

SPRING
2018

Cushing

CUSHING ACADEMY MAGAZINE *Today*



MEET DR. RANDY BERTIN
Cushing Academy's Incoming
13th Head of School

**DEDICATING LEE HOUSE AND
SANBORN HOUSE**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
OUR OLYMPIC ATHLETES!**

Cushing Today

SPRING 2018

Cushing Academy exists for students and develops curious, creative, and confident learners and leaders.

Cushing Today is a publication of Cushing Academy's Office of Marketing and Communications.

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🌟 New or renewed facility

ON THE COVER: The bronze penguin statue outside of Watkins Field House. Photo by Gechuan Jack Xu '20.

Keep up with Cushing!

Curious about Commencement 2018? Seeking the latest updates on tournaments, Performing Arts events, student academic achievements, and more?

cushing.org contains a wealth of information and updates about the Academy.

Looking for photos? cushing.org/photo-gallery has hundreds of albums to enjoy. All of our photos are downloadable so you can easily share your Cushing memories.

Painting by **Carina Ye '18**.

The National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) asserts in its Principles of Good Practice, “The board is the guardian of the school’s mission.” Along with execution of the Board of Trustees’ fiduciary duty on behalf of Cushing, these principles state that, as a best practice, “The board adopts a clear statement of the school’s mission, vision, and strategic goals and establishes policies and plans consistent with this statement.”

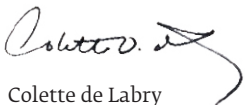
In fulfillment of that crucial responsibility, in July 2017 the Board of Trustees approved the Academy’s Strategic Plan for 2017–2022, *Embracing Our Legacy and Positioning for Our Future*. The process began in August 2016 with a comprehensive analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing Cushing Academy. The planning process was designed to optimize input from students, faculty, staff, parents, alumni and the Board. We thank all who participated for their thoughtful input, which resulted in 27 iterations of the Plan leading to the adopted version.

Nine Strategic Initiatives were identified (see sidebar). Our plan is ambitious, but it will help us map a sustainable future, steward our resources more effectively, and emerge a stronger institution that is best positioned to achieve its mission for our students. I encourage you to read the Plan, which can be found on our website in both full and summary versions.

If you have been on campus during the last two years, you know that we have completed several building and renovation projects, including the construction of the Watkins Field House and of Lee House and Sanborn House dormitories, the replacement of the turf on Quimby Field, and the renovation of the Theodore Iorio Arena. Our work to improve the campus is not yet complete. Currently Ashburnham House and our Dining Commons are undergoing renovation and expansion, including a new state-of-the-art kitchen, and we look forward to celebrating these newest projects at their completion in fall 2018. (A video tour of the future dining hall can be found at cushing.org/dininghallwalkthrough.) The goal of these projects, and of all our buildings and facilities, is to support our students, faculty and staff in fulfillment of our mission, “to exist for students and to develop curious, creative, and confident learners and leaders.”

A great privilege and pleasure of serving as a Trustee is the opportunity to talk with students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni on campus throughout the year. We deeply value your input, and we thank the entire Cushing community for your continued support of this very special school. We invite and welcome your ongoing partnership as we work to further strengthen Cushing for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Colette de Labry
Chair, Board of Trustees

Embracing Our Legacy and Positioning for Our Future

2017–2022 STRATEGIC PLAN STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- ➔ Develop a Student-Centered Culture
- ➔ Develop a Sense of Self-Esteem and Achievement Through the Visual Arts, the Performing Arts, and Athletics
- ➔ Enable Students with Diverse Learning Styles to Each Excel Developmentally and Academically
- ➔ Provide Facilities to Support the Academy’s Academic and Student Life Programs
- ➔ Invest in Human Resources
- ➔ Establish Authentic Alumni and Parent Networks
- ➔ Create an Economically Sustainable Business Model
- ➔ Develop Best Practice Governance Models
- ➔ Create a Data Based Culture Through the Use of Technology Best Practices

The Strategic Plan is available at
cushing.org/strategicplan





As the spring semester quickly moves toward the end of another year and Commencement, we watch our students enthusiastically embrace all that Cushing offers them—in academics, residential life and student activities, arts, and athletics. Hard work, epiphanies, challenges, and laughter abound, and the students' academic and personal growth is deeply fulfilling to us and to Cushing's remarkable faculty who teach and mentor—in classrooms, in rehearsals and athletic practices, and in the dorms and the dining hall. The Cushing experience shapes students' lives forever, and it is a great privilege to share in this formative experience.

Along with the implementation of our Strategic Plan, this year has seen completion of another institutional benchmark: the decennial review and granting of continuing accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). As they describe it, "NEASC accreditation is a system of accountability that is ongoing, voluntary, and comprehensive in scope." The process, which independent schools and colleges undergo in ten-year cycles, provides a wonderful opportunity for schools to reflect on and review all aspects of their programs. Beginning with an in-depth self-study conducted over a period of 18–24 months, the process also included a peer review of our programs and practices, informed by the self-study. A Visiting Committee composed of faculty and administrators from schools throughout New England spent three days on campus, concluding with an extensive written report, as well as commendations and recommendations. A thorough follow-up process ensures progress on recommended actions. We are proud of the insightful work done by our faculty in this process and, most importantly, of the work done each day by all our faculty and staff in fulfillment of our mission and our commitment to students.

Our work as Co-Heads of School during this time of transition has been extremely rewarding. As a community, Cushing very much looks forward to the arrival and official start of incoming Head of School Dr. Randy Bertin in July. We have greatly appreciated your support during our interim leadership, and we look forward to returning to other roles in this vibrant, student-centered community. We hope to see many of you on campus or at an event soon, whether at a game, exhibition, performance, or reception. It is an exciting time to be on campus and an exciting time to be a Penguin!

With best wishes,

Margaret Lee
Co-Head of School for Academic
Affairs and Student Life

Catherine Pollock
Co-Head of School for Admissions,
Outreach, Administrative Services



Meet Dr. Randy Bertin

CUSHING ACADEMY'S INCOMING
THIRTEENTH HEAD OF SCHOOL

“The world can count on seeing great things from Cushing Academy in the years to come.”

– DR. BERTIN



Dr. Bertin and family

On October 30, 2017, the Board of Trustees announced the unanimous appointment of Dr. Randy R. Bertin as the thirteenth Head of Cushing Academy, effective July 1, 2018.

As Head of School at Besant Hill School in Ojai, Calif., since 2011, Dr. Bertin leads a vibrant and internationally diverse learning and living community. His commitment to students and his passion for excellence in academic and residential life, the arts, and athletics shone in his interviews and meetings with the Search Committee, the Board, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and parents. Before his appointment as Head of School at Besant Hill, Dr. Bertin served there as Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, Director of Advancement, and Assistant Head of School for Advancement. He previously spent seven years at Stoneleigh-Burnham School in Massachusetts, where he taught science and was an Athletic Trainer, Dorm Parent, Director of Athletics, and Development Officer.

Dr. Bertin was awarded his Doctor of Education from Pepperdine University. He received his M.S. in Exercise Science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and his B.S. in Kinesiology: Athletic Training from the University of New Hampshire. Randy and his wife Karen are proud parents of four children, and the Bertins look forward to making their home in this wonderful community and to returning to their New England roots.

In the months leading up to his arrival, Dr. Bertin made several visits to Cushing for special events, including Winter Family Weekend and Revisit Day; he also attended a number of receptions hosted by Cushing alumni, parents, and trustees on both coasts. These events were a wonderful opportunity for members of the Cushing community to meet our incoming Head of School and provided Dr. Bertin with important perspectives of Penguins past, present, and future.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Bertin and his family to Penguin Nation!



An Interview with Dr. Bertin



To read the official announcement of Dr. Bertin's appointment, visit cushing.org/appointment

Q You've cited the warmth of the community, the student-centered philosophy, and a shared commitment to a strong future as factors that attracted you to Cushing. Are there specific moments or conversations that have deepened your insight into our community?

A I would have to say that it is the totality of my experiences with the school community and Board of Trustees. In my first interview, I remember that the conversation was not forced, search committee participants had a sense of humor and were down to earth, and I left the discussion feeling like we could talk even longer than we did (this initial conversation went over our time limit and was constantly engaging and reciprocal). This sentiment continued during additional conversations with the Board; Board Chair, Colette de Labry; and Co-Heads, Peggy Lee and Catherine Pollock. When I visited campus as a finalist, I spoke with a group of students that also felt comfortable and welcoming. Following the meeting, one student stayed behind and was particularly inquisitive about my plans for Cushing. I told him my plan was to "learn more about the school, and to help Cushing be the best school it can be." We went on to have a very authentic discussion about this student's experience over the last four years and his hesitations for welcoming a new Head of School. I walked away from that interaction with a real appreciation for what was important to this particular student, and it resonated with what was important to me: community. This student's dedication to the Academy was reflective of the greater community as a whole.

“I have always thought that what makes this career special is that on any given day, you have the opportunity to help students improve, and to encourage them to develop new skills into lifelong habits.”

– DR. BERTIN

Q As an educator, you’ve chosen boarding schools. Why?

A I have always thought that what makes this career special is that on any given day, you have the opportunity to help students improve, and to encourage them to develop new skills into lifelong habits. Boarding schools are particularly special because this can happen in so many different ways as curriculum is present in so many aspects of student life—opportunities happen within the classroom, but also in the dorms and art studios, on the stage or athletic fields, and during activities and social interactions. I have always believed that because of this, the curriculum at a boarding school is the sum of everything that the school does with intention. Imagine the opportunities that a student has to achieve growth in every aspect of his/her life because knowledgeable and professional faculty and staff have the opportunity to structure experiences so that learning opportunities are constant. I cannot think of a better way to educate students.

Q As a leader, what accomplishment has made you most proud?

A I am very proud of my time at Besant Hill School and certainly leave an amazing team and school community behind as I transition to Cushing. While we completely turned around the school over the last seven years—by constructing several buildings through the school’s first comprehensive capital campaign, erasing our debt, establishing cash reserves, enhancing and adding to the curriculum, creating and executing an ambitious strategic plan, and much more—I am most proud of the culture that we built at the school. This culture is now the foundation that allows and encourages each employee to attain personal goals and continued growth, which benefits the students and school.

Q Having embraced the 24/7 nature of boarding school life, you have worn many hats. If you could teach a particular class, coach a sport, or lead an activity at Cushing, what would it be, and why?

A At this point, I have taught Health, Nutrition, Anatomy and Physiology, Sports Medicine, and AP Economics. I have also coached Boys’ Varsity Basketball and Baseball, and have volunteered in community organizations including AYSO Soccer, Pony Baseball, and AAU Basketball. I have also led several activities such as ski trips and outdoor education trips. For activities, I think that it would be great to have stu-

dents at Jewett House for opportunities to engage with the community on a regular basis and to get to know the student body. I am also happy to be getting back to New England where I can ski on a more regular basis and enjoy other winter activities. Growing up in New Hampshire, I spent most free weekends and some weekdays at Wildcat Mountain and do miss that experience. If I have to choose one in particular, I’d pick dusting off my skis to accompany a weekend ski trip.

Q What advice might you give to new students preparing to enter Cushing?

A I would give any new student the same advice that I would give to a new head of school—be yourself. Life at a boarding school demands connection in a way that no other environment does. Because of this, we are at the mercy of each member of the community. The best way that you can get the most out of this opportunity is to engage and participate wholeheartedly... as you.

Q As you look to transition to your new role, how would you encourage others to support Cushing to promote its continuing success?

A Schools are more challenged than at any other point in history to meet enrollment and revenue goals. Students applying to Cushing commonly apply to several other schools, and competition is fierce to have the best group of students attend the Academy. Additionally, annual giving, which is a budgeted revenue line of the budget, each year is more and more difficult to achieve. The school is entering a period of its history with these factors in mind, combined with external political factors which may bring additional challenges to fundraising, enrollment of international students, and other areas that boarding schools have regularly depended upon as part of their livelihood. As I come into the community, I do so with a focus on the conservative fiscal management of the Academy to be able to not only withstand these times, but to thrive in them. It is my goal to be sure we are not reactive to the changing landscape of education, but instead are proactive and a top choice for the Penguins of tomorrow. I chose Cushing because I believe in its mission, community, and the ability to be an effective and sustainable educational institution. The world can count on seeing great things from Cushing Academy in the years to come. I look forward to getting to know the Cushing Academy family and hope you will join me in this work. ■

A beautiful autumn day served as the backdrop for the dedication of Cushing's two newest dormitories in honor of legendary Silver Penguins Margaret "Peggy" Lee and Wayne Sanborn. The ceremony, held on Oct. 21, 2017, on the Lee House and Sanborn House lawn, brought together alumni, parents, students, faculty, trustees, family, and friends to pay tribute to Mrs. Lee and Mr. Sanborn.

