

# The MacDuffie School

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

SPRING 2022





# Greetings from The Head of School

MacDuffie continues to work to balance the in-person experience of our students with the safety of our community. We have been able to hold Mountain Day, Senior Sleepover, Candlelight, and our Halloween costume contest as in-person activities. Our fall athletic teams were able to have a full slate of events, and we are trying to provide our winter teams with a normal schedule, as well. Our Arts performances were also able to be held in person.

This year, we introduced a service requirement for graduation, and our students have embraced the challenge, serving both The School and the surrounding community. Some students married the service with their leadership work; take for example Senior Kiara R., who fundraised and invited the build-a-bed organization onto our camps. Around 30 students built beds for local children in need.

Enough about us - let's talk about YOU! Your alumni connection is what you make it, and we need your help!

- Add people with whom we have lost touch to our social media channels.
- Drop us a line to tell us what you're doing, or just to say "hi".
- Nominate an accomplished classmate for a Distinguished Alumni or Young Alumni Award.
- Consider a visit to our campus in the future, when a visit is possible.
- Last but not least, consider making a donation to the school to recognize its positive impact on you, and to help us to continue the important work of preparing our graduates to have an impact on the world.

With best regards,

Steve Griffin  
Head of School





# MOUNTAIN DAY 2021









# CAMELLIA LIU '17

## From MacDuffie to Harvard

---



“

*What brought me to Harvard is my passion for quality education and education equity.*

**Which grades did you attend MacDuffie, and what year did you graduate?**

I joined MacDuffie as a freshman in August 2013. I graduated in 2017.

**Where are you from originally?**

I am from Chengdu, China, which is also the hometown of giant pandas!

**Do you remember having a favorite class or teacher?**

This is a hard one, because I was fortunate to meet many caring and inspiring teachers, such as Mr. Hillman, Ms. O'Brien, Mr. Taravella, and Mr. Polga. If I have to pick one teacher, then it is Mr. Shelburne. I kept all my notes from his Calculus and Statistics classes. I recently reviewed my Stats notebook for my grad school class and found it super helpful. Mr. Shelburne not only taught me math, but also encouraged me to be a better person. He is kind, knowledgeable, encouraging, confident yet humble. I still have A LOT to learn from him. By the way, he also tricked me to learn to play ultimate frisbee for four years...



**Where did you go for undergrad? What did you study?**

I went to the University of Richmond in Virginia in 2017 and graduated in May 2021. I majored in Global Studies: Politics and Governance, and minored in Math and French.

It is actually a coincidence for me to go there. U of R was originally not on my college list, but after talking with Mr. Morris about my intended major, international studies, he recommended this school. And when I visited U of R on the admitted student day, I fell in love with the college. I had wonderful 4 years at the school with amazing professors and friends.

**What brought you to Harvard? What degree are you pursuing?**

I am doing my Master's degree at Harvard Graduate School of Education, studying Education Policy and Analysis. And to be honest, I still haven't digested the fact that I am at Harvard...

I think what brought me to Harvard is my passion for quality education and education equity. When I was studying abroad, I visited a non-profit school in Nepal which provides marginalized children with quality life and quality education. I later volunteered as a teacher in that school and taught two classes. I saw their craving for knowledge, and witnessed that the education changed their lives. A female student of mine was inspired to be a lawyer advocating for gender equity in Nepal. All this is to say that I see the power of education, and I aspire to provide this power to more children.

**Do you have any big plans for the future?**

I think that I have a big, ambitious dream, but there is a long way to get there. I went to grad school straight out of undergrad, so I think I need more field experience before going into policymaking. My plan right now is to work at local branches of international organizations in underdeveloped countries, so that I can have more insights of the actual situations on the ground. After conducting program evaluation

and analysis qualitatively and quantitatively, I will be more confident that what I propose would close the gap between policymaking and its realization.

**What does a perfect day off look like for you?**

I will open the curtain in the morning to a beautiful sunny day, walk my dog in the park in my neighborhood, have a lovely brunch with friends, explore a new neighborhood or go shopping, and have a self-made dinner with my roommate accompanied by interesting conversations. Finally, take a bath and go to bed early.





