 8th graders playing alongside 7th graders who had never touched a soccer ball. The girls gelled remarkably well and by the end of the season the team was a worthy opponent to any team. The game against Westridge was no exception; in spite of playing 3 girls down when Westridge had at least 6 on the bench, the Prep team held its own. The girls finished the season 4-2.

For a list of sports awards, please visit preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

TAKING CARE TO COMMUNICATE DR. VAS SARMA '89



Physician **VAS SARMA '89** believes good communication begins with a fundamental belief: Everyone is important. "The teachers at Prep have always been great about doing this with students," says Vas. "My experiences in **Peter Bachmann's** Great Books class, biology with **Mr. Maggio**, and **Anne Miner's** math class—among others—taught this by example. I always felt heard and respected for trying my best, even as I was learning difficult concepts or finding my way. It's one of those ideas that once internalized, is not forgotten."

Believing that everyone is important, that everyone can make a contribution, "changes the interest level and depth of any exchange for the better," Vas believes. "The goal is to have a series of great exchanges with people daily. All communication improves when one truly feels the importance of that other person. This concept is critical for building relationships."

As the director of Cardiac Surgical Intensive Care at Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles, Vas knows that effective and consistent communication is a must among healthcare providers, patients, and the patients' families. It is difficult for many people in the hospital to understand information well, even in an optimum setting. In a confusing, frightening, busy place like the ICU or the ER, studies have shown that patients retain as little as 20 percent of information spoken by a physician.

With the possibility of data overload, Vas' patient care teams focus on carefully disseminating information to everyone, from the patient and family to the various specialists, nurses, and therapists. With a special area of study and expertise in patient safety (he is chair of the critical care committee and vice president of the hospital medical executive committee), Vas knows that good communication can reduce errors and promote recovery.

"It's not about the individual egos of the team members. We try to have barrier-free communication—everyone has a voice so that pertinent information is not lost and people feel connected to the patient. It's a team approach. That way we can smoothly function so nothing goes wrong.

"The challenge is incorporating the varied styles of healthcare providers. We want to improve patient safety and outcomes without sacrificing people's individually nuanced styles. Patients and families feel more at ease with someone who is not giving information in a bland or overtly defensive way. They want someone who is knowledgeable, confident, and is addressing their concerns directly," he believes. When a patient's diagnosis can literally turn on a heartbeat, "As long as you keep presenting news logically and openly, people are more satisfied, even if the news is bad." And if there is an error, "An apology re-establishes trust. People want to know that you can acknowledge that there was a problem, and lay out a plan to fix it."

These fundamentals work to the benefit of every interpersonal interaction, Vas believes. His patient care teams and his medical committees function similarly to the Crestview Preparatory School Board, where he serves as board chair and is a proud parent of a son (Nayan, age 6) and daughter (Saya, age 8).

Vas likes working on behalf of Crestview, and says he's learned from the world of elementary education. "I've absorbed a lot by attending independent education conferences, things about teaching and writing, and I've brought that back to the hospital. We've re-written patient materials

based on what I learned from the National Association of Independent Schools!"

Vas, whose workweek can stretch to 90 hours ("Not often!" he points out) has a quartet of bikes that he, his wife Sabena, and the kids use to ride around the Rose Bowl; the kids swim, Vas and Sabena run, and their idea of a great Saturday is "No school projects to help finish and plenty of time with the family outside!"

Does the idea of mutual respect and open communication extend down to the family level? "Yes," says Vas. "Crestview head of school **Marie Kidd** (parent of Prep alums **JENNY '00**, **MOLLY '04**, and **SARAH '97**), has always impressed upon her board members the concept of respect for childhood. Part of that is finding the best way to communicate with my kids. This is not always easy, because how we as adults speak influences them. Living in California, they are exposed to many different languages and styles of communicating. We also take our kids traveling each summer (India, China, and Mexico so far) so that they understand the common threads between people, and so that they feel the world is smaller and more approachable."

Vas wants his patients, who can be gravely ill, perhaps frightened, possibly in pain, to enter his hospital and feel "as if they are welcome guests." He decorates his office walls with bright, whimsical artwork created by his kids, deliberately putting visitors at ease. He tries to make every interaction equitable, dynamic, and focused.

Vas Sarma counsels medical students, "The feeling you have when you leave the bedside of your patient is the feeling your patient has too. So if you are frustrated, they are frustrated; if you are satisfied, or optimistic, they are too. Try to titrate both sides of the conversation towards satisfaction, a measure of happiness." It's good advice in or out of the ICU.

—by Mel Malmberg

1949

KING MCKEE refers to *PrepTalk* Summer 2010 wherein **ROBIN BALDWIN '47** takes issue with the class of '48, who reported friendships dating to grammar school. "Robin referred to the class of '48 as 'young whipper-snappers who know nothing,' as Robin and **BOB JACKSON** were roommates at Flintridge in 1943. 'Being roommates beats just knowing each other,' according to Robin. Obviously a challenge has just been issued. I submit that **BILL BARRINGTON** and I were classmates, and have been friends, since kindergarten in Third Street School Los Angeles, 1936. Robin's wife Patty (Owen) Baldwin and I were also friends and neighbors in Arcadia in 1942. Robin should also remember that I was a boyfriend of his sister Prudy and dated her extensively in 1948. Now Robin, just top that! And my best to Patty and Prudy!"

