

Alumnae Association Philadelphia High School for Girls

October 2017

Perpetuate, Cultivate, Advance, and Enhance

Nominations Sought for 2018 Court of Honor

The Distinguished Daughters Committee is preparing to select the 2018 Honorees for the Court of Honor. Any Girls' High graduate may nominate an alumna for this honor, which is the highest bestowed by the Alumnae Association and the School. The Committee will make the final selection from the nominations submitted. The new inductees will be chosen from nominees representing a broad range of professions and achievements. Nominees may be living or deceased.

A nomination packet must include:

- A cover letter from the nominator(s) stating the reasons for the nomination
- Contact information for themselves and the nominee if living
- The nominee's complete and up-to-date resume or CV
- Supporting materials such as photocopies of awards, newspaper clippings, computer printouts, letters of support describing the nominee's achievements, and any other appropriate documents

The following guidelines have been established:

- The nominees are women who typify the "Intangible Spirit" of the Philadelphia High School for Girls because they have studied intensely to prepare for their chosen professions.
- They have achieved recognition in their chosen fields.
- They have contributed in an outstanding way to the community, the city, the state, or the nation. Their achievements can be in many fields such as intellectual or social causes, government, science, the arts, and other fields of endeavor.

They are women who serve as role models, not only for the students and graduates of Girls' High, but for girls and women everywhere. They have paved the way for the women of the future.

Please MAIL nomination packets to Dorothy G. Kapenstein, 7215 Rupert Street, Philadelphia, PA 19149. All nomination packets must be submitted by February 2, 2018. If you have questions or need information, contact Dorothy at dorothyko8@aol.com or 215-331-2681.

<http://ghsalumnae.org/distinguished-daughters/>

AAPHSG

SCHOLARSHIPS



& AWARDS

By Elisabeth D'Alessandro

Each year, the Academic Committee of the Alumnae Association of the Philadelphia High School for Girls awards graduating seniors close to \$75,000 in scholarships and awards. Your generous donations, legacy gifts, and memorials allow us to ease the financial burden for many deserving young women.

Scholarships are four-year renewable gifts, and generally have some sort of qualifications (math major, science major, etc.). Students are required to maintain a 3.0 GPA to retain their scholarship. I am pleased to report that the large majority of our recipients exceed that requirement. Scholarship recipients provide transcripts and proof of enrollment annually.

Grants and awards are one-time cash awards and are given directly to the recipient on Senior Day in June. Aside from the named prizes, the Association awards 10 to 15 grants per year. The named awards are funded from accounts set up in the name of that award; the other grants come from the general scholarship fund. Every \$2,000 in a named account generates a \$100 per year award. Anyone can establish an award.

Below is a list of all of the scholarships, grants, and awards, along with the amount of the award. The amount of many of the grants and awards has not increased in many years, while the cost of education has skyrocketed.

Awards

One-Time Grants & Awards	Amount (\$)
Alumnae Grant for Nursing	600
Sisters Grant	600
Alumnae Grant for the Study of Instrumental/Performing Arts	500
Alumnae Grant for Visual Arts	500
Bebe Moore Campbell Memorial Grant for Creative Writing	500
Dr. Ethel Jackson Evans Grant	500
Miriam P. Webb Grant	500
Sandra Myers McLean Grant	260

June Stone-Chestnut Memorial Grant	200	
Class of January 1939 Dr. Mabel Harmon Morris Memorial Award	150	
Alumnae Art Prize	150	
Class of January 1947	150	
Sarah Walker Dungan Prize for Athletic Excellence	150	
George and Anna Doring Dance Award	100	
Jeanne Rosenstein Ossip English Award	500	
Sallie-Ruth MacCorkell Award	175	
Helen Cheyney Bailey Prize for Creative Writing	150	
Jack Edelson English Award	150	
Phyllis Ruscoff Dembitzer Award for English Progress	150	
Alumnae Association Business Prize	250	
Ruth B. Hoffsten/Georgine Wickel Latin Prize	250	
Alumnae Chinese Prize	150	
Alumnae Latin Prize	150	
Mabel Haller International Language Award	150	
Naomi Zieber Spanish Prize	150	
George Eib Mathematics Prize	150	
Class of June 1940 Music Award	150	
Class of June 1958 Andrea Del Vecchio Music Award	150	
John and Rose Cianciarulo Music Award	100	
Alumnae Science Prize	150	
Vida R. Byers Award of Excellence in Science	150	
Sarah Schagrin Memorial Award	575	
Nubians 193	500	2 per year
Class of June 1933 Youth Citizenship Award	250	
Class of 1976 – the 220 Award	220	
Class of 1973 – 217 Award	217	
Class of 1966– 210th Award	210	
Class of June 1964 –The "207" Award	207	
Carol Rodgers Sensenig Harrison Award	200	
Isabel Haslam Award	200	
Class of June 1958–The 195th Award	195	
Alumnae Faculty Memorial Prize	150	
Anna F. Palumbo Russo Memorial Award	150	
Class of 1879 Lida Roberts Brandt	150	
Class of 1906 Memorial Prize	150	

Class of 1911 – Jane Riehl Reed Award	150
Class of 1913 – Florence Spare Parker Memorial Award	150
Class of 1980 Memorial Award	150
Class of 1980 "Just Between the Girls" Service Award	150
Class of 1981 – The 225th Class Memorial Award	150
Diane Mitchell Unsung Hero Award	150
Dorothy Goldstein Kapenstein Service Award	150
Emily C. Schaffer Prize	150
Estelle Shanes Marcus Memorial Award	150
Marilyn Newby Cooper Memorial Prize for Service	150
Nelly Mattern Prize	150
Renee Perl Young Memorial Award	150
Ellen Sue Gesensway Memorial Award	125
Alumnae Award to Class President	100
Cynthia A. Dorsey Brown Memorial Award	100
Frankie Rubinstein Award	100
Alumnae Association Scholarship Award	100 10-15 per year

Four-Year Renewable Scholarships

Miriam P. Webb Scholarship	\$9,000
Ethel Evans Scholarship	\$7,000
Minnie Murdock Kendrick Scholarship	\$5,000
Ella Stout Scholarship	\$3,400
Julia Tuttleman Scholarship	\$3,000
Sisters Scholarship	\$2,100
Walter Biddle Saul Scholarship	\$2,000
Lydia Kirby Scholarship	\$2,000
Dorothy McClurken Scholarship	\$1,500
Lizzie Humphries Scholarship	\$1,800
Liddie Bower Saul Scholarship	\$1,500
M. Amelia Robinson Scholarship	\$1,500
Naomi Fisher Glaeser Scholarship	\$1,500
Eleanor W. Thompson Scholarship	\$1,500
Elizabeth England Scholarship	\$1,500
Frieda Kahler Scholarship	\$1,500
Mary Ann Boyle Scholarship	\$1,500

M. Imogene Freeman Scholarship	\$1,300
William McLaughlin Scholarship	1,200
Robert McLaughlin Scholarship	\$1,000
Anne M. Georgeson Scholarship	\$1,000
Class of 1946 Scholarship	\$1,000
Doris W. Atkinson Scholarship	\$1,000
Dorothy T. Chalikian Scholarship	\$800
Frances Newcomb Scholarship	\$800
Fay Mashen Lurie Award for Excellence in Mathematics	\$600
Eleanor Hillegas Scholarship	\$500
Margaret Dungan Scholarship	\$500
Class of 1949 Scholarship	\$500
Edith Strangman Elder Scholarship	\$500
Marion Steet Award	\$300
Marion Steet Scholarship	\$300

For information about how to donate to a named award or scholarship, or to establish a new award, please contact Elisabeth D'Alessandro at Elisabeth@ghsalumnae.org. For information about how to designate or establish a scholarship in your will, please contact Joy Pollock at joy@ghsalumnae.org.

