

# Prep Talk

SUMMER 2018

Flintridge Preparatory School  
[flintridgeprep.org/preptalk](http://flintridgeprep.org/preptalk)



## ALUMNI CALENDAR

OCTOBER 27, 2018

Homecoming

NOVEMBER 21, 2018

Alumni-in-College Thanksgiving Open House

DECEMBER 23, 2018

Alumni Sports Day

GOLD Networking Mixer

Reunions for the Classes of 2008 and 2013

Alumni Holiday Party

APRIL 6, 2019

Reunion Day for the Classes of 1969, 1974,  
1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999 and 2004

APRIL 12, 2019

Alumni Back-to-School Day

50+ Year Reunions for the Classes of 1949,  
1954, 1959 and 1964

save the date

FLINTRIDGE  
*Flash*  
BACK

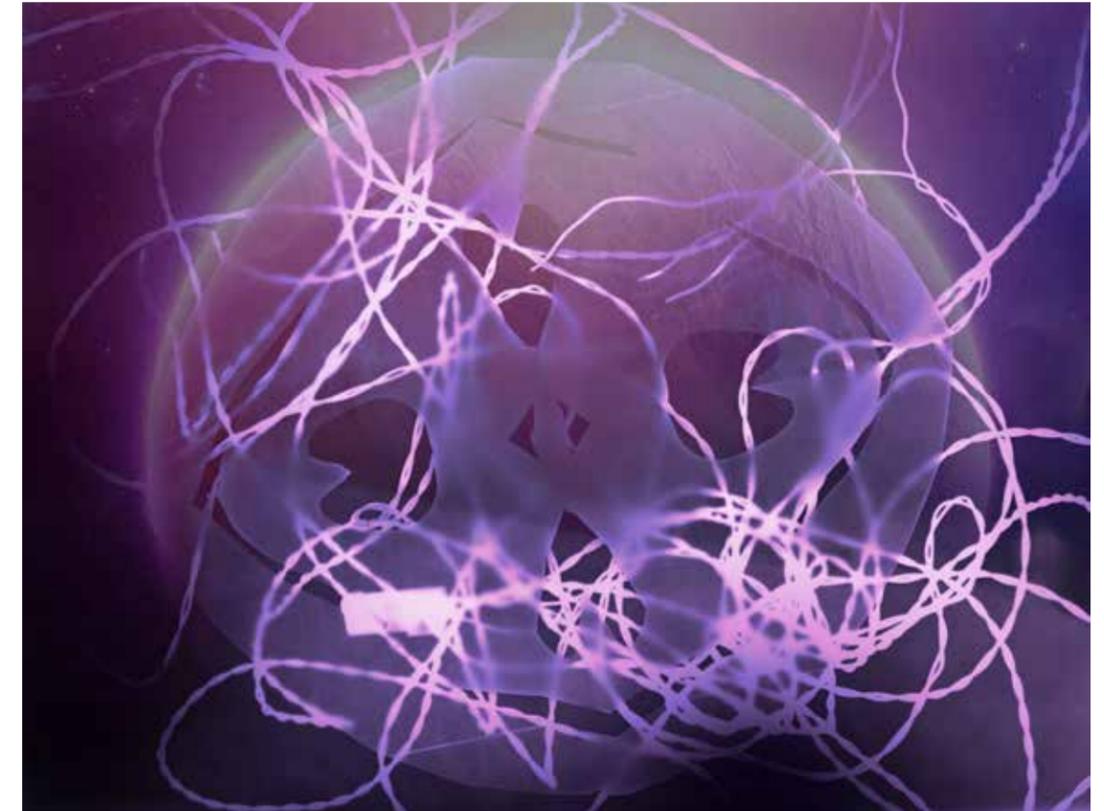
a pretty in pink prom

**BENEFIT**

saturday, march 2, 2019  
vibiana

a totally 80s night to remember

dress in your best 80s prom attire  
or as your favorite 80s icon



Lucca Guzman-Gieseken '20

### On the cover:

Mr. Rodriguez's sophomore photography class designs and constructs wooden boxes for the Golden Record assignment using a CNC router (see more on p. 8)

### Back cover:

Introducing Prep's graduating Class of 2018

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## From the Headmaster



### The Dynamism of Teaching and Learning

Last fall, after reading Marx, senior Jesse Graves asked if I'd be interested in working with him on an Independent Study in the second semester. He wanted to understand the nature of economic theory: was it more science, or was it more faith, based on assumptions about markets, politics and human behavior? I signed on, and we organized around three broad schools of thought: classical, Marxist and Keynesian, with a modern perspective from current behavioral economics. We agreed on 90% of our conclusions, but the dynamism lay in the contested 10%—I stuck more by the science, he by the faith. I suggested softening his thesis. He politely resisted.

Throughout winter and spring, Jesse needed little guidance and no additional motivation, inhaling books, sometimes incorporating my suggestions, while bringing me new details and perspectives I hadn't seriously considered. Our identities became increasingly fluid, each in one moment the teacher, in the next, the learner, our roles shifting according to circumstances.

All second semester, members of the Class of 2018 reflected this dynamism, which has come to lie at the heart of the final semester at Prep. As I sat through Independent Study and Identity presentations, I watched senior after senior sitting in the audience learning from a classmate, then jumping on stage to teach their own specialty, their roles shifting as Jesse's and mine had. And I emerged better versed in dozens of topics. Roles changed in many ways. Actress Katie Lee became author and director Katie Lee, marshalling other students through her original play. In clubs, organizations and on teams, seniors were at one moment coached and, in the next, were the coaches themselves.

Traditionally in education, we have visualized fixed identities for teachers and learners, imagining an experienced sage imparting wisdom to callow youth. But as Plato reminds us, true education means to "draw out." Increasingly, collaboration demands dynamism fueled by the confidence that we all have something to teach and the humility that we all have much to learn.

— Peter Bachmann, Headmaster



# COMMUNITY BLOCK

## A time for collaboration and balance



by Kelsey Denham

IT'S 1:45 ON A SUNNY THURSDAY AFTERNOON at Prep, and campus is bustling with activity. Winter play hopefuls are practicing before their auditions in the Black Box; across the field, groups spill out of Open Gym volleyball and basketball games; in the room just above, a basketball informational meeting lets out, and a couple of friends chat excitedly about wanting to go out for the team; up the stairs toward Ahmanson, students are popping out of a talk with visiting artist Jeff Morrical, inspired and ready to make their own folded paper art on the plaza, where art and library faculty have set up folding and painting sta-

tions; through the library doors and up the spiral staircase—now adorned with Morrical's life-size paper art—students do quiet work in the stacks; outside, tables are visible across campus peppered with assorted students working together, chatting, laughing, relaxing and enjoying the sun.

This was the view of campus during an October Community Block period last year, when collaboration, creativity, experimentation, discussion and genuine engagement came to the fore. And the best part? Students independently chose what to do with their time for those 77 minutes.

Among the Prep student body and faculty, there's certainly no shortage of creativity on campus. What there is often a shortage of, though, is time. Students juggle clubs, sports, homework, projects and off-campus activities, while faculty split time among lesson planning, grading, office hours, meetings, professional development opportunities and family obligations. Coordinating schedules for students and faculty to collaborate outside of the classroom can be tricky even during the best of weeks. That's where Community Block comes in.

### The Gift of Time

Community Block came to be at Prep after the administration adopted a modified block schedule in 2011, when, a couple of days per month, classes were extended into 77-minute periods. The change was the result of an organic movement toward collaborative, student-centered learning, which can boost mastery, increase focus and decrease stress among students. Fewer transitions during the day and the opportunity for more hands-on learning made the schedule appealing to Prep faculty.

An open Thursday afternoon block gave the schedule a characteristic Prep twist. These 77 minutes of unscheduled and flexible time allow faculty and students the chance to fill those moments creatively, independently and in a way that suits their needs best that week.

"We knew that the open space in our schedule would help nurture relationships and

encourage experimentation," says Dean of Studies Sarah Cooper. "It's a time for relationship building, enriching activities and, sometimes, simply relaxing together." Noting the success, the school's Academic Affairs committee opted for a name change to Community Block, in honor of its ability to bring students, faculty and staff together.

Community Block is now a Prep tradition, opening up the opportunity for dynamic, varied learning activities across disciplines and grade levels.

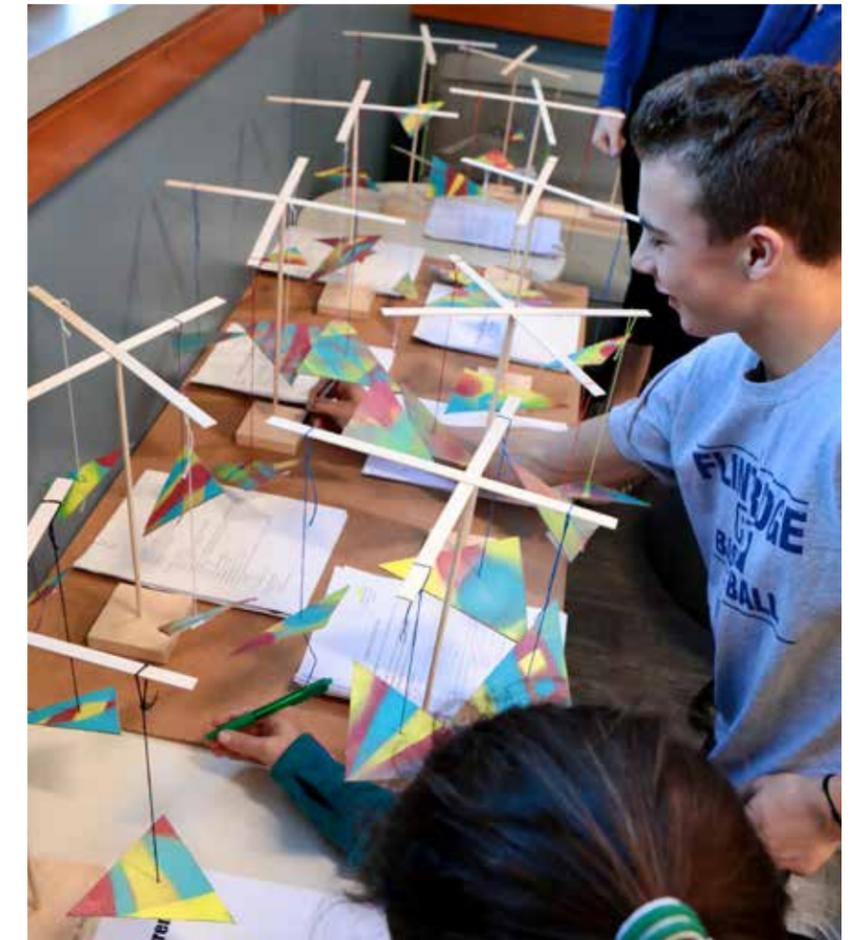
"To have this time is really precious to people," says Dean of Faculty Vanessa Walker-Oakes. "It's a part of the week when everyone is free and available to interact with one another. We wanted to encourage this informal idea-sharing that has always been the prime mover at Prep."

### Community Block Highlights

Prep is defined by those small, serendipitous moments that become something much larger—when two students discover a shared love of cooking, crafts or ballroom dancing, or when two teachers get excited about a 3D-printed ceramics video they saw online. Before you know it, this moment becomes a Community Block event, where multiple faculty and students bring their skills, talents and interests to campus.

