

Quaker Times

The Franklin Alumni Association and Foundation Newsletter

Keeping Alumni Connected to Franklin and Each Other

Volume 27

Franklin High School Alumni Publication

Fall 2022

President's Message

Hello Quakers!!!

2022 is almost at an end, and the Alumni Association is growing and thriving. In May we had a wonderful Hall of Fame dinner at Ray's Boat House attended by many alums and students. (See page 11 for pictures of the event.) It also was a very successful fundraiser (see sidebar). The inductees Ramona Bennett ('56), Sharon Santos ('79), and Noah Purcell ('97) shared their personal journeys and what stood out to me is their continuing involvement in community service. They are truly examples of Quaker Love.

Over the summer there were many class reunions, including several that

had been originally cancelled due to covid, and several reunions which included multiple classes celebrating together -- a most creative way of emerging from the pandemic years. The joy of classmates reconnecting was present at each gathering. More examples of Quaker Love.

Moving into the 2022-23 school year, we look forward to more activities involving our Alumni group. We will sponsor a Scholarship and Career Week, February 13 – 17, 2023, to inform our students about the many, various opportunities that are open to them. We would love to have you join us and share tips on how students might explore your career path. If you are interested in participating, contact us at faaandf@gmail.com.

Save the Date: Hall of Fame 2023 is May 18th, 2023. Please join us! It's a



Senior Day At Franklin 2022: from left, Barbara Mahoney '67; Tamiko Miyano, '88; Pete Barlow, '67; Deb Burton, '67.

fantastic event and a great opportunity to catch up with classmates and support the next generation of Quakers.

Please feel free to reach out with interest and questions at faaandf@gmail.com.

LQVE,

Deborah Burton, Board President



First in-person Board meeting in 2 years: in hybrid form – with two members attending via Zoom.

Fundraising Report for 2022: Quakers Emerge from COVID with Generosity

It is a magical time at FAA&F. Lockdown lifted and we immediately enjoyed record-breaking fundraising successes. It started with Scholarship Chair Herman Houston ('67) putting out the call to the board and his classmates to make it possible to give out more than the 5 allotted scholarships. He raised enough to give out 14!

We increased membership and with a new Membership Chair, Connie (Isquith) Olson ('88), we hope to continue this trend.

On the basis of hearing of our future plans an Endowment Campaign brought in \$30K whose principal will be used in perpetuity.

To top off our year the Hall of Fame and Annual Dinner brought in \$65K in proceeds and donations. Amazing!

We started the 2022-23 School Year with a new Tim Moody Scholarship, and within days of the announcement we received \$5250.

We have so many people to thank and know there will be even more of them next year.

LQVE to you all!

Letter from Franklin's New Principal: Dr. Joseph Williams, III

Dear Franklin High School Alumni,

My name is Dr. Joseph Williams III, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as the principal of Franklin High School! This is my first year at FHS, and my core educational belief is that we should have high expectations for ALL students, because our students have the capacity to learn and

be successful. Therefore, we are committed to leading and supporting our amazing Franklin High School faculty and staff, as we provide our students with the academic and social emotional tools that they need to be successful, both at Franklin High School and in life! We are grateful to partner with the Franklin High School Alumni Association and Foundation to realize the vision of

excellence for our students at Franklin High School. It truly does take a *village* to raise our children. Therefore, we look forward to our collaboration during this school year in providing a safe and nurturing school environment for all our students. I have included pics and bios of our amazing new FHS Admin Team:

FHS Beautification Project

I also wanted to give a brief update on the FHS Beautification Project, which has included extensive landscaping, pressure washing, and tree trimming! We are super grateful for the financial support that we have received from Franklin Alumni toward these projects. We still have much more that we want to do to enhance our amazing

school facility! Please see the photos below of our progress:

The months of September and October have gone by very quickly this school year. It has been exciting for our leadership team to visit classrooms and observe the awesome teaching and learning that is taking place at Franklin High School.

The students and staff are working hard and having fun! I look forward to sharing our progress throughout the 2022- 2023 school year!

In the best interests of our students,

Dr. Joseph Williams III
Principal, Franklin High School
Excellence is our Standard!



Franklin Welcomes New Athletic Director: Cameron E. Dollar

Franklin is lucky to welcome its new Athletic Director, Coach Dollar. Coach Dollar brings extensive experience coaching, including the Seattle Redhawks and Washington Huskies (basketball), after playing basketball for the UCLA Bruins. He was a member of the 1995 national championship team. Coaching is a 'family business': his father was a longtime (43 years) high school basketball coach in Georgia who won three state championships and more than 600 games.

His goals for Franklin athletics are, 1) to be able to provide participation for all students, including providing opportunities and resources; 2) to be an advocate for Franklin's coaches; and 3) to push excellence and life skills for students.

Currently, 369 students are involved in athletics: 85 students in tennis (last year); 68 in track (this year); and 65 in football this year, including a Junior Varsity team.



Coach Dollar (right), with Dr. Williams (Principal) and Deb Burton (FAAAF President)



DR. JOSEPH WILLIAMS III
Principal

Worked as a K-12 educator for 20+ years, including 10 years as a special education teacher and 13 years as an assistant principal and principal. Earned multiple university degrees including a doctorate degree in educational administration and MBA.

- Teaching and administrator certificates in Washington, Missouri, and Georgia
- Happily married for 13 years to Ana Rosa, who is originally from Colombia
- Committed to leading and supporting the amazing Franklin High School faculty and staff
- Has two children in SPS who are both fluent in English and Spanish
- Core educational belief: educators must have high expectations for ALL students.
- Looking forward to collaborating this school year to provide a safe and nurturing school environment for ALL Franklin students!



NAT LOPEZ
Assistant Principal

Has proudly served as an educator for 10+ years. Holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, a bachelor's degree in Special Education, and a master's degree in Educational Leadership.

- Grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, and comes from a proud multiracial and multicultural household
- Believes that courage is contagious. Advocates for student-centered solutions through anti-racist and creative practices/ approaches to learning
- Moved to Seattle in 2017 and was hired as a resource teacher at Cleveland S.T.E.M. High School
- Started her career in education at 18 years old as an Instructional Assistant in a Special Education classroom
- Graduated from Arizona State University and was hired as a resource teacher at a K-8 school in Phoenix, Arizona
- Served in leadership roles such as department head, Building Leadership Team, district hiring cadre and audit teams.



KARA HAFNER
Assistant Principal

As an educator for 14 years she is overjoyed to serve the community of Franklin High School as one of the new Assistant Principals for the 2022-23 school year. She has previously served as an elementary and middle school teacher, Consulting Teacher and In-District Trainer.

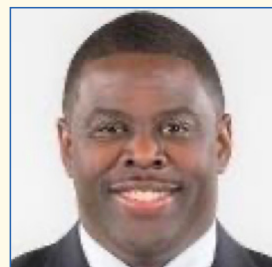
- Recently moved from San Jose, California, to Seattle
- Is a loving dog mom to two beautiful dogs: Ender who is 6 years old and Anna who is 14 years old
- Believes in enjoying life by being of service to others. As a member of this community, she looks forward to collectively working together
- Taught 6-8th grade Reading Intervention and 6th grade English and History.
- Was part of the revision team for the Common Core Standards units prior to becoming a Consulting Teacher in San Jose.
- Led professional development for the evaluation system in San Jose for evaluators to analyze teaching for student results.



TARA CUENTER
House Administrator

After 10 years in the science classroom, she is leaving the beakers and Van De Graffe generator behind to join the dark side: administration. She believes that real change occurs from the inside, and the best way to positively impact education as a system is through strong leadership.

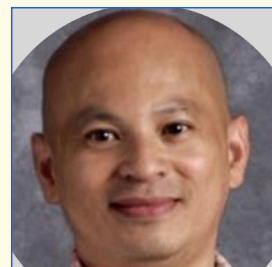
- Moved to Seattle from Ohio in 2013 after graduating from Bowling Green State University
- Got married this summer to her husband, Lars, in Las Vegas.
- Committed to supporting teachers in students while still navigating the tumultuous times we live in
- Has served on curriculum development, alignment, and adoption teams with teachers throughout SPS
- Earned an M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction from the University of Washington in 2022
- Believes that students have the ability to do well socially and academically when provided the tools and nurture to meet their potential.