After a warm welcome to guests, hosts Yashika Thakurani '18 and Cameron Berube '18 shared their experiences as residents of Lee and Sanborn Houses. Representing the Board of Trustees, Chair Colette de Labry then expressed the sentiments of many as she noted, "We are privileged to be celebrating two remarkable educators and individuals who have given so much of themselves to Cushing and to its students." She also expressed the community's thanks to the E.G. Watkins Family Foundation and to all who worked to bring the new dormitories to completion, noting the installation of 48 works of student and alumni art throughout the dorms and a new student sculpture created for the site.

Retired English faculty member Dr. Norman Carey and Varsity Girls' Ice Hockey Coach Valerie Bono '97 shared reflections on the tremendous impact that Mrs. Lee and Mr. Sanborn have had on this community. After expressions of gratitude by Mrs. Lee and Mr. Sanborn, the dedication closed with tours of the dormitories.





DEDICATING

Lee House and Sanborn House

HONORING PEGGY LEE

Excerpts from the Dedication Ceremony

Dr. Norman Carey Retired English Faculty Member

Noting her service since 1984 as a dedicated English as a Second Language teacher and department chair, Academic Dean, Director of the Summer Session, and now Co-Head of school, Dr. Carey continued, "The thing you need to know about Peggy, if you don't already know it (and many of us do) is that she is uncompromising in her pursuit of excellence in everything she has ever done for the school. As a teacher, Peggy puts the rest of us to shame. I remember doing duty in Dumas House one evening when Peggy came into the dorm to go over an essay with one of her students. This was not an exceptional occurrence. Peggy routinely chased down each student she had, day or night, to go over the latest piece of writing he or she had done. Her dedication—her devotion, really—to her students was unlike anything I had ever witnessed in my career. She placed her students' learning and growth above everything else. She is beloved by those students who were lucky enough to have her as a teacher, and our international alumni continue to offer testimonials to how she changed their lives. As a teacher and as an administrator, Peggy internalized the advice of former Head of School Dr. Joseph Curry to place the needs of our students above our own. She is herself a perfect model for what the ideal teacher should be. I would add that Peggy did all this, accomplished all these things, without fanfare or boast or complaint. She is one of the most selfless people I have ever known.

Peggy Lee taught many of her colleagues what was important in this profession, and at this school. We all—colleagues, students, parents, and alumni—owe her a debt that cannot ever be properly repaid. Let Lee House serve as a testament to future generations of what Cushing is—and what it can be—for all who know what the name Lee stands for."



"Peggy and I worked side by side tirelessly for many years to make Cushing a better place. From today forward we will remain side by side, bricks and mortar, forever."

— WAYNE SANBORN





TOP L-R: Peggy Lee; Dr. Norm Carey pays tribute to Peggy Lee

BOTTOM, L-R: Wayne Sanborn, Peggy Lee, Trustee Emeritus Edward G. Watkins '56, Karen Watkins; Gathering outside Lee House; Valerie Bono '97, Wayne Sanborn



Interested in how this sculpture came to be? Turn to page 16.



HONORING WAYNE SANBORN

Excerpts from the Dedication Ceremony

Valerie Bono '97

Varsity Girls' Ice Hockey Coach

It is so hard to put into words what Mr. Sanborn means to me and this community. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Sanborn 23 years ago when I visited Cushing Academy for the first time as a potential student/athlete.

From 1974 to 2011, Mr. Sanborn held countless roles in our community. He was the athletic director, the assistant headmaster, dorm head, head athletic trainer, football coach, director of plant and property, development lead. He was instrumental in nearly every aspect of the current athletic program. We would never be where we are today without his unwavering support and commitment to building something very special. He was passionate and committed to having the best facilities, the best training, and the best opportunities for success for all athletes. He did all this quietly without fanfare.

With all the roles he filled over the years, his greatest achievements came in the lives of the kids he impacted. He influenced thousands of student-athletes who ran these fields and courts and skated on that ice. He built a team culture and a tradition of success for all athletes in all sports. He created opportunities for each of us to grow and develop into confident leaders.

He treated every athlete with the same respect, girls or boys, freshmen or seniors. He held us all to a high standard both on and off the field of athletics. Everyone wanted to work hard for Mr. Sanborn because he worked hard for all of us.

Mr. Sanborn is humble and kind, generous and loving. He perfectly balances those amazing qualities with grit and toughness, strength and passion. It is so fitting that we stand in front of the beautiful Sanborn House, celebrating the life and legacy of Mr. Sanborn, one of the greatest builders of our Cushing community.

Chris Sheehan

AN EVERYDAY HERO

EVERYONE TAKES A DIFFERENT PATH

to Cushing, but second-year Spanish teacher Chris Sheehan's path was more circuitous than most.

Raised in a Massachusetts hockey family, Mr. Sheehan knew about Cushing as a young man, and even had a few friends who attended the Academy. He played hockey for Lynnfield High School and, after graduating, took his game to University of Massachusetts Dartmouth for a couple of years before heading to Barcelona, where he played in a semi-professional club league for three years.

Living in Barcelona was a great way to learn Spanish, of course. Mr. Sheehan soon realized that he had a facility for the language and that he wanted to teach it to others. He returned to the United States and went back to school to pursue this newfound inspiration.

By the time two planes flew into the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11, 2001, he had been serving in the Army Reserves for about a year. The best-laid plans of many people were undone on that day. Deeply struck by the horror of the event and its aftermath, he asked to be assigned to active duty. His plans to finish school and to teach were put on hold.

Duty first brought him to work as a combat medic for the 309th Combat Support Hospital in Bedford, Mass., followed by his position as a heavy equipment construction supervisor with the famed 82nd Airborne Division. In this role, Mr. Sheehan served two tours in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his time in Tikrit, he remembers driving past Saddam Hussein's palace regularly.

Mr. Sheehan then became a platoon sergeant for a combat battalion in Grafenwöehr, Germany. There, he was responsible for 70 enlisted soldiers and their families, overseeing squad training, discipline, performance,

and career development. Through all of this, however, he never lost sight of his education. "There's a lot of downtime," he said. "Some people watched movies or whatever, but I went to school online."

He left the Army in 2011, and returned to the States, where he continued his schooling, graduating from the University of Massachusetts Lowell in 2015. He received his master's degree from Middlebury College in August of 2017, all thanks to the GI Bill's

"Thanksgiving should be every day. I'm not always good at that, but my students know how much I appreciate my life and having them in my life. I think they can understand where I'm coming from."

education benefit. In addition to finishing his degrees, Mr. Sheehan worked to assist other veterans in pursuing education.

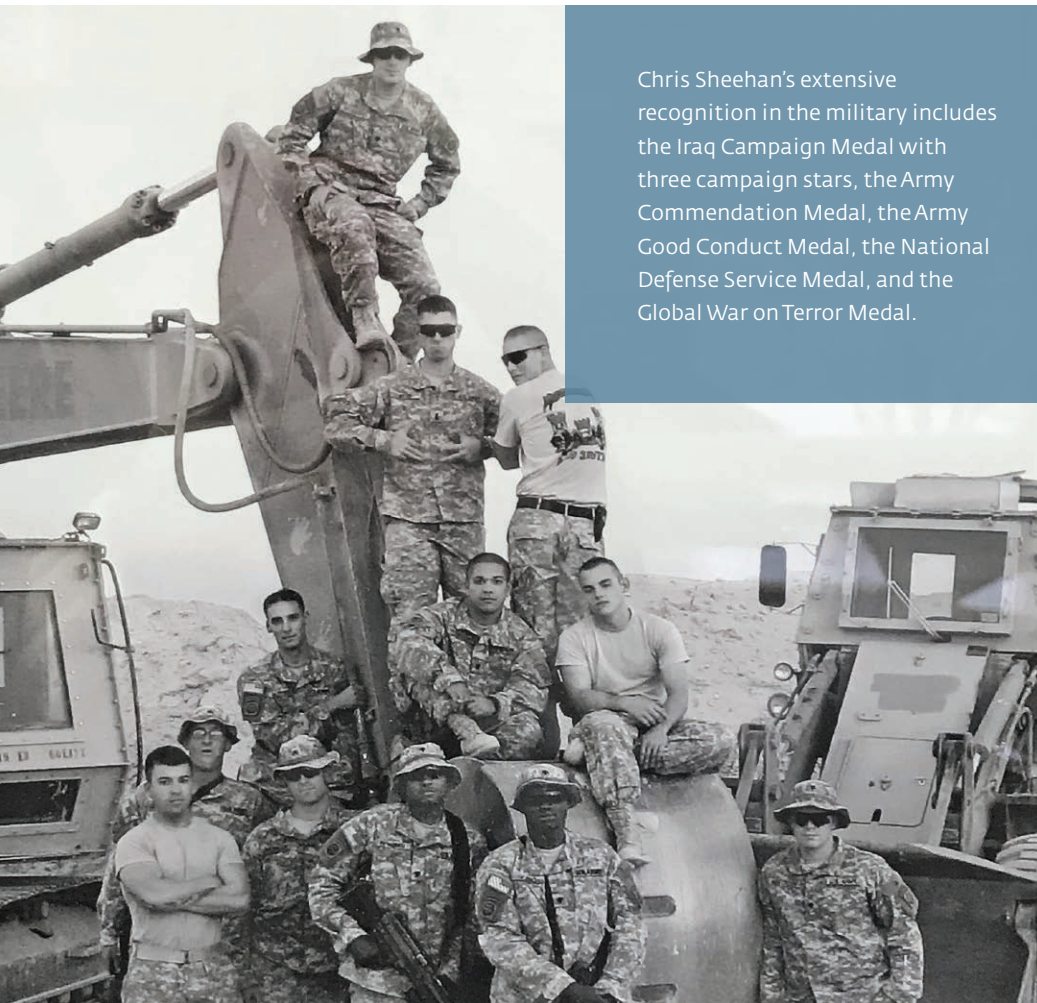
He began his teaching career at Cushing in the fall of 2016 and recalls when he first came to campus for an interview: Jill Stone '19 gave him a tour, and he is convinced that he's at the Academy because of her. The way she talked about Cushing—where she grew up as the daughter of Dave Stone and Beth Shoulla Stone, both longtime members of the Academy's faculty—struck a chord. "I immediately fell in love with the place," he said.

Now also a Dorm Head of Price Hall (where he lives with his wife, Juliana Zappi Sheehan, who is currently studying law at Suffolk Law School in Boston, Mass.), and Head Coach of Varsity B Boys' Hockey, Mr. Sheehan leads a radically different life after more than a decade in the Army. But he keeps a picture on his wall: a group of camouflage-clad young men in the desert, surrounded by military equipment. The picture helps honor his experience while reminding him to be grateful for what he has. "Not all of the men in that picture are still with us."

"Thanksgiving should be every day," he went on to say. "I'm not always good at that, but my students know how much I appreciate my life and having them in my life. I think they can understand where I'm coming from."

And they do. In just two short years, Mr. Sheehan's passion and leadership skills have made a noticeable imprint on the lives of Cushing students. Known for his upbeat and lively classes, he has made valuable connections with Penguins of all ages and backgrounds. Erin King '18, one of his students and advisees, spoke to *Cushing Today* about his ability to bring a smile to her face when she has needed it most. She confessed, "I honestly could write a whole book about the impact Mr. Sheehan has had on me."

It seems that many others could contribute a chapter. Residents of Price Hall, for example, readily spoke from the heart when asked about their beloved teacher and dorm parent. "Mr. Sheehan has not only helped maximize my Cushing experience, he has been someone who I look up to. He has always been there for me," said Holden Fry '19. Matt McGrath '18 echoed Holden's assessment of Mr. Sheehan as a role model. "He doesn't take one day for granted," he explained. "Cushing is a great place because we have community members like him." 🍷



Chris Sheehan's extensive recognition in the military includes the Iraq Campaign Medal with three campaign stars, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Global War on Terror Medal.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Coach Sheehan with Captains of Varsity B Boys' Ice Hockey Gino Bastone '18, Holden Fry '19, Evan Fleming '18 • Mr. Sheehan riding his bike to class • Mr. Sheehan with Spanish class • LE Platoon OIF, 2006–2008



STUDENT PROFILE

Stewart DeLeon '19

RUNNING MAKES STEWART DELEON '19

feel alive. Stewart is an involved member of the community, a student leader, and a three-year member of the Cross Country and Track & Field teams who has been recognized by Cushing's Athletic Department for his dedication. With every stride he takes during a run, Stewart moves past thoughts of self-doubt and opportunities to take the easy road. Overcoming the physical and mental strain of his runs brings him a sharper focus in the classroom and in everyday life. "It motivates me, but also it's a challenge," Stewart explained. "It pushes me to exceed myself."

Princeton University's Boys' Cross Country Camp gave Stewart the opportunity to hone his skills last summer. For five days in August 2017, he trained early in the morning, listened to speakers share how running impacted their lives, and connected with fellow runners. "I think that camp helped me in terms of pacing myself, having that mentality to never give up," he said, reflecting on his season as Cross Country Team Captain.

Stewart listened keenly to the advice given by the speakers at Princeton and found the common ground between himself and his fellow camp-goers affirming. "Running is fun. There's so much to it," he said. "Running is not just an action. There's a history and a background to it for everyone. I learned a lot from them." His time at Princeton equipped him with a greater understanding of his health, enhanced his approach to his sport, and left him with a more defined sense of what the sport means to him.

