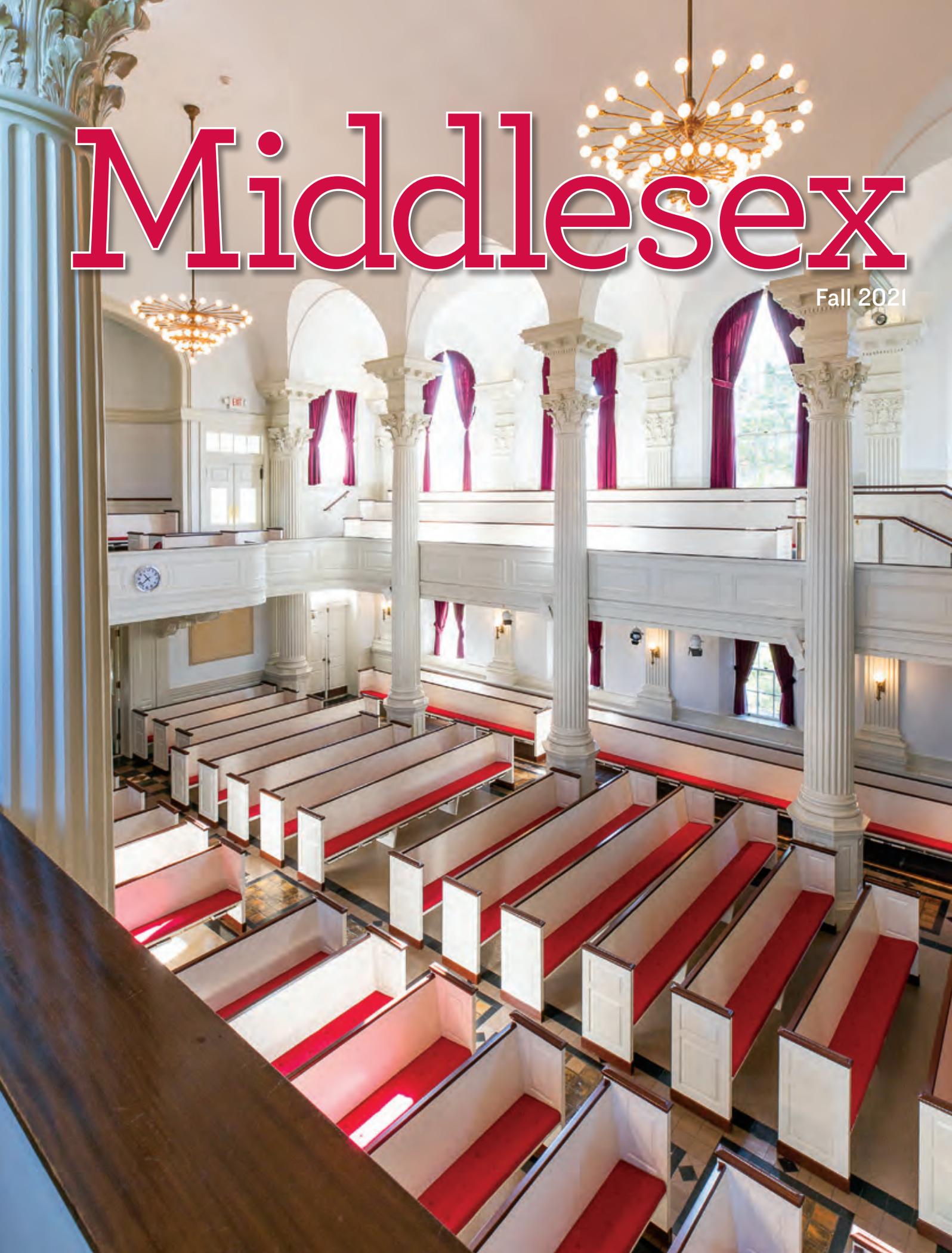


# Middlesex

Fall 2021



# From the Alumni Directors



## Middlesex

Fall 2021

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**Parents of Alumni** If this magazine is addressed to a son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please advise us of his or her new address. Thank you!

## Taking Stock

Returning to the completely in-person experience at Middlesex this fall has been nothing less than extraordinary. Thanks to vaccinations and continued weekly testing—and occasional mask wearing—this has been a busy, productive semester. In classrooms, labs, and studios, students and teachers are once again engaging in discussions, finding solutions, and creatively collaborating without having to arrange a Zoom call. Across the campus, in Ware Hall, the Warburg Library, dormitory common rooms, and other shared spaces, friends are free to gather without needing to stay six feet apart from one another.

And finally, after four seasons with little or no interscholastic competition, we are about to complete the full fall athletic schedule. That alone is something to celebrate, but at this writing, we are also pleased to congratulate both the undefeated girls' cross-country team—now the 2021 ISL Champions—and Varsity Football Coach Joe Lang, who recently surpassed 100 wins in his Middlesex career.

We had almost forgotten what it was like to be together as a school at other times in the weekly schedule: for the assemblies in the Kaye Theatre that keep everyone apprised of

upcoming activities and opportunities; for those memorable Wednesday morning chapel talks given by seniors; and for occasional visits from inspiring guest speakers, such as award-winning artist Daniela Rivera or businesswoman and philanthropist Yvonne Garcia (see pages 8–9). We are next looking forward to watching theatre productions and musical performances—particularly the Holiday Concert—surrounded by the whole community.

For the alumni and development office, it has been especially wonderful to be able to hold a variety of in-person events again, including summer receptions, dinners with current college students, belated 50th reunion celebrations for the classes of 1970 and 1971, the Kingman Cup Golf Tournament, and our recent Family Weekend on campus. With more receptions, alumni career panels, and an on-campus Alumni Weekend on the horizon, we hope to connect with even more of you in the coming months.

We have been heartened by the deep commitment to and sincere belief in Middlesex that people have shown and shared with us—and never more so than in recent weeks when the School drew media attention related to a potential talk by Professor Nikole Hannah-Jones. This has been a difficult time for our community in many respects; but, as we move forward, we know that the Middlesex Board is committed to understanding in full the communications that occurred. Importantly, this experience has only reinforced the need for thoughtful discussions, especially concerning diversity, equity, and inclusion. With the help of students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and the school's leadership, we are confident that we can emerge from this moment as a stronger, more unified, and more equitable and inclusive community.

George W. Noble, Jr. P'23'25  
*Director of Advancement*

Heather J. Parker P'16'18  
*Director of Development*

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## Mission Statement

Middlesex School is an independent, non-denominational, residential, college-preparatory school that, for over 100 years, has been committed to excellence in the intellectual, ethical, creative, and physical development of young people. We honor the ideal, articulated by our founding Head Master, of “finding the promise” in every student, and we work together in an atmosphere of mutual trust and shared responsibility to help students bring their talents to fruition as knowledgeable, capable, responsible, and moral citizens of the world. As a community, we respect the individual interests, strengths, and needs of each student. We also value the rich diversity of belief and experience each of us brings to the School.

We expect that each student will bring his or her best efforts to the shared endeavor of learning and that the School, through its faculty, will engage and encourage each student’s growth, happiness, and well-being. We aspire for all Middlesex students to develop personal integrity, intellectual vitality and discipline, and respect for themselves and for others. We expect each student to engage energetically and cooperatively in the life of the School, and we seek to inspire in all students the desire to seek understanding of themselves and the larger world, both now and in their futures.

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*Memorial Chapel,  
photographed  
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Taking a break from their August orientation program, new faculty members assembled for their “class picture.” From left to right are Om Jha, Emerald Carter '06, Elsa Clement, Eliza Mott, Brenna Morrissey, Heather Wayne, Christine Steiner, Miles Barnett, Briana Mastel, Tim Brady, and Carolina Aldana.

## Welcoming New Faculty

Just before 99 new students arrived on September 3—ready for fully in-person classes, interscholastic athletic competitions, and extracurricular activities—11 new colleagues joined the faculty, bringing fresh energy, different perspectives, and novel approaches to the School’s classrooms and offices.

With a B.A. in sociology from Tufts University and an M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary, **Emerald Carter '06** has returned to Middlesex to teach history and live in Higginson House as a dorm assistant. For the last five years, she was an adjunct lecturer at SUNY Queens Educational Opportunity Center while also serving as a children’s ministry coordinator and an assistant to an executive minister at two churches in New York City.

Coming to Middlesex from Deerfield Academy, **Eliza Mott** teaches art history and English. A summa cum laude graduate of Princeton University with a B.A. in art and archaeology, Eliza earned her M.S.Ed. through the Independent School Teaching Residency program at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a dorm assistant in Kravis House.

**Heather Wayne** also joins the English department, having previously taught at Kingswood Oxford School. She first taught at her alma mater, The Geneva School, after graduating magna cum laude from Furman University with a B.A. in English and art. Heather earned her M.A. at the University of Central Florida and her Ph.D. at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

After two years spent teaching in central Mexico, **Carolina Aldana** has returned to the Spanish classroom at Middlesex, where she previously taught for a decade. She holds a B.S. in modern languages from Georgetown University, an M.A. in elementary education from Lehman College’s School of Education, and an M.A. in Spanish from Middlebury College. Carolina is the head of Peabody House.

An experienced instructor and interpreter, **Tim Brady** also joins Middlesex’s Spanish department. Tim completed a B.S. in business administration at Suffolk University before earning an M.A. in Spanish literature and linguistics at Middlebury College’s Madrid campus.

**Elsa Clement** has been a longtime French instructor with Language School International in nearby Acton and has also given lessons through Global Child and at Collegiate Academy. Born and raised in Toulouse, France, she earned a doctorate in pharmacy at University Joseph Fourier in Grenoble.

**Om Jha** recently completed an M.Phil. and a Ph.D. in physics at George Washington University. Having taught physics and math at Nepal’s Kathmandu University High School, he will teach both subjects at Middlesex, too. A graduate of Queen Mary University of London with a B.S. in theoretical physics, Om received an M.A.St. in applied mathematics at the University of Cambridge.

**Miles Barnett** received his M.M. in jazz studies from William Paterson University. While earning his B.A. in music at Bard College, he served as an assistant teacher in Bard’s Preparatory Division and was also a summer counselor at the Interlochen Center for the Arts.

A Lawrence Academy alumna, Director of Student Activities **Brenna Morrissey** holds a B.A. in studio art from Georgia State University and an M.Ed. in school and counseling psychology from the University of Missouri. Brenna served as an assistant softball coach and recruiting coordinator at Boston University and MIT; prior to that, she was a coach and substitute teacher at BB&N.

After two years of playing for the Boston Pride in the National Women's Hockey League, **Briana Mastel** is now an assistant director of admissions and the girls' varsity hockey coach for Middlesex. A graduate of Choate Rosemary Hall, Briana earned an A.B. in psychology at Harvard University, where she captained the women's ice hockey team.

A graduate of Bates College, Advancement Officer **Christine Steiner** began her development career at Loomis Chaffee School—her alma mater—and then directed the Gunnery Fund at The Frederick Gunn School. Most recently, Christine has been an annual giving officer at Milton Academy.

Adding great depth and range of experience to Middlesex's faculty, these new colleagues have already become an integral part of the school community. **M**

## Recognizing a Faculty Pioneer

### New Lecture Series Honors Ken Whitlock



A veteran educator, Ken Whitlock has always wanted his students to “share the same sense of wonder—and complexity as well—of history that I sense,” as he explains. “I just want them to appreciate it.”

History teacher Ken Whitlock is somewhat accustomed to being considered a pioneer. Born and raised in Richmond, Virginia, at a time when Jim Crow laws were still in effect, he was among the first wave of Black students to integrate that city's public schools. As a college student at Boston University in the late 1960s, he participated in the civil rights demonstrations and anti-war protests of the era. And in 1986, he became the first Black faculty member at Middlesex School.