JOHN RIDLAND has been writing poems like a madman, and publishing quite a few: *Poetry* (Feb. 2011); *The Hudson Review* (Winter 2011); *The Anglican Theology Review* (Spring 2011), and next year the North Dakota Institute will be issuing his small book *Obits: Obituary Sonnets*, which includes elegies for classmates **CARTER LITCHFIELD** and **DAN PLETSCH**. In September he underwent a mitral valve replacement operation, from which he is recovering by the book—as is **LYLE BACON's** wife Ginny, who had the same operation.

1956

AL HALES was honored by being elected an AAAS Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Each year, the Council elects members whose "efforts on behalf of the advancement of science or its applications are scientifically or socially distinguished." Al is being honored for contributions in algebra and combinatorics, the Hales-Jewett Theorem, characterization of infinite abelian groups by Ulm invariants, and service as department chair and Center for Communications Research Director.

1959

TONY EAGER shared, "As a result of our 50-year reunion, **GRAHAM SMITH** and I discovered that there is another old geezer out there who is still breathing and is capable of skiing down a few hills without giving up the ghost. And because of this, Jan and I decided to invite Graham and his lovely wife, Ann, to our condo for a few days of skiing in March. We survived several more inches of Steamboat's beautiful 'champagne powder' snow without catching an edge or breaking any bones. I think



Graham would agree that we all had a great time, and Jan and I experienced a wonderful bonus by personally witnessing Ann's artistic talents with watercolor painting. For anyone who is interested you can see some of Ann's

examples by visiting her website: www.annsmithwatercolors.com." For his part, Graham shared, "I agree with everything Tony says except I was routinely about half a mile behind him. That picture the day after the dump is perfect. We are legends in our own minds."

1961

RICHARD HUFF retired from full-time work after 37 years of federal service (seven with the Army, 30 with the Department of Justice). "I am semi-retired now and teach Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (my specialty at the DOJ) about three days a month.



I have an absolutely wonderful family—wife, daughter Jennifer, son-in-law Mike, and grandson Justin."

1962

PHILIP K. VERLEGER, JR. is a professor in strategy and international management in the Haskayne School of Business at the University of Calgary. He recently had an article published in *International Economy* titled "Forty Years of Folly," in which he argues that the failure of US energy policy lies in the inability of the government to promote free trade and free markets in the energy sector. He believes that rising prices would cut demand, and advocates promoting innovation and exploration through tax credits while capturing more revenue for the federal government. He was recently interviewed on NPR.

1968

JOHN SLEETER shared, "In addition to continuing in my role as Chair of the Washington State Commission on Judicial Conduct, in December I was elected to serve as the President of the Board of Directors of Wolf Haven International. Wolf Haven International (www.wolfhaven.org), located in Tenino, WA, about 10 miles south of Olympia, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit sanctuary dedicated to the rescue of displaced captive-born privately owned wolves, conservation, and education. It is also an active participant in the USDA's Species Survival Program (SSP) for the breeding and reintroduction of Mexican gray wolves and even more endangered red wolves. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter."

IN HIS OWN WORDS SPENCER MURRAY '44



Spencer shows the newly-restored "Dream Truck"—a 1950 Chevy pickup first modified about 60 years ago under Spencer's direction. He helped with the recent work too.

My family moved to La Cañada from Hollywood in 1934 when I was seven. After a couple of years at Flint Hall (anybody remember that little primary school on Oakwood Avenue?), I joined Flintridge Prep for the fifth grade and continued there for eight years until graduation in 1944. Despite the 67 intervening years, I clearly recall a mixed bag of early Prep stories.

- I was picked up and returned home in Prep's "bus," a '35 Oldsmobile sedan. We rejoiced when the school graduated to a new '37 Ford station wagon (and then, a year later, a '38 wagon).
- I spent a semester, it must have been during '42, boarding at the Skillen House, which doubled as Prep's administrative offices, school kitchen, and lunchtime haven on blustery days. One day, we Skillen House boarders awoke to the loud rumbling of a military convoy, including tanks and half-tracks, which had paused right under our window on Foothill Boulevard.
- I "came of age" in '43 when I got a driver's license and could drive myself between Prep and home in my convertible.
- I graduated at last in '44, along with six classmates, but afraid of being drafted into the Army, I quickly volunteered for the Navy and became a tail-gunner on a land-based bomber.
- Skipping ahead, my eldest son, **SPENCER MURRAY '66** (I'm the fourth and he's the fifth), graduated and became the first Prep grad son of a Prep grad dad. Spencer once checked out a book from Miss Gussweiler in the library. I was the last person who had checked out that book—in 22 years, we were the only ones—father and son!

