

# ALUMNINEWS

NOVEMBER 2022

at the  
Governor's School

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## ABOUT THE COVER

*"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."*

– Albert Camus

*Fall has finally arrived in Greenville and the window in Fluor studio highlights some of the beautiful fall foliage on The Governor's School's campus, October 2022.*



# *FROM the PRESIDENT*

Dear Alumni,

On behalf of the most amazing artistic community in South Carolina, I bring you greetings from the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities. I trust that the start of your fall semester has been as productive as ours has been on the campus.

The last academic year was truly outstanding for the Govie community, as we were finally able to realize the potential for many new experiences that we've initiated in recent years. Our work yielded moments of great accomplishment for the students and set the tone for our next phase of artistic and academic growth across the campus. In addition to a second successful offering of our film unit, production highlights of the spring semester included the first ever full-scale musical, *Into the Woods*, presented on the Governor's School campus. As a result of this great success, we have identified musical theater as the most promising option for a second, collaborative, interdisciplinary area of study, as film and screenwriting have now become part of our permanent offerings for students.

The opening of the fall semester also marked the finale of a milestone year for the Office of Outreach. Coupled with our ongoing efforts in reaching all 46 counties throughout the state, the successful first-year implementation of our Arts Grow SC - Spark grant resulted in record-setting numbers and deep, meaningful engagement opportunities across South Carolina. Throughout the year, we implemented 1,035 experiences, reaching 35 counties, 85,425 students, and 97,206 individuals overall. Adding to that exceptional record, our service-learning students completed close to 600 community service hours through the Connecting Arts Through Service Club (C.A.T.S.). For those of you interested in staying abreast

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of our work in Outreach, please subscribe to our monthly newsletter, Arts Impact, at [SCGSAH.org/outreach](https://SCGSAH.org/outreach) or with the QR code below.

I'd like to thank all Govie alumni who are active in the arts and in education, as your ongoing work has been critical to the success of many current students and future Govies, as well as our recent graduates. Your participation in our annual Alumni Series and working as guest artists and teachers has provided valuable experiences for our programs and modeled levels of artistic excellence that are simply priceless. Over 30 alumni worked in various capacities over the course of the previous academic year, and we thank you for joining us in delivering a true-to-form Governor's School experience.

Our performance season is in full swing, and we would love to see you at an event on the campus or throughout the state. As always, I thank you for your continued support of the Governor's School and look forward to your participation in our alumni events in the very near future.



Sincerely,

Cedric L. Adderley, D.M.A.  
President

# CAMPUS NEWS



Welcome back 2006 Music alumna **Lauren Vaughn**! Lauren is our new woodwinds and music history instructor. She holds a bachelor's degree from Ohio State University, a master's degree from the University of Southern California and a doctorate from the University of South Carolina. She is a professional flutist and a member of the

Augusta Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Vaughn also performs as a guest musician with the Greenville Symphony, SC Philharmonic, and Asheville Symphony.

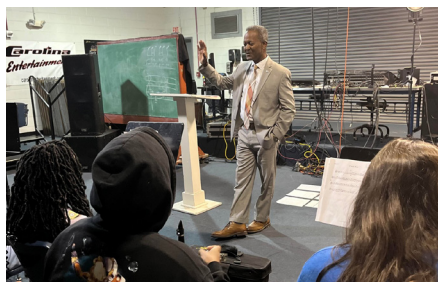


Creative Writing Chair **Alan Rossi's** second novel, "Our Last Year" was released in September. Click [HERE](#) to read more about it. Alan has been the Fiction instructor at the Governor's School for nine years and is entering his third year as chair.

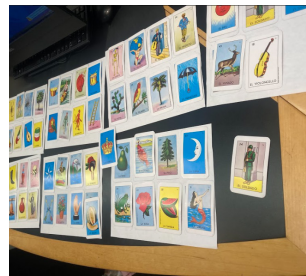
Visual Arts instructors, **Marty Epp-Carter** and **Paul Yanko**, were featured in the MENTOR exhibit at Abney House in Greenville in September. The exhibition showcased works by the artistic mentors for the Greenville Center for Creative Arts' Brandon Fellowship, founded with the goal of supporting emerging Greenville-based artists.



**Dr. Cedric Adderley** and our Outreach teaching artists traveled to Marion County last week to work with young artists in grades 6-12 from all over the district who are attending their summer arts camp. Dr. Adderley enjoyed working with the band students and talking to them about his career as a musician, composer, teacher, and administrator.



Math instructor **Rose Jenkins** just completed the doctoral program in Instructional Design Leadership at Franklin University! As part of her doctoral work, Dr. Jenkins designed, developed and implemented an interactive computer-aided instructional module for trigonometry. She plans to develop an interactive textbook to teach trigonometry.