Much like that early October afternoon, Community Blocks throughout the years have resulted in impressive confluences of people and events. In the 2017-18 school year alone, Community Block brought about dozens of collaborations that would not have been possible otherwise. It works to solve the challenges of student and faculty scheduling by offering a time for everyone to come together. This scheduled time also allows faculty to dabble in topics they'd love to cover or expand upon in class but simply cannot, given the time limitations of a traditional seven-period day.

Here are just some of the scenes observed during Community Blocks throughout the 2017-18 school year:



**EDUCATIONAL EATS.** As an extension of his 9th-grade science class's biochemistry unit, Dr. David Herman hosted a Community Block on bread baking, with students helping and learning from start to finish. The session complemented the section of the unit in which students learn about the structures and functions of different macromolecules such as fats, proteins and sugars, Herman says. "Between prepping the dough and cooking, discussion and cleaning up together, the block periods are perfect for an activity like this," he says, "and they allow a healthy balance of hands-on learning, discussion and a freshly baked snack."

**FORM MEETS FUNCTION.** Block classes practically beg for cross-curricular learning, providing the chance for two or more departments to come together in symbiotic ways. In a STEAM-inspired meeting of art and science, art teacher Melissa Manfull, physics teacher Reid Fritz and math teacher Beth Pattinelli

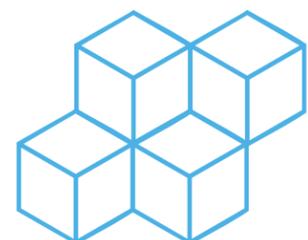
Students designed artistic, perfectly balanced triangular mobiles for Ms. Pattinelli's, Ms. Manfull's and Mr. Fritz's Points of Concurrency project. The final products were displayed during Community Block at the STEAM & Service Fair.

"Conceptually for the faculty, it's wonderful to have space to get together; the biggest hurdle for them isn't will, it's time."

Vanessa Walker-Oakes  
Dean of Faculty and Art History Teacher



Dr. Herman leads a Community Block biochemistry-inspired baking session. Students learned about macromolecules before baking (and taste-testing) the finished product.



worked with students to use stencils to create patterns using primary colors and shapes. The striking, balanced mobiles were then shown at the STEAM & Service Fair—also displayed to everyone on campus during Community Block—complete with a make-it-yourself station for guests. “Community Block allowed us to truly collaborate, rather than separately contribute to a joint project. The added bonus was watching students help each other. The exchange of math and art ideas among the students was exciting,” Pattinelli says.

**A RARE PERFORMANCE BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS.** The great potential of Community Block isn’t about packing more information into an already full day. Sometimes it’s simply to help students share what they’ve worked so hard on with each other. There is perhaps no better example of this than the Performing Arts Showcase, a unique performance entirely by students, for students. Performing artists of all levels and disciplines hosted an assembly-style variety show in Norris Auditorium to an audience of fellow students. “It is important for art to be seen and experienced by our community,” says Performing Arts Department Chair Rob Lewis, “And it is a win for performers to have a chance to be appreciated for their artistic pursuits.”

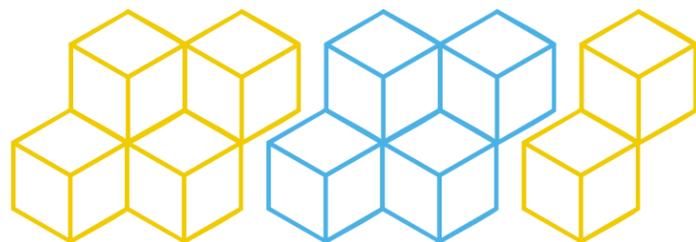
**DISSECTION & DISCOVERY.** In an example of interdepartmental collaboration sparking student curiosity, Director of Student Technology Services Sylvie Andrews and math teacher Dr. Shane Frewen hosted a computer dissection session for students. The goal was for students to see the various internal components of the machines they use daily—including the hard drive, RAM and SPU, and how they are interconnected to make the computer work. “Community Block was great because the topic (computer hardware) doesn’t fit neatly into any one class and because the time frame is long enough for the students to guide some of the investigation,” says Frewen. “In general, I think Community Block can be a great place for teachers to share other interests they have that may be unrelated to their classes—or any classes on campus at all!”

“The best aspect of block period is that we all take a breath and are curious together. We all have so many calls on our time, but in a Community Block, 77 minutes are set aside to explore common interests.”

Reid Fritz, Physics Teacher



Students experiment with the effects of pressurized air blown through a box of sand, an activity hosted by Mr. Fritz.



Instrumental music, vocal music, dance and drama students perform for each other during a Community Block showcase.



Dr. Frewen hosts a computer dissection Community Block activity, where students learn about the inner workings of computers.

### What’s Next for Community Block?

Academic Affairs was confident that a modified block schedule—with some traditional days and some block days—would be beneficial to the whole Prep community. The inclusion of Community Block was the happy result of saying “yes” to what, on the surface, might seem counterintuitive: to once in a while, on a busy day, schedule absolutely nothing. The sacredness of that unstructured time is part of what upholds the school’s mission of balance, authentic connection and independent decision making.

With the adoption of an adjusted modified block schedule beginning fall 2018, block weeks will increase from one per month to approximately one per week. Based on feedback from faculty and students to preserve the creative spirit of the free 77-minute period, Academic Affairs decided that two Community Blocks per month will be allotted for assemblies and other required curricular events. The other two will be deemed “sacrosanct,” when no required events are to be scheduled, ensuring students have the autonomy to decide what best fits their needs that week.

Ultimately, next year's schedule reinforces what's already worked so well on campus for years: faculty collaborating with colleagues from other disciplines to help students discover a new area of study, students working together to share ideas learned inside or outside of class, quiet moments of contemplation, a break for physical activity, tutoring or just some much-needed relaxation. And with the increase from monthly to weekly Community Blocks, the potential feels boundless.



Students in Mr. Rodriguez's photography class design 3D-printed boxes inspired by NASA's Golden Record. They worked with Mrs. Hare's English class to fill them with items that represent what it means to be human.



"Students are already excited about the potential of more Community Blocks," says Dean of Student Life Barrett Jamison. He points to Student Senate naming Community Block as one of their top priorities, with both peer counselors and seniors from the 8th Grade Buddies program already hard at work discussing possible activities.

"I think quadrupling Community Blocks next year is a great opportunity for all student groups (including The Big 3, FLINT and clubs) to establish a stronger connection with the student body," says Commissioner General Ryan Huntley '19. He notes that, despite initial student uncertainty over the new schedule, the opportunity to keep that spirit of serendipity alive on campus outweighs the growing pains of change. "I believe the biggest barrier between students and greater connection to these groups has been time restraints, so I hope that this new schedule will help solve that issue. If we all commit to making block schedule a communal space where all students can grow, it will become a positive change to our school. Even if students spend time working on homework or hanging with friends, it's still an opportunity for them to grow closer to the Prep community."

Faculty are also enthusiastic about the possibilities. Their April in-service was dedicated to sharing ideas about ways to use block periods innovatively. Between interactive learning stations, lively lab experiments and a lot more movement within the classroom, there is no lack of faculty creativity heading into next year.

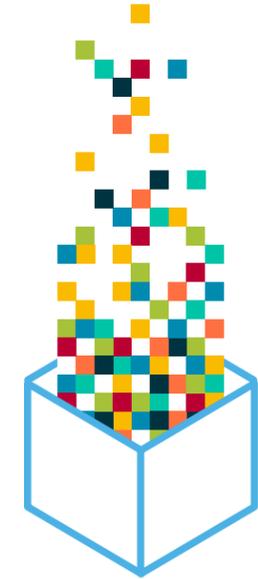
"It's infectious to be around creative colleagues and students," says physics teacher Reid Fritz. "And just as exciting for me is the knowledge that next year we will have more opportunities to pursue these projects, improving upon previous ideas and coming up with new ones. Community Block asks the question, 'What cool thing can you do?' and then lets us go and do it." ■

"Community Block is a time that allows for both depth and breadth. Students have an opportunity to engage in the diverse riches offered by other student leaders or faculty-led events—perhaps exploring something new. It also provides room for passionate students to delve into their interests either through seeking out guidance from a teacher, collaborating with fellow students to enhance their work and experience, or bringing their passion to the community through event-hosting, performance or simply offering an open door to invite others to share in their journey."

Rob Lewis, Performing Arts Department Chair



Mrs. Hare's English class collaborates to pair photos with poems to put in the Golden Record-inspired boxes built by Mr. Rodriguez's photography class.



## 5 things to know about next year's modified block schedule

- 1. FEWER TRANSITIONS.** With the day starting at 8:10 am and ending at 2:30 pm as before, students will experience 3 fewer transitions between classes on block days. Fewer transitions = less stress + deeper focus!
- 2. IT'S ALPHABETICAL.** Class schedules each day are labeled A through J, with block days labeled C, D, H and I. A typical 2-week schedule will go in order A-J.
- 3. MORE COMMUNITY BLOCK.** There will be 29 Community Block periods next year, versus 9 in last year's schedule.
- 4. LONGER NUTRITION.** Block days will have a longer nutrition break, giving students more time to check in with each other and teachers.
- 5. BLOCK ASSEMBLIES & SPEAKERS.** Many scheduled assemblies and speaker events will take place during Community Block, making the calendar more consistent and reducing the need for special schedules.

# COMMENCEMENT AND PROMOTION 2018



“ THIS IS A TIME TO rejoice and a time to reflect. It is a bittersweet time, remembering and sharing cherished memories while making enduring friendships.”

KARL SW AidAN  
Board of Trustees Chair



“ A YEAR AGO, on retreat, we invited our rising seniors to live two lives at once: the first for themselves as engaged students and college seekers, the second for others, as mentors and teachers. All year long, they have mastered that art.”

PETER BACHMANN  
Headmaster



**“HAVING KNOWN SOME MEMBERS OF THIS CLASS** since they were in kindergarten (and one since birth!), I must admit to having a special place in my heart for the Class of 2018. These students impress me daily with their curiosity, commitment and creativity; even having high expectations of them, I found myself continually challenged by their questions and their interpretations in the classroom. They are scholars, athletes, artists...but what really distinguishes them for me is their mutual support for each other, which is genuine and tender, and their humor. Not a day went by in art history when they didn't make me laugh, and laugh hard! Learning is nothing without joy, and they definitely bring the joy.”

VANESSA WALKER-OAKES  
Dean of Faculty and Art History Teacher

**“AS SENIOR DEAN** I have thoroughly enjoyed observing this class developing leadership and independence over the course of the year. They have stepped up to guide and mentor their younger classmates as Peer Counselors, as Senior Leaders, as teammates and castmates, offering them the compassion and support that they themselves received in the past. The final weeks of the year have shown their impressive independence at the Senior Celebration, in the Independent Study Showcase and in the Identity Capstone Conference. Watching this class on the Norris stage articulating their ideas with passion and clarity, a colleague and I agreed that we are lucky to have students like these seniors.”

