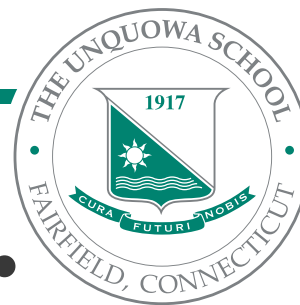


About U.S.



**1917-2017
CELEBRATING
100 YEARS!**

A Message From the Head of School

Summer reading is at the front of every student's mind as school closes. As parents stack up their own list of summer reads, think about alternating page-turning fiction with one or two of the books below:

I first read ***Coming of Age in Samoa*** as a college freshman but I still often think of this classic and **Margaret Mead's** observation that the "civilized" world has much to learn from the "primitive." Detailing her historic journey to American Samoa, Mead presents the idea that the individual experience of developmental stages could be shaped by cultural demands and expectations. Adolescence, she writes, might be more or less stormy in different cultures.

In ***Free to Learn***, developmental psychologist **Peter Gray** argues that in order to foster children who will thrive in today's constantly changing world, we must offer them more opportunities to steer their own learning and development. Drawing on evidence from anthropology, psychology, and history, he demonstrates that free play is the primary means by which children learn to control their lives, solve problems, get along with peers, avoid narcissism and become emotionally resilient. Echoing our school's mission statement, Gray's book discusses how we can act beyond school — both as parents and as members of society — to improve children's lives and to promote their well-being and learning.

In a part of the world where material abundance abounds, parents want to raise self-disciplined, appreciative, and resourceful children. In ***The Blessings of a Skinned Knee***, **Dr. Wendy Mogel** shows parents how to teach children to honor them and to respect others, to accept that their children are both ordinary and unique, and to comprehend the power of the present moment. It is Mogel's singular achievement that she makes these teachings relevant for any era and any household of any background. Dr. Mogel wrote the follow-up for older adolescents, ***The Blessing of a B Minus***, in

response to a call from a panicked friend whose daughter texted her from the salad bar during her first week of college to ask, "Mom, do I like Russian dressing?"

As the focus of the family has turned to the glow of the screen, everyday life is undergoing a massive transformation. As renowned clinical psychologist **Catherine Steiner Adair** explains in ***Big Disconnect: Protecting Childhood and Family Relations***

in the Digital Age, not only do chronic tech distractions have deep and lasting effects, but children also desperately need parents to provide what tech cannot: close, significant interactions with the adults in their lives. Drawing on real life stories, Steiner Adair offers insights and advice that can help parents achieve greater understanding, authority and confidence as they engage with the tech revolution unfolding in their living rooms.

Getting the "friendship factor" right is what allows children and adolescents to move on to experience healthy adult relationships. In this insightful book, ***Best Friends, Worst Enemies***, psychologist **Michael Thompson, Ph.D.**, and children's book author **Catherine O'Neill Grace**, illuminate the crucial and often hidden role that friendship plays in the lives of children from birth through adolescence.

Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain, renowned

neuropsychiatrist **Daniel Siegel's** New York Times bestseller, illuminates how brain development between the ages of twelve and twenty-four impacts behavior and relationships. Drawing on new research in the field of interpersonal neurobiology, Siegel explores ways in which understanding how the teenage brain functions can help parents make what is in fact an incredibly positive period of growth, change, and experimentation in their children's lives less lonely and distressing on both sides of the generational divide. The infusion of mindfulness sets this book apart from some of its peers.

Happy reading, happy summer...

Sharon Lauer, Head of School



Trimester III Honor Roll

Unquowa Honors

(no grade below A and no effort grade below 3)

Grade 5

Jack Blasbalg
Claire Roberts

Grade 6

Kelly Jones
Sophie Whiddenh

Grade 7

Brooke Jones
Samantha Renzulli
Sneha Sunder
Daniel Vash

Grade 8

Ryan Cawley
Aaron Gruen
Alexandra Halas
Lola Panagos
Charlotte Robins
Grace Rosow
Drew Slager

Honors

(B+ average and no grade below B, no effort below 3)

Grade 5

Rowan Dillon
Brynn Fleisig
Krystle Garcia
Hailey Geppert
Adriana Giachino
Daniel Gomes
Alex Lele
Isabel Levi
Alexandra Schwartz
Isabelle Spencer
Travis Stuart
Duncan Van Der Aue