For Hispanic Heritage Month, the library celebrated with an evening of Lotería! Often referred to as "Mexican Bingo," the game is hundreds of years old and is played with a deck of vibrantly illustrated cards. To this day, it remains wildly popular across Mexico and

has become a symbol of the country's history, culture and pride.



The Visual Arts Department welcomed children's book illustrator **Alice Ratterree** for an exhibition in Lipscomb Gallery. September, Ratterree curated an interactive experience that guides visitors through her artistic process from start to finish, giving an inside look at how she makes stories like Elise Broach's "The Wolf Keepers," Sam Gayton's "Lilliput" and Suzanne Slade's "Dangerous Jane" come to life. The show ran through October 13 and was open to the public.





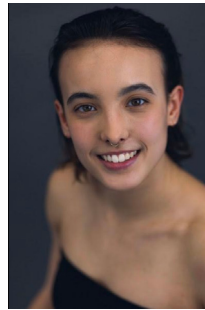
Vice President for Student Development **Matthew Burns** was selected for the Upstate Diversity Leadership Initiative at The Riley Institute at Furman! Members of the program work together to develop capstone projects centered around diversity and inclusion, partnering with nonprofit organizations to respond to challenges and opportunities in their communities. President Adderley and HR Director LaTomya Doctor have also completed this program.



**George Speed**, assistant professor of double bass at Florida State University and principal bass of the Tallahassee Symphony visited campus in September. Students had the opportunity to participate in a wide-ranging discussion and technical exercises.



Outreach Teaching Artist **Jeff Robinson** traveled to Maryland this summer as part of the Riley Institute's SC Afterschool Leaders Empowered Fellowship. Fellows visited the nationally recognized Summer Arts for Learning Academy and met with leaders in both city and rural settings to learn innovative ways to develop and sustain quality afterschool and summer learning.



The Dance Department welcomed back 2017 alum **Leah Abbott** to teach a modern technique class for this summer's dance students! Since attending the Governor's School, Leah earned a BFA in Contemporary Dance Performance from the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. She went on to found OneScape Dance Collective, serve as dance captain for Boston-based artistic movement company, Hybridmotion, and has taught classes for various dance studios



In September, our junior and senior dancers had the opportunity to take a master class with Peabody Conservatory Dance Department Chair **Danah Bella**. She gave a presentation on the dance program at Peabody and the audition process for admission.



The Creative Writing Department is partnering with M. Judson Booksellers to host a series of Open Mic Nights on select Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. Sign up [HERE](#) to read or stop by to enjoy an evening of readings from our students and other local writers!

**Paul Yanko's** senior painting class had the pleasure of learning from artist Phil Garrett who gave a presentation on all things oil paint—from color properties to pigments to varnishing! The students even got to test out and keep their own sample sets of Williamsburg oil paints.

Visual Arts Chair **David Gerhard** and Director of Library Services **Michael Giller** presented at this year's Palmetto State Arts Education Annual Arts Integration Conference in Columbia. They spoke about their

award-winning collaborative project, "Bulls on Parade, Banned Books Week Poster Design," an art installation featuring works from Gerhard's senior Graphic Design class centered around helping student advance critical thinking skills and enhance creativity as they develop visual depictions to raise awareness of book censorship.



# A LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI ADVISORY CO-CHAIRS

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of 2022. Although this year has included turbulent events in the world, it is also marked with a return to some sense of normalcy for our everyday lives. Whether through a concert, show, job, or walk in a park, many of us have resumed our daily interactions with other people. And the SCGSAH Alumni Advisory Council (AAC) plans to take full advantage of this renewed opportunity.

For a small, residential high school, SCGSAH boasts over 2,000 alumni. There are alumni throughout South Carolina, but they are also located in Charlotte, Chicago, D.C., Los Angeles, New York, and everywhere else in between. In the upcoming year, the AAC plans to engage, nurture, and reestablish relationships among all alumni in various ways. Utilizing opportunities for social engagement and professional networking, the ACC will encourage alumni to participate in upcoming events, which is a chance to connect with new faces and reconnect with old ones. You will hear about how you can sit on alumni panels with current students at SCGSAH and attend tentative events in D.C., South Carolina, and New York. Your involvement is critical to maintaining bonds with fellow alumni and the SCGSAH community at large.

As we all know, life happens and throws unexpected curveballs. So it is not always possible to attend an event in person or make everything on your calendar. But giving back need not be in person. An alumnus can support SCGSAH's current crop of students by making a small donation for a specific purpose or by advocating for SCGSAH through a simple phone call. Small gestures often go a long way. In the coming weeks, the AAC intends to share and set reasonable goals that the alumni community can obtain. Achieving those goals will positively impact the lives of students currently attending SCGSAH and future generations.

It is an understatement to say that our lives move at a busy, rapid pace. However busy it may be, it remains important—particularly at this time of the year—to reflect on things that truly matter and provide our lives with meaning. It might be charitable giving, family, friendships, mentorship, or volunteering. Whatever it is, each of us can pursue those meaningful callings either now or in 2023. Regardless of your timing, we hope that you will contribute to and include the AAC's programming, along with the SCGSAH community, as part of your own growth and endeavors.