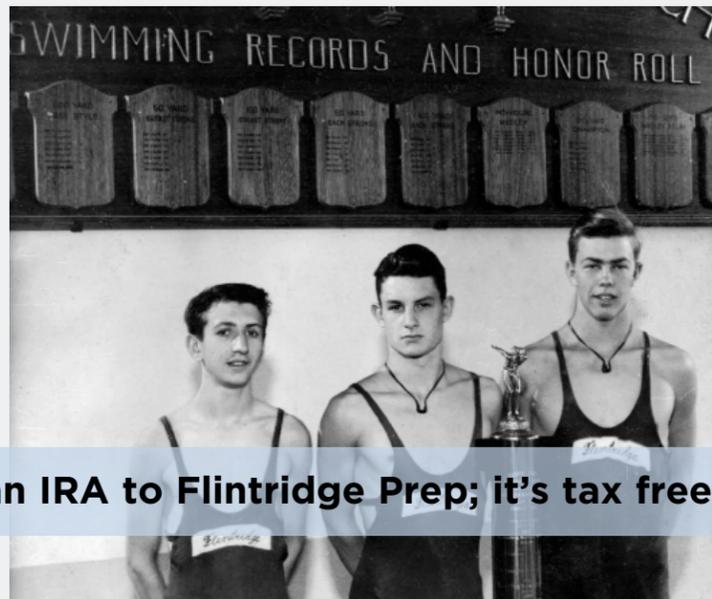
- Attesting to the lengthy tenures of some Prep instructors, in the years between my time at Prep and my son's, we shared at least four teachers, **Mr. Fasken**, **Mr. Rose**, **Mr. Smith**, and **Mr. Dickinson**, each of whom helped us immeasurably toward our later careers. After grading my son on a particular test, Fasken stated that Spencer had gotten higher marks on it than his dad had nearly a quarter-century before!

I've always been obsessed with the automobile and turned that interest into a 60-year career of auto journalism that continues today. I had a 28-year stretch at Petersen Publishing in Hollywood, first at *Hot Rod*, and then at *Road & Track* in various editorial positions. Between staff jobs were periods of freelance work for more auto publications than I can count. I've authored over 1,500 articles and 7 books on various subjects.

My most recent book, *Pitcairn Island: The First 200 Years*, details events leading to the infamous mutiny aboard the ship *Bounty*, and the settlement of the mutineers on Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific, where I traveled for research.

My 77 years in La Cañada have been spent in four different houses plus one for a short time in La Crescenta. I pass Prep several times a week on the 210 Freeway and have watched it grow until nothing now remains of the school I attended long ago. But I'll never forget those meaningful years spent at what I'll always remember as "my" Flintridge Preparatory School for Boys.

Get in the swim



Rollover an IRA to Flintridge Prep; it's tax free!*

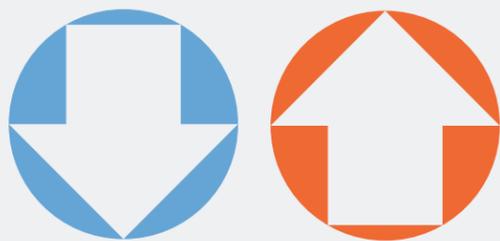
The President recently signed a two-year extension of the IRA Charitable Rollover. The law reinstates the IRA Charitable Rollover for 2010 and extends it through 2011. An IRA Charitable Rollover gift can go towards satisfying the taxpayer's minimum distribution requirement.

Please consider making an IRA Charitable Rollover to Flintridge. Your gift can make a difference to the school and make a difference in your taxes!* The new expiration date for the Charitable Rollover is **December 31, 2011**.

For more information about an IRA Charitable Rollover or other ways to help secure Flintridge's future, please call Yuki Jimbo, Director of Development, at 818.949.5524 or email yjimbo@flintridgeprep.org.

* Please consult your tax advisor about how a charitable gift from your IRA will impact you.

Alumni recall historic moments and history teachers at Prep at preptalk.flintridgeprep.org



Gift annuity rates are up!

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A gift annuity can guarantee an income stream for the rest of your life, offer tax benefits, a tax deduction, and also support Flintridge Prep. Gift annuities can be created with cash, securities or real estate. Payment rates are based on age. Below are a few examples of our guaranteed annual payment rates*:

Rates for an Individual		Two Lives—Joint and Survivor		
Age	Rate	Younger	Older	Rate
65	5.5%	65	65-67	5.1%
68	5.7%	68	69-72	5.3%
70	5.8%	70	70-73	5.4%
73	6.1%	73	79-81	5.8%
75	6.4%	75	79-80	5.9%
78	6.8%	78	79-80	6.1%
80	7.2%	80	85-86	6.6%
83	7.7%	83	85	6.9%
85	8.1%	85	88	7.4%
88	8.9%	88	88	7.8%



For more information, please call Yuki Jimbo, Director of Development at 818.949.5524 or email: yjimbo@flintridgeprep.org.

* Rates in effect through June 30, 2011. Rates are set by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

1971

JOHN AUFHAMMER has enjoyed and valued his 33-year career with IBM focused on sales, marketing, and customer relationship management in Orange and San Diego Counties. "My wife, Robin, and I raised our family in Encinitas for 21 years and in April 2008, once our three children were all grown and out of the house, we moved to French Valley, just north of Temecula. I retired from IBM in July 2009 and

in November 2009 I accepted the position of Director at Idyllwild Pines Camp, a Christian camp in the San Jacinto Mountains. I live mostly in Idyllwild, but we still own and stay at our French Valley home frequently."