Grade 6

Cecilia Buono
Cooper DeGirolomo
Eva Doohar
Blake Erenhouse
Theodore Geary
Madison Greenspan
Amelia Lanni
Lily Panagos
Halie Perkins
Michael Roberts
Madeline Shantz
Ben Stokes
Andrew Stumm
Jordan Werner
Jack Wilkos

Grade 7

Gregory Coghlan
Maxwell Cooper
Matthew Corey
Katherine Daly
Lauren Flamini
Raphael Makhraz
Alexander McKinnis
Madeline Reed
Keilan Rosow
Abigail Russo

Grade 8

Thomas Brennan
Lisi Chapin
Margaret Coghlan
Ruby Coleman
Daniel DeGirolomo
William Geary
William Hansen
Ethan Klein
Naia Kocsi
Sophia Mughal
Abigail Nevins
Maya Rubino
Ella Stalowir

On To The Finals: The National History Day Competition



In the fall, five Unquowa students began working on their individual entries for the National History Day contest. The 2017 theme for the contest was Taking a Stand in History. Unquowa students Daniel Vash, Brooke Jones, Samantha Renzulli, Sneha Sunder and Kelly Jones joined more than half a million students globally who completed research projects in one of five categories: documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website.

In March, these five students participated in the regional competition which was sponsored by the CT Public Affairs Network. Brooke, Sneha and Samantha all finished in the top three in their categories, qualifying them to advance to the state competition. In April, they competed at Central Connecticut State University, where Sneha took second place for her website about the fall of the Berlin Wall and Samantha placed first for her performance about Audrey Faye Hendricks and the Children's March of 1963.

This qualified Samantha and Sneha to travel to the University of Maryland in June to compete at the national level. They were among the 3,000 finalists who qualified from over 600,000 national entries. They are pictured below with some of the competitors from Connecticut — Sneha is on the far left and Samantha is right under the Connecticut sign. In the final ceremony, Samantha received the award for Outstanding Middle School Entry from the state of Connecticut.

The curiosity and perseverance of these five students demonstrates their genuine desire to learn deeply about the world around them.

Debbie Leidlein, Humanities Teacher



Join Us For Unquowa's Centennial Celebration!

Alums, Mark Your Calendars: October 13 & 14, 2017

Get ready — Unquowa's 100th celebration will kick into high gear in the fall! During the upcoming school year, many traditions, events, class projects and programs will have a 100th twist.

The main event will be Founders' Day, so join the party on Saturday, October 14, 2017! Bring the whole family and come for our traditional Farm-to-Fork BBQ and special activities to help us mark Unquowa's centennial. All alums (over 21) will also be invited to spend the afternoon at Unquowa the day before (Friday 10/13/17) for tours, the chance to meet with students, teachers and school leadership. A special alumni dinner that night will be the perfect opportunity to reconnect with fellow alums.

Watch for details or contact our Advancement Office at 203-336-9091 or kate.haviland@unquowa.org. Please make sure we have your current email address so that we can send you photos, videos and updates during our year-long 100th celebration!



Somewhere Over the Rainbow



The melodic overture of “Over the Rainbow” fades as the lights come up on a Kansas farm scene. Over the next hour, our audience was transported to Oz, where Dorothy and her familiar friends embarked on a journey over the Yellow Brick Road to soon discover that there truly is “no place like home!”

All of our sixth through

eighth grade students did a tremendous job of learning about the aspects of musical theatre productions as they worked on our spring musical, *The Wizard of Oz*. Every Upper School student was involved — from guitar players to tech crew to onstage performers. It was a memorable experience for all and we could not be more proud of their performance, collaboration, professionalism, and enthusiasm!

Upper School instrumental students kicked off the show with a sampling of the music they’ve been studying this year. Students from sixth, seventh and eighth grade each delighted the audience with their musical numbers and all three grades came together for the finale, “Over the Rainbow.”

Check out the video at unquowa.org/the-wizard-of-oz

Alyson Cahill, David Coe and Megan Kirk, Performing Arts Teachers



Annual Art Show Features All Unquowa Students

Each year the Unquowa gym is transformed into a magnificent art gallery with work displayed from every student in the school. A true retrospective of the year in art, projects range from painting, to ceramic, batik, printmaking, and more. Throughout the year students work on developing their artistic skills while learning about different artists, art forms, and art movements. Their best work is then collected and hung in one large-scale exhibit for the whole school community to view and appreciate.