We thank you for helping to **advance** the educational opportunities of young women!

News from Our School

By Dorothy G. Kapenstein

GHS Students Attend Pennsylvania Conference for Women

Twenty lucky and talented students chosen from the junior and senior classes attended this year's annual Pennsylvania Conference for Women held on October 3, 2017, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Students had to write and submit an essay. The fortunate winning juniors and seniors were escorted by faculty members Ms. Doss, Ms. Sheriff, Ms. Drake, and Mr. Marchetti.

Former First Lady Michelle Obama headed an impressive list of speakers. While Mrs. Obama was still in the White house she created a program called "Let Girls Learn," a topic of great interest to the staff, students, and alumnae of Girls' High. Shonda Rhimes, creator, executive producer, and head writer of hit TV shows *Gray's Anatomy*, *Scandal*, and *How to Get Away With Murder*, appeared at the conference in a starring role.

The mission of the Conference for Women is to promote, communicate, and amplify the influence of women in the workplace and beyond. At this annual nonpartisan, nonprofit conference, thousands of active professionals come together to connect, renew, and find inspiration. The one-

day professional and personal development event for women features more than 100 renowned speakers sharing inspirational stories and leading seminars on the issues that matter most to women. Health, personal finance, executive leadership, small business and entrepreneurship, work/life balance, and branding and social media marketing, were among the topics covered in panel discussions and workshops. The conference offers incredible opportunities for business networking, professional development, and personal growth.

Club Day at GHS

Louis Austin, current Service Club sponsor, reported that October 10th was Club Day at GHS. The students selected the clubs they wanted to join. Among the choices were Service Club, Anime Club, Asian Club, African Club, Red Cross Club, Robotics, STEAM, (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics), Spanish Club, Women of Medicine Club, Chess Club, and African American Student Union. Mr. Austin also noted that County Fair will take place on November 16 and the theme will be "Circus Extravaganza."

Dates to Remember

December 14, 2017	Winter Concert
December 22, 2017	Songs of the Season
April 6, 2018	Museum Day
April 20, 2018	Career Day
April 21, 2018	Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon
May 22, 2018	Spring Concert
June 8, 2018	Graduation

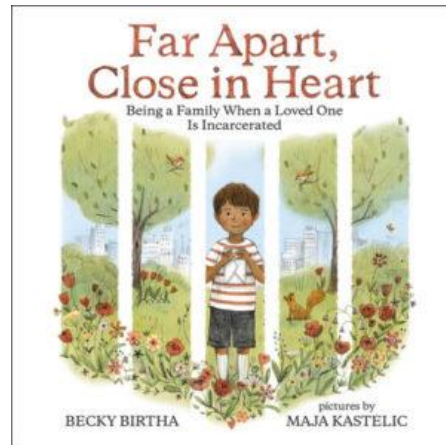
News from Our Alumnae

Three CEOs and one powerful community leader, all graduates of the Philadelphia High School for Girls, reunited at the Minority Enterprise Development Week 2017 kick-off event! Left to right: **Valarie J. Moore-Cofield (1985)**, **Iola Harper (1985)**, **Lizzie M. Jackson (1985)**, and **Adrean Turner (1985)**.



Becky Birtha (1966) has had a new book published. A poet and children's author, Becky is best known for her poetry and short stories depicting African-American relationships, often focusing on topics such as same sex & interracial relationships, emotional recovery from a breakup, and single parenthood and adoption. Her poetry was featured in the acclaimed 1983 anthology of African-American feminist writing, *Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology*, edited by Barbara Smith and published by the Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press. She has won

a Lambda Literary award for her poetry, and been awarded grants from the Pew Fellowships in the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. In recent



years she has written two children's historical fiction picture books about the African-American

experience. Her latest book, *Far Apart, Close in Heart*, published in 2017, looks at children whose parents are incarcerated.

Elaine Brown (1961) has had the rights to her book acquired. The production company The



Firm acquired the rights to her 1992 memoir, *A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story*. The memoir is about the first (and only) woman to lead the Black Panther Party. Elaine

led the party from 1974 to 1977 while co-founder Huey Newton was in exile in Cuba. Newton founded the party with Bobby Seale in 1966 and Elaine joined as a member just two years later.

After joining, Elaine quickly became the editor of their publication (she also was a singer) and ended up in the upper ranks. In her role as the Black Panther leader (appointed by Newton himself), she led the male-dominated party and worked to redefine the Panthers'

revolutionary platform to include objectives relating to black women.

Elaine, who is still very engaged in community and activism, later sought political office. She ran as a Green Party candidate in 2008.

She will also serve as an executive producer on the feature. Elaine lives in Oakland, CA.

Angela Beale (1991) created the “A Stroke in the Right Direction” aquatic program, which teaches water safety to children. The program curriculum is the only program of its kind in the U.S. Angela plans to continue to expand the program and envisions eventually creating a self-sustaining version of it that can be taught in schools.



https://news.temple.edu/news/2017-09-01/college-public-health-angela-beale-teach-kids-swim?utm_content=buffer98981&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Thayvie Sinn (2005) shares updates on Save Cambodia, a US-based not-for-profit organization aimed at preserving the nation's identity through three focuses: cultural preservation, socioeconomic and sustainable development, and international relations. We conduct research in order to gain an understanding and to develop practical implementation related to the three above-mentioned focus areas. Based on the findings from this research, Save Cambodia has decided to implement a Cambodian boarding school for girls that aims to increase social development, individual's self-worth, inclusiveness, and acceptance, as the youth move toward a globalized future. It will be run

using a whole-school approach with partnerships between the school, the community, and parents to simultaneously promote education, socioeconomic investment opportunities, and overall community shared success. Programs such as STEAM and Education on Sustainable Development (ESD) will be part of the curriculum, which encompasses peace and global citizenship to provide an understanding of the interconnectedness of the environmental, economic, social, and political challenges currently faced by humankind. The school will provide yearly enriching extracurricular activities to promote the school's mission, values, and code of honor, and will exercise moral/ethical behavior, such as appreciation for diversity, leading lives with personal integrity, and being committed and inspired to being community role models and future leaders. Lastly, the school will foster competencies of critical and systemic thinking to learn root causes of sustainability issues for the students to find innovative, effective, and sustainable solutions for their own communities and/or nation, as we progress towards the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Agenda 2030.