Still, Ken never expected also to be the first faculty member to have an annual lecture established in his name. “I was flabbergasted—floored and honored,” he admits. “It was totally unexpected.” With gifts from Middlesex families, the Kenneth E. Whitlock, Jr. Black History Month Speaker Series has indeed been funded, recognizing Ken's expertise and commitment.

A graduate of Richmond's John Marshall High School, Ken earned a B.A. in American history and civilization at BU, graduating magna cum laude. He first taught American history at Falls Church High School in Fairfax

County, Virginia, leaving there after several years to teach social studies at Newton North High School. After receiving an M.A. in history from the University of Virginia, Ken came to Middlesex with his wife Barbara, who also taught history at the School from 1986 to 1993. In 2012, Ken was appointed the holder of the Senator Joseph S. Clark '19 Chair, which supports a senior member of the faculty who teaches American history.

For more than 30 years, Ken lent his filmmaking skills to the athletic department, videotaping scrimmages and games for several varsity teams each season; currently, he continues to enjoy filming Middlesex varsity football. He has also worked as a guide at Jefferson's Monticello and at historic Buckman Tavern in nearby Lexington.

As the recent video tribute to Middlesex's Black Pioneers confirmed, Ken is clearly admired by students and colleagues alike, and he hopes to be remembered for being a dedicated teacher and learner. “But I thank you all for doing this,” he said in the video. “It means a lot to me.” **M**



This year's new trustees are, from left to right, Samantha Du, Tom Flemma, and Bob Iuliano '79.

## New Middlesex Trustees

Bringing expertise in the fields of medical research, education, and law, the Board's newest trustees are also well acquainted with Middlesex, whether through a professional association or their own personal experiences with the School.

**Samantha Du** founded Zai Lab in 2014 and has been its director, CEO, and board chairperson since its inception. Previously, she spent two years at Sequoia Capital China, where she led four healthcare investments and served on the boards. From 2001 to 2011, Samantha co-founded Hutchison MediPharma and Hutchison China MediTech and served as their CEO and chief scientific officer, respectively, since their inception. She began her research career with Pfizer in the U.S., working there from 1994 to 2001, after receiving her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Cincinnati. Samantha and her husband, Nick Zhang, have two sons, Andrew '16 and Matthew '23.

**Thomas Flemma** is the head of school at North Shore Country Day School in Winnetka, Illinois. An historian by training, he has worked in independent schools his entire career, after earning his B.A. at Stanford and

M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Virginia. For 17 years, Tom worked at the Hotchkiss School, where he taught American history, coached, lived in the dormitory, and served in several administrative positions, including associate head of school and dean of faculty.

In 2016, Tom became the ninth head of school at NSCDS, a JK-12 school just north of Chicago. In his time there, he has led the celebration of the School's centennial, launched a capital campaign, and navigated COVID-19, along with the usual myriad of head of school duties. He and his wife Diana, a mental health counselor, have two children.

**Robert W. Iuliano '79** was appointed the 15th president of Gettysburg College in 2019. A native of Watertown, Massachusetts, he has dedicated nearly his entire professional life to higher education, most recently as deputy to the president, senior vice president, and general counsel at Harvard University, and as a lecturer at Harvard College and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. For more than two decades, Bob has been deeply involved in issues fundamental to higher education leadership, including admissions, student life, athletics, governance, finance, and philanthropy.

Bob is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Virginia Law School, where he served as editor-in-chief of the *Virginia Law Review* and was a member of the Order of the Coif. After clerking for the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, he worked both for the Department of Justice and in private practice. Bob then joined Harvard, where he worked for more than 25 years, helping to advance the University's academic mission. He and his wife Susan have two sons. **M**

# Community Day

*September 20, 2021*

This year, students spent Community Day in a variety of ways: Freshmen and sophomores participated in class bonding activities facilitated by Hale Education, while seniors used the time to focus on their college applications and other demands of their final year at Middlesex.

For the juniors—accompanied by 19 Community Service Officers and a few dozen faculty members—Community Day involved bonding while giving back. Smaller groups headed to Lowell to beautify a neighborhood park or traveled to Boston to assist an organization that strives to end homelessness; closer to Concord, juniors cleared conservation trails and picked tomatoes or apples designated for local food pantries. Inside the Cage on campus, the largest group of students and adults packaged 10,152 meals to be distributed by Rise Against Hunger to those in need.

“When we set forth with the same goal, a lot of good comes from it,” wrote Assistant Director of Community Service Paul Torres in an all-school e-mail. “You all hold the power of kindness; do not be afraid of it. Live it proudly with your actions, and together we can make a positive impact.” **M**



Middlesex juniors assisted seven different organizations on Community Day. A few of the assignments consisted of picking apples for Community Harvest (top left); getting an apartment ready for Heading Home (top right), and removing invasive species on Concord Conservation trails (above).



Engaged in significant work in a place that she loves, Dr. Cinda Scott encouraged students to “dream big” when thinking about their futures. “Whatever you love, build on that,” she advised, “and yes, you can change career paths.”

## Collaborative Marine Conservation

Speaking via Zoom from her home in Bocas del Toro, Panamá, Dr. Cinda Scott '95 assured students that every career path need not be a straight line—and that their Middlesex friendships would be as sustaining and life-long as hers have been. A marine biologist and the center director of the School for Field Studies (SFS) in Panamá, Cinda described her own journey, her current research, and her efforts to conserve marine habitats when she delivered the fifth Bendheim Lecture on May 4, 2021. Established by a Middlesex parent in 2015, this lecture series brings inspiring experts in STEM fields to campus to share their professional experience.

### Finding Focus

It was during her time as a Middlesex student, Cinda recalled, that she first learned about climate change, though she did not know then how it might impact her future work. Thinking that she might be a vet or a doctor, she majored in biology and

environmental studies at Middlebury College. But a semester spent in a tropical marine biology program in Costa Rica “fundamentally changed my life,” she observed, and for that reason, she encouraged current students to take time to study abroad and gain a more global perspective.

Subsequent summers at Maine’s Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory introduced Cinda to the idea that marine organisms could serve as models for studying human disease. Still thinking of being a doctor, she completed a pre-med post-bac program at Columbia University. Ultimately, her love of science and the ocean instead led her to earn a Ph.D. in marine biology and fisheries at the University of Miami’s Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.

### A Sea Change

In 2014, while teaching biology at New York City College of Technology, Cinda found herself in her office wondering, “When was the last time I was truly happy?” She realized, “I needed to get back to the marine world.” Packing up her apartment, she moved all the way to Panamá to lead the SFS program there. “You never know how something is going to turn out until you try!” Cinda reflected.

In Bocas del Toro, an archipelago on the Caribbean coast of Panamá, one of Cinda’s roles is to research marine habitats, and she guides groups of undergraduate students in performing underwater surveys to monitor the health of ecosystems. The information gathered is critically important to conservation efforts in the region, where a diverse population depends largely on tourism in this poorest of Panamá’s provinces—and where threats to the environment are many. Pollution from sewage and sediment, warming water temperatures, and mangrove destruction by developers have all contributed to a loss of marine habitats and biodiversity. Mangroves, she noted, are particularly important in supporting thousands of other species, protecting the coastline, sequestering

carbon, and trapping sediment, keeping the water clearer.

### Sharing in Solutions

“I believe that conservation needs to be rooted in equity,” Cinda stated, stressing that all people living in the area need to be given a say in how resources are managed. To this end, she brings government officials out to the reefs, explaining their importance. Additionally, she works alongside local and national groups to influence conservation policy and improve marine protected areas like Parque Nacional Isla Bastimentos, which currently does not include some of the most complex habitats. By building communication among the stakeholders, including indigenous voices and knowledge in those conversations, and continuing to provide ecosystem assessments, Cinda hopes that balanced solutions can be reached.

In closing, she urged her Middlesex audience to care about the world’s oceans. “Every choice you make matters,” Cinda said, advocating for practical measures like recycling, buying locally, and eating sustainably. Students’ subsequent questions about the challenges of her job, the impact of the pandemic, and the potential for sustainable tourism reflected their concern for the marine environment—where perhaps some may find a rewarding career one day, as Cinda has. **M**

## New Appointments to Endowed Chairs



**THE LITTLEJOHN CHAIR**  
**Kerry McIntyre Magee**  
Director of Faculty Development

*Established in 1999 by distribution of principal from Angus C. Littlejohn, Jr. '69, who served two terms on the Middlesex Board (1989–1998; 1999–2006), the Littlejohn Chair provides for the salary of a senior member of the faculty.*

With a B.S. in chemistry from Carnegie Mellon University and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Dartmouth Medical School, Kerry joined the Middlesex faculty in 2002. In addition to teaching both biology and Advanced Placement biology courses, she serves as the director of faculty development. During summer breaks from Middlesex, Kerry is a staff member and mentor at the New England New Teacher Seminar program (sponsored by AISNE and CAIS), where she helps train and support new teachers before they take charge of independent school classrooms. Given that much of the excellent work that Kerry does at Middlesex is in direct support of teachers and the craft of teaching—and that Angus Littlejohn is a longtime champion of the faculty—the match between the Littlejohn Chair and Kerry’s role is a natural one.



**THE KAZMAIER CHAIR**  
**Laura Darby McNally '80**  
Head Athletic Trainer

*Established in 2000 in memory of Patty Kazmaier Sandt '81 by her parents, Patricia and Richard W. Kazmaier, Jr., and supplemented with gifts from Middlesex alumni, parents, and friends, the Kazmaier Chair provides income for the salary of a female faculty member who serves as a prominent varsity coach.*

Darby finds it especially meaningful to hold the chair that memorializes Patty, her Middlesex teammate and good friend. After receiving her B.S. in biology from Trinity College, Darby taught math and served as the head trainer and a dorm head at Brooks School. She returned to Middlesex as the athletic trainer in 1989 and soon became the girls’ varsity crew coach. A strong rower at Middlesex and Trinity, Darby has served as a trainer for U.S. rowing teams competing in world championships, the Olympics, and the Pan Am Games. Since 2001, she has taught Middlesex seniors the art of plaque carving, overseeing the completion of this traditional graduation requirement. “Prominent” is exactly the right descriptor for Darby, for she is the rare trainer who gets cheered by the students whenever she comes on the field. **M**



Professor Daniela Rivera put the finishing touches on her original installation, *Carried by a Whisper*, in Middlesex's Ishibashi Gallery.

## Transforming Landscapes

For award-winning artist Daniela Rivera, speaking about her work in front of the school community on October 2 was familiar and a bit frightening. Back in 2007, she was a Middlesex faculty member who taught visual art and, she recalled, likely made a nervous assembly announcement or two in the old Wood Theatre. Having moved on in 2008 to accept a position at Wellesley College—where she is now the Barbara Morris Caspersen Professor of Humanities and a professor of art—she was honored to be invited back to campus as a visiting artist and was “blown away by the beautiful facilities” that have replaced the ones she remembered.

Among these new spaces is the Ishibashi Gallery, within which Professor Rivera created an original installation, *Carried by a Whisper*, that conveyed movement across all three exhibition walls with tilted drawings, angular lines, and slanted text drawn with her own handmade copper tools. As background for experiencing and interpreting this site-specific piece, she talked about two of her previous museum installations that also related to what she called “the title of my life:” dislocation and relocation.

### A Seminal Shift

Born and raised in Santiago, Chile, Professor Rivera immigrated to the United States in her late 20s, having already earned a B.F.A. from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. While her earlier paintings had often centered on the human figure, she felt that the work was somehow “failing” in its new American context and made a decisive change. “I decided to remove the body from the work,” she explained, “and let the people in the gallery be the body, addressing the space instead.”