This experience would not have been possible without the generous gift of one friend of Cushing, Greg O'Connell. "I've been blessed with time, talent, and resources," said O'Connell, "and I'd like to share it."

Greg O'Connell, a 1966 graduate of Cheshire Academy, was inspired to make a difference at Cushing when he learned that after many years at Cheshire, Alumni and Parent Relations Director Brett Torrey '85 would return to his own alma mater. O'Connell's love of the sport, his relationship with Brett, and his previous success elevating the running program at Cheshire Academy led to the establishment of the Greg O'Connell Endowment for the Cushing Cross Country Program. As O'Connell put it, in cross country, "When the gun goes off, no one sits on the bench." Stewart became the first recipient of this scholarship fund, which allowed him to attend Princeton's camp in his home state of New Jersey. The Endowment is fully funded as of January 2018 and will provide funding in perpetuity for young runners at Cushing.

"There's no limit to what you can do if you're willing to work," was the advice that O'Connell gave Stewart during his visit to campus in May 2017. Given Stewart's track record (so to speak), it's safe to say he took this sentiment to heart and that his life is enriched because of it. 📍



Director of Alumni and Parent Relations Brett Torrey '85, Greg O'Connell, Co-Head of School Peggy Lee, Stewart DeLeon '19, Cross Country Head Coach Stirling Ince

If you have a passion you want to support, whether it's robotics, performing arts, or athletics, it's possible to make a gift that will enrich the lives of Cushing students. Please contact the **Office of Alumni and Parent Relations** to start the conversation.



Bari (center) as The Gypsy in *The Who's Tommy*

STUDENT PROFILE

Bari Tuka '21

HAILING FROM DISTRICT HEIGHTS, MD., freshman and member of the Watkins Scholar Program Bari Tuka '21 grew up unaware of boarding school until one fateful day in church. "My uncle came and made a presentation about the pathway to college," she explained. "He spoke about private schools—both boarding and day—and how beneficial it could be to one's high school experience and life experience overall." Her interest piqued, Bari went on to visit Cushing's campus. Although she had done her research and picked out 10 schools to look at, the strong sense of community at Cushing stood out to her. Bari could sense the comfort of the home-away-from-home that Cushing becomes to many. That indelible experience of the Cushing family moved her to apply and, thus, changed the trajectory of her high school career.

Empowered by a fierce desire to learn and grow, Bari pushed past her initial anxiety about being away from home and made connections with her classmates that blossomed into friendships. "At first, I just stayed in my room. I did not leave. Now, it's different. When classes aren't going on, I'm with my friends." Thanks to the community kitchen within Lee House (an identical kitchen is also available in Sanborn House), Bari often makes the short walk from her residence in Alumni Hall to join her friends in baking delicious

banana breads and endless batches of cookies, one of her favorite things to do on campus.

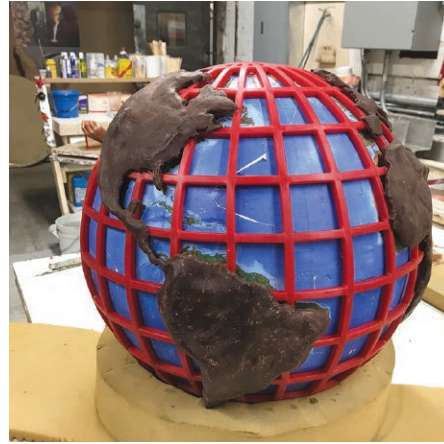
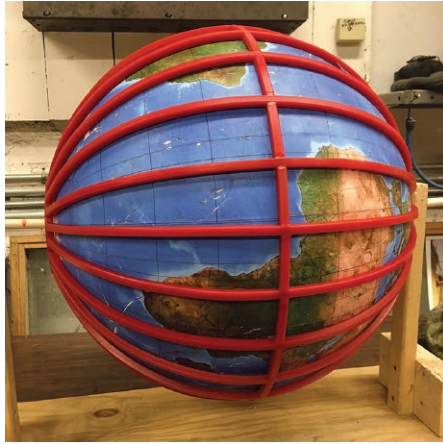
Now a freshman class representative, a role she was elected to by her peers, Bari is making the most of every opportunity that comes her way. She finds herself intellectually stimulated in her English class with Dr. Carlisle (about whom she says, "She is an angel. There tend to be a lot of them on campus!"), and she is deepening her involvement with the performing arts. Although she had never acted before, Bari took her longstanding passion of singing and said to herself, "Let's put yourself out there. Let's do this." Becoming a stage manager and actor in our fall production and performing a role in our winter musical, Bari fell in love with the theatre and looks forward to her involvement throughout her Cushing career.

The first member of her Nigerian family to be born in America, Bari came to Cushing equipped with the perspective of two cultures and a willingness to broaden her worldview even more. When asked about the best part of her Cushing experience, Bari responded, "The fact that I've opened up. I've been presented with so many opportunities. When I was at home everyone around me was just like me, and I can't say the same about Cushing. It's taught me a lot, and I'm grateful because I would not be where I am today without this opportunity." 🍌

The Watkins Scholar Program, established by Trustee Emeritus Edward G. Watkins '56 and the E.G. Watkins Family Foundation, awards full need-based scholarships to twenty high-achieving students who possess a love of learning, strong leadership skills, and a desire to contribute significantly to Cushing Academy. A recipient of the Watkins scholarship is provided a four-year scholarship as long as the Scholar is in strong academic and social standing.

For more information, visit cushing.org/watkins-scholar





PENGUIN GLOBE SCULPTURE

From Start to Finish



Photos courtesy of Sincere Metal Works

NESTLED BETWEEN THE IMPRESSIVE FACADES

of Lee and Sanborn Houses and overlooking the campus below, a new work of art stands tall.

In the tradition of the School Girl, the penguin sculpture garden outside the Emily Fisher Landau Center for Visual Arts, and the bronze penguin outside the Watkins Field House, the penguin globe statue was brought to life through a collaboration between Cushing students and Bob Johnson, Chair of the Visual Arts department.

Keira Abbott '17, Arkadiy Baltser '17, Allison Frechette '18, Breton Lorway '17, Carina Ye '18, and Wesley Zeng '19 were selected by Mr. Johnson to create the latest sculptural addition to Cushing. They began their planning in 2016.



Once given the go-ahead for its construction, Mr. Johnson informed the students of the project's parameters. From there, they hashed out the concept.

The team sought to illustrate the global diversity of our past and current Cushing community. A group of penguins supporting the earth on their shoulders became the symbol of this particular Cushing legacy.

Creating these sculptures requires active involvement on the part of the students. Each of the three penguins was cast from the maquette mold of the bronze penguin statue outside the Watkins Field House. Individual parts of the globe were cut out of copper and then covered in clay, which created the height and depth for the mountain

ranges and valleys of each continent.

Collaboration with the Sincere Metal Works foundry in Chelsea, Mass., and patina applied by Mr. Johnson to tint the continents green were just a couple of the additional elements that brought the entire work together.

Mr. Johnson's facilitation of these projects with student-artists is sure to leave a lasting impression on their lives and with each new piece woven into the fabric of our campus, Cushing continues to showcase its artistic heritage and strength. He believes that the alumni (and future alumni) who have worked on these sculptures should feel proud of their incredible accomplishment. "It's something that they'll never forget," he said. 📌

Updated Athletic Facilities



Varsity Boys' Head Coach Steve Jacobs (top); Varsity Girls' Head Coach Val Bono '97 (bottom)

IORIO ARENA RENOVATIONS

As part of the comprehensive facilities renewal in order to transform and raise the Cushing experience to unprecedented levels, Iorio Arena underwent a seven-month renovation in advance of the 2017–2018 hockey season.

Enhancing our current and future players' experience, renovations include:

- New arena floor, piping, and ice
- State-of-the-art Crystaplex dasher board system, which is currently installed in 28 of 30 NHL rinks
- Seamless acrylic shielding system to provide the most forgiving playing environment
- New protective netting
- Energy-efficient LED lighting system
- Brightly painted ceiling, which contributes to easier puck tracking for players and fans
- Expanded team benches
- Seamless rubber flooring

Among the new features and amenities are two familiar faces leading the program. Val Bono '97 returned to the Penguins' bench in 2016, this time to coach the Varsity Girls' Hockey team, and in 2017 after a 10-year absence, Steve Jacobs

returned as head coach of the Varsity Boys' Hockey team, a position he held from 1985 to 2007. Known as a powerhouse in prep hockey for years, Cushing is well poised to continue the tradition well into the future.

"The renovations in our facility clearly demonstrate our school's commitment to our student-athletes and the continued development of both our boys' and girls' hockey programs. We are grateful to our Board and to all involved for this incredible venue. The arena is one of the top venues in prep hockey and our players and staff are thankful for the opportunity to practice and play in such a world-class facility." —Coach Steve Jacobs

"Being back on campus is a dream come true. From the moment I graduated, my goal was to be the head coach of the Cushing girls' hockey program and give back to the community what it has given to me many years ago. Prep school girls' hockey is growing enormously across the country and we are so lucky to have the support to continue to develop a world-class program. Coaching alongside Coach Jacobs is absolutely fantastic. We both have a clear vision in mind for our programs and together we are excited for the continued development and opportunities ahead for Cushing hockey." —Coach Val Bono '97

NEW TURF AND THE RETURN OF VARSITY FOOTBALL

What better timing for the resurfacing of Quimby Field than right before the fall athletics season and the return of Varsity Football!

In the summer of 2017, our artificial turf field was replaced. That fall, Cushing accepted an invitation to join the Evergreen League and once again compete in the New England Prep School Athletic Council (NEPSAC) football at the varsity level.

Ryan Suchanek, Associate Director of Athletics and Head Coach of Varsity Football, explained that not only does the updated turf look more natural but also its sand-based foundation creates a greater cushion for impact, increasing safety for all who use it.

The combined impact of a renewed facility, dedicated student-athletes, and committed fans was a welcome start to the revitalized Varsity Football program. "It's a great environment and atmosphere out there," said Mr. Suchanek. "To see them come together and compete as a team is special. They should look back and be proud of their contributions. The score wasn't always in our favor, but as I said to the community at one point this fall, we were always confident that Penguins had our back. You supported us right to the end."

Varsity Football will remain in the Evergreen League, and looks toward the future, and Quimby Field will continue to host multiple sports in both fall and spring seasons and to serve as a gathering place for all Penguins.



Did you know that Cushing offers over 100 live webcasts each year? If you can't make it to campus, this is a great way to catch a game, performance, or special event such as graduation exercises. Many thanks to the students and faculty members in our Media Productions crew who make it all happen.

Watch for scheduling info at cushing.org/live-events

CUSHING ACADEMY

Summer Session

JULY 1-AUGUST 3, 2018

5-WEEK PROGRAM
DAY AND BOARDING
AGES 12-18



- ➔ Credit courses for a competitive edge
- ➔ Academic skill-building
- ➔ SAT Prep/TOEFL Prep
- ➔ English as a Second Language (ESL)
- ➔ Robotics and Engineering
- ➔ Studio Art
- ➔ Afternoon electives, trips throughout New England, friends for life, and more!



FOR MORE INFO:
SUMMERSESSION@CUSHING.ORG
CUSHING.ORG/SUMMER
978-827-7700

NEW FOR 2018!
**STEM, SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH, COMPETITIVE
ATHLETICS**

👇
**Endless Opportunities
An Unforgettable Experience
The Best Summer Ever!**

CUSHING ROCKS!

Over 200 excited Penguins gathered in Cowell Chapel last fall to attend *Cushing Rocks!* This much anticipated and inspiring benefit concert was created to raise funds for victims of 2017's natural disasters in Houston, Florida, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Caribbean islands. The event was an incredible success, and we're happy to report that *Cushing Rocks!* raised \$6,073 (\$1,073 over goal) for the American Red Cross.

There were 13 student and faculty acts. The lineup for the night was quite diverse: some performed rock ballads, others gave us a taste of classical music, and there was even a dance act. Mr. Connors' son Seamus sang a heartwarming a cappella rendition of "God Bless America." In the penultimate act, Co-Head of School Peggy Lee sang for the crowd, decked out in blue jeans, dark sunglasses, and a leather jacket.

In addition to those who performed, students were involved in numerous aspects of the concert: Milana Yelgeldina '18 created a t-shirt design that was sold to raise funds, Atlas Wexler '19 and Jenny Wu '19 designed posters, Paul Ingersoll '20 worked the lights backstage, and Varsity Girls' Soccer sold snacks for the cause. Numerous other contributions by students and community members helped make this event a big hit, and their hard work was much appreciated.