Thayvie is the Founder/President of Save Cambodia *Stand to Rise*. She also serves as UN Youth Representative to ECOSOC, Global Education Motivators, Cambodian Youth Ambassador, and International Youth for Human Rights. She is the chair of Civil Society Forum, NGO Committee on Social Development UN Committees Member, NGO Major Group, and Coalition for Global Citizenship.

Ellen Cooperman Saunders (June 1965) has retired and has been living in Hernando, Florida, since 2003. She retired in 2001 as VP of Sales and Marketing for Rapidigm, Inc., a software consultancy in Columbus, Ohio. Ellen's career spanned information technology, management consulting in systems, and operations, finance, and controllership; then sales and marketing for

the last 22 years. Her husband Mike had the opportunity for an early retirement in 2001 and they both were the beneficiaries. Ellen began making jewelry as a "hobby run amok" and has operated a small business designing and crafting art jewelry to wear.

She and Mike are avid travelers. Her country count is up to 108 and she has been to all 7

Jorene Jameson, Ph.D. (June 1965)

completed a Ph.D. program in public administration at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in August 2017. Currently she serves as an adjunct faculty member at FAU, teaching courses in Nonprofit Management. She reports her teaching is her "encore career" having served in public and nonprofit leadership positions over four decades. She resides in Deerfield Beach, Florida.

Ayana Mathis (1991), best-selling author of



the *Twelve Tribes of Hattie*, wrote a book review of *The Twelve-Mile Straight* by Eleanor Henderson. It appears in the October 8th edition of the *The*

New York Times Book Review. You can read the full review at:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/06/books/review/eleanor-henderson-twelve-mile-straight.html>

Doris Zobian Calian (June 1950) reports that after 36 years in Pittsburgh she has entered a new phase and experience in her life. In September of 2017, she and her husband moved to Evanston, Illinois, to live near her two children's families. She is excited about the new adventures that await and wants to know if any of her classmates live nearby.

continents. Buying beads, stones, and seeds for jewelry-making wherever she goes, her jewelry is unique in Citrus County, Florida. Ellen would love to chat with classmates. Please contact her at esaunders@tampabay.rr.com or on Facebook.

Eunice Montgomery Wilder (June 1955) will retire on December 31, 2017, after serving 25 years as Treasurer for the city of Richmond, Virginia. First appointed to this position by the Richmond City Judiciary after serving one year, she was elected six times to four-year terms.

Barbara Gordon Pomerantz (June 1966)

reports on the devastation of the hurricanes of 2017 visited on St. Thomas, where she and her husband, Arthur live. They divide their time between St Thomas, where Arthur has his law practice, and Philadelphia, where they relax with their grandchildren. They are currently in St. Thomas and conditions are dismal. Communications are very difficult: There are no landlines and cell service is spotty. Curfews are imposed at 7:00 p.m, as the roads are dangerous with fallen poles and debris. One thing that would be helpful are portable battery-operated radios together with the batteries, so residents can hear the latest updates regarding which services are available and which offices/businesses are open. Also, used clean clothing (any size, child or adult) and towels, as laundry facilities are difficult without power in most places. If you would like to donate any of these items, please send to: Law Offices of Arthur Pomerantz, 9053 Estate Thomas, Suite 103, St. Thomas, VI 00802. (Ask the post office for the most efficient, cost-effective way to send your package). They will ensure that your items get to deserving people. Thank you in advance from an island that has lost so much.

News from Our Distinguished Daughters

By Dorothy G. Kapenstein

Spotlight on Gloria Bloom Allred (June 1959)

The *New Yorker Magazine* of October 2, 2017, launched a salute to Gloria Bloom Allred. Of course, this is no surprise to the members of the GHS Alumnae Association, to her GHS classmates, or to her multitude of fans and admirers around the nation.

Gloria Allred is a California-based attorney who has established herself as a voice for all minorities, including women who cannot obtain justice on their own in regard to equal pay and equal rights to job and business opportunities, as well as civil rights. Her law firm, Allred, Maroko and Goldberg, specializes in cases involving employment discrimination in such matters as sex, race, age, physical handicaps, sexual orientation, AIDS, sexual harassment, and wrongful termination. The firm is well known for its work on behalf of victims of rape, sexual abuse of children, and civil rights discrimination. She is famous for her courtroom skills and thorough knowledge of the law.

She has other talents and skills as well. Gloria hosted her own radio talk show on KABC Radio of Los Angeles for many years and appeared on many TV broadcasts as well. In 2001, she received the Judy Jarvis Award for Outstanding Talk Show Host. She often appears as a consultant on various TV networks and has had three Emmy nominations. She had her first book, *Fight Back and Win: My Thirty Year Fight Against Injustice—And How You Can Win Your Own Battles* published. She has won countless awards for her legal and humanitarian endeavors and for her on-air talent as well. In 2006, we elected her to our Court of Honor of Distinguished Daughters, our own Girls' High Hall of Fame. In 2014, she came back to be the stirring and delightful guest speaker at our Annual Meeting/Luncheon honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Alumnae Association. At that time we presented her with our Alumnae Award of Honor given for outstanding lifetime achievement.

Please use this link to read the full article in *The New Yorker*:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/10/02/gloria-allreds-crusade/amp>

Jill Scott (1990) was inducted into the Class of



2017 's walk of fame "Jilly from Philly" joined fellow inductees Patti LaBelle and her Labelle group members Sarah Dash and Nona Hendryx, Sister

Sledge, McFadden & Whitehead, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, and the Soul Survivors for the ceremony on Broad Street.

More good news for Jill: She is joining the cast of an upcoming superhero drama to portray the DC Comics villain Lady Eve. This isn't Jill's first superhero project: She previously voiced Storm on the animated series *Black Panther* in 2010. Her other onscreen credits include *Why Did I Get Married*, 2012's *Steel Magnolias*, and guest turns on *Fringe* and *Being Mary Jane*.

Sally Wendkos Olds (June 1951), a prolific author of books and articles sent this update. She was elected to our Court of Honor in 2006.

"As I have been doing for my 50-plus years as a freelance writer (since 1965), I am still writing articles about topics that interest me. I have written about my involvement with fair housing

issues during the civil rights movement (published by *The Pennsylvania Gazette* in 2015), which was also the topic for one of my very first published articles (1965, in *Community*, a magazine distributed by a Chicago church). I have written about family issues, health, travel, ageism, and many other subjects. My most recently published articles appeared in www.NYCityWoman.com, a free online magazine that focuses on stories of interest to women over 50. Four that appeared in 2017 were about private libraries in New York City, Marjorie Eliot (a jazz pianist in Harlem), the groundbreaking feminist Susan Brownmiller, and the Women's March in New York City. Meanwhile, I am continuing to serve as a volunteer chairing The First Amendment Committee of the writers' organization the American Society of Journalists and Authors."