This year's show featured several makerspace collaborations including the fourth graders' fun handmade lamps, and the eighth graders' framed branch weavings. We hope to expand the presence of makerspace projects on view in the future as we continue to expose students to unique opportunities and contemporary ideas of what art can be. The art show once again demonstrated the importance that Unquowa places on the arts and the skill and excitement with which our talented students rise to the occasion.

Alice DesGranges & Krissy Ponden, Art Teachers



Tharanginee!



Tharanginee, a troupe of young performers from Chennai, India spent a day at Unquowa and delighted our students with tales of their traditions in a performance that included dance, drama, yoga and martial arts. These talented teenagers taught us so much about their culture through their colorful costumes, beautiful music, vibrant dancing and discussions.

After a performance for the whole school, the troupe spent time in smaller workshops with our students where they combined performance and discussion on topics such as the origin of their dances, democracy and censorship. The visitors

made it clear that individuals in the United States enjoy certain freedoms, such as freedom of speech, which is limited in India. Thank you to Creative Connections for bringing these young performers to our community!



Celebrating Spring with Grandparents & Special Friends

We didn't let the dreary weather dampen our spring celebration! Students welcomed their guests into their classrooms for special projects and were delighted to give personal tours of the school. Our students then put on quite a special assembly full of music and dance for this year's special guests!

It was evident that each class worked very hard on their individual performances. One class choreographed their own dance, another added creative props to their performance and the Upper School chorus and instrumentalists moved the crowd with their powerful performance of "I Have a Voice," dedicated to all of their family and special friends who help them to find their own voices and strengths.

The finale, as always, was the highlight - traditional Maypole dances by the fourth and fifth graders. What a wonderful day!



Earth Day's Focus on Global Warming

For the fourth year in a row, the school's Earth Day celebration focused on a theme related to one of the serious challenges facing our planet. This year the focus was on global warming and, more specifically, the impact of rising CO₂ on the world's oceans. Upper School students traveled to Stratford to explore and plant sawgrass to help combat erosion due to rising sea levels at Stratford Point. They worked with Sacred Heart University and Dr. Jennifer Mattei from the Living Shorelines Project.

Lower School students spent the day discovering causes and effects of global warming. In the morning three presenters led activities related to this overarching topic. The Connecticut Science Center educators taught us all about vermicomposting, including worm anatomy and limits on composting due to the methane gas byproduct. Kellogg Environmental Center presented activities on food webs and the significant effects global warming is having on some species. Finally, the Connecticut Audubon Center shared many live animals and demonstrated how global warming can change habitats and the adaptations of wildlife.

In the afternoon, students broke into groups and continued to learn about the impacts of global warming with lessons taught by Upper School students. The day concluded with the entire Unquowa community coming back together for an Earth Day assembly. It was a productive and exciting day of learning!

Mary Curran, Carlene Gordon & Craig Knebel, Unquowa Science Teachers



Mastering The Scientific Method



We place a very daunting task on our fourth, fifth and sixth graders: “choose a scientific topic, formulate a central question and hypothesis, create a demonstration or experiment to prove (or disprove) your hypothesis, research the science behind your topic, write a conclusion and finally, present your findings to fellow students, teachers, family and friends.”

While all of our young scientists worked hard on their research and projects, fourth grade represents a big leap because it is the first year students participate in Unquowa’s annual science fair. Weeks are spent at school and at home preparing and, as they progress, students gain the confidence of knowing how to approach a large assignment, break it down and present their findings clearly. Excitement and enthusiasm grow as students become knowledgeable scientists in their chosen area and prepare their demonstrations.

The day of the science fair brings with it our newly polished, confident and accomplished fourth grade scientists who skillfully joined the fifth and sixth graders in bringing science to life for our entire school. Unquowa students, faculty, staff and parents all learned from our scientists. Congratulations to all on a job very well done!

Mary Faulkner, Carlene Gordon and Craig Knebel, Unquowa Science Teachers

Celebrating Pi Day



Thanks to a surprise snowstorm in March, Unquowa students celebrated Pi Day on Thursday, March 16th! Our eighth graders wore special pi t-shirts and the rest of the school was decked out in polka dots and all things circular to celebrate a day of mathematics. Eighth graders joined PreK students to hula-hoop, blow bubbles and color in circles. Fifth and sixth graders taught the kindergarten through fourth grade classes to play

card games and board games based on circle geometry. All of our younger students were excited to wear glow-in-the-dark bracelets as they celebrated this day of circle math! At lunch our Upper Schoolers wowed each other by reciting as many digits of pi as they could remember. What an impressive display of memorization by many!