1975

Since January, **JAMIE BISSNER** has been writing a column for Media News Group Newspapers. The second largest media company in the US, Media News Group publishes the *Pasadena*

Star-News, among many other mastheads. The column appears weekly on Saturdays in the real estate section in six southern California area newspapers, giving an inside view of construction processes and relationships and offering advice to property owners for working harmoniously with a builder and saving money. He shares anecdotal experiences about his work as a forensic expert in construction litigation and ways to avoid legal action.

1978

ROBERT PARKER's music was heard in some very different places this year. A work for orchestra was performed on the Norris Auditorium stage for Prep's Spring Music Concert (with the composer assisting the brass section on the baritone horn); his music accompanies international award-winning magician Jeff McBride in the stage show he performs all over the world; and the commencement music that he composed for Yale University accompanied Prep alumni **KRISTIN HEINTZ '07** and **AYANA SUMIYASU '07** as they made their own commencement march across Yale's Old Campus in May. For more information, check out Robert's music website, www.robertparkermusic.com.

Since **BILL PAXSON** retired from the LA Port Police in '08 (after 28 years) he has been working on his second screenplay, and performed in his third play (*The Crucible*—required reading for most Rebels). **BRUCE CAULK** and **MICHAEL FERRIS '79** have contributed invaluable advice to Bill's writing. **DOUG WILLARDSON** and **MARK BEN** both came to see Bill perform in *The Curious Savage* in January. He has been playing competitive softball for 30 years, is very active in his church, and loves debating politics with **KEN CHOW**. Bill's youngest of three kids has one more year of high school, and then he's free. Yippee. Bill highly recommends retirement.

Alums and history at preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

1981

KIP FREYTAG and her husband went to Fiji over the Christmas holidays to enjoy a break from cold and wet weather and celebrate in the tropics. Leaving in mid-December, they snagged a 50% off deal for diving the first week, and then went around the southern end of the main island, Viti Levu, for the next week. From diving the southern part to diving the northern part of Viti Levu, they went to Wananavu for another week of diving. This resort had terrific chef-cooked meals! The last week was spent in the Yasawas, where the rainy season finally caught up. Reading, relaxing, and snorkeling were the main activities, as the weather prevented hiking. They are already missing the tropics.

1981



1983

JOHN KAFROUNI has been living and practicing physical medicine and rehabilitation in Portland, OR, for eight years. He finished his residency training in 2002 at Rehab Institute of Chicago (Northwestern U.), just added sports medicine as a subspecialty board certification, and recently joined Rebound Orthopedics, (the team docs for the Portland Trailblazers). He is deliriously happily married for a little over a year to wife Camelia, and happy as a clam surfing, biking, and learning new medical techniques. John says he hung out with **MIKE HALL** last year in Sumatra for a surf trip. No kids yet. Maybe that'll come in next year's update.

1984

JOHN CLEAVES created an app for the iPad called JuryTracker that helps attorneys with jury observation during trial. "It's been really exciting to be part of the iPad trend, and it sure is a long way from programming on the Commodore PETs in **Dr. Marzec's** classroom."

1988

ALICIA SMITH MILLER was recently promoted to the position of Vice President, Global Go-To-Market Strategy & Sales Operations at Motorola Mobility. She remains based in Chicago, but spends considerable time on the road. "If you're in Beijing-Frankfurt-Mexico City-London-Dubai-Madrid-Singapore-Paris-Tokyo-Buenos Aires-Rio-Sao Paulo (whew!), drop me an email at alicia@motorola.com."

1989

LORI HERRICK ARANDA and Kevin Aranda were married in a small ceremony in La Quinta, CA, on October 9, 2010. Her nine-year-old son, AJ, served as best man.

1989



1989

SUSIE KWON KIM gave birth to 8 lbs, 12 oz. Natalie Kim on January 7, 2011. "We are well settled in Manhattan Beach. Ryan and Eric are doing well at Mira Costa High in the 10th grade and Matthew is doing well at Manhattan Beach Middle School in the 7th grade. Scott was inaugurated the 75th Los Angeles Dental Society President for the 2011 term. We are all doing well."

1989



FACULTY NOTES

MR. JOHN ITA: THE HISTORY HUNTER

John Ita believes that you can't understand history without understanding how people have historically related to their natural landscape. Now in his 27th year of teaching, his classroom at Havre High School in north-central Montana has the same sense of exploration and inquiry, spiked with a touch of poetry, that freshmen at Prep from 1986-1990 remember.

"Yesterday in World History we were contemplating why three of the five great world religions came from the same geographic region," Mr. Ita recounted one recent afternoon. "The students were struggling, so I asked them if any of them hunt in the Missouri Breaks...which is seriously in the middle of Montana in the sticks. In the ancient world of the Bedouins, living out in the dunes with nothing but their sheep, goats, and camel (and of course their harem), early men were left to their thoughts in the midst of nature. Turn off the iPod, the cellphone and so forth, and even modern people become more intimately connected, looking at each other face to face across a small camp fire on a moon-drenched evening."