Dr. Lois K. Cohen (January 1956), elected to our Court of Honor in 2006, is the inspiration for a lecture series named for her, the Lois K. Cohen Series in Public Health. Her niece, Dr. Ilene Warner-Marion, provided the funding for the series. The lectures take place at Mayes College of the University of the Sciences. Dr. Terrence J. Collins of Carnegie Mellon University spoke on "The Impact of Green Chemistry on Public Health" on October 19, 2017. Lois is now a consultant and Paul G. Rogers Ambassador for Global Health Research. Formerly she served for many years as Associate Director for International Health—

National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, US Department of Health and Human Services, Bethesda, Maryland. During her 52-year career, Lois authored four books on the social sciences and dentistry, and published more than 140 professional journal articles. She codirected the World Health Organization (WHO) International Collaborative Study of Dental Manpower Systems in Relation to Oral Health Status, a study in 10 industrialized countries, and was involved in facilitating the design and conduct of the WHO International Collaborative Study of Oral Health Outcomes, published in 1997.

Lois has served or currently serves on various organization boards including the Foundation Against HIV/AIDS in Africa, the *Journal of the American Dental Association*, the Friends of the Organization of Safety, Asepsis and Prevention, The Edward B. Shils Educational Entrepreneurial Fund, The Caplin Family Charities, The Regulatory Affairs Society's Global Advisory Council, The D. Walter Cohen Middle East Center for Dental Education—Advisory Committee, and the Institute of Musculoskeletal Health & Arthritis of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. She regularly serves as an expert consultant to WHO in Geneva, its regional offices in the Americas (Pan American Health Organization-PAHO), and the office for the African Region (AFRO), as well as various universities and associations focusing on global health through oral health.

Advocacy

By Barbara Dowdal

Editor Emerita

The Value of School Libraries

This is the inaugural installment of a monthly article about advocacy in education. This one is about the value of school libraries and includes my list of links. As always, if you find a bad link, please tell me and I'll fix it. If you know of another study, please share.

In the school library field, there are numerous studies and seemingly increasing stupidity in just ignoring them. I heard the word "anagnosis" once. It's similar to "amnesia, although instead of forgetting knowledge and experience, it means to willfully ignore or be unaware of facts and knowledge. Dr. Ken Haycock's summary of the major studies on the impact of school libraries, *The Crisis in Canada's School Libraries: The Case for Reform and Reinvestment*, published in 2003 by the Canadian Coalition for School Libraries, clearly shows that students who attend schools with well-funded, properly stocked libraries managed by qualified teacher-librarians, have higher achievement, improved literacy, and greater success at the post-secondary level. Duh! So why are we having a crisis in school libraries, where they're threatened routinely? Standardized scores tend to be 10 to 20% higher than in schools without an investment in a school library program. As Haycock reports, the "relationship between library resource levels and increased achievement is not explained away by other school variables (e.g., per student spending, teacher-pupil ratios) or community conditions (e.g., poverty, demographics). In fact, no fewer than forty years of research provides an abundance of evidence about the positive impact of qualified teacher-librarians and school libraries on children and adolescents."

School libraries seem over-challenged lately and that's not fair. It verges on insanity. It also risks future generations' literacy and achievement. I hope these studies help to arm ourselves for the battle. Advocate for your libraries, our libraries.

The Crisis in Canada's School Libraries

<http://bccsl.ca/download/HaycockReport.pdf>

The Value of School Libraries

<http://stephenslighthouse.com/2010/04/06/the-value-of-school-libraries/>

Principals' Perspectives on the Value of School Librarians by Janet Nelson

<http://ideas.demco.com/blog/principals-perspectives-value-school-librarians/>

The above contains the video:

Principals Know: School Librarians are the Heart of the School

A compelling 5-minute video that gets to the heart of why librarians are so important to the school library. By capturing the administrator's stories on video, it really brings the concepts to life and tells the story in a way that goes beyond the numbers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bihGT7LoBPo&feature=youtu.be>

This video was made in Texas but shows administrators from around the country, including Kutztown, Pennsylvania, with a row of PSSA keystone award posters lined up on the wall behind the principal speaking.

Editor's note: Barbara can be reached at barbara@ghsalumnae.org.

In Memoriam

Phyllis Berlant Abrams, Alumna, Faculty and GFS Benefactor

*Barbara McDowell Dowdall
Editor Emerita*

Phyllis Berlant Abrams, (January 1949), received the English prize at graduation. Phyllis went on to teach at our school for many decades, was a Girls' High parent and regular attendee at our Annual Meeting and Luncheon.

I had the honor and privilege to be her English department colleague for the school year 1983-84 and recall with pleasure our numerous opportunities to chat about Girls' High, literature and the state affairs of the world -- continuing recently via Face book. Former students paying tribute on that site recalled especially Ms. Abrams' inspiring in them a love for live theater performance.

Social studies teacher Linda Marder posted online: "I taught with Phyllis and developed a long friendship with her.

She was a caring teacher, feisty, opinionated and full of life. I will miss our conversations." Members of the 221st and 226th classes added their condolences.

As powerful testament both to Phyllis herself and to the depth and breadth of professional

and personal associations among school district staff in general and Philadelphia High School for Girls in particular, those journeying to Goldstein's funeral home on North Broad Street for Phyllis's funeral on Monday, October 9th

included administrators, teachers and former students: Dr. Geraldine Myles GFS principal (1991-2007), teachers Judith Brindle, Barbara Mosley, Mitchell Bernstein, Linda Marder and William Mealey, along with Karen Brown Dean GHS 1976, (classmate of Phyllis' daughter Ellen), Phyllis' student in 9th grade and recently retired as principal of Lankenau High School.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Philadelphia High School for Girls.

P.O. Box 845
Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08045



Photo from 1984 Milestone

<http://m.legacy.com/obituaries/philly/obituary.aspx?n=&pid=186844184&referrer=o&preview=True>

A Loving Tribute to Lorraine Perloff Brill (June 1946) Longtime Alumnae Board Member

By Dorothy G. Kapenstein

Lorraine passed away on October 20, 2017. I graduated from GHS in January 1946 and Lorraine in June 1946, but we came to know each other as far back as 1942 when we arrived at Girls High, so our friendship is 75 years old! We passed our student years in the beautiful building at 17th & Spring Garden that now houses the Masterman School. In an interview that took place many years later, Lorraine spoke highly to a reporter about her GHS education. She said that her Girls High teachers instilled in her a sense of responsibility-to the community and taught her to be aware of news and what was happening in her community.

After graduation, Lorraine attended Pennsylvania State University where she majored in Chemistry and worked so hard, that she graduated in three years! It was there that she met her husband Martin (Marty) Brill. They were married soon after graduation and made their home in Northeast Philadelphia. They raised three children together. Their two daughters, of course, are Girls High Girls. Joni graduated in 1973 and Ilene in 1975. Their son David is a Northeast High graduate.