SCOTT MYERS  
12th Grade Dean and English Teacher



## Awards at Commencement

### SPECIAL AWARDS

*Benton Memorial Award:* Suha Chang  
*Cancer Federation Award:* Jonathan Le  
*Class of 2010 Tom Fry Memorial Award:* Sophie Gitlin  
*DAR Good Citizenship Award:* Sophia Corbisiero  
*Founders Trophy:* Conrad Oakes  
*Parents Association Scholarships:* Ava Ferry and Kasen Barraclough  
*Scholarship and Service Awards:* Mahek Ahmad and Wylie Kasai  
*Senior Athletes of the Year:* Julia Gonzalez-Quijano and Evan Pattinelli

### DEPARTMENT AWARDS

#### English

*Senior Award:* Andrew Lathrop  
*NCTE Award Nominee:* Catalina Ruiz

#### History

*Senior Award:* Brendan Ashworth

#### Math

*Senior Award:* Francesca Song  
*Computer Science Award:* Desmond Weisenberg

#### Performing Arts

*Senior Award:* Cole Slater  
*Dance Award:* Kelly Yang  
*Drama Award:* Katie Lee  
*Instrumental Music Award:* Ari Brattkus  
*Vocal Music Award:* Maddy Bernstein

#### Science

*Senior Award:* Evan Pattinelli

#### Visual Arts

*Senior Award:* Roland Martin  
*RISD Award:* Mona Cesario

#### World Languages

*Senior Latin Award:* Daniel Wang  
*Senior Spanish Award:* Alexia Ouzounian

### FACULTY AWARDS

*Class of 2018 Award:* Vatche Hagopian and John Ruch  
*Andani Chair:* Lesley Fox

*To read more about Commencement weekend and view photos, visit [flintridgeprep.org/news](http://flintridgeprep.org/news).*



**“WHEN I THINK ABOUT** my own decisions to engage, connect and fall in love with learning at Prep, I can wholeheartedly say that I wouldn't change any of it.”

SUHA CHANG '18  
Benton Award Recipient



**“PREP IS A FAMILY,** and that's been evident for a while. Prep brings people together.”

CONRAD OAKES '18  
Founders Trophy Recipient



**“THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY** at Prep is in no shortage in the Class of 2018. We are constantly growing and pushing each other to grow.”

OLIVIA HARBER '18  
Class Speaker and Senior Class President



## 103 Graduates, 29 Sibling Alumni

We couldn't help but notice several familiar faces at Commencement weekend. True story: almost a third of our newest alumni are joining siblings who are already part of the best club on earth. By our accounting, our Class of 2018 joins 29 siblings. We're sure they were welcomed with open arms. Pictured is Sophie Gitlin '18 with Wyatt '16, Max '20, mom, Kris Anne, and dad, Mike, who was this year's Baccalaureate Speaker.

## Spring Awards Assembly

### SPECIAL AWARDS

*Amberst Book Prize:* Ryan Waldheim '20

*Fathers Club Pursuit of Excellence Awards*

*9th Grade:* Claire Senft '21

*10th Grade:* Charlie McCormick '20

*11th Grade:* Claire Liu '19

*Harvard Prize Book Award:* Sinclair Ledahl '19

*JP Blecksmith '99 Memorial Award:*

Hope Codiga '19 and Sasha Codiga '19

*Student Leadership Award:* Ryan Huntley '19

### DEPARTMENT AWARDS

#### English

*Brown Book Award:* Peter Mugemancuro '19

*NCTE Writing Nominee:* Emma Wang '19

*Sophomore Award:* Sylvie Shure '20

#### History

*Dartmouth Book Award:* John Lytle '19

*Sophomore Award:* Tess Robertson-Neel '20

#### Math

*Junior Award:* Brent Ellis '19

*Sophomore Award:* Alex Bouquet '20

*Yee Siu King Tom Award:* Emma Wang '19

#### Performing Arts

*Junior Award:* Matthew Babor '19

*Sophomore Award:* Julia Boberg '20

#### Science

*Bausch & Lomb Award:* Catherine Zheng '19

*Sophomore Award:* Maya Khurana '20

*STEAM & Service Fair Awards*

*1st place:* Grady Morrissey '20

*2nd Place:* Maya Khurana '20

*3rd Place:* James Dixon '21, Joey David '21  
and Rudy Ruiz '21

#### Visual Arts

*Junior Award:* Arielle Guzman '19

*Sophomore Award:* Noelle Tamura '20

#### World Languages

*French Award:* Kendal Kully '19

*Latin Award:* Joshua Perkins '19

*Spanish Award:* Max Rosenfeld '19

#### FACULTY AWARDS

*Class of 1987 Award:* Melissa Manfull

*Detoy Award:* Nick Wright

*Scott Studenmund '08 Memorial Award:*

Jayne Kiyomura Chan and

Kevin Kiyomura



## Congratulations, Class of 2022!



### Awards at 8th Grade Promotion

#### ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Emily Battaglia '22

John Stetson '22

#### OUTSTANDING CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Sage Remulla '22

Gya Rodriguez '23

#### PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Jasmine Jin '22

Tristan Darquea '23

## Alumni Profile

### Expert Witness: Ken White '87 Calls the Laws as He Sees Them

by Mel Malmberg

**Ken White '87** was thrilled when he got his first weekend op-ed piece published in the *LA Times* on January 26, 2017. He immediately wished he could have shown it to the late Kathy Condell Heron. "She always teased me when I told her about some professional accomplishment in law," he remembers. "She would say, 'Aw, that's a shame, because you're such a great writer!'"

For years, writing was White's creative outlet, a hobby and a way to keep his attorney skills sharp between cases as he worked first as a federal prosecutor and most recently as a white-collar criminal defense lawyer.

Now he has 120,000 Twitter followers. White's opinion pieces have appeared in *The NY Times* and the *Washington Post*, the *Daily Journal* and *Reason* magazines and Salon.com. He's been on CNN, MSNBC and *Fox News at Night*; he's a standing guest on KCRW's *Left, Right and Center* and has also lent his voice to other NPR stations. He blogs at Fault Lines and Popehat and has a new podcast on the First Amendment titled "Make No Law."

White deliberately set out to be part of the vital conversation about law for non-lawyers.

"Reading journalism about the law started to bug me," he explains. "They got so much wrong. So my mission became to make the law, which governs so much of life, less opaque." He read up on First Amendment law, took on pro bono free speech cases, built relationships. In 2012, he began sending out his pieces to various media outlets; now, he's surfing the zeitgeist of a nation besieged by questions and bereft of answers. By explaining (and entertaining), White empowers people to understand the limits and expanse of America's legal terrain. His sometimes-scurrilous podcasts, blogs and opinion pieces take on big subjects like defining defamation and libel and explaining the law around search and seizure. He's a straight-talker who ranges freely and eloquently on free speech, gun control and why and how clients undercut their own cases. "I call the legal issues as I see them," White says, and his audiences like (and sometimes loathe) what they hear.

Now his day job as a criminal defense attorney at Brown White and Osborn in Downtown LA meshes with his growing stature as a commentator. "People who hear me or see me call me to work for them. It wasn't part of the goal, but it's been a great benefit," he says.



Besides working to explain law, White uses his platform to illuminate the issues around depression and anxiety, having suffered from these twin, misunderstood diseases his whole life. "I'm a high-functioning person with a job, a family, a career—and I have this, I have been devastated by this, and I have learned from this. So how I can help is to open a public discussion, provide an example, encourage people to talk about it, get help they need."

A self-confessed nerd, White was an early adopter of technology, so his successful penetration of so many old and new media outlets makes sense (it also doesn't hurt that he's funny, erudite and approachable). But he claims he could never have seen this avalanche of speaking and writing coming in high school, where he says he was an "under the radar guy" who enjoyed both Condell's and Peter Bachmann's classes.

Winning the Founders Trophy his senior year showed White that his work was seen and valued (he had been a passionate community service volunteer, most notably raising \$3,000 for a homeless shelter by encouraging an inter-class fundraising competition). "Prep recognized that there are a lot of ways you can contribute—beyond being the smartest, the most athletic or the most popular." He appreciated then, and now as a parent of Evan '19, how Prep values balance, independence and "turning a whole person out into the world. Prep kids know that it's nobody's job but theirs to prepare for a test or a meeting, that they can advocate for themselves with a teacher, a professor, a boss."

Nevertheless, White says, "The 17-year-old me would have been terrified of what I do now, speaking on TV and so forth. But I thought, 'I can do this.' You find a passion and decide you can do something, and you can achieve it. Our instant-gratification society sends the wrong message. Athletes understand, valedictorians understand—you have to put in the work. Then, when you've achieved what you set out to do, it looks easy."

## Take Note

### Assembly Speakers Discuss Diverse and Rewarding Careers



Prep alumnus **KYLE ESCHEN '11** (above) held an assembly for students and faculty entitled The Cognitive Science of Magic. He analyzed the cognitive science involved in well-known illusions—thanks to a little on-stage assistance from Ms. Kimble—and explored the applications of that knowledge in other areas of life. After the assembly, he stayed for both lunches to talk through the presentation and answer students' questions in the library. Besides his interest in magic, Eschen was Prep's Commissioner General and Founders Trophy winner for the 2010-11 school year.



In a lunchtime talk organized by the ACL, **FRANK ARTHOFER '03** (above, right) talked to students about his time as a Prep athlete and how it helped lead to a successful career on the business side of sports, most recently through his position as Global Head of Digital and New Business at Formula One Management in London. He talked about the importance of authentic relationships at work and said being a leader requires trust, honesty and occasional self-deprecation—all skills he learned to value as a Prep basketball player. During his time at Prep, he wrote his college essay on history teacher John Ruch, who came to watch him talk.

Author and journalist **JONATHAN KATZ** (below, left) addressed Prep students and faculty about his experiences as a foreign correspondent in Haiti during the earthquake in January 2010. After initially staying to report on the aftermath of the disaster, he began investigating the UN's role in a cholera outbreak there. He won the 2010 Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism for his work.

"Journalism is changing," he says, "The way we deliver information is changing." He spends a lot of time analyzing the ways objectivity has been challenged in journalism, due in part to the ease of public access to information online.

"Objectivity doesn't just describe journalism we agree with," he says. "It also doesn't mean both sides of an argument are equally right. Both sides can be completely wrong—it's not X plus Y divided by two."

Katz's greatest advice to young scholars and aspiring journalists is to "Analyze, synthesize and share information. You're under no obligation to close your eyes to what's happening because you're afraid of offending someone powerful."

Katz is the author of the 2013 book *The Big Truck That Went By: How the World Came to Save Haiti and Left Behind a Disaster*.



### Construction in Progress!

Homecoming is all about bringing our alumni back to campus, and we hope we'll see you there on Saturday, October 27. When you get to campus, you're sure to notice the new permanent, state-of-the-art 60-foot field lights that we're installing this summer. We're looking forward to them being ready for the full football season.

While you're here, you may notice the ongoing transformation of the atrium outside Norris Auditorium. This project, funded largely by the school's 2017 Benefit, will run through the first semester, and it will convert the former open-air space to a student commons, event space and overflow seating for events in the auditorium.



*Above: This stunning view from above will soon feature state-of-the-art field lights.*

*Right: Construction is in progress to transform the atrium.*

### Specialist in Events—and Fun—Retires



Prep's Director of Special Events, Barbara Ealy, is retiring after 16 years of overseeing crucial campus moments. From grade level coffees to Baccalaureate, she ensured that parties, receptions, benefits and student and parent events ran smoothly, that the cookies were delivered and, most importantly, that everyone involved had a good time.

"It's so great working with the parents," says Ealy, who began her part-time job at Prep in 2002. "They are passionate about Prep. They bend over backwards

because it's their school, and they love it and want it to be the best for their kids. They want to be involved, and we help them do that."