Vivid imagery and the ability to help students connect concepts are clearly still a hallmark of an Ita classroom. He is warmly remembered by Prep faculty, staff, and alumni as a good teacher, football coach (**Glen Beattie** remembers, "He was an exuberant, dedicated defensive coordinator on the 1989 CIF championship team"), and talented outdoorsman (a motivating, enthusiastic presence on 9th grade trips to Yosemite).

The fact that John, a native of SE Iowa, ended up in Havre (population 9,621) is the stuff of fable and serendipity: "In May 1980, I left college to travel West because I wanted to see Mt. St. Helens erupt. I found out when I arrived in Havre that the mountain had blown, so I took a job working at a ranch 'temporarily' for the summer."

A mutual friend introduced him to Marit, the woman who eventually became Mrs. Ita. John enrolled in Northern Montana College to finish his education degree. "We had an amazing history department headed by a man named Dr. Harrison Lane. He was a Fredrick Jackson Turner devotee, and focused on how the environment of the frontier shaped the unique American culture. My history education and methodology were greatly influenced by his views."

As a Turnerian himself, John Ita couldn't resist the urge to keep travelling West (one of Turner's theses is "The demand for land and the love of wilderness freedom drew the frontier ever onward.").



John Ita in sunglasses, flanked by his kids, and Keith Slocum '90 (far right) atop Mt. St. Helens.

But John and Marit always knew they'd leave La Cañada and go back to Montana; they wanted their three kids, Drue (23), Taylor (21), and Abigail (19) to be close to their grandparents. "Truth be told," says John, "I think my sons were a bit angry that we moved back to Havre. I believe they felt like they really missed out on something special... Flintridge Prep. Prep is where I truly learned the art of teaching—mostly because of the wonderful examples of **Peter Bachmann**, **John Ruch**, and numerous others."

Nowadays, John hunts frequently; he quit coaching a couple of years ago so that he could attend daughter Abigail's swim meets and watch her fast-pitch softball. Abi is now a freshman in college, considering being a film editor or an elementary school teacher. Drue is a chemical engineer; Taylor, a college junior, is studying exercise science and is a starter on the Rocky Mountain College soccer team. Marit is an early childhood specialist for the state of Montana.

John has kept in touch with several alumni and faculty over the years, including **MIKE BAUER '91** (who invited him back to California to attend his class's graduation). And even though John never got to see Mt. St. Helens erupt, he still had a chance to climb the volcano, thanks to **KEITH SLOCUM '90**. "One day, out of the blue," John says, "Keith called. He had a permit and enough empty spots for me to take my two sons. I made it, after all these years. Do you get a sense of what Prep means to me? Keith was able to meet my sons. My boys were around the age of Keith the last time that I saw him, and we all shared the experience."

John would love to hear from former students who would like to be in touch. Contact Jacqueline Epley Tegart, Director of Alumni Relations, at jtegart@flintridgeprep.org

1990

After three years in Marin, **BIJAN KARIMI** is leaving the suburbs and heading back to the city to work for the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management. "This is an exciting opportunity—especially with the Americas Cup coming to the bay area in 2013. If you're in the city and want to grab lunch (the gourmet food trucks at the Civic Center are legendary) drop me a line at bijan.p.karimi@gmail.com."

KEITH SLOCUM is pleased to report, "My kids are succeeding in making their dad look, well, bad! Tyler has straight A's at Cal Poly SLO, Kayla was just accepted to Cal Poly SLO, Karson is acing geometry as an eighth grader, Victoria is the emcee of her all-school talent show, and Adena writes poetry that **Bachmann** would quote in *PrepTalk!*" See Keith on his trip to Mount St. Helens with **John Ita**, p. 29.

1991

GEORGE BRUMDER shared, "I recently launched my company's IPO and we're now selling \$10 shares directly to the public on our website. The \$8M raised will be used to fund a feature film. On a more personal note, our two children are growing fast. This summer, our daughter, Greta, will be 4 and our son, Georgie, will be 7. Georgie is now in first grade, is an avid athlete, and an NFL fanatic (that part of his brain is on hiatus until August.) Greta is full of life and couldn't be more of a joy. I hope everyone is doing well—can't wait for our 20th reunion!"



1991

STANLEY NING recently moved back to California after retiring from being a race horse jockey for the last eight years. "I am looking forward to working a normal job again and being able to eat like a normal person."

1992

TRINIE DALTON has a new story collection, *Baby Geisha*, coming out in January 2012 from Two Dollar Radio. "That will be my sixth book, hooray, including two co-edited and/or curated art anthologies," she says. "I post news on my relatively new website, www.sweettomb.com. For the past few years I've been splitting time between New York and LA, writing books and magazine articles, and teaching undergrad and graduate students art and writing. Still married to my awesome husband, artist Matt Greene, 11 years strong. Wishing you the best!"

LAURIE FORTIER SARAFIAN shared, "Now that my kids Charlie (7) and Kate (4) are a bit older, I have refocused my attention on acting. I recently guest starred in ABC's *No Ordinary Family*, which aired Feb 15. And I had the opportunity of a lifetime to play an 80 year old man in an upcoming episode of *CSI NY*, which aired April 1. In the episode I play a con artist whose disguise required me to be in prosthetic makeup for 6 hours a day for 3 days! When I'm not playing pretend, the kids keep me busy with all their activities. I recently found out **ROBYN ASHFORD MEDINA** lives on my street a block away from me! Small world!"