-Josh Myers (Music, 2011) and Autumn Shearin (Music, 2002)

# CAMPUS WIDE THEME FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR



## GovieUNITY

**A&H** 2022  
2023

# SUMMER PROGRAMS

*We welcomed an amazing 486 students to campus to participate in our 2022 summer programs! Students from 35 of the 46 counties in South Carolina were accepted into programs with a challenging and exciting curriculum. Daily schedules were designed with instruction time throughout the morning and afternoons. Arts presentations, off campus outings, and relaxed residential life activities were offered in the evenings.*

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The Academy Program consisted of 118 participants and was designed with instruction times throughout the morning and afternoon. The curriculum incorporated studio work, self-directed studies, performance, field trips, lectures and presentations by faculty and guest artists.

The two one-week Arts Odyssey program sessions welcomed in 310 students this summer! While attendees focused in one art area, they also had the opportunity to experience the other art areas through guest lectures, activities, and performances.

This year's summer dance program consisted of a five week session for rising 7th to 12th grade students. 26 participants were involved in Monday through Saturday classes designed especially for their age group. Their curriculum included ballet and pointe techniques, jazz, yoga, injury prevention/dance wellness, and African dance/cultural enrichment classes.

We were very excited to launch a new summer program this year! The two two-week Dance Immersion programs allowed beginning dancers to explore the world of dance in a fun and supportive environment. This program is intended for students who are passionate about dance, but may not have formal ballet training. This summer's 14 participants were able to explore a variety of classes, such as: Ballet, Modern/Contemporary, Jazz, Hip Hop, Acting for Dancers, African Dance, Yoga and Pilates.





# BACK FOR THE SUMMER

*This summer we were thrilled to have so many alumni back campus working with our students! Our summer Govies learned from and interacted with top notch arts educators, many of whom were once in their shoes.*

*Check out this lineup of exceptional alumni who joined us this summer:*

## **ADE GEE (VISUAL ARTS, 2010)**



Ade is a Greenville-based creative director with a background in film that creates visually-engaging marketing experiences for clients. His work has been influenced by his study of Open Media and Film at RISD, where he earned his Bachelors of Fine Arts in 2020. He uses creativity over rigid rules, to create digital art to facilitate social change.

## **KAT EAVES (VISUAL ARTS, 2017)**



Trained at the Clemson University Digital and Interactive Arts Lab and was selected for this year's Atlanta Printmakers Studio Emerging Artist Residency . Kat is an artist and writer from Powdersville, South Carolina. She is an alumna of both SCGSAH Visual Arts summer programs and the Residential High School (Class

of 2017). Kat graduated from Clemson University with her BFA in Visual Arts in 2021 and currently lives in Atlanta, GA.

## **ASHLEY FELDER (VISUAL ARTS, 2011)**



Exhibition Director for the Amazement Square Museum in Lynchburg, VA Ashley Felder is originally from Holly Hill, SC. She graduated from the Governor's School in 2011 with a sculpture concentration, 2015 from Winthrop University with a BFA in sculpture and Metals, and 2021 from Clemson University with an

MFA in Sculpture. She has also taught grade school art at RLOACS in Hardeeville, art appreciation and ceramics at Lander University, and sculpture at SCGSAH. Her current studio practice is focusing on ceramics as well as some 2D work.

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## **JAKE FOWLER (MUSIC, 2013)**



Currently 3rd Bassoon/ Contrabassoon for the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra Bassoonist Jake Fowler has been regarded by American Conductor Mark Powell as possessing "deeply committed musical eloquence tied to singularly mad technical skills." Currently serving as a bassoonist with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Fowler has performed

alongside such organizations as The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and The New World Symphony. Jake attended the Eastman School of Music where he obtained his Bachelor's as well as his Master's Degrees and was also awarded the highly competitive Performers Certificate. At Eastman he studied under professors George Sakakeeny and John Hunt.

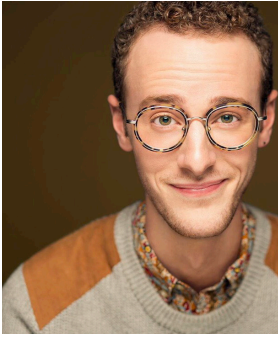
## **SARAH HAMILTON (DRAMA, 2012)**



Sarah Lacy Hamilton is a director specializing in actor- driven productions of plays with great heart, that embrace all the contradictions of life, and that hold the comic and the tragic in the same breath. Directing credits include PALANQUIN, Sweat, Blackberry: A Burial, HIR, and Nothing But Days (University

of Iowa); Dry Land (Upstart Productions); Gruesome Playground Injuries, Julius Caesar, and True West (House Party Theatre). Sarah is a graduate of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts Residential Drama Program, and holds an MFA in Directing from the University of Iowa and a BFA in Theatre Studies from Southern Methodist University.