Jeanne Case, who just finished her term as Parents Association President, says, "Barb is so inextricably linked to the Parents

Association that I can't imagine the PA without her. It goes without saying that she is always one step ahead of every foreseeable problem, but what makes her wonderful to work with is her ability to stay warm and accessible under pressure. She is a wonderful sounding board, with the ability to welcome new ideas while balancing time-honored traditions. But the best thing about Barb is her beautiful, gigantic, infectious laugh. She knows how to keep it light, even when there is tension. That is a gift. She will be deeply missed!"

It is universally acknowledged that Ealy's legendary attention to detail leaves plenty of room for fun, and she says having fun is "the most important part of any event." Even when disaster struck—the scissors for the ribbon cutting on the Chandramohan Library would not slice through (no matter how hard they tried)—Ealy was calm. "Breathe deeply a couple of times," she advises harried party-givers. "And don't forget to plan ahead, make lists and pay attention to the devil in the details."

Ealy is making her own list for retirement, which includes exploring her love of gardening and architecture, traveling and spending time with her daughter, Laura.

# LINKED

## Vatche Hagopian and John Ruch Retire

It's only fitting that Vatche Hagopian and John Ruch retired from Prep on the same day. The two friends are birds—or perhaps birdies—of a feather. Combined, they have 68 years of service to Prep, both coaching girls athletics and making their mark on Prep's community-first culture. And, over the years, they've received the same honors: the Parents Association Teaching Chair and the Senior Class Faculty Recognition Award. It's fitting that the Class of 2018 nominated them as a pair to receive the award for a final time.

Ruch started at Prep in 1982, coached girls basketball for eight years, served as 12th grade dean for 14 years and chaired the History Department from 1998-2005. He helped create the American Identity course in 1988 and has taught it ever since, helping with its transition to ID in the last few years. In his administrative roles, he is a problem solver, working both as director and assistant director of scheduling for a total of 27 years. Informally, he is the campus concierge who calendars faculty happy hours, softball games and other social events.

Peter Bachmann notes with a smile, "John swings by my office frequently at 8:00 am to make sure that the schedule is running smoothly and I have what I need. He takes his job seriously. And he takes his tee times seriously, as well."

Ruch's formidable exterior disguises a warm and generous heart. He cares about focus, discipline and participation, about making connections for his history, economics and investments scholars. He wants his students to think and to be prepared for the future. All the same, by midterms, his students have seen through the gruff, ironic crust to his gooey central core.

Meanwhile, Hagopian is all gooey core. He began teaching math at Prep in 1986 and has been a fixture at games and performances for over three decades, founding and coaching the girls

**"John Ruch is a good friend, and what you see is what you get. There are no two Johns."**

Vatche Hagopian



Vatche Hagopian

**“Mr. Hagopian noticed that I collect buttons/pins to put on my backpack and every now and then gives me a math pin or just a fun one to add to my collection. I will truly miss his stories and wisdom. — Alex Kyriakakis '20**

**Vatche is the perfect guide to shepherd new faculty their first year. He does this for veteran teachers as well. I always appreciate his point of view, his words of encouragement and his even-keeled approach to daily life at Prep even when things get overwhelming.**

— Jodie Hare, English teacher, college counselor

**Around Thanksgiving, Mr. Hagopian was teaching us square roots. He wanted to show us a way to say thank you to our relatives in a mathematical way, so he created this square root problem. If you cut the square root in half to simplify, it says 'I love you.' — Alyssa Christopoulos '21**

John Ruch



**"I have not found a kinder, nicer human being than Vatche Hagopian. He's just one of those gems that you find out there."**

John Ruch

**Mr. Ruch, you have an insane amount of passion for teaching. You've helped me learn one of the most important lessons: financial responsibility. I'm extremely lucky to have a teacher who has equipped me with skills that will help me succeed in the real world. — Andrew Cheng '18**

**I'm not sure I will ever be more terrified than when I was climbing into Ruch's truck for our daily carpool and he said to me, 'I heard you got your permit this weekend.' My stomach almost jumped out of my mouth. I learned to fight my way through the 210 Foothill exit with Ruch clutching the passenger side handle. I'm proud to announce that I passed my driving test on my first try and credit my dear neighbor, favorite critic and best teacher with that success.**

— Casey Cousineau '13

**I will miss Mr. Ruch, his blue jug and his unrivaled aura. — Francesca Song '18**



soccer team in his early years. He's been on 31 senior trips, 25 9th grade trips and eight 8th grade trips, all with a perpetual grin and a zen-like sense of calm.

His starched cuffs, ruler-straight classroom desks and photos of years of class trips and alumni weddings are the stuff of legend, as is his sense of humor. Room 32 is a structured, supportive and friendly place, where Hagopian strives to dissipate math anxiety in an atmosphere of trust and rapport, where he is careful to correct and grade the paper but not the person.

His calling to be a heart-first teacher is manifest in his formal and informal mentoring of new teachers. Over the last several years, he has supplied first years with so much inside information, humor and wisdom that he's been dubbed their guardian angel.

"Vatche combines perfect graciousness with a perfectly sneaky sense of humor," says Bachmann. "His devotion to his students and colleagues is legendary."

Both teachers have their quirks and habits. Hagopian keeps the classroom neat and clean because it creates a sense of calm; he brings a Christmas tree to the Senior Patio as a celebration of the class's senior privileges. Ruch's water jug is no more mysterious than his requirements: paper, pencils, textbook, notebook. Both are about preparation and participation. The mug is always full of water, for hydration. The classroom paraphernalia is because, Ruch says, "I don't care what you think, just that you think."

The pair are Prep for Life, especially in life after Prep. Ruch has three kids: Anne '08, Margaret '04 and George '02; Hagopian met his wife, Laurel, when her daughter, Jill Bigelow '95, was a student. The two plan to play a lot of golf—a game to which Ruch was introduced by Hagopian.

## Spotlight

### Performing Arts Presents *Hello, Dolly!*

In a two-cast production composed of students from all grade levels, the Flintridge Prep Performing Arts Department brought to life the classic musical *Hello, Dolly!*—based on the play *The Matchmaker* by Thornton Wilder—the weekends of March 2 and 9. The show featured two lead casts, a large ensemble, crew, costumers, choreographers and musicians all from the student body and faculty. Directed by Performing Arts Department Head Rob Lewis, the production included period costumes entirely handmade by designer Amy Mazzaferro, set design by Danté Carr and choreography by Molly Mattei and Caterina Mercante. It also marked the 20th musical production of Flintridge Prep’s vocal teacher and music director Steve Hill.



### Dance Department Hosts a “Game Night”

On May 4 and 5, the Performing Arts Department presented the Spring Dance Concert, “Game Night.” Featuring the senior dancers, the show followed three friends as they got caught up in a magical world of games. From dances based on the *Dating Game* to the board game *Sorry*, *Rock Paper Scissors* to chess, the evening was a playful showcase of the department’s skill, versatility and dedication. Performers included the Middle School Dance Company, 8th Grade Dance, Dance I, Dance II, Dance III, Dance Company, Hip Hop Club, Contemporary Club and selected auditioned pieces.



### 26th Annual Spring Music Concert

Prep’s 26th Annual Spring Music Concert featured the Flintridge Prep Orchestra, 8th Grade Instrumental Ensemble, 8th Grade Boys Chorus (the “Do-Re-Migos”), the Flintridge Singers and several “Curtain Acts.” The Flintridge Prep Orchestra, directed by Mr. Margitza, performed classic repertoire such as Bach’s “G Minor Fugue” and Pachelbel’s “Canon in D.” The Orchestra also paid homage to former Prep faculty member Dr. Robert Parker ’78, playing his compositions “Song for My Brother” and “Processional for a Quiet Time.” The 8th Grade Ensemble and the Do-Re-Migos performed a choreographed rendition of Solomon Linda’s “The Lion Sleeps Tonight,” followed by the traditional Korean song “Arirang,” sung by the 18-member combined Boys Chorus. The Flintridge Singers, directed by Mr. Hill, performed compositions spanning genres, including the Pentatonix hit “Light in the Hallway” and a jazz favorite, “Just in Time.” Accompanists included Tiana Lopez ’18 on violin, Mark Salzman on cello and Bill Schmidt on piano. The evening concluded by acknowledging this year’s seniors, James Ayers, Maddy Bernstein, Sia Dreyfuss, Wylie Kasai, Lopez and Connor Stevens, for their contributions to Prep’s Music Program.



### Ceramics Program Welcomes Visiting Artists

Always seeking to enrich the student experience in the studio, ceramics teacher Biliانا Popova started inviting visiting artists to class a few years ago.

“I wanted to give the students more exposure to practicing artists,” she says, noting that the diversity of their styles and backgrounds inspires students to learn new techniques and expand their artistic styles.

Since then, two to three artists per year have enhanced the class experience, including local artists Stephen Horn, Maryam Riazzi and Heather Rosenman. The most recent visiting artist is a familiar face on campus—recent graduate Ellie Levy ’17 (right).

Especially known for her bold, colorfully patterned bowls, Levy is now studying ceramics, fabric and furniture at the University of Michigan and visited Mrs. Popova’s studio for the month of May.

Levy benefited from meeting visiting artists when she was at Prep. Reflecting on her time as a student in Popova’s class, Levy says, “She’s been such a strong mentor figure—and having other people in the art world do the same was really helpful.” Visiting artists also expand students’ artistic vocabulary and provide creative inspiration, she says.

Having come full circle as a visiting artist on campus herself, Levy is excited to be a mentor for current students the way others were for her. She also finds the experience helps her be more intentional in her work, more dedicated and more focused in her approach.

“Ceramics is such a community-oriented subject,” she says, “You learn to depend on other artists, and they depend on you, too.”

The visiting artists occasionally leave pieces of their work behind for the class, so the class is curating its own small exhibit—including some of Levy’s work from her senior year, as well as recent pieces from her time at the University of Michigan.



## Goal-Oriented and Going for It Girls Sports Teams Are Riding a Wave

Prep's girls teams had an outstanding year. In the fall, girls cross country won their second State title in a row, and this spring, the girls softball team made it to two rounds of CIF games. For the first time in a decade and a half, girls swimming won a Prep League championship. In the winter season, all three girls teams excelled. A first in 15 years, girls water polo earned a spot in CIF postseason. Girls basketball, a young and talented group, took the League title for the 5th consecutive year and went on to the semifinals. Girls soccer continued the spectacular success of the last two years, winning League undefeated, bringing home Prep's first CIF SS Division III championship and scoring an unprecedented 164 goals.

Athletic Director Garrett Ohara '84 says of the girls' big year, "I can't point to a single factor. We've done a lot of work to admit talented students—and success helps breed success. These programs are known for their achievements and outstanding coaches, so people want to be a part of that."

Prep's girls sports have been evolving, says Dean of Students Midge Kimble, in response to new emphases on campus and the benefits of being involved with a team. "Body image is a big deal in high school, and sports help teens be in the best shape they can be; it builds confidence. Girls are looking to sports to build leadership muscles, too. The team becomes their campus family—and that's a forever thing."

Soccer Coach Esteban Chavez, winner of this year's All-CIF SS Division III Coach of the Year, says of the team, "They're good at reading the game. Their tactical intellect is huge. I teach them; they understand and apply."

But it's not just talent that creates a winning program—it's discipline and structure. Chavez holds practice six days a week, come what may. He says, "I know there are way more important things in life than soccer, but during the game, there is nothing more important than the game. So at practice and at games, I tell my players: This is the biggest thing in your life at this moment. Let's give it everything."