CAMERON DOLLAR
Athletic Director

Has over 20 years of experience in intercollegiate athletics. Most recently, he was an assistant basketball coach at the University of Washington. Prior to joining Washington, Dollar was the head basketball coach at Seattle University for eight seasons.

- Originally from Atlanta, Georgia
- Known for his leadership and passion for student athletes
- A four-year letterman at UCLA, he achieved national recognition in 1995 as a pivotal player in UCLA's National Championship season.
- His father, Donald, coached high school basketball for over 40 years
- Continues to be a mentor to both new and veteran athletic department staff and coaches
- He and his wife, Maureen, have three children - daughter Giselle and two sons, Jalen and Jason.



NHAN PHAM
Correctional Education Advocate

Has worked with Seattle Public Schools for 23 years and has been at Franklin High School for 10 years. Pham has been instrumental in providing support for students' social and emotional well-being and ensuring Franklin High School is a place of belonging for students to ensure their regular attendance.



FRANKLIN ALUMNI
Association & Foundation

Franklin Athletics:

Fall sports ~ Football, Girls Swimming, Volleyball, Girls Soccer, Coed Cross Country, Coed Golf

FOOTBALL

Head Coach Terry Green

Franklin finished the regular season 6-2 and tied for 1st place in the division for the first time since 2011.



Pictures are Franklin v. Lincoln, 9-23-22

Photos: John Russell

FHS GIRLS SWIM

Head Coach Mark Nichols

We concluded our regular season schedule last Friday with a strong performance against Garfield. River Washburn placed 1st in the 500 yard



freestyle, and personal bests were achieved by Carmen Villarreal and Alina Ho. This week we are heading into Metro Champs. Skye Anderson and Daisy Darby will be looking to lead the way up to the Snohomish Aquatic Center. We will be hoping to qualify for the District Championships the following weekend.

VOLLEYBALL

Coach Gabriele Masmela

First year coach Gabriele Masmela is a Franklin alum. She is doing a wonderful job of building the program. Her sister, Gisele Masmela (an alum also), is the JV coach.

GIRLS SOCCER

Head Coach Mark Megathlin

Girls soccer ended a very competitive and fun season last week. Coaches were very encouraged by their development throughout the year!

COED CROSS COUNTRY

Head Coach Darrell Lee

At 50 strong, our runners overcame weekly wildfire smoke, injuries, and illness to compete in seven 5k races this season. Our men's and women's teams traveled as far south as Seaside, Oregon, and as far north as Arlington, Washington, coming home with medals and trophies every time.

Our teams just missed qualifying for the SeaKing district meet by a few points but were represented by five Quakers on Oct 27th. We hoped to send several harriers to the State Meet held in Pasco, WA, Nov. 5th.

Top runners: Juniors Tai Wong, Magarsa Ahmed, Mia Weatherby, ThienVan Truong, and Lui Tompkins; Sophomores Henry Loya, Lucy Ambrose Hutchinson, and Thomas Talmadge. Junior Sabrina Colbert lowered the school record for 3.1 miles to 18 minutes, 28 seconds.



FHS GOLF

Coach Lloyd Laigo

Regular season ended two weeks ago, and Metro League postseason competitions began Oct. 18th. For the Boys, Quaker Senior and Team Captain Jayden Quitlong (c/o 2023) finished third overall in the Metro Tournament out of 126 competitors, shooting an even par 72 at West Seattle Golf Course. Jayden also had the honor of being named All-Metro 2nd Team for 2022. He and fellow Senior Marcelo Mitre went to compete for Franklin at the District Tournament. On the Girls side, Junior Amelie Laigo was the lone representative for Franklin at the Girls Metro Tournament at Jefferson Golf Course. Amelie made the cut as an individual competitor, and qualified to move on to the next round at Districts.

Jayden's father, Gilbert Quitlong, is a Franklin alumnus (c/o 2001). Gilbert also played, and was team captain



on the Golf Team from 1997-2001. He is currently a Teaching Professional at Interbay Golf Center, Washington Athletic Club (WAC) Golf Pro, and also the Head Coach of the Seattle Prep Golf Team, which took

first place in the Metro League's team competition in 2021 and 3rd place this year.

Congratulations to this standout father and son Quaker golf tandem!

Better Than “Back to Normal”

Gabi Robbins '24 Tolo Co-editor

The past few years covid has loomed large over clubs and activities at Franklin. The pandemic forced every group to adapt. This year they are not only getting back to normal, but they are also even better. Two reemerging clubs include Mock Trial and the Theater Department. I talked to students in these programs about how they adapted to the pandemic, and what is new this year in the return to normalcy.

Oona Berk, a senior and co-captain of the Mock Trial team, told me, “There’s been a big puzzle piece missing from mock trial the past few years and I’m really hoping everyone on the teams gets to compete in a real courtroom to get the full mock trial experience.” Oona is the only team member who has been to an in-person competition. In 2018 the FHS Mock Trial team was the best mock trial team in the US, and the following year they competed at Nationals again. But when school went virtual in 2020, so did Mock Trial. With practices and competitions online, the team struggled to maintain connection and rigorous training as in past years. There were also changes in the coaching team. In the 2021-22 season, the team had meetings after school rather than during the school day and was fully student led.

This year, three coaches are returning. Peter Heineccius ('99) and Ben Stafford ('99) were both on the FHS team in 1999 and are now both attorneys. The parent of two FHS graduates, the Honorable Pauline Freund, is a judge at the SeaTac Municipal Courts and will be a volunteer coach as well.

The Language Arts teacher, Ms. Rasmussen, is new to Franklin and will be teaching the Law and Society class. Muna Jaylanni, ('22) will also be assisting the team.

In addition to experienced coaches and staff, there is another exciting new approach this year. “We’re going to have two teams at an equal level to make sure that everyone is provided with equal support. Usually there is a varsity and junior varsity team, but this nontraditional approach will prove to be extremely successful,” says Berk, based on her own experience of in-person regular training in a courtroom. With new coaches and a new team layout, Berk says she’s “really excited for this competition season because the new additions to the team have a lot of potential and foundational knowledge.”

In the 2020-2021 school year, the Franklin High School Drama Department pivoted by producing an original student-written radio show and an online production of *Treasure Island* over zoom. The transition back to in-person school in 2021 allowed the return of live performances but still included many restrictions and a gap left by not having the benefit of an experienced technical team. Despite these challenges, the students and staff still put on a full musical in the spring, *The Addams Family*.

This year, the FHS Drama Club is putting on a play called *Almost Maine*. *Almost Maine* is a collection of vignettes about a small rural town. Sara Call, Franklin’s dedicated theater teacher, told me audiences “should



Addams Family production

be excited about seeing a show where all the actors have good, strong roles that show a variety of emotions and showcase their talent.” The show is directed by Ms. Call and assistant directed by Franklin senior, Evon Hussein. Hussein says, “People should be excited to see the show because we’re doing a lot of new stuff we couldn’t do last year. We can have a full house, seating 400 people per show. Last year, we had to wear masks, take a covid test before every show, and had to stay 6 feet apart on stage.”

In addition, the Improv Club has been reactivated after taking a break for three years. Adam Dow ('09) is the coach for the team. He is currently working for an improv company in Seattle and his expertise is helping the team prepare for their competitions. Sophomore Nicole Duong, a member of the Improv Club, says, “We just had a competi-



Mock Trial Team 2021



Mock Trial Spirit week.

tion on Nov. 3rd at Eastlake High. This was my first competition and it wasn’t how I expected it to be...” then added, “We did pretty good.” Opportunities to grow and learn through experiences like this are one exciting part of what makes “back to normal” even better.

If you’d like to catch the fall play, performances of *Almost Maine* will be on January 19, 20, 24, 25 in the Franklin auditorium.