She illustrated this dramatically altered approach with images of *The Andes Inverted*, her 2017 solo show at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Exploring the complex issues associated with Chile’s lucrative copper mines—including the thousands of people displaced by the industry’s expansion and pollution—she transformed enormous gallery spaces with materials, drawings, and sounds of the mine itself, as well as the voices of those who are both employed and relocated by it. In walking through the installation, visitors became the only bodies in the work, inspiring them to think about the myriad effects of mining on laborers and landscapes alike.

### Grand Gestures

The second, related project that Professor Rivera discussed was titled *Where the Sky Touches the Earth*, part of a 2019 exhibition at the Fitchburg Art Museum. In trying to establish links to her own Chilean history, she spent three years researching, traveling, and recording video interviews with people who had relocated because of the mine. With her camera positioned at the level of their hands, Professor Rivera captured their gestures as they shared memories of their former homes.

Subsequently creating giant paintings of a few pairs of these hands—each 30-feet wide and 12-feet high—she effectively turned them into landscapes that filled the walls of one gallery. In this novel way, Professor Rivera again provoked discussions about

laborers' experiences and industry's influence on land and the people who make their livelihoods and homes there.

### Further Thoughts

Leaving plenty of time for questions—"because I want to hear your voices"—Professor Rivera clarified why she focuses on "addressing the space" instead of including figures in it. "I was always addressing the space," she noted, "but when I removed the body, I turned it into a space for the body. As you enter the space, you are transforming it; I'm sharing agency with you." Through that act of sharing, dialogue about difficult subjects becomes possible.

During the weeks she spent at Middlesex making this new work especially for this gallery space, Professor Rivera met with Advanced Placement Studio Art students to offer them advice on assembling their AP portfolios. She was also interviewed about her artistic journey and intentions by School Co-president Kennedy Mason '22 and Antonio Ometeotl '23 for a new student-led podcast, *Inside Ishibashi*. **M**

## Leading with Care



In recognizing inspirational individuals during Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month, Middlesex welcomed State Street's Yvonne Garcia to campus on October 5, 2021. Currently the chief of staff to State Street's CEO, Ms. Garcia recently served as senior vice president and global head of client solutions there and previously held executive posts at Liberty Mutual and Bank of America. An active community leader, she has served as the chairwoman for ALPFA, the largest Latino professional organization in the country, and she is the co-founding chair of Milagros para Niños, a board at Boston Children's Hospital that raises funds for Latino children whose families are unable to afford medical care.

Interviewed on the Kaye Theatre stage by Antonio Ometeotl '23, Ms. Garcia described the strong, positive influence of her Dominican parents and culture, appreciating their emphasis on getting a good education and building relationships. "Being a Latina has paved the way for how I lead," she affirmed. "I treat my team like family: I have high expectations, but I put them first." When people feel that a leader genuinely cares about them, she finds, they will go the extra mile for an organization.

For Yvonne Garcia, giving back has become her passion. "Success is going to feel empty if you are not paving the way for others," she noted.

Ms. Garcia's interest in business was apparent at a young age, when she would hold book sales in front of her home. "The whole notion of transaction was great," she recalled. And though she has since built a highly successful career, she urged, "Don't forget the power of giving back." She is most proud of her long involvement with ALPFA and her role in founding and supporting Milagros para Niños, which has raised more than \$10 million for Latino families in need.

Whether discussing future career decisions or college applications, Ms. Garcia offered students clear advice: Be yourself, take calculated risks (in her case, a two-year banking stint in China), and make sure that you are in the place (a college or company) where you need to be. "Don't forget the value you bring," she stressed. "When a confident young person shows up to interview, I want to hire them right away." **M**



“The majority of Americans are just and fair-minded,” Juju Chang affirmed. “Only a small group is engaged in hate.”

## Uniting Against Hate

As part of celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) Heritage Month, Middlesex invited award-winning journalist Juju Chang to speak via Zoom during assembly on May 7, 2021.

A co-anchor of ABC News’ *Nightline*, Ms. Chang has covered major news stories for decades and has been recognized with numerous honors, including multiple Emmys and Gracies, as well as DuPont, Murrow, and Peabody Awards. Having completed two specials this year concerning the rise in hate crimes toward the AAPI community, she spoke about the origins of this aggression and shared some of her own story as a Korean American growing up in California.

### Outsiders—or Overachievers

Born in Seoul, Ms. Chang moved as a young child with her family to Sunnyvale, where she started kindergarten before she had learned to speak English. “I felt like ‘the other’ a lot,” she recalled. This sense was caused by more than the initial language barrier, however, as she described some of the “othering” that

people of AAPI heritage experience. Many are made to feel that they are “perpetual foreigners,” as they are regularly asked, “Where are you from?” And many are labeled “model minorities” who excel at STEM subjects and attend highly competitive colleges. Such stereotypes “render so much of our population invisible,” Ms. Chang said, which leaves those who live in poverty unacknowledged and unassisted.

### Viral Vitriol

During the pandemic, Ms. Chang related, she and fellow journalists began to see a racial divide emerge, as COVID-19 disproportionately affected densely populated, urban neighborhoods. When the murder of George Floyd sparked a moment of racial reckoning, Ms. Chang reported on the protests, observing that they seemed to involve Americans of all ages and races.

Yet, a spike in hate crimes soon followed, as blame initially aimed at China for the COVID-19 virus was extended toward all Asians, resulting in a dramatic increase in violence against Asian Americans. Long-standing AAPI prejudice that has shown itself before—such as in the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and in the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II—was once again unleashed.

### Hope in Solidarity

The co-editors of *The Anvil*, Brian Choi ’21 and Shreya Jain ’21, led the way in asking Ms. Chang questions about her path to journalism, her career experience as an Asian American woman, and her suggestions for dismantling AAPI stereotypes. Though she often covers many tragedies and acts of violence in her work, Ms. Chang “can’t help but have hope” when she sees people stepping in to help—and sees a younger generation that is unwilling to tolerate racism. “This is a time of solidarity,” she stressed, adding that progress can be made for all people of color when everyone stands together against hate, oppression, and racism. **M**

# Spring Awakening

*May 21-22, 2021*

*Original play by Frank Wedekind  
Book and Lyrics by Steve Sater  
Music by Duncan Sheik  
Directed by Tom Kane  
Musical Direction by Matt Stern  
Technical Design & Direction by  
Ryan DuBray  
Choreography by Larry Sousa  
Costume Design by Kim Brown  
Photography by Robert D. Perachio*

Set in late 19th century Germany, but with an alternative rock and roll score, *Spring Awakening* examines the fraught world of adolescents coming of age. Though the original play was written in 1890, the many issues it explores— isolation, depression, abuse, and suicide – remain relevant, ultimately highlighting the importance of community, connection, and coming together.

The Middlesex community was excited to see live performances return to the Kaye Theatre in 2021. Following masking and social distancing regulations, student audience members were seated individually or in small groups around the expansive theatre. Meanwhile, 24 cast members were either safely separated on stage within a spectacular set of 18 small studios or had their off-stage appearances filmed and projected on adjacent video screens. With its inspired technical design and outstanding performances, *Spring Awakening* was an impressive artistic achievement— and a welcome chance to bring the community together. **M**



## Fear as a Motivator

2021 Graduation Speaker Jennifer Gomez '04



"We are not defined by our fears but by how we overcome them," Jennifer Gomez '04 reflected.

A vibrant, inspirational guest speaker is exactly what was needed for the cold, rainy, outdoor commencement ceremony that took place last Memorial Day—and accomplished entrepreneur Jennifer Gomez '04 was just the right person for the event.

Praising the seniors for their resilience and ingenuity in facing the difficulties of a pandemic, she congratulated them for having "learned that you are capable of not just achieving a goal but coming out triumphant despite fear and uncertainty." In turn, Jennifer shared her own approach to overcoming challenges, which has led to her becoming the co-founder and chief marketing officer of oneKIN, Inc., a retail tech company that builds tools to help small businesses achieve scale and includes an award-winning online marketplace for diverse brands.

### An Early Role Model

Thanks to the example of her mother, Jennifer said that she gradually learned to train herself "to see fear as a challenge, a test of my wit and courage." Navigating life as an immigrant in Brooklyn, New York, her mother never

seemed to falter, perhaps because "like many around the world, she didn't have the option to be paralyzed by fear." In fact, reflected Jennifer, "Fear didn't encumber her dreams or goals; it catalyzed them."

Through seeing her mother and others in her community "achieve the unimaginable every day," Jennifer found, "Proximity to individuals who challenge their fears and persevere frees all who witness this feat from theirs. You realize fear is a tool—and just as it has been leveraged by many to control, it can also be harnessed to liberate yourself and others."

### New Frontiers

Taking a big step in coming to Middlesex as a freshman, Jennifer recalled, "I was equally terrified and excited to leave home in pursuit of the endless opportunities on this beautiful campus, so that one day, I could share learning and resources with my community." Her adjustment was not always easy, she allowed, but soon, "Middlesex became a reflection of Brooklyn, a bountiful environment that showed me all I was capable of when I chose to face my fears and give myself permission to be and dream."

With growing confidence and determination, Jennifer continued to push past obstacles she encountered after Middlesex, recounting how she once secured an internship at L'Oréal during college that had previously only been offered to M.B.A. graduate students. Two years later, in light of Jennifer's initiative, the company began extending such internships to other college students—an expansion of opportunity that clearly pleased her.

### The Secret Formula

Explaining how she overcomes rising anxiety, Jennifer described a four-step exercise that has helped her. First, she counseled, examine where the fear is coming from and then list

all the best possible results that moving forward could bring. Third, think of “the bravest thing you’ve ever done, or the bravest person you know, and personify that courage.” And finally: Take a deep breath and jump into creating those positive outcomes.

Her strategy has obviously worked. Three years ago, Jennifer decided to leave corporate America to pursue an entrepreneurial path and is now thriving with oneKIN, Inc. Admittedly, she still sometimes grapples with fears of failure or of being underestimated. “But my dreams of building equitable solutions and opportunities for others to succeed, especially my daughters, are much greater,” Jennifer stressed. “I don’t know what tomorrow holds, but I’m certain it will hold great adventures and new heights.”

She assured the seniors, “After winning a few matches against fear, you’ll realize you no longer need to rely on the courage of others to find yours because you are enough to make the unimaginable possible and possess all the answers you seek. You, my friends, are the superhero you have been waiting for all along.” And with a solid foundation—nurtured by family and Middlesex mentors—they were now ready, she affirmed, “to reach for the sun.” **M**

## A Prized Performer

### Distinguished Alumnus Steve Carell '80



In 2003, Steve Carell '80 brought comic relief to another rainy graduation ceremony.

Like other events during Alumni Weekend, the presentation of the School’s Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. (1920) Distinguished Alumni Award was accomplished with a recorded Zoom call that was shared online on June 11, 2021. As president of the Middlesex Alumni Association, Rob Trumbull '00 paid tribute to the 2021 recipient, Steve Carell '80, whose successful career as an actor, comedian, writer, producer, and director now includes more than 40 films and multiple television series.

In his student days at Middlesex, Steve was a varsity hockey goalie on two Eberhardt Division Championship teams and played varsity lacrosse, which earned a share of the 1980 ISL title. He also excelled on the stage, performing in several school productions. On graduating, Steve earned a degree in history at Denison University, where he first tried his hand at improvisational comedy with the group Burpee’s Seedy.