Lorraine worked for Rohm & Haas as a science librarian for several years but left to be at home with her children when they were young. However, she was very active in their Home and School Associations. She returned to work as a librarian for the Free Library of Philadelphia. Her first job was at the Frankford Branch, but she soon transferred to the Northeast Regional Library. She worked in the Children's Room there for many long years until her retirement. Many children in Northeast Philadelphia (many now adults) remember her.

For years, Lorraine devoted a great deal of time to community work. She felt a calling to make life better for Philadelphia's people and especially for

those in Northeast Philadelphia, possibly the influence of those Girls High teachers! She worked with many community organizations over the years and with other concerned citizens. She was active in programs to improve public transportation. Lorraine cared greatly about public health and she worked diligently to get the city government to adequately fund its public health centers, including the one in her own area at 2230 Cottman Avenue.



After graduation from GHS, Lorraine remained in close touch with her class and played an active role in arranging reunions and mini-reunions. She was the conduit between her class and the Alumnae Association, so she added the Alumnae Association to her many activities.

The Alumnae Association knows Lorraine best as a faithful graduate of our school who gave it long and loyal service over many years of work on our board of directors. She was first elected to the Alumnae Association Board of Directors in 1980. Until her last illness, she served in many capacities: as a Director, as a Committee Chair and as a Vice President. She chaired our Annual Meeting/Luncheon Committee and the Nominating Committee many times.

She undertook clerical work when needed. She gave invaluable help in typing news notes for the Alumnae News in the time B.C. (before computers). For years she took on the enormous job of arranging the table seatings for classes and those attending our Annual Meeting/Spring Luncheon, a most complicated job without computers.

In 1990, we presented Lorraine with the Alumnae Award of Service. It is presented to an Officer or Board Member who has given approximately ten years of service and whose constant contribution and diligent efforts help to benefit the school through the Alumnae Association. Lorraine really earned it!

The family has asked that contributions in her name be made to:

The Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation
1901 Vine Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

The Alumnae Association of the Philadelphia High School for Girls

P.O. Box 845
Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08045

Lorraine Perloff Brill (June 1946) **Alumnae Association Board of Directors**

Barbara McDowell Dowdall
Editor Emerita

Our beloved Lorraine passed away on Oct. 21, 2017. Lorraine served for many years on the board of Directors of the Alumnae Association of the Philadelphia High School for Girls, and as the chair of the nominations committee, many members of the board –

past and present – owe their start of GHS board service to her.

The Girls High legacy continued with her two daughters Joni Brill Dashoff (1973) and Ilene Brill (1975).

Lorraine worked as a children's librarian for the Free Library of Philadelphia and was a lifelong proponent of libraries and their importance in the lives of children. She had a keen understanding of the importance of civic activism in a democratic society and could be counted on as a regular presence and speaker at community meetings in her neighborhood and City Council meetings at City Hall.

As a loyal Girls' High alumna and parent of two alumnae, Lorraine provided many eloquent tributes and hours of work on by-laws, board nominations, school events and our annual meeting/luncheon to her years on the Alumnae Association Board of Directors.

Intense in her loyalty not just to our school, but to her class, Lorraine provided a key corrective to one of the stories recorded in the 1998 Sesquicentennial video history of Girls' High: 1925 saw the beginning of the traditional senior class overnight trip to Washington DC. What was not generally known or shared was a shameful aspect of that otherwise happy adventure: Girls' High's acquiescence in our nation's capital's tradition of segregation, carried out by that city's "public" accommodations, including hotels. As we interviewed graduates and staff for our documentary, focusing on school life, friendships and aspirations, one alumna from a class in the 1930's, Flora Lisi, requested additional time to recount the story of a united group of friends riding the train together to DC. Once they arrived they were then divided into two groups at the station: white girls headed to the Hotel Roosevelt and Black girls to the Colored Y. For Flora, that was a life-changing moment that set her on a path to fight for social justice. For the school, just another routine that we, the video team, believed continued until 1952 with an alternate senior class trip to New York City.

"Nay!" almost shouting, said Lorraine Perloff Brill, class of June 1946. "Our classes (January and June 1946) refused to participate in any support of racial segregation, so we went to the Poconos instead." The source of this point of pride was not noted in the video but its truth was, along with a rather amusing still picture of a normally dignified (we assume) faculty member taking an at bat on a mountain field softball game.

Contributions in her memory may be made to The Free Library of Phila. Foundation or The Alumnae Association of The Phila. High School for Girls (Girls High).

Thank you, Lorraine!

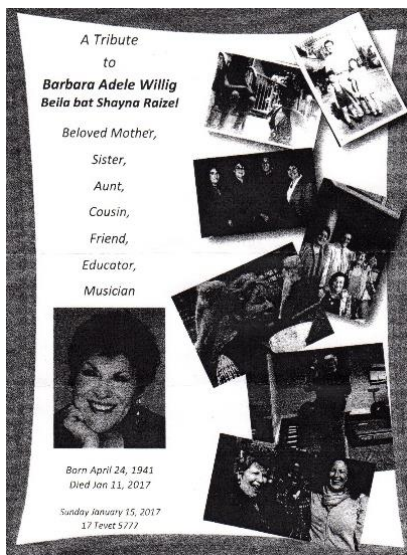
Dolores Fields, retired faculty, died on



September 29, 2017. She was an ordained minister and former educator. After raising her children, Mrs.

Fields returned to school to pursue her dream of becoming a teacher. After obtaining her degree from Temple University, she taught in the Philadelphia high schools, and taught for nine years at Girls' High. Later, she pursued a master's degree in Christian counseling from the Philadelphia Biblical University and graduated magna cum laude. She became an ordained minister in 2007.

http://www.phillytrib.com/obituaries/dolores-fields-minister-and-teacher/article_5b814aa9-3ce9-5ceo-bf17-bb4d7697f939.html



Barbara Willig (January 1959), retired Philadelphia School District music teacher, died January 11, 2017. She studied at the Curtis Institute of Music and graduated

from Girls' High and Temple University, where her coursework focused on music and education. She was a music teacher in Philadelphia public schools for 38 years and retired in 2000. Music was her life; she taught piano, directed musical concerts, and belonged to Singing City, a city choir founded to effect social change through bringing diverse people together.

http://www.philly.com/philly/obituaries/20170113_Barbara_A_Willig_75_former_Philadelphia_music_teacher.html

Joan Logan Gordon (1955) retired IBM

employee, died on Friday, Dec. 23, 2016. A graduate of Howard University, she obtained degrees in mathematics and physics. She started a career in education as a junior high school mathematics teacher, serving briefly in the public schools in Washington D.C. and for six years at Sayre Junior High School in Philadelphia, but spent 25 years with IBM providing technical support for mid-range IBM systems. In her retirement, she indulged her passion for travel, bridge, and the NFL!

http://www.phillytrib.com/obituaries/joan-logan-gordon-retired-ibm-employee/article_abcbe226-7532-59ea-9b14-b3e3cbb45148.html

Cheryl Benmbery Darden (June 1964) died at



her home in Altadena, California, on June 9, 2017. After graduation from Girls' High, she attended Vassar College and graduated in 1968. She moved to Los Angeles in 1978 and established her family and

pursued a career in social services. She had a joie de vie and a love for Christmas. She loved all kinds of puzzles and was an avid stamp collector.

http://www.phillytrib.com/obituaries/cheryl-benmbery-darden-native-philadelphian/article_02bfoec7-b393-5b92-9143-50e9706459bf.html



Gerry Sills (date of graduation unknown), Philadelphia fashion icon, fundraiser, and philanthropist,

died on April 23, 2017. The beneficiaries of many of Mrs. Sills events were students facing financial hurdles. That was not by accident; Mrs. Sills was an orphan who was raised by her two older sisters. Upon her graduation from the Philadelphia High School for Girls,

there was no money for her to attend college and she went to work instead, eventually opening a tony women's store in Center City. Among her milestones, she set up a scholarship for fashion students at Drexel and she held signature events such as "An Evening of Style," which debuted in 1992.

