



# Silver & Gold

News for the Alumni and Extended Community of Friends School

## SPRING 2022

### Inside This Issue:

- Letter from Honor Taft
- 8th Grade Graduates
- Staff profiles
- A favorite recipe from Dacia
- Senior Spotlight
- Class Notes
- Staying Connected

Missing *Silver and Gold* and other alumni communications? Please update your contact info with Friends by emailing [alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org](mailto:alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org).

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Preschool & Elementary**  
5465 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Boulder, CO 80303

**North Campus  
Middle School & Teacher Prep**  
3800 Kalmia Avenue  
Boulder, CO 80301

[FriendsSchoolBoulder.org](http://FriendsSchoolBoulder.org)  
303.499.1999

## Friends School...Stronger Together

Dear Friends School Community,



The 2022-2023 school year has been another successful year at Friends School. A few short weeks ago we held our Silver & Gold ceremony where we honored each elementary and middle school child as they transitioned from one grade to the next. We celebrated our alumni - graduating high school seniors who attended Friends School, and we celebrated our graduates who are joining the prestigious Friends School alumni. In this year's class, we have 24 students moving on to high schools across Boulder County, Denver, and even Michigan. Within each of them I see the incredible creativity, passion and resiliency that is a hallmark of Friends School.

With connection and community at the center of everything we do, Friends School continues to cultivate an academically challenging yet supportive and nurturing environment where children learn and grow. While continuing under health department restrictions, we entered the third school year under the pandemic with our continued commitment to in-person learning. We weathered surges in COVID-19, acting quickly to respond to cases within our school and community, and always prioritizing our students - socially, emotionally and academically. Our students continued to grow and thrive and we were reminded every day that being together is essential.



At the end of December, The Marshall Fire brought new challenges to many in our community and a renewed commitment to what it means to be part of the Friends School family - we are stronger together. Friends

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FRIENDS  
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School worked quickly to reach out to impacted families, connecting those in need with resources. Food trains were launched for families who lost their homes or were displaced, and our emergency fund was expanded to support the Marshall Fire victims through tuition, lunch, and AfterCare and enrichment relief.

Some of our most beloved celebrations and rituals were able to return in-person this year, student trips resumed, and parents gradually came back to our campuses to connect with each other and witness the joy that our students experience every day.

As Friends School alumni, you are curious, creative, collaborative, resilient, and compassionate advocates for yourselves and for others. All qualities that are essential in helping you to navigate the future. And above all, you are friends. May the friendships you made at Friends School grow ever stronger and continue to stay with you for many years into the future.

Thank you for being part of our community.  
#FriendsTogether, #FriendsForever.