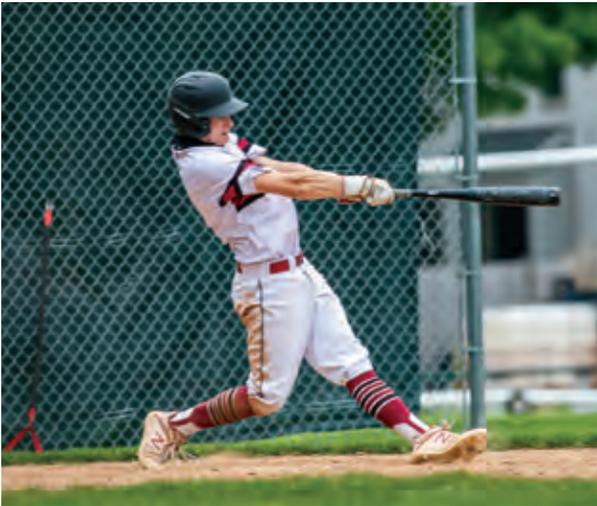
Wanting to pursue an acting career, Steve moved to Chicago, where he taught an improv comedy class and performed with the Second City Troupe. He began to make

television and movie appearances, eventually playing a correspondent on *The Daily Show* from 1999 to 2005. Steve then landed the role of Michael Scott in the NBC sitcom *The Office*, winning a Golden Globe for Best Actor in a musical or comedy television series in 2006. With many more honors to his credit, including three Screen Actors Guild Awards and two Writers Guild of America Awards, he has since earned praise for both his comedic work and his dramatic performances.

In accepting the Lodge Award, Steve took a wry look at the similarities between himself and Senator Lodge, concluding that all they had in common was Middlesex, a place where “you didn’t have to choose between athletics or music or art or academics.” Instead, he noted, “You were encouraged to do all of it, and most of us did, and it was celebrated.” The implied idea that “you’ll never know unless you try,” Steve said, was “one that Middlesex very subtly ingrained in me, and I am forever thankful for that.” **M**

# Team Highlights

For more sports news visit  
[athletics.mxschool.edu](http://athletics.mxschool.edu)



## Baseball

Tri-captain Kyle Heath '21 took a swing during an intrasquad scrimmage in May. Kyle and his fellow co-captains, Joey Belsanti '21 and Liam Eliot '21, provided terrific leadership in a trying season of limited ISL competition.



## Boys' Tennis

Despite the competitive season being cut short, Brian Choi '21 (right) rounded out his four-year varsity career with a record of 4-2, and Captain Paul Zhou '21 will soon compete on the men's tennis team at Bates College.



## Girls' Lacrosse

Four-year varsity players, Sophia Poplyk '21 (pictured above) and Isabelle Allieri '21 captained the team with poise, passion, and strength during a challenging year. Both were seasoned defenders who added tremendous skill and leadership to the program during their careers.



## Girls' Crew

Under the leadership of Co-captains Maddie Murphy '21 and Natalie McCall '21, Middlesex rowers filled seven coxed fours and an eight each day, staying competitive with intersquad races—and even a few sculling races.

## Girls' Tennis

A four-year varsity player, Captain Jessie Andrews '21 achieved individual records of 10-4 and 11-2 in her first two seasons, helping Middlesex reach the semifinals of the NEPSAC Class B Tournament in 2019. Though her team played just one ISL match to close out her career, it had a successful conclusion: an 8-7 victory against Groton.



## Boys' Lacrosse

In a complicated year, programs had to be creative, with intrasquad scrimmages taking the place of ISL competition. Here, Co-captain Will McCarthy '21 worked to get past Grady MacKeigan '21, while Charlie Anderson '21 and Co-captain George Fulton '21 looked on.



# Spring's Semi-Season

Hopes were high that the spring of 2021 would usher in the return of ISL competition. And it did for a few weeks—until COVID-19 concerns led to the cancellation of the remaining games from late April through all of May.



**Practice Pays Off:** Three school records were set at Emerson Field on May 22, 2021, by Middlesex track and field athletes. A two-year co-captain, Love Daley '22 (above) achieved a new record of 5'4" in the high jump, and Lucas Mylon '23 set a new school record in the 400-meter dash with a time of 49.75. Meanwhile, the boys' 4x400-meter relay team (right)—Cooper Austen '22, Lucas Mylon '23, Co-captain Caleb Gartner '21, and Mac Hadden '21—broke the previous school record with a time of 3:23.52, shaving nearly seven seconds off the previous record set in 2012 by a team that included James Randon '13, now a Middlesex track coach. In July, the quartet went on to compete at the Nike Outdoor National Meet, held at the University of Oregon, and placed fourth in the boys' distance medley relay.



## A Promising Start

The lacrosse program enjoyed early success in the brief competitive season, with both the boys' and the girls' varsity teams defeating Lawrence and Groton. Not far behind, Middlesex's varsity tennis squads also each notched a win, as the boys topped Lawrence 7-0 and the girls beat Groton 8-7. The golf team completed seven matches and was enjoying a winning streak, defeating its last four opponents. But once it became clear that COVID-19 cases were starting to occur at some league schools, the rest of the ISL schedule had to be called off.

## Setting New Records

For Middlesex teams, this meant making the most of practice time and switching to intersquad competitions on game days. Although track and field athletes did not have any meets, they could still strive for new personal bests—and even new school records, which were indeed achieved in the high jump, the 400-meter dash, and the boys' 4x400-meter relay. As this *Bulletin* issue was going to press, Middlesex was poised to finish a full slate of fall games, an encouraging sign that the winter and spring seasons might be similarly successful in 2022.

Co-captain Luke Andresen '21 watched a putt drop during a 2019 match with Thayer and Brooks. In 2021, Luke and fellow Co-captain Pavel Akmaev '21 led the team to a 5-4-1 record in an abbreviated season that concluded on April 28 with two 5-2 wins against both Brooks and Thayer.

**AS PROMISED**

# Graduation 2020

## ON THE CIRCLE

The date was June 5, 2021—not May 25, 2020—and the time was 5:00 p.m., rather than 11:00 a.m. Nonetheless, 376 days and six hours after the originally scheduled event, most of the class of 2020 returned to experience an in-person graduation ceremony on a beautiful, summerlike evening.

Like other classes before them, they gathered in Memorial Chapel, collected a red rose, and processed from there to the benches in front of Eliot Hall. In lieu of a guest speaker, nine members of the class spoke for a few minutes each, remembering what they loved or regretted about their time at Middlesex, what the past year has been like at home or in college, and what they wished for in the months and years ahead.

After addressing the class, Head of School David Beare read aloud the name of every 2020 graduate, including those who were unable to attend. Because their Middlesex diplomas had been delivered to them the previous May in memento-packed, personalized care packages, graduates were instead handed class pictures, rolled and tied with red ribbons. Following one last singing of “Jerusalem,” they made their way down the line of faculty and staff, enjoying those long-awaited handshakes and high-fives.



The class of 2020 received last-minute instructions for the ceremony from Senior Advancement Officer Paul Harrison, who organized the event along with Director of Student Activities Anna Marchand '07.



Brooke Murphy '20 and Neto Nwogbo '20.



Valedictorian Jimmy Symonds '20 was one of nine classmates who offered their thoughts about their Middlesex experience.



With perfect weather—and no mask mandates in effect for the vaccinated—the class of 2020 could enjoy a fairly traditional Middlesex ceremony.



Head of School David Beare congratulated Cole Cleary '20.



2020 alumni gathered for a post-ceremony photo. In front are Cole Nye, Nina Dougé, Femi Ogunseye, and Alene Fernandes. Standing in back are Jack Ungar, Marc Portlock, Leah Smith, Njari Mbaekwe, Carlos Sanchez, Kaylee Arzu, Kofi King, Jessica Agyei, Anyolo Makatiani, Anya Singh, Jasmine Lam, and Riley Galizio.



The procession got underway at last; from left to right are Justin O'Toole '20, Hyuntae Choi '20, Eamon O'Malley '20, Maanasi Chintamani '20, and Femi Ogunseye '20.



Lola Davis '20 made her way down the receiving line, followed by Wes Capitani '20, Kevin Campbell '20, and Tyler Gelormini '20.

# A Fond Farewell to Paul Harrison

*He is in rare company: Only four other faculty members in Middlesex history have worked for the School for 44 years.\* Since arriving in 1977 as a newly minted graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, he has served in many roles, supporting the School as its needs—and his interests—have evolved. Having given Middlesex his best, Paul Harrison (a.k.a. “Harri”) is now ready for his next venture.*

“If I were writing an advisor letter, there is no area where I would say, ‘Paul is struggling,’” John Henry Ronan ’12 says of his former mentor. “He has done it all: teacher, coach of boys’ and girls’ sports, chapel program, discipline, parent. As an advisee, it was like having a wise man always in your corner.”

It is true—Paul Harrison handled each of those responsibilities at some point in his Middlesex career (though his “parent” title is permanent). Teaching history and coaching varsity soccer certainly dominated most of his tenure; but early on, he was also a dorm assistant in Hallowell House before becoming the head of the boys’ day student house for a time. Paul organized the weekly Chapel Program in the mid-1980s, served as the dean of student discipline from 1985 to 1990, and—one thing John Henry didn’t mention—spent the last nine years as a senior advancement officer. How does one person manage all that?

“Paul liked everything he did because he was a good school person,” observes retired History Department Chair Elliott Trommald. “He was always positive, enthusiastic, and interested in exploring new ideas that might make more sense.”

For his department colleagues, that drive to improve often resulted in summer meetings



\* For Middlesex history buffs, the other four faculty members (and their years of service) are: David Baldwin (1902–1946), Wendell P. Raymond (1911–1957), René Bourquin (1923–1968), and John DeQ. Briggs, Jr. (1932–1976).

to discuss the content and emphasis of the School's history curriculum. This might then lead to changing texts and materials—or to creating whole new courses to sharpen students' skills and broaden their understanding of the world. While Paul taught U.S. History for 35 years, he developed courses ranging in focus from current events to the Holocaust, and from Russian and Chinese history to the ambitious, global survey called *Crossing Boundaries*. Whatever the topic, his students have clear memories of their lively, enlightening sessions in room 25.

"I had thought history was about memorizing facts and dates," Willy Goldsmith '06 admits, "but I learned it's about stories and experiences and perspectives—arguments and debates about what caused things and why. We learned that there was more than one perspective, and we read two books about the same period to illustrate that. Mr. Harrison showed me what learning is: It's not regurgitation; it's interpretation. On top of that, he was so excited all the time! He would make it interesting because he was so excited about it."

Some attribute Paul's open, inclusive classroom style to his Quaker heritage. "Everyone always participated or had the opportunity to participate," John Henry recalls. "He always drove conversations from the back seat. He would ask a question, so that you could understand his point of view, but you would come around to your own point of view. Whether you agreed with him or not, you would come to a deeper understanding of the topic."

"It was really fun having my soccer coach as my teacher," affirms Allison Kaveney Farkes '02. "I remember Harri being very energetic in class, which matched his energy on the soccer field. He was super passionate about the subject, always positive and upbeat."

As this reflection might suggest, Paul's love of history is equaled (or possibly surpassed) by his passion for

soccer, which he still plays today. Though he sometimes coached basketball, baseball, and lacrosse at Middlesex, soccer was a constant for 35 years, starting with his 1977 assignment as the boys' varsity assistant coach. Leading the boys' J.V. the next year and then moving back to varsity assistant, Paul eagerly became the boys' head coach in 1980.

With the same fervor that he approached refining history curricula, Paul set about enriching his program. He worked to become one of the first 10 USSF A-licensed coaches in Massachusetts and ran a summer soccer camp for 19 years on campus. He also introduced his players to soccer's global network, arranging for the English National Team to train at Middlesex in 1993 as a warm-up for the next World Cup. Teams from Greece and Spain followed suit in 1994, the same year that Paul transitioned to become the head coach of the Middlesex girls' varsity.

To Allison—who played soccer and lacrosse at Harvard—Paul's energy, expertise, and emphasis on collaboration were key to her Middlesex teams' successes, which included New England Championships in 1998 and 2000. She realizes now that he was even "ahead of his time with mindfulness," for she recalls a team run in the woods during which Paul asked the players to stop and quietly reflect on their shared intentions. "He appreciated that the mental aspect of sports was as important as the physical," Allison says, "and he was introducing that concept to us."