He sets an example by prioritizing soccer games and practice, with four kids of his own (including Justus '23 and Silas '21).



His athletes hear from him, "Use your time wisely. We sacrifice for each other."

Basketball coach Jayme Kiyomura Chan shares coaching duties with her cousin, Kevin Kiyomura (joint winners of the *Star-News* Coach of the Year award, as well as Prep's coaching award named in memory of Scott Studenmund '08). Jayme says that since they began coaching in 2012, they have been building the program through a culture of commitment. Chan keeps players in the loop on team and individual goals in weekly meetings and attributes their success to "team chemistry, unselfishness and working extremely hard towards a common goal."

Being an athlete is important for teenagers, says Chan. "It builds confidence, keeps us healthy in mind and spirit, teaches humility, how to win and lose with grace and how to be a part of something bigger than ourselves."

Like Coach Chavez, the basketball coaches model dedication, says basketball player Alex Kyriakakis '20. "Our success started with our coaches. The motivation they planted in us in the beginning of the season stayed with us until our final game. They lead by example through their work ethic, and it truly echoed within us."

Shooting guard Sofia Gonzalez '21 says her coaches were supportive of every athlete on the team, yet, "they emphasize that our strength is not just our athletic ability but the belief that we are a family."

Soccer player Mika Celeste '19 says the family feeling extends throughout the school. "We have a tight community, and you can feel everyone's support and love shine through in our big moments." With their crucial championship games scheduled for the same day, the basketball team sent a good luck video to the soccer team the night before.

For the athletes, the rise of women's sports is both natural and reflective of the culture they are growing up in.

"Women's teams have always been dominant," says Gonzalez. "They are dedicated students who love sports and commit to give 100% to each. Soccer and basketball require sacrifices and commitments. That's how we support each other—by understanding each other's struggles. But it is worth it!"

## GIRLS BASKETBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

The young and talented girls basketball team went the distance this year, accumulating 22 straight victories, winning League (9-0) for the 5th straight year and bringing home awards and honors recognizing their extraordinary success. Led by captains Kaitlyn Chen '20, Maddy Manning '19 and Ali Fujimoto '19, the Rebels again and again demonstrated a maturity and talent beyond their years. Ranked 4th in CIF-SS after winning League, the girls advanced to CIF semifinals, besting the No. 1 team, Oxford Academy, on that school's court. The Rebels fell to Beverly Hills, snapping their winning streak, then went on to Round I of Regionals against powerhouse Mater Dei, losing a hard-fought game 55-78 and ending their quest for a State championship. League MVP and *News Press* Player of the Year Chen was picked for the All-CIF 1st Team, with Sofia Gonzalez '21 on the 2nd team. Andie Kim '20 was named to the All-League 1st team, and Manning and Gonzalez were named to the League 2nd team. Co-coaches Kevin Kiyomura and Jayme Kiyomura Chan were honored to receive the Scott Studenmund '08 Memorial Award, named after the Green Beret SSG alum killed in action in 2014, as well as Coach of the Year honors from the *Star News*. With plenty of young talent on the team, Coach Chan says the only obstacle to success at State next year is being outsized on the court. She says to girls who want to join the team: "Our basketball family is waiting for you with open arms!"

*MVP:* Kaitlyn Chen '20  
*Most Inspirational:* Mikaylie Kiyomura '21  
*Rookie of the Year:* Sofia Gonzalez '21



## BOYS BASKETBALL LEAGUE CO-CHAMPIONS

In what Coach Garrett Ohara describes as a transitional season after losing nine seniors in 2017, the boys basketball team faced a difficult game schedule head on. Wins early on against South Pasadena and San Marino propelled the team into League play looking strong—ultimately finishing the season 7-1 in League and 14-12 overall. After splitting the League title with Poly following a climactic 37-35 win, Ohara points to a memorable win against Centennial Compton in round one of the CIF postseason. The Rebels started off that game confidently, up 42-35 at the start of the 4th quarter, but slipping quickly to 42-42 mid-quarter. The boys came together and were able to pull away late in the game to upset the higher ranked squad 57-51 before falling to Hillcrest in the second round. Their solid season resulted in two All-League 1st team nominations—Johnny Le '18 and Nick Davis '18—as well as 2nd team nominee Zach Kim '21.

*MVP:* Johnny Le '18  
*Coach's Award:* Brandon Gunning '18  
*Most Improved:* Nick Davis '18

## GIRLS SOCCER LEAGUE CHAMPIONS CIF CHAMPIONS

Girls soccer had another incredible season. They were undefeated in League, taking home their third League championship in a row. They triumphed in their first-ever CIF championship, a 3-1 win over No. 1 seed Garden Grove Pacifica. They powered all the way to the CIF Southern California Regional title match before losing by one point, in sudden-victory overtime, in a downpour, to No. 3 seed Academy of Our Lady of Peace. Along the way, they reaped awards, scored 164 goals—the fourth-best mark in Southern Section history and 10th in the nation—and only let in 33 goals all season, with an exceptional 13 shutouts thanks in part to goalie Lindsey Uteda '18. This team was the first area team to advance to the Southern California regional finals since 2011. Showing their dominance on both sides of the ball, their smarts on the field and their unity as a team, the girls benefited from strong play by Helen Schaefer '19 (35 goals, 98 points), Mika Celeste '19 (23 goals, 30 assists), Division





III Player of the Year and All-Area Player of the Year Julia Gonzalez '18 (50 goals, 16 assists), Caitlin Fong '19, Mona Cesario '18 and Makenna Dominguez '21. The team was ranked 11th in state and 34th nationally before the CIF regionals. Five athletes on the team were named to the All-League 1st team and five to the 2nd, and Coach Esteban Chavez received this year's All-CIF Southern Section Division III Coach of the Year award.

*Offensive MVP:* Helen Schaefer '19 and Mika Celeste '19

*Defensive MVP:* Yasmeen White '19

*Coach's Award:* Makenna Dominguez '21

*Most Improved:* Melanie Ng '21

### BOYS SOCCER

A handful of wins in the preseason against Sierra Canyon, Monroe, La Salle and Maranatha propelled boys soccer to a strong start, but League play proved a tougher undertaking for the team. They enjoyed early League wins against Firebaugh and Chadwick but faced tough losses in their late-season rematches against both teams. Several losses by one goal made for a close call heading into CIF, where the boys missed the chance at a postseason wild card berth this time around. A final 3-1 win against Poly capped off the season on a high note, bringing their League record to 3-3-1 and overall record to 10-9-2. The boys look to the future with hope for a chance at CIF qualification next year.

*MVP:* Ramzi Beshir '18

*Coach's Award:* Buddy Palmer '18

*Most Improved:* Ben Ventresca '18

### GIRLS WATER POLO

For the first time in 15 years, the girls water polo squad earned a spot in the CIF-SS Division VII postseason, where the team fell to La Mirada in the wild-card round. Natalie Kaplanyan '21 scored all of the team's goals that game thanks to the help of assists from other young teammates, ending the matchup with an 11-4 tally. The team's 5-3 League record and 9-11 overall record was their best finish in several years, besting last year's record by several wins and ending the season with a 3rd place League finish. The young team featured only three seniors leading the way, and its high-performing young players signaled even more success in the years to come. Three girls were nominated to All-League teams for their contributions, including Kaplanyan (1st team) and Lara Friedman '19 and Danielle Maxwell '19 (2nd team).

*MVP:* Natalie Kaplanyan '21

*Coach's Award:* Maxine Mangubat '18

*Most Improved:* Lara Friedman '19



### BASEBALL

Boys baseball made it all the way to the first round of playoffs before losing 5-6 in a windy and raucous three-hour matchup. Moving up to Division V after their 2015 CIF championship win meant that Prep faced off against Highland (a school of over 2,700 students), holding their own until the 11th inning. In the regular season, the injury-plagued Rebels posted a 14-9 record, coming up 3rd in League with six wins and six losses. Coach Guillermo Gonzalez says the most memorable game of the season was beating St. Genevieve 7-6. Underclassmen on the team stepped up and delivered the win for the Rebels with great pitching and hitting. Rebels recognized with Prep League team honors were Aidan Schraeder '18 and Ben Grable '20 (1st team) and Max Rosenfeld '19, Thomas Kosakowski '19 and Nick Davis '18 (2nd team). Prep also counted on contributions from Robbie Case '19 and Germaine Harvey '20 throughout the season.

*MVP:* Aidan Schraeder '18

*Rookie of the Year:* Bradley Marelich '21



### GOLF

The Prep golf team beat foe Firebaugh to finish the season with a 10-5 record and a 3rd place finish in League. Leading the way was stalwart Ben Sacks '19, with a four-under-par 32, and his season average was 36 or par. His teammates, Preston Ho '19, Kailyn Chiu '19 and Ian Park '19 added firepower to a strong team that should be even stronger next season, thanks to newcomers who gave the team added depth. Jack Crawford '20 and Jay Hansen '20 were joined by promising freshmen Sam Sullivan '21, Alex Yeh '21, Ryan Wu '21 and Leon Kuo '21. The League individual tournament provided some thrilling moments. Sacks battled stroke-for-stroke with Chadwick's champion but lost on the last hole, finishing in 2nd place and with All-League honors. Sullivan and Park shot personal season bests to reach the finals. Coach Bob Loughrie was very pleased with the team's progress and optimistic about chances for a League title in 2019.

*MVP:* Ben Sacks '19

*Coach's Award:* Kailyn Chiu '19

*Best Newcomer:* Sam Sullivan '21

### SOFTBALL

If there's one word Coach Julie Mejia could use to describe this year's girls softball team, it might be "resilient." "This could have been seen as a 'rebuilding year,'" she says, noting the young team graduated six of its seniors last year. "However, our girls worked hard, competed well and earned themselves a playoff berth." Even with the odds against them, the girls proved their mettle with several big wins and an even better record this season than last (6-6 League, 10-7 overall). Mejia points to a home game against Poly as an example. The girls came back from a four-run deficit to tie up the game at the top of the 7th. They struck out three Poly batters back-to-back, followed by a single from Natalie Dale '18 and, later, a final run-scoring single

by Melissa Grande '19 to secure the game 7-6. It's that rallying spirit that propelled the girls all season, winning them the CIF wild card round against Coastal Christian 22-0 and round one against Santa Clarita Valley International 23-6, before falling to San Gabriel Mission in the second round. "I know our best days are still ahead of us. I'm so excited for the future of our program," Mejia says. All-CIF 1st team nominees were Dale, Grande and Emma Stellar '21; 2nd team nominees were Olivia Stevens '20 and Libby Penn '19.

*Co-MVPs:* Melissa Grande '19 and Emma Stellar '21

*Coach's Award:* Olivia Stevens '20

### GIRLS SWIMMING LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

For the first time in 15 years, girls swimming brought home a League championship, joining the boys for a historic victory in League. Holding off Poly 315-311 (after falling to them 99-76 in the regular season), the girls steadily worked to rack up team points during the entire end-of-season meet, winning, for example, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th places in the 500-yard freestyle, where every girl set a personal record. The girls went on to post their best CIF finish in a decade, coming in 7th. Emily Jacobs '19, Emily Alameddine '19 and Devyn Walklett '21 shone in individual events, and the two relay teams (Jacobs, Devyn Walklett, Alameddine and Charlotte Stipanov '21; and Jacobs, Devyn Walklett, Alameddine and Makenna Walklett '20) each placed 5th.