### ZACK FIKE HODGES (DRAMA, 2011)



Actor and freelance teaching artist, recently graduated with distinction from the Acting Master's Program at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. Zack is a New York City based actor, with a BA in Theatre Performance from Fordham Lincoln Center, in addition to training with the Moscow Art Theatre School in Moscow, Russia. He earned

an MA in Acting from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. He is a lead teaching artist for the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, and has served two seasons on staff of the Professional Training Program at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. He has worked both regionally and off-Broadway.

### ADAIR KEMPF (DANCE, 2003)



Governor's School Dance faculty member and former Associate Artistic Director for DanceArts Greenville. Adair graduated with a BFA in Dance Performance from Butler University in 2007. While there, she traveled to Poland and Russia to study dance, under the supervision of Marek Cholewa. She now serves as Dance Department Administrative Assistant, Ballet

Faculty, and Summer Dance Faculty.

### ANDRE NORTH (MUSIC, 2005)



Named 2022 Hanahan Middle School Teacher of the Year alum, André is a graduate of Penn State University, where he received a Master of Music in Saxophone Performance. Prior to that, he received a Bachelor of Music in Education with a Performer's Certificate from the University of South Carolina.

### KEELIN SANZ (DRAMA 2013)



Theater artist with TheaterWorks USA, Rail Events Inc., and Scene + Heard New Work Festival in Dublin. Keelin is an actor, singer, and theatre maker originally from Beaufort County, South Carolina. Before graduating from Coastal Carolina University with a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre. Keelin is currently pursuing a Masters in Theatre Practice at University College Dublin and the Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin, Ireland.

### CHRISTINA BROWN (MUSIC, 2020)



Attends the University of South Carolina, where she majors in Music Education and studies violin performance with Ari Streisfeld, Assistant Professor of Violin and Violin Pedagogy. She has been playing violin for 8 years, studying with Joanna Mulfinger, Jennifer John, and Deirdre Hutton.

### JEFFREY CHEN (MUSIC, 2018)



Has been studying the cello for over ten years. Jeffrey graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Music in Education degree. Jeffrey most recently studied privately under Claire Bryant and has previously studied with Dr. Robert Jesselson, Robert O'Brien, and Ryan Knott. Since 2015, he has taught private cello

and beginner string lessons, most recently as a teacher at the University of South Carolina String Project.

### AIDAN FORSTER (CREATIVE WRITING, 2018)



The author of the chapbooks *Exit Pastoral* (YesYes Books, 2019) and *Wrong June* (Honeysuckle Press, 2021). A 2018 graduate of the SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities' creative writing program, they study Literary Arts and Public Health at Brown University. Their work appears in *The Adroit Journal*, *Best New Poets 2017*, *Columbia Poetry Review*, *Copper Nickel*, *Indiana Review*, *Ninth Letter*, *Teen Vogue*, and *Tin House*, among others.

### JESSICA KEY (MUSIC, 2017)



A performer and teacher who has strong roots in band and orchestral music. She loves to teach and perform in a wide variety of genres and styles. Throughout her career, Jessica has had the opportunity to perform musical concerts in countries such as Italy, Austria, Czech Republic and Germany. As a New York City based

performer, Jessica has played in venues such as Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center and City Center with the Martha Graham Dance Company, along with venues in other major metropolitan cities across the United States.

**LINDSAY PHILLIPS (DANCE, 2019)**



Lindsay is enrolled at The Juilliard School pursuing her BFA in Dance. She is a work-study student employee, a member of Juilliard’s Gluck community service fellowship, and a private lesson instructor.

**GRACIE POORE (DRAMA, 2019)**



Is currently in her third year as an Acting major at Rutgers Mason Gross school of the arts. Outside of theatre she enjoys drinking tea and reading a good book.

**ELAINE QUAVE (VISUAL ARTS, 2001)**



Teaches Ceramics and Art History at the South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities. She received a BFA from University of the Arts in 2005 and earned her MFA in ceramics at Tyler School of Art, Temple University. In addition to experience as a 3-D and ceramics instructor at Tyler, the Governor’s School, and the Greenville County

Museum of Art in Greenville, South Carolina, Mrs. Quave has also assisted with workshops at North Carolina’s Penland School of Craft and Pilchuck School of Glass in Washington.

**AJA TRICE (VISUAL ARTS, 2021)**



Is a student, artist, and performer who splits her time between Simpsonville and Southern California where she attends Pomona College, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Studio Art with a minor in Art History. During her time in the residential program, she studied visual arts and concentrated in the metals department during her senior year. Her artistic practice currently focuses on textiles and fibers. At Pomona College, Aja works as a gallery assistant for the Chan Gallery where she maintains the facilities within the art department, meets with local artists in Los Angeles, and helps curate shows in their gallery.