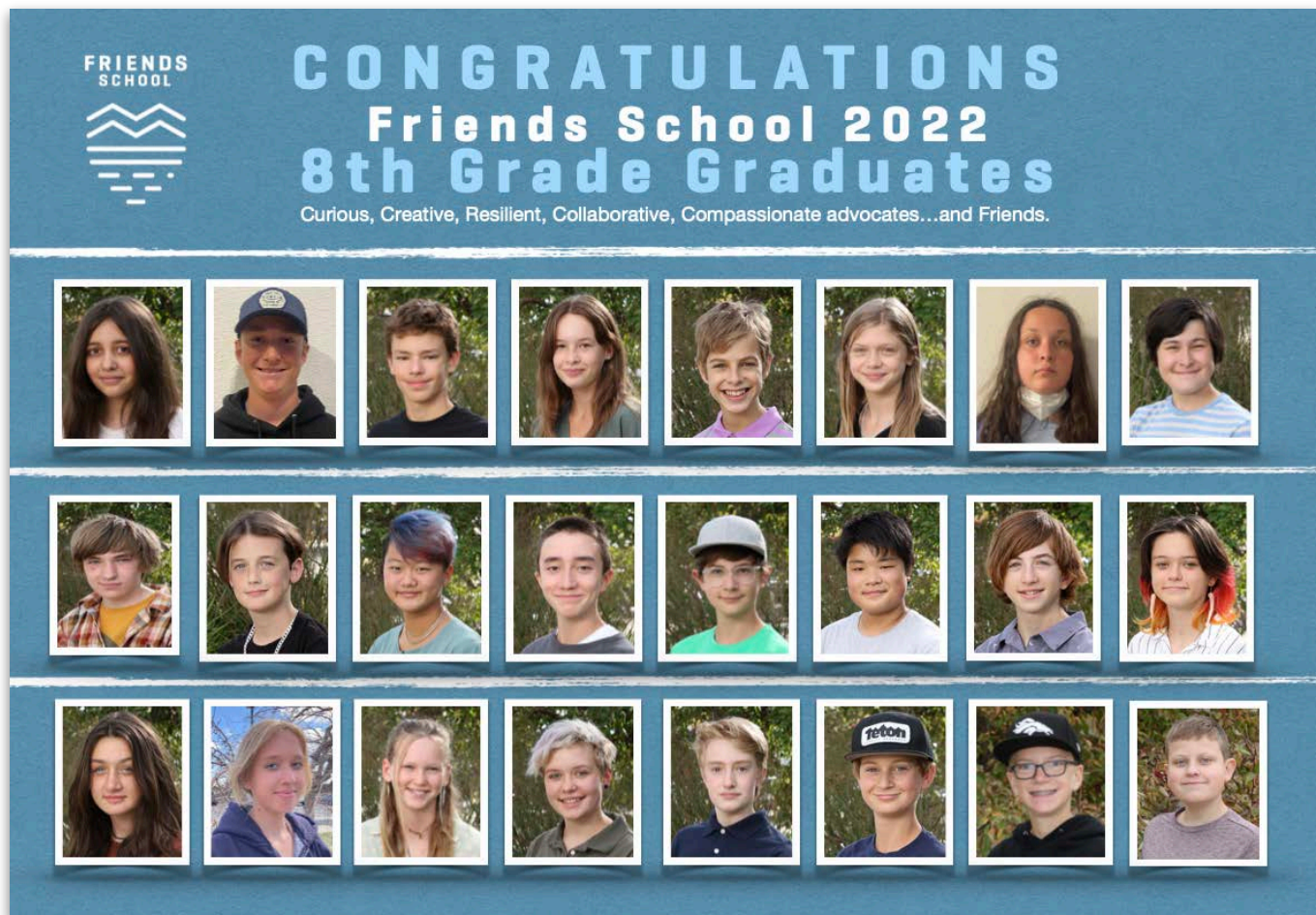
Honor Taft  
Head of School





## Largest 8th Grade Class Graduates - Friends Class of 2022!

Meet Friends School's newest alumni - the class of 2022! 24 8th grade students, some of whom have been at Friends School since preschool, attended their last Silver & Gold celebration on May 26, 2022. These incredible graduates will move on to high schools throughout Boulder County, Denver and even Michigan.



This year's 8th grade graduates will be attending the following high schools in the fall:

Alexander Dawson School  
Boulder High School  
Centaurus High School  
Interlochen Arts Academy, MI  
Niwot High School  
South High School, Denver  
Tara Performing Arts School





# Friends School Class of 2022



## Words of Wisdom from our Staff

Kevin Nugent and Dacia Horn have a combined 30 years of service to Friends School. During that time, they have shaped so much of the school we love today. In the interviews below, these two pillars of the Friends experience open up about their careers and how they came to Friends School.

### Kevin Nugent, 7th & 8th Grade Science Teacher



**Fun Fact:** Drives a Tesla Model 3 with a license plate that reads: 2R3VOLT (read to the end to find out its meaning!)

**Number of years teaching:** 16

**What did you do before that?**

Semi-pro Bicyclist (Category 1)

HTML Programmer

Graphic Designer

Massage Therapist

Manager of the Dermatology Residency at University of Colorado Science Center, Denver

Worked in a bike shop

#### Why did you switch from all these careers to teaching?

My daughter attended a preschool called Paddington Station, yes, like the bear. She would not let me drop her off, so I tended to hang around and do whatever the teacher needed doing. After a long time of doing this, the teacher suggested that I apply to the teacher training program, which was at the British Stanley Primary School in Denver, a similar model to Friends School!

#### How did you find yourself teaching middle school?

After some time working with the younger ages, I realized that there is a huge bias against men in elementary school and preschool. So I was feeling that vibe, and I was working at a summer camp, and one of the teachers came up to me and said, “Do you ever sub??” I said, “Sure” and thought nothing more of it. Well, the next school year she reached out to me and asked if I could be a substitute for middle school PE, and I did, and that was an amazing experience. That age group is literally the best of both worlds!