<http://www.philly.com/philly/obituaries/Gerry-Sills-97-Philadelphia-fashion-icon-and-fundraiser.html>

Margie Toll (June 1964) shared the sad news of the death of **Margie Nathanson (June 1964)**; her friend and former coworker, from the Class of 207. She passed away on September 16, 2017. Margie was a member of the Alumnae Association Facebook group. She is not in the GHS yearbook because she transferred to Girls' High in her senior year after the senior photos were taken.



Did you know that you can designate the Alumnae Association in your will or trust? Did you know that you can donate life insurance contracts, stocks, certain bonds, and/or mutual funds? These gifts may provide needed tax benefits for you, the donor, and help our Association promote and sustain its mission for many years to come. As we age, we all talk about leaving a legacy. This is your opportunity to do so for generations of women to come, as well as to help the school and the students as they battle any financial hardships they may be facing. If interested in helping or donating, please contact Joy Pollock at jepollock@aol.com.



Liz Bligan: Musical HR

By Dorothy G. Kapenstein



Liz Bligan (Martha Elizabeth Moore Bligan), (221 Class June 1977) now holds the position of Head of Human Resources at the Kimmel Center for the

Performing Arts. She

started in the job in April 2016. In her interview, she called it her dream job and expressed the hope that it would be her last job before retirement. If someone had told her in her student days at Girls' High that this would happen, she probably would not have believed it, for she had two other great interests motivating her then. She was deeply interested in science and excelled at it. Her science teachers encouraged her greatly. She also discovered she had a fine singing voice. Under the guidance of choral music teacher William Murphy, she joined Treble Clef.

So what got her from science and singing to human resource management? Her first job out of college was a clerical position in the personnel department of a nonprofit reproductive healthcare provider in Pittsburgh: Since 1981, Liz has been in the human resources field in some fashion. After seven years in executive search, in 1992 Liz went back to the corporate side with a large pharmaceutical device company, where she spent five years as Manager of Employment and Employee Relations, and also served on the company's global Total Quality Management steering committee. Since 1992, Liz has been in progressively more senior human resources positions with software developers, healthcare companies, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and chemicals manufacturing. In April 2016, as noted above, Liz found her dream job, as head of HR for the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts. She is the human resources lead for all employees at the Kimmel Center, the Academy of Music, and the Merriam Theater.

The Kimmel Center is a campus of three buildings and a total of nine performance spaces. The employees who Liz is designated to support are responsible for programming, production, marketing and sales, administration, front-of-house patron services (ushers and security officers), and ticket sales (via Ticket Philadelphia, the ticketing organization jointly owned by the Kimmel Center and the Philadelphia Orchestra Association). The Kimmel Center owns the Kimmel Center building and the Merriam Theater building, and leases the Academy of Music from the Philadelphia Orchestra Association.

The Kimmel Center has eight resident companies, whose employees are not under Liz's purview: the Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Ballet, Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Philadanco, Philly POPS, the Curtis Institute of Music performances, and Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia. These resident companies perform on the Kimmel Center campus.. However, the staff members of the Kimmel Center provide all the support for the resident companies' performances, including stage production, ushering, security, and housekeeping.

Within the Kimmel Center building are other performance venues, such as the SEI Innovation Studio, Commonwealth Plaza, and Hamilton Garden. Individuals, groups, or corporations rent these spaces for private performances, weddings, or other activities.

Broadway Philadelphia is a partnership between the Kimmel Center and the Schubert Organization.

If there is a national touring company of a Broadway show, it will be presented at one of the Kimmel Center's buildings (usually the Academy of Music) or the Forrest Theater, which is owned by the Schubert organization.

As HR Manager, Liz is responsible for recruiting and retention of staff, benefits management, employee relations, training and development, and HR strategy in support of the company's

strategic plan. As a singer, Liz has the opportunity to link her long HR career with her passion for the performing arts in this role. She wrote, "I continue to sing as much as possible. I am a member of the Wayne Oratorio Society, a 200-voice sacred music choir; I sing with my church; and when Al Stewart (of "Year of the Cat" and "Time Passages" fame) tours in the Philadelphia region, I am part of the opening set and occasionally sing with Al in the main set. I've released my own CD, "For the Fun Of It," which remains available on iTunes and at CDBaby.com

Even with her extremely busy professional life, Liz has found time to serve the community with her work on a number of boards. She was the Founding President of the Penn State Schuylkill Campus Alumni Society, a member of Penn

State's Alumni Council (the governing board of the Alumni Association), and a member of the Advisory Board to the CEO of the Penn State Great Valley campus. She is currently Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia. Liz has completed 11 marathons, nine since 2000, and a 50-mile race in 2002. She plans more distance events to raise funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

She has been married to Kevin Bligan since July 1981 and they have a son, Carl, who recently graduated from Penn State and is currently in Wawa's Accelerated Management Program.

Evelyn Sydnor Bouden:

A Physician with a Loving Heart and Healing Hands

By Dorothy G. Kapenstein

Evelyn Sydnor Bouden M. D. (June 1941), now retired, was a brilliant physician who devoted the many years of her active medical career to caring for the health of women and children. She was particularly dedicated to the cause of promoting quality health care for poor women and children. For many years after her official retirement, she continued to be active as a volunteer for this cause. She is a true role model for GHS girls and graduates and for girls and women everywhere.

Evelyn was born in 1924, when our country was sharply divided by the evils of segregation into two racially divided communities. She was the daughter of two African American professionals who gained great success in a world of prejudice and racial inequality by constantly applying themselves to

great efforts and hard work. Her father, Dr. Harry Elwood Bouden was a dentist who had a practice of more than 50 years in West Philadelphia. He was a graduate of Lincoln University and a 1916 graduate of the Evans Dental School of the University of Pennsylvania. He served his country in World War I and was among the first group of black dentists ever to become commissioned officers in the U. S. Army Dental Corps. He served in France and was promoted to the rank of captain by the time he was honorably discharged. Then he returned to Philadelphia and began his private practice. An entry in Dr. Harry Bouden's Penn Dental School records states that his wife, Dr. Evelyn Bouden's mother, was Jeannette Sydnor Bouden, a 1906 graduate of the Philadelphia High



School for Girls and a 1908 graduate of the Philadelphia Normal

School! She was an elementary school teacher in the city's public schools for many years.