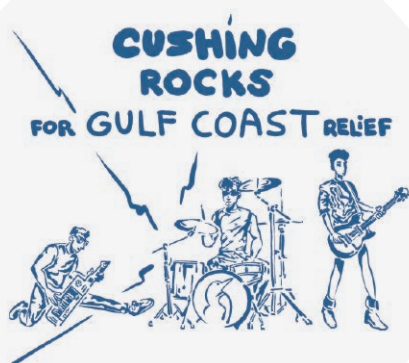


Diana Gao '20, Joann Ramirez '21, Kyra Parris '20, Jenna Viglione '20, Folake Olorode '19

MITRE YOUNG WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

Science Department Chair Mary Frances Hanover accompanied five Cushing students to the MITRE Young Women in Engineering conference on Friday, Oct. 27, in Bedford, Mass.

Diana Gao '20, Kyra Parris '20, Joann Ramirez '21, Folake Olorode '19, and Jenna Viglione '20 joined the opening session, in which the keynote speaker discussed the power of networking. The girls then rotated through workshops over the course of the day. Topics included cybersecurity, programming using PYTHON, human/technology interaction, and virtual reality/augmentation. All workshops were interactive and hands-on. During lunch, the students were able to talk with female engineers about how they got their start, what education they received, and their current research projects. It was truly an amazing and empowering day.



Performing Arts in Review

CUSHING'S PERFORMING ARTS SERIES CELEBRATED ITS FOURTH SEASON

The 2017–2018 Performing Arts Series continued to broaden and deepen our students' exposure to first-rate performing artists. All events are free and open to the public. The 2017–2018 performers were:

- University Dancers, the performing and touring company for the University of Massachusetts Amherst Dance Program
- June Ballinger, actor and writer of the one-woman show *Once In... Never Out!*
- Jesse Ruben, singer-songwriter
- Visit cushing.org/PASeries to learn more.

THE WORKS OF DAVID IVES ON STAGE

During Fall Family Weekend, Cushing Theatre tackled “the maestro of the short form” David Ives and his three plays: *Words, Words, Words*; *The Universal Language*; and *English Made Simple*. Running just under an hour, these performances were absurdist comedy at its best and illustrated the beauty and frustration of spoken language.

Ives' beautiful innuendo and language fraught with hidden meanings, coupled with a post-performance audience talkback with the cast, made for an evening rich with communication on many levels.



James Barone '21, son of Mike Barone '91, in the fall play



FROM TOP: Ghunwoo Jang '18; Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Mass.

NEW ACHIEVEMENTS FOR CUSHING MUSICIANS

In an all-time record for our school, six Cushing students were admitted to the Massachusetts Central District honors ensembles: Ray Duan '20, Alto sax (Band); Ghunwoo Jang '18, Piccolo (Orchestra); David Kwon '19, Voice (Chorus); Amanda Lee '18, Violin (Orchestra); Risa Nishino '18, Double bass (Band); Catherine Zeng '18, Cello (Orchestra).

Chunwoo Jang and David Kwon were also admitted to this year's All-State Music Festival, where they performed at Boston's Symphony Hall in early March.



RESPITE

In November, the Cushing Academy Dance Program presented RESPITE. The outstanding program highlighted work from all dance classes, including Dance I/II, Dance II/III, Advanced Dance, and After School/Evening Dance classes.

Along with choreography by Director of Dance Rebecca Rice, students proudly showcased their original Chinese contemporary and hip-hop work. Jazz-inspired pieces, Indian classical dance, and modern contemporary work added to the impressive variety of styles exhibited that evening.



FROM TOP: Fall coffeehouse • Jazz Band performs during Winter Celebration

WINTER MUSICAL: THE WHO'S TOMMY

Audiences packed Cowell Chapel for three nights over Winter Family Weekend 2018 to see *The Who's Tommy* with music and lyrics by Pete Townshend and book by Des McAnuff and Pete Townshend.

This classic rock opera, which debuted as a movie in 1975 and was theatrically staged in 1993, is based on The Who's iconic 1969 rock concept album. *The Who's Tommy* is an invigorating story of hope and the human spirit that has astounded audiences for more than four decades.

Cushing's production of *Tommy* featured creative sets, dazzling lighting cues, as well as an energetic pace that took the audience on an exciting and emotional journey. Our student cast featured players both new and familiar to the Cushing stage, including three alumni, five faculty members, and two faculty children.



Lily Tammik '18 in *The Who's Tommy*

JOIN US!

The extended Cushing community is always welcome at our Performing Arts events.

Our Performing Arts schedule is located at cushing.org/performing-arts-schedule.

Catch select events live via our online streaming service. cushing.org/live-events

You can also see some of our past performances on Cushing's YouTube channel.

youtube.com/CushingAcademy

Snapshots from CA



1. First week of school
2. Varsity B Boys' Hockey team winning Rust Cup tournament
3. Saxophone lesson
4. Fall Family Weekend 2017
5. Painting in the Emily Fisher Landau Center for the Visual Arts
6. Spirit Week "Dress Like a Teacher Day" with Mr. Kishonis
7. Photo booth at the Valentine's dance
8. Snowy day before Winter Free Weekend
9. Sunset outside of the Main Building
10. Varsity Girls' Hockey excited for Olympian Meghan Duggan '06



FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Renewal, growth, the exploration of new ideas about teaching and learning in the classroom, and thoughtful engagement with career objectives are all concepts in the Professional Goals Outline that David Stone, Dean of Faculty, works to bring to life.

As a result, faculty at Cushing engage with professional development opportunities year-round. Professional Development plans for summer 2018 are well underway. Here's a list of what they've taken advantage of since the summer of 2017 alone!



SUMMER 2017

- Landmark College Summer Institute
- NAIS Diversity Leadership Institute
- Maine Media Workshop writing documentary on dance
- NEACAC Annual Conference
- Athletic Training Home Study Coursework
- Athletic Training Technique Development at Phillips Andover
- Independent School Management: Balancing Your Roles as Dean of Students
- Association of College Counselors of Independent Schools Summer Institute
- Paideia Institute's "Living Latin in Rome" Summer Program
- APSI Fitchburg State: AP Spanish Language & Culture Workshop
- Advanced AP Institute for Chemistry
- Equity Exchange, St. Louis
- Landmark College Summer Institute on Teaching Math
- Maine Media Workshops + College
- Organic World Language Summer Boot Camp with Oral Proficiency Interview Training
- The Association of Independent Schools of New England New Teacher Institute
- Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center Writing Workshop
- Fitchburg State College, M.Ed. work



FALL 2017

- Organic World Language 2 Training Workshop, Classical and Modern Languages Department
- The Physiology of Addiction, Dr. Ruth Potee
- Landmark College Certificate Series: Executive Function and LD: Integrating Strategies, Study Skills, and Technology
- AP 1-Day Workshop: Biology
- AP 1-Day Workshop: Spanish Language
- Ed Technology Specialists Seminar, PD 2.0
- Gardner-Carney Leadership Institute Symposium
- American Council on Teachers of Foreign Languages Conference
- Massachusetts STEM Summit
- Treating Insomnia: Evidence-Based Strategies to Help Your Clients Sleep
- Fitchburg State College, M.Ed. work
- Level I Track and Field Coaching Certification



WINTER 2017-18

- NAIS People of Color Conference
- Skillshare and Creative Bug Online Courses in the Arts
- The Association of Boarding Schools Annual Conference
- American Design Institute graphic design course
- In House Professional Development Day: New Year, New Lenses

- Teachers as Scholars Seminar: Thoreau and Frost on Writing, Virtue and Nature in America
- The Bridge Training Institute: Anxiety and School Avoidance in Youth
- Women in Dance Leadership Conference
- Carney Sandoe Diversity Forum
- Fessenden School: MakerSpace
- Teens, Anxiety and Depression: Active Strategies to Move Teens Forward



SPRING 2018

- NAIS People of Color Conference
- Teachers of English as a Second Language International Conference
- Wilderness First Aid Training Certification
- Classes toward Master of Science in Education, Fitchburg State University
- White Privilege Conference
- Organic World Language Workshop
- American Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies Annual Conference
- Classes toward MA in History, Southern New Hampshire University
- Classes toward Doctorate in Education, Northeastern University



DINING COMMONS AND ASH HOUSE EXPANSION AND RENOVATION

Currently, the Fisher-Watkins Dining Commons and Ashburnham House are undergoing renovation and expansion, and are targeted to open in the fall. The dining hall project includes a complete renovation of our existing facility, with a 15,800-square-foot addition that will feature a new kitchen, servery, and dining spaces, as well as a new student center, campus store, and mail room on the lower level. The adjoining dormitory, Ashburnham House, will be completely updated with the reconfiguration of student rooms, the addition of two faculty apartments, new elevators, and new stairways.

We look forward to the opening of these outstanding spaces that will enhance and nurture the strong sense of community at Cushing.

A video walkthrough of the future dining hall can be found at cushing.org/dininghallwalkthrough.



CUSHING ROBOTICS REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

This winter, Varsity Robotics took home a well-earned victory in the VEX Robotics qualifying championship in Hopkinton, Mass., and earned the Academy's first-ever trip to the regional finals. The Southern New England Championship was held at Quinsigamond Community College on March 3 and 4, 2018. Cushing was one of 80 qualifying teams vying to make it to the VEX World Championship.

Every year a different challenge is released by VEX Robotics, and the students have to design and build their robot to score as many points as possible in the game. This year, the game was called "In the Zone." The 12 members of Cushing Robotics have been designing, building, and programming their robot for this challenge since early September 2017. The seven members of the Varsity Robotics team, five of whom are seniors, have all participated in the program for several terms throughout their Cushing careers.

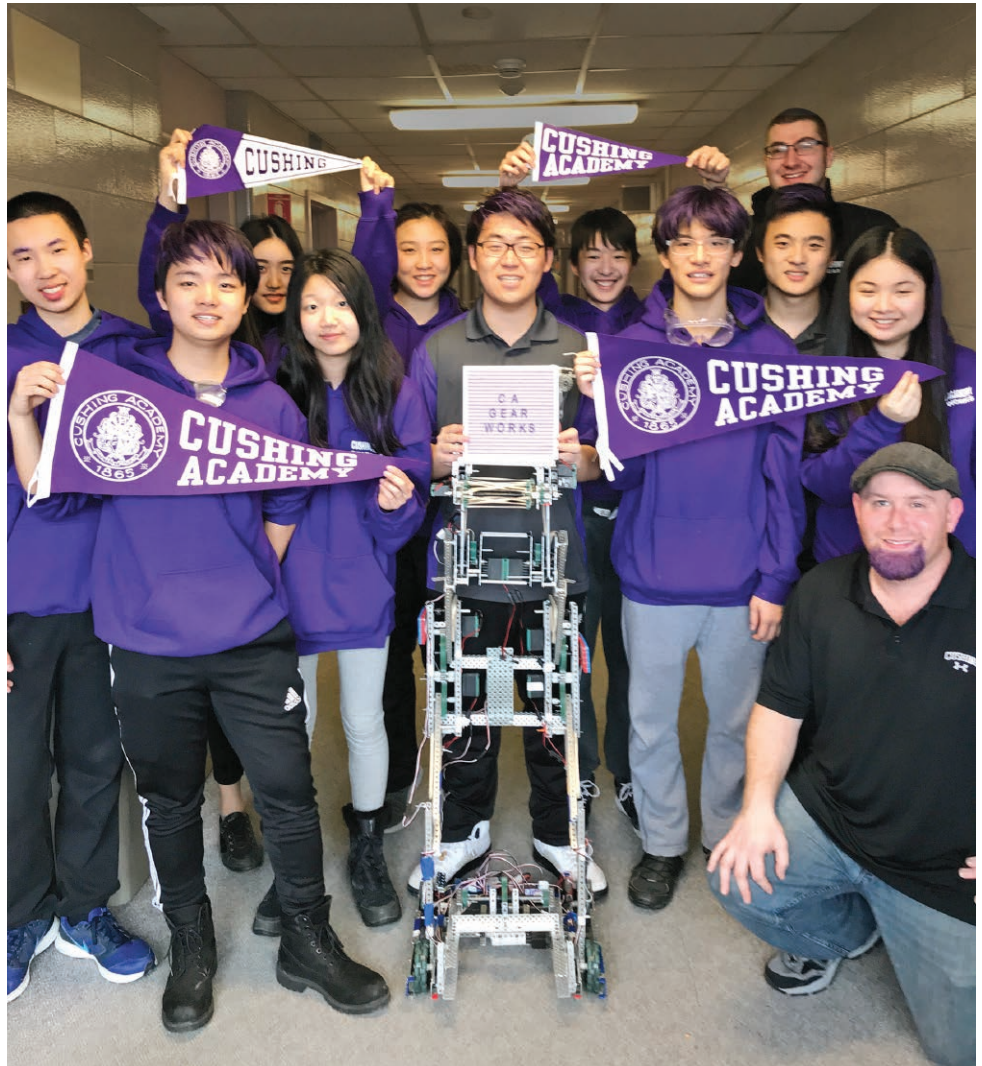
The team dyed their hair purple on the final day of Regionals in a show of Cushing spirit and left the weekend with a sense of accomplishment. They wrote Cushing Robotics history by making it to the competition, and we are sure that it will not be their last trip to Regionals!