#### Why do you say that middle school is “the best of both worlds”?

I swear, that sometimes, the only thing that is different between a preschooler and a middle schooler is the size of their body! The lack of impulse control and the enthusiasm! Plus they can say the dumbest thing and then follow it by the most profound thoughtful thing ever. For me, it was like: “This is where I belong!” Kids this age are at such a crossroads, and they literally have their feet in both worlds. As 6th becomes 7th, and then 7th becomes 8th, it is literally a metamorphosis. They become a different person. I love being a part of that.







### And why science?

I have ADHD, and my educational years were before this was mainstream and more understood as a chemical imbalance that can be addressed. So I went through my elementary, middle and high school years with undiagnosed and untreated ADHD. I know that part of the outlet for me to get through this was my constant, hardcore cycling! Throughout these years, teachers and everyone told me that I was not good at science or math. After years of these authority figures telling me that, I began to believe that I wasn't good at science and math. It took me a long time — actually all the way through college — and it wasn't until I graduated and went to massage school, where I was taking anatomy, physiology and kinesiology, when I realized, "Wait. I'm really good at science and I love this stuff!"

So I think I got into teaching science at first because I wanted to get back at every single teacher who had ever told me that I wasn't good at it! That's what it started as — this drive to show them they were wrong. But what it became was that for every student who is in my class who says "I'm not good at science" I can say "I have been there, I know exactly how you feel. And it's NOT TRUE. I know with every fiber of my being how it feels to think that, and I know that every student is good at science."

**Final word:** Science is incredible. It is literally the whole wide world! And nobody is bad at it because you *are* science — biology, physics, chemistry. You are nothing but science!"

And that license plate meaning? 2R3VOLT

2 Revolt = go against oil and gas; 3 = Model 3; VOLT = unit of electricity



### Dacia Horn, School Chef



**Fun fact:** Has two beloved dogs, Peanut and Lucy

**Number of years involved with Friends School:** 24 years

**Number of years cooking:** her whole life!

#### How did you get started cooking?

I grew up on a farm and a ranch so I learned from the best, from my mom and grandma. We always cooked together, with lots of ingredients from the farm.

Cooking with my grandma was the best because she would just turn me loose in her kitchen. She let me cook and play, and I learned so much from that freedom with occasional guidance from her!

I started cooking as a career after my daughter Sofie was born. I went to the Boulder School of Natural Cookery, and began working as a private and personal chef for all kinds of people in Boulder. When

Sofie was in 2nd grade, Jana Bledsoe and Polly Donald, the head of Friends School at that time, convinced me to start the lunch program.

### **What do you love best about being the School Chef?**

I love cooking *with* and *for* the kids and engaging with them! It makes me smile, every time. They love the excitement of cooking and baking and the senses involved in it— seeing how it looks as it comes together, smelling the smells, and tasting the ingredients and the final meal. I like their excitement about wondering what the menu will be. I used to publish a menu for each month, but that changed with Covid. Now I decide the day before, which lets me be more spontaneous with what is fresh and also allows me to more easily re-use ingredients.

The kids are curious and anticipate what the surprise of that day's lunch will be.



### **What special workshops have you taught over the years?**

My after school and summer workshops wrap around the seasons and holidays. We start off with fall treats, such as pumpkins, pumpkin carving and making Halloween things. Then come gingerbread houses and holiday treats. Valentine's Day is always a fun one. One year we made head, hand and heart cookies and created cookie bouquets! Those were really lovely. In the summer, I used to teach both morning and afternoon summer camps, always cooking or crafting or gardening. I loved watching as the kids made creative, unique bird houses!

### **How does the gardening tie in at the school and in your cooking?**

It was always Polly's dream to have a big garden, and we have some beautiful growing boxes and plantings now. We always grow a lot of herbs, and I cook with anything we can get from the garden that's local and seasonal. We aren't really able to grow the quantity I need to cook for the whole school, so I find things at the Farmers' Market and local vegetable stands when I can. In the spring, rhubarb is usually the first thing we have here at the school. It's been gorgeous this year! Also this year, the fifth grade students grew winter squash that we used for the stone soup in the Harvest Festival. It's wonderful for the kids to plant, harvest, and use what we have grown.



### **What is on your Wish List?**

A larger community garden space!