**VAUGHN NESMITH (MUSIC, 2020)**



Vaughn Nesmith is an alumnus from the graduating class of 2020. He grew up in Kingstree, SC. He currently studies at The Boston Conservatory at Berklee major in Vocal Performance with Opera Emphasis. Vaughn will be making his first opera debut this December with the Boston Conservatory Opera as Elder Ott in Carlisle Floyd’s Susannah.

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*Alumni not only served as instructors, program assistants, and RLCs but they also participated in panel discussions and Q&A sessions with students. Session topics ranged from general SCGSAH departmental questions to future college and career paths, advice and experiences. If you are interested in being a part of the 2023 summer programs, please contact the Alumni Office at [alumni@scgsah.org](mailto:alumni@scgsah.org).*

# FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION

Whether you've been here as a student for 5 minutes or as an employee for 15 years, you immediately realize what an amazing place SCGSAH is. None of the educational achievements and arts recognition for which the school has become known would have happened without the foresight of the original Founders and supporters of the school. The visionaries who set out with the express intention of developing a school which provided an excellent education for artists. We owe them a debt of gratitude - without them this amazing school and community simply would not exist - and this is why we honor them on Founders Day each year.



Senator Verne Smith and Mary Belser

This year our community Founders Day celebration was held in Sakas theatre on October 5th. Several speakers were on hand to share with all members of the Govie community the history and the legacy that they are now a part of. Dr. Matthew Burns began the program by sharing the school's history and highlighting the founding legislation and fundraisers that helped make SCGSAH a reality. Dr. Jennifer Thomas spoke to the group about Virginia Uldrick, her tenacity, how she

changed arts education in South Carolina and expected excellence...always. Drama faculty member Jayce Tromsness shared one of his favorite memories of Dr. Uldrick from his time as a new employee.



Virginia Uldrick and Governor Richard Riley



Drama alumnus Joshua Dantzler was our featured alumni speaker and concluded the program. Joshua spoke with students about his time at the Governor's School and the impact his Govie "family" has had on his life. His reflective message encouraged students to be themselves and to prepare and be fearless in all aspects of their lives.



SCGSAH residential campus courtyard under construction

The Governor's School opened its doors to the Residential High School in 1999 thanks to a team of determined state leaders, educators, artists, fundraisers and philanthropists, under the vision and direction of our first president, Virginia Uldrick. To learn more about the Governor's School's founding visit [HERE](#).



Ribbon cutting at Grand Opening, April 2000  
From left to right: Larry Wilson, Juanita Goodwin, Virginia Uldrick, Verne Smith, Bob Hughes, Jim DeMint and Rudolph

# ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## JOSHUA DANTZLER

Joshua Dantzler is a Sr. Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Specialist for Amtrak. His work includes supporting the development and mobilization of Amtrak's Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging programs and initiatives, while also managing the company's eight Employee Resource Groups (ERGs). Originally from Rock Hill, South Carolina, his upbringing has led him to have a passion for addressing educational and racial inequities, a spirit for community involvement, and an interest in creating inclusive communities wherever he goes.

His love for the Arts & Humanities led him to the SC Governor's School, where he graduated as a student in the Drama Program with the Class of 2017. At the Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities, he served as member of the Honor Council, Co-President of the Multicultural Club, Student Ambassador and Student Council Hall Exec. A graduate of School of Public Affairs at American University, in Washington DC, Joshua holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science, a minor in communication studies, and a certificate in Advanced Leadership Studies. He also holds a certificate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the workplace from the University of South Florida.

As an active and engaged student, Joshua served his campus as a student leader in various clubs and organizations, including AU Ambassadors, Orientation, and Student Government. He also worked as student worker in the Center for Diversity and Inclusion where it was there, he found his passion for fostering belonging and the importance of practicing Intersectionality and Allyship -always. Joshua is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and is a volunteer leader with the AU Alumni Association.

When not working or volunteering Joshua can be found spending time with his family and friends making memories, seeing shows, and trying new things. His spare time is often found with the people he loves, and on the weekends, it definitely includes brunch.

- 1. Where were you born?** I was born in Rock Hill, South Carolina
- 2. Do people ever say you look like a celebrity? Which one?** I've often gotten Jaleel White who played Urkle. (Did I do that?)
- 3. Are you an introvert or an extrovert?** I am an extrovert all the way.  
I am people's person and haven't met a stranger yet.
- 4. What is your favorite thing about Greenville?** Fall's Park. Whether it's sitting out or taking a stroll it's such a relaxing place to be and spend time outdoors.
- 5. What was your major in college?** Political Science with a minor in Communication Studies and a certificate in Advanced Leadership Studies.
- 6. What book is on your nightstand?** Currently Still Waters, authored by a college friend, Jenna Caldwell - the book is an emotionally gripping story of love and loss that will keep you on the edge of your seat until the very end.
- 7. What is your favorite comfort food?** My mother's BBQ chicken and mac and cheese always hits the spot and is my favorite comfort food combination!
- 8. What is your idea of a dream vacation?** My feet up on a beach with a coconut in Thailand!