1992

1995

ROB CORTEWAY is enjoying being done with his master's in economics and has recently switched positions within his company. He is now a lender within the Specialty Finance Division of Silicon Valley Bank. Rob was very excited, as the day after he wrote this, he started a cruise of the Mexican Riviera.

1996

Surfing the economic downturn, **JOSH NEWTH** made the switch from mechanical designer to software engineer at MindTribe, a product consulting firm in Palo Alto. "I now write firmware for embedded devices, pour over Linux kernel source, and write applications for PC and occasionally MeeGo (RIP). Indulging my interest in computer science, I have enrolled in a part-time master's program at San Jose State University. When I inquired discreetly of a nice young undergraduate if I stood out like a sore thumb, she replied 'Oh, don't worry. We get lots of old guys in here.' In other news, I finally became a US citizen in 2010. I am dating a Canadian girl; it seemed politic. I am also looking forward to the arrival of my sister's second baby! I love being an uncle."

KATY TUCKER STEINKRAUS and her husband are thrilled to announce the birth of their second child, Molly Joy, born on November 12, at a solid 10 lbs, 4 oz. (And as big as she was, she was still smaller than her big sister Kara!) "She and Kara (age 2) are a joy to be around! I love spending my days as a stay-at-home mom. We still live in Redmond, WA, where we expect to stay. However, we still make frequent



1996

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

There are several opportunities to contribute to the school in meaningful ways, such as speaking at Senior Horizons, assisting the College Counseling Office, mentoring, helping with the Annual Fund phonathon, coordinating reunions, coaching, collecting classnotes for *PrepTalk*, becoming a class agent, judging the science fair, etc. Please contact **Jacqueline Epley Tegart** at alumni@flintridgeprep.org if you are interested in volunteering.

CLASS NOTES WANTED

Submit Class Notes any time to alumni@flintridgeprep.org or by phone, 818.949.5526. You may also use the online Alumni Information Update form or mail to **Jacqueline Epley Tegart**, Director of Alumni Relations, Flintridge Preparatory School, 4543 Crown Avenue, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011, fax 818.790.7406. Email digital images (JPEG or TIF file format, 300 dpi resolution, size 5x7 inches) or send photo prints to Prep's Office of Alumni Relations. News and photos may be reprinted in *PrepTalk* and/or our alumni web pages, depending on image quality and space availability.

Alums and history at preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

trips down to visit family in the LA area. I hope that someday soon our visits will coincide with an alumni event so that I can reconnect with my alma mater!"

1997

DAN KLEIN still loves life near the ocean in Solana Beach, near San Diego, CA, with his wife Brooke, and cats Kaya and Rocky. Dan has been working with a legend in the San Diego legal community, Spencer Busby, and recently started his own law practice, Law Offices of Daniel S. Klein. Dan's practice areas range from personal injury and consumer fraud to business litigation and claims involving American Indian gaming casinos. Dan aims to follow in the footsteps of his mentor, Busby, committing his practice to helping poor and disenfranchised communities in Southern California. Dan recently made new law in a factually bizarre case involving the deprivation of his client's civil rights by an American Indian gaming casino. The case has been certified for publication by the US District Court, Southern District, CA, and published as *Saroli v. Agua Caliente Band of Cahuila Indians*, 2010 WL 4788570 (S.D.Cal.).

ARINEH PEZESHKIAN and her fiancé, Armand, got engaged in October and are busy planning a July wedding in the Los Angeles area. They bought a house in Hermosa Beach last year and really love life by the ocean. "I did have a rough patch because I unfortunately lost both of my parents within the past six years. Despite the tough times, my life has also been very blessed."

AMY STAUFF STEINHOFF has had a pretty busy year. "I graduated from my orthopedic



1997

residency program at UC Irvine in June. Then I took (and passed) my orthopedic boards in July. On August 16, we welcomed our daughter, Catelyn Elizabeth Steinhoff (Cate) into the world. Jack took a little time to get used to her, but now he is in love with his sister. I took some time off to be a mom, and have recently gone back to work part-time at Kaiser Permanente in Orange County. We will be moving to the San Diego area in August for one year for my fellowship at Scripps Hospital, where I will specialize in total joint replacements. After that, we hope to return to Orange County so I can finally start my career!"

1999

Zurielle Miyun Kim, daughter of **DOMINIQUE YANG-KIM** and Michael Kim, was born on November 9, 2010, in Santa Clara, CA. Zurielle's incessant smiles have brought so much joy into her parents' lives. Dominique and Michael are both completing their medical residencies in Northern California.



1999

2001

10th reunion SAVE THE DATE
December 26, 2011

ELIZABETH COOK received an Edward R. Murrow Award for reporting and is a 7-time Emmy award winner. She previously worked for KMIR (NBC) in Palm Springs, but as of March 14, you can see her anchoring the 5 o'clock News for the CBS affiliate in San Francisco.