VARSITY ROBOTICS

Genie Kang '18 (Captain)
Ethan Qiu '18
Stanley Shen '19
Jacky Wang '18 (Captain)
Luna Wang '18
Tom Wu '18 (Captain)
Julian Zhou '19

JV ROBOTICS

Diana Gao '20
Adam Ju '19
Daniel Kang '21
Barbara Wang '20
Zerui Zheng '20



FROM TOP: Cushing Robotics celebrates their first trip to the VEX Regional Championship • Captains Jacky Wang '18, Genie Kang '18, and Tom Wu '18 at VEX Robotics Regionals 2018

STUDENT PROFILE

Genie Kang '18

GENIE KANG '18 IS A FOUR-YEAR

senior from Seoul, South Korea. A resident and Proctor in Lee House, Co-President of the Student Body along with Ethan Yu '18, and one of three captains of the Robotics team, Genie Kang strives for excellence. But more than just a high achiever, Genie is an empathetic leader and an eager learner. When speaking with Genie, it is no surprise that she has gained the respect and friendship of her peers. In our conversation, her calm and thoughtful demeanor easily gives way to effervescent laughter and smiles.

However, at the start of her Cushing career, Genie was not always as outgoing. "The way I approach my life has changed," she said. "Before I was really shy and didn't talk a lot." The kindness of fellow Penguins changed that. "The first thing I heard at Cushing was from Nasir Bly '17. He said, 'Genie, you're so nice! Just like your name.' That got me. After that, I tried to interact more with people."

How did she feel about running for Student Body President? "Very nervous," she explained. "But, Mrs. Stone said I should go for it and that made me try!"

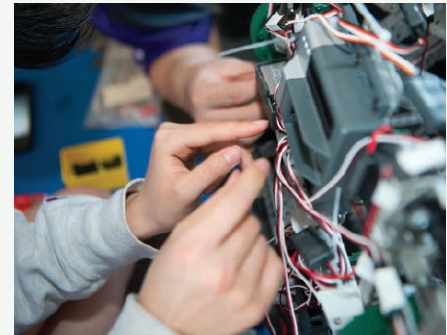
Genie's outlook on her presidential responsibility was informed by her own experience and the student leaders she admired when arriving at Cushing four years ago. "My goal wasn't really big. I just wanted people to feel secure about being in the community. When I was a freshman, I looked to Rachel Zhu '16. She was so nice and social. I thought, 'How could she do that?' Then after four years, I realized you change a lot. Little by little you gain the ability."

The Cushing experience transformed her view of others and herself. "I thought the most important thing in life was to be the best in what you do. As long as you accomplish something, you can be a little bit stressed and sometimes you don't even have to think for yourself," she said. "What I realized was that

there are 24 hours for everyone, every day. No one has more or less time, and it's our decision what to do with it."

"When I go to college I hope I can arrange my schedule so that I can do many different things. There are so many things to experience. And it's not good to be stressed! [laughs]"

"I learned more about myself here," she concluded, "and I think that's a part of connecting with people. I first saw differences between people. Now I see more similarities." 📷



Genie preparing robot 4522A for competition



Emily Wang '18 and Genie Kang '18 (seated) greet the first residents of Lee House for the 2017–2018 academic year.

PEOPLE OF COLOR AND STUDENT DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Nearly 6,000 adults and students attended the People of Color Conference this year in Anaheim, Calif. This yearly conference organized by the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) focuses on diversity and people of color in the independent school setting. Five Cushing faculty members and six students attended.

The application process took place in the spring of 2017, and 21 students applied for those six spots. Applicants were asked to reflect on what they hoped to gain from the experience, as well as how they could use their newfound knowledge to make a difference at Cushing.

In addition to attending numerous workshops, the students took part in the Student Diversity Leadership Conference all day Thursday, Nov. 30, and Friday, Dec. 1. The conference was an involved, yet engaging affair; Academic Support teacher Jessica Devin dropped the students off at 8:00 am and picked them up as late as 11:00 pm. Each Penguin was placed with a different group made up of students from around the country, where they participated in numerous activities and learning opportunities centered around areas of identity and social justice.

Concurrently, Cushing's five faculty members were involved in a separate series of workshops and listened to a number of illuminating keynote speakers. Our own French teacher Bara Mbengue and Associate Dean of Academics Berkeley Gillentine facilitated groups during this conference.

This was the largest Cushing faculty group to have attended the People of Color Conference and, as we have in years past, Cushing brought the maximum number of students that the conference allows. Ms. Devin believes that our school's commitment to diversity and inclusion has a significant and wide-reaching impact. "The work that we do every single day with all of our students benefits from the work we do at the conference. It will only make our community stronger."

In fact, engagement with this event continues for our alumni long after they have graduated; Jemmel Billingslea '10 and Sintayehu Taye '08, who both attended the conference during their Cushing careers, brought students from their respective independent schools to this year's conference. Myles Bonadie '17, who now attends college in California, also met up with the current Cushing group at the conclusion of the conference.



FROM TOP: Students and faculty enjoying Anaheim, Calif. • Myles Bonadie '17 visits the group on the beach • Jemmel Billingslea '10, Jessica Devin, Sintayehu Taye '08

The Cushing Experience and Penguin Pride: Pass It On!



When it comes to attracting and enrolling future Penguins, word-of-mouth marketing plays a vital role. Your stories, recommendations, referrals, and willingness to spread the word about a Cushing Academy education help build credibility, strengthen our brand, and resonate with prospective families better than any traditional advertising.

Whether you're a Cushing graduate, parent, or past parent, here are a few ways you can make an extraordinary difference in Cushing's enrollment growth:

SPREAD THE WORD about Cushing's academic year and Summer Session programs to parents whose children may benefit from a Cushing education.

HOST A REGIONAL ADMISSIONS RECEPTION for local families looking for educational opportunities.

ATTEND EVENTS in your area.

SUPPORT CUSHING ON SOCIAL MEDIA by sharing and promoting upcoming events such as Open House days, student achievements, performances, campus improvements, and alumni news.

For more information on how you can be an advocate for Cushing, email admissions@cushing.org.

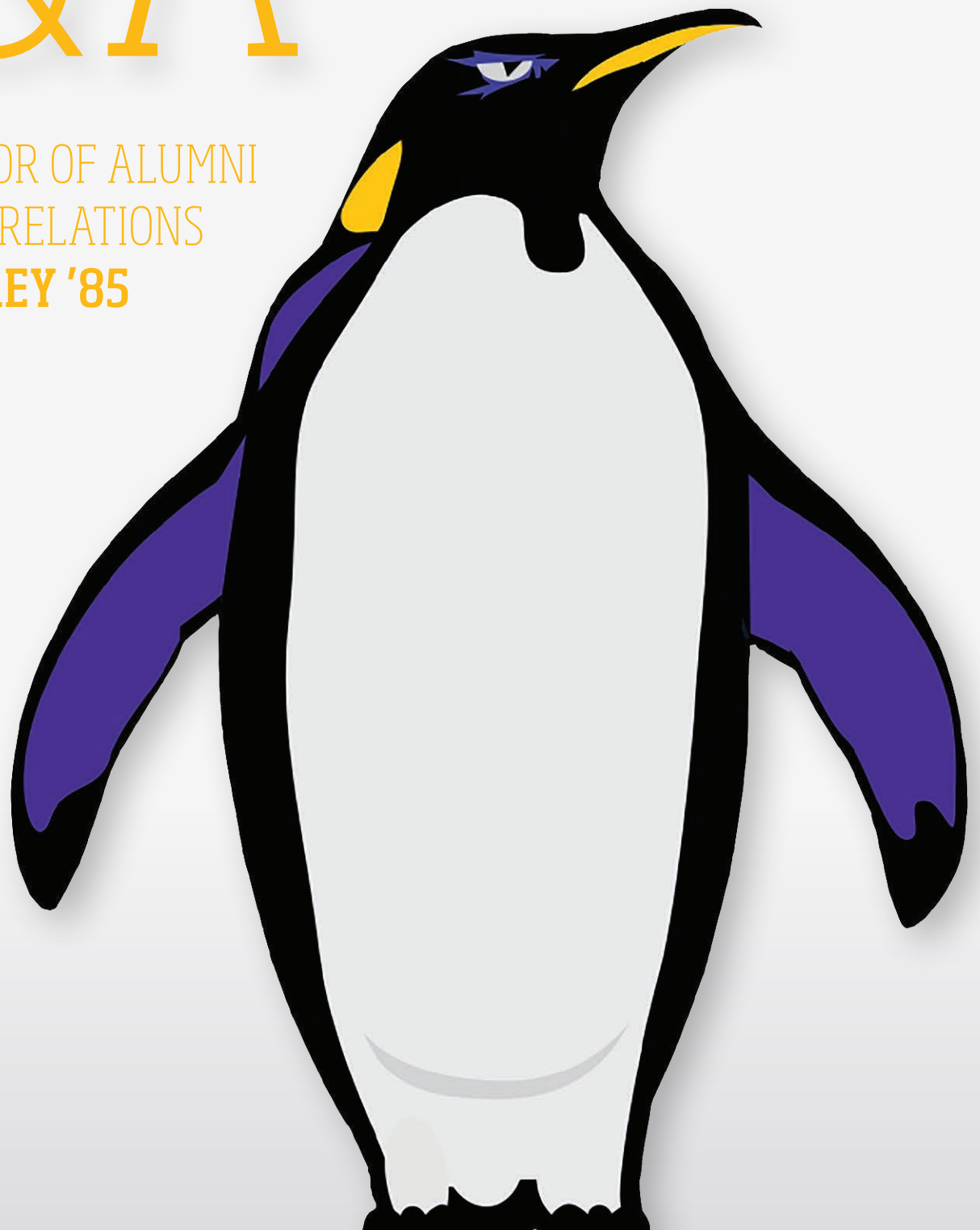
Thank you!

Q&A

WITH DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI
AND PARENT RELATIONS
BRETT TORREY '85



"One thread that I hear consistently is that people's time at the 'Cush' changed their lives, as it did mine."





Brett Torrey and family (above) • Brett Torrey during his dear old Cushing days (opposite page)

Q You've been back at Cushing for a little over two years. Except when you travel, you are on campus most days; you live on campus and advise students as well. What is the most noticeable change you see in Cushing life from when you were a student? How is a Cushing student of today different?

A So many more distractions and stresses are placed upon high school students today. With their steady access to technology, the world has gotten closer, but it also weighs on them more. A student can't tune out the world. Gone are the days when your big distraction was waiting in line for the pay phone in the dorm hall, dime in hand to make a collect call, or carving out time to write a letter home. Today's students must balance those distractions with academics, with the arts, and with athletics. That balancing act requires a set of skills that will serve them well in their lives beyond Cushing. Of course, the facilities have changed, such as the Watkins Field House and the Emily Fisher Landau Center for the Visual Arts. I still remember when the art studios were on the top floor of the former Science Building.

Q What hasn't changed?

A That our faculty still exists for students and that Cushing is a truly student-centered environment.

Q What kind of student were you?

A You could say I was an average student who worked very hard to achieve average grades. I was extremely fortunate for the extra support I received. Of course, sometimes you don't truly understand how fortunate you are until after the experience.

I have so many fond memories of my time outside of the classroom, as well. The Henrys cooking breakfast for the students in Cooke Hall on exam days, whipping up french toast on the stove for 30 kids. Speaking of Cooke, I do remember a little "off hours" cooking we did on an electric frying pan in my room!

Q Have you acquired one memory of your time as director that sticks out to you as special?

A I was fortunate to have had three or four meetings with Mary Fern (beloved longtime faculty member) before her passing. Singing Christmas carols at her assisted living facility is a great memory.

Our annual Reunions always provide great moments! This past year we had a Ferris wheel on campus provided generously by alumni EJ Dean '94 and Norma Silsby Dean '94. Paula Heslin Nelson '53 and I rode it together, and when it stopped at the top Paula commented that she had never seen Cushing from that perspective—it was breathtaking. But really, I've had so many great experiences since I've been back as Alumni Director, swapping stories with alumni from all eras, having good, long phone calls, visits on campus and off. Listening and comparing notes. I'm lucky to be able to serve a place I love in this capacity.

Q What is your favorite spot on campus?

A Being up in the clock tower and seeing the entire campus and all of Ashburnham. It's such a special vantage point. When I was a student I was most at home at Quimby Field and in Heslin gym. Now, it's the Main Building.

Q What kind of role can alumni play in the Cushing of today?

A Be involved! And remember that involvement can take many shapes. Come home to Cushing and see the Watkins Field House, the renovations underway in the Fisher-Watkins Dining Commons. Come to a game; join us for an event. Let us take you on a tour to see all the changes and what *hasn't* changed. Donate to the Annual Fund (in any amount) because that Fund really touches every aspect of supporting life at Cushing. Call us, email us. Let us know about your good and challenging news and your milestones. Connect with other alumni through social media. Mentor a student. And of course, come to Reunion! You always have a home here. Once a Penguin, always a Penguin.

Q You travel across the country meeting with alumni, families, really all members of the Cushing family. What do you hear "out there" about folks' feelings about Cushing?