Here is the link to the YouTube channel (past projects): <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHEzyb3a6JjQBH5DTmrnEiQ>
 Here is the link to the QTV archive: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB0GUjK1lrgq8M4xm12F8Q>
 For more pictures and live links, see the Blog section of our website: [Quaker Times Blog — Franklin Alumni Association and Foundation](#)



Student Reporter to the Quaker Times Gabi Robbins

Franklin Student Serving on the Seattle School Board: Jenna Yuan

Barbara Hayes Mahoney '67

Jenna Yuan is not one to put herself in the spotlight; she prefers to listen and include other perspectives before she speaks. Her leadership style must be successful, as she is President of the Key Club, Vice President of the National Honor Society, Treasurer of the Asian Student Association, and Vice President of Girls Who Code. She is also a Running Start student, taking two college classes at Seattle Central and on the FHS campus three days per week.

She is not shy but reserved and measured. She believes that is one reason the Seattle School Board (SSB) selected her to be in the first group of three students to serve as SSB members on the Board.. She sees her participation in the Board as an opportunity to improve her leadership and public speaking skills while giving back to the community.

This new program is in its first year, and Jenna and her cohort are working hard to establish a solid structural foundation for future student representatives to be respected and valued. The SSB has set up a program of staff mentors who meet with the students via zoom every Monday to inform the students about the SSB issues, give them background information and allow them a chance to voice their concerns and offer suggestions. During Jenna’s first SSB meeting (the Board meets every other Wednesday with the students rotating attendance) there was a discussion of the tentative teachers’ union agreement. Feeling uninformed, she

worked with the staff mentor to establish the Monday morning informational sessions.

In addition to the staff mentors, each student has a Board member mentor with whom they communicate freely. She would like to see a substantive training session, including all the Board members, at the beginning of each year for student representatives. She envisions more student-members, representing a broader range of the Seattle schools, with more than one student at each meeting.

Jenna would like the Board to work on issues such as school safety and being more open in communicating with the students and sharing information. Currently, students and their parents aren’t told why a lockdown or shelter-in-place incident occurs, which leads to anxiety on the part of students and their families. She sees many other opportunities for improved communications as well.

Mental and emotional support in the schools is a second area of emphasis for the three student Board members. For example, she believes it would be beneficial to have transition training for students before arriving at middle school and before coming to high school, to prepare them for these major changes. The three students also want to start a newsletter which would focus on all aspects of higher education for Juniors and



Seniors, providing all students with information and assistance on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) scholarships and the college application process.

Jenna was born in the Cantonese region of Southern China and has been a SPS student since she came from China as a six-year-old. She had a difficult time learning English. She still thinks in Chinese and continues to maintain her Chinese as a valuable skill. Jenna loves technology and plans to major in Computer Science Informatics.

James Rasmussen, '74, Jazz Musician and Founder of Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition, Retires

James Rasmussen stood on the steps that descended below street level at the corner of 1st and Jackson for over a decade -- a head above the sidewalk. On those steps he watched the world go by, first as an employee and later as the owner of **Bud's Jazz Records** in Seattle's historic Pioneer Square. James is well known and deeply respected for many things. He is champion for environmental justice through his leadership to clean up the Duwamish River valley. He is also a renowned musician and band leader spanning decades. He also was dedicated to a healthier and more vibrant Duwamish River valley. From those steps in Pioneer Square James has watched Seattle change over time; his work has contributed to a healthier and more vibrant Duwamish Valley.

James was born and raised in South Seattle on Beacon Hill; his parents brought their baby home to a house built in 1900. His ancestry dates back much further to his great, great, great grandparents Abner and Ann Tuttle. In the Seattle they knew, they walked their cows down Cheasty Boulevard to drink from the creek. James was primarily raised by his grandfather while his mother and father worked. His grandfather taught him who he was, including to love and respect his native ancestry and cultural heritage. He also taught him the terrible truths about the experiences and treatment of Native Americans in our country -- so, to be guarded.

James remembers going to hear his grandfather and mother speak as mem-



bers of the Duwamish tribal council from a very young age. Later he was following in the footsteps of his ancestors when he joined the tribal council; when he became the founding director of the Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center (DLCC); when he led with the community to form the Environmental Protection Agency's roundtable superfund to clean up the Duwamish River; and, when he played with and led monumental jazz ensembles.

As James was attending tribal council meetings as a kid he was also attending school in Seattle and learning to play music. He began playing at Kimball Elementary, which at the time was housed only in portables. James fondly remembers the beautifully diverse community of Beacon Hill. He went on to Mercer Junior High School where he continued to build the foundation for his musical career. At the time, Nathan Hale High School was well known for its music program, so James initially wanted to travel north to be part of their music program. However, **Chuck Chinn**, the band director at Franklin, had heard about James and his prowess as a trumpet player. Chuck visited James at Mercer and made it clear he wanted James at Franklin. James talked to his parents, both of whom are Franklin grads, as is his sister, and James went to Franklin.

There is much written about the infamous Franklin Jazz Lab of the mid-1970's. They were among the best high school jazz ensembles in the nation, winning numerous jazz festivals both locally and nationally, including the Reno Jazz Festival. **Kenny Gorelick** (Kenny G) and many other skilled musicians were a part of it, along with James who led the trumpet section. The Franklin Jazz Lab was so well known they were written up in *Downbeat Magazine* and featured on *Jazz After Hours with Jim Wilke*. They were known for playing funky, hip tunes rather than the typical straight ahead swing and bop other bands were playing. Those funky tunes were composed

and arranged by the skilled hands of **Jim Gardner**, a Garfield grad, who was a cool cat on the music scene. The tunes he wrote were a significant part of what made the Jazz Lab so well known. To this day, James can rattle off the names of his band mates like it was yesterday.

At one of the many festivals the Jazz Lab attended, James was approached by one of the judges who offered him a scholarship to continue studying music at Mt. Hood Community College. James had his sights set on Berklee College of Music in Boston. At Berklee, James was a trumpet player amongst an ocean of guitar players. After two years, he moved home to Washington and studied under Bill Cole at Western Washington University. Following his studies at Western, he was back in Seattle doing "first call" (a career goal for successful musicians) for bands touring the country. He played some of the most well-known music venues in the city and played with some of the most famous bands of the time including The Temptations, The Four Tops, The Spinners, Lou Rawls and many others. When these musicians came to town James would report to sight-read their tunes for a quick two-hour rehearsal. Then they would all go to dinner, come back, and play the show to sold-out crowds. James played "first call" for 15 years, all the while remaining focused on his Tribal Council commitments and responsibilities.

When James had done all he wanted to do with his music except start his own band, he and Doug Rasmussen (no relation) started the Puget Sound Jazz Ensemble -- a group which became The Jazz Police, a well-known jazz band in Seattle for decades. The Jazz Police promoted local artists and writers, worked with big names in jazz like Gretta Matassa, recorded 5-6 studio albums and won the Northwest area music award for jazz-big band. They played for decades, holding down a regular spot at Tula's in Belltown among other venues.

John Beal, a Vietnam veteran who lived



in South Park, was passionate about creek restoration and said that the Duwamish River is something the tribe should really take an interest in. James heard that call. He arranged for John to present to the Tribal Council and following the presentation, James told the Council Chair Cecile Hansen, that this was important for them to consider. Hansen told him "You're going to do it." From then on, James became committed to cleaning up the Duwamish River.

There were many aspects that he had to learn along the way. He built connections and relationships with organizations and individuals dedicated to the cause. It was through his advocacy and networking that he became a founding member of the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC), which tracked the research and testing of the river cleanup efforts. During this time, James and the Duwamish tribe seized the opportunity to build the Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center (DLCC), which officially opened in 2009. James was part of the leadership team who worked on designs for the construction over a 6-year period. He became the first director of the DLCC, a post he held for 7 years.

Because of the work of the DRCC, we are closer than we have ever been to a clean, healthy, and vibrant Duwamish River valley.

James shared his satisfaction for the work of which he has been part. In his humble way, he is proud of the fact that 25% more dredging of the river is occurring and that they are now working on the next phase of the cleanup. He points to the collaborative work of people that care, and the input from the community -- both drivers of this effort. James remains an advisor to the DRCC and attends meetings regularly to stay informed and to provide input and guidance to the next generation of change-agents.

