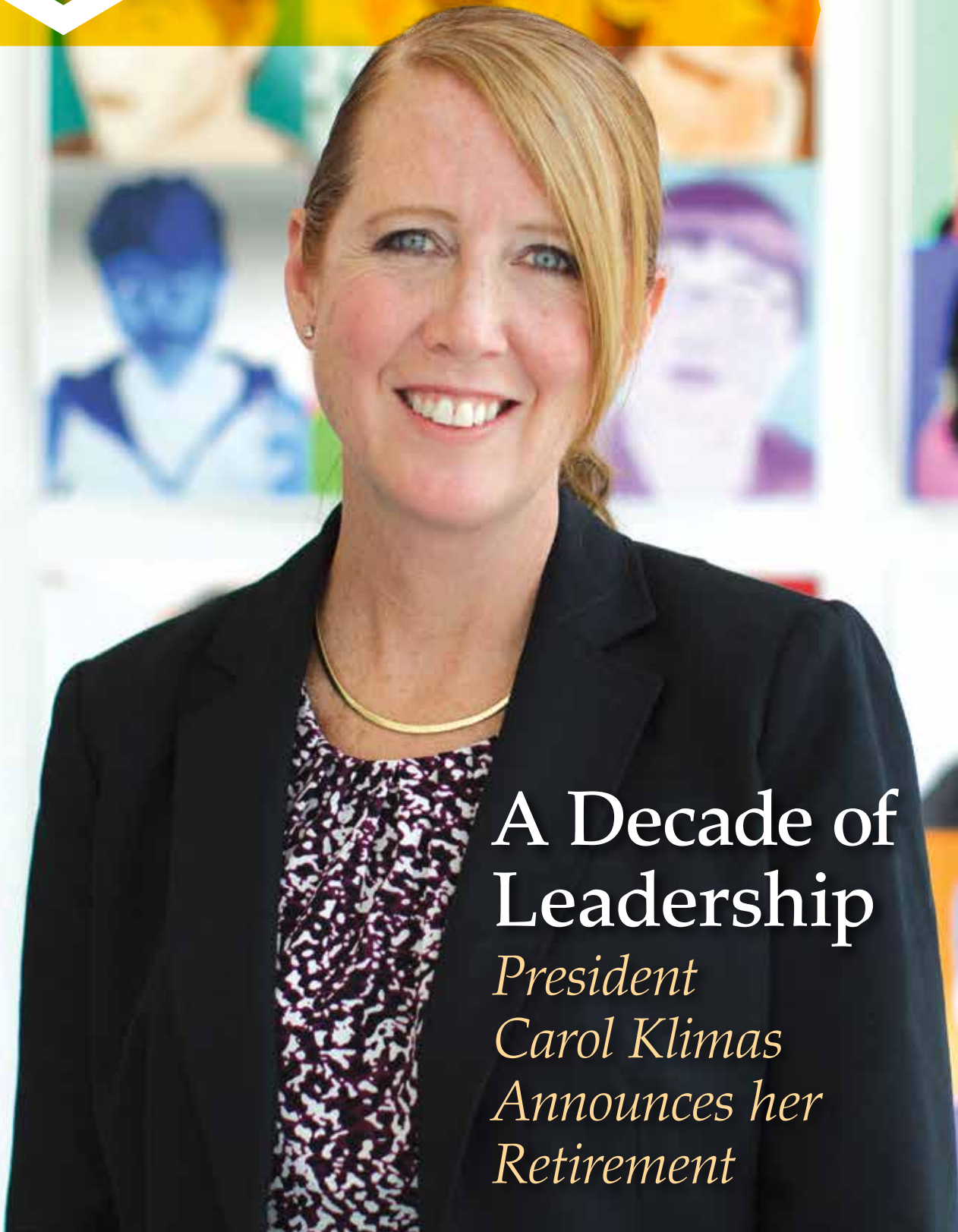




The ByLine

WINTER 2018



A Decade of Leadership

*President
Carol Klimas
Announces her
Retirement*

Academics Community Opportunity

Mission

Our mission is to send into a changing world confident young people of integrity who think critically and creatively while embracing the joy of lifelong learning.

2017-2018

Board of Directors

Rebecca Ruppert McMahon, *Chair*
Thomas J. Dresing, MD '83, *Vice-Chair*
Andrea Manning, *Secretary*
Benjamin P. Norton, *Treasurer*

Raymond Bobgan
Albert V. Chan, MD, FACC
Don R. Esch
Amelia Farago
Cole Fauver '79
Vicenta C. Gaspar-Yoo, MD, MBA
Laurie Gatten, CPA
Patrick Harrington
Paula Janmey
Donald W. Kaatz '70
Joseph F. Miclat '90
Clare Navratil
Joyesh Raj, MD, FACS '89
Michael J. Sherwin
Brian Shimko '04
Ed Spellman



Students in the new Middle School Engineering Club competed in the FIRST LEGO League regional competition. One team advanced to the district competition which occurred in January, a phenomenal accomplishment for a first-year program.

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Integrity, Respect, Scholarship
and Personal Best

Editor: Susan Haas, *Director of Marketing and Communications*

On the cover: A Decade of Leadership
President Carol Klimas Announces her Retirement

Welcome New Board Members



BRIAN SHIMKO '04

Brian Shimko graduated from Lake Ridge Academy in 2004. He earned a BA in economics from Fordham University and an MBA from the University of Michigan. He is currently a venture capital partner at Maywic Select Investments in Cincinnati, Ohio.



ALBERT CHAN, M.D.

Albert Chan (father of Adrienne '21) is a cardiologist at the Cleveland Clinic. Albert earned his Bachelor of Science and his medical degree from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila. Albert is a member of the marketing and enrollment committee and volunteers his time at numerous open houses held during the school year.



2017-2018 Board of Directors

Not pictured: Clare Navratil, Vicenta C. Gaspar-Yoo, Patrick Harrington, Cole Fauver '79, Joyesh Raj '89 and Michael J. Sherwin.

A LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Becky Ruppert McMahon

Dear Lake Ridge Academy Friends:

I hope your holidays were filled with an abundance of joy, good health, family and friends. As I look out over the first six months of 2018, I see great things ahead, including celebrations for ...

- the 50 members of the Class of 2018 who are closing in on their June 2nd graduation;
- our record-setting 50th Anniversary Campaign which just concluded above our audacious fundraising goal;
- Carol's eleven years of transformational leadership and friendship; and
- the introduction of Mitch, Shelby, Ava and Jackson White into our Lake Ridge family.

My pride and faith in Lake Ridge Academy have never been stronger.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as Board Chair these past three school years. Working closely with our exceptional Board of Directors has truly been one of the great privileges of my lifetime. I have also gained a deeper appreciation for the passion and commitment that Carol, her Leadership Team, and all of our faculty and staff invest in the education of our children year after year. And I have seen time and again how generously our families and alumni support our school through gifts of time, expertise and financial support.

Thank you for all that you have done and all that you will continue to do for our one-of-a-kind Lake Ridge Academy!



Congratulations to the Class of 2017

These 40 seniors were awarded over \$3 million in scholarships during their college searches.

(Alphabetically listed)

Pella Baker – Ohio Wesleyan University
 Katherine Bartlett – Berklee College of Music
 Zoe Belardo – University of Pennsylvania
 Madelyn Cromling – Bryn Mawr College
 John (Eddie) DePalma – John Carroll University
 Drew Doehr – Ohio Wesleyan University
 Meredith Dresing – Sweet Briar College
 Emily Essi – College of Charleston
 Maya Farhat – John Carroll University (Lake Erie Medical College)
 Victoria Fisher – Oberlin College
 Collin Harris – University of Tampa
 Ami Ishikawa – Harvard University
 Maria Janasko – College of Wooster
 Kaan Koprulu – John Carroll University

Alyssa Kubec – Youngstown State University
 Lily Kuentz – Colgate University
 Joshua Lacoste – Vassar College
 Bohan "Charles" Lang – University of San Diego
 Yiran "Angelina" Li – Pace University
 Dinghua "Alex" Li – Connecticut College
 Jeannie Medwetz – University of Cincinnati
 Vidhi Mendpara – Case Western Reserve University
 Katelynn Mihu – Ohio University
 Yana Miller – Earlham College
 Kevin Moreno – University of Michigan (Ross School of Business)
 Gretchen Norton – Allegheny College
 Sharad Patel – Baldwin Wallace University
 Antonio Pineda – Claremont McKenna College

Quin Potter – Baldwin Wallace University
 Dhanya Rao – American University
 Milad Rowshanbakhtfardian – Virginia Tech
 Nicholas (Quinn) Sekreta – Rochester Institute of Technology
 Katryna Slavick – Mercyhurst University
 Sophie Spellman – Pratt Institute
 Andrew Szabo – Case Western Reserve University
 Joseph Tagliavoni – Columbia College Chicago
 Anmol Takiar – The Ohio State University (Honors Program)
 Megan Wolff – University of Kentucky (Honors Program)
 Tingyuan "Angela" Xue – Fordham University
 Shiqi "Serena" Yang – Loyola Marymount University

Our graduates were also accepted at these notable schools:

Amherst College
 Arizona State University
 Belmont University
 Bentley University
 Bucknell University
 Chapman University
 Cleveland Institute of Art
 Denison University
 DePaul University
 Dickenson College
 Emerson College

Hamilton College
 Haverford College
 Kenyon College
 Loyola University Chicago
 Miami University of Ohio
 Northwestern University
 Occidental College
 Reed College
 Sarah Lawrence College
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 University of Arizona

University of California Riverside
 University of Massachusetts Amherst
 University of Miami Florida
 University of Nevada Las Vegas
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Rochester
 Wake Forest University
 Wesleyan University
 Wittenberg University

Welcome New Faculty

Several new faculty members joined our community this school year.