# VISITORS TO CAMPUS



## General advice to young people (No matter what career you choose)

- Education usually leads to better jobs and incomes (MBA, Law, ect...)
- Find out what you're good at and what interests you (usually, they are the same)
- Avoid the traps: drugs, social media, stress (find a health balance)
- Make a strategic plan, then execute tactically (be productive every day)
- Take a class in philosophy, economics, accounting, management
- Wealthy companies take care of their people better (Facebook, Apple, ect...)
- Be honest, fair and kind to people always, that's step one in leadership
- Don't ever be afraid to swing and miss!





Kwok Chun John  
Wong '15

Hailie Le '19 and  
Anastasiia Buiadzhy '18



Hannah Ehiwele '21

**NICK "SUNSHINE" TOKMAN** '06

AS SEEN ON DISCOVERY CHANNEL'S  
EMMY WINNING SHOW  
**DEADLIEST  
CATCH**



@NickTokman



@NickTokman



@NickSunshineTokman



**NickTokman.com**





# CLASS NOTES





## 1967

### **Andrea Lange**

Retired in 2019 as Associate Provost and Associate Professor and relocated to El Segundo, CA. Have 4 grandchildren with another on the way! If anyone from the class of '67 lives in the Los Angeles area please let me know (langeandrea92@gmail.com).

## 1967

### **Cynthia Oneglia**

A huge part of my heart belongs to MacDuffie. In so many ways I have been shaped and influenced by my experience there. Lifelong friends, RDR, academic excellence, and appreciation for community have remained with me for the past 54 years. Who could want for more out of an experience?

## 1968

### **Susan Corcoran**

Armed with a very strong academic education from MacDuffie, I've had a varied and rewarding personal and professional career: marriage and two civically engaged children; and stints as Peace Corps volunteer, health policy analyst, Planned Parenthood Development director, and public interest attorney with ACLU and capping my professional career as a now retired volunteer attorney for victims of domestic violence.

## 1968

### **Jean (Pendola) McClelland**

I continue to teach voice and Alexander Technique in the MFA graduate acting program at Columbia University. I remain inspired by my great MacDuffie teachers especially Mr. Chapman, Dr. Graham, Mrs. Wilson and Ms. Gower. Still hoping to connect with Allyson Latta.

## 1975

### **Elizabeth (Eglee) Lapointe**

I am a retired chef. I have kept in touch with Anne Kedzierski Woodson, Julie Stopa Guthrie, Connie Farnsworth Bladon, Celeste DiPietro, Karen Shaw Sleich, Wendy Simpson. We have had mini reunions and everyone is great! I live on the North Shore of Boston and still enjoy cooking & canning. 3 Blue ribbons at the Topsfield Fair in 2021.

## 1976

### **Lauren Strout Koken**

My "best wishes to an independent bunch of educated women of moral fiber, grit and wit."

## 1977

### **Christy Anderson**

I am taking a break from teaching at the University of Toronto, starting next year, when I start as Editor-in-Chief at the Art Bulletin. While I will miss students I'm looking forward to being full time in Western Massachusetts and the new challenge of running an academic journal. Our son Innis is in his second year at the University of Chicago. Although I seem to have a hard time remembering names, I can still belt out the Magnolia Song and Summer Suns without any problem at all! Greetings to everyone!





Elizabeth Lapointe '75

---



Cynthia Oneglia '67

---



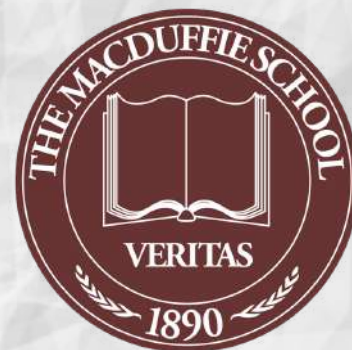
Andrea Lange '67

---



Lauren Strout Koken's brother Kenin Strout, late husband Bernd Krafft Koken, and mother Beverly Lynch, who worked at MacDuffie in Alumni Development.

---



Please email [communications@macduffie.org](mailto:communications@macduffie.org) with updates, photos, or alumni notes.