While James was working as the director of the DLCC, he was also working at Bud's Jazz Records in Pioneer Square. One day he saw a letter on Bud's desk. Times were tough in the brick-and-mortar vinyl record store industry, but music runs through James' veins and so he approached Bud and offered to buy the place. From then on, Bud stopped paying James, and James

started paying Bud and eventually James owned Bud's Jazz Records. Things continued changing and times remained tough. Everyone was moving away from vinyl and toward CDs. Online sales increased. James made the tough decision to sell the inventory, including his own collection, and close the store.

Bud's Jazz Records, Franklin High School, and the Seattle metropolitan area occupy the indigenous lands of the Coast Salish and Duwamish people. James shared that he has watched gentrification change the city he has called home. James points out that Seattle has a well-known and well-deserved reputation for being progressive and liberal, but it is also home to significant racial disparities and inequities. In our city, the zip code in which you live influences your life expectancy. James reminds us that in South Park, where the Duwamish River flows, life expectancy is on average seven years shorter due to the pollution. The health of the Duwamish River valley and its people motivated James to use his voice, to take action, and to make change, stepping into the footsteps of his ancestors. And from his vantage point on the corner of 1st and Jackson, where he stood just a head above the sidewalk watching the world go by, James is assured that "the voices of my people are still there."

James retired in 2022 and moved to Las Vegas to be closer to his daughter. James still attends tribal council meetings via zoom to stay informed and to keep pushing forward.

*Drew O'Connell, '97
Vice President of FAAandF
Former Principal of Franklin*

For live links, see our website's blog: [Quaker Times Blog — Franklin Alumni Association and Foundation](#)

[Jazz fans lament record store's closing | The Seattle Times](#)

[Restoring the Duwamish River - YouTube](#)

[James Rasmussen | The Seattle Times](#)

[Reclaiming the Duwamish River: A Conversation With James Rasmussen - ICT \(indiancountrytoday.com\)](#)

Vimeo: [Duwamish Revealed \(Documentary\) on Vimeo](#) Documentary of celebration of the river.

Doreen Cohen Alhadeff ('68): Ambassador and Knight

Doreen Cohen Alhadeff has been a warrior for the people of the Seattle Sephardic Jewish community and worldwide, helping them apply for the Spanish citizenship taken from them in the Spanish Inquisition.

The Inquisition began in 1478 when the Catholic monarchs King Ferdinand II of Aragon and Queen Isabella I of Castile (often referred to as Isabella the Catholic Queen), strove to make Spain a purely Catholic nation by any and all means. The Sephardic Jews who refused to convert, numbering 100,000 to 300,000, were driven out of Spain in 1492, and many fled to the then Ottoman Empire, including Turkey and Greece.

In 2015 Spain established a law that would allow descendants of the those who fled Spain to become full Spanish citizens. After a great deal of research into the process, Doreen was the first American to take advantage of the new law and helped many in the US and worldwide with the lengthy process. While the Spanish law has expired, Portugal has a similar citizenship program still in effect. Successful applicants have full voting citizenship in Spain or Portugal and are issued European Union passports.

Spain and the US have each rewarded Doreen for her tireless work. She is the US Ambassador to a network of Spanish cities with Sephardic heritage, and Spain has just awarded her a Knighthood in a formal decoration ceremony this October. Her



Doreen Cohen Alhadeff

Knighthood is, either fittingly or ironically, named after Queen Isabella.

The Sephardic Jews have been an important part of the Seattle fabric since about 1902 - 1906 when economic difficulties in Greece and Turkey led many to migrate to the US. The first woman to arrive was Doreen's grandmother Dora Levy Cohen, in 1906. Seattle was a distant but logical destination for the migrants due to the fishing opportunities which mirrored their Greek and Turkish fishing occupations.

Doreen is extremely proud of her background and has been actively involved in the Sephardic community throughout her life. She co-founded Seattle Sephardic Network. On graduating from Franklin, she attended the UW. Armed with her Spanish skills she

decided to continue her education in Europe in Spain where she immersed herself in Spanish language and literature. Following graduation she returned to Spain often to visit and work.

Her life in Seattle took a turn in 2012 when she met the Honorary Counsel for Washington and Oregon, Luis Fernando Esteban, who recognized her deep relationship to Spain and the Sephardic community, for which he also had a great affinity. He involved Doreen in numerous activities, including a group trip to Spain to visit important Sephardic Jewish sites and organizations, and a Washington state delegation. Esteban nominated her for knighthood.

Doreen has been married to Garfield graduate Joseph Alhadeff for almost 50 years and they are proud parents of two sons and grandparents to four. She works full time as a real estate agent. She feels her work, and the work she has done in her community, both here and in Spain, have helped broaden her world tremendously.

The multicultural education she got at Franklin was very important and opened the world up to her making it easier to transition and immerse herself in a different culture. That experience has been immeasurable in her growth. Experiencing different cultures and understanding their value made it much easier for her to take her life's path. This was Franklin's gift to her, as it is for so many others.



Left to right: Mitchell and Loren Alhadeff (sons); Sophia, Joelle Alhadeff, and Norah Alhadeff (grandchildren); Luis Fernando Esteban; Joseph Alhadeff; and Doreen.



Doreen with Enrique Ansory Brey, General Consul in San Francisco (left) and Luis Fernando Esteban, Honorary Consul of Washington and Oregon.

HALL OF FAME 2022

Our mascot and cheerleaders led us into the doors of Ray's Boathouse (owner, Earl Lasher '59) to celebrate the long-awaited return of Franklin's Hall of Fame and Annual Dinner: eight decades (1950s through 2022) of alumni, students, and friends of Franklin aglow in Quaker Pride. The weather showed kindness and the sunset was spectacular as all enjoyed a dinner buffet that is still receiving compliments.

Ramona Bennett ('56), Puyallup Tribal Elder, captivated the audience with stories of injustice and the wisdom learned from successfully fighting back. Sharon Tomiko Santos ('79) spoke of the motivations to better the community she grew up in as State Representative for the 37th District and the

many great successes. We thank her for her sacrifice and dedication! Noah Purcell ('97), Solicitor General of the Washington State Attorney General's Office, was introduced by Zoe McGough ('20), Franklin Mock Trial alum. The introduction made evident that in addition to the incredible work Noah is doing for Washington State, his legacy as a mentor is equally consequential.

Seniors Sammy Kassa ('22) and Delano Cordova ('22) expressed gratitude to the alumni for financial support and personal encouragement. Outgoing Principal Drew O'Connell asked for volunteers to read quotes collected from scholarship awardees. Ryan Purcell ('00) emceed the evening and led the Raise the Paddle. Total proceeds for the night exceeded \$65,000.



Hall of Fame inductees Noah Purcell ('97), Ramona Bennett ('56) and Sharon Santos ('79)



2023 Hall of Fame
&
Annual Dinner
Scheduled for May 18, 2023

Save the Date!

Send sponsorship interest to
faaandf@gmail.com



Event Sponsors from Wells Fargo Private Bank (Paul Carr and Nikolao Vinogradov) and Seattle Hand Surgery Group (John Miyano) with alums from the 1980s.



Drew O'Connell, '97, former Principal at Franklin, and current Vice President of the FAAandF Board.



Perfect setting and evening.



Two of the many organizers of the event: Colleen Morisaki Jay '71 (right) Tamiko Gandy Miyano '88 (left). Colleen made the flower arrangements with Toni Mamallo-Thomas '67.

LIFETIME MEMBERS

who joined since 2018

AC Campbell '38

Ms. Deborah Burton '67

Roger Emerick '57

Carlene Hancock Palsson '78

Henry Ken Hayashi '69

Richard Helling '76

Barbara Mahoney '67

James McCurdy '41

Donald Mitchell '63

Andrew O'Connell '97

Meg Pagler Mournin '88

Annasara Guzzo Purcell '02

Daniel Sessoms '85

Rhonda Smith Banchemo '91

Marilyn Stalcup '67

Mrs. Leah Thorpe

Scott Tinker '90



FRANKLIN ALUMNI
Association & Foundation



Calling all Quakers! Quakers-for-Life!

Franklin High School has a long track record of helping to shape exceptional students who go on to make our communities better. Alumni make significant contributions in politics, music, sports, advocacy, business, medicine, human services, and every sector you can imagine.