### **Anything else you'd like to say to the Alumni?**

I love you all!! Every single one of you has a piece of my heart.

## Dacia's Goat Cheese with Blistered Garlic

*Dacia Horn, Friends School Chef*

*This favorite recipe is a great appetizer! Our staff begs for it.*

- 1 large log of goat cheese
- 1 tsp whole peppercorns
- 8-10 whole cloves garlic
- 2 large sprigs fresh rosemary
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 Cup extra virgin olive oil



Place olive oil, garlic, peppercorns, and bay leaf in skillet on medium high heat. Cook until garlic is “blistered” and golden brown, approximately 5 minutes, watching carefully. Remove from heat. While garlic is cooling, place goat cheese in a heat proof serving dish with edges. Break up with a fork, place rosemary sprigs on top of cheese, sprinkle with salt and pour olive oil and garlic mixture over cheese.

Serve with crusty bread, crackers, or flat bread. Optional variations: Instead of rosemary, substitute fresh coriander and chipotle chilies, fresh basil and sun dried tomatoes or fresh figs and honey.

## Stuffed Jalapenos

*Dacia Horn, Friends School Chef*

- 1 dozen fresh jalapeños
- 2-4 Yams, roasted and peeled
- 2 ½ cups Manchego, finely shredded (½ c. Reserve for topping)
- 2-4 T. Butter, melted
- 1 Egg, beaten
- ¼ cup crispy bacon bits
- ½ cup green onions, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste



### Instructions:

Cut peppers in half lengthwise and scoop out seeds (wear gloves!). Place cut peppers in a bowl of ice water and set aside.

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Combine remaining ingredients in a bowl except ½ cup of cheese. Place filling in a piping bag, fill each pepper and sprinkle with reserved shredded cheese. Place filled peppers on a baking sheet lined with parchment or foil. Bake until bubbly and golden brown.



## Senior Spotlight

Every year, Friends School alumni—graduating high school seniors— return for Silver & Gold 8th Grade Graduation. They share with the community their plans after high school, a favorite memory of their elementary school days and give current Friends School students a little advice. We were so fortunate to have these wonderful seniors gather for an early morning reunion before the Silver & Gold ceremony.

### Started at Friends



Jensen Collier  
3rd grade - 2012-2013



Aidan Corbacioglu  
4th grade - 2013-2014



Brody Darragh  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Julia Frank  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Brandon Gill  
3rd grade - 2012-2013



Spencer Grumhaus  
Pre K - 2008-2009

### 5th Grade



Jensen Collier  
5th grade - 2015



Aidan Corbacioglu  
5th grade - 2015



Brody Darragh  
3rd grade - 2013



Julia Frank  
5th grade - 2015



Brandon Gill  
5th grade - 2015



Spencer Grumhaus  
5th grade - 2015

### High School



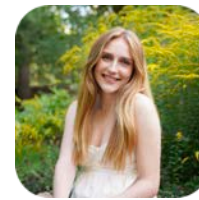
Jensen Collier  
Senior Class of 2022



Aidan Corbacioglu  
Junior Class of 2022



Brody Darragh  
Senior Class of 2022



Julia Frank  
Senior Class of 2022



Brandon Gill  
Senior Class of 2022



Spencer Grumhaus  
Senior Class of 2022

### Started at Friends



Charlie Halverson  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Elizabeth Harding  
Kindergarten - 2009-2010



Fiona Hawley  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Anna Hullet  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Eleanor Malcom  
Kindergarten - 2009-2010



Quinn McIntyre  
Preschool - 2007-2008

### 5th Grade



Charlie Halverson  
5th grade - 2015



Elizabeth Harding  
5th grade - 2015



Fiona Hawley  
3rd grade - 2013



Anna Hullet  
5th grade - 2015



Eleanor Malcom  
3rd grade - 2013



Quinn McIntyre  
5th grade - 2015

### High School



Charlie Halverson  
Senior Class of 2022



Elizabeth Harding  
Senior Class of 2022



Fiona Hawley  
Senior Class of 2022



Anna Hullet  
Senior Class of 2022



Eleanor Malcom  
Senior Class of 2022



Quinn McIntyre  
Senior Class of 2022



## Started at Friends



Hayden Miller  
Kindergarten - 2009-2010



Elli Nishek  
Kindergarten - 2009-2010



Helen Sebring-Lawler  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Jack Shors  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Cody Townsend  
5th grade - 2014-2015