Rebels on the road

Prep brought a bit of sunshine to Chicago's icy winter of '11 when warm-hearted Windy City alumni gathered on January 24, 2011. **YASIN BHANJI '07** and **ALLAN ZHANG '10** both attend the University of Chicago and met for the first time at the alumni reception. Said attendee **PRESCOTT GADD '03**, "Sandwiched between a crushing loss to the Packers and a Ramses-sized snowfall, it was a delight to be reminded of sunny La Cañada. Old acquaintances were re-united, recent grads were welcomed to the windy city, and **MARK RODLI '06** and I realized we live in the same building. I wasn't necessarily close with any of the attendees during high school, but the easy familiarity with other Rebels warmed that winter evening."

Later, on February 24 in Washington, DC, a dozen alumni met with a group of Prep administrators. On the way to the party, **MATT BOSCH '03** got a phone call from the 818 area and told **Peter Bachmann** he figured it was his old Headmaster getting on his case for being late. But it turned out that he was getting an offer from **Art Stetson** to be a Prep admissions staffer for a day, interviewing a prospective student in the DC area.



CHICAGO AREA ALUMNI (Above) **Yasin Bhanji '07** and **Allan Zhang '10**. (Below) **Jennifer Heil '02**, **Eugenia Sangiovanni '03**, and **Prescott Gadd '03**.

Holiday hi-jinks

The Classes of 2000 and 2005 reunited at Prep over the holidays. About 90 guests mingled with faculty and friends to celebrate their tenth and fifth anniversaries of graduation. **BEN NAECKER '05** helped organize his class, who turned out 50 graduates; **HEIDI HECKENDORF '00**, **DREW PRICKETT '00** and **ANDREW WALKER '00** organized the tenth reunion. The recent campus transformation meant that the party on the plaza segued into dinner in the library. An enthusiastic Ben Naecker, catching up with his classmates, said he was struck by "the passion with which everyone moved through their lives."

Later that evening, the reuniting classes joined recent graduates at ix tapa Cantina in Old Town Pasadena for the traditional holiday party, a chance to catch up with recently minted alums of recent years. The high-energy, maximum-capacity party welcomed faculty and graduates from 1987 through 2010.



CELEBRATIONS (Above) Armen Aghajani '03, Audrey Horwitz '10, Seth Horwitz '03, Won Park '03, and Chris Corradini '03 at the Holiday Party. (Middle) Class of 2000. (Lower) Class of 2005.

ANTONIO HARRISON is pursuing a PhD and teaching a master's graduate school course. His son, Ayvren Bishop, turned two on April 16.

ANJOLI ROY earned her MA in English with a concentration in creative writing from the University of Hawaii last May. After graduation, she meandered through the northern states with her dad on a cross-country road trip that returned her to New York City, where she is currently teaching at St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn and working as the staff writer at Girls Educational & Mentoring Services (GEMS), makers of the documentary *Very Young Girls*. She's still working on her novel and short stories, some of which you can find on her website www.anjoliroy.wordpress.com.

2002

Last summer, **CHRIS CHOREBIANIAN** took the opportunity to work for CRA/LA. He spent his time there working on projects to redevelop food and retail centers in economically distressed neighborhoods within LA. Currently, he enjoyed his last semester in a real estate grad program in upstate NY, despite the harsh weather.

LAURA MORINAKA married Brian Santo at the Pasadena Center on November 27, 2010, with many family members and friends in attendance. Laura and Brian met during college through their involvement in the Southern California Collegiate Japanese American Community.

2002



Join us on Facebook and visit alumni.flintridgeprep.org to see pictures of recent alumni events.

2003

After graduating from Prep, **ANSHU ABHAT** pursued studies at UCSD through the combined BS/MD program. She is currently taking a year in between her 3rd and 4th year of medical school to pursue a master's of public health in health policy and management at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH). In June she will return to UCSD to finish up her final year of medical school. "Interestingly, on my first day of orientation at HSPH, I ran into **ALEX COX '04**. We've become tennis partners since!"

GAVIN KNOWLES graduated with honors from UVA in Charlottesville in May 2007 with a BS in architecture. He graduated from UC Berkeley with a master's of architecture in May 2009. He is currently employed as an architect with William McDonough and Partners in Charlottesville, VA. He and his girlfriend, Amanda Lyn Swanekamp, are recently engaged and planning a November 2011 wedding in Charlottesville, VA. The couple met at UVA while studying architecture and she received her master's of architecture in May 2011.



MELANIE LUM held her first gallery exhibition in London and Shanghai. She also accompanied the Gao Brothers to Kansas for their art exhibition at the Kemper Museum, and then they traveled to Pasadena where they gave a slideshow presentation at the Pacific Asia Museum. She was in Miami in November at the Miami Basel Art Show as consultant to the New York Art Gallery representing Chinese contemporary art.

HUGO TORRES received a Zuckerman Fellowship to attend the Harvard School of Public Health. "I will take another year off from my medical studies to get a master's in Public Health and experience the amazing co-curricular program offered by the Zuckerman fellowship. I also am looking forward to living on the East Coast for the first time."