And as alums, we can support and enrich the school environment for the next generation of change makers. Since 1996, the Association & Foundation have been raising funds to buy sports uniforms, support off-site field trips, purchase new equipment to replace broken or marginally functional items, and send outgoing seniors off with a scholarship as they embark on their new lives. Through donations to the foundation and membership to the alumni association we distribute between \$25,000 - \$40,000 each year.

With your partnership, we can do even more.

We have huge ambitions for the future of our scholarship funds and school support funds, and we need your help to get there. Some of these big ambitions include:

- Growing our endowment so that every graduating student who needs a scholarship receives one.
- Supporting the Athletic Department by purchasing uniforms more frequently than every three years.
- Providing equipment and supplies not otherwise provided. For example, baseball and softball teams can't practice on rainy days and there is not enough money to pay to go to batting places. FAA&F recently provided the batting cages which enables students to practice in the gym, and never miss a practice.
- Continuing support for many other programs – Mock Trial, music, arts, tech., etc

We need your support to make that possible.

There are many ways to contribute:

- **Join** or **Renew** your membership.
- Make a donation to the endowment. (To increase our capacity to benefit students and support sustainability of our programs.)
- Make a bequest. (See description of how on next page.)
- Volunteer your skills. (For example: help plan events, like the Hall of Fame; contribute to the Quaker Times; provide mentoring to seniors about potential career paths; facilitate partnerships with businesses and community nonprofits to benefit students, to name just a few.)

Will you join us and make a gift to support these future change makers? Quakers have made a difference in this world, and we can make a difference at Franklin. Join us!

Show your LQVE!

From the QT Editor:

Dear alumni and friends of Franklin,

This edition of the Quaker Times features a 'first.' We have begun a collaboration with the Quaker Yearbook Team, and are delighted to welcome two student reporters, **Gabi Robbins** and **Anayah Cornelius**. See Gabi's article (pages 6-7) which gives a close-up view of Franklin as it moves into a post-pandemic world. One can see the vitality at Franklin in the reports from Franklin's new Principal, **Dr. Williams**, and its new Athletic Director, **Cameron Dollar**.

Our alumni reportorial team has also grown. In addition to **Barbara Mahoney '67**, who contributed to the last edition and now writes about a Franklin student member of the Seattle School Board (page 7) and a Franklin Knight (page 10), we deepened our bench with the addition of **Drew O'Connell '97**, our new FAAandF Vice President and past Principal of Franklin (pages 8-9); **Nancy (Anderson) Armstrong '69**, who writes about her brother (page 20); **Nancy (Turnbull) Morgan '67**, and **Barbara Anderson '66** (and honorary member of '67), for their proofreading contributions; **Erica (Taliaferro) Gilliam '01**; and **Joshua Fields '00**. Many thanks to all those who contributed pictures of reunions and events as well.

Most particularly, a shout-out to **Robin Asher '74**, for bringing her significant skills to the layout and considerable patience with the amateur staff of the Quaker Times.

If you'd like to join the team, contact us at editor.quakertimes@gmail.com. (No committee meetings are involved!)

Quakers for Life!

Mary Duryee, '67, Editor

Scholarships

Our scholarship chair, Herman Houston '67, recently shared some thoughts about the outstanding students who share their lives and their dreams within their applications:

I find pride and inspiration in the fact that our committee understood the humanity and the life story that was often hidden between the lines written by students applying for a scholarship. We saw students who have already used up a lifetime's worth of hope; students who forfeited their childhood to help their family survive; students schooled by racism and deaths of friends; students with the wisdom that mental health is not the same as their G.P.A.; students with dreams weighed down by reality. And notably, students with a North Star.

Bequests – A Legacy for Franklin

The Franklin Alumni Association and Foundation receives bequests from time to time that enable us to substantially increase our support for Franklin and its students. Bequests have included scholarship funds, substantial acquisitions to the library, many grants to school programs. In implementing your estate planning, we urge you to keep Franklin in mind. You can give your advisor this information for use in documenting gifts in your will or trust:

"I give, devise and bequest to Franklin Alumni Association & Foundation (a Washington Non-Profit Corporation, Federal identification # 91-1746251), located at P.O. Box 28276, Seattle, WA 98118-8276, the sum of \$_____ for the benefit of that organization in its support of the programs, students, and graduates of Franklin High School."

You can specify specific uses for your gift, or require that only earnings from the gift be used. But, because of the complications in accounting for many smaller funds, we ask that gifts for limited purposes or restricted to use of only earnings from the gift, be limited to gifts of \$100,000 or more.

For specific advice on structuring such gifts, please contact, or have your advisor contact, the Association's Treasurer, David Duryee, or Tamiko Miyano, through FAAandF@gmail.com.

BENEFACTOR MEMBERS

who joined since 2018

Belinda Butler Bell

Heleya de Barros '02

Elaine Endress Braun '45

Bonnie Gilman Rattner '55

Marjorie Harris Hunt '59

Richard Helling '76

Donald Hillestad '52

Jane Lee German '67

Kelly Locklin '83

Catherine "Kaite" Pugel '74

Curtis A Sakamoto

Robert "Bob" H Shaffer '74

Diana Sum Tam '89

Michael Tonkinson

Beverlee & Gordan Topp Boe '60

Jackie Vasser Nordgran '57

Fred Yearian '59



FRANKLIN ALUMNI
Association & Foundation



20th Reunion for '02 and '01

Submitted by Gabrielle (Simmons) Mbodji '02

On July 23, 2022, Dimitri White and I threw our 20-year reunion at the Seattle Art Museum in downtown Seattle. We invited our fellow classmates from 2001 and got a response when a couple of them reposted the invite.

It was a great turnout right in the center of our city. The Seattle Art Museum (SAM) was the perfect destination to catch up after 20 years. The grand staircase was a focal point and gave the ideal entrance for every guest. The food was top tier and the music kept the party going with hits from 1998-2002.

For entry we gave custom wristbands. We had a memorial setup for all our classmates who had passed away. The Smilepatrol 360 photo booth was an instant hit. (The Smilepatrol 360 was a digital booth in which you can take photos or videos and get them sent instantly to your phone via text or email. It worked great with our hashtag (#classof02reunion). Guests were able to post directly to their social media in seconds.)

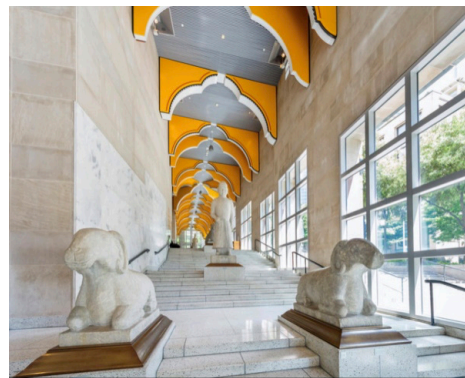
Dimitri reached out to several FHS staff and classmates who couldn't make it and put together a video montage of hello's, memories, and well wishes. We also asked those classmates with businesses to donate an item for raffle prizes to highlight their business and get some Quaker support.



As a parting gift we gave custom keychains, candles, and photos of our beloved Alma mater. With over 150 Quakers representing, the night was an absolute success.



Dimitri and Gabrielle



Seattle Art Museum



40th Reunion for Class of 1982



Angela (Moxley) McKinney; Marva Benjamin; Rhea (Gary) Tiche; Gina (Amon) Jaffe; Alex Jenkins; Vicci (Calvo) Kane; Pamela Charles

Our reunion was put together unofficially, and really came about due to Tony Tsuboi asking what was happening for our 40th -- and then taking the reins and running with it. Folks that helped included: Kit (Wright) Ofsthus; Marva Benjamin; Dan Boerner;



Class of 1982

Ray Makela; Sandi (Tagart) Burton; Glenn Leimbacher; and Chris Mason (who is not class of '82 but puts together Quaker Day in the Park every year).

We met at Seward Park on September 17 and invited any Quakers who wanted to join to come on out, so we had multiple classes represented.