# FALL PLAY CLUE



MacDuffie Theater presents

PRESENTS



# Clue

HIGH SCHOOL  
EDITION

Based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn

Written by Sandy Rustin

Additional material by Hunter Foster and Eric Price

Based on the Paramount Pictures Motion Picture  
based on the Hasbro board game CLUE

Friday, November 19 at 7:00 PM  
Saturday, November 20 at 7:00 PM  
Sunday, November 21 at 2:00 PM

Directed by Edwin F. Lyman  
Produce by Becky Beth Benedict

## CREW

**DIRECTOR** Ted Lyman  
**PRODUCER** Becky Beth Benedict

**STAGE MANAGERS** Terese Fridberg  
Ngoc (Helen) Hoang

**STAGE CREW** Taiga Sarli  
Han Tran

**APPRENTICE CREW** Landon DeLuca  
Cian Lindsay

**BOOTH MANAGER** Seth Tramazzo  
**SOUND OPERATOR** Seth Tramazzo  
**LIGHT OPERATOR** Logan Nacewicz  
**BOOTH ASSISTANT** Mateo Lopez

**COSTUME MANAGER** Sophie Griffin  
**COSTUME CREW** Colum (Jasper) Daly  
Laura Orozco Vaquero  
Elena Pintus

**HOUSE MANAGER** Samantha Jacques  
**PHOTOGRAPHERS** J Mason  
Briana Ruano  
Marc Libin  
Yernur (Erin) Aibakhytov





# WINTER MUSICAL

## CREW

Director & Producer **Becky Beth Benedict**  
Music Director **Steve Kaminski**  
Choreographer **Kate Binder**  
Special Consultant **Ted Lyman**

Stage Manager **Taiga Sarli**  
Assistant Stage Manager **Ryan Mavlouganes**  
Stage Crew **Chenhan Huang**  
**Ruosu (Vivian) Wang**  
**Mo Han (Flora) Chen**

Booth Manager/Sound Operator **Seth Tramazzo**  
Light Operator **Mateo Lopez**  
Booth Assistant **Gianluca Alvarez**

Costume/Hair/Makeup Manager **Sophie Griffin**  
Costume/Hair/Makeup Crew **Terese Fridberg**  
**Jil Dornbusch**  
**Beatriz Leschziner**

House Manager **Ngoc (Helen)Hoang**  
Assistant House Manager **Sophie Stetson**  
Photographers **Marc Libin**

## CAST

### IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Rona Lisa Peretti	Vivian O'Connor
Chip Tolentino	Nathan Stevenson**
Logainne	Brooklynn Moore**
Schwartzandgrubeniére	
Leaf Coneybear	Oliver Barcomme-Laflamme
William Barfee	Mingjun (Tommy) Tang
Marcy Park	Sydney Bagwell
Olive Ostrovsky	Samantha Jacques
Douglas Panch	Sungjo (Cho) Cho
Mitch Mahoney	Grace Marquez
Leaf's Mom	Terese Fridberg
Brook Coneybear	Jil Dornbusch
Pinecone Coneybear	Sophie Griffin
Carl (Dad) Grubeniére	Gabe Shumway
Dan (Dad) Schwartz	Barak Blackburn
Jesus Christ	Beatriz Leschziner
Olive's Mom	Evdokiia Evie Vodopian
Olive's Dad	Steve Griffin
The Bee (mascot)	Emily (Em) Parnicky
Voiceover Announcer	Ted Lyman

The MacDuffie Arts Department presents

## THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Music & Lyrics by  
William Finn

Book by  
Rachel Sheinkin

Conceived by  
RebeccaFeldman

Additional material by  
Jay Reiss

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine

Director: **Becky Beth Benedict**  
Music Director: **Steve Kaminski**  
Choreographer: **Kate Binder**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25 @ 7:00 PM  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26 @ 7:00 PM  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27 @ 2:00 PM

AUDIENCE MUST BE MASKED & VACCINATED - BRING ID & VAC. CARD

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are supplied by MTI. [www.mti-shows.com](http://www.mti-shows.com)









# SPRING IMPROV

The MacDuffie Theater presents  
the Spring 2022 Theater Event

## Spring-Prov



an evening of  
improvisational entertainment

Directed by Becky Beth Benedict



Friday, May 13 @ 7:00 pm  
Saturday, May 14 @ 7:00 pm  
in The Little Theater

Audience must be vaccinated, and show  
proof of vaccination with ID

## CAST

Sungjo (Cho) Cho  
Cooper Manioudakis  
Brooklynn Moore  
Vivian O'Connor  
Arwen Silva  
Nathan Stevenson

## CREW

Director & Producer **Becky Beth Benedict**  
Stage Manager **Gabe Shumway**  
Assistant Stage Manager **Ryan Mavlouganes**