A I hear a lot of fond memories, to be sure. One thread that I hear consistently is that people's time at the "Cush" changed their lives, as it did mine.

Q How can Penguins reach out to you?

A By calling the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at 978-827-7400, emailing alumniprograms@cushing.org or joining our Facebook page for alumni, Cushing Academy Penguin Nation. 🐧



On the Road

SUMMER 2017 - WINTER 2018

Members of the Cushing community continue to generously host events across the country and around the world. Thank you to all of our hosts for their time and commitment to Cushing Academy and for welcoming Penguins past, present, and future with such warmth and hospitality.



FROM TOP L-R: 1. NYC • 2. Chicago, IL • 3. Carlsbad, CA • 4. Gloucester, MA • 5. West Hartford, CT • 6. Syracuse, NY • 7. Freeport, ME • 8. Westport, CT • 9. San Francisco, CA • 10. Naples, FL • 11. Newtown, PA • 12. Oakland, CA • 13. Castleton, VT • 14. Pawtucket, RI • 15. Miami, FL



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30



31

FROM TOP L-R: 16. Palm Beach, FL • 17. Los Angeles, CA • 18-19. Ashburnham, MA • 20. Houston, TX • 21. Mexico City, Mexico • 22. Miami, FL • 23. Groton, MA • 24-25. Palm Beach, FL • 26. Dallas, TX • 27. Monterrey, Mexico • 28. Boca Raton, FL • 29. Boulder, CO • 30. Bradenton, FL • 31. Washington, DC

Congratulations to our Olympic Athletes!



PENGUIN PRIDE SOARED

to new heights during the 2018 Winter Games as three former hockey players took to the Olympic stage in PyeongChang. The Cushing community is incredibly proud of these athletes for their achievements and for representing Cushing. We send a special message of congratulations to Meghan Duggan '06, who led the U.S. Women's Hockey Team to their first gold medal in two decades!



#17
CHRIS BOURQUE '04
USA Men's
Olympic Hockey Team

#10
MEGHAN DUGGAN '06
Captain, USA Women's
Olympic Hockey Team
2010 Silver Medalist
2014 Silver Medalist
2018 Gold Medalist

#14
BROC LITTLE '07
USA Men's
Olympic Hockey Team



"Stick to the process. Stick together. Ultimately, when you stick together, when you stay united, you are able to find success."

Meghan Duggan '06 in a video message to current Cushing hockey players

— SHOW YOUR —

PENGUIN PRIDE!

READY TO UPDATE YOUR CUSHING WARDROBE?
NEED A GIFT FOR A CUSHING GRAD OR FUTURE PENGUIN?
MISSING THOSE DEAR OLD CUSHING DAYS?

WHEN IT COMES TO PURPLE AND WHITE, (AND EVEN THOSE "PURPLE
AND GRAYS"), YOU'LL FIND IT ALL IN CUSHING'S CAMPUS STORE.



If you can't make it to campus, please contact store manager Jody Newton at 978-827-7127 or jnewton@cushing.org and she will be happy to take and ship your order.

Class Notes



1937

Congratulations to **Virginia Pshalgowski Shelley** who celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends in Havasu Lake, Calif.!



1948 70th

Earlier this year, **Al Hixon** presented the 25th annual Jazz Service at the Longboat Island Chapel, in Longboat Key, Fla., to the largest attendance ever at the Chapel. Every pew and available chair was filled by over 400 folks who came to hear his group of eight performers. He was given a plaque and a wonderfully decorated cake. He continues to play three to five gigs a week in the Sunshine State.



1951

Beverly Stevens Prakelt writes, "Hello, fellow Penguins. I regret not having visited Cushing for several years but enjoy keeping in touch through Facebook and would be interested in hearing from more folks from the late 1940s and into the '50s. I have been in my condo in Burlington, Vt., for almost 35 years now and hope to stay as long as I can. I am thankful to be in good health. Somehow, I keep busy and my big fluffy Maine Coon cat, Mr. Tigger, keeps me company. This winter I began to work on family genealogy, which is never ending! Thanks for all that you folks do to keep Cushing strong."



1966/1967

Ken Tonis '66 and **Dean Boecher '67** met up for a day of golf in Bonita Springs, Fla., and reminisced about their days at Cushing as post-graduates, 50 years later.

1970

Tom Jaffa is enjoying being connected with Cushing through his role as Chair of the CA Alumni Council (rep-

resenting the Alumni Association). He encourages his classmates to join him during Reunion Weekend. Tom and his wife, Diane, continue to be very active in the Seattle community through Rotary, the USONW Board, and serving 17 years as Co-Chairs of Seattle Fleet Week. They both are national leaders with Navy League of the United States, supporting those who serve the sea services and their families. They are also still active in tourism and the National Tour Association. In addition to his active engagement with Cushing's Alumni Council, Tom stays in regular contact with best friends **Blair Hopps**

(retired in Seattle) and **Dean Herman** (still practicing law and managing his vineyard in Sonoma). Tom fondly remembers his four years at Cushing and is happy to support the school with his volunteer leadership on the Council and through the Annual Fund. He asks that all alumni do their best to participate with a gift and that donations of all sizes are important and greatly appreciated.

1975

Curtis Spence was named to the Minority Opportunities Athletic Association's Board of Directors. He is currently in his third year as the

A Legacy of Generosity

Cushing is deeply honored and grateful to again be a beneficiary of the **Allied Printing Services Charitable Foundation's Annual Golf Tournament**, which will take place Thursday, June 14, 2018, at Tunxis Country Club in Farmington, Conn. Since the tournament's founding in 2008, the Foundation has contributed more than \$162,000 in proceeds to the Academy. The tournament also benefits Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, and the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

An enduring relationship began when **Betina and John F. Sommers**, founder of Allied Printing Services, enrolled their three children at Cushing: **Heather (Perry) '71**, **John '74**, and **Gerry '75**. John Sr. generously served as a Cushing Trustee, as did his son John '74. The next generation continued the Cushing legacy when John's children **Rachel '07** and **Matt '11** followed their father, aunt, and uncle to Ashburnham. The Sommers family's generosity and spirit of leadership have touched many facets of the Cushing community over decades, and their many Cushing friends and classmates mourned the untimely passing of Gerry in 2007 and of John in 2013. They are fondly remembered and greatly missed.

For more information about this year's tournament, please contact the Alumni Office at 978-827-7400 or alumniprograms@cushing.org.

FROM TOP: Virginia Pshalgowski Shelley '37 celebrating 100 years! • Al Hixon '48 • Ken Tonis '66 and Dean Boecher '67 • Tom Jaffa '70

Assistant Athletics director at New York University, where he oversees the day-to-day operation of NYU's Brooklyn Athletics Facility. He previously served as the Director of Athletics at NYU-Poly. His experience includes positions coaching women's basketball at Brown University, and men's basketball at Mitchell College and the Community College of Rhode Island. He has been engaged in work that has involved youth, athletics, and fundraising throughout his professional life.

1976

Leesa-Lee Kemp-Keith writes, "I arrived at Cushing in 1972 from a small dairy farming family. I met [former faculty member] Mona Rice, and she opened my eyes and heart to dance. I can still remember her driving the old Cushing van down Route 2 to Boston that first time, when she took our class to the Boston Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* with Arthur Fiedler conducting. It was my very first time seeing a ballet. The required dance history books remain on the shelves of my library. I had so many wonderful experiences with Mona and she taught me not only dance, but so much more. I received an education that changed the course of my life. I had the opportunity to live with students from all over the world and had the most dedicated, committed, and astounding teachers." This winter, she attended a class at Cushing taught by Mona's daughter, Rebecca Rice, who carries on her mother's legacy of teaching dance at Cushing.

1977

David Farnham writes that the Class of 1977 was the Gold Cup Winner at their 40th reunion in June 2017.

1979

Chris Ingram writes, "After five years in Florida, I'm now living in South Jersey, outside Philadelphia. I'm still plugging away at the keyboard and have had a couple of shorter literary pieces published in the past several months. For kicks, I've also self-published the first book in a fun mystery series called *The Redhead Detective*. Book one is titled *The Redhead is Dead*. Look for it on Amazon! Two more in the series are ready to go. Feel free to check out my new website at chrisin-gram.org."

1980

The Cushing community was honored to welcome back and honor **Shiva Saboori** as the 2017 recipient of the Cushing Academy Leadership Award and as the keynote speaker at Cushing's 2017 commencement. A family physician and HIV specialist, Shiva has dedicated her career to outreach, education, and the treatment of HIV positive patients, including pregnant women and their children. Several familiar Penguins joined us for the occasion, including **Mehran Saboori '78** whose weekend visit marked his first time back at Cushing since his own graduation. Several of Shiva's former teachers and friends were also in attendance, in tribute to her, and they enjoyed a mini reunion following the ceremony.

1982

Prior to "Thanks Coach" in April 2017, **Alexis Xarras Curry, Kimberly White Sousa '75** (former faculty '79-82), **Sandy Vachon Sullivan '83**, **Steph Terrien**, and **Monika Lehman Krigbaum** met up in Cape Ann.

1985

Brett Torrey returned to Cushing almost three years ago with his family as the Director of Alumni and



Parent Relations. His youngest son Kyle attends Oakmont Regional High School, his oldest son Matt will be graduating from the University of New Hampshire this May, and his wife, Laura, works at the local elementary school in Ashburnham. He loves being back where he can spend quality time with his brother-in-law and classmate **Bruce Lemieux**. He is enjoying the opportunity to make an impact on the Cushing community, and asks all alumni to please reengage with Cushing in some way, as it's important to the health of our school to increase alumni engagement. Attend an event, return to campus for a visit or reunion, or consider making a donation.

FIRST ROW: Dave Farnham and the Class of 1977
SECOND ROW: Shiva Saboori '80 and a mini-reunion with her former teachers, friends, and brother Mehran Saboori '78
THIRD ROW: Shiva Saboori '80 receiving the 2017 Cushing Academy Leadership Award from Peggy Lee • Alexis Xarras Curry '82, Kimberly White Sousa '75, Sandy Vachon Sullivan '83, Steph Terrien '82, and Monika Lehman Krigbaum '82 on Cape Ann



FIRST ROW: Tracy Saunders '87
SECOND ROW: Ben Shapiro '03 • Jenn Bernard '90 with her son, Max Horgan '21
THIRD ROW: Andrea Buono '07 at her wedding with many Cushing friends, including brother Anthony Buono '07

1987

Tracy Saunders writes, "It's been great getting back in touch with Cushing friends old and new! I love the reunions and will always love Cushing Academy and mentoring others! Also, I work on celebrity fundraisers and with nonprofit organizations like BringHollywoodHome.org Foundation and Kids in the Spotlight (Kitsinc.org). They help underserved kids learn and achieve their dreams of getting and staying in the entertainment industry with the proper resources and tools needed to be successful. MyArtisfactions.com Ad Agency and TracySaundersArt.com Photos & Gifts websites combine art, lifestyle, marketing, business, visual communications, and events content. Overall, I am very happy living in California. Come visit!"

We are honored to welcome **Nancy Chanover** as our guest speaker for Cushing's 143rd graduation on May 26, 2018. Nancy is a Professor of Astronomy at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, and in 2017 was named the Director of the 3.5-meter telescope at Apache Point Observatory, which is owned and operated by a consortium of eight universities. Her research involves the study of planetary atmospheres, and has supported many NASA missions. Her work in the development of new instrumentation for planetary science has recently led her into the exciting world of astrobiology, and she is currently working on the development of in situ instrumentation for the detection and characterization of biomarkers on planetary surfaces. Recognized for her innovative teaching and dedicated to mentorship of her students, she has generously Skyped with our Astronomy Club over the

years. In her free time, Nancy and her husband volunteer as dog handlers for the Mesilla Valley Search and Rescue team, and they enjoy numerous other outdoor activities with their dogs in the beautiful American Southwest.

1990

Jenn Paxman Bernard now adds CA parent to her resume!

1998 ^{20th}

Jill Marks writes, "Hey there, fellow Penguins! It has been a long time since I last checked in and so much has happened! After living on the West Coast, a six-month stay in Alaska, and an amazing 1.5 years in Idaho, I have been back on the East Coast since '09. I have been working for some wonderful families as a nanny. I took some time off after my mom passed in 2014. Since then, I have met an amazing woman, and we've been together over a year. We live with our two cats and our dog in a house full of fur! I have also been a nanny for a super cute little girl. I cannot believe that 20 years have gone by since I was at 'the Cush'! I hope to see some of my classmates at the reunion."

2002

Congratulations to **Derek Evjenth** and his wife on the birth of their third child!

2003 ^{15th}

Ben Shapiro traveled to PyeongChang this winter, where he worked for NBC Sports as an audio engineer predominantly for women's hockey and the closing ceremonies. As luck would have it, his group worked closely with the studio team of **Paul Marmaro '04** and **Erika Lawler '05**. This is his second time covering the Olympics; the first was in Rio in 2016.