Christine Allchin
Lower School
French Teacher



Joshua Bendik
First Grade
Teacher



Jennifer Calkins
Sixth Grade
Math and
Science Teacher



Todd Christopher
Interim Middle
and Upper
School Choir
Director



Megan Esch '09
First Grade
Aide



Rachael McCray
Third Grade
Teacher



Charise Zablotsky
Grades 4-12
Strings Teacher

Happy Retirements

Last May, three of our esteemed faculty members retired from Lake Ridge Academy. We wish them well on their new adventures.



Thomas Flowers led our strings program for students in grades 4 through 12 for nine years, a position he filled after spending 30 years as Elyria High School's orchestra conductor. During his tenure, participation in the strings program more than quadrupled to over 100 students. He also had the pleasure of working with several exceptionally talented students who were accepted into the National Youth Orchestra.



Last spring, Middle School Director Danielle Parrish, a beloved member of our faculty for almost 30 years, joined her recently retired husband, Monty, in their new home in North Carolina. Serving the role of coach, teacher and leader, Danielle was an important figure in the development of our students and school, and is greatly missed.



Maryse West started her sixteen-year career at Lake Ridge Academy as a second grade teacher but spent the majority of her time as the Lower School French teacher. Maryse brought the innovative Accelerated Integrated Methodology (AIM) program to the curriculum, which teaches young students foreign language through repetitive story-telling, movement and song. Her experience and love of the French culture had a positive impact on her young students.



NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR ANNOUNCED

Tim Unger has filled the role as the new Middle School Director. Tim joined the Lake Ridge Academy faculty in 2004 as choral director. He assumed the roles of Fine Arts Department Chair and School of Fine Arts Director in 2011 while also serving as a Middle School advisor. Tim is an inspirational leader who provides academic vision, works effectively with our students and their parents, guides the Middle School faculty, operates as a team player, understands the educational needs of middle school learners, and supports the mission of the school.

Fall & Winter *Highlights*



FALL FAMILY SPORTS DAY & CAMPOUT

The annual Fall Family Sports Day incorporated two new events this year, a family campout and a fishing derby. More than 30 families camped overnight next to the pond and participated in a night hike, star gazing, and fishing. They also enjoyed s'mores and a bedtime story by the campfire. The small fee charged to attend the event will fund necessary water treatments to reduce the pond's algae growth. The enthusiastic turnout for the event will likely make it a new Lake Ridge Academy tradition for years to come!

The next day, the Fall Family Sports Day once again rallied Royals fans to support the homecoming games occurring that day for our Upper School varsity and Middle School soccer teams, along with the Middle School volleyball team. The pond was again a popular spot. By participating in our first fishing derby, new and experienced anglers helped to improve the overall health of the pond by reducing the fish population. Thank you to the Parents Association for donating a hot dog lunch for all Lake Ridge Academy attendees.



HOLIDAY PROJECT

This year marked the 30th annual Holiday Project, a wonderful tradition of joyful holiday celebration, charitable giving, and camaraderie. Our community donated two truckloads of food (including 20,576 cans), clothes, toys for children, and over \$2,000 to families in need in Lorain County through Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church. The donations will stock the church's food pantry and free clothing store. Upper School students returned to the church in early January to help host its annual Three Kings Celebration dinner which is supplied by our Holiday Project.

FIVE SENIORS NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

Congratulations to five Lake Ridge Academy seniors who were named 2018 National Merit Semifinalists. Elizabeth Coble, Ben Gwinnell, Noah Kawaguchi, Anjali Prabhakaran, and Trixie Yoo join a select group of students that represents less than one percent of the nation's top high school seniors.

These five students now have the opportunity to be named a National Merit Finalist, as determined by their academic records, written essays, participation in school and community activities, evidence of leadership and other honors or awards received. Finalists will be announced in February.



Pictured: Ben Gwinnell, Elizabeth Coble, Anjali Prabhakaran, Trixie Yoo and Noah Kawaguchi.

THE IMAGINARY INVALID CAST INVITED TO STATE CONFERENCE

The cast of this year's Upper School fall play, *The Imaginary Invalid*, has been invited to attend and perform at the Ohio Educational Theater Association's statewide high school theater conference this March. The cast's performance is one of only four full-length productions featured on the main stage at the conference. This is the top honor a show can receive. We are proud of our thespians!





YEAR OF SERVICE KICK-OFF DAY

On September 20, students, faculty and staff volunteered during the tenth annual Year of Service Kick-Off Day. Formerly known as the All-School Day of Service, the name was altered this year to emphasize that community service at Lake Ridge Academy is more than just a one-day event, as all students continue to participate in a variety of service related projects during the year in their classes, clubs, family groups, houses and, of course, the Holiday Project.

The Year of Service Kick-Off Day builds a sense of community while giving students a chance to learn about the importance of service for others and environmental responsibility. Many of these projects employ a buddy approach; older students build relationships with younger students as they work side-by-side to make a difference in their community.

Students traveled to several area parks in Lorain County to clean up grounds and learn about plants, animals and resources in their natural settings. Volunteer site locations included Carlisle Nature Center, Cascade Park, Lakeview Park, South Central Park, Day's Dam at the Black River Reservation, and Oberlin's Legion Field Community Garden. Our campus also benefited from hardworking teams that added plants and trees, mulched the playground, weeded, and painted.



DIVERSITY FORUM

In 2001, the Diversity Forum was created in response to the acute sense of alienation that our Middle Eastern and South Asian students were experiencing following the events of 9/11. Each year, students from Lorain and Cuyahoga County schools are invited to join us for the keynote address and smaller group discussions related to a topic which focuses on an aspect of cultural diversity. The ultimate goals of this annual event are to provide a venue for student voices and to produce globally conscious student leaders.

On November 3, Lake Ridge Academy hosted its seventeenth Diversity Forum where students from seven other schools joined our students to learn about gender identity and to gain insight into the LGBTQ community. The day of open discourse began with a representative from Equality Ohio, an education and advocacy organization for workplace rights, who provided an overview of the terminology often used to describe gender identity. A panel of transgender people discussed their own life experiences in their communities, families, and workplaces. Following the presentation, the audience broke into small groups to discuss the topics, and later reconvened to ask questions of the panelists.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ONE OF THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

FEBRUARY 1, 2018
Lower School Winter Concert

FEBRUARY 23, 2018
Upper School Career Day with Alumni Speakers

MARCH 1-3, 2018
Upper School Musical *School of Rock*

MARCH 9, 2018
Barnes and Noble Bookfair & Student Performances at Crocker Park

MARCH 15, 2018
Upper School Choral Concert

APRIL 21, 2018
Culture Fest

APRIL 27, 2018
Fine Arts Festival

MAY 11, 2018
Grandfriends' Day

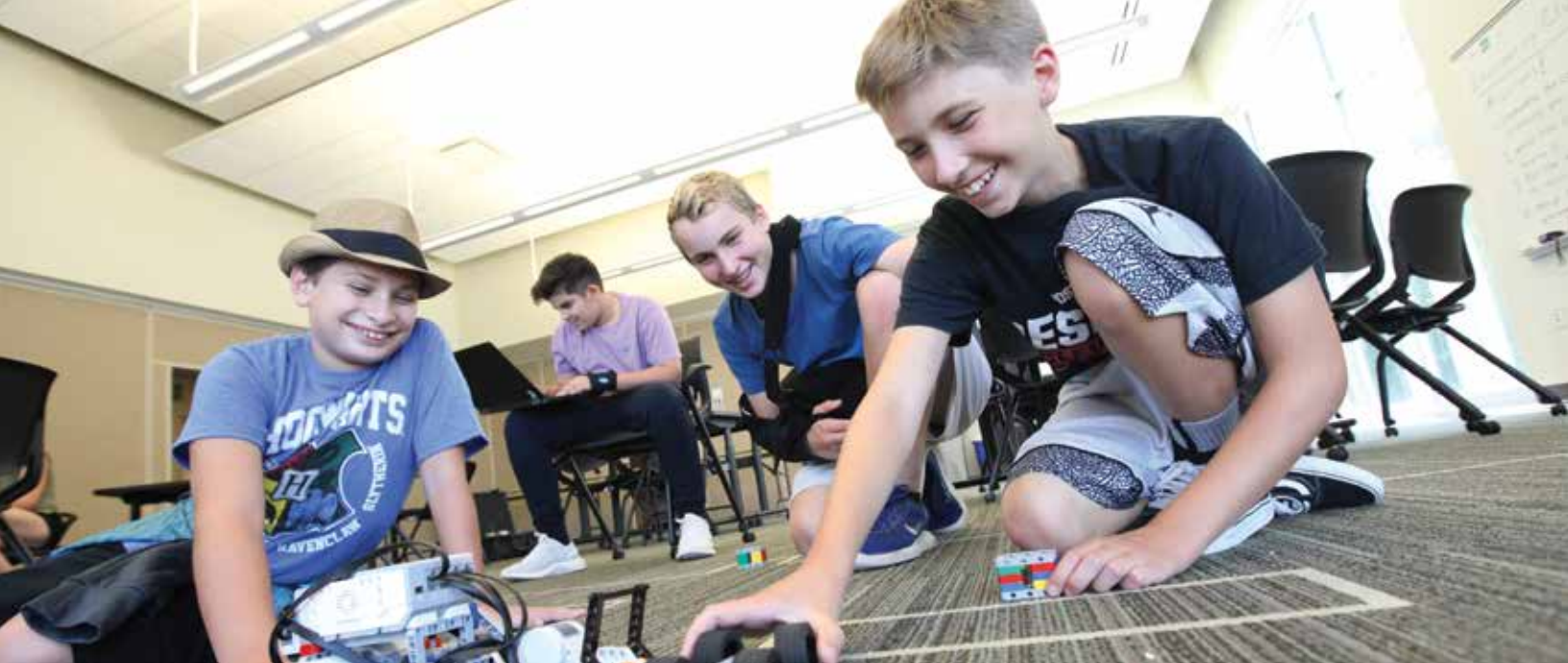
MAY 11, 2018
Middle School Musical *Bye Bye Birdie*

MAY 17, 2018
Middle and Upper School Mayfaire Choral Concert

MAY 22, 2018
Grades 4-12 Strings Concert

JUNE 2, 2018
Graduation with Alumni Choir

JUNE 4, 2018
Golf Outing



Members of the school's first Middle School Engineering Club practice LEGO robotics to compete in the FIRST LEGO League competition.