Sound Operator **Seth Tramazzo**  
Light Operator **Mateo Lopez**

Costume Manager **Sophie Griffin**

House Manager **Grace Marquez**  
Photographers **Marc Libin**  
**Jae Mason**



# CAROL TOMKIEL

English Chairperson and Teacher

---



“

*There is not one class, or group, or even one set of accomplished goals that define for me my time at MacDuffie. Rather, it is the overall sense of purpose and gratitude I feel when I think of all that has been.*



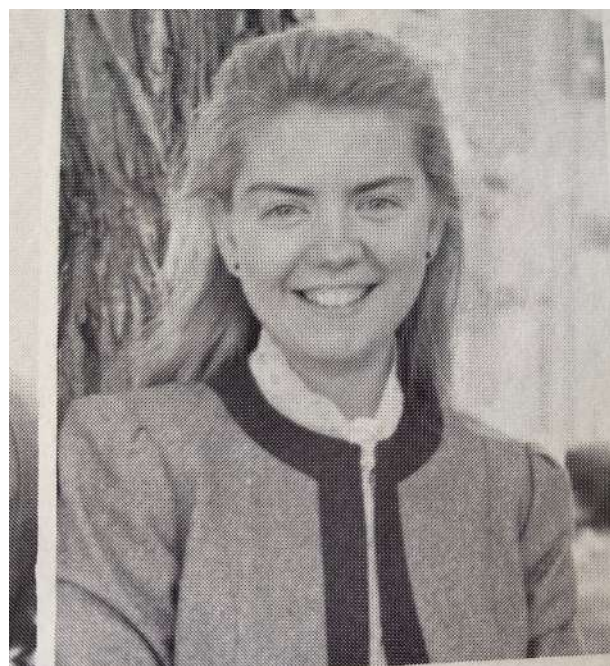
I grew up in Springfield, down the hill, so to speak, from MacDuffie. A preparatory school for girls seemed like another world to me then. I attended Classical High School and was one of 2,000 students there. I loved my high school! There is no other way to say it. It was there that I started to find my voice as a writer and a learner. The teachers I had, moreover, were among the best I have ever known, including those I met as an undergraduate at Dartmouth College and a graduate student at Georgetown University.



The credentials I earned in college and graduate school certainly opened the door to my teaching at MacDuffie, but it was the respect I found for the teaching profession, first in my family home and then at my public high school, that provided the foundation for my teaching.

What has kept me at it for 37 years, however, has been my students and the unique community they have helped shape. There is not one class, or group, or even one set of accomplished goals that define for me my time at MacDuffie. Rather, it is the overall sense of purpose and gratitude I feel when I think of all that has been. I still remember my first day. I was dressed in my black pumps, my best dress, and the pearl necklace my parents gave me as a graduation present. I was gathered with everyone else: ..students ( all girls in 1984), staff, and teachers outside of Rutenber Hall, awaiting the ringing of the bell to announce the start of a new school year. If I was nervous on my first day of my first real job...and no doubt I was, any apprehension was quickly dispelled as Kirsten Light and Joy Goodhue, two of my soon-to-be freshmen students, came up to me and asked if I was to be their new teacher. Upon confirmation, they promptly put their arms through mine and ushered me into the auditorium. The faces have changed since that first day. For one, we became co-ed. And our campus is now in a different town, but my

students have continued to buoy and guide me to more than I could have expected when I first began what I think of as much more than a career. Today, I am the senior teacher on staff (alongside, I am so glad to say, my friend and colleague, Mr. Greg Vennell). The children of my former students are now my students. On this Friday afternoon before Spring Break, I am thinking of how quickly the years have passed and of so many of the students I have known. I am thinking, too, of the Advanced Placement Senior English class I just left: of our unit on Zora Neale Hurston, our pizza party to celebrate break, and our work with the Writing Lab. Like the students before them, my students today continue to challenge me, teach me, and share with me all that is our school. Who knew that "busin" was not a method of transportation! To our school in old New England and to all of you who have made it what it is, thank you."