Girls' High was just the right place for Evelyn to prepare for college and her professional career. In addition to her mother, other family members were alumnae; she was part of a Girls' High dynasty. Her cousins, Cordelia Chew Hinkson and Agnes Chew Upshur, were sisters and 1915 graduates. Cordelia Chew Hinkson's two daughters also graduated from GHS, Cordelia Hinkson Brown in June 1941 and Mary Hinkson Jackson in January 1943. Mary was elected to our Court of Honor in 2012 for her splendid career as an internationally acclaimed dancer, choreographer, and educator. Agnes Chew Upshur's daughter, Georgine Upshur Willis, was a June 1939 graduate.

After graduating from Girls' High, Evelyn went to the University of Wisconsin, where she earned her B.S. in Physical Education in 1944. Then she went to Columbia University in New York and obtained certification as a physical therapist in 1946, after which she began working for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. She travelled the country to bring care and solace to the children afflicted with the terrible disease. In 1951, she came home to Philadelphia and began studying to become a physician. She received her M.D. degree in 1955 from Women's Medical College (now Drexel University Medical College). After an internship at King's County Hospital in Brooklyn, New York, she served as a resident at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Evelyn then set up a private pediatric practice with two other physicians in southwest Philadelphia. Most of their little patients were African American children from all over the city. The practice was in business from 1958 to 1966 and the pediatricians offered excellent care, including house calls and regular phone hours for questions and advice.

In 1966, she left private practice and devoted her medical training and talents to the service of poor women and children. From 1966 to 1970, she was Project Director of the Comprehensive Health Care Program for Children and Youth. The project was designed to serve as a health center to provide excellent medical services to some 7,000 children and 10,000 adults who lived in North Philadelphia and were numbered among the city's poorest and neediest citizens. The project was federally funded and also backed by Temple University and St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. Evelyn wrote the proposal that secured a \$400,000 grant to set up services at 2538 Germantown Avenue in the heart of North Philadelphia, and then she helped to implement what is now considered the first public health center of its kind in the city.

Similar primary healthcare and preventive centers began to appear around the country. Some were federally funded while others were community - funded centers, and Evelyn's career included participation in the evaluation of these healthcare units. She wrote (in part), "I was responsible for the standards used, also for procedures followed and interpretations of on-site evaluation team reviews." She noted that she participated in 25 nationwide consolidated site-visit reports by experts in child health and clinical pediatrics.

Then She then moved on to participate in pediatric services for children in New York and worked there serving as Acting Director of the Department of Pediatrics at Lincoln Hospital and later as Director of Pediatric Ambulatory and Emergency Room Services.

Evelyn moved to Harrisburg and, from 1977 to 1991, served as Director of the Division of Child

and Maternal Health (MCH) of the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Her loving interest and devoted work now impacted the lives of vast numbers of women and children in her native state. She wrote about her duties, "I oversaw the performance of 8 Public Health Program Managers. I was also responsible for MCH program planning. I had a major role in planning DPW's *Healthy Beginnings Plus* Maternity Program. Under my direction, my divisions applied for and received grants to make up an annual budget for programs and services of more than 15 million dollars contracted with more than 50 providers statewide, covering family planning, prenatal/perinatal care, genetics, newborn screening, primary child health care and lead poisoning prevention services." Evelyn was a leader in the battle to end lead poisoning in children.

She retired from her busy and active career of service to others in 1991. Still intent on helping mothers and children, she tutored illiterate mothers in their 30s who had preschool and/or primary grade school-age children. Not very long into retirement, she saw a notice asking for volunteers to staff a special in-house telephone counseling service sponsored by the Women's Law Project (WLP) of Philadelphia. WLP's mission is to create a more just and equitable society by advancing the rights and status of women and girls throughout their lives and, to this end, they engage in high-impact litigation, advocacy, and education. Their telephone counseling service fields thousands of calls annually and gives women in crises a direct line to caring volunteers who will listen to their stories and give compassionate help. Evelyn was one of these compassionate counselors for more than 11 years when chronic illness and frailty slowed her down.

Editor's note: Dorothy interviewed Evelyn and reports it was a very moving and emotional experience. She would like to thank Margaret "Peggy" Beecham for her advice and support on this and other occasions.

Celebrated Sisters

The Alumnae Association of the Philadelphia High School for Girls believes it is important to take note of dedicated alumnae, whose important contributions have eased the way for, and inspired so many women. Celebrated Sisters is an initiative designed to complement our Distinguished Daughters by highlighting the continued accomplishments of Girls' High graduates.

Devona E. Goeins Williams, PhD (1972)

The Girls High connection runs strong in Dr. Devona



Williams. Her older sister, Cheryl Goeins (class of '61) encouraged Devona to follow in her footsteps. At Girls High, Devona was the perfect right brain/left brain balance. She was both a strong academic student with artistic talent and a penchant for business. As a young girl Devona loved nature and art and

had dreams of becoming a biologist or an artist. She attended the Philadelphia Art League from third grade through her senior year in high school. For Devona, attending GHS was like winning the educational lottery and becoming part of an elite academic institution.

At GHS Devona found her academic haven. In addition to a full academic schedule she took art five periods a week, four years of German and one year of Spanish. Sports were also very significant to her leadership development. She was a varsity cheerleader and part of the first squad to support Central High School football; she became captain of the squad in her senior year. Devona competed in gymnastics Contest and was captain of her senior team. Devona still has her ribbons!

While at GHS she met girls from all over the city and of all religious, ethnic and racial backgrounds. It was here that Devona developed an understanding and appreciation for diversity. Many of her classmates were

first-generation immigrants with parents who spoke another language at home. She made connections that have lasted a lifetime including her best friend from high school, Donna Choung Johnson. They met in ninth grade German class.

GHS instilled in Devona a sense of moral conscientiousness. She was part of the early mainstreaming of students from Widener Memorial School, GHS' neighbor across the driveway. She also lent her voice as she participated in a protest for the right to wear pants. (Thank you, Devona!) She was an active part of the movement to equalize resources allocated to Central and GHS from the Philadelphia School District.

She is grateful for the many teachers that influenced her during her years at GHS. Mrs. Sheridan who taught English recognized her superb writing skills and encouraged Devona to consider a major in journalism. She is eternally grateful to Dr. Rosenbaum; because of his tutelage her language requirement for college was waived. The German she learned enhanced her corporate career at DuPont. She recently used her linguistic skills on a trip to Germany and Poland. Attesting that learning can, and should be fun, Devona remembers Mr. Goldblum fondly, and still uses Spanish in her work. Ms. Nancy Tregnan encouraged Devona in her artistic ventures. Devona sold her first painting through Ms. Tregnan's recommendation.

The memories of the physical campus are still vivid. Devona shares that she always thought GHS looked like a college with the front steps leading to the entrance in such a regal manner. But her favorite part of the

building by far, was the side entrance from the gymnasium which led to a path to the hockey field, the tennis courts and beyond to Central High School. She received her one and only pink-slip for lingering at this very side entrance with her Central High School boyfriend.