»» CREATING IN KEMPER

Although it has only been open for sixteen months, it is hard to imagine life at Lake Ridge Academy before the Kemper Science and Engineering building. The facility hums with activity each day as students from Kindergarten through grade 12 engage in a variety of learning experiences that are possible because of the Kemper building.

»» ENGINEERING TAKES OFF

The opening of Kemper Science and Engineering also signified the beginning of a comprehensive engineering program offered at Lake Ridge Academy. Under the leadership of teacher Mr. Todd Morrison who joined our faculty last year, students now have the opportunity to participate in several new courses, clubs and projects in the state-of-the-art Navratil Engineering Lab which includes a computer lab and college-level workshop.

The new Upper School courses in AutoCAD (a computer aided design program), Design & Fabrication, and Introduction to Mechanical Engineering were quickly embraced by students. Enrollment in the AutoCAD course has increased from four students during the last school year to 17 students this year. After completing this course, most students have enough experience to work as an AutoCAD technician, which one graduate is currently doing on a freelance basis while also pursuing an aerospace engineering degree.

In Design & Fabrication, students learn how to independently design a project from concept to completion as they manage the budget, production schedule, and client approval process. Last year, the students finished over 40 projects, most of which are utilized on campus. Some of the projects, like the wooden geometric planters and the first grade Valentine's Day cards, were completed in collaboration with Lower School students.

Students in Introduction to Mechanical Engineering are educated on the various types of engineering careers while working on projects that often blend with the physics and biomimicry curriculum. This year's students are designing full-size trebuchets, catapult-like devices used in medieval times. Todd explained, "These new courses have given students the ability to test the waters of engineering as both a potential college major and future career. It's very much a college-level experience – everything from the level of math required, the reliance on yourself to problems solve, and time management."

Our growing student engineering clubs make it clear that students are excited to have additional opportunities to tinker and learn. The student-led Upper School engineering club, now in its second year, builds, programs, and modifies small quadcopters which are then raced in competition. The newly formed Middle School engineering club began this school year with 40 members. Three teams competed in the FIRST LEGO League regional competition in December and one team advanced to the district competition in January – a significant accomplishment for a first-year program. The league provides a STEAM learning experience through the design and programming of LEGO robotics.

»» AN EXPERIMENT IN FLEXIBILITY

The Exploratorium was designed to function as a multi-purpose room, and it is certainly living up to its expectations. "The Exploratorium has been used in ways we never expected," said



Kindergartners bring their pumpkin sprouts to the greenhouse for the winter.

Mr. Pat Smith, Director of the Institute for Scientific Research. "It is incredibly flexible as it has been used to design obstacle courses for drones and robots or to build and wire fourth grade box houses. It is also a wonderful formal venue for student presentations, speakers, and events as it is spacious but intimate at the same time. I often see students modifying a drone in the Navratil Engineering Fab Lab that they can test in real time in the Exploratorium."

Another highly flexible space is the Yoo Research Lab, which supports the Institute for Scientific Research. Prior to the Kemper building, Institute Fellows would conduct their research in the crowded biology lab, while working around or during classes. This often resulted in major time inefficiencies and could negatively impact research. Now, Fellows enjoy immediate access to their projects in an open-lab space that is not limited to a specific type of science. The room is adjacent to the Kaatz Chemistry Lab and the greenhouse, which houses both botany and animal research. The ability for the Fellows to easily bounce back and forth to gather samples and work on reports on their own time vastly improves the overall experience.

» CHEMISTRY FOR ALL

Chemistry has always been a popular subject for Lake Ridge Academy students, but the previous chemistry lab space was limiting the growth of the program. "With the new Kaatz Chemistry Lab, I can accommodate more students per class than I could before and teach in an even safer and more impactful way. The larger footprint and better room organization is really making a difference. It is wonderful to finally have a space that meets our students growing interest in chemistry. My classes have grown from 12 or 14 students to 20 students," states Dr. Betsy Glor, Upper School chemistry teacher and science department chair.

» GROWING IN THE GREENHOUSE

The greenhouse is a warm and welcoming space, especially on winter's coldest days. The greenhouse is equipped with an



First graders designed geometric planters that were built by Upper School engineering students.



CNC routers enable Upper School students to design and quickly produce projects.

automatic window system that controls temperature and moisture, enabling students to understand botany, biology, and ecology year-round. Students in the Upper School botany class propagated and grew their own plants, which is far more interesting than reading about it in a text book. Also, some specimens (like the blue fern, banana plant and Norfolk Island pine) that cannot live in our climate are now part of a standing collection that faculty can use time and again in their lessons. Middle Schoolers have used the facility to learn about plant crowding and decomposition. Recently, kindergartners observed pumpkin plants sprouting from seeds they gathered from their class pumpkins this fall. They cannot wait to see how these little green plants will turn into large orange gourds!

Q&A With Carol Klimas

On July 6, Carol Klimas announced her retirement as President of Lake Ridge Academy, a role she proudly held since she joined the community in July 2007. With over twenty years of banking industry experience, Carol came to Lake Ridge Academy with a skill set unlike any other previous leader. Although not an academician by training, her exceptional management skills are only surpassed by her ability to authentically connect to people and passionately articulate her love of learning and the uniqueness of a Lake Ridge Academy education. It is Carol's transformative leadership that put Lake Ridge Academy on the path of growth and sustainability that it is experiencing today.



Would you reflect back on your first impression of Lake Ridge Academy and what the school was like when you initially set foot on campus as President on July 1, 2007?

During the interview process, my first impression of the school was that the academic program and teachers were extraordinary. It was obvious that our teachers knew and cared deeply for each wonderful child. Moreover, I knew I had found a home.

The best part of my first summer was getting to know every faculty member and the devoted staff. There was certainly apprehension because I was not your traditional head of school with years of academic experience. Yet my years in business management and leadership skills were exactly what Lake Ridge Academy needed at that time.

Fiscally, there were many serious challenges I inherited that required immediate solutions to ensure that our school would remain the exceptional academic institution for which it was known. Then, who could have predicted that weeks after my start, our country would experience one of the worst economic collapses, which further impacted the school's ability to grow.

I leaned on the skills I developed in my two decades of banking and established a leadership team of remarkable caliber to help me lead the school in exciting new directions. It has absolutely been a team effort and a labor of love.

Who do you feel has been integral in the growth and success of Lake Ridge Academy?

The true heroes of Lake Ridge Academy's successes are the members of the Board of Directors, who have capably led the school over these eleven years. I came to Lake Ridge Academy and stayed because of the strength and support of the Board, which has been nothing short of phenomenal. The Board of Directors is a tremendous team of dedicated volunteers – parents, alumni, former parents and donors – who are ultimately responsible for the well-being of the institution. I have had the privilege of working side-by-side with the following outstanding Board Chairs: Lee Howley, Bob Fairchild, Bob Smith and Rebecca Ruppert McMahon. They have devoted countless hours to ensure that the school is doing all the right things to support our students and the future of our beloved school.

In addition to the Board, the school's Leadership Team has been instrumental in our growth and success. For example, Mike Shaulis, an incredible academic partner, has led the establishment of our Centers of Excellence and supports the day-to-day work of our teachers and students. Outstanding at their respective disciplines, the members of the Leadership Team are: Susan Haas – Director of Marketing & Communications, Katherine Hatcher – Lower School Director, Michelle Robertson – Senior Director of Development & Strategic Initiatives, Cindi Seidel – Senior Director of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Mike Shaulis, Head of Academics and Upper School Director, Paul Swasey – Director of Facility Projects and Security, Edie Sweeterman – Director of Admission, and Tim Unger – Middle School Director.

Finally, it is because of the talent and commitment of our faculty that the school's value proposition is strong, which has translated into considerable success.

Financial Strength

<u>Total Net Income (Expense)</u>	
2008-2009	\$15,199
2009-2010	\$42,086
2010-2011	\$68,821
2011-2012	\$50,633
2012-2013	\$80,631
2013-2014	\$71,516
2014-2015	\$887,704
2015-2016	\$563,743
2016-2017	\$119,798

Lake Ridge Academy continues to be on track with strategic planning goals and finishes in the black each year.

What stands out as some of your greatest accomplishments at Lake Ridge Academy over the last decade?

A critical step to get the school to where it is today was the development and implementation of sound strategic planning. A successful organization must look ahead in a collaborative manner as it develops goals to improve and expand. Campus-wide strategic planning began in 2007 and has since evolved into detailed three-year strategic plans with financial proformas. At the beginning of this year, you were introduced to our most recent Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2020 (SP20).

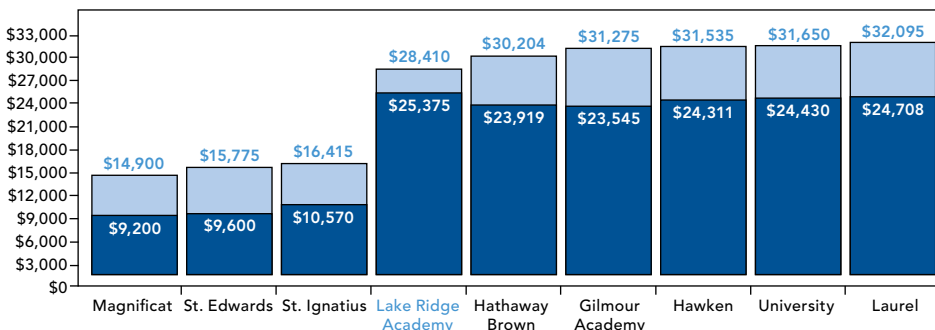
Vision Beyond 50, which coincided with the school's 50th anniversary, has been our most significant strategic work as it engaged our entire community and charged the Board of Directors to develop an ambitious pathway to our envisioned future over the next twenty-plus years. Important Vision Beyond 50 early achievements include the establishment of our three Centers of Excellence and the launch of our 50th Anniversary Campaign, which has accomplished lofty, unprecedented fundraising goals.