# CONGRATULATIONS

## REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONS



## GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER 2021

## REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONS



## THE MACDUFFIE SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL 2021/2022

### FALL SPORTS AWARDS

#### CROSS COUNTRY

**MVP** Matt Jiang '22

**Most Improved** Noah La Chance '27

**Coaches Award** Clara La Chance '23

**Players Choice Award** Sydney Bagwell '23

#### GIRLS SOCCER

**MVP** Emmi Nunes '22

**Most Improved** Addison Perich '27

**Coaches Award** Samantha Jacques '22

**Players Choice Award** Sara Avery '23

#### BOYS SOCCER

**MVP** Santiago Nogueira '22

**Most Improved** Juan Pereira '24

**Coaches Award** Davin Winkler '23

**Players Choice Award** Adam Stetson '24

#### VOLLEYBALL

**MVP** Paulina Chaufan '22

**Most Improved** Brianna Zhang '23

**Coaches Award** Piper Polga '22

**Players Choice Award** Ashlie Peña '22

### WINTER SPORTS AWARDS

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

**MVP** Joe Thomas '23 & AZ Allah '24

**Most Improved** Tuscan Onuoha '22 & Luis Montas '22

**Coaches Award** Josh Hopson '22 & Jonathan Ruano '22

**Players Choice Award** Elon Monroe '22 & AZ Allah '24

#### GIRLS BASKETBALL

**MVP** Zeynep Goktepe '24

**Most Improved** Sam Keser '24

**Coaches Award** Laura Orozco '22

**Players Choice Award** Sam Keser '24

#### SWIMMING

**MVP** Alba Podi '22 & Yuval Jorov '22

**Most Improved** Icaro Neves '28

**Coaches Award** Jae Mason '23

**Players Choice Award** Jae Mason '23



## *In Memoriam*



***Irene Owen Blank passed on January 11, 2022, from heart failure. She was a part of The MacDuffie School Class of 1950.***



***Deborah Champion Geier passed away on October 10, 2021 due to pulmonary complications. She was born in Springfield, MA, and was a graduate of The MacDuffie School Class of 1952.***



***Rhona (Ronny) Jones Pope passed away Sept. 3, 2021. She was a graduate of The MacDuffie School Class of 1955.***



## *In Memoriam*



**Susan Gardner McKenzie passed away peacefully surrounded by family on February 8, 2022. Susan was part of the class of 1955, and she went on to study education at Bradford Junior College.**



**Jane C. Brown, 82, passed away peacefully on December 27, 2021, after battling cancer. She graduated from The MacDuffie School in 1957.**



**Mary Byrnes Presley, 64, passed on Christmas Day 2021. She was a graduate of The MacDuffie School Class of 1975.**



## *In Memoriam*



**Nancy Elmira Brand Barrington '68 passed away February 19, 2020. She is survived by her husband of 43 years, George, Mary Brand Kemberling (sister) nephews John Brand Kemberly.**



**Dr. Tracy K. (Maranchie) Gallagher, 52, of East Falmouth, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, September 11th, 2021 with her loving family by her side after a courageous battle with cancer. She was a graduate of The MacDuffie School Class of 1986.**

**Please email [communications@macduffie.org](mailto:communications@macduffie.org) with any information or alumni notes.**



## *In Memoriam*



***Jamie B. (Wawryszyn) passed away at the hospice of the Fisher home on September 24, 2021. She taught English at The MacDuffie School.***



***Pamela F. Coleman, 62, passed away in her home on September 27, 2021. She worked at MacDuffie as the registrar, dorm parent, and student activities director.***



***Michael Serafino, 66, passed on October 28, 2021, at Baystate Medical Center, Springfield. His kids attended The MacDuffie School, and he was a Trustee as well.***



# *The MacDuffie School Gala 2022*

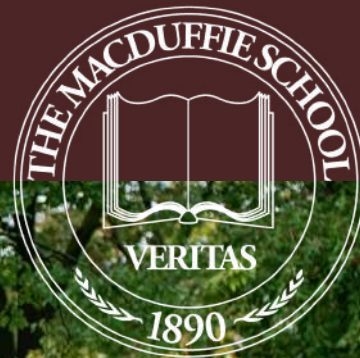


6 p.m. Reception & Silent Auction  
Dinner to Follow  
Friday, May 20th  
\$100 per ticket  
66 School Street, Granby,  
Massachusetts

Email [headsoffice@macduffie.org](mailto:headsoffice@macduffie.org)  
or call (413)255-0000 for tickets



# JOIN OUR FAMILY!



66 School St. Granby, Massachusetts 01033  
[admissions@macduffie.org](mailto:admissions@macduffie.org)  
413-255-0000

*The MacDuffie School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation in the administration of its educational and admissions policies, financial aid, and other school-administered programs.*