Periodically, team bonding was fostered with preseason trips, as Assistant Head of School Karlyn McNall (and Paul's assistant coach) relates. "Paul wanted his players to go on an adventure, play some soccer, learn about other people and places, and get uncomfortable," she says. Through this experience, she explains, they would "discover their personal resiliency and appreciate the power of their connection with their teammates." Paul had intrepidly led

school trips to the Soviet Union in 1985 and to China in 1986; in 1998, he resumed such international travel, bringing his soccer teams to Germany, China, Norway, Bulgaria, Canada, and Ireland.

But he didn't need an overseas trek to encourage students to work through challenges. "Paul had a great way of pushing and pulling on you when you needed it," acknowledges former advisee Kendall Brook '92, who might have transferred to another school after an abysmal varsity hockey season if not for Paul's advice to "wait until you see Middlesex in the spring." Kendall did—and by his senior season, "We had turned hockey around and were in the playoffs. I'm so happy I did not leave." He was also the school president that year (notably, both Harrison children, Sam '06 and Nina '12, were elected school president—a Middlesex sibling first). "Paul had a huge impact on making my experience great," Kendall reflects. "I'm so grateful for that."

Always up for a challenge himself, Paul embraced another in 2012, when he began traveling and fundraising as a Middlesex advancement officer. To the many colleagues and students who had ever enjoyed the hospitality of Paul and his wife Jeanne (unanimously called "awesome"), this was a perfect match for his personality and experience. "He loves to hear and tell stories and to collaborate on projects," Karlyn says, "so networking with graduates who also adore the School made good sense for him."

Paul liked it so much, in fact, that it took a pandemic to make him consider retiring from Middlesex, once meeting personally with alumni and families became impossible. But with his sense of humor—and all that energy—still intact, he won't sit still for long. "Maybe my next job will find me," Paul suggested last June. "You don't have to force it. As the Quakers say, 'You can proceed as the way opens.'" **M**

# Graduation 2021

On May 29, 2021, the School celebrated commencement in traditional Middlesex style, with seniors crossing the Circle to Eliot Hall and receiving their diplomas in the presence of faculty and staff, family and friends. Several times in previous months, it had seemed unlikely that the class of 2021 would be able to enjoy an in-person graduation ceremony, given the pandemic's unpredictability. When the day finally arrived, only the weather did not cooperate: Temperatures reached near-record cold, and rain alternately misted, drizzled, and poured. But thanks to the graduation planning committee—spearheaded by Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Erika Prahl—there were ponchos for the masked members of the audience, as well as clear umbrellas and fleece blankets for the seniors, who were allowed to forego their masks for the event since the state's mandate had expired that morning. Their joyful smiles say it all.



Next in the diploma line: Alfonso De Vito '21.

Pictured here between Head of School David Beare and Middlesex Board President Stephen Lari '90, guest speaker Jennifer Gomez '04 brought her characteristic energy and optimism to the task at hand, encouraging the seniors to view fear as a motivator: a challenge that is possible, not impossible (see page I2).





Elected by her classmates to deliver the valedictory address, Claire Ngugi '21 reflected on all that the seniors had accomplished even as they were confronted with a pandemic and protests against systemic racism. "These hardships that we've faced together have shown us that we are much more capable than we think," she affirmed. "We have the strength to redefine not just ourselves but every community we encounter after Middlesex." Sharing poet Maya Angelou's words, "Every storm runs out of rain," Claire concluded, "Let us rejoice in the fact that the sunshine is coming, and when it does, we will be ready."



Head of School David Beare hands a diploma to George Fulton '21, making him the fourth generation of the Burnes family to graduate from Middlesex.

Happy to be able to enjoy this Middlesex rite of passage, seniors left the Chapel and headed for Eliot Hall; their Class President Peter Maheras '21 and their School Presidents, Zoe Beede '21 and David Latham '21, led the procession.



Isabelle Allieri '21 patiently awaited the main event: the diplomas.

# Graduation 2021



In lieu of the usual handshake line, the School's newest alumni processed past applauding faculty and staff. At left are Meagan Anstey '21 and Parker Firestone '21. At far left: Timi Ojo '21 and Basha Waxman '21 make their way around the Circle.



Graduates were a bit soggy but still exultant; from left to right are: Brian Choi, Luke Andresen, Zoe Beede, Carter McCray, Sam Barton, Axel Romell, Stuart McCallum, and Caleb Krueger.



Justin Yoon '21, Rumén Tassev '21, and Susan Shin '21 shared an umbrella for one more photo.

As the longest serving member of the faculty, Senior Advancement Officer Paul Harrison assisted with the diploma-awarding process, making sure that each scroll was given to the right recipient.



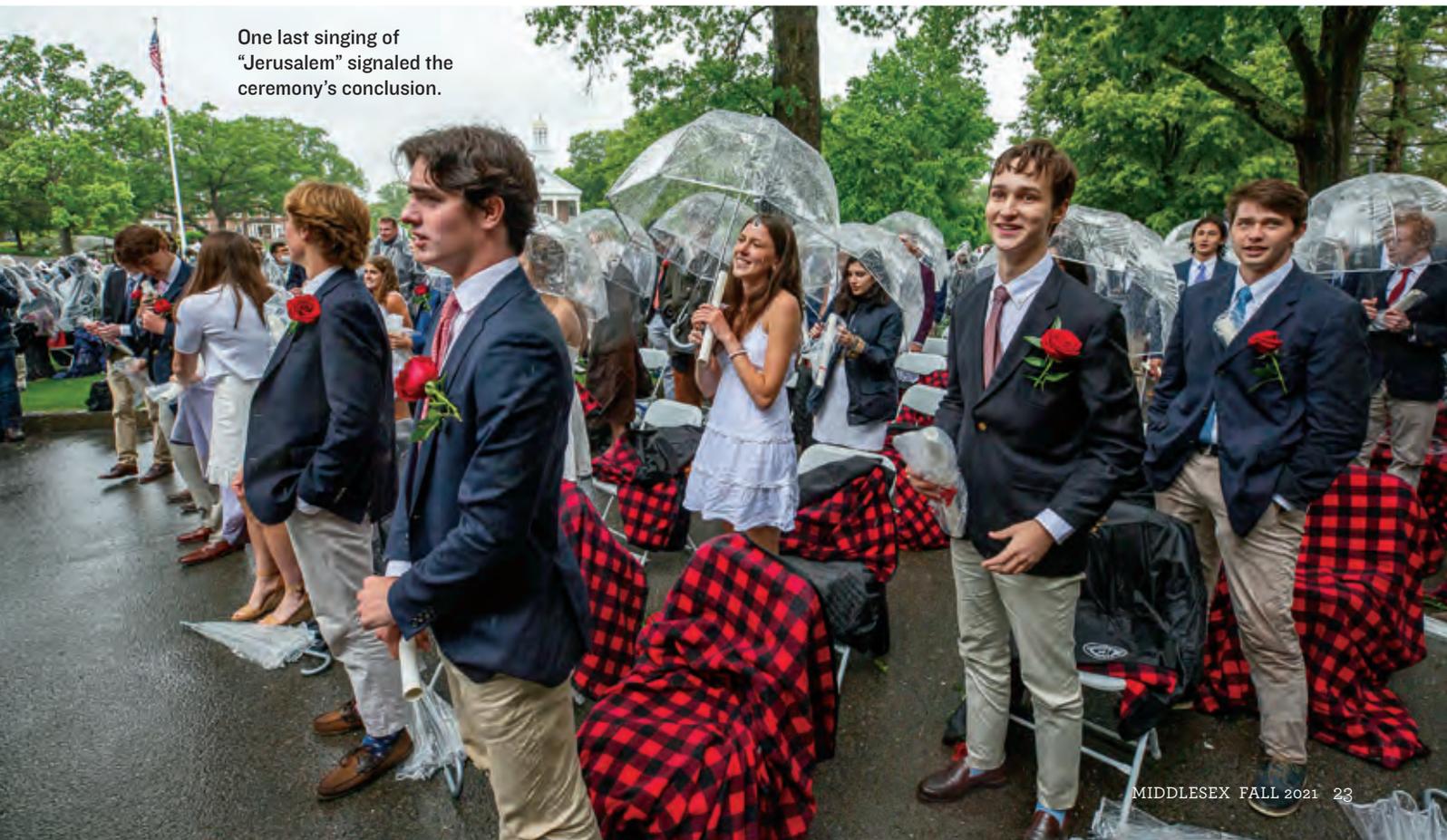
Nisha Pedda '21 gets a hug from Meena Menon '21.



Having finished their Middlesex careers remotely this year, Katy Qin '21, Richard Li '21, and Sevilla Jin '21 celebrated their graduation with gloriously sunny weather in Beijing.



One last singing of "Jerusalem" signaled the ceremony's conclusion.





# Names—and Lives—to Remember

BY KELLY MARCHAND

*Each September, once the weekly class schedule is underway, the first all-school chapel on Wednesday morning centers on the origin and purpose of the chapel building itself. This year, as the senior member of the faculty, Math Department Head Kelly Marchand shared the intentions behind the chapel's construction and her reflections on its relevance today.*

**W**e sit today in the Memorial Chapel. It may seem incongruous that Middlesex, a nonsecular school, should have a chapel. This building stands as

a memorial to Middlesex graduates who lost their lives in war. There was, as Mr. Beare recounted in the opening chapel in 2019, some debate on what form such a memorial should take. We have many memorials on this campus—benches, trees, plaques, even a piano. But the founding head of school, Mr. Winsor, chose to build a chapel. As he said, “To a chapel, however, they will come once a week, and in the quiet of the place, they will be called on to forget, for the time, the

things that are temporal and meditate on the things that are eternal. Always they will associate the memorial not with the practical but with the ideal. So, the very purpose of the memorial will be fulfilled as it could be fulfilled in no other way.”

At or near the start of each year, we pause to recognize the origins of this chapel and the young men for whom it was dedicated. For the past 39 years, I’ve had the opportunity to hear this chapel given by a series of wise and thoughtful colleagues. I’ve heard each of those names etched on the back wall of the chapel read aloud many times.

As I’ve listened to the names, I’ve found myself thinking not of the end of those young men’s lives but of the



beginning. The first question asked of a new parent is nearly always, “What’s the baby’s name?” Parents give their children names sometimes even before the child is born. The name might honor a family member or cherished friend or respected figure. It may have cultural or religious significance. The occasions at which a full name is spoken publicly are typically milestones: graduations, weddings, or inaugurations. These are the grand (and celebratory) occasions parents have in mind when they give their child a name. It’s unlikely that they envision their child’s name being read in a memorial.

Each one of the names I will read belonged to a Middlesex student—they sat where you sit, they walked where you walk. Each of them has a unique story. I encourage you to look at their pictures in the front hall of Eliot. You may even find you want to learn more about them. They lived in a time when young men were called to go to war—a time marked by much loss of life. What is most important to remember, though, is not that they died. It’s that they lived.



This chapel serves as a memorial for these young men. Each of us in the chapel today carries with us our own memories of people we have lost. I invite you now to take a moment in silence and call to mind the names of the people important to you who are no longer with us.