Eric Werner, Upper School Math Teacher

Painter and Grandfather Supports Gators!

Miguel Pamias, a local artist and Unquowa grandfather (Bryael ‘24), conducted spray painting workshops with all of our students this fall. They were mesmerized! This spring Mr. Pamias surprised our Athletics Department with the gift of a painting featuring our Gator mascot. As Unquowa’s athletics program continues to grow in breadth and strength, it is only fitting that Mr. Pamias painted the mighty Gator as an intimidating force with soccer, basketball and lacrosse equipment. Mr. Pamias and Bryael presented the painting to Coach B. and Mrs. Pollex and it now hangs near the locker rooms. Thank you again, Mr. Pamias!



Eighth Grade Year In Review



Our graduating class kicked off their last year at Unquowa with an adrenaline-pumping trip down the Deerfield River and an opportunity to reconnect with friends.

The fall was busy with high school applications, preparation for interviews and the first of their capstone eighth grade speeches. The class organized the children's activities at Founders' Day, decorated for the Thanksgiving Feast and even had a little fun of their own at the fall social. A special visit from NPR former Russian Correspondent, Corey Flintoff, to discuss life in the Soviet Union and Russia was a Humanities class highlight!

December brought the traditions of Winterfest, including the much anticipated candle dance. The kids found their own voices and brought us all to tears with their performance of "I Have A Voice." Much to the delight of

our younger students, the eighth graders left their mark on the art room as well, by painting the stools in the style of famous works of art.

They continued to impress us by taking the leadership role in all aspects of the spring musical, *The Wizard of Oz*. We ended the year the same way it began, with a chance to bond as a class on the annual eighth grade trip. Everyone had an amazing time at Woodloch Resort with (endless) delicious food and non-stop activities like bocce ball, beach volleyball, paintball with their advisors and, of course, the highlight of the trip — the bake-off!

We celebrated the end of a memorable eighth grade year with tearful goodbyes at Closing Ceremonies and Commencement and were thrilled to recognize each of the graduates and their achievements. What a year! We will certainly miss the Class of 2017 and look forward to hearing about every success in their future.

Debbie Leidlein & George Seferidis, Eighth Grade Advisors



99th Unquowa Closing Ceremonies



The Unquowa community came together on the last day of school to celebrate the end of another amazing school year and to honor the graduating Class of 2017. In the morning, the entire school gathered for our Closing Ceremonies - an event filled with traditions including the recognition of summer birthdays (39!) and the reading of touching tributes written collaboratively about



each member of the graduating class. Mrs. Barbuto's tribute to Lola, a student she had in her first Unquowa kindergarten class, Mr. Coe's singing of his tribute to Ethan and Mr. Werner's superhero themed tribute to Danny were just a few of the highlights. Our musical interlude was provided by the fourth and fifth graders who sang "You Gotta Be" with ukulele accompaniment.

Awards announced at the Closing Ceremonies included *The Unquowa Parents' Association Award* which was given to Kylee Faulkner and Raphael Makhraz as the seventh grade students who "have shown the most significant growth in intellectual discipline." *The Costume Closet Key* was presented to two seventh graders for their dedication to the performing arts: Max Cooper and Samantha Renzulli. Kindergarten teacher Faith Barbuto received *The Virginia F. Birdsall Faculty Award* to support her summer travels to Denmark where she will visit schools in Viborg and in Copenhagen as part of a forest training program through Inside Out Nature. Lastly PreK-3 teacher Janice Shannon presented *Ultimate Unquowan Awards* to four graduating students who started at Unquowa in her PreK-3 class: Lisi Chapin, Alexandra Halas, Will Hansen and Lola Panagos.

After a special video slideshow devoted to the Class of 2017, the eighth graders formed a receiving line in front of the stage and Ms. Lauer invited the seventh graders to "take the eighth grade seats." This symbolic move marked the change in school leaders from the outgoing class to next year's eighth graders, the Class of 2018, Unquowa's 100th graduating class!

The emotional morning ceremony ended with our instrumental teacher, David Coe, playing "Edelweiss" as every student and teacher in the school passed by the line of graduates to wish each one a personal goodbye and good luck - ending the ceremony with high fives, handshakes and big hugs.