Growing the school's enrollment to an optimal level while keeping tuition manageable has always been a top priority. Lake Ridge Academy is now one of the fastest growing

independent schools in the state of Ohio. Upon my arrival, we had one of the highest independent school tuitions in Northeast Ohio and our families incurred tuition increases every year. Although annual tuition increases have become an independent school industry norm, I am proud to say Lake Ridge Academy is not part of that trend. Our entire team has worked hard to keep tuition as flat as possible over the last ten years. Lake Ridge Academy is now one of the least expensive independent schools in Northeast Ohio and has experienced the lowest tuition increase rate among our peers in Ohio.

Last, thanks to our incomparable development team, a culture of giving has blossomed in the Lake Ridge Academy community. Fundraising has continued to grow year after year as the community has come to understand the importance of financially supporting the school in ways that go beyond tuition. There could be no better testament than our new state-of-the-art Kemper Science and Engineering building. In just a few months, the community rallied together and the school raised significant financial support to fully fund the construction of the facility plus an endowment to maintain the building for years to come.

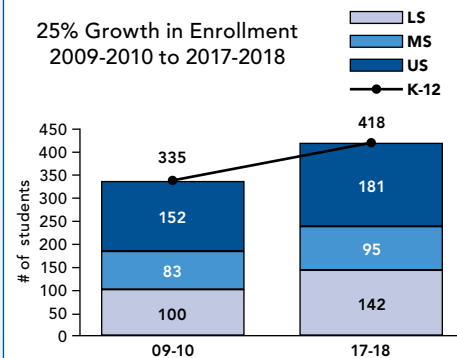
Competitive Landscape Grades 9-12 Average Tuition and Fees 2008-2009 & 2017-2018



Execution of our strategic plan has put LRA at the low end of tuition costs for area independent schools. Tuition was held flat for 6 of the past 10 years.

Enrollment 2017-2018

25% Growth in Enrollment
2009-2010 to 2017-2018



Enrollment is up 25% over the 2009-2010 level.



How would you describe the Lake Ridge Academy of the future?

Because we all sincerely appreciate the school's history and heritage, I expect much of the future will include the best of our past – like the wonderful sense of community, our traditions and values. Yet Lake Ridge Academy will always be forward thinking, incorporating new ideas and evolving to address our students' educational needs so that they leave Lake Ridge Academy well prepared to lead in this ever-changing world. In response to changes over the last decade, we have designed the Centers of Excellence to enable students to become critical, innovative and creative thinkers and to prepare them to be responsive global citizens. I am excited to see what comes next for future generations of Lake Ridge Academy Royals!

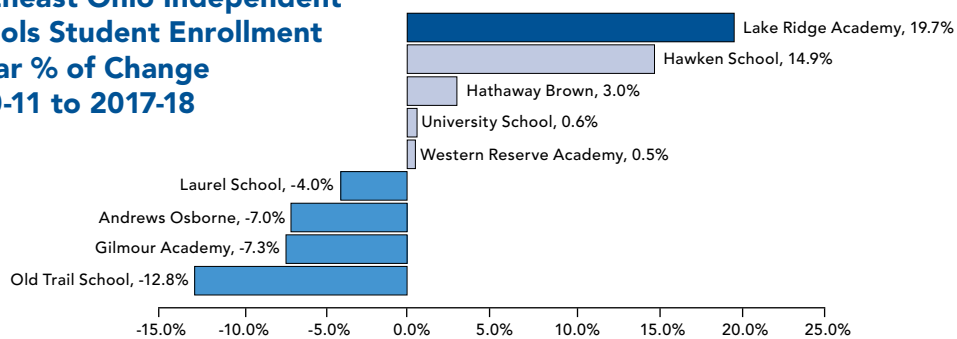
What will you miss about leading Lake Ridge Academy?

Above all, I will miss our amazing students. I came to Lake Ridge Academy to make a difference in the lives of children. I will definitely miss the hugs in the Lower School!

My heart will always be with our wonderful faculty and staff whom I will greatly miss. They are the school's greatest asset and a lovable group of hardworking, caring people.

I look forward to continuing my connection with Lake Ridge Academy as a parent, and I am sincerely grateful to you all for your trust and for supporting me on this wonderful journey.

Northeast Ohio Independent Schools Student Enrollment 7 Year % of Change 2010-11 to 2017-18



LRA has been the fastest growing independent school in Northeast Ohio

The Path to Today

During her presidency, Carol has led Lake Ridge Academy through several key strategic initiatives to keep the school fiscally sound, offer an exceptional K-12 curriculum that is unmatched in our region, and prepare our students and school for the future. Follow the ten-year path of the significant achievements Carol, with the support of the faculty, staff, Board of Directors and community, have accomplished together.



JULY 2007

Carol arrives as the school's first president

AUGUST 2007

First campus-wide strategic planning process begins



SEPTEMBER 2008

Inaugural All-School Day of Service

JUNE 2008

Mike Shaulis appointed as Head of Academics along with three separate school division directors

FEBRUARY 2009

Publication of the first issue of *Encore*, one of the many vehicles implemented to improve communication with the community



MARCH 2011

The Lower School, Rob Hall and Fine Arts building reopens in just 5 weeks after \$1 million in flood damage repairs



AUGUST 2011

400 foot solar array installed

JUNE 2013

Carol receives Red Cross 2013 Hero of the Year award

JULY 2010

Launch of the Center for Fine Arts and the School of Fine Arts



DECEMBER 2010

New Upper School technology lab opens to support digital photography, video and graphic design coursework



JANUARY 2013

First biomimicry course is offered in the Upper School



MAY 2015

Adds additional acreage and protects the frontage of our campus through the purchase of the 5-acre property along Center Ridge Road



VISION

President's Vision Council

Beyond 50

SEPTEMBER 2015

Establishes the President's Vision Council

NOVEMBER 2014

Carol wins the Elyria YWCA 2014 Women of Achievement award

JANUARY 2016

The third Center of Excellence, the Center for Global Citizenship, and its graduation certificate program, the Global and International Studies Program, are introduced



NOVEMBER 2014

Obtains \$3.4 million in financial commitments to fully fund the construction and endowment of Kemper Science and Engineering



JUNE 2016

Graduation of the largest class of 51 students

AUGUST 2016

New Kemper Science and Engineering building opens on schedule and under budget

OCTOBER 2013

Dedication of a solar-powered carport for 50th anniversary



AUGUST 2017

Multi-cultural student population reaches an all-time high of 44%

SEPTEMBER 2013

Celebration of the school's 50th anniversary



AUGUST 2013

The second Center of Excellence, the Center for Scientific Exploration and Research, are introduced along with its graduation certificate program, the Institute for Scientific Research

NOVEMBER 2017

Highest Auction Gala revenue to date (excluding Kemper building challenge year)



JULY 2013

Carol earns the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award for her innovative work and the financial turnaround of Lake Ridge Academy



AUGUST 2013

Introduction of Vision Beyond 50, the school's first long-term strategic plan that also determined the three Centers of Excellence which is the foundation of our K-12 curriculum



AUGUST 2013

Launch of the 50th Anniversary Campaign, the school's first long-term fundraising campaign

DECEMBER 2017

Achieved 50th Anniversary Campaign goal of \$17 million raised



JOIN US!

Please join us in honoring Carol Klimas by supporting one of her most important legacies. Please offer a gift or pledge to the Carol Klimas Scholarship Fund by April 1, 2018 so that your gift may be included in our celebration announcement later this spring. Thank you for your support of our students as you honor her.

Ways to Participate

- Online giving: www.lakeridgeacademy.org/make-a-gift
- By Mail: Indicate "CLK Scholarship" on your check
- Email robertsonrn@lakeridgeacademy.org with a pledge to be fulfilled later this year
- Transfer appreciated securities or make a tax-free qualified IRA distribution: Contact the Development Office - 440-387-5408

Name(s)

Home phone

Cell phone

Email

- Please charge my/our
- Visa MasterCard
 - American Express Discover

Exp _____ Security code _____

Carol Klimas Scholarship Fund

In recognition of President Carol Klimas, the Board of Directors proudly announces the Carol Klimas Scholarship Fund and invites you to join them in honoring her for eleven years of outstanding service to Lake Ridge Academy.

Scholarships

As the founders of the school envisioned in the early 1960s, Lake Ridge Academy was intended to be a place where all students could be loved and known, and scholarships have been important to sustain that original vision throughout the school's history. Throughout her presidency, President Klimas has worked hard to support families of deserving students who have the ability to thrive in our educational environment but who also require some level of financial assistance.

Thanks to many donors whose gifts funded scholarships for dozens of students, enrollment has grown more than 25% during Carol's tenure and is one of the most important outcomes of her strategic planning work. All students and families have benefited from the school's larger student body which has resulted in increased overall revenue (every family shares some cost of their child's education), more diversity, and more robust extracurricular activities.

Carol's own philanthropic interests have led her and her husband, Dan, to support scholarships, which is not surprising to anyone who has witnessed her nurturing interactions with students. The greater community is invited to follow the lead of the Board of Directors and the guests at this year's Auction Gala who made generous contributions to the newly established Carol Klimas Scholarship Fund which was created to honor Carol's work and passion.

Scholarship Awards

During the admission process, preference for scholarship awards will be offered to students entering grades 6-11 with financial need who also meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Students who have demonstrated a high degree of integrity and respect for others through their actions, community service, or leadership
- Students whose academic progress and teacher recommendations demonstrate their commitment to scholarship and personal best

Carol Klimas Scholarships will be eligible for renewal through the reenrollment contract process each January for the following academic year. Student recipients whose scholarships are renewed will be publicly recognized at the Middle and Upper School awards ceremonies each spring.