Ryan Tozzi  
5th grade - 2014-2015

## 5th Grade



Hayden Miller  
5th grade - 2015



Eli Nishek  
5th grade - 2015



Helen Sebring-Lawler  
5th grade - 2015



Jack Shors  
5th grade - 2015



Cody Townsend  
5th grade - 2015



Ryan Tozzi  
5th grade - 2015

## High School



Hayden Miller  
Senior Class of 2022



Eli Nishek  
Senior Class of 2022



Helen Sebring-Lawler  
Senior Class of 2022



Jack Shors  
Senior Class of 2022



Cody Townsend  
Senior Class of 2022



Ryan Tozzi  
Senior Class of 2022

### Started at Friends



Lila Travis  
Preschool - 2007-2008



Johann Vogt  
2nd grade - 2011-2012



Layne Weeks  
Preschool - 2007-2008

### 5th Grade



Lila Travis  
5th grade - 2015



Johann Vogt  
5th grade - 2015



Layne Weeks  
5th grade - 2015

### High School



Lila Travis  
Senior Class of 2022



Johann Vogt  
Senior Class of 2022



Layne Weeks  
Senior Class of 2022



Some of the colleges and universities that our high school seniors are attending this fall:

University of Michigan  
Western Washington  
Brown University  
Stanford University  
Colorado College  
Occidental College  
University of Georgia







## Class Notes

As the "Make New Friends" song says, old friends are gold, and you, our beloved alumni, are truly our gold. We continue to hold you close in our hearts, and we are interested in what you are doing and what is happening in your lives.

Accordingly, we are thrilled to feature "Class Notes" in *Silver and Gold* for the second year. Volunteer class representatives contact classmates for news and updates for the newsletter. These updates can include stories or photos of get-togethers with other alumni, news about travel or moves or new jobs/schools/spouses/babies, or even simply memories of your time at Friends.

Class representatives also help keep classmates informed of alumni events. If your class does not yet have a representative, please consider volunteering for this important role.

For help contacting your class representative(s), to volunteer for this role, or to submit news directly to the alumni office, please email [alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org](mailto:alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org).

We welcome high-resolution photos with your class news update. Please include full names and class years of all Friends alumni pictured.

Please note that the editors reserve the right to edit or omit any information submitted.

## Class of 2007 (5th)

**Representative: Genevieve Clow**

**Isabel "Abbie" Oakley:** "I graduated from University of Oregon a couple years ago with a double major in Religious Studies and International Studies - focusing on conflict resolution. Post-college I have spent time traveling and learning about myself! Though out of school in the traditional sense, I still consider myself an avid and dedicated student in the school of the world. I have stumbled, skipped, and hopped along my path as a writer and am currently authoring a series of children's graphic novels, *The Brainy Books of Duh*, which will be finished next year. The series is teaching children to use their brains and minds as superpowers! It has brought many late nights, big laughs, and beauty into my life." Abbie also shared this memory of Friends: "Friends school was the oasis I needed as a child. I had gone to a very strict and rigid school up until 4th grade. Luckily my parents saw my funky and artistic sides and knew I needed a new environment. I still remember walking into the hallways for the first time and seeing all the colors and artwork everywhere. I remember tugging on my mom's skirt and demanding to know whether we could actually use paints, markers, and glitter in this school. It was a safe haven! I loved my teacher, Janice, and felt so seen and encouraged to be myself. It was where my love of books and writing started to bloom. I transformed from a rebel in my old school, to a great student and leader at Friends! I actually stopped by the school a few months ago and peeked inside. It still has all the magic I remember and maybe a little bit more. I'm grateful that Friends school exists as a place to encourage each child's unique light to shine."

**Cam Connor:** "I traveled to Thailand in 2018-2019 to teach English to 1st and second grade students. It was an amazing experience. The challenges I encountered teaching made me very grateful for the excellent and caring teachers I had at Friends school. The smiles and enthusiasm for learning that the kids continually brought to the classroom is what kept me going. :)



After Thailand, I was fortunate to travel to Cambodia, India and Indonesia, where I met a friend who was in the peace corps there. In India I did a 200 hour yoga teacher training in a small village in the Himalayan mountains. It was an unforgettable experience that helped me to grow in various ways. Seeing these different cultures provided a useful perspective on how life can be lived and enjoyed in different ways than what I grew up to know living in the U.S.