2017 Awards

The William J. Grippin Award
Lola Panagos

The Unquowa Award
Ryan Cawley

The Headmaster's Cup
Aaron Gruen

The Board of Governors' Cup
Sophia Mughal

The John P. Blessington Award
William Hansen

The Robert L. Cleveland Award
Lisi Chapin

Unquowa Parents Association Award
Kylee Faulkner
Raphael Makhraz

Class Agents
Margaret Coghlan
Noah Markus

Elizabeth Curtis Award
Ella Stalowir

Margaret Travers Award
Kelly Jones

John F. Turlick Award
William Hansen

Gator Bowl
Lisi Chapin
Will Geary
Alexandra Halas
William Hansen
Naia Kocsi
Sophia Mughal
Lola Panagos
Grace Rosow
Ella Stalowir

The Ultimate Unquowan Award
Lisi Chapin
Alexandra Halas
William Hansen
Lola Panagos

Costume Closet Key
Samantha Renzulli
Max Cooper

Backstage Crew
Tommy Brennan
Lisi Chapin
Noah Markus
Lola Panagos
Ella Stalowir

The Virginia F. Birdsall Faculty Award
Faith Barbuto

The Jean Carpenter Winton
Distinguished Alumni Award
Kristopher Hansen '83

99th Unquowa Commencement



The Unquowa School's 99th graduating class gathered on the evening of June 6th with family, friends, alumni, the Board of Governors, faculty and staff for a ceremony of recognition and closure to mark the end of their time at Unquowa and to celebrate their transition to high school. Reverend Margaret Hodgkins offered the invocation and salutatorian, and *Ultimate Unquowan*, Alexandra Halas, welcomed everyone to the celebration.

The ceremony included the announcement of several awards. Our valedictorian, Lola Panagos, also an *Ultimate Unquowan*, received *The William J. Grippin Award* for the highest academic average. Ryan Cawley was given *The Unquowa Award* for the "most significant growth in intellectual discipline." *The Board of Governors' Cup* for "outstanding school citizenship" was given to Sophia Mughal, *The Headmaster's Cup* was awarded to Aaron Gruen and the *John P. Blessington Award* for "steadfast concern for classmates and the school" was given to Will Hansen. *The Elizabeth Curtis* and *John F. Turlick Awards*, given to the eighth grade girl and boy "whose skill and accomplishments in athletics have been matched by true understanding of good sportsmanship" were presented to Ella Stalowir and Will Hansen. *The Robert L. Cleveland Award* for a student who "demonstrates a keen mind, sound body, and unafraid spirit" was presented to Lisi Chapin. Noah Markus and Margaret Coghlan were named *Class Agents*, responsible for helping the class stay connected to each other and to the school. *The Jean Carpenter Winton Distinguished Alumni Award* was given to Kristopher Hansen '83 for his profound dedication to the school as an active alum, as an Unquowa parent for seventeen years and as a member of the Board of Governors since 2008.

After receiving their diplomas, the graduates heard from our guest speaker, Ebong Udoma, Senior Political Reporter for WSHU. Mr Udoma spoke about his passion for music and encouraged the graduates to pursue their own passions. He reminded them that passion often leads to a strong sense of purpose and, as we all know, purpose has power.

Valedictorian Lola Panagos spoke about the strength of the Unquowa community and the special bond she and her "classmates, no, best friends" share. Lola also thanked the Unquowa faculty and, speaking on behalf of the Class of 2017, said that "although there may be some forks and bumps in this road, I believe we have been taught how to make the right decisions and how to make it to our final destinations."

With a benediction from Rabbi Rachel Bearman, we said a final goodbye to the Class of 2017. While we will miss this special class tremendously, we wish them all the best and look forward to their return as alumni on Founders' Day!

High School Acceptances & Destinations for the Class of 2017

Canterbury School
 Christian Heritage School
 Fairfield College Preparatory School
 Fairfield Ludlowe High School
 Fairfield Warde High School
 Foran High School
 Franklin Road Academy
 Greens Farms Academy
 The Gunnery School
 Hamden Hall Country Day School
 Hopkins School
 Joel Barlow High School
 Kent School
 King School
 Luralton Hall
 Northfield Mt. Hermon School
 Notre Dame Catholic High School
 Pomfret School
 Staples High School
 St. Joseph High School
 Westover School
 Wilton High School



Learning by Exploring: Buen Viaje!