Scholarship Gifts

Donors who offer gifts of \$11,000 or more (in recognition of Carol's eleven years of service) will receive special recognition, perhaps a photograph of a child, in the redesigned areas of the Community Resource Center. 25% of every gift to the Carol Klimas Scholarship Program will be designated to a specific endowment fund to sustain the program in perpetuity while 75% of the dollars will be awarded during the next two or more academic years to continue to grow the enrollment.





“During my recent visit to Lake Ridge Academy, I found a remarkable school with outstanding academic programming, an expansive campus, and a strong sense of mission. I saw a vibrant and growing community that reflected excellence across the board. What truly stood out, however, were the warmth, openness and confidence of the people I met. I could tell everyone - teachers, staff, students, parents, alumni, and directors - had a love of the school and a shared sense of purpose. I knew immediately that I wanted my family to become a part of this unique community. I am grateful, humbled, and energized by the confidence the Lake Ridge Academy community has placed in me. Ava, Jackson, Shelby, and I are looking forward to joining you this summer.”

— Mitchell F. White

Mitchell F. White selected as next Head of School

With great excitement, the Board of Directors has selected Mitchell F. White as the next Head of School, effective July 1, 2018. Mitch currently serves as Dean of Academic Planning for the Weber School in Atlanta, Georgia, and brings nearly three decades of exceptional achievement in both education and business management. During the search process, a clear picture of Mitch emerged as a school leader with a deep commitment to young people, collaborative leadership skills, substantial financial acumen, infectious enthusiasm, and a deep understanding of the role schools play in making meaningful contributions to the larger community.

Mitch earned a B.A. from Duke University, a J.D., magna cum laude from Georgia State University, an M.A.T. in secondary school history from Emory University, and most recently, an M. Ed. in Independent School Leadership from Vanderbilt University where he was recognized as a Peabody Honors Scholar. Prior to entering the field of education, Mitch spent 19 years in marketing and senior management roles in for-profit companies, most recently at GMAC Insurance, where he was Chief Marketing Officer. In 2008, eager to spend the rest of his career doing “something more meaningful,” he joined the faculty at the Weber School, a 270-student independent Jewish high school located just outside Atlanta. During his tenure at Weber, he has served as a full-time social studies teacher, the Director of Technology, grade level dean for the 11th and 12th grades, and mock trial coach in addition to his current role as the Dean of Academic Planning.

Mitch also serves on the Board of the Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School, a 650-student, K-8 public charter school where he is currently in his third and final year as Board Chair. During his tenure, the school’s significant accomplishments include raising more than \$13 million in public and private funding for its multi-school teacher residency program, and becoming the first charter school in Georgia to adopt a weighted lottery designed to increase the socio-economic diversity of its student community.

A native of Wyoming, Ohio, Mitch looks forward to introducing his wife, Shelby, and their children Ava and Jackson, to his home state and joining the Lake Ridge Academy community.

A Royals Night Out

LAKE RIDGE ACADEMY

AUCTION GALA &
REUNION WEEK KICK-OFF 2017

This year's Auction Gala and Reunion Week Kick-Off was the last one for Carol Klimas as president, and the community celebrated her tenure in appropriate fashion. Board Chair Becky Ruppert McMahon presented flowers and opened the evening with a heartfelt tribute to President Klimas and the announcement of the newly created Carol Klimas Scholarship Fund in her honor. Later, during the live auction portion of the event, the Board of Directors stood to collectively pledge \$111,000 for the traditional Gift from the Heart project so that every additional gift could benefit the new scholarship fund honoring Carol for her eleven years of service. In all, guests offered almost \$250,000 for Gift from the Heart which was part of \$450,000 raised overall.

Auction Co-Chairs Jacqui Pelsey '07, Kate Dake and Sonya Williams were honored for their incredible planning efforts for a Royals Night Out, and many sponsors underwrote the cost of the event so that all auction purchases and donations could benefit the school. Board Chair Elect Tom Dresing '83 returned as emcee for the Hall of Fame Ceremony during which Rachelle Bilz, her daughter Julia Bilz Sertich '00, and Bob and Cindy Fairchild were honored for their long-standing dedication to Lake Ridge Academy.

Notwithstanding the formal-wear, the event continues to be a warm gathering of Lake Ridge Academy friends – new and old. This year, the event attracted 60 newcomers and 34 alumni, and everyone there was happy to support our incredible students, teachers and campus.





A new scholarship fund honoring Carol Klimas was announced during Gift from the Heart.



Auction guests prepare to participate in the live auction.



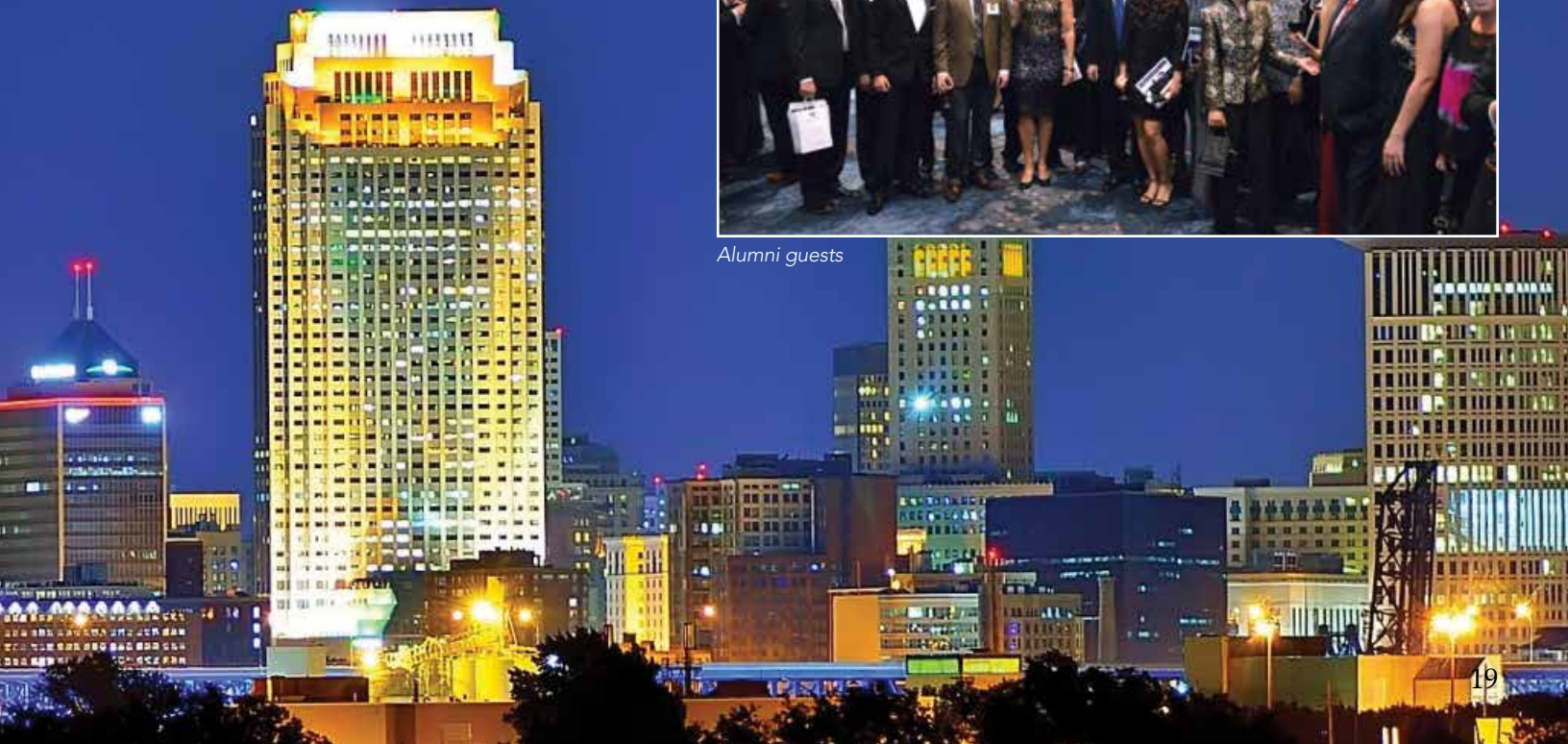
Carol Klimas (left) and Board Chair Elect Tom Dresing '83 (right) stand with Hall of Fame inductees Julia Bilz Sertich '00, Rachelle Bilz, Cindy Fairchild, and Bob Fairchild.



Leannie McAllister, assistant director of development and alumni relations, stands with the three auction co-chairs Jacqui Pelsey '07, Kate Dake, and Sonya Williams.



Alumni guests



2017 Hall of Fame Inductees



Julia Bilz Sertich '01
The Don Kaatz '70 Alumni Award

A proud "lifer," Julia Bilz Sertich '01 says Lake Ridge Academy played a significant role in shaping her character during her 13 years as a student. Julia shared her time on campus with mother Rachelle, who was the Upper School librarian, and sister Alison '03. Additionally, Julia met her husband, Michael '01, in kindergarten, and her closest friends today are other Lake Ridge Academy alumni.

Julia was involved in numerous organizations throughout high school. Julia relished the opportunity to be a leader and served all four years on Student Council including student body President her senior year. She received the 2001 Headmaster's Award as recognition for her school leadership, and her membership in several other organizations underscored her varied interests in sports, volunteer activities, and the arts.

Julia was a four-year member of the Upper School choir, the Sweet Adeline Chorus, and the cast of the spring musical. Julia was also the bass in a girls' barbershop quartet which, thanks to music teacher Marilyn Crooker's advocacy, was chosen to sing the National Anthem at a sold-out Cleveland Indians game. Julia happily reconnected with Marilyn when they lived in Ithaca, NY. "Some of our local friends thought it was strange that Michael and I would hang out with our former teacher, but Marilyn feels like family. That's the way it

is with teachers and students at Lake Ridge." Nearly 30 years after kindergarten, Julia reports, "I still remember many of the songs and stories that I learned from Mrs. Willmann, and now, I'm teaching them to my son."