I now live in beautiful Park City Utah. I work a couple of days a week for a craft chocolate company called Ritual Chocolate and began an apprenticeship under a local sourdough bread baker about 6 months ago. While I'm not necessarily bringing in the big bucks, I enjoy the pursuit of improving my skill (even if it's a humble one). Improvements have been slow to come, but I believe that if I give it my best every day, eventually results will follow. And if they don't, oh well, I can rest easily knowing I gave it a sincere effort.

When I'm not at work, I try to enjoy the beauty of nature, that I took for granted growing up in CO, as much as I can."

### **Class of 2008 (5<sup>th</sup>)**

#### ***Representatives: Cole Folwell and Reilly Rastello***

**Cole Folwell:** After graduating from the University of Notre Dame in 2019, Cole went on to work within Citigroup's fixed-income division for the next two and a half years. Recently, he left to become Head of Growth at a startup, RocaNews, founded by classmates of his from college. He currently lives in New York City and enjoys walking through Central Park.

**Sophie Villalaz:** Sophie currently works full-time and is looking into opening her own beauty business (since who doesn't love/need some self care nowadays!). Recently, Sophie rescued a puppy named Milo. In their free time (since they're a package deal now) they love to go on hikes, visit new restaurants and go on adventures.

**Sadie Matthews:** Sadie just moved from Los Angeles to Denver to be closer to family, friends, and the mountains. She is working at a small CPA firm in their tax practice. She is excited to be back in colorful Colorado.

**Grace Merritt:** Grace recently started her 3rd year of medical school at UVM in Burlington, VT. She is interested in pediatrics, prenatal care, and women's health. In her free time, she has taken up cross country skiing to make the Vermont winters more bearable. Moreover, she has started running more and is training for her first half marathon.

**Andy Vaughn:** Andy graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2019 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. He has since moved to Minneapolis, MN with his girlfriend, Nicole, and has recently started a new position as a Financial Analyst at Sun Country Airlines. Andy enjoys adventuring around Minnesota's many lakes and has continued his love of sports by joining summer leagues for both soccer and pickleball. While keeping in-touch with others from his Friends School class, Andy cherishes the countless memories and friendships that have lasted through the years.

**Reilly Rastello:** Reilly is a rising 2L at the University of Michigan Law School. This summer, Reilly will be working as a summer law clerk with the Boulder District Attorney's office in their sex crimes unit. Prior to law school, Reilly completed the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs in San Francisco and interned for Senators Michael Bennet and Joe Donnelly and Congressman Joe Neguse. In the fall, Reilly will be working in the Civil-Criminal litigation clinic, the oldest clinic offering at Michigan Law, where Reilly will serve as first chair in a range of cases from advocating for low income tenants to working on criminal defendant appeals.



## Class of 2011 (5<sup>th</sup>)

**Representatives:** *Chris Prinster*

**Chris Prinster:** “I recently completed my Undergraduate degree at Gonzaga University and graduated with a Bachelors in Business Administration, concentration in marketing. As well as minors in Leadership Studies and Jazz Performance. I have loved my time at Gonzaga and am sad to see it come to an end.

My summer plans include traveling with a couple friends in Europe for a few weeks, visiting friends on the East coast, and being back in Boulder.”



**Chase Fulkerson:** “This past summer, I worked at a fishing lodge in SE Alaska (Tanaku Lodge), where I caught halibut and salmon. Currently, I am finishing my junior year at Oberlin College, where I am pursuing a major in Biology and playing baseball.”



**Akasha Dove:** “I am currently working at REI while finishing up my Junior year at Western Washington University studying Psychology and Recreation Management and Leadership. I will be moving to Yosemite National Park for an internship developing and leading backpacking trips this summer and I plan on becoming a Wilderness EMT while guiding rafting and climbing adventures once I graduate!”



**Phoebe Norman:** “I am currently finishing up my study abroad in Jordan where I’ve been learning Arabic and studying displaced people and refugees. I’ll be headed back to the University of Vermont for my last semester of my undergrad in Public Health and Microbio in the fall. In the meantime I plan to enjoy Burlington summers rock climbing, swimming, and hiking.”