Unquowa's educational philosophy is simple: the best way to help students gain new perspectives and build skills for the future is through experiential learning. Thirty-two of our students (including two former Unquowans who recently moved away but still joined their Unquowa friends!) traveled to Spain for spring break 2017. Along with Mr. Knebel, Mrs. Leidlein, Mrs. Sylvestro, Mrs. Ponden and Mr. Werner, the students put their Spanish skills to work as they explored and learned about the cultural heritage and history of Spain. Trying new foods and dances was a highlight! Over ten days they visited Barcelona, the international heart of Spain; Madrid, the regal capital; Toledo, with its vast history; Cordoba, with Moorish, Jewish and Christian influences; and Seville, the cultural center of Andalusia.



Math In The Garden

First graders planted Sugar Ann peas in Unquowa's curricular garden and in pots made from recycled newspapers. The students learned which vegetables thrive in the cooler temperatures of early spring and planned square foot gardens choosing their favorite vegetables, fruits and herbs. Square foot gardening is a method that helps gardeners determine how much space a plant needs. Thank you, first graders, for your creative garden designs and for being the first class to plant in our garden this year. We are looking forward to harvesting peas!

Mary Curran, Environmental Science Teacher

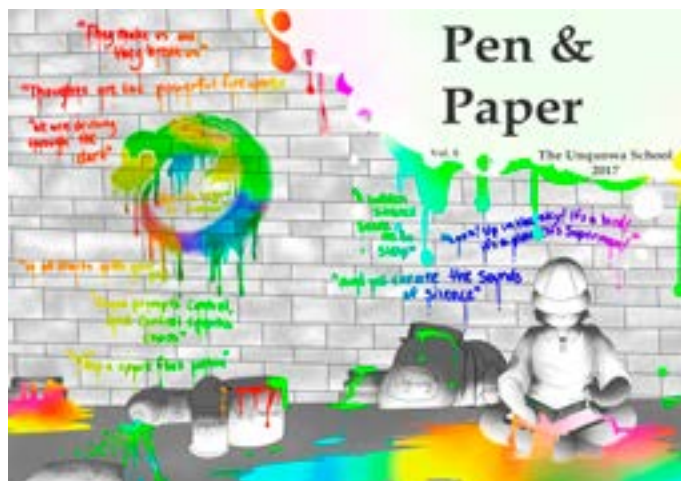


Pen and Paper

For months, our staff of sixth, seventh, and eighth graders has been working tirelessly to bring you the finest of magazines, *Pen & Paper*. After hours of dedication put in by both the staff and contributors, we are happy to release *Pen & Paper, Issue 8*.

Pen & Paper, The Unquowa School's literary-art magazine, is published annually and offers an outlet for students to share their literary and artistic talent. Students in grades five through eight submit photography, art, poetry, and other writing so that *Pen & Paper* is a showcase of Unquowa work. For ordering information and to view volume 8 online visit: unquowa.org/pen-paper-vol-8

Michelle Lamb & George Seferidis
Pen and Paper Advisors



Gone Fishing



It is often said that the best way to learn something is to teach it to someone else. Our seventh graders have been teaching the kindergarten and first grade classes about what fish need to survive, and where fish come from. This is all part of a national conservation and education experience called Trout in the Classroom.

Trout in the Classroom is an environmental educational program that teaches participants to raise trout from eggs. As part of the process, the students monitor water quality and study stream habitats. Through this they learn appreciation for water resources and begin to

understand ecosystems. We proudly released our trout in the Mill River of the Lake Mohegan State Park, here in Fairfield.

*Craig Knebel, Upper School Science Teacher &
Faith Barbuto, Kindergarten Teacher*



Eats in the Middle East



In our Humanities program, we believe that for a student to understand a culture they should be exposed to as many aspects of it as possible. There is one universal element that binds all members of a culture: food. During our study of the Middle East and Afghanistan, our seventh graders were given the assignment of developing a traditional Middle Eastern menu. Chef David taught our class about traditional dishes and commonly used ingredients throughout the region.

Each group submitted their menus with the hope that their dishes would be selected by Chefs David and Jessica to be served to the school. The students whose menu was chosen, introduced their dishes to the rest of the student body at lunch — a fattoush salad, aush soup, curry chicken, shour nakhod and rice pudding. It was a tremendous success, and we were so proud of our seventh graders' enthusiasm, creativity, and willingness to broaden their palates. Thank you to our wonderful kitchen staff who not only agreed to help us in our discovery of Middle Eastern cuisine but fueled it as well.