It is right that we remember those who have gone before us. We are all members of the “human web” living a “common life that binds us.” And even as we remember, let us not lose sight that we are ALIVE. We each bring to our shared community our unique stories, our unique experiences, our unique hopes and dreams. How we spend our days is how we spend our



## Graduates of Middlesex School who gave their lives

### In the First World War

William Key Bond Emerson, Jr. 1912  
George Merrick Hollister 1914  
Edmund Pike Graves, Jr. 1909  
Alan Campbell Clark 1913  
Bertram Williams 1914  
Malcolm Bruce Brownlee, Jr. 1907  
Eric Adrian Alfred Lingard 1909  
Randolph Randall Brown 1913  
George Guest Haydock 1912  
Philip Winsor 1911

### In the Second World War

Lamar Fleming III 1939  
Spencer Otis Burnham 1936  
Peter Robert Froelicher 1937  
James Freeman Curtis, Jr. 1934  
Frazier Curtis 1936  
John Dick Gardiner 1932  
Oliver Madison Keeney 1943  
Alexander Everett Doyle 1945  
Townsend Doyle 1942  
George Pliny Allen 1941  
Roger Clayland Bigelow 1944  
Robert Remington Borden, Jr. 1931  
Holstein Harvey III 1939  
Allan Campbell Powell 1938  
Jackman Morrill Shattuck 1936  
Delavan Bloodgood Downer, Jr. 1936  
Mark Rainsford 1937  
Whitney Mowry Cook 1931  
Frank Roberts Mead, Jr. 1933  
Henry Gaylord Dillingham 1936  
Huntington Thom 1931  
George Adams Taylor 1937  
Cornelius Johnson Atkins 1942  
Edward de Selding Melcher 1924  
Gordon Curtis, Jr. 1937  
Alexander Winsor, Jr. 1935  
Ralph MacKenzie Kellogg 1926  
William Saunders Buttfild 1935  
Alan Winthrop Moses 1937  
Stevens Dexter Brown 1941  
James Hennen Legendre, Jr. 1936  
Crawford Livingston Lansing 1935  
John Batterson Stetson III 1926

lives. Of course, we are called to remember and learn from the past. Of course, we should plan for the future. But we must live fully in the here. In the now. By doing so, we shape what will be remembered next year and next generation.

In closing, I offer a prayer that I heard first the September I arrived on campus. When I read it, I still hear the voice of our then Head of School David Sheldon. It resonated with me then and still resonates today:

*We give thanks for the graduates of this School who are not with us in the flesh, but here in spirit.*

*Renew in us the trust that all is well with them, and teach us our duty so to work and live that their great gifts to the world have not been given in vain.*

*Let us remember that “what they dreamed is ours to do” and accept the challenge to make this School, this country, and this world a better place in which to live.*

*Be mindful of this School where they learned their lessons and played their games, and where the days that made them happy made them wise. And enable all who learn and all who teach to dedicate themselves to the noble enterprise of learning, playing, and living together. **M***



# Alumni Weekend

Celebrated with both online videos and reunion gatherings over Zoom, Alumni Weekend 2021 opened on the evening of June 11 with a collection of greetings from many favorite, retired faculty members, starting with Senior Master Emeritus Hugh Fortmiller, who arrived at Middlesex 65 years ago, “right out of college, to teach some English and theatre, coach, and live on the third floor of LB,” as he related. Like his former colleagues whose messages followed, Hugh reflected fondly on a long and stimulating career at the School. “I look back with great affection on those days,” Alex Banay said of her time teaching classics and serving as dean of faculty. “Every day I learned something new, and that was largely thanks to students and colleagues.”

While acknowledging that events had to be virtual this year, they hoped to catch up with Middlesex friends in person soon. “I look forward to that day when we can all be back at that beautiful Circle,” former Math Department Head Ron Banay said. In the meantime, as retired Director of Counseling Dan Hertzell noted, “It’s nice to be connected, even in a small way, to Middlesex again.”

These welcoming videos were soon followed by the presentation of the School’s Henry Cabot Lodge (1920) Distinguished Alumni Award to accomplished actor and comedian Steve Carell ’80, who received the honor from Alumni Association President Rob Trumbull ’00 (see page 13).

## **Amid Pandemic, Authentically Middlesex**

Saturday’s events began with Board President Stephen Lari ’90 and Head of School David Beare providing the annual “State of the School” update, delivered live on Zoom. “It’s been a highly unusual 18 months,” Stephen began, “but if you were to have visited campus in any recent year, you would have found the same energy, the same curiosity, the same laughter and community that I—and I’m sure all of you—remember fondly.” By all measures, the School was weathering the



Messages from retired faculty members started the weekend programming on a warm, welcoming note. In addition to Senior Master Emeritus Hugh Fortmiller (top), those who sent their greetings included former Business Manager Jim Saltonstall (middle, pictured next to his wife Bridget, the School’s first head of a girls’ dorm at Middlesex) and retired math teacher Ned Herter ’73 and his wife Nancy (bottom), former art teacher and director of student activities. Former faculty reflections also came from Ron Banay, math department head; Alex Banay, dean of faculty and classics department head; Carmen Beaton, dean of students and Spanish teacher; Dan Hertzell, director of counseling; and Annie Ku, Chinese department head.

# Alumni Weekend

pandemic well, maintaining its programmatic and financial health, as well as experiencing a strong admissions season during a year of hybrid classes. “Middlesex just got on with it—and quite successfully,” David noted.

The Alumni Memorial Service followed this report, with Reverend Joe Watkins '71 presiding over this annual ceremony that remembers all the graduates in reunion classes who have passed away. Middlesex's Director of Spiritual and Ethical Education Rebecca Smedley also lent her assistance—as did Chapel Organist Jim Barkovic and the School's Small Chorus, adding their own beautiful performances to the service.

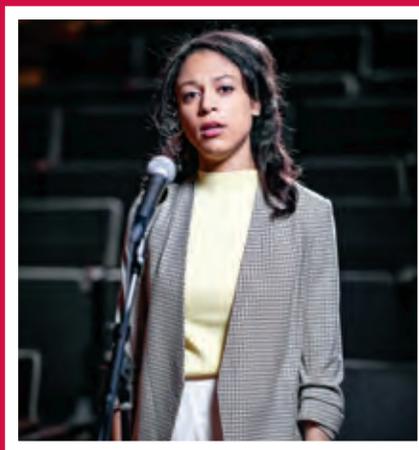
## Recognizing Middlesex's Black Pioneers

The formal part of the weekend program concluded with a video celebrating the School's first Black graduates—on the occasion of their 50th reunions—and the first Black faculty member, history teacher Ken Whitlock. Hosted by Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Erika Prahla and Lauren Williams '04, a senior editor at *The Atlantic*, the film began with a look back at the experiences of three pioneers: Duane Jones '70, Elton “Dwight” Hill '71, and Joe Watkins '71.

In sharing memories of their early years at Middlesex, all three were both candid and generous. “There were six boys of color out of 200-plus kids, and no faculty or staff of color, no administrators of color, and no history of that,” Joe recalled. “So, it was a real challenge from that standpoint.” At the same time, he gave credit to the people who listened and offered guidance along the way. Several retired administrators and faculty members—including third Headmaster David Sheldon, Perry Boyden, Brian Davis, and Hugh Fortmiller—contributed their thoughts as well, noting the talent and high achievement of those first Black students.



Connecting over Zoom, President of the Middlesex Alumni Association Rob Trumbull '00 presented comedian and actor Steve Carell '80 with this year's Henry Cabot Lodge (1920) Distinguished Alumni Award.



Superb professional performances by operatic soprano Sarah Cooper '09 and her brother, violinist Thomas Cooper '13, were included as part of the tribute.



As one of the School's first Black students, former Trustee Joe Watkins '71—who presided over this year's Alumni Memorial Service—talked with his granddaughter, Taylor Portlock '22, about their different Middlesex experiences in the film honoring the School's first Black students and faculty member. (photos by Whit Wales)

As a former Middlesex trustee, Dwight rightly pointed out that in the years since, Black alumni have served on the Board, been inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, addressed the School at graduation, and distinguished themselves in their careers. “Despite some of the negative things that may have happened at the School, Middlesex was a great experience,” he concluded, “and if I had to do it over again, I would.” Sadly, not long after filming, Dwight passed away unexpectedly; the final production has been dedicated in his memory and to his fellow pioneer, Herbie Graves ’71, who died in 2019.

The video also recognized the School’s first Black faculty member, Ken Whitlock, whose passion for teaching history and firsthand experience with the civil rights movement were admired by colleagues and students alike. In his honor, the Kenneth E. Whitlock, Jr. Black History Month Speaker Series has been established (see page 3), an appropriate tribute to his dedication to and influence at Middlesex.

Additional video highlights included a conversation between Joe Watkins ’71 and his granddaughter, Taylor Portlock ’22, who compared their student experiences, 51 years apart. Another glimpse of Middlesex today was provided by Claire Ngugi ’21 and Andrew Harris ’21, senior leaders of MX Fam, the School’s affinity group for Black and Latinx students and faculty.

With a greater appreciation for the challenges and triumphs of those who paved the way for Middlesex’s current students and faculty, the School can continue to move forward, expanding its community of learners and fostering lasting friendships and strong connections among them.

Videos prepared for Alumni Weekend 2021 can still be viewed at: [www.mxschool.edu/alumni/alumni-week-end-2021/saturday-june-12th](http://www.mxschool.edu/alumni/alumni-week-end-2021/saturday-june-12th). **M**

After Black Fusion (right)—the earliest affinity group for Middlesex’s Black students—came Spectrum, followed more recently by MX Fam (below), today’s affinity group for Black and Latinx students and faculty.



Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Erika Prahl (on left) and Lauren Williams ’04 served as hosts in the video honoring Middlesex’s first Black students and faculty member. (photo by Whit Wales)

# In Memoriam

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## *Gordon Grant, Jr. '43*

Gordon Grant, Jr. died on September 15, 2021, at the age of 95.

Born in Columbia, SC, on November 1, 1925, Gordie graduated from Middlesex and went on to attend Dartmouth College in the V12 program during World War II. He loved telling the story of being the center on the 1944 Dartmouth football team that was defeated by Notre Dame 64-0 in Fenway Park. After graduating from Harvard College in 1947, Gordie spent his career in the toy business, beginning as a buyer at Jordan Marsh in Boston, MA, and later becoming the sales manager of Playskool Toys. He lived in Natick, MA, Norwalk, CT, and then Hinsdale, IL. An avid golfer, Gordie moved to Florida 23 years ago, following his marriage to Jane Novak.

Gordie is survived by his wife Jane and her two children, David Novak and Sally Engels; his two sons, Alexander and David, and two daughters, Rosamond Diedrich and Deborah Koberstein; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; his two brothers, Halcott and Galt; and many nieces and nephews. Gordie was preceded in death by his wife of 45 years, Jean L. Grant; his daughter Virginia and his son Gordon; and his sister, Virginia Davenport.

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## *Martin H. Post III '44*

Martin Hayward Post III passed away on December 15, 2018.

The son of Dorothy Lee Rice and Dr. Martin Hayward Post, Jr., Martin was born in St. Louis, MO, on October 17, 1924. He enrolled at Middlesex in 1940, but his education was interrupted by World War II. Martin joined the U.S. Army Air Corps, becoming a pilot of seaplanes and obtaining the rank of captain; he also later served in the Air Force Reserves. In 1950, he earned a B.S. in business and administration from Washington University in St. Louis.

Martin worked for the estate settlement department of Connecticut Bank and Trust. His second career involved driving a school bus for Fayetteville Public Schools for many years. Martin was also an avid railroad buff and a founding member of the Boston Mountain National Railway Historical Society in Northwest Arkansas. With his interest in photography, he enjoyed taking many train trips throughout the U.S. and photographing what he experienced. His passion for wildlife and bird watching has been passed down to his family.

Martin is survived by two daughters, Dorothy Lee Post and Cynthia Post Krizman; his son Marty; and two grandsons.

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## *Richard S. Clough '47*

The School recently learned that Richard Sanborn Clough died of natural causes on October 23, 2010.