**Alec Vaughn:** “I just graduated from Rollins College in Winter Park, FL with a Bachelors in Physics and a minor in Classical Studies. I will be attending the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland in the fall to pursue graduate studies in Physics Education. I have also done extensive traveling this past year, with trips to South Africa and upcoming trips to Greece and Egypt.”



**Brigid Kennedy:** “This May I finished my last year at the University of Boulder Colorado, where I studied health sciences, carried out research in a microbiology lab and was an undergraduate anatomy lab TA. I graduated with distinction receiving a Bachelor of Arts in integrative physiology. I plan to spend the next year working for an optometrist and applying to optometry schools around and country. In the fall of 2023 I will return to school to pursue a Doctorate of Optometry (O.D).”



**Emma Hunt:** “I am currently finishing my junior year at the University of Denver, where I am getting a BFA in studio art. My work focuses primarily on explorations of





gender, sexuality, power, and activism. Recently, I had a ceramic piece in the opening of the Davis Gallery, and a few screen prints in the DU Print Exhibition, Pastel Chartreuse. This summer I plan on working and continuing to paint, as I prepare for my final year and BFA exhibition next spring.”

**Logan McMinn:** “I just graduated from the Leeds School of Business at CU Boulder with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration and a major in marketing. I have accepted a job at Media.Monks as a Paid Search Analyst starting this summer. In my free time, I like to golf, grill and work out.”



### Class of 2019 (8<sup>th</sup>)

**Representative: Avery Lidge**

**Anastasia Hook:** “Hi! I’m Anastasia, first graduating class of Friends Middle School. I am now in my junior year at September School. I am doing well, I now work doing house cleaning, dog walking and other small jobs for families. I am taking an independent study in psychology. I’m still the same person but with a little more worldly experience in my back pocket.”



I never realized how much of my experience at Friends I would carry with me - this wonderful school permanently increased my curiosity, my love for learning, and taught me how to build lasting relationships as well as self confidence. Friends actually over-prepared me for high school; I was ahead of the other kids my freshman year. I had to try three different high schools before I found one that could actually pick up where Friends left off. To this day I still carry my relationships with the incredible teachers, the once in a lifetime (albeit potentially dangerous) experiences I was able to be a part of, and most importantly, a hope for my

future. A hope I did not fully have before Friends. Thank you for everything. I miss you guys.”

**Finn Carpenter:** “Hey guys! My name is Finn Carpenter and I am currently a junior at Dawson High School. I had a great year this year, I competed in lacrosse, basketball, and cross country, and made great strides in all three. The lacrosse and basketball teams had great seasons and both made deep playoff runs. These were two experiences that I enjoyed a lot. A few of us on the lacrosse team bleached out hair for the season, something I never thought I would do, but it ended up being a fun little team bonding experience. I have also been working my first job scooping ice cream at Sweet Cow North Boulder for the past year. I’m starting to look into my plans for after high school, but I’m really just trying to live it up one day at a time and get the most I can out of my high school experience. Congratulations to all the Friends students moving up in grades this year! Have a great summer you guys!”



**Allison Hoeffler:** “I am very excited to be looking ahead to my senior year at Dawson! I have been keeping busy with an intense course load and a ton of theatre and dance training outside of school. I was a member of No Place for Hate, my school's social justice coalition, and I was a starting post on my school's basketball team as well. Outside of school I just finished performing in Pippin with the Actors Academy for the Performing Arts and coming up I will be performing in Rocky Horror with Reel Kids. I also got my first lead choreographer position with Rocky Mountain Theatre for Kids and I can't wait to be doing that this summer. In addition to performing I have been preparing for college auditions and hopefully will be getting my BFA in musical theatre or dance. I still make pretty



frequent appearances at Friends so you might catch me helping out with summer camps this year or just hanging around to catch up with my old teachers and friends. Photo: Me and some of my Friends School besties right before our junior prom!”