*Coach's Award:* Emily Alameddine '19

*Best Newcomer:* Devyn Walklett '21

*Most Improved:* Lucy Friedman '21

### BOYS SWIMMING LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

The boys won their 6th straight League title, marking the first time both boys and girls teams won League in the same year. Winning six events, the boys' 399 points were well ahead of next-in-line Poly (261). Winston Chen '19 had a part in four of the six victories, and the Brookbanks twins traded wins in 50-yard backstroke (Oliver '19) and 50-yard free (Ben '19). Then, it was on to the CIF championships, where, for a 3rd straight year, Prep posted a top-10 finish, taking 10th—four points ahead of Poly. The mighty juniors of the boys swim team finished their CIF meet in the top 10 in backstroke, 200 freestyle and 200 medley, and in the top 20 in 400 free, 100 breast and 500 free. Chen, who had posted a prelim qualifying 55.54 seconds in the 100-yard backstroke in April and 52.41 in May, was in consideration for CIF State with a 100-yard backstroke time of 52.21 at the championships and was named Prep League Co-Most Valuable Swimmer.

*MVP:* Winston Chen '19

*Coach's Award:* Brett Bell '18

*Best Newcomer:* Ryan Alameddine '21

### BOYS TENNIS

Coach Roger Hollomand describes the boys tennis experience this year as a "rebuilding season." The young team had graduated several of its older players; but despite facing some tough squads this season, Hollomand notes the maturity and grit the boys maintained for the future of their team throughout the ups and downs. Ending the season with 3-3 in League and 4-8 overall, the team fell short of snagging a spot in CIF postseason this year. Coach Hollomand is optimistic about the team's future, and points out standout performances by All-League 1st team singles appointee

Gillis Linde '19, 2nd team singles nominee  
Derek Tran '20 and 2nd team doubles nomi-  
nees Bobby Hansen '18 and Wylie Kasai '18.

*MVP:* Gillis Linde '19  
*Most Dedicated:* David Kim '19  
*Most Improved:* Alex Chagoyen Neumann '20

## TRACK & FIELD LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Boys Track & Field place 3rd in League, while the girls team placed 6th. The boys 4 x 100 relay team (Tommy Porter '21, Andrew Odom '21, Alex Smith '18 and Johnny Le '18) placed 1st in the Prep League finals for the first time since 2012. The boys 4 x 400 relay team (Odom, Alex Bouquet '20, Will Tayback '18 and Smith) placed 3rd in the same competition. Odom also won 1st place in the 400 meter, while Le placed 3rd in the high jump and Porter placed 3rd in the 200 meter. Other standouts include team MVP Evan Pattinelli '18, who was 2nd in the 1600 meter and 2nd in the 3200 meter; Carson Hasbrouck '19 placed 3rd in the 3200 meter; Sebastian Evans '19 was 2nd in the 800 meter and 2nd in the 1600; Ethan Moutes '19 placed 3rd in the 800 meter. Team MVP Sasha Codiga '19 placed 2nd in the 800 meter and 2nd in the 1600, while Sophie Gitlin '18 placed 2nd in the 3200 meter.

*Boys Track & Field*  
*MVP:* Evan Pattinelli '18  
*Coaches' Award:* Johnny Le '18  
*Best Newcomer:* Tommy Porter '21  
*Most Improved:* Sebastian Evans '19

*Girls Track & Field*  
*MVP:* Sasha Codiga '19  
*Coaches' Award:* Hope Codiga '19  
*Best Newcomer:* Madison Bradford '21  
*Most Improved:* Julie Le '20

## BOYS VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

The Varsity team had a great year that, unfortunately, ended too early with a tough loss in 5 sets to La Cañada in the playoffs. However, there are plenty of positives that took place during the year, including winning their 6th straight League championship and maintaining an 8-0 record in League play. This streak actually ties the longest streak in League history, which is held by Chadwick, so the boys are aiming to get a 7th title next year and hold that record on our own. The team also set a new record for lowest number of losses in their overall season record, with four, versus their 22 vic-

tories. The team started off the season playing some solid volleyball and continued to get better and better as the season went on. "I was very proud of our guys for the hard work they put into the season," says Coach Sean Beattie, "and I know the underclassmen are ready to continue the winning tradition that the classes before them have started!" Team honors were abundant, with AJ Nicassio '19 named League MVP for the second consecutive year; All-League 1st team nominees included Tim Treinen '18 and Majeed Ismail '18, and All-League 2nd team included Garrett Gaines '18, James Ayers '18 and Nathan Powell '19.

*Co-MVPs:* AJ Nicassio '19  
and Tim Treinen '18  
*Coaches' Award:* Majeed Ismail '18

## EQUESTRIAN

Coach Chelsey Frost says Prep's equestrian team members had a successful fall, participating in several competitive shows. Jasmine Samuels '20 earned between 2nd and 9th places in varsity jumpers, as well as 10th place in varsity flat equitation. Overall, she ranked 11th in varsity jumpers in the first show and 12th in the second. Miranda Zhang '21 came in 4th, 6th and 7th in novice and is 10th overall in novice hunters. Lori Jang '22 placed 2nd and 4th in dressage in the first show, and Melody Liu '20 tied for 5th spot in the varsity Horsemanship Medal finals standings, ranking 37th overall in League. Overall, Prep ranked 44th out of 68 in the Interscholastic Equestrian League.



## JV SCOREBOARD

**BOYS JV BASEBALL**  
2-1 League, 5-8 overall

**GIRLS JV BASKETBALL**  
*Co-MVPs*  
Sarah Abou-Rass '20 and  
Shelby Fujimoto '21

**BOYS JV BASKETBALL**  
6-2 League, 11-9 overall  
*Coach's Award*  
Zach Luu '21

*Offensive Player of the Year*  
Naeem Lewis '21

*Defensive Player of the Year*  
Tommy Porter '21

**BOYS JV VOLLEYBALL**  
7-1 League, 8-2 overall  
*MVP*  
Cole Barnard '20

*Coaches' Award*  
Gavin O'Leary '21

**GIRLS JV WATER POLO**  
2-4 League, 6-9 overall

*MVP*  
Isabel Simons '21

*Coaches' Award*  
Mona Patterson '21

*Most Improved*  
Lauren Bennett '20

## Alumni News

1949

**70th** **SAVE THE DATE**  
**reunion** **APRIL 12, 2019**

As **JOHN RIDLAND** celebrated his 85th birthday on July 4, he reflected upon his 43-year career in the UCSB English Department and is proud to say his career has accelerated since retiring in 2005. He encourages others—especially young poets—to persevere and pursue poetry professionally, something he insists is possible!

1951

**PETE DOW** writes, "Approaching my 86th birthday, I feel blessed to be still vertical and in good health. Enjoying an active life here in Sun City West, AZ. I am involved with our community, church, Rotary and still do some travel. This summer, we are coming to CA to visit Cambria and Monterey."

1953

**DAVID GAST** shares, "Writing articles on model railway construction for the British periodical *Sixteen Millimeter Today* keeps me busy. I also volunteer time and funding for Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, UT, which is a no-kill shelter. We spend a week in Kanab every year. I am proud to say that I, along with a long-time friend, are the founders of the Research Library of the Horseless Carriage Foundation, located in La Mesa, CA. My wife of 59 years, Sondra, and I have a daughter, Lucinda, living close by. We lost our son, Christofer, 17 years ago. There is a special place in my heart for Prep. My self-confidence and interest in higher education were nurtured at Flintridge. This interest has led to a Doctorate degree and a career at San Diego State University as a professor of education. Prep also awakened a spiritual interest in my life. I am now

a practicing Buddhist. Quite an outcome for a Presbyterian-leaning school.

**GALEN YOUNG** reports he is "leading a rather quiet life with my wife and our four doggies. Our days are spent doing maintenance on the drip irrigation system to keep all of our trees, shrubs, etc., alive and healthy. Time is of course spent with the dogs; two larger ones live outdoors, and two little ones live mostly indoors. For a relaxing vacation, we really like cruises and we like Alaska, so this year will be our sixth cruise there. I also fished and hunted in Alaska when I was younger. We are bracing for a hot summer in Los Banos, CA."

1954

**65th** **SAVE THE DATE**  
**reunion** **APRIL 12, 2019**

1959

**60th** **SAVE THE DATE**  
**reunion** **APRIL 12, 2019**

1960

Following the loss of their Santa Rosa home in the October Tubbs Fire—and virtually all belongings from 50 years of marriage—**STAN HALES** and his wife, Diane, spent two months in a San Ramon condo owned by their daughter-in-law's parents. Since December they've been in a rental home in Dixon, only ten minutes from their son and family. "We may well settle here, having become somewhat resigned to the involuntary downsizing but also pleased to be much nearer to grandchildren," he says. "We wonder if any other Prep families were affected, either directly or indirectly, by this hugely tragic fire that took 5,300+ homes and more than two dozen lives."



If you are 70 ½ or older and taking mandatory income distributions from your IRA, you can avoid the income tax generated by these distributions by directing a gift directly from your IRA to Flintridge Prep. You can direct up to \$100,000 per year—it's a great estate planning tool.

Contact Lakshmi Dastur-Johnson:  
ldastur-johnson@flintridgeprep.org

1964

**55th** **SAVE THE DATE**  
**reunion** **APRIL 12, 2019**

1968

In a 50th mini-reunion get together, **BILL ABELMANN**, **RICHARD GIESBRET**, **ERIC BERG** and **BOB RIGDON** (below) enjoyed a tour of the Prep campus by Co-Director of Alumni Relations Colleen Bissner. The foursome reports,

"Sentiments included, 'Wish we had been offered those classes!' and admiration for the theater, library, greatly improved classrooms (with AC!) and attractive grounds with beautiful oaks. Upon reflection over lunch, we agreed our Prep experience was singular, albeit during a turbulent period." Bill, a retired property management CEO, lives in Tiburon, Salt Lake City and Hawaii Kai with his wife, three kids and six grandkids; architect



## Junior Internship Day Connects Students and Alumni

Junior Internship Day is a highlight of the 11th grade Prep experience. Each year, members of the alumni body, current parents, parents of alumni and friends of Prep sign up to host current students in their workplaces. Students are matched based on their interests, and have the opportunity to experience a day in the life of someone in that field. This April, 13 alumni joined the honored ranks of JID host. Hours varied from a 6:30 am start time for students watching surgeries at hospitals to 6:30 pm for those attending a musician's scoring for a movie.



Steve Battaglia '88 hosted students at his medical practice (above, left); Elizabeth Varnell '96, a freelance writer, took students on a hard-hat tour of the Academy Museum and had them write an article about it.

Richard is currently single and attempting semi-retirement in West Hollywood; graphic designer Eric is semi-retired in Santa Cruz and is married with two kids and two grandkids; lawyer Bob is semi-retired in Santa Monica with new spouse, Dan Nguyen. Musician **JIM WELCH** couldn't join us, but he is still working and living in Palo Alto with his wife and two kids and is now back to tickling the ivories.

**WELLS WHEELER** is still practicing architecture in Northern Illinois. "Joan and I will be celebrating our 50th anniversary this fall," he says, "and then we are going to try to attend the 50th class reunion at Stanford. Activities these days mostly include biking, banjo playing and yard/garden maintenance. We also stay busy keeping track of our son (Wheels, a doctor in St. Louis) and our daughter (Shannon, who works for the Immigration Department in DC) and five grandchildren. Keep in touch!"