Dick was born on April 7, 1927, in Brookline, MA, and was the youngest child of Micajah Pratt and Dorothy Sanborn Clough. Entering the third class at Middlesex in 1944, he returned to Marblehead High School the following year and graduated in 1947, continuing his studies at Babson College. After marrying Shirley Beckford in 1949, Dick found his calling at Willard D. Martin, where he enjoyed working as a real estate agent. Having vacationed as a child in Maine and New Hampshire, he always wanted a lakefront house, realizing this dream in 1983, when the family purchased a place on Lake Winnepesaukee. Dick loved boating and was later certified as an officer in the New Hampshire Marine Patrol. With a warm smile and great sense of humor, he was always the first to strike up a conversation and was a talented storyteller and public speaker.

Dick is survived by his wife Shirley; their four children, Deborah C. Prentice, Jeffrey and Stephen Clough, and Elizabeth C. Kitslaar; and four grandchildren. He was predeceased by his sister

Dorothy and his brothers, Micajah and Jack.

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## *Worcester Meriam '47*

The School recently learned of the death of Worcester "Beany" Meriam, who passed away on October 28, 2008, at Our Island Home on Nantucket.

Born in Northampton, MA, on December 21, 1926, Beany was the son of Alice G. and Richard S. Meriam. He grew up in Lincoln, MA, and attended the Fenn School, Middlesex, and Northwestern University. Beany entered the Marine Corps in November 1944, and after serving on the USS *Lake Champlain*, he was honorably discharged. He spent his professional career working as a furniture buyer and salesman.

Always giving back to his community, Beany joined the Cape Cod Power Squadron and served as commander. He was also devoted to the Cape Cod Baseball League, serving as general manager of the Harwich Mariners and Cotuit Kettleers through the '70s and '80s and remaining on the board of directors. In retirement, he became a stay-at-home dad and volunteered at Cape Cod Hospital.

At the time of his death, Beany was survived by his wife Pam; two daughters, Alice and Sarah; his son Scott; and his brother Philip (who subsequently died in 2010). He was predeceased by his first wife, Edith LeBuff Meriam; his son Lewis; his sister, Alice Atkinson; and his brother Richard.

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## *Eugene H. Hastings '48*

Eugene Horace Hastings passed away on April 25, 2018, after suffering a stroke six weeks earlier.

Gene was born on January 27, 1930, in Salem, MA, to Abner and Florence Hastings. He entered Middlesex's third class in 1945 and decided to return home the following year. Gene graduated from Swampscott High School and

earned a degree in business administration at Boston University. On marrying Clara Brichze in 1961, he settled in Marblehead and spent his entire career at the *Lynn Daily Evening Item*, working as a photographer before moving into advertising.

A longtime ham radio operator, Gene served on the American Radio Relay League Foundation Board of Directors from 1993 to 2014 and was honored as a director emeritus. For many years, Gene led one of the largest ham radio conventions in the country; locally, he was a member and director of the North Shore Radio Association.

Predeceased by his brother Robert, Gene is survived by his wife Clara; their sons, Edwin and Laurence; their daughter Leslie; five grandchildren; and his brother Wilmot.

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## *Daniel M. Schuster '48*

Daniel Madden Schuster died on September 29, 2020, at the Mayo Clinic Hospital in Rochester, MN.

The son of G. Slade and Mary Madden Schuster, Dan was born on June 10, 1930. After winning a Prize Scholarship in 1944, he attended Middlesex for one year but decided not to return, graduating from Rochester High School in Minnesota in 1948. Dan went on to Amherst College, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and graduated magna cum laude with a history degree. He then earned an M.B.A. at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Dan married Donna Whitney in 1951, and they were later divorced. In 1979, he married Delone Westby Schnorr.

Dan enjoyed a 33-year career at IBM, where he served in several business and development management positions. He was also an avid reader who was passionate about current events. A fitness buff, he ran on local roads and in area races until a neurological condition prevented him; he maintained a regular exercise routine until well into his eighties.

Dan is survived by his loving wife Delone; three children, Sherri DeLaRosa, Scott Schuster, and Sally Schuster; two stepsons, Randy and Brent Schnorr; five grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; his brother Slade; and his sister, Mary Rhode.

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### *Jonathan O. Simonds '48*

Jonathan Otis Simonds passed away peacefully on October 22, 2021, with his family and beloved wife at his side in his final hours.

While born in Bronxville, NY, on April 13, 1930, Jon grew up in Cambridge, MA, where he attended Browne and Nichols (now BB&N) before entering Middlesex's third class in 1945. An eager participant in football, hockey, and baseball, he was captain of the Middlesex baseball team in 1948. Jon exemplified sportsmanship; modest in victory and resilient in defeat, he loved the game and was always generous in encouraging others. After graduating, he went on to earn an A.B. in government at Harvard College.

Jon started his career teaching high school Latin and history at Westtown School before receiving his M.B.A. at Boston University in 1956. The following year, he married the love of his life, Marcia Taylor Rowbotham. After a stint in marketing in Manhattan, Jon returned to education, applying his business acumen as the assistant head of school and business manager at Kent Place School in Summit, NJ. The Simonds also started and ran a business, Tutoring Associates and Teacher Placement Services. Jon went on to serve as a director of development—first at Kent Place and then at the Knox School in St. James, NY—before retiring to his home in his beloved summer community, Menauhant, on Cape Cod.

In retirement, Jon continued to enjoy his lifelong interests in fishing, tennis, and bridge, and he served on the Board of Falmouth Academy. A lifelong Episcopalian, he took to heart a life of service

and remained committed to lay leadership in his local parish. Jon was a consummate people person, greeting everyone with the same enthusiasm, interest, and generous spirit that he would extend to family and close friends. A loving husband, father, and son, he will be missed by all who knew him.

Jon was predeceased by his parents, Margaret Gass and Lester Otis Simonds, and his sister, Mary K. Parkman. He leaves his wife Marcia; their three daughters, Jane B. Simonds, Rebecca L. Simonds, and Kate S. McKee; his sister, Margaret S. Lincoln; six dearly loved grandchildren; three cousins; and numerous nieces and nephews.

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### *Anthony M. Zane '48*

Anthony Morris Zane died of COVID-19 pneumonia on June 11, 2021, in New Bedford, MA.

Tony was born in Philadelphia, PA, on February 2, 1930, the only child of Gertrude Lippincott Borton and John Hamilton Zane. It was his good fortune to grow up in Chestnut Hill and to be educated at Chestnut Hill Academy, Middlesex, the University of Virginia, and Trinity College, Cambridge. In December 1953, it was his even greater good fortune to marry Mary Eustis Thayer, and they raised five children together.

He served two years in the U.S. Army; he was vice president of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and director of the Whaling Museum in New Bedford. The profession he enjoyed most, however, was that of schoolteacher, his calling for 27 years. He taught and coached at Chestnut Hill Academy and at St. Marks School. From 1972 to 1984, he was the headmaster of St. George's School in Middletown, RI.

Tony was particularly fond of dogs, books, newspapers, the music of his youth, the Red Sox, sailing the coast of Maine, and dining with family and friends. He aged gracefully, boating into his eighties and playing tennis into his nineties. He served on many nonprofit boards, the last being

## John L. Sprague '48



**Dr. John Louis Sprague passed away on July 5, 2021, in Bennington, VT, from complications after a recent surgery.**

**Born in Boston, MA, John was the son of Florence van Zelm and Robert C. Sprague, the founder of Sprague Electric Company. After graduating from Middle-**

**sex, John headed to Princeton University, where he met his future wife Jid; they married right after graduation. He then spent four years in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War before earning his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry at Stanford University.**

**Joining Sprague Electric as a research scientist in 1960, John eventually became head of the research labs, then head of the semiconductor division, and, ultimately, president and CEO of the company. He authored nine patents and was instrumental in the creation of a disc carrying goodwill messages from the leaders of 73 countries that was left on the Moon in 1969 by the Apollo II astronauts. During John's career, Sprague was the largest employer in the North Adams area; today, the company's former facilities house the contemporary art museum MASS MoCA.**

**In retirement, John founded a consulting firm that provided strategic and operational support for technology companies. Later, he turned to writing and publishing articles and books on the legacy of his father and grandfather and the history of Sprague Electric. Locally, John and Jid were active in many organizations, including Williamstown Rural Lands, the Williamstown Theater Festival, the Clark Art Institute, and Pine Cobble School. He served as a Middlesex Trustee from 1994–1997.**

**John is survived by his wife of 69 years, Mary-Jane "Jid" Whitney Sprague; his daughter Cathy; his sons, John, Bill, and David H. Sprague '84; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandson. His late brother, Robert C. Sprague, Jr. '41, and his nephew, Robert C. Sprague III '64, also graduated from Middlesex.**

# In Memoriam

Springside Chestnut Hill Academy, where he was a trustee for 10 years. He was a member of the Headmasters Association, the Tavern Club, the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry, and the Bird and Bottle in New Bedford.

Predeceased by his son George, Tony is survived by his wife Eusie; two daughters, Molly and Annie; two sons, John and Alex; and five grandchildren. Tony wanted to thank the staff of Hawthorn Medical Associates, St. Luke's, and Vibra Hospitals for keeping him going as long as they did.

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## Patrick P. Shaw '51

Patrick Phillips Shaw passed away peacefully at home from natural causes on April 21, 2021.

The son of Alfred P. and Rue Winterbotham Shaw, Pat was born on June 29, 1933, in Chicago, IL. He attended the Latin School of Chicago before Middlesex and, after graduating, earned an A.B. in architecture from Harvard University. Serving in the U.S. Army, Pat was a veteran of the Korean War. Upon his return, he completed an M.A. in architecture at Harvard's Graduate School of Design.

After working for three architecture firms, Pat founded Shaw and Associates in 1969. Until his retirement in 1996, he set the firm's architectural vision and was responsible for overseeing the large team of draftsmen as well as the firm's relationships with engineers, clients, and municipal leaders. Throughout the late 1980s and early 1990s, Shaw and Associates was consistently one of the five largest architecture firms in the Chicago region and partnered with international architects such as Kenzo Tange and Philip Johnson.

Complementing his professional work, Pat served on the boards of many nonprofit organizations, including Openlands, the Arts Club of Chicago, and the Modern Poetry Association.

Throughout his life, he was committed to environmental conservation, open-space preservation, and habitat restoration. Pat was also an artist and poet whose sculptures were shown in the 2015 exhibition "Perception" at Chicago's Gallery 2506; in 2016, he published *Poems and Postcards*, a volume of his own work.

Pat is survived by his wife of over 20 years, Mary Sue Glosser; his two children, Sophia and Alfred; three grandchildren; and his brother Joseph.

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## A. Cushman May '52

Addison Cushman May passed away on June 5, 2021, in Stamford, CT, surrounded by his family.

Born on December 25, 1933, in New York City to Byron B. and Martha Fay May, Cushman was a descendant of Robert Cushman, who, with a group from London, arranged the financing for the voyage of the Mayflower to Plymouth in 1620. Growing up in Darien, CT, Cushman attended the New Canaan Country School and entered the fifth class at Middlesex in 1947. On receiving his diploma, he went to Yale University and then served as a first lieutenant in the Army ROTC program before joining a Citibank training program. He left there in 1959 to spend a few months in London, learning the business of export credit insurance; on returning to New York, he and a colleague founded the Intercredit Agency, which became the largest producer of export credit insurance in the U.S.

From there, Cushman joined Chase Manhattan Bank, overseeing its Canadian operation. He married Jean Beattie in 1961, and eight years later, they moved to Tokyo, where Cushman was senior vice president and general manager of Chase's branches in Japan, Taiwan, Korea, and Guam. Returning to the U.S. in 1975, he joined Connecticut Bank & Trust in 1977 and rose to become vice chairman. When CBT

was bought by the Bank of New England, Cushman transitioned to the Asian Development Bank as director of private sector services, moving to Manila for another adventure in overseas living and traveling. In 1993, he relocated to Hong Kong to work for Peregrine Capital Ltd.