### Avery Lidge

“Hi! I’m Avery, first graduating class of Friends Middle School and a current junior at Dawson. This year I have been busy with soccer, community engagement, and a lot of music! I’ve been really enjoying getting back into soccer this year, and working on creating a welcoming and creative environment at school through the No Place For Hate coalition and editing for the Dawson Fusion art magazine. Most of all, I’ve been enjoying music. I’ve been doing concerts with two cello bands, and performing some of my own songs in vocal performances. Recently, one of the cello bands I’m in called Cellists for Change partnered with the Chase the Music organization and local composer Kari Clifton to put on a concert for a 9-year-old battling cancer. This was an incredible opportunity for me to see how important music is on both an individual level for me, and how it affects those in my community. Additionally, I’ve been writing a lot of songs and learning more about voice and piano with Boulder Music. I’m looking forward to recording an album or EP this summer! Thank you Friends, you were the reason I started playing cello in the first place, and I can’t imagine my life without it!” Photo: Avery rehearsing her original song called *The Painter* with her piano teacher at Boulder Music.

**Charlotte Commons:** “Hi! I’m Charlotte Commons and I am going into my Senior year at Dawson school. This past year I spent competing in Cyclocross, playing tuba with a local orchestra, and participating in my school’s social justice club



called No Place For Hate that works to create a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. I also had the opportunity to play soccer at Dawson and we ended up winning the state championship which was super fun and an amazing experience. I am looking forward to this summer when I will be working at Friends School with the summer camps. It will be great to be back on campus and get to spend more time at Friends. Congratulations to everyone who graduated and is joining the alumni and thank you to Friends School for being such an amazing place that helps students grow into the best versions of themselves.” Photo: Charlotte with her exchange siblings her family hosted this past year in what Charlotte calls “an amazing experience”



Missing *Silver and Gold* and other alumni communications?  
Please update your contact info with Friends by emailing  
[alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org](mailto:alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org)





## Staying Connected and Getting Involved

### 1. Alumni Connections (see Class Notes page 11)

Connect with your class representative, volunteer to be your class representative or contact us directly to share your news and tell us what you are doing now. Be sure to note the year you graduated from Friends School. [alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org](mailto:alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org).

### 2. Connect with Friends now on our website and on social media!

<https://www.friendsschoolboulder.org/alumni/>



<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsSchoolAlumniAssociation>



<https://twitter.com/friendsschool>



<https://www.instagram.com/friendsschoolboulder>



<https://www.linkedin.com/school/friendsschool>



<https://www.youtube.com/friendsschoolboulder>

### 3. Alumni Committee Members Wanted!

Want to reconnect with old Friends? We want you! The Friends School Community Board has formed an Alumni Connections Committee to build connections, create alumni events, create this newsletter and more. Remote members welcome.

If you are interested in joining other Friends School Community Board committees, we would love to talk to you and find the best fit for you. Finance, legal, real estate, and investment experience are particularly useful, but all areas of expertise are greatly valued.

Please contact incoming Board Chair Kristin Lawrence at [klawrence@friendsschoolboulder.org](mailto:klawrence@friendsschoolboulder.org).

### 4. Support Friends Fund

Give locally to an organization that is meaningful to you. Every gift to [Friends Fund](#) has an immediate and significant impact. Your donation directly elevates the school and continues the legacy of excellence; it enables Friends School to be a more diverse and inclusive community and helps Friends School be more affordable.

Friends School is a 501(c)(3) organization, and donations may be deductible in accordance with applicable law. Consult your tax advisor for more information.

### 5. Where is your Friends School shirt?

Got an old Friends shirt? Wear it on your next adventure and tag us on FB, Twitter or Instagram or send your photo to us at [alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org](mailto:alumni@friendsschoolboulder.org). Need a new Friends School shirt with the new logo. Let us know and we'll send one to you right away!



Michael Hansen, 5th grade class of 2007, proudly displaying his Friends shirt at the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro (May 2018)

## **Our Vision**

Making the world better by challenging minds, nurturing spirits and honoring individuality.

## **Our Mission**

Friends School is a supportive, dynamic community committed to educating the whole child - head, hand, and heart - and to training exceptional teachers for tomorrow's classrooms. We provide a strong academic foundation while developing creative expression and nurturing a passion for learning. Our students gain a deep understanding of themselves and are inspired to act with compassion and integrity.

## **Portrait of a Graduate**

Our graduates are our gifts to the world. They are curious, creative, collaborative, resilient, compassionate advocates and friends.

**FRIENDS  
SCHOOL**



**Challenging minds, nurturing spirits.**

### **South Campus**

#### **Preschool & Elementary**

5465 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Boulder, CO 80303

### **North Campus**

#### **Middle School & Teacher Prep**

3800 Kalmia Avenue  
Boulder, CO 80301

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