"

Education

After graduation from Girls' High, Devona received a full academic scholarship to the University of Delaware for her freshman year and declared a major in art, specifically graphic design. Being practical about her future, she later switched to art education to increase her opportunities for employment.

Devona got married to her college sweetheart the winter break of her junior year and graduated with many more credits than needed. She received a Bachelor of Science in Education (BSED), Art Education in 1976. As a full-time student Devona also worked full time which included various positions for the Newark Department of Parks & Recreation and weekend food service manager of the student center for the University of Delaware.

Following graduation Devona chose to work in government service and was immediately offered a position with New Castle County where she directed several programs. While there, she was selected to receive a full stipend to pursue a master's degree. In 1982 Devona earned a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Delaware with a focus on agency management, was a mixture of personnel, organizational and financial management. She took a year off to complete the coursework and then returned to work as the executive director of a nonprofit fair housing organization while finishing her Master's thesis.

She holds a Ph.D. in Urban Affairs and Public Policy from the University of Delaware, with specialization in social policy, program planning, and analysis.

Career

Dr. Williams has been a successful performance consultant for the last 29 years at the helm of Goeins-Williams Associates (GWA) where she is the founder, president, and CEO. She is a consultant to businesses helping them achieve greater productivity in strategic work environments. The list of GWA clients includes AstraZeneca, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Christina Health Systems, the DuPont Corporation and the State of Delaware.

Dr. Williams' professional experience spans the administration of public programs, the management of corporate public relations, policy issues, strategic planning, organizational and executive leadership. Her experience also includes executive

appointments with the DuPont Corporation, as well as service as a U.S. Presidential Intern with the Office of Management and Budget, NASA and the EPA. Dr. Williams has also served as former assistant professor and instructor for the University of Delaware's School of Urban Affairs.

New Horizons

Dr. Williams made history again when elected the first female vice-chair, along with the first female chair, Dr. Wilma Mishoe, of the Board of Trustees of Delaware State University (DSU), where she previously chaired the education policy committee. She currently serves as chair of the innovation and sustainability committee.

In addition, Dr. Williams has held multiple faculty positions at the University of Delaware. She received the University of Delaware's Presidential Citation for Outstanding Achievement and the Distinguished Alumna Award from the University's College of Urban Affairs & Public Policy in 1995.

As Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees, her duties include strategic oversight of the DSU fiduciary and administrative operation, attending special events on campus, chairing the foundation board, and collaborating with other board members.

Publications

Girls High allowed me to develop as a person, explore different strengths, develop the confidence to be a leader and to be eclectic".

The author of numerous articles, and books, she is contributing author to "Remarkable Women". In 2009, her self-published "Intentional Consultant", a primer on how creating a sustainable practice or small business was very well received domestically and internationally. The book was written during the recession when she observed many small businesses struggling.

She is a highly regarded speaker on topics such as leadership, strategic planning, cultural diversity, team building, overcoming obstacles, business success, and entrepreneurship. She maintains a blog based on her work as an intentional consultant.

Leisure Activities

Devona enjoys Zumba, bike riding, gardening, artistic endeavors and walking. In addition to spending time with her family and grandchildren, she enjoys traveling with her husband, Kenneth Anderson, a Central High School grad, to whom she has been married to for the past 13 years. She is active in church, and her husband is a pastor of two congregations.

Her family is important to Devona, a source of much inspiration and pride. She has one son and daughter-in-law, five step-daughters and is the grandmother to twin boys. Her siblings include three sisters with whom she is very close, and one brother now deceased. She has twenty- four great nieces and nephews.

In her spare time, Devona continues to research her family history and has uncovered records going back ten generations. A common thread in the family has been a focus on education and entrepreneurship. Her grandparents graduated college and her great-grandmother taught normal school. Her parents, now deceased, encouraged her to explore where her talents led, but also were pragmatic and insisted she took steps to ensure that she had a firm career option to fall back on.

Pearls of Wisdom

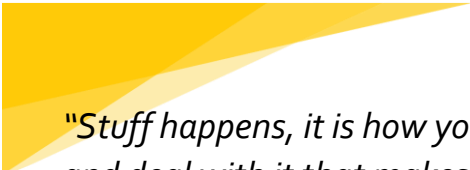
There was no precedent for much of what Devona has accomplished in her life. She has created her own specializations for both her master's and doctoral degrees. Once laid off from a job for being 8 months pregnant, she collected unemployment until her son was five months and then found a better job. After experiencing the glass ceiling in her corporate career, she left to start her business. Devona believes things happen for a reason and there is always something to be learned from every loss or failure. She is a fervid believer that you must find the good in every situation; every struggle makes you stronger.

"It is not what others say you do, but how you feel about what you have done. Work until you feel the job is complete, whatever you are working on, as an employee, manager, consultant or volunteer". Don't just work for the recognition, but for the result, to improve performance and leave it better than how you found it. What you do and how you do it is important.

Equally important is putting forth your best effort and being resourceful." Not driven by remuneration, she believes in a job done well, and creating a lasting impression.

Devona had loving parents, mentors and supporters who have helped her through the years, and she does the same for others with a grateful heart. That spirit was nurtured at GHS. GHS provided a strong foundation and gave her a first-rate education in a public-school setting.

Editor's note: Special thanks to Dr. Lynda H. Murray-Jackson for nominating Dr. Williams as this month's Celebrated Sister. Kudos to Dr. Murray for her contributions to this article.



"Stuff happens, it is how you overcome it and deal with it that makes you a better person. Forgive yourself and others and move on."

Our Alumnae Association Matters!!

Please continue to send information if you or someone you know is serving or has served in our Armed Forces. Please email your news to dorothyko8@aol.com.

Do you have news about a retired faculty member or are you a retired faculty member? Please email your news to dorothyko8@aol.com.

We are very interested in receiving gift items for the Archives such as yearbooks, commencement programs, gym contest, concert, drama, or other memorabilia that will enhance and substantiate GHS history. Please email Dorothy G. Kapenstein at dorothyko8@aol.com or call her at 215-331-2681. Please do not send items directly to the school.

What's New? Send your news items and pictures to news@ghsalumnae.org. GHS classmates and friends love to read the latest news about each other!

Do you want to enjoy the intangible spirit of the days at Girls' High? Would you want to have items that have the Girls' High name or logo imprinted on them? If so, the Alumnae Association can help. Please contact: communication@ghsalumnae.org and you will be advised of which items are available for purchase. You can also go to our website to see items that are available to order. To visit our website, click www.ghsalumnae.org.

Please join our Facebook group, The Alumnae Association of the Philadelphia High School for Girls. All social, no business! When you ask to join, please be sure that you have indicated your year and class somewhere on your Facebook page, and your name at graduation if it was different than our current name. While you do not have to be a member of the Alumnae Association to join the group, it is limited to alumnae and faculty.

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We look forward to hearing from you!



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