Shari Anderson, Monica Lau, Chris Mason, Michelle Heier, Thema Bentley



Alex Jenkins, Cindy Eng, Vicci (Calvo) Kane, Kit (Wright) Ofsthus, Gina (Amon) Jaffe, Thema Bentley



Kit (Wright) Ofsthus, Tony Tsuboi, Sandi (Tagart) Burton, Ray Makela



Whole group.

50th Reunion: Class of 1970

After being delayed two years, the Class of 1970's 50th Reunion was held at the Embassy Suites at Southcenter. Louise Chiprut Berman and Calvin Locke co-chaired this event. Mark Abolofia was our MC, Brian Gorelick worked with members of the Bel Canto Choir for a musical surprise. Included in the dinner were appetizers, a bar voucher, a plated dinner, cake and cookies for dessert.

Marcia Peha Wiviott, Rochelle DeLeon Shuster, Debbie Terry-Hays, and Ruth Lorimer Locke made sure everything was set up. Linda Salazar Eddy worked behind the scene and Jerry Baroh kept our finances on track. Suzanne Ohashi Yokoyama took care of our memorabilia table. Marcia Bienn Evans stayed on top of catering concerns. Wendy Bensussen kept us up-to-date with health advice and Rodney Eng kept our contracts legal. Traveling the farthest

was Clark Wyatt, who came in from Guam. Others came from North Carolina, Texas, California, Arizona, and Oregon. The made-for-this-event photobooth was a big hit.

The class of 1970 raised a total of **\$3,155.81** in donations. This will be distributed to: **JazzEd**, in honor of our classmate, Deems Tsutakawa; the **Edwin Lee Leadership Foundation**, in honor of our classmate, Edwin Lee; and over \$2400 to the **FHS Alumni Foundation**.

Stay tuned: we plan to hold another event next year.



Ginger Phillips McDonald, Leona White Gabryshak, Louise Chiprut Berman, Cecilia Evans



Dave Hata, Rodney Eng, Jack Eng, Calvin Locke, Danny Ikeda, Dan Sarusal



Wendy Bensussen, Terrie Lawson Paine, Marcia Bienn Evans, Marcia Peha Wiviott



Steve Akrish, Jim Rio, David Israel, Mark Abolofia, Rick Rogers



Bonnie Fair Madison, Patricia Brown, Andre Pam Daye Hines



Laurie Tazuma, Georgene Kumasaka Murishige, Suzanne Ohashi Yokoyama, Mary Furakawa Tekema, Linda Suyama, Glennis Ikeda Marsten



Ken Kubota, Leonard Berman



Clark Wyatt, David Israel



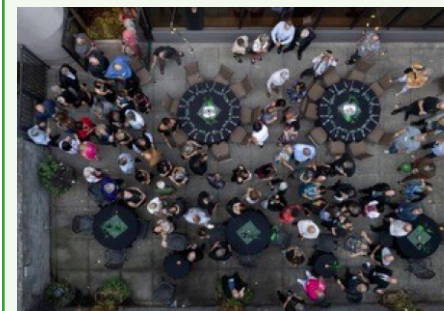
Calvin Locke, Tyree Forrest



Bel Canto singers: Rodney Eng, Calvin Locke, Andre Pam Daye Hines, Barbara Kano Chase, Brian Gorelick, Ruth Lorimer Locke, Ginger Phillips McDonald, Maureen Krasnowsky

Another 50th Reunion! Class of 1971

Submitted by Colleen Morisaki-Jay



Attempt at group photo via drone! Doubletree, Southcenter



The incomparable star of stage and screen (currently Magnum P.I.) Amy Hill giving out fun "gifts" with Roger Baldwin.



Class of '71 Cheer Squad! Front: Chris Namba; Barb (Abe) Nakahara; Cindy Lee; Shari Woo; Louise (Akiyama) Wright. Row 2: Ruben Zapata; Michael Tudor; Albie Moshcatel; Jennifer Evans.

50th Reunion of the Class of 1972

The Class of 1972 held their reunion at the Tyee Yacht Club on Lake Union.



Back row: Larry Goldman; Denise Goldman (Larry's wife); Vera (Odden) Rolstad; Janet Schaefer, Vince (Janet's guest). Front row: Kathy (Murphy) Rosenberg; Diane Hamlin; Toni (Hughes) Webb; Debbie Lawson Willner – married to classmate Jim Willner.

This is the Reunion committee: Lynn Throssel; Patrice Bishop; Michelle (Anthony) Berry; Patsy Yamada; Diana (Brooks) Jang; Marcia (Chow) Okazaki; Patti Barilla-Wilmot; Bill Pope. Missing: Diane (Wood) Gardner.



Meg Bowman; Karen (Rosatti) Ozanich; Leo Egashira; Robin Summerrise (our DJ and classmate); Lis (Bailey) Bredice; Richard Ring; Bill Pope.



Krista (Brestel) Wahlquist; Perry Brestel; Susan (Trower) Kimes; Fan Pen (Chen) Li; Ruth Simano; Leo Egashira.

55th Reunion, Class of 1967

The class of '67 enjoyed an afternoon at Seward park, September 11, 2022.



Ellen (Gilson) Steere; Ric Miller; Barbara (Hayes) Mahoney



Dave Munsen (left); Ric Miller



Phillip Patton; Jeff Bishop; and Tod Gordon



Left to right: Toni Mamallo-Thomas; Helen (Chan) Mitchell; Sari (Cohen) Sichel; Steve Ticeson; Bob Gasperetti; Herman Houston



Jack and Geri (Levi) Alhadeff



Right to left: Jack Alhadeff ('64); Andy Anderson; Jay Shupak



Kris Bennett and Shelley Myers



FRANKLIN ALUMNI Association & Foundation



Geri (Levi) Alhadeff and Pete Barlow

John Muir Elementary Alumni Celebrate 61-Year Reunion

On September 9th more than a dozen graduates of the John Muir class of 1961 (6th grade) gathered for an afternoon filled with laughs, stories, connecting with friends from the past and good memories. The venue overlooked Lake Washington, directly across from Seward Park and Andrews Bay, on a warm and sunny afternoon. This was the third gathering of the Class of 1961; the previous gatherings celebrated 46 years (2007) and 58 years (2019).

Most of the attendees went on to graduate from Franklin. For this gathering, however, we found and invited classmates that had moved away prior to attending Franklin.

One might well ask, who does this? It is the class of '67.



2022 Back Row L-R: Jan Fisher Brousseau, Sari Cohen Sichel. Center Row: Gary Fuller, Janis Roberts Short, Sue (Sugia) Anderson, John Stieber, Geri Levy Alhadeff, Betsy Nathane, Lucy (Altaras) Berentsen, Doug Knopp, Barb Hayes Mahoney Front Row: Deb Burton, Pete Barlow



2007 Back Row L-R: Kris Bennett; Deb Burton; Sue (Sugia) Anderson; Bobbie (Barnett) Boushey; Tom Leavitt; Margie Meyers; Lucille Altaras; Steve Givens; Mary Duryee; Jack Rosenthal; Geri (Levi) Alhadeff; Jack Rothwell; Gary Fuller; Ken Shawcroft; Diane (Robertson) Plesha; John Stieber; Janis Roberts; Roland Yumang. Front row: Barbara Mahoney; Pete Barlow.

Remembering Eric Anderson, '65 (1947 – 2019)



Eric Anderson graduated in 1965 with a 4.0 GPA, an honor shared with his classmates Judy Kessler, Roberta Russak, and Steve Sidell. Eric received his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley, majoring in computer science. He later received a master's degree in computer science from the University of Southern California while working as a computer programmer for the aerospace company Thompson Ramo Wooldridge (TRW, currently Northrop Grumman), located in Manhattan Beach. He also worked for Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) in Oakland for several years before returning to work at Northrop Grumman where he retired. He was married for 30 years to Cristi Garvey, now deceased, and is survived by his son Daniel and his Franklin alum sisters, myself, (Nancy (Anderson) Armstrong, '69) and Barbara Anderson ('66).

Eric was an extremely gifted mathematician at Franklin and was written up in

the local Seattle newspapers several times for his accomplishments.