2004

Yasuyuki Goto and **Kenichiro Kono** had a mini reunion in Hong Kong in October 2017.

2004/2005

When NBC Sports announced its broadcast teams for the 2018 Winter Olympics, it wasn't long before **Paul Marmaro '04** and **Erika Lawler '05** realized they would be working together in the Stamford, Conn., studios. Paul served behind the scenes as an associate director, while Erika worked on set as a studio analyst for the women's hockey commentary team.

2006

Courtney Sheary continues her collegiate hockey coaching career with a move to Boston College.

2007

Andrea Buono wed Philip Cutler. Several other Cushing alums attended the wedding.

Amelia King Randolph writes, "After Cushing, I went to West Virginia University and graduated in 2011 with a degree in Geology. From there, I went to graduate school and received my master's in Business Administration and Leadership at the University of Charleston in 2012. I got married in 2014, and three of my bridesmaids were from Cushing: **Boo Vernon**, **Mary Hannah O'Brien**, and **Rachel Sommers**. **Andrea DelBello** was also in attendance. I now work for my family business as a project engineer in the oil and gas industry of West Virginia. I have returned to Cushing for our class' 5th and 10th reunions. It is always great to see the teachers and the campus. I had a great time catching up with **Boo Vernon** and **Heather Hill '90** last year.

2009

Joe Gagne wrote to tell us that he is working as a project administrator for Haugland Energy and living with his girlfriend in East Islip, N.Y. At the time of his note, he was training for the Boston Marathon as a charity runner with Team Journey Forward, a spinal cord injury rehab center based in Boston. "Three years ago, I was given a second chance at life and made a full recovery after breaking my neck and fracturing the left side of my skull. Nine out of every 10 people who suffer my injury are either dead or paralyzed from the chest down. Cushing has always been a major part of my success, and has formed me into the type person I am today. I owe a lot to Cushing, and I am very excited to be back on campus to see my Cushing family very soon."

2010

Mary Cate Farwell is in medical school at New York Medical College in Valhalla. She is pictured at right with her mother at her White Coat Ceremony.

2011

Amanda Sarro graduated from the University of New Hampshire and is currently working toward her master's degree in education from Curry College.

Robin Yoshida has been serving in the Peace Corps in Madagascar since February 2016, according to her mother, **Babs Marrone '70**. She is a community health volunteer, and her main focus is on mother and infant health. After she finishes this spring, her plan is to begin another 27-month tour in Belize.

2012

Elsie Eastman writes, "After Cushing, I went to Smith College, with a major in Geology and a minor in Spanish. At Cushing I was immersed in music, and at Smith I continued trying new music 'flavors.' I spent a short time in an a cappella group, took fiddle lessons, was in the concert choir, joined a Celtic music group called the WailiBanshees, took a songwriting class, and collaborated with other students to make videos for my musical YouTube channel. In the summers, I waited tables in my hometown and busked a lot, eventually getting guitar gigs at different wine bars, coffee shops, and resorts. During a year off from school, I lived in New Zealand for a couple months, and then Thailand. When I got back, I decided I would take active steps to become more social and physically active, so I joined the Novice Crew team! It was the best thing I ever could have done, and within one year I went from never having rowed before to being in the best shape of my life and the second fastest person on the varsity team, rowing in the varsity eight and in the Head of the Charles. I graduated with a bunch of new crew friends, and now I have a job selling software (for the time being), have moved out, self-released an album of original songs (*Postcards*, available on ElsieEastman.bandcamp.com), have my own health insurance, and am loving life (even with a broken ankle)! I still keep in touch with my Cushing friends, most notably **Jennifer Tonti**, who I met on Day 3 at Cushing, and we have been best friends ever since (almost 10 years?!). I hope to go to some more alumni events soon, but until then I'm happy coming back for the musicals!"



FROM TOP: Paul Marmaro '04 and Erika Lawler '05 • Mary Cate Farwell '10 at her graduation • Jennifer Tonti '12 and Elsie Eastman '12

2013 ^{5th}

Andrew Chrabascz has taken his basketball talent overseas to play professionally in Iceland after playing for the Armenian National Team last summer.

Jocelyn Labombarde married Elliot Hunter Young in Memphis on Oct. 14, on a warm and sunny afternoon in an historic Victorian garden.

2015

George Han had the opportunity to work for the Winter Games Organizing Committee in PyeongChang. During the Olympics, he was assigned to the Kwandong Hockey Centre where he worked closely with the men's and women's hockey teams.

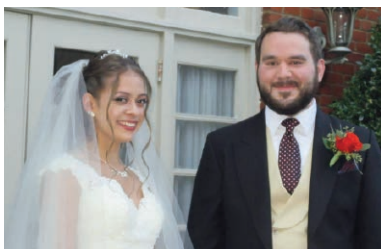
Amanda Wood was back in Ashburnham after an 18-month LDS mission in Mexico. "Her Spanish is flawless now!" reported Señora Reinoso.

2016

Alejandro Estrelles Hernanz celebrated his Big 10 Tournament win for Wisconsin, beating 15-0-5 and #2 nationally ranked Indiana.

2017

Blossom Truel (Norwich University) and **Emma Kowalka** (New England College) met up on the ice this winter, when their respective teams faced off in a collegiate game. Blossom and her team went on to win the 2018 NCAA Division III Women's Hockey Championship, and she was invited by the Red Sox to throw the first pitch at Fenway in early April.



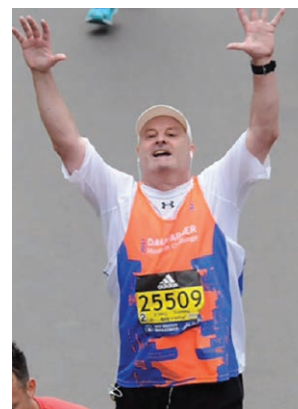
FROM TOP: Andrew Chrabascz '13 • Jocelyn Labombarde '13 • George Han '15 • Alejandro Estrelles '16 • Blossom Truel '17 and Emma Kowalka '17

RECEPTION NOTES

Freeport, Me.

Stephen Young '79 hosted a Maine Area Reception in Freeport in August, which proved to be a "Young" Event. **Robert Young '69**, **Kimberly White Sousa '75**, and **Harvey Young '75** had lots of fond memories to share!

FACULTY NOTES



At the time of this publication, the 2018 Boston Marathon will have passed. **Bill Troy** wrote to us beforehand, "This is my 19th year running the Boston Marathon for DFMC—The Dana Farber Marathon Challenge. I began the process to honor my father, who passed away from cancer in 1977 at the early age of 41. My mother passed

away from leukemia in 2013 at the age of 73. I continue to think of her every day I run. She was an amazing individual. Both parents were treated at Dana Farber. Eight years ago, we began the PINK THE RINK Event to involve our Cushing community with this cause. Along with help raising funds for DFMC and cancer research, it has allowed us as educators to raise the awareness of students. Our Athletic Trainer, **April Winter**, has done an outstanding job of helping organize the event. She has been incredibly organized and giving of her time, effort, and energy. Together, we have made this a Cushing tradition. Two Cushing faculty members are running for DFMC with me this year: **Brad Caswell** (second year) and **Aaron Santos '06** (first year). Faculty member **Emily Roller** has also run for DFMC in years past. We will continue to honor all members of the Cushing community that we have lost to cancer. This year I will run for my college teammate, John Galasso, whom we lost in September 2017 after a seven-year battle with prostate cancer. My total fundraising for the past 18 years is \$90,647. My goal for 2018 is to raise \$10,000 and break the \$100,000 mark. Since September 1, 2017, I have run 1,432 training miles for an average of 60 miles per week. This year I turn 55. The qualifying time set by the BAA for my age group is three hours and 40 minutes, which I plan to meet but it will be a challenge. I aim to run my 20th Boston Marathon in 2019 and I need to stay healthy in order to do so."

Parents Council

Parent involvement is a crucial and integral component of the successful program at Cushing Academy. All Cushing parents are automatically members of Parents for Cushing, whose primary purpose is to promote a sense of community among parents, students, faculty, and administrators. In addition, Parents for Cushing helps with fundraising efforts, assists with parent-organized events and helps inform parents about programming at Cushing Academy. Parents for Cushing is led by a small group of parent volunteers, the Cushing Academy Parents Council.

The goal of the Cushing Academy Parents Council is to better engage and inform our parent community. The Parents Council will provide insight and reflection on key strategic initiatives of the school as well as emerging topics of interest for families and their students.

Beyond gatherings to learn about Cushing and education, the Parents Council is building a robust parent community and important bridge between parents and the Cushing community, as well as an increased opportunity to connect with fellow parents, spend more time on campus, and better understand the Cushing experience.

Alumni Council News

Cushing Academy's Alumni Council provides guidance and support to the Academy's leadership on issues of importance to the school's alumni. Meetings take place every six weeks. The Council recently provided input as the school engaged in its strategic planning process and began the search for its 13th Head of School. Two Council members, Jim Kraskouskas '65 and Brian Teixeira '99, served on the search committee.

During Reunion 2017, we thanked outgoing Council Chair Roger Brooks '69 for his efforts on behalf of the Academy's alumni. Taking over the leadership reins for the Council is Tom Jaffa '70. He'll be joined by new Vice Chair Val Bono '97, who in addition to her work on the Council is also the head coach of Cushing's Varsity Girls' Ice Hockey team.

If you have questions about the Alumni Council, or would like to add a topic to the Council's agenda, please contact the Alumni Office at [978-827-7400](tel:978-827-7400) or alumniprograms@cushing.org or visit the Alumni Council page of the Cushing website to read more.

Alumni Council Members

- *Chair:* Thomas Jaffa '70, Seattle, WA
- *Vice Chair:* Valerie Bono '97, Burlington, MA
- *Secretary:* David Nickless '70, Fitchburg, MA
- Roger Brooks '69, North Brookfield, MA
- Cullen Concannon '89, Cape Elizabeth, ME
- John Frey '06, Hingham, MA
- Robin Lockwood Hall '78, North Stonington, CT
- Michael Ho '06, Hong Kong
- Chelsea Cummings Koski '03, Washington, DC
- Jim Kraskouskas '65, Gardner, MA
- Tony Mallozzi '01, Shrewsbury, MA
- Carolyn Marr '58, Franklin, MA
- Haley Moore '04, Woburn, MA
- Wayne Scroggs '75, West Point, CA
- Matt Siegel '82, Vestal, NY
- Brian Teixeira '99, Gloucester, MA
- Elliott Ventura '78, Southlake, TX

Remembering M. Willard Lampe II, Former Headmaster

On Jan. 18, 2018, the Cushing community was deeply saddened to learn of the sudden passing of M. Willard “Wink” Lampe II, Cushing’s tenth headmaster.

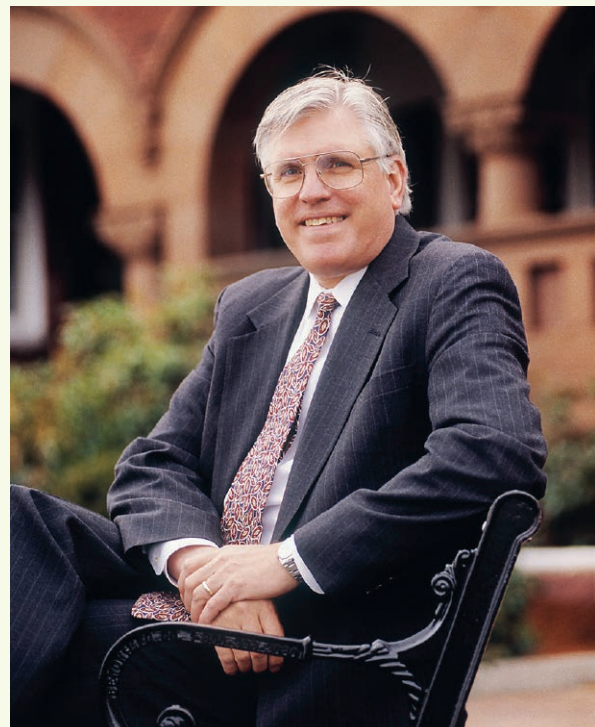
In 2000, Mr. Lampe joined the Cushing community as headmaster from Kent School (Kent, Conn.), following the retirement of Dr. Joseph Curry. A thoughtful scholar, he received his B.A. in History and Greek from Muskingum College (New Concord, Ohio) and earned his M.A. in Greek from the University of Vermont. His leadership over six academic years encompassed many highlights, including a deep commitment to teaching, a passion for music and the arts, and the construction of a much-needed academic facility, the Joseph R. Curry Academic Center.

Mark Aimone, who served as Director of Admission and Financial Aid during Mr. Lampe’s tenure, wrote, “I will always remember the warmth and kindness that Wink showed to everyone. He would often wander down the hall from his office to the Admission Office to greet a prospective family and make them feel welcome. Sometimes he would take a minute to sit on the couch in my office and share stories from his time in admissions or boarding school life in general. He truly loved boarding school life. Wink was the consummate boarding-school gentleman. I was once told early in my career in independent school that being called a ‘school man’ was the highest praise you could give in this business. Wink was certainly a ‘school man’! And one of the kindest and gentlest at that.”