GREGORY MEHDI graduated from Tufts University with a double major in American Studies and Environmental Studies. After

graduating, Greg worked at a real estate brokerage and development firm, becoming an expert in analyzing the operating costs of commercial properties. Finding that many owners pay excessive charges, and with a passion for helping these property owners recoup their money, Greg founded his own company, Property & Business Solutions, Inc. Greg specializes in getting refunds for owners of commercial properties in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. He lives in Pasadena and can be reached at Gmehdi@Property-BusinessSolutions.com.

2004

ANDY CHEN finished his Fulbright studies at the Royal College of Art last summer, and is currently enrolled as an MFA student in graphic design at RISD. You can peruse his online portfolio at www.andychendesign.com.

BEN TEITELBAUM is interning at telavivcity.com, writing profiles of all the neighborhoods in Tel Aviv. He says, "I am also learning Hebrew in intensive Ulpan, volunteering at a second chance high school, participating in weekly



seminars about history, politics, Middle East issues, Judaism, and going on monthly trips around the country."

KATIE VANE will be graduating in May from Hunter CUNY's MFA program in Creative Writing, Fiction. "For the last two years I've been working with Peter Carey, Colum McCann, Nathan Englander, and, most recently, British Gothic novelist Patrick McGrath. I'll also be concluding two semesters of teaching Introduction to Creative Writing, an undergraduate English course at Hunter CUNY."

2005

After graduating from UC Davis in December 2009, **PREETI UPADHYAYA** has been working on NPR's *Morning Edition* and *Marketplace* from American Public Media. She will be attending journalism school in the fall.

2006

5th reunion SAVE THE DATE
December 26, 2011

RACHEL GERAGOS graduated from USC in May 2010 with a degree in public relations and entrepreneurial studies. She recently launched her own penny auction website, www.luxenotlust.com, for authentic designer handbags and luxury goods and also works for Sara Happ Inc. in LA as an assistant to the CEO.

2007

RACHEL TOBIAS says, "Last December, I graduated early from USC with a degree in international relations and an overwhelming passion for social entrepreneurship, thanks to some great college internships at Ashoka, TED, and the USC Society and Business Lab. Upon graduation, I had the amazing opportunity to take a job working for Jessica Jackley, the co-founder of Kiva, at her new startup ProFounder, a crowd-funding platform for small businesses to raise their investment capital from friends and family. This year, I also started a blog called 'Never Have I Ever' in which I do something new every day, from paddle boarding to

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trying new recipes to exploring LA's most unique treasures (<http://never-have-i-ever.tumblr.com>). At the beginning of March, I worked at the annual TED Conference in Long Beach tweeting, blogging, and interviewing the likes of Bill Gates, Julie Taymor, and others!"

2008

NICK LOUI was recently interviewed on Bostinnovat, a Boston Innovation and Tech News blog for his entrepreneurialism. Even though Nick is a senior at Emerson College, he has already worked with four startup companies, including his most recent project, Prismplay, which is "an online video platform that allows artists and advertisers to create videos that adapt and change according to the viewer." His words of advice for fellow entrepreneurs: Move forward with your idea and talk to a lot of people.

CHRISTINA KABA will be participating in a summer study abroad program through Washington University for pre-med students. "We'll be in Nice, France, shadowing a doctor in a particular field, taking two classes on medicine and society, and living with a French family! I'm really

excited and trying to brush up my Français skills before May!"

JACQUELINE SWAIDAN and **GENEVIEVE WOODHEAD** ran into each other on a flight to London, where they were both travelling to study for a semester! They would love to know if any other Prep alumni are in London.

2009

MIKEY GERAGOS, currently a sophomore at USC, is a Greek Senator for USG (USC's Undergraduate Student Government), where he serves as Speaker Pro Tempore of the Senate. He is also an executive board director Society 53, the USC Alumni Association's student outreach program, as well as an executive officer of his fraternity, Sigma Chi.

2010

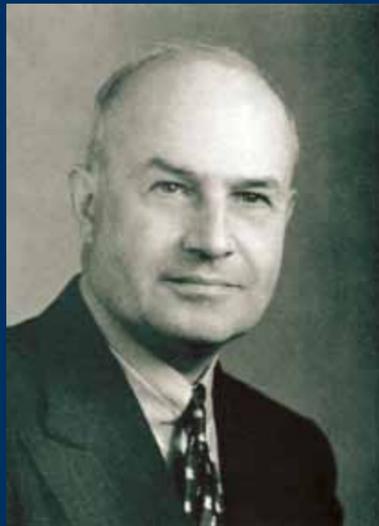
CHARLIE KENNEDY is a freshman at New York University, where he has formed a new improv comedy group, and performed in a student-written and directed play at the end of March.

Alums and history at preptalk.flintridgeprep.org

In Memoriam

CHARLES PRENTICE "PREN" TAYLOR '49 AKA "Rolyat The Great" passed away Thursday, December 16, 2010. He graduated from USC in 1953, marrying Janet Leichtfuss the same year. After two years in the army, Prentice and Janet moved to Laguna Beach, where they were active members of the community. Pren served on the Emerald Bay Volunteer Fire Department for 35 years. He was an accomplished magician and a longtime member of the Magic Castle. He is survived by his wife and his children Tim Taylor, Tori Schwaner (Jake), Tina Brown (Patrick), Tom Taylor (Bibi), and 12 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter Terry Wilson.

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