As a sophomore he was a member of the Franklin math team, coached by maybe the best math teacher in the city, Mr. Shirley Boselly. The team won the state high school championship twice (1962 and 1963) in an annual contest sponsored by the Mathematics Association of America. This picture, published in the Seattle Post Intelligencer in April 1963, shows the three Franklin team members (Marvin Banasky 1st place, Toshihiko Mihara (2nd) and Eric (5th) presenting the trophy to Mr. Boselly.

An article in the Seattle PI, dated Thursday June 27, 1963, notes "2 Bright



Young Men," and honored Eric for his mathematical accomplishment.

At 16, Eric passed the first exam to become a member of the Society of Actuaries. To become fellows who figure premiums and benefits for insurance companies and pension funds, people must pass 8 exams, usually taken after college. Eric, who was working in the summer at Milliman and Robertson, took and passed the exam on his first attempt.

The exam covers mathematics through calculus. Eric was able to take courses in college algebra and analytic geometry in a special program at Franklin. He took a calculus class at the University of Washington in the afternoons during the school year.

In his junior year in 1964, Eric was one of 225,000 of the top High School math-

ematics students to take the United States High School Math Test. Eric, at age 17, placed third nationally. His accomplishment was written up in the Seattle Times, dated Jun 27, 1964.

The article mentions Eric's love for music (he was an accomplished pianist at the time), and love for building electronic gadgets, such as a hi-fi record player.

Eric had a love for magic since childhood. As an adult he learned sleight of hand tricks using coins and cards, and he was a performing member of the Magic Castle located in Los Angeles and continued to be a student of magic and chess throughout his life.

Eric's sisters have so many wonderful and funny memories of their amazing brother, for he was not only brilliant he always loved a good pun!

Nancy (Anderson) Armstrong, '69

HE LIKES SCIENCE: Sat. June 27, 1964

4.0 Franklin High Pupil 3rd in U. S. Math Test

By MARSHALL WILSON

One day in March about 225,000 of the top mathematics pupils in United States high schools sat down in their classrooms to take the same test.

Eric Anderson, 17, son of Dr. and Mrs. A. Robert Anderson, 2311 Cascade Ave., ranked up the third-highest score.

Mathematics isn't the only subject in which the Franklin High School pupil excels. He has science — any science — almost as well. He has a 4.0 (straight A) grade-point average. Eric will be a senior next fall.

Richard C. Schroepel, a senior at Lawrence Technical School in Chicago ranked first in the test sponsored by the Mathematics Association of America and the Society of Actuaries. Fred M. Gelfond, New Rochelle, N. Y., was second.

SCHROEPPEL reportedly has an I. Q. of "over 200."

"I don't know. But I'm sure it's not over 200," the modest youth said. Seattle schools do not reveal the result of I. Q. tests.

"Does Eric have to study hard to keep up his good grades?"

"I'm not sure whether I have to or not," Eric said. "I do it anyway. I like to learn interesting things. I study until the work is done. But it's not hard when school was out this year."

Other subjects which attract Eric are music (he plays the piano), electronics (he built his own hi-fi set) and girls, and not necessarily in that order.

"I don't go steady—but I steady with the same girl," Eric explained. "There's a difference."

ERIC ALSO likes basketball and swimming. He is a member of the Franklin High School basketball team. He didn't make the team," Eric said. "It's good enough to play, but not good enough to help a team."

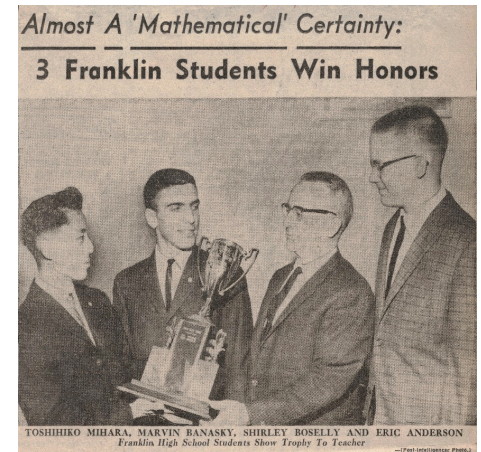
Bach and Beethoven are no strangers to Eric.

"But I like 'bad' music," he said. "No, that isn't quite right. There is no bad music. Just say I like the Beatles."

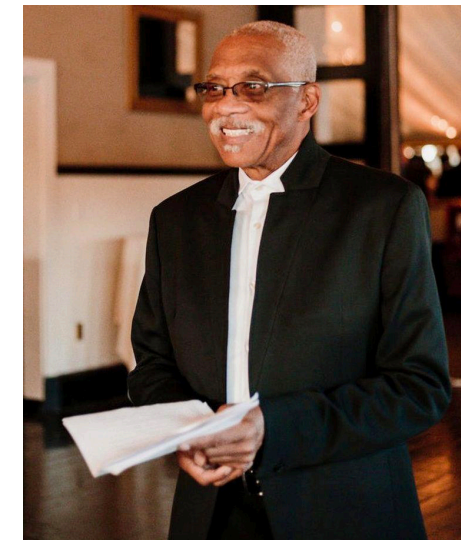
For his good grades, Eric credits his school — "Franklin is pretty well ranked," he said. "I had a good teacher, Shirley Boselly."

IN 1963 Eric finished ninth in the state mathematics test. He was fifth in the state last year.

For a summer job, Eric works for Milliman & Robertson, consulting-actuary firm. He works in computer programming and does research on pension plans.



Seattle social justice leader Garry Owens dies at 77



Garry Owens in October 2019 at a family wedding, which he emceed with his son Jamil. (Courtesy the family.)

Often when we think about social justice leadership, the people we celebrate are the firebrands, the orators, the ones in front of the microphone.

But the engine of social change is also found behind the scenes in quieter places, where polarized perspectives are debated then shifted, a process nurtured by authentic relationships, trust and respect.

For more than 50 years, that's where you would find lifelong Seattle social justice leader Garry Owens, who died of multiple health issues Sept. 30 at age 77.

"There were very few people in the Seattle progressive movement who did not know who Garry was," said his longtime friend Bill Fletcher Jr., a scholar, activist and author.

Despite his influence in the community, Owens was humble.

"Garry was deeply committed to social justice. He just sweated social justice," Fletcher said.

"There was nothing beneath him. He was not one of these prima donnas who say, 'No, I won't set up the chairs.' He would do whatever it took. And you could just simply count on him."

Owens was born in the Chinatown International District, and his roots in the diverse neighborhood informed his approach to multiracial organizing and coalition building. He attended South Seattle schools and graduated from Franklin High School, where he became



Garry Owens and Cindy Domingo in August 2018 at Butchart Gardens in Victoria, British Columbia. (Jerry Large/ courtesy the family)

involved in the Seattle chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality, or CORE. He was drafted into the Army and returned to Seattle in 1967 to attend the University of Washington. In 1968, he became an early member of the Seattle chapter of the Black Panther Party.

In 2016, Owens told The Seattle Times that of the work he did while in the Black Panther Party, he was most proud of the free breakfast program. "We didn't just feed Black kids. We fed hungry kids," he said.

Owens' care for young people extended throughout his life and work. His spouse of over 30 years, Cindy Domingo — a longtime Seattle activist and organizer — said the outpouring of messages from people of all backgrounds and ages during his passing reflected that commitment.

"He committed over 50 years of his life to radical change in this world, both in the United States and internationally," she said. "And he always saw that young people were the hope, that vision. So he spent a lot of time mentoring, encouraging and educating young people."

Personal connections and relationship-building were at the core of how Owens lived, Domingo and others said. Owens would be the one to send texts and notes

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of encouragement to friends and acquaintances and check up on people.

"Those mean a lot to people in terms of that human touch and human care, and a lot of times, we as organizers don't have the time or don't see it as important in our organizing work," Domingo said.

The care and interest was deeply genuine, Fletcher said. He said Owens' relationships were not transactional and while Owens had his own strong views, he deeply listened to others and respected their perspective.

"He wouldn't look down on people. And he wasn't judgmental. That's why he was able to be a good mentor," Fletcher said.



Garry Owens celebrates with his children and granddaughters in March 2020. Left to right: Jamil Owens, Whitney Diggs, Ann Marie Diggs, Garry Owens, Maddie Diggs and Malik Owens. (Courtesy of the family)

Owens' ability to build relationships across differences also distinguished his approach. Owens spent many years as a board member leading LELO, formerly the Labor and Employment Law Office, a labor-rights organization founded explicitly as a cross-racial organization to fight for racial and economic justice.