Vincent O'Hara & George Seferidis, Humanities Teachers

Bees in Spring



The PreK-3 class was delighted to meet a real beekeeper! We learned that most bees would prefer not to sting you, but when beekeepers have to get close to the hives to take care of the bees they wear a special, protective hat and clothes — just in case. We also learned that bees are important to our environment because they help flowers bloom and vegetables grow by spreading pollen. To experience what it is like to have pollen on our own fingertips we ate cheetos without licking our fingers!

Janice Shannon, PreK-3 Teacher



Spring Sports Update & Spring Athletic Dessert

A Great Season for Unquowa's Sports Teams

Thank you to everyone who helped make our spring athletic season such a huge success — our hard working and dedicated athletes who always gave their best effort, our energetic and enthusiastic coaches and, of course, our fans! Our players could always be counted on to balance their performance with a competitive spirit and good sportsmanship. Unquowa continued to be a strong presence at all the Fairchester games and meets and we look forward to another strong year of competition in 2017-2018.

Celebrating Our Year at the Athletic Dessert

Our final Athletic Dessert this spring was one of our greatest celebrations ever! We paid tribute to our spring lacrosse and cross country athletes and their coaches. In addition to recognizing each of the players on our spring teams, special awards were given to some of the athletes for their accomplishments this season. We also recognized those members of the Class of 2017 who played on an Unquowa team every season from sixth through eighth grade by awarding each of them a Gator Bowl as a reminder of their athletic careers at Unquowa. This year we honored nine Gator bowl recipients, a new record! Also, a big thank you goes out to the parents who help run the wonderful event, especially to Laura Baytos who has been at the helm for the last few years. Wow! What a way to end a great athletic year!

Al Boccamazzo, Athletics Director



Kicking Off Summer at Field Day

Did a little rain dampen the Unquowa spirit of Field Day? No way! Getting creative with indoor events, like balloon volleyball and ping pong ball relays, the Upper and Lower School students worked together to make it the best field day ever!



From the UPA

Spring at Unquowa is always an exciting time and this year was certainly no exception! UPA volunteers organized amazing events and activities for our students, families and faculty:

- Student socials were a blast and involved DJs, photo booths, ice cream, a bonfire, s'mores ... and more!
- Hosting the Teacher and Staff Appreciation Lunch allowed us to show how grateful we are for our wonderful community of educators.
- Our final Athletic Dessert brought together the families of our spring lacrosse and cross country athletes to recognize the accomplishments, dedication and effort of those students and their coaches.
- The Book Drive to support Hall Neighborhood House in Bridgeport collected over 700 books.
- Finally, the year drew to a close with the UPA's largest fundraiser, the Annual Gala and Auction. It was wonderful to have this event back at school this year! The gym and dining room were transformed into a colorful fiesta including a mariachi band, delicious food and drinks, fabulous silent and live auctions, great class projects by the kids and special "experiences" donated by the teachers. The Unquowa community came out in record numbers to support our school and everyone's generosity raised funds that will directly impact programs and activities for all our children. Viva la fiesta!

Now we are looking ahead to September, and are so happy to welcome Alison Roberts as UPA Co-President with Rebekah next year. Thank you all for a wonderful year and have a great summer!

Gina Jones and Rebekah Wadadli, UPA Co-Presidents



Welcome New Unquowans



Nerushka Lopez Aponte, rising Unquowa first grader, has a new sister. Baby Enaeli was born on April 15. Nerushka is thrilled and excited! Congratulations to the whole family and welcome to Enaeli.



Humanities teacher, Vin O'Hara, his wife, Donna, and daughter, Lily, welcomed their newest family member this spring. Madeline Frances was born on May 18. Congratulations to all of the O'Haras and welcome to Madeline!

Dr. Kris Hansen '83 Receives Distinguished Alumni Award



At Commencement, **Kristopher Hansen '83** received *The Jean Carpenter Winton Distinguished Alumni Award* for his extraordinary contributions to The Unquowa School. In addition to being a parent of two Unquowans (**Will '17** and **Morgan '11**), the son of retired Unquowa teacher Suellen Hansen, and an active member of the UPA, Kris has been a member of the school's Board of Governors since 2008. His dedication and personal commitment to Unquowa, its faculty and its students has been boundless.