1969

**50th reunion** SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 6, 2019

**MICK HOOVER** shares, "My wife Janice and I are staying busy in Kentucky and took our kids and grandkids to Disney World in June. I recently went to Orlando and watched Jimmy Buffett and the Eagles play in a concert, which couldn't have been better—two of my favorite groups of all time. I hope all is well at Prep."



1970

**BRAD SMITH** reports he is still living in Corvallis, OR, after 35 years. He left the vet school at Oregon State after 20 years as a professor, attributing the choice to feeling tired of the politics. For the past 15 years he has been purchasing and operating industrial properties in the western US—"a great excuse to learn how to fly and buy a plane," he says. Six years ago, he also got involved with a local non-profit organization focusing on purchasing and operating transitional and permanent supported housing for very low-income individuals. "My wife recently informed me that I was failing retirement badly," he says. "She is probably right. If you are coming through the area, please give me a call and stop in for a visit."

1973

**DICK HELFFRICH** and **MARK FLEWELLING** visited Israel for two weeks in March with their wives, Donna and Laura (below). They traveled with a group called Insight for Living Ministries with Chuck Swindoll. The trip marked Mark and Laura's 30th anniversary. Dick had been a groomsman in their wedding, and Israel was on both couples' bucket lists. "Everyone had a wonderful time and it was a spiritual journey," says Dick. "I think we are planning a trip next year, but the details are not firmed up at this time."



1974

**45th reunion** SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 6, 2019

1975

**JAMIE BISSNER** says, "**BRAD BACHTEL** hatched a plot, and on a Sunday afternoon in February, I took Mr. Peabody's 'Way Back Machine' to a period 43 years ago, meeting with some of my great Prep buds at Mijares. Their soul, wit and congeniality transcends all of the years. I was so fortunate to have spent my formative years at the greatest school with these great guys and all the others of the Class of '75! Above, back: **STEVE SCOTT, BOB VARGAS, JAMIE BISSNER, LOREN MCCLURG, JON KLINCK;** front: Bob's dad, Ernie, and **BRAD BACHTEL**, as well as various libations of unknown origin. **JIM STEINWEDEL**'s dad, Bill, and Bob's son, Doug, joined us after the photo was taken."

1978

**GREG MANN** just celebrated his design studio's 25th anniversary and is heading up to Nike to shoot a video. He also shares that they just completed the new culture values for Peet's Coffee and shot a nine-minute documentary for them.

1979

**40th reunion** SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 6, 2019

1980

**JIM WADDELL** recently received a 35-year badge for length of service with Orange County Fire Authority and still enjoys working in Emerald Bay, Laguna Beach. "My wife, Janine, of 27 years is doing well, along with our son, James, 24 years old," he says.

1984

**35th reunion** SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 6, 2019

1987

Writer, actor and activist **LORINDA HAWKINS SMITH** shares that she was part of Studio at REDCAT June 9 and 10. "Very excited about it!" she says. Her solo performance *Justice? Or Just Me?* remixes incisive text and soulful vocal rhythms and textures to examine a black woman's encounter with law enforcement, domestic violence and her interracial marriage to a white man.

1988

**STEVE REA** reports that he is loving life in Napa Valley, exploring vineyards by horseback and working in the wine industry. After starting and running the winery Acumen, he is now launching a new business, Be-Napa, which curates everything so you can simply enjoy your trip. "Randomly, I've run into a few Prep alum in Napa, which has been great," he says, "and I look forward to seeing more Prep alumni up in wine country. Cheers!"

## Ruch's Rebels Return

Members of the powerhouse Prep girls basketball teams from the 1980s and '90s surprised their beloved coach John Ruch at Reunion Day. Some traveled from as far away as Texas, Oregon and Utah, donning basketball jerseys and dispensing hugs to celebrate his retirement.



(L-R): Tina Fejtek Weidenkeller '87, Lina Davidian Corbett '93, Allison Triarsi Lewis '91, Karen Pearson Whitt '91, Mr. Ruch, Laura Pearson Sheppert '88, Alina Voskanian Vartany '90, Christine Stepanian Armenian '91, Camilla Bird Hartman '89.

To read more about Mr. Ruch, see page 18.

**CHRIS JOHNSON** lives on-campus at Dana Hall School, in Wellesley, MA, where he's worked and taught for almost 20 years. "I live with my wife and two children, Matthew (10) and Charlotte (8). We miss CA, where my wife is also from, though we actually met here on the East Coast. We come back to CA often, usually during the summers, for the kids to see their cousins and grandparents. I still love to teach and speak French, and I made an educational documentary film in 2012 about Joan of Arc for my students during a sabbatical where I lived and filmed in France for 10 weeks. Best to everyone at Prep and the class of '89! Go Rebels!"

**CAROLINE FREEDMAN O'HARE** recently switched careers and is currently producing and organizing the 78th annual National Folk Festival coming to Salisbury, MD, in September. The festival is a free three-day celebration of traditional music, dance and art. They anticipate approximately 60,000-80,000 people will attend. "After the festival, my husband, Dan, our three-year old daughter, Olive, and I plan to take a much needed vacation with friends in Ireland in October," she says. "Looking forward to seeing classmates next year at our 30th reunion."

**TANEKA SHEHEE** spent Easter Sunday eating at The Bottle Inn Hermosa Beach, owned by classmate **CHRISTINA MISHEF** (below). Christina excitedly shared it was her first day of operation at her new restau-



## SPRING REUNION ACTIVITIES

A small cadre of alumni joined us for mini classes on Alumni Back to School Day, where they learned from their favorite teachers just how little they use geometry on a daily basis. Still more alumni flooded campus two days later on a mild evening in early April for the Spring Reunions. Classes ending in 3 and 8 immersed themselves in nostalgia, reminiscing about their high school years and sharing updates with each other about their families and careers. The celebration included a tribute to retiring faculty Vatche Hagopian and John Ruch, as well as class photos, campus tours, dinner and some hot tunes from the '80s, '90s and early 2000s ("Crazy in Love," anyone?).



1958



1983



1988



1998



2003



1993



John Plumb '64 joins the Class of '88



Alumni Back-to-School Day

### SAVE THE DATES

**December 23, 2018**  
Alumni Sports Day, GOLD Networking Mixer, Alumni Holiday Party and Reunions for the Classes of 2008 and 2013

**April 6, 2019**  
Reunion Day for the Classes of 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999 and 2004

**April 12, 2019**  
Back-to-School Day Reunions for the Classes of 1949, 1954, 1959 and 1964

rant across the street, 22nd Market Grill. She also owns r.e.d. Bar and Grill in El Segundo. "I joked she was playing real life Monopoly, but it's no joke!" Taneka says.

1994

25th  
reunion

SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 6, 2019

1995

**ROB CORTEWAY** shares, "After 11 years at Silicon Valley Bank, I took a position with Comerica Bank in San Jose. I am their senior underwriting officer advising on underwriting strategies for the bank's technology start-up and life science clients."

1996

**ROB COBB** is an emergency room psychiatrist at Keck Hospital of USC, where he works with clients in distress as they come in the door. He recently visited with Prep psychology students, discussing career tracks in psychiatry as well as telling stories about his job. Rob was also a CIP judge at the recent STEAM & Service Fair.

As a senior marketing specialist for Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (SGH) and the president of the New York branch of the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS), **ALEXIS NEWMAN** (below) works closely with firm principals to manage SGH's nationwide continuing education and client events program. Alexis was named by Bizzabo as a Top Event Marketer to watch in 2018.



1997

**ASHLEY SMITH** (below) is happily married and lives with her husband and their two young children, Lucille (6) and Evelyn (4), in La Cañada (right around the corner from Prep!). Ashley's husband, Andy, is a senior attorney with a local law firm, and Ashley is a partner with Deloitte. Ashley specializes in computer forensics, complex data analytics and e-discovery. Over the last 15 years, she has focused on international fraud and corruption investigations and has worked in 14 countries on four continents. When she's not on the road for work, Ashley leads Lucy's Girl Scout Daisy troop and loves going to Disneyland with her family.



1998

**MIKE LOUIE** and his wife, Mindy, are celebrating their 12th year of marriage this year. Mike is currently an internal communications manager at Slack in San Francisco. One way he spends quality time with Mindy and their 6-year-old twins is by producing a weekly vlog on their YouTube channel called "Mewie Life." One day soon, he hopes to travel back to SoCal and show them the Prep campus!

**CRAIG REVELL** shares, "I have a beautiful 19-month-old daughter, Makena, and have been married 13 years. We recently moved to Ojai from Carpinteria."

1999

20th  
reunion

SAVE THE DATE  
APRIL 6, 2019

2000

**JANE LEDBETTER '00** is a licensed clinical psychologist specializing in psychological and neuropsychological evaluations and offering individual, family and group therapy to children and adolescents with mental health issues. She joined the Class of 2018 for Senior Horizons, where she led discus-

sions about the psychology field.

2001

"I want to share that I'm getting married on September 15, 2018, in Eugene, OR, where I currently live," writes **VINCENT MATEUS**. "I'm currently pursuing a second bachelor's degree, in math, at the University of Oregon, with intentions of pursuing graduate school in math afterward. My partner, Monika, is a PhD candidate in clinical psychology at UO. We bought a house last summer in Springfield, OR. We are enjoying the return of warmth and sunshine and spend our leisure time these days heroically battling the meadow of weeds in the front and back yards. I hope things are going well at Prep!"

2002

**AMY THOMAS PICCIOLI** and her husband welcomed their first child, Everett Thomas Piccioli (below), on July 28, 2017. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 18.5 inches.



2003

**FRANK ARTHOFER** (below) spoke to student members of the Athletic Council on Leadership at Prep on Feb. 22 about his job as global head of digital and new business for Formula One Management (see more on p. 16). Frank wrote his college essay on Mr. Ruch, who came to hear him talk!



## The Bachmann Circle: A Great Beginning

The Bachmann Circle was created in 2017 to honor loyal Prep alumni who have given consecutively for at least 10 years.

The inaugural reception, honoring the over 200 graduates who have qualified so far, was held March 1. About 50 alumni and guests attended the party at the Valley Hunt Club, where Katie Reardon Speetzen '99 welcomed her fellow Bachmann Circle members, providing funny, but true, insights, about her time at Prep, saying that "Prep shaped my life and my family. Peter set the tone and hired the best people, and that gave us a safe and engaging place to learn."

Alumni from every decade from the 1950s to the 2000s attended, and they came from all over Southern California and beyond, including Chicago, Dallas and Durango, CO, by way of Portland, OR. Five members from the Class of '88 had a pre-reunion at the Bachmann Circle event (they celebrated later with the rest of their class on April 14; see page 30).

"It was warm, fun, a great feeling," says Annual Fund Director Donna Merchant. "Guests came from all over, and although they didn't all know each other, they all came together around their love for Prep. And they appreciated being acknowledged for their loyalty."

"We are planning to have the Bachmann Circle convene annually," says Alumni Relations Co-Director Jacqueline Epley Tegart '97. "Now we'll have another event to look forward to each year that brings the Prep community together across all eras, united in their feelings for Prep and what it has meant to them."