My dad, Clifford and I in Falls Park  
2020



Meeting with Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg



Drama '17 & '18 Govies with Danielle centered

9. **What is the "coolest" Govie experience you have ever had?** I'll share two - getting to meet and give a tour to Facebook co-founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg and also getting to hear from Drama Alum Danielle Brooks ('07). Danielle gave advice that still sticks with me - Prepare and Be Fearless.

10. **What's Something About You That People Would Be Surprised To Know?**

I have a twin sister named Jordan (born a minute apart), and we're the sixth set of twins in my family.

11. **What was your favorite subject in school?** I LOVED social studies/history. I believe the past shapes the present and the present informs our future.

12. **What advice would you give to a current Govie?** Enjoy every moment. And make all the memories. Time passes and the govie years fly by in the blink of an eye. Don't be afraid to go out for that solo or don't miss out on that Residential Life trip. You never know what you'll get out of it if you don't just do it.

13. **Are you a good dancer?** Yes. If there's a DJ, I am on the Dance Floor.

14. **If you could invite five people, living or dead, to dinner, who would they be?**

Oprah, Bayrard Rustin, Beyonce, President Obama, and Michael Jackson

15. **What do you miss most about SCGSAH?** The ability to make art, create art, and see art daily- alongside some of my closest friends is something I do miss the most!

16. **What #hashtag best describes you?** #Blessed

17. **On what television show would you most like to be a character/contestant?** Since my Dad and his siblings tried their hand at Family Feud, I think I have it in me to spin the wheel on a Wheel of Fortune.

18. **If you could have any superpower which would it be?** Because I love to travel, I would love to fly... I got places to be and people to see!

19. **What's your proudest accomplishment?** This summer I was recognized alongside 24 other railroad professionals for Progressive Railroading Magazine's 2022 Rising Stars. This award was given to up-and-comers making a difference in railroading under 40. It was an honor to represent Amtrak.

20. **How did your Governor's School experience and education impact you?** Attending the Governor's School gave me the confidence and work ethic needed to be successful in life. Experiencing the residential high school tasked with the balance of the arts and academics gave me great insight into what life would be like as I got older and the tools needed to do well. It also showed me the importance of community and a good support system - two things that I value deeply.



Jordan & I during our graduation photo shoot 2021

# KEEP YOUR EYE on THESE GOVIES!

## CALEB VAUGHN (MUSIC, 2003)



**Caleb Vaughn-Jones'** DEBUT album 'Two Worlds Called Home' is available on all streaming platforms! 'Two Worlds Called Home' is Caleb's musical journal of his time away from the United States in South Africa. The album features new compositions for cello and piano as well as Suite for Solo Cello.

## CATHERINE CON MORSE (MUSIC, 2005)



**Catherine Con Morse** recently accepted a 2-book deal with Crown Books for Young Readers (Penguin Random House) for my novel, *The Notes*. This contemporary YA novel follows Claire Wu, a Chinese American pianist at a performing arts boarding school whose dedication to music is rekindled by a glamorous new music teacher. The book is slated to come out in May 2024.

## JARRED LEE (VISUAL ARTS, 2017)



2017 Visual Arts alum **Jarred Lee** received a bronze award in the Non-Broadcast General-Student category from the Telly Awards for his student film "Dinolords." The Telly Awards recognize work created for television and videos for all screens in many categories. Jarred graduated from Daemen University in Amherst, New

York, in 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts in animation.

## ANNA OHI (DANCE, 2022)



2022 Dance alum **Anna Ohi** will be joining the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Aspirant Program in Canada on scholarship! Through the program, she'll have the opportunity to work closely with

the world-renowned Royal Winnipeg Ballet Company as she continues her training as a dancer

## JORDAN D. SMITH (MUSIC, 2006)



**Jordan D. Smith** named as principal of Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School. He earned a Bachelor of Music from the University of South Carolina, a Master of Education from Grand Canyon University, and commissioned as an Army officer through Palmetto Military Academy. He began his professional

career in education as the band director for Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School. Jordan then served four years as the assistant principal at Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School, and one year as the assistant principal at Richard Carroll Elementary School.

## BRANDON WHITMORE (DANCE, 2011)



Dance alumnus **Brandon Whitmore** will make his Broadway debut in *MJ the Musical* at the Neil Simon Theater as a swing dancer. Brandon joins three more SCGSAH alums Brandon Brooks, Wonza Johnson and Travis Lemont Blallenger who also work on the production.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO...