Academically, Julia appreciates how well Lake Ridge Academy prepared her for college. She earned a B.A. in broadcast journalism from American University and minored in French. Julia worked in marketing for *Inside Higher Ed* and served as an online enrollment counselor for Cornell University.

Julia is proud to be able to give back to the school; she and Michael are regular donors and attend events often. As Chair, Julia helped to grow the Alumni Council, and her high-spirited enthusiasm for the school has prompted stronger alumni involvement and financial support. She and Michael are the proud parents of Anthony (Lake Ridge Academy Class of 2034) and his sibling who is due this spring.



Rachelle Bilz
Wilfred Hemmer Headmaster Award

Rachelle Lasky Bilz served as the Middle and Upper School librarian from 1988 until 2008. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from Wilson College and finished her Master of Library Science degree while her daughters, Julia '01 and Alison '03, were in Lower School. She was a member of the faculty design committee for the construction of the Community Resource

Center that opened in fall of 2001 with a new library.

Rachelle taught research skills and study skills, but one of her favorite tasks was to offer "book talks" to Middle School students when they had to select their own books for English class. She also enjoyed building a young adult literature collection and acquiring online databases for the students.

Besides her duties as librarian, Rachelle spent many years as the advisor to the yearbook, Upper School Student Council, and Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD). She served as a Great Books discussion leader and assisted field hockey and middle school track events.

The author of the book *Life is Tough: Guys, Growing Up, and Young Adult Literature*, Rachelle also wrote book reviews for *Voice of Youth Advocates*, a magazine for teachers and librarians, for 15 years. Rachelle wrote Series Books and

Young Adults for New York City's Children's Book Council, and authored the column "Adult Books for Older Teens" for *Teacher/Librarian* journal for six years.

Rachelle was a school representative for Lake Ridge Academy's accrediting body, the Independent School Association of the Central States (ISACS), and served on the Faculty/Parent Mini Grants Committee.

Rachelle has always been inspired by the ability of such a diverse group of people to connect so well with each other. In addition to the school's high academic standards, Rachelle admires the impressive intelligence of both its faculty and students. The students were always her favorite members of the Lake Ridge Academy community. Rachelle recalls, "The students inspired and often entertained me with their joie de vivre, their intelligence, their artistic and musical performances, and their curiosity."



Bob and Cindy Fairchild
Founders Award

Bob and Cindy Fairchild first became affiliated with Lake Ridge Academy in 2003, and their deep involvement, volunteerism, financial support and love of the community has only grown stronger over time. They explain that their daughter, Jenna '15, inspired their involvement because "we wanted to know that we did everything we could as parents and working volunteers for this wonderful school."

Cindy is a graduate of Ohio University, and Bob is a graduate of Northwood University. He served on its board for 25 years and received the 2010 Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award. Bob is a retired automobile dealer, past president of the Cleveland Automobile Dealers Association, and former owner of seven J.D. Byrider locations in three states.

Between them, their volunteer hours for Lake Ridge Academy easily number in the tens of thousands, and their financial support has led them to be among the school's most generous donors. Their steadfast advocacy within their own communities and networks have inspired countless other people to offer even more support to the school.

Bob's chairmanship of the school's annual golf outing has led the fundraising event to exceptional success (to say nothing of his personal skills as a scratch golfer). And, his chairmanship of the 50th Anniversary Campaign led to fundraising achievement that prompted the Board to raise the goal three years before its December 2017 deadline. Cindy's Parents Association volunteer leadership includes serving as President and chairing many other committees like the Holiday Workshop, the Lunch Program, and the Auction Gala.

Bob and Cindy's civic engagement mirrors their deep involvement at Lake Ridge Academy and was similarly inspired by their daughter, Jenna, who was diagnosed with Type I Diabetes in 2000. In recognition of their work as devoted volunteers, fundraisers and donors to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, they were honored in Washington, D.C. as the 9th largest family walk team in the nation having raised \$65,000 for JDRF in that year alone (\$550,000 overall). They also received the Cleveland Chapter's Distinguished Service Award (2001) and Friend of JDRF Award (2010).

Since 1999, Bob has been a Director of the Western Golf Association, which conducts championships for professional and amateur golfers, promotes the use of caddies, and supports the Evans Scholarship Foundation. The Foundation awards full college scholarships to dedicated caddies who have limited financial means, outstanding academic credentials, and good character. With support totaling nearly \$20 million annually, these scholarships provide full housing and tuition to 965 deserving caddies at 25 universities across the country. For Bob, it's not the love of golf that motivates him to support the program. He said, "I just love to see the faces of the boys and girls when they are given full ride scholarships."

Bob served on the Lake Ridge Academy Board of Directors for more than ten years, three of them as Chair, and joined the Board when Carol Klimas was hired. He says that they gained wonderful respect for each other and that "She is without question, one of the most inspiring and dedicated people I have known. She led her staff and Board to achieve levels of success never before attained at Lake Ridge Academy."

For all that they have provided to Lake Ridge Academy, Bob and Cindy say that they are the ones who have gained. "We hold the lifelong friendships that we have made through the school near to our hearts and will always cherish them."



ALUMNI AND FRIENDS THANKSGIVING GAMES AND GATHERING

Lake Ridge Academy welcomed alumni and guests for the traditional Thanksgiving Games during the holiday weekend. Alumni from every decade joined the fans and players during a competitive game against our varsity players. In the end, after a very close and exciting game, our varsity team won the day, but all players had a great time. In the evening, more alumni gathered at Bistro 83 to reunite with friends.



Honor Roll of Donors

Overall Giving July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Thank you, donors, for making a difference for our teachers and students!

Like other private schools, tuition covers just 75% of a Lake Ridge Academy education, so every student is, in effect, receiving a silent scholarship and benefiting from individual donors who give to the school. Charitable gifts bring excellence to our educational program by keeping class sizes small, directly supporting our teachers, and giving our students a unique learning environment on our 93-acre campus.

In this honor roll, donors are recognized for their charitable commitments in the previous academic year (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017), which totaled \$1,413,105 for the school. These gifts were counted towards the 50th Anniversary Campaign that concluded on December 31, 2017 and include sponsorships, gifts, and new pledges.

\$100,000+

Donald W. '70 and Linda L. Kaatz

\$50,000+

Anonymous – Current Family
Bettcher Industries, Inc.
Phillip and Clare Navratil
The Cleveland Foundation
H. Robert* and Hope Wismar
Doreen and John Ziska

\$25,000+

Anonymous – Parents of Alumni
Kemper House Strongsville
Betty J. Kemper and John W. Kemper
Lake Ridge Academy Parents Association
Benjamin G. and Jane Norton
Ben and Brenda Norton
Kristin (Kemper) '84 and Mark Roshkowski
Michael Shaulis and Sarah Durn
Chann and Ed Spellman
The Stocker Foundation

\$15,000+

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Community West Foundation
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Patrick Harrington and Cindy Brown-Harrington
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Nancy and Joseph Scarpitti
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Bruce Szabo and Julie Rehm
The Norton Family Foundation
Bo Yoo and Bing Gaspar-Yoo

\$10,000+

Biff '86 and Patti Baker
William and Linda Baker
Albert Chan and Annie Tan
Jon and Cynthia Cromling
Thomas '83 and Janna Dresing
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Jeffrey Gwinnell and Margaret Benham
Bernie and Bridget Moreno
National Philanthropic Trust
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Deborah and John O'Neill
Joe Raj '89
Michael and Michelle Sherwin
Tim '99 and Jennifer Soliman
George, Vivy and Alexandra Voutsiotis
Winfield Associates, Inc.

\$5,000+

The Benevity Community Impact Fund
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Rebecca Ruppert McMahon
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The Benjamin G. Norton Trust
The Sara Jane Norton Trust
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Raj Plastic Surgery
Ross Environmental Services
Sherwin-Williams Foundation
SkyZone - Westlake
Kent and Gail Sommer
John '86 and Mercedes Stifter
Ken and Celia Wienholz
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\$3,500+

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Sean Decatur and Renee Romano
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Fairchild Management Company
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Joe '90 and Marie Miclat
Ernest and Anne Moore Hutton
The Laub Foundation

\$1,963+

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Barnes Wendling CPA's, Inc.
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Tom and Kari (Sommer) '01 Halko
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Jenny and John Kemper, Jr.
Karen Kim '95
Jennifer Zinn Lagasse '86 and Luc Lagasse
Lake Ridge Academy Student Senate
Maloney + Novotny
Peter Parrish '86 and Kimberly (Kemper) Parrish '87
Christine Weiss Pfeil '70
Fred '79 and Donna Plecha
RCS Advisers, Inc.
James and Cynthia Seidel
Julianne Sheerer



Board member and parent Don Esch (left) joins members of his Bettcher Industries leadership team on a tour of the Navratil Engineering Fab Lab.

Carol and Mike Sherwin
 Spero Smith Investment Advisors / HPM
 Partners LLC
 The CBC Foundation
 The Nord Family Foundation
 Betty Weiss
 Wickens, Herzer, Panza, Cook & Batista
 Kam and Lo Wong
 Nate Woodward and Amanda Buzo
 Don and Chrissy Wostmann

\$1,000+

Ian and Annie Anderson
 Oakley Andrews
 Annetta Buehrer
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\$500+

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Bistro 83
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'97
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Roland Gedeon '86
Ethan Glor '07
Steven and Danielle Gomez
Bud Hagy
Joe Hammond
Barry '77 and Jamie Hyman

Mea culpa!

In the 2015-2016 Honor Roll, we regret to have omitted Bramhall Engineering & Surveying Co., Inc. from the gift listing that recognized donors to Kemper Science and Engineering. The company provided significant services and expertise in the planning and construction phases.