As Fletcher put it, "[Owens] wanted to unify, and he wanted to win. And so he was able to distinguish issues that should split us and those that should not be valuable."

It wasn't just racial differences but political differences that Owens bridged.

continued on next page

Garry Owens

...continued from previous page

Owens' friend, civic leader and activist Sharon Maeda, who met him in the 1970s at UW, said he would engage with others, even if they had differing views. When people would attack each other and retrench into their ideological camps, he wouldn't. "That's not Garry. And he would make a point of going to see people or talking to people that he knew either didn't know what he was talking about, or didn't share his values. But he had a way of talking to them," she said.

The ability to connect with different people served Owens well during his decades at the city of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods, initially called the Office of Neighborhoods. Owens started his tenure there in 1989, and was one of the first community organizers hired to help underrepresented and less affluent parts of the city organize their own neighborhood associations.

Later, Owens became a manager with the city's Neighborhood Matching Fund, which supported community organizations with funding for specific projects. Jim Diers, who led the Department of Neighborhoods for many years and

initially hired Owens, said Owens was patient and supportive with applicants and helped people understand how to navigate an unfamiliar process.

"He was somebody who could work with people from anywhere, from any age group. Just comfortable with people and got people comfortable with him," Diers said. "That smile, that laugh, that sense of humor. I like to call him a loving warrior for justice. Passionate about justice and made that his life's work. But at the same time, he wasn't one of those sour people, he's just very loving, very caring."

Domingo said Owens was particularly proud of the work he did with young people at the Department of Neighborhoods, especially a youth-centered project that had young people reviewing proposals from other young people. Diers said the group ultimately recommended projects like a queer youth magazine, peer mediation, an anti-violence rap video, a multi-cultural mural and park beautification.

Diers said ultimately, "trying to live the world you are trying to create" exemplified Owens' philosophy. "He was trying to create a place where everybody was valued, where there's justice, where there's love. And he didn't wait for that world. He acted like everybody was equal. Everybody had

value, and everybody needs to be loved."

In an oral history project recorded in 2005, Owens talked about this vision. "Maybe the true essence of our humanity is to deeply feel something and then strive for it however you can, and then take people along with you so you're not doing it in isolation."

Owens is survived by Domingo; his children, Jamil Owens, Malik Owens and Ann Marie Diggs; and his grandchildren, Whitney Diggs and Maddie Diggs.

Material from The Seattle Times archive is included in this report.



Naomi Ishisaka: nishisaka@seattletimes.com; on Twitter: [@naomiishisaka](https://twitter.com/naomiishisaka). Naomi Ishisaka is The Seattle Times' assistant managing editor for diversity, inclusion and staff development. Her column on race, culture, equity and social justice appears weekly on Mondays.

Losses in the Quaker Family...2022 (through October)

Graduating class shown where known; if class year was estimated it is followed by '?'

Faculty and Staff

Anthony Jerome Russell, Football Coach, '98-99
 Nolvica Hicks, Business education
 Norma Jean Wills, Theater
 Patrinell (Pat) Wright, Total Experience Gospel Choir, '72-74

Carol June (Kuder) Baker, '49
 Nancy Kay Delzer Hevly, '49
 Patricia Ann Stollery Wark, '49

1950s

Timothy Clifford, '51
 John George Chatalas, '55
 Michael John Legge, '57
 Tex Steere, '58

1960s

Sharon Irene (Shaughnessy) Maroni, '60
 Petra Ann Tierney, '60
 Garry Lee Owens, '62?
 Susan Joy (Eaden) Carlson, '62
 Gary Hajime Kitahara, '62 Born in Manzanar
 John Barlow, '63

1940s

John Peter Oberto, '40?
 Shirley Leora (Anderson) Peringer, '42
 Ann (Manolikas) Allamano, '42
 Margaret (Peggy) (Williams) Bales, '44
 June Isabel Nickell, '44?
 Rose Helen (Corak) Croce, '46
 Dorothy Jean (Barger) Rothnie, '48 (m. James Rothnie, '48)

Duane Lewis, '64
 James Tetsuo Mayeda, '65
 Tom McDonald, '66
 Judy (Ernstoff) Greenberg, '66
 Steve Givens, '67
 Linda (Wilson) Schmidt, '67
 Suzan (Suzie) Jean (Allyn) Sacringi, '65
 Patricia Elizabeth Myers, '68,
 Joseph Anthony Mastro, '68
 Cathleen Volpone, '68

1970s

Steve Collins, '70
 Frederick William Dean, '70
 Robert Sumaoang, '70, (yell leader)
 Jeffrey Paul Sifferman, '71
 Eli Mayer, '71

1980s

Kenneth E. Larry, '84
 Carole A. Diggs, '86
 Joyce Yae Mikami, '88
 Paul Stephen Cormier, '87

Remembering Patrinell Wright (1944 – 2022)

In 1965, she married Benny Wright, who worked as a teacher and coach at Franklin. Pat Wright was hired in 1970 at Franklin High School to lead the Franklin High School Gospel Choir, and the Black Experience Gospel Choir based at Roosevelt High School. She had numerous roles over the years: school secretary, music teacher, youth mentor, community leader, pastor, and a nightclub performer, singing under her maiden name, Patrinell Staten. She sang with a group called Patrinell and the Casanovas, and recorded with the Sepia Records company founded by her songwriting partner LaVera Clark.

She left the R&B scene after three years because she didn't feel it suited her: that life did not fit with her church upbringing – her father was a pastor, as well as her husband. As a Gospel singer, she immediately came to the attention of those around another of Seattle's famous musicians – psychedelic rock guitarist Jimi Hendrix (1942 – 1970). On October 1, 1970, the date of the funeral for Hendrix at Dunlap Baptist Church (8445 Rainier Avenue S.):

"I was lying in my bed, minding my own business and my friend Freddie Mae Gautier [1930–2001] calls me up — because she was one of the people who really knew the Hendrix family very, very well, and she in a way was a surrogate parent to Jimi. And she called me up and said: 'Pat Wright: you need to get up ... you need to come now.' And I said 'Where am I coming to?' She says 'You need to come to this church' ... she said 'They need some God up in here, so get up and



In 2018 at Peoples Institutional Baptist Church in Seattle. (Bettina Hansen/Seattle Times)

come bring some God with you.' ... So, I got up and I went out there..."

The funeral was conducted by Reverend Harold Blackburn and attended by Miles Davis (1926 – 1991), drummer Buddy Miles (1947 - 2008), and many of Hendrix's childhood friends from Seattle.

In the early 1970s she served as the Gospel DJ at KYAC radio, while singing in her group, Patrinell Wright's Inspirational Seven. In 1973 a school levy failed to pass, and Wright's two school choir positions were cut. Because choir directing was a calling, and because youth needed the choir because for some it was all they had, she combined the two choirs and began rehearsing them at Mount Zion Baptist Church (1634 19th Avenue). With 57 African American students, she formed the Total Experience Gospel Choir. Within two months its mem-

bership grew to 108, including those not enrolled in school. They sang at as many as 300 gigs a year; won more than 150 awards; and traveled the globe. By 1998, an estimated 500 singers had passed through the choir.

The Seattle Times called her "Seattle's First Lady of Gospel"; she was Seafair Queen in 2002; received the Washington State Governors Ethnic Heritage Award, the Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award, the Jefferson Award for Outstanding Community Service, the Seattle Center's 2005 Living Legend Award, the Women's University Club Brava Award, and the African American-Jewish Coalition of Justice's 2009 Appreciation Award.

"I never thought I'd be traveling worldwide, and now I've been all around the world. That's the greatest gift -- the gift of openness and enlightenment."

<https://cdn.jwplayer.com/previews/sGemc1nf>
 Seattle's 'first lady of gospel,' Patrinell 'Pat' Wright, dies at 78 | The Seattle Times



2016, singing the national anthem at WNBA game between Seattle Storm and Indiana Fever. (Lindsey Wasson/Seattle Times)

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