- > Charlie Stowe (Drama, 2018) graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Boston Conservatory with a BFA in Contemporary Theatre!
- > Caroline Fairey (Music, 2016) and Robbie Meese (Music, 2016) on their October wedding!
- > Blakely Francis (Music, 2012) on her engagement!
- > Caroline Hamilton (Drama, 2014) on her August wedding!
- > Lindsay Anderson (Dance, 2005) on the birth of her son, Chase Cameron Anderson!

# OUTREACH

*The Office of Outreach has been hard at work for the past few months bringing the arts to teachers and students all over South Carolina! Here's what we've been up to:*

We started the summer with our latest Teacher Retreat, Plug-In With Media Arts, where participants were introduced to music production, video production, and graphic design, focusing on free tools that could be integrated into both arts and non-arts classrooms. Special thanks to Visual Arts Chair David Gerhard for leading the Graphic Design session!

Our summer Spark team led drama-based literacy camps in Richland, Florence, and Williamsburg counties. Our actor-teachers have been doing such a fantastic job fostering an environment that celebrates and cultivates a love for reading. Students used their newly learned actor's tools to bring books to life, and they got a special visit from Lionel Sparks, our Spark mascot, with free books to take home. Spark was also featured on WACH news. Our team is back in schools this fall!

Finally, our Outreach Teaching Artists, Jeff and Daphne, brought our Ignite program to school and community based summer programs throughout the state. Participating students fired up a passion for the arts in exposure-based activities like beat-making, landscape painting, and paper weaving. Ignite was also featured recently on SC Arts Hub!

We're incredibly proud of our impact during the 21-22 school year, delivering over 1,000 experiences to nearly 98,000 individuals in 35 counties. Our work for this school year is already well underway as our team gears up for Field Trips to Campus, Guest Artist Visits, and Virtual Backpack Arts Activities. The Office of Outreach is proud to serve the students and teachers of South Carolina and is excited about the upcoming year!

*-Jeff Robinson  
Service Learning Coordinator*





# VISITING CAMPUS

Whether you are attending a performance or instructing a master class, visiting with faculty, or checking out how the campus has changed, we are always glad to have alumni come visit. In general, campus visits should be pre-arranged, limited to Monday-Friday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm and not during school closures or holidays.

Upon your arrival, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

1. Please check-in at the Visitor's Center with a valid form of picture ID to receive a Visitor's badge. Please keep the visitor's badge visible at all times while on campus.
2. While on campus, alumni visitors must always be accompanied by a staff member. When your visit is complete, the staff member will escort you back to Visitor's Center to check-out.

Our security protocols are in place for the safety and security of our students and staff.

Naturally, the above procedures will not apply if you are attending a performance or event at the school.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our campus safe!



Samuel Farnsworth (Drama, 2014)



Katie Davis (Creative Writing, 2022) and  
Patty Davis (Creative Writing, 2020)



Visitor's Center



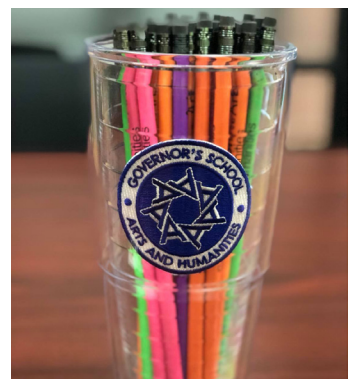
Carolyn Bolton (Dance, 2005)

# SCHOOL STORE MERCHANDISE

Interested in some SCGSAH merch? Find the latest apparel and merchandise in the school store.

- T-shirts and Sweatshirts
- Ball Caps
- Tervis Tumblers
- Blankets
- Onesies
- Watercolor campus prints
- Window decals

For more information email us at [alumni@scgsah.org](mailto:alumni@scgsah.org) for pricing and availability.



# ADMISSIONS UPDATE



The Fall is always a busy but special time of year in the Office of Admissions. As the names that lived on our computer screens for the past year become our newest Govies, we're reminded of how rewarding it is to be part of young artists' journeys.

And the cycle begins again, with the application opening, school visits, Admissions events, and more! We're looking forward to connecting with new students as we build our summer and high school classes.

Last summer, we expanded our programming by offering a 2-week Dance Immersion program for 6th and 7th grade dancers. This summer, we are adding a 2-week Introduction to Filmmaking program for aspiring 7th and 8th grade

filmmakers. We're also excited to expand our Arts Odyssey offerings for 7th and 8th grade musicians to include solo intensives, jazz/improvisation, and songwriting/composition.

We invite you to join us in building the incoming classes of Govies by spreading the word and encouraging any young SC artists in your community to apply! The application is now open, and our Priority Deadlines are in December and January. Find more at [SCGSAH.org/admissions!](https://SCGSAH.org/admissions/)

## *WE'RE HIRING*

Join our exceptional community of motivated employees who are dedicated to the Governor's School's mission of serving South Carolina's young artists.

Visit [SCGSAH.org/about/employment](https://SCGSAH.org/about/employment) for details!