Thomas Jacobs
George and Katherine Jumbert
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LESS THAN \$250 AND GIFTS IN KIND

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Khalid Akbar and Farnaz Baig-Akbar
Safaa Al-Haddad and May Al-Abousi
Arizon Anderson
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 Gregory and Meghan (Flannery) '98 Hayes
 Robert and Janine Hendricks



TENNIS COURT DEDICATION

Inspired by a generous challenge from the Norton Family and supported with a significant lead gift from Kristin Blackwood and her mother, Vanita Oelschlager, donors offered \$85,000 in just a few months' time to resurface all six tennis courts. Dedication of the new facility happened this fall, on the day of the girls' last home match, and they were pleased to have been able to play on the new courts thanks to the following donors:

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Ryan McCarthy '14
Brett McCoy
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Adam and Lisa McElwain
Alexis McHugh '16
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Gary and Peggy Orloff
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William and Betsy (Evans) '77 Owens
Dale Pagano
Everett Palache and Tara Bowen
Kenneth and Jossett Palache
Hitesh and Alpa Patel
Shailesh and Yogi Patel
Annie Paxton
Laura Paxton
Jacqueline Pelsey '07
Constantine and Angela Perantinides
Carolyn Pfeil '07
Chris Phelps
Sue Ann Phillipbar
Baron Pineda and Gina Perez
Josiah and Elizabeth Poore
Regan Pore
Mike and Kelly Prill
Kate Ptacek
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Gary and Angela Rasoletti
Keith Rathbone '04
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Ralph and Jennie Reed
Grant and Teresa Reeves
Rachael Reighley
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Mona (Raj) '90 and Tony Rinaldi
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Reza Rowshanbakhftardian and Zohreh Parsian
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Judy Rumsey
Aisha Saaka '99
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Vicky Zhang '16
Julie Zhang '16



The Annual Fund

Donors who supported the school's most mission-based priority – the Annual Fund – provided \$330,098 to fund the distinctive differences in our academic program. The Annual Fund provides resources to sustain our student-to-faculty ratio (8:1), our project-based coursework, technology upgrades, and aspects of our educational program that set Lake Ridge Academy apart.

In recognition of the school's founding year and the three people whose vision created Lake Ridge Academy, the 1963 Society and Founders Club recognize Annual Fund donors who generously provide as much as 80% of the Annual Fund's total in any given year. All Annual Fund donors support every student, and broad community support is important at every giving level.

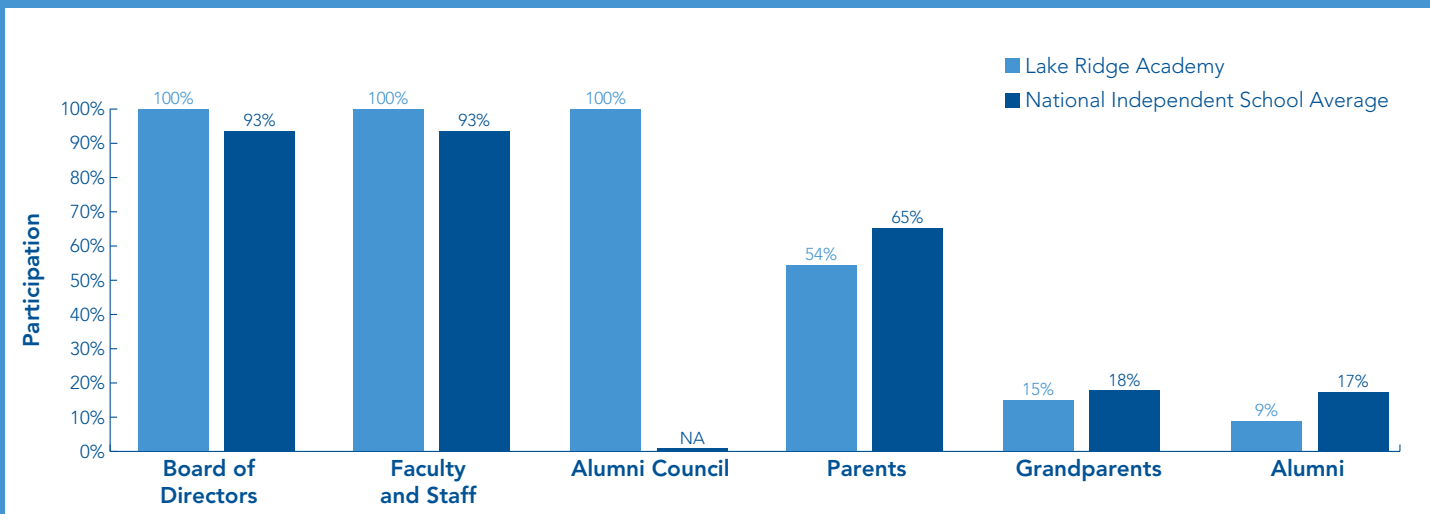
If you are a current parent or a member of the alumni body, thank an Annual Fund donor for their gifts that make our school better each year!

Gift Level

Examples of Your Annual Fund Gift at Work

\$25,000+	All teachers are compensated with resources from the Annual Fund
\$15,000+	Funding for visiting speakers, theater programs, and artists-in-residence who enrich our own academic program and make it distinctive
\$10,000+	Half of a mobile classroom cart of iPads for the Lower School
\$5,000+	Professional development for several teachers (conference presentations to other schools or participation in a workshop)
\$3,500+	Wood, metal and other supplies for the Navratil Engineering Fab Lab
\$2,500+	Partial coaching staff for one of our conference-winning sports teams
\$1,963+	Laboratory equipment for one science classroom
\$1,000+	One new iPad with math and computer coding software
\$500+	Transportation to Mock Trial competitions
\$400+	4th grade Reenactment
\$350+	5th grade science reproduction unit (quail eggs and incubators)
\$250+	LabQuest handheld data collection device (just one)
\$150+	Foreign language textbook and workbook for one student
\$100+	One-time piano tuning (completed for every performance)
\$50+	Community Building Days leadership activities for one Middle School student
\$20+	Two new books for reading buddies to share on a rainy day

Annual Fund Giving Participation 2016-2017



Annual Fund Donors

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Scott and Rebecca Young
Xiaoming Zhang and Haiquan Guo
Wade and Janice Zwingler

Parents Association Gift

The Parents Association graciously supports our students and teachers throughout the academic year through tireless volunteerism, participation in events, grants to our teachers for special classroom projects, and monetary donations offered from the fundraising events that they sponsor throughout the year. In 2016-2017, the Parents Association funded new Chromebooks and a charging cart for the growing Middle School. Thank you, Parents Association!



UP TO \$249

Ronald Adams
Jeffrey Ader '04
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Constantine and Angela Perantinides
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Josiah and Elizabeth Poore
Regan Pore
Mike and Kelly Prill
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Gary and Angela Rasoletti
Keith Rathbone '04
Alpesh and Hetal Ray
Ralph and Jennie Reed
Grant and Teresa Reeves
Rachael Reighley
Daniel and Brienne Reinholz
Michael and Amy Richmond
James and Barbara Ridel
Mona (Raj) '90 and Tony Rinaldi

Legacy Society

Members of the Lake Ridge Academy Legacy Society have thoughtfully planned for the school's future through their own estate planning. Their gifts will strengthen academic programs in significant ways and sustain important educational initiatives for the long term. These members share a commitment to preserve and refine the school's proud history of excellence through will commitments, trusts, gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and gifts of life insurance.

Some members will benefit their own heirs with their gifts in addition to supporting the school. Others have made gifts that allow them to receive a fixed life income while naming the school as the beneficiary of the remainder of their gift. Their generous spirit will benefit generations of students in the future, and we thank them.

Richard and Kathy Ader
Dale and Brenda Alexander
Alumnus '04
John Wesley Brown*
Peter and Dana Corogin
Scribner and Ann Fauver
James and Sally Fell
Ralph A. Fisher and Barbara A. Fisher

William* and Lucille Hassler
Patricia Hemmer
James and Christine Heusinger
Lee and Jo Ann Howley
Sally Hudnutt
Donald W. '70 and Linda L. Kaatz
Mildred and Herbert Kaatz*
Lawrence and April McCormack

Gary and Angela Rasoletti
Chauncey Smythe*
Joyce* and Kenneth Sommer
Kenneth Sommer
Kent and Gail Sommer
Marilyn Wasem*
Betty Weiss
H. Robert* and Hope Wismar

**deceased*

Please let us know if you have included Lake Ridge Academy in your estate plans. You need not disclose the details in order to be recognized with these Legacy Society donors, but we will appreciate the chance to thank you for your future plans.

Jeff and Karen (Gordon) '90 Robelen
Kristy and Michael Rodriguez
Reza Rowshanbakhtfardian and Zohreh Parsian
Kevin and Dina-Maria Ruehlman
Paul and Jennifer Ruggles
Judy Rumsey
Laura (Pettit) '80 and Jeffrey Rusick
Aisha Saaka '99
Jillian and Matthew Scarvelli
Justin and Michele Schafer
Spencer Scheeler '11
Katie and Tim Schulz
John Scofield and Deborah Mills-Scofield
Dennis and Cindy Scott
Amanda Seidel '10
James J. Seidel '12
The Sekreta Family
Julia Bilz Sertich '01 and Michael Sertich '01
Jennifer Shaw and Gregory Phillips
Dana Taylor and Carolyn R. Simmelink '73
Jodie Skillicorn '87
Katrnya Slavick '17

Smith College Club of Cleveland
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Hayden '89 and Rachael Stafford
Sara and Jim Svoboda
Zachary Sweebe '08
Dennis and Penny Sweeterman
Mark and Edie Sweeterman
Jutta Swoboda
Rakesh and Vandna Takiar
Jason and Miyuki Tedor
Robert Temkiewicz '02
Jordan J. Thomas '10
Lauren Thome
Neil and Jennifer (Moore) '84 Tramer
Adela Tremp
Tim and Erin Unger
Brian and Melanie Urban
John and Mary Ann Vargo
Mike and Suzanne Varney

Brian Veber '06
Lloyd and Deborah Wakefield
Michelle Waltz
Jeffrey and Maryse West
Valerie Whittaker
Ed and Cindy Wolff
Andrew and Carol Wright
Garrett Wright '13
Angela Xue '17
Joseph and Karen Yost
Joe and Andrea Zepernick
Vicky Zhang '16
Julie Zhang '16



Alumni News

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

In 2013, **Sarah Jovan '95**, a research ecologist with the US Forest Service, began leading what eventually became ground-breaking air quality research in Portland, Oregon. She and her research partner used tree moss as a bio-indicator of air quality, a specimen researched in forests but never in urban settings.