We were honored and pleased to have Jean Carpenter Winton's daughter, Lisa Callahan, join Ms. Lauer this year in presenting the award. While Kris thanked Ms. Lauer, the Board and Unquowa families for their support and friendship over the years, he emphasized the deep gratitude he and his wife Donna feel for the Unquowa faculty. "Most of all I want to thank the faculty and staff for playing such a vital and positive role in helping my children to become who they are today." In closing, he encouraged the Class of 2017 to stay connected to the school and to each other... "come back and give back often in the years to come."



Many members of the Class of 2013 (and one from 2014!) gathered recently. Graduating from high school this June, these young alums are preparing for their next big adventures. We're sending each of them some Gator M&Ms to wish them luck!"



Class of 2013 Off to College

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sydnee Blanco | Tulane University |
| Michael Brennan..... | American University |
| Tom Bull | Gap Year |
| Ian Chapin | Gettysburg College |
| Victoria Giacobbe | University of New Haven |
| Grace Haviland | Yale University |
| Taylor Hughes..... | Gap Year |
| Abigail Knopf | Sacred Heart University |
| Jace McKenzie | University of Connecticut |
| Tristan Murray..... | University of Denver |
| Brandon Omisore | Texas A & M University |
| Katherine Phelan | Washington University in St. Louis |
| Paul Pinto | Parsons School of Design |
| James Roland | Massachusetts Military Academy |
| Michael Roland..... | Massachusetts Military Academy |
| Rebecca Ryan..... | Ithaca College |
| Evangelina Scianna..... | University of Colorado Boulder |
| Annie Lyn Sheketoff | Utah Valley University |
| Brienne Simmonds | Louisiana State University |
| Spencer Solaz | Santa Clara University |
| Max Waghorne | Green Mountain College |

Alumni News



It was a wonderful surprise to have **Keno Sandler '85** stop by for a visit in May! His memories of his nine years at Unquowa are strong and touring the school sparked lots of stories about former classmates and teachers. Keno described Unquowa as “feeling like family” and he enjoyed looking through old yearbooks and photos.

After Unquowa, Keno attended high school in North Carolina and then studied math at Morehouse College. While leading programs designed to shape the lives of young African American men through close guidance from older males, Keno began working with the Breakthrough Collaborative. For his work as a social entrepreneur, he was awarded the 1997 Echoing Green Fellowship and is currently the VP of Programs at Echoing Green. Keno is juggling his schedule to try to be here for the 100th in October!



Adav Noti '92 lives in Washington, DC with his wife and two children. Adav received a B.A. in religious studies from the University of Pennsylvania, his J.D. from New York University and his M.A.L.S. in Religious Studies from Georgetown University.

He clerked for a US District Court judge in Pennsylvania, was a litigation associate at a NYC law firm and is currently Associate General Council at the Federal Election Commission where he oversees the Policy Division.

He is looking to reconnect with his former Unquowa classmates and is hoping to make it to the school's 100th celebrations next October!



Hank Miller '16 has been busy during his freshman year at Proctor Academy! He played sports, worked hard in classes and wrote a business plan to help him launch his own company. He writes that “there are so many opportunities for me to succeed at Proctor, but I miss the teachers and students at Unquowa!”

As a young entrepreneur, Hank used Proctor's “maker sessions” to create and print the logo for his business, Hank Miller Productions. Hank collaborated with Franklin, NH's economic revitalization effort, PermaCityLife, to produce a video to accompany a grant submission for investment in the city.

Join Us!

**Founders' Day 2017
Celebrating 100 years!**

**Saturday, October 14
Noon - 3:00 p.m.**

*See page 3 for more
information on our
100th celebration.*



Friends from the Class of 2015 — **Quinn Mullineaux, Zander Jehle, Rachel Albenze, Amelia Allen, Charlie Waghorne** and **Siddarth Sunder** — returned to Unquowa for the spring musical production of *The Wizard of Oz*.



THE UNQUOWA SCHOOL

981 Stratfield Road, Fairfield, CT 06825-1697

*Cura Futuri Nobis ~
The Future is in Our Care*

Another Busy Year In The Greenberg Gator Garage!

The buzz of activity in our makerspace this year has been extraordinary! Students have collaborated to create propellers with electrical circuits in PreK-3, design and build lamps in fourth grade, build models of tsunamis in sixth grade and primitive shelters in second grade, construct “gratitude boxes” in kindergarten, build and paint sets for theatrical productions ... and more!