Wink and his wife, Jody, a beloved Academic Support teacher, were gracious hosts at Jewett House to the entire Cushing community, and his kindness, good humor, and strong faith are remembered fondly. They were a much-admired presence beyond campus as well, where they contributed greatly to the Town of Ashburnham and the Ashburnham Community Church through their wide involvement.

Drawn back to beautiful Litchfield County, Conn., the Lampes joined the faculty at South Kent School (South Kent, Conn.) in 2006, where he served as Director of Development, Dean of Faculty, Foreign Language Department Coordinator, and Teacher of English and Latin.

The Lampes embraced Cushing, as their son Joshua and his wife, Sarah Molly Lampe, were members of the faculty and administration, and their son Benjamin and his wife, Jamie, worked in the Summer Session. He is also survived by their son Joseph and daughter-in-law Sophia, and many grandchildren. It was a special tradition through the years for Wink and Jody, upon the birth of each grandchild, to commission a sterling silver penguin baby spoon crafted by dear friend and Director of Visual Arts Bob Johnson. 🐧



In Memoriam

This list includes those people whose passing we have learned of from January 1, 2017, to April 19, 2018.

1934

Dorothy Cowles
Lehnow

1935

Dorothea Edgerton
Nordstrom

1936

Barbara Quimby
Watson
Marian Harlow
Wheeler

1937

Marjorie Clapp True

1938

John F. Carr

1939

Irja Teittinen
Tamminen

1940

Robert E. Nelson

1941

Nancy Baybutt Ruder
Mildred Patrick Sacks

1942

Olive Dunbar Keene
Barbara Haug Ober
James R. Western

1943

Madeline Winch
Robbins

1944

Robert D. Fletcher

1945

Lucille Agard Bugel
Judith O'Neill Feldman
Bessie Higgins Hanna
Jeanne Murray West

1946

Nathan L. Beardsley
Victoria Grebenstein
George
Norman R. Glick
Roy L. Gove
Angelos H.V. Xarras

1947

Philip C. Mann, Sr.
James B. Shatswell II

1948

Norman O. Barres
Pamela Phillips
Boynton
Albert T. Calello, Jr.
Nola Ray Delaney
Thomas J. Ferguson
Kenneth S. Green, Jr.
Joseph N. Lison

1949

Donald F. Taylor

1950

Joan Thomas Gilchrist
Catherine Schiller
Putnam
Nancy MacLean
Wallace

1951

Robert H. Blanchard
Robert B. Entwistle
Anthony L. Petrides
Natalie Chalfin Phillips

1952

Bruce S. Cuddihy
Margaret Baker Kent
Mary Ann Hendrickson
Smith
Elaine Bland Whiting

1953

John M. Cushing
John F. Topham, Jr.

1954

Marcia Reynolds
Abbott

1955

Ingrid Ahola Berger
Charles B. Huntington
Walter N. Londergan, Jr.
Charles F. Russell, Jr.
Herbert E. Solomon

1956

Herman C. Perry, Jr.

1957

William W. Martin
Vernon R. Tate

1960

William E. Mahoney III

1961

Kenneth S. Fulton
June Boston Myers

1963

Michael A. Gavitt

1965

John W. Reid

1978

Roland J. Coutu

1994

Douglas R. Drewry

2001

Laura Shea
Derek L. Skrine

Former Faculty and Staff

Victoria Blake
Howard L. Bonis, Jr.
Peter L. Dudensing
Camille P. Gallant
James B. Kaehlert
Robert D. Klarsch
M. Willard Lampe II
Christine Lorion

Remembering Trustee Emeritus Vernon R. "Rod" Tate '57



We note with great sadness the passing of Trustee Emeritus Vernon R. "Rod" Tate on Jan. 28, 2018, at his home in Charleston, S.C.

A graduate of the Class of 1957, Rod spoke movingly about the impact that his year at Cushing had throughout his life. He led with wisdom following his election to the Board of Trustees in 2000, and he was proud to be elected a

Trustee Emeritus in 2016. His generous commitment to Cushing was expressed throughout the many facets of his dedicated leadership. All who had the pleasure of meeting Rod know that his love for Cushing was deep, as was his joy in being with fellow Penguins, whom he graciously hosted through the years at his homes in Annapolis.

Following Cushing, he received a B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Maryland. He later received his MBA at George Washington University with a focus on International Marketing.

Rod began his career working at Xerox Corporation. He later founded Nationwide Fulfillment Systems, serving Fortune 500 companies. His passion and success as an entrepreneur was matched by his commitment and dedication to many institutions, including Cushing. Rod also served the United States with great distinction, retiring from the U.S. Air Force as a Brigadier General. Upon retirement from the Air Force, Brigadier General Tate received the Distinguished Service Medal.

The Cushing community's deepest sympathies are with Rod's wife, Lynn; his children, Skip, Will, Maggie, and Elizabeth, from his 43-year marriage with the late Missy Tate; and his ten grandchildren. As friend and fellow Trustee Liz Akers (P'10, '13, '17) wrote, "It was my privilege to serve on the Board with Rod for a few years. Rod was a gentleman through and through, and his love for Cushing was abundant. He never failed to bring thoughtful insight as well as kind and good humor to every discussion. I am heartbroken. May Lynn take some comfort in knowing that the impact of his life will long reverberate, probably in places and among people she will never even know. He will be missed, and he will be remembered." 📖

1. Hayley Moore '04, Trustee Stacey Silverman '04, Chris Tracy '04
2. 2017 tournament attendees

3. Ray Bourque P'04 and '09, George Sullivan P'n, Bobby Orr
4. Bobby Orr, Conor Sheary '10, Ray Bourque P'04 and '09, Mike Sullivan

5. Mark Warsofsky P'07 and '09, Bill Troy
6. Brett Torrey '85 with 2017 tournament winners Tom Poti '96, Matt Brown '97, Keith Emery '97, and Matt Mattau



6TH ANNUAL CUSHING ACADEMY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 25, 2018
The Ridge Club, Sandwich, Mass.

The Cushing Academy Golf Tournament brings together our alumni, parents, and friends for an incredible celebration in support of Cushing. It is our largest fundraising event and in 2017, through the generosity of our sponsors, donors, and participants, raised nearly \$100,000 to benefit the Annual Fund and our athletics programs.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor (or know of a business that might), or would like to join us on the links, please contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at 978-827-7400 or events@cushing.org.

cushing.org/golf

ABOVE: Sam D'Arrigo '10

- 1. Passing the torch: New Alumni Council Chair Tom Jaffa '70 and outgoing Chair Roger Brooks '69
- 2. Alumni pick-up game at the Watkins Field House

- 3. The opening night reception at Reunion is always a hit.
- 4. Janine Barber '65 is flanked by Asta and Jim Kraskouskas '65 at the Gold Key Breakfast.

- 5. Former faculty member Joyce Ferris speaks at a moving tribute to Mary Fern.
- 6. A Ferris wheel donated by E.J. '94 and Norma Silsby Dean '94 lights up Ashburnham at night.

- 7. Visiting Alumni Artists Abby Hastings '06 and Trish Hecht '04 join Visual Arts Chair Bob Johnson at the art show and reception.



CUSHING REUNION

Reunion 2017 was a weekend full of rediscovered friendships, sparking summer days, and celebratory nights. Highlights included a moving tribute to beloved Silver Penguin Mary Fern, an elegant Gold Key breakfast, Berkley's Backyard BBQ, roaring fires, and a Grand Celebration that spilled out onto Drew Common, where a Ferris wheel lit up the night sky.

We hope you will join us for Reunion 2019! Stay tuned for details.

[**cushing.org/reunion**](http://cushing.org/reunion)

ABOVE: Meeting up with good friends is one of the best parts of Reunion!

Just for Fun



Pen to Paper

Share a picture of your completed puzzle on [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) #PenToPaper

Ashburnham	L	E	P	A	H	C	L	L	E	W	O	C	G	W	V
Clock Tower	J	N	Q	F	M	W	N	L	K	L	C	N	Y	I	T
Cowell Chapel	E	A	N	U	L	A	A	O	L	Y	I	F	R	S	E
Downtown															
Drew Common	W	U	Z	H	I	N	H	A	I	D	W	T	D	C	E
Jewett House	E	D	H	Z	Y	M	H	N	L	N	U	V	L	E	R
Main Building															
Mountain Day	T	B	O	I	I	Y	B	I	R	T	U	O	K	L	T
Penguin	T	O	L	W	D	P	U	Y	E	U	C	E	P	P	S
Purple	H	M	H	U	N	B	E	E	F	K	B	E	R	R	L
Quimby Field	O	G	T	S	N	T	T	G	T	I	N	H	Z	U	O
Reunion															
School Street	U	S	B	I	L	N	O	O	A	G	E	X	S	P	O
Study Hall	S	I	A	N	U	U	W	W	U	L	W	L	M	A	H
Village Pizza	E	M	E	M	W	E	X	I	N	F	L	X	D	B	C
Virtute et Numine	I	Z	I	U	R	F	N	S	R	I	W	I	A	A	S
	U	N	O	M	M	O	C	W	E	R	D	K	V	D	W
	E	M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	D	A	Y	U	V	R



YOUR GIFT
MATTERS

CUSHING ACADEMY MISSION STATEMENT:

*Cushing Academy exists for students and develops curious, creative,
and confident learners and leaders.*

From the classrooms and dorms to the fields, studios, and stage, the Cushing Academy Annual Fund provides vital support for every aspect of a Cushing education. The generosity of our alumni, parents, grandparents, and friends through the Annual Fund is essential to sustaining and strengthening our programs, building on more than 150 years of excellence.

As at other schools, the Annual Fund fills the gap between tuition and the full cost of educating each student. A gift to the Annual Fund is an investment in Cushing's present and future and an expression of ongoing commitment to our mission. Please join fellow Penguins in making a gift this fiscal year (*July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018*).

Each gift makes a real difference and is deeply appreciated. *Thank you for your support!*

To make your gift:

ONLINE:
cushing.org/give

BY PHONE:
978-827-7400

BY MAIL:
Cushing Academy, 39 School Street,
Ashburnham, MA 01430 (*checks
payable to Cushing Academy Annual Fund*)

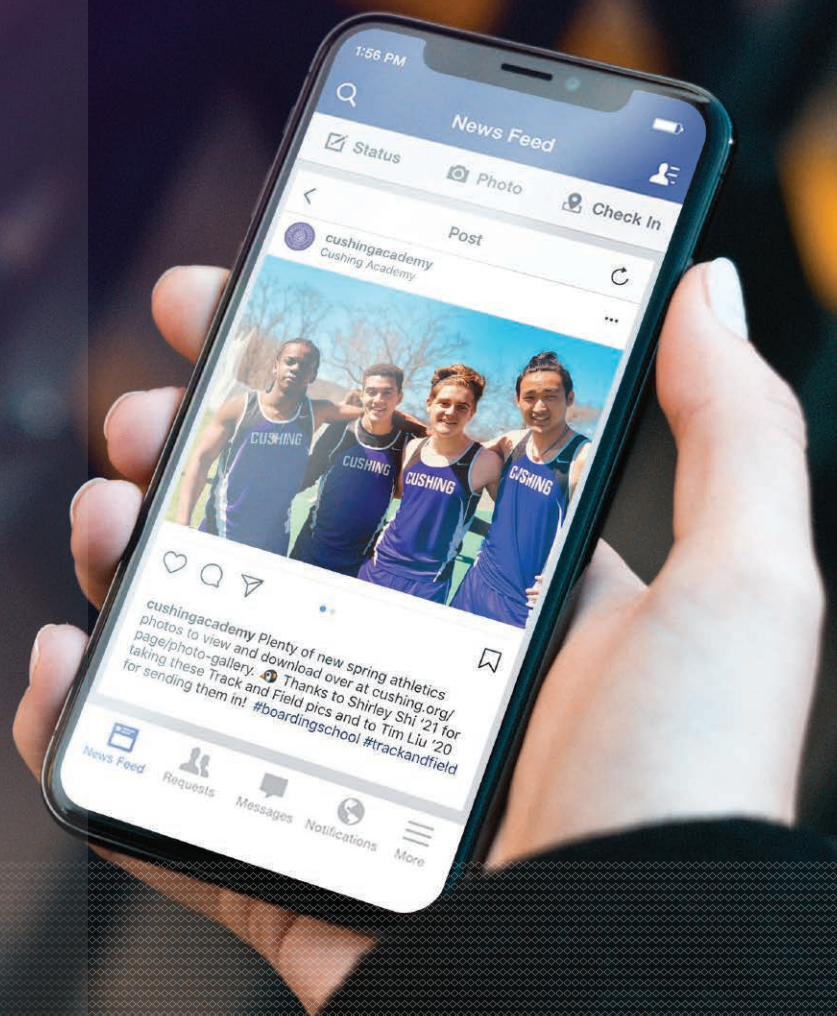


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No matter how you like to stay in touch,
Cushing has you covered.