The research identified extremely high levels of cancer-causing heavy metals in residential areas from nearby glass manufacturers resulting in the EPA tightening enforcement actions for the glass industry nationwide. Additionally, Sarah's work helped develop a new, cost-effective way for cities to identify threats to public health. Utilizing traditional air quality instruments with the same reach as the moss study would cost the city \$17 million annually, while the moss study cost only \$100,000. Several other cities such as Cincinnati and Seattle are interested in using this technique to assess air quality.

The research caused an uproar in the state and Sarah was subsequently written up in the *New York Times* and interviewed on PBS Newshour. She

and her research partner were honored as finalists in the 2017 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America People's Choice Award, also known as the "Sammi" awards, presented by the Partnership for Public Service to celebrate the important contributions of our nation's outstanding federal workforce.

Sarah is now studying how to calibrate the moss results to specific levels of toxins in the air. She is also looking at data showing high levels of lead in certain neighborhoods and trying to find the cause.

1998



Proud dads David Spencer and **Suri Pola** welcome Anya Laxmi Pola Spencer born May 9, 2017 in San Diego.

2002



Brandon Cannaday married Carrie Williams on May 19, 2017 in Jackson, MS. The intimate ceremony took

place outdoors at the bride's family's lakefront home. Brandon currently works for The University of Mississippi Medical Center as a Program Controls Manager and Carrie works as a Data Analyst for Magnolia Health Plan. The two met shortly after Brandon moved to the area.



Tanveer (Pannu) Chaudhry and her husband, Kunal Chaudhry, welcomed their daughter, Simran Kaur Chaudhry, on July 11, 2017. Her big sister and big brother are thrilled to have her in their crew!

2003



On October 27, 2017, **Shaud Tavakoli** and Nida Javid eloped to the shores of the Lake in Central Park (an approximately 7 minute walk from their Manhattan apartment), where they were married with members of their immediate families on hand to cry, cheer and fill out the requisite paperwork. A few weeks later several alumni (Geneva Tavakoli '06, Lukman Ahmed '03, Alison Bilz '03, Katrina Escuro '03, Megan Gardner '03, and Caitlin Whiteman '03) joined Shaud and Nida to celebrate their marriage.

2004



Katie (O'Grady) Wilson and her husband John welcomed a baby boy, Colin Richard Wilson, on July 23, 2017.

2006



Brett Cannaday is engaged to be married to Jacki Fiscus. The two met in Seattle where Brett works at Amazon and Jacki is pursuing her Ph.D. in English. Brett proposed on

August 1, 2017 where the two had their first date a couple of years prior. They plan to marry after Jacki graduates in December 2018.

2008



Andy Milluzzi graduated from the University of Florida with a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering this past summer. After completing his studies, he joined the cast of The Walt Disney Company as a systems engineer for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts in Orlando, Florida. Andy is using his passion for engineering and creativity to create happiness for the tens of millions of people that visit Disney Parks around the world. He also continues to be involved with *FIRST* Robotics serving as the *FIRST* Senior Mentor, supporting over a thousand teams in Florida, and our own Lake Ridge Academy students.



Matt Nahorn was elected the next councilman on Amherst City Council, representing residents of the 4th Ward. His campaign

worked diligently and for an extended period of time to gain the trust of Amherst residents through positive messaging and interaction throughout the ward. As a lifelong Amherst resident, Matt looks forward to honoring the city's past while preparing for a strong future in his hometown. Matt looks forward to also continuing to encourage small business growth in town while respecting the local environment and honoring the small town's history. Matt says, "My time on Student Senate at Lake Ridge surely aided in fueling my early interest in public service!"

2009



Samantha Joy Fay has worked in Washington, D.C. for three years as a communications and legislative staffer in the U.S. House of Representatives. She was

previously the press assistant for U.S. Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (OH-11) and is currently the legislative assistant for U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (OH-13). In this role, she advises and drafts legislation for Rep. Ryan on issues related to appropriations, criminal justice, immigration, homeland security, and tax reform. Prior to working in Congress, Samantha interned at the White House, Philadelphia City Hall, Cleveland City Hall, and the U.S. Department of Education. She graduated with honors from Haverford College in 2014 with a degree in political science and will graduate this fall from George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management.



2010



Jessica Burnell married Jason Sparks in Washington, D.C. on July 15th, 2017. Among the guests was Lake Ridge Academy alumnus Conor Roberts. The couple met and currently live in D.C. with their

cat, Alexandra. Jessica is a research assistant at the Duke-Robert J. Margolis MD Center for Health Policy and is finishing up her master's degree in public administration at George Washington University. Jason is the Deputy Chief Information Officer for the DC Health Benefit Exchange Authority.

Kate Moreno recently wrote and illustrated a children's book titled, *Alice's Secret*, about a little girl with a difficult secret to share.



2011



Terra M. Soto and Levi S. Bouschard are excited to announce their engagement. Terra is a graduate from the University of Findlay ('16, '17) with a Bachelor of Science and

CAREER DAY: CALL FOR ALUMNI SPEAKERS

There are many ways to give back to Lake Ridge Academy including being one of our Upper School Career Day speakers! Scheduled for February 23, the early afternoon engagement will include being a panelist as you present the highlights of your education, industry and career. If your employer offers summer job, internship or job shadowing experiences, it is a great opportunity to connect with interested high school students. Contact Leannie McAllister at mcallisterl@lakeridgeacademy.org to learn more!

Master of Occupational Therapy degree. Levi is a graduate from The University of Dayton ('15) with a degree in electrical engineering. The couple both live in Findlay, OH. Terra is completing her occupational therapy clinical fieldwork at Findlay Century Health and The Cleveland MetroHealth System. Levi works as a project manager for Marathon Petroleum Company. An October wedding is planned for 2018.

Alyssa (Cook) Viggers and her husband, Zachary, welcomed their son, Theodore David Viggers, on June 6, 2017 in Toledo, Ohio. Welcome Theo!



currently working as a document specialist at a law firm in downtown Boston. Miguel plans to enroll in law school and is in the process of getting his real estate license.



Greyson Elliott is currently working as a firefighter and paramedic for two fire departments, East Cleveland Fire Department and Chester Township Fire Department. Greyson

is also studying Biology and Arabic at Cleveland State University. He became a firefighter two years ago and a paramedic six months ago.

2013



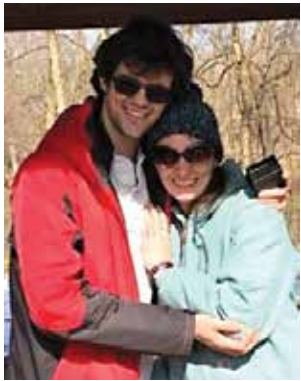
Miguel Beltran recently graduated from Boston University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and

management with a concentration in business law and real estate. Miguel is

Tyler Reese is pursuing his M.D. at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. In May 2017, he graduated from The Ohio State University with a B.S. in public health. While at OSU, Tyler was awarded the Public Health Student Award, one of OSU's highest public health honors for his leadership and community service as an HIV/STI test counselor, resident advisor, free clinic volunteer, and public health advocate. At Loyola, he is collaborating on an NIH research project examining the gut microbiome and what it may reveal about the social determinants of health associated with diabetes and obesity. Tyler looks forward to combining his interests in medicine, public health, and service while living in Chicago.



Callie Sullivan, a School of Fine Arts graduate, was one of six students awarded the incredible opportunity to work directly with legendary musician John Mayer during a songwriting workshop at Berklee College of Music in Boston. Callie graduated from Berklee in May and is now pursuing a music career under her pseudonym, Virago, in Nashville.



Garrett Wright graduated in December 2017 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical and renewable energy engineering from Alfred University where he also met the woman with whom he would choose to spend eternity, Melissa Thater. Melissa is also studying at Alfred State College. Melissa and Garrett got engaged on March 5, 2017, and planned their wedding for August 2018. Garrett and Melissa will continue to keep up the

Thater family farm while Garrett strives to further his career in engineering, coming off of a design engineering internship at Superior Tire and Rubber Corp. this past summer.

2014



Adam Moreno recently wrote a field guide about the birds of Providence, RI - in both Spanish and English, while completing his undergraduate degree at Brown University. For years, Adam has known that he wants to be a veterinarian specializing in exotic animals and will begin his graduate studies next year.

IN MEMORIAM



Susan Fauver, wife of Board member Cole Fauver '77, passed away on October 15, 2016.



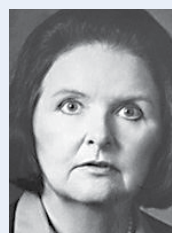
Richard Higgins '85, wife of Jennifer Higgins '89, passed away on December 15, 2017



Daniel J. Kruzer '01 passed away on April 4, 2017.



Regina Mullen (nee Arnold) '81, passed away on July 24, 2017.



Phyllis Frazier Nacey died peacefully on October 17, 2016. Phyllis was a former Lake Ridge Academy Trustee and mother to Tom Nacey, Mary Nacey '72 and Phyllis Golden '81.



Daniel Reinholz, father of Michael '25 and husband of Brienne, passed away in December 2017.



Peter Sour, husband of former Lake Ridge Academy staff member Susan Sour, passed away unexpectedly on July 6, 2017.



Robert Wismar, former Chairman of the Board of Directors and father of Caroline (Wismar) Michalak '84 passed away September 13, 2016.



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