In 1995, the couple headed home and enjoyed a New York apartment for two decades, with weekends in Warwick, NY. After Cushman suffered a heart attack in 2017, the Mays moved to Edgehill, where he peacefully passed away.

In addition to his wife of nearly 60 years, Cushman is survived by their daughters, Julia Boddewyn and Emily Pierce; and three grandchildren.

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## Frederic G. Sprague '55

The School recently learned of the death of Frederic G. Sprague, who passed away on January 26, 2010, at the Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin, NH.

The son of Charles F. and Theresa Glynn Sprague, Fred was born in Cambridge, MA, on May 29, 1937, and lived in Rockport, MA, for most of his life. Arriving from the Emerson School for Boys in Exeter, NH, he entered the sixth class at Middlesex in 1949 and returned to his previous school a year later. Fred served in the U.S. Navy and had been employed by Brown's Yacht Yard. In 2000, he retired to Shelburne, NH. Fred clearly liked boats and also enjoyed golfing and snowmobiling.

At the time of his death, he was survived by his daughter Donna; his sons, Douglas and Fred; and two grandchildren.

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## Arthur G. Sachs '59

Arthur Gordon Sachs died on April 17, 2021, after living with the effects of a glioblastoma for six-and-a-half years.

Born on October 21, 1941, Art grew up in Pound Ridge, NY, and attended New Canaan Country School before joining the fourth class at Middlesex in 1955. After graduating, he earned an A.B. in social psychology at Harvard College and attended Harvard Business School. Art worked in magazine publishing with *Scientific American*, *Time*, and several others; he was also a financial advisor with Penn Mutual and MetLife. Art served as president or treasurer of the Board of West Side Montessori, the Farm and Wilderness Camps, and the Bloomingdale School of Music. He also enjoyed singing with the University Glee Club.

Art is survived by his wife of 52 years, Mary Hawkins Sachs; their sons, Andrew, Christopher, and Timothy; two grandchildren; his brothers, Stephen and **Samuel Sachs II '53**; his sister Cecily; and many cousins. His late father, **James H. Sachs (1925)**, his niece, **Katherine Sachs Casler '79**, and his nephew, **Alexander J. A. Sachs '90**, are also Middlesex graduates.

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## G. Edward Prouty III '60

Gardner Edward Prouty died on May 20, 2021, after a heroic battle with cancer.

Born on August 6, 1941, Ted followed family tradition in going to Middlesex; his father, **Gardner E. Prouty '32**, and his uncles, **Donald B. Prouty '35** and **Roger Prouty '38**, were all graduates of the School. Ted joined the fourth class in 1956 and, on graduating, attended Marietta College and Babson College. He was known for his great, low-key sense of humor and his kindness to all. In 1990, he bought his 45-foot ketch, the *White Eagle*, and went sailing, a time he called the "best year of my life." Ted made many friends around the Chatham waterfront and could often be seen at the Chatham Lighthouse overlook with his morning coffee.

He is survived by his wife, Lee Ziegler-Prouty; his beloved daughters, Pamela J. Talley and Lisa H. Prouty; his grandson Justin; and several cousins, including **Melanie Ikauniks Wilhelm '96**.

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### *G. Clarke Mullins '69*

George Clarke Mullins passed away on September 14, 2021.

Clarke was born to Dorinda and Lev D. "Moon" Mullins, Jr. in West Palm Beach, FL, on February 21, 1951. He grew up in Palm Beach with his older brother, **Lev D. Mullins III '64**, and his older sister Sallie, attending the Palm Beach Private School there. He followed his brother Larry to Middlesex, joining the third class in 1966. After receiving his diploma, he earned a B.A. in history from the University of Virginia in 1973. Clarke was the president of L.D. Mullins Lumber Co. in Riviera Beach, where he worked with Larry and his father.

Along with Paté, his wife and soulmate of 38 years, Clarke enjoyed travel and adventure, mostly off the beaten path. They took countless trips to the Bahamas and all around the world to seek out and explore the most low-profile destinations, making many friends along the way.

Clarke was a legendary perfectionist and could often be found working on motorcycles or classic cars. Weekends spent aboard *Moon Unit* were rarely missed, most often at Little Munyon Island. In 2008, he became a pilot and enjoyed flying his Piper Comanche N5617P all over the state.

In addition to his wife Paté, Clarke is survived by his daughter, Amanda Gomez; three grandchildren; his siblings, Larry and Sallie; and two nephews and a niece.

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### *John C. Springer '72*

John Curtis Springer passed away on June 26, 2021, in Fort Worth, TX.

The son of Vincent and Ella Jones Springer, John was born on June 29, 1953, in Boston, MA. He enrolled at Middlesex in 1966 and, after graduating, proudly joined the U.S. Army, serving in Desert Storm. John retired as a first sergeant 26 years later. While working for the Texas Department of Correction, he met another employee, Brenda Yancey, and the couple married on April 29, 2001. John fully retired in 2009. He enjoyed watching movies and all different kinds of sports, though his favorite was hockey. He will be missed by many family members and friends.

Along with his parents, John was preceded in death by three brothers. He is survived by his wife of 20 years, Brenda; his son Victor; three daughters, Shree Willett, Tammy Collins, and Bridgett Collins; eight grandchildren; two brothers, Phillip and Vincent; and many friends.

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### *Maria V. Kirsten '84*

Maria Victoria Kirsten died of cancer on April 20, 2021, in Lennox Head, Australia.

Maria was born on April 15, 1966, in Nassau, Bahamas, and was the beloved daughter of Victoria and the late Joachim Kirsten. Brought up in New York City, she graduated from the Chapin School before joining the fourth class at Middlesex. On receiving her diploma, she earned a B.A. and an M.A. at Georgetown University. Maria taught at Southampton High School and the Tuckahoe School, also working for a time at Gardeneering and Lynch's in Southampton, NY.

Working and traveling the world, Maria then married Michael Brown. They moved to Australia, where she became a very well-known and much-loved yoga teacher and trainer, with a large following worldwide. She taught in Japan, London, Indonesia, and the United States. Maria touched many people's lives with her wisdom, humor, intellect, friendship, and smile. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Predeceased by her father, Maria leaves behind her husband, Michael Brown; their much-loved daughters, Sasha and India; her brothers, Robert and Charles Kirsten; her half-brother, Chris Kirsten, and her half-sister, Michelle Krepak; and her mother, Victoria Campbell Kirsten.

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### *Nicholas P. Humphrey '17*

Nicholas Paul Humphrey died quietly at Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital on June 23, 2021, from complications linked to sudden cardiopulmonary failure.

Born on November 26, 1998, in Evanston, IL, Nick was the second son of Ellen and William R. Humphrey III. He joined the third class at Middlesex in 2014 after attending Cardigan Mountain School. He went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison's School of Agriculture, where he was actively engaged in agricultural research. Nick was passionate about exploring ways to feed more people in an ecologically sustainable manner and had just graduated with a degree in agronomy.

Nick will be remembered as a fun-loving, compassionate, intelligent young man who was blessed with a charismatic personality. With an incredible understanding of professional sports, world news,

and the natural world, he was a superb conversationalist. Nick possessed an uncanny ability to spot family and friends who were struggling and offered support without judgment.

Preceded in death by his father in 2012, Nick is survived by his mother; his brothers, Will and Davis; and his many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

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### *Mallory F. Price*

Former Middlesex staff member Mallory Fletcher Price died peacefully on July 1, 2021, in her childhood home in Atherton, CA, after a short illness. Surrounded by her family and friends, she displayed her characteristic courage, concern for others, and zest for life until the very end.

A graduate of Woodside High School, Mallory received a B.S. in journalism from the University of Colorado in 1985. Many Middlesex students will long remember Mallory from her work on campus, primarily as the manager of the School's store. While she brought her skills to different jobs in education, the printing industry, and local government, her resume aptly described her approach to work: "I hope to work somewhere fun, doing something I like, with people who enjoy what they are doing, while making others happy."

Mallory's primary loves were her family, friends, and Lake Tahoe, but she was particularly proud of and devoted to her children, **Caroline Price '16** and Andrew Price. She is also survived by her husband, Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Doug Price; her sister, Brooke Fletcher; and her mother, Phyllis Fletcher. She was predeceased by her father, Howard Fletcher.



# Pro Aliis



*Pro Aliis* (“For Others”): Giving back was the main mission of Chris Webber ’00, pictured (kneeling, far right) with his 1999 cross-country team.

As friends and family describe him, Chris Webber ’00 was gregarious, confident, and irreverently funny—always game to meet new people or try something new. “He wanted to be in something with everyone,” remembers Nick Crocker ’00. “Chris was the opposite of exclusive and cliquish.”

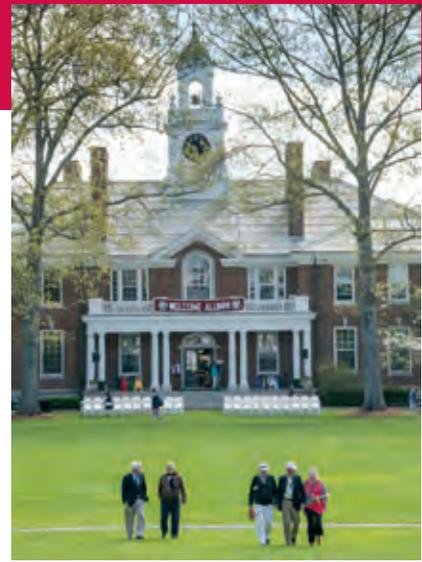
That instinct to make others feel welcome, comfortable, and included made him a natural with Peer Support, the Middlesex program that meant the most to Chris. He loved captaining the cross-country team and studying Latin with his advisor, Alex Banay, but Peer Support “speaks to the core of who he was,” says Hadley Cotter Schafer ’00. On her first day as new sophomore, she recalls, “I remember feeling alone in the Terry Room, and Chris came right up to me and cracked a joke. He had a really big spirit, and he was always doing something for someone else, like his work with Bike & Build.”

Raising funds for affordable housing through organizing cycling trips for young adults, Bike & Build’s mission dovetailed with Chris’ passion for adventure and helping

others. After graduating from Vassar College, he started as a trip leader and soon became the organization’s first program director, working there until a pedestrian accident in New York City claimed his life in March 2007.

The idea of honoring Chris in some permanent way occurred to many early on, though, as Hadley notes, “The gravity of the loss felt so huge at the time that nothing felt sufficient.” But in 2019, Jake Dore ’01—another beneficiary of Chris’ generosity and camaraderie as a new student—took the initiative to ask family and friends about creating a memorial scholarship at Middlesex. Their wholehearted support was immediate.

So, too, has been the response to Jake’s letter asking for contributions; thanks to dozens of generous donors, the Christopher H. Webber ’00 Memorial Scholarship is firmly established. “I thought I knew everyone that Chris had an impact on,” reflects Fred Warburg ’00, “but he had far more impact than I ever knew.” Now, with continued contributions to this scholarship, Chris’ influence will long endure. **M**



JOIN US FOR  
**A Grand Reunion**  
at Middlesex  
**June 10–11, 2022**

**It's been too long! Planning is underway for an in-person Alumni Weekend to be held on campus—and you're all invited.**

Whether you are marking a 5th reunion—or the 79th—save the dates on your calendar and come catch up with Middlesex classmates, faculty, and friends.

**Further details will be shared by mail, e-mail, and on our website:**

***[www.mxschool.edu/event/alumni-weekend-2022](http://www.mxschool.edu/event/alumni-weekend-2022)***





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## A Coaching Milestone

Victories over St. Mark's, Groton, Brooks, and Tabor this season lifted longtime Varsity Football Head Coach Joe Lang over the 100-win mark, which he celebrated with his team on October 30, 2021. (photo by Austin Lewis)