## Alumni Rally Around Retiring Faculty

Faculty, students and alumni went beyond the call of duty with remembrances and well-wishes for retiring faculty members John Ruch and Vatche Hagopian. The video honoring them had over 1,500 views on Facebook and more than 1,400 views on Vimeo. The school received over 100 comments via email and social media, which were collected in a commemorative photo album to honor two of our favorite Rebels. View the video online: <https://vimeo.com/flintridgeprep/tribute>.



**KATE LAWRENCE DE LA MORA** shares, "My husband, Alan, and I welcomed our first baby, Lucy, on August 7, 2017 (above). She already has a big personality and loves to laugh. We are just so in love."

**SIOBHAN SHIER** reports, "I produce a co-creative acrobatic dance show called Acrobatic Storytelling that takes place in LA and San Francisco. We've been going for a few years now." Find out more on Facebook @acrobaticstorytelling.

**JOHN THOMAS** visited Prep's Republican Club to talk about his role as a political strategist and commentator at CNN.

2004

**15th** reunion **SAVE THE DATE**  
APRIL 6, 2019

### Class Notes Wanted

Submit Class Notes any time to [alumni@flintridgeprep.org](mailto:alumni@flintridgeprep.org) or by phone, 818.949.5526. Email digital images (JPEG or TIFF, 300 dpi resolution, size 5x7 inches) or send photo prints to Flintridge 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.

*PrepTalk* reserves the right to edit Class Notes, primarily for length and style considerations, though also for clarity and redundancy. Class Notes entries are not fact-checked for accuracy, nor should their inclusion in the magazine be considered an endorsement from the school.

*Please contact*

Jacqueline Epley Tegar '97, Co-Director of Alumni Relations  
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**RAMSES BARDEN** was a Community Impact Project judge at the STEAM & Service Fair.

2008

**10th** reunion **SAVE THE DATE**  
December 23, 2018

Vegas-bound Prep girls **CELENE CARRARA**, **ALEXIS RYAN** and **BROOKE HARMON** reunited for a birthday trip for Celene. Brooke shares, "We only continue to grow closer. I am so grateful for my wonderful friendships that began at Prep."



**NICK LOUI** and **BOBBY LINCOLN** are co-founders of CivicFeed, a consolidated platform that uses artificial intelligence to surface political data to help law firms, advocacy organizations, legislators, media and the public better understand government action. Nick and **Dr. NATHAN WALWORTH '05** were featured in a *Forbes* article about artificial intelligence. The pair also sat on a panel discussion at the Bay Area Lightning in a Bottle music festival in May 2018, where they discussed the ethics of AI, its ability to do good and efforts to eliminate bias in coding for AI.

**AMIRA POLACK** recently graduated from Harvard Business School with an MBA and will be working full time on her own company called Struct Club, which is a software company for the fitness industry. She shares, "After being away from Los Angeles since graduating from Prep, I moved back to town in June! I'm happy to be in touch via [arpolack@gmail.com](mailto:arpolack@gmail.com)."

2009

**KATIE KRULISKY** writes, "I graduated from University of Queensland Medical School (the Australia-Ochsner Clinical School New Orleans campus) in November 2017 and matched into a neurology residency training program at the University of Arizona, where I start in July. Hope you all are doing well!"

**NITYA RAJESHUNI** is currently an MD candidate at Stanford University School of Medicine. She is also working towards a dual master's degree in epidemiology and clinical research. She is thoroughly enjoying her time at Stanford and is eternally grateful for all the wonderful opportunities, mentorships and friendships provided at Prep!

2011

**KYLE ESCHEN** performed in an assembly at Prep titled *The Cognitive Science of Magic*. Read more about it on page 16.



2012

**KATE LYON** and **CONNELL STUDENMUND** (above), veterans of the last girls' soccer team to make a run for the CIF Championship, in 2012, came out to support the girls as they won their historic title match this year. They were joined by Connell's mother, Jaynie Studenmund, as well as several other alumni parents. Connell shares, "I moved out of my apartment in Boston in May, where I had been working in consulting for the last two years. I will be starting medical school in August at UCSF and plan on traveling and spending time with family and friends until classes begin."

## IN MEMORIAM

**CHRISTOPHER HASKETT '84** passed away January 16, 2018. A fourth-generation Pasadenan, he held a JD from the University of San Diego, a master's degree in business from the University of Edinburgh and a degree in economics from Occidental College. Chris worked in the Realty Department of the US Naval Facilities Southwest Division, retiring in 2017. He was a Chief Petty Officer in the Naval Reserve, and a member of many organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Tournament of Roses Association. He is survived by his brother, **JON HASKETT '78**, Jon's wife, Claudia, and their son, John, as well as his sister, Catherine Hany, Catherine's husband, Darryl, and extended family.

**KINDEN MITCHELL '88** passed away on May 24, 2018. Born in Pasadena, he graduated from USC and was a commercial real estate broker, specializing in office leasing at Cushman and Wakefield and Colliers International. He was a dedicated member of the Tournament of Roses, especially enjoying his assignments on the football committee. He is survived by his wife, Kristin, children Connor and Caroline, parents RoseMary and **NORMAN MITCHELL '60**, sister, **CAREY MCGOWAN '84**, brother, Jonathan, and five nieces and nephews.

**CHRISTINE HARRIS SCRIBNER '92** passed away on May 22, 2018. An attorney who had lived in Sacramento since 2001, she attended UCSD and Hastings. She was a lawyer in dependency court for nine years, then became senior staff counsel at the Office of Legal Affairs for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. She most recently worked as an attorney for Ginter Family Law. She was predeceased by her second husband, Chris, in 2016 and leaves two sons, Ethan and Adam, and her father, Robert.

Williamsburg resident **KELLAN ROHDE** was big in Japan when *Raggedy Threads*, the vintage clothing store he worked at in Brooklyn, was filmed for the show *Hangout NYC* for [fujisankei.com](http://fujisankei.com). Now he's working as a production assistant on the reboot of *Firing Line*, a weekly talk show on PBS.

2013

**5th** reunion **SAVE THE DATE**  
December 23, 2018

**CASEY COUSINEAU** recently moved to Denver, CO, where she continues her work for Environment America. She previously worked for the organization in CA and NM. This year, she worked as an alumni interviewer for Dartmouth Admissions, and says she got to speak to some wonderful Prep students. "It made me feel so nostalgic!" she says.

**OLIVIA GAINES** was a Community Impact Project judge at the STEAM & Science Fair.

2014



**ERIC FUNG** graduated in June from Princeton University with an AB in Chemistry and a Certificate in Materials

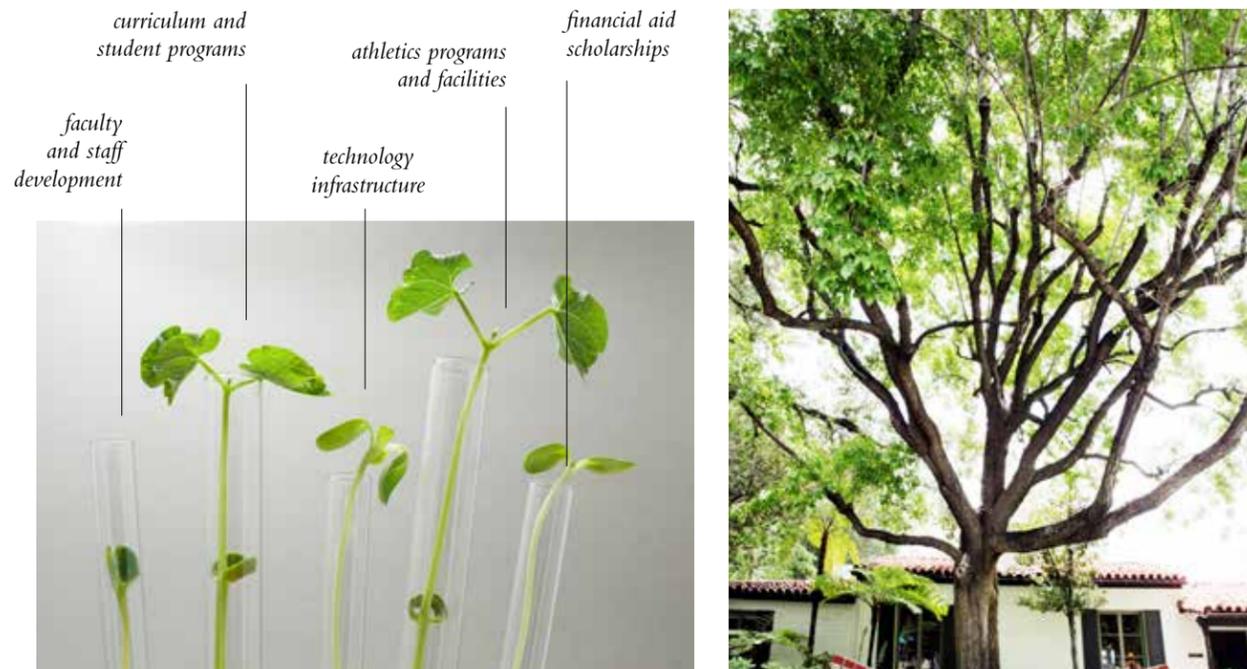
Science & Engineering. In fall 2018, he will begin work on his Master of Divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary.

**TEAGAN GEORGE** graduated from UCSB with honors and a bachelor's degree in economics. She has accepted an analyst position in Los Angeles with Compass Lexecon, one of the world's leading economic consulting firms, where she will joyfully pursue her passion for antitrust litigation.

2016

**MIKE PEARSON** shares that he released his first single on Spotify, titled "Another" by Slowisie.

# Your commitment plants a seed.



## How does **endowment giving** nurture the Prep Community?

**1** Endowment gifts fund scholarships as well as the academic and extracurricular programs that are at the heart of Flintridge Prep’s mission. These funds ensure that the school is strong today and for generations to come.

**2** The school pools and invests endowment funds in perpetuity; according to a spending policy approved by the Board of Trustees, only a portion of each fund’s earnings is spent annually. This financial stewardship is what enables an endowment to last forever.

- **Scholarship endowments** support the nearly one-third of students who are currently on financial aid, as well as future scholarship recipients.
- **Faculty development endowments** support today’s teachers and attract the teachers of tomorrow.
- **Arts, athletics and community impact endowments** enrich our curriculum, inspire passions and ignite leadership beyond the classroom.

At Prep you can contribute to one of 40+ existing endowment funds. You may also choose to establish a new fund in your name or in honor of a significant individual.\*

For more information, please contact Director of External Affairs Lakshmi Dastur-Johnson at 818.949.5524 or visit [flintridgeprep.org/endowment](http://flintridgeprep.org/endowment).

\*Subject to minimum funding levels and criteria

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Named for Flintridge Preparatory School’s founder and first headmaster, the Doane Lowery Legacy Society recognizes individuals who provide for Flintridge Prep in their estate plans or through other deferred giving arrangements such as charitable remainder trusts, life insurance policies, retirement plan assets and real estate.

A deferred gift through your estate is a simple way to make a positive impact on Flintridge Preparatory School. Larger deferred gifts may establish endowment funds, creating lasting impact and a legacy honoring what Flintridge means to you. By providing for Prep in your estate plans, you will enhance the lives of future students.

For more information about bequests, charitable trust arrangements, life insurance, gift annuities and retained life estate gifts, contact Lakshmi Dastur-Johnson, Director of External Affairs, at 818.949.5524 or [ldastur-johnson@flintridgeprep.org](mailto:ldastur-johnson@flintridgeprep.org).



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