# FALL / 2022

## PERFORMANCES AND EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- 9/20** 7:30 p.m. Music Faculty Showcase  
*Smith Recital Hall*
- 
- 9/12–10/13** 1:30–4:30, weekdays Guest Artist Exhibition: Alice Ratterree  
*Lipscomb Gallery*

### OCTOBER

- 10/7** 3:20 p.m. English Song Concert  
*Smith Recital Hall*
- 
- 10/25** 7:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble & Concertato Orchestra  
*Gunter Theater, Peace Center*
- 
- 10/31** 1:30–4:30, weekdays Senior Drawing Exhibition  
*Lipscomb Gallery*

### NOVEMBER

- 11/3–11/5** 7:30 p.m. Studio IV Production of "Almost, Maine" by John Cariani  
*Sakas Theatre*
- 
- 11/6** 2:00 p.m. Studio IV Production of "Almost, Maine" by John Cariani  
*Sakas Theatre*
- 
- 11/10** 7:30 p.m. Piano Ensembles  
*Smith Recital Hall*
- 
- 11/15** 7:30 p.m. Woodwind & Brass Chamber Concert  
*Smith Recital Hall*
- 
- 11/18** 7:30 p.m. Opera & Music Theater Scenes  
*Smith Recital Hall*
- 
- 11/29** 7:30 p.m. Percussion Ensemble  
*Smith Recital Hall*

### DECEMBER

- 12/1** 7:30 p.m. String Chamber Music  
*Smith Recital Hall*
- 
- 12/1–12/2** 7:30 p.m. Drama Junior Showcase  
*Sakas Theatre*
- 
- 12/2** 3:20 p.m. Foreign Language Song Concert  
*Smith Recital Hall*
- 
- 12/3** 3:00 p.m. Creative Writing Junior Readings  
*Sakas Theatre*
- 
- 12/3** 6:00 p.m. Creative Writing Senior Readings  
*Sakas Theatre*
- 
- 12/6** 7:30 p.m. Governor's School Choir & Sinfonia Chamber Orchestra  
*Christ Church Episcopal*
- 
- 12/10** 7:30 p.m. Winter Dance Performance  
*Gunter Theater, Peace Center*
- 
- 12/11** 2:00 p.m. Winter Dance Performance  
*Gunter Theater, Peace Center*
- 
- 12/12** 7:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble & Jazz Orchestra  
*Sakas Theatre*

### DETAILS

All events are open to the Govie Community.

Drama and Peace Center events require seat reservations.

Peace Center Tickets - [Peacecenter.org/events](https://peacecenter.org/events), 2 weeks prior  
Drama Tickets - [TicketSource.us/scgsah](https://TicketSource.us/scgsah), 1 week prior

Please check the internal school calendar for the most up-to-date information, as event dates may change.

[SCGSAH.org/calendar/events](https://SCGSAH.org/calendar/events)

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Jennifer Thomas & Jeffrey Baggett  
Rose & Kevin Mihaly

# Interested in Getting Involved?

Alumni are our legacy, and our reputation is strengthened through your successes. We are excited about the opportunities to continue our relationship with our alumni community and to explore ways we can further support and engage you as we advance the school's mission.

## Become a Class Agent, Share your expertise, or join the Alumni Advisory Council

**The Class Agent Program** is designed to engage alumni in the wider school community through ongoing communication. Serving as a liaison between the Alumni Coordinator and the alumni community, Class Agents connect with classmates from their specific graduation year, as well as help establish an extended network of Govies from other class years. Class Agents also play an active role in keeping classmates up to date on events and news.

Click [here](#) for more information about becoming a Class Agent.

**The Alumni Advisory Council** is an advisory group to the Alumni Office whose purpose is to engage SCGSAH alumni in the life of the school through educational, cultural, career and social opportunities as well as benefits and services. The AAC consists of approximately 15-20 members who serve two year terms beginning in January of the respective year.

Click [here](#) for more information about becoming an Alumni Advisory Council member.

**Govie to Govie:** Virtually or in person we want to welcome you back to campus to connect with our current students. This is an opportunity where alumni lead sessions, share expertise, and exchange stories on how to thrive as an adult and artist after high school. Email [alumni@scgsah.org](mailto:alumni@scgsah.org) for more information.

## Be Sure to Stay Connected By Activating your Alumni Profile!

Now it's easier than ever for you to connect with alumni near and far!  
Activating your SCGSAH alumni profile is quick, easy and secure...  
just use this link: <https://lnkd.in/gxwd4ey>

Start by logging in using your name as it was when you attended SCGSAH (which would be your first and last/maiden name). As soon as you log in you will be able to update your contact information, get campus updates, and search for your favorite classmates using the mapping feature. *\*All information is for the school's use only and will not be shared with outside parties.*

**Questions? Contact us at [alumni@scgsah.org](mailto:alumni@scgsah.org).**



# ALUMNINEWS

**NOVEMBER 2022**

at the  
Governor's School