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A TIME TO celebrate

The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School Exceeds Goal
Happy New Year from Miss Porter’s School

Wishing you a peaceful and promising 2012!
Dear Miss Porter’s School Community,

On June 30, 2011, Miss Porter’s School concluded the largest fundraising campaign in the school’s history. Conducted in two phases, The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School raised a grand total of $88 million.

With our feet firmly planted in the present and our eyes looking to the future of Miss Porter’s School, the board of trustees began planning for this campaign in 1999. In 2007, Phase I ended, having exceeded the goal of $50 million with a total of more than $54 million. Phase II was immediately launched with a goal of $25 million—a figure that was raised to $32 million—and ultimately, the second phase also exceeded its goal with a total of more than $33 million.

We are proud to provide this report of the success of The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School in a special issue of The Bulletin of Miss Porter’s School. The achievement of the campaign is a testament to the generosity of Miss Porter’s School’s Ancients, parents and friends, and we are proud to share the efforts of their philanthropy with the entire school community.

Listed in these pages are those who responded to the school’s present needs through support of the Annual Fund, and the needs of the future through unrestricted gifts, gifts to endowment and deferred gifts. On behalf of the board of trustees, the faculty and staff, current students and those future New Girls and Old Girls alike who will benefit from this campaign, we share our sincere thanks.

With appreciation,

Janet Isham Field ’66 and Mimi Colgate Kirk ’57
Co-Chairs, The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School
Unrestricted and Undesignated Endowment
No gifts are more useful to Miss Porter’s School, nor greater expressions of confidence in and support for the institution and its leadership, than those made without restriction or designation. Such funds allow the school unparalleled flexibility in responding to the opportunities that may surface in today’s fast-changing educational environment. The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School added $26,121,463 to the unrestricted and undesignated portion of the endowment. Five million dollars of that total was comprised of gifts in celebration of M. Burch Tracy Ford at the conclusion of her fifteen-year tenure as head of school in 2008.

Academic and Faculty Support
The greatest strength of any school is its faculty, and Miss Porter’s School is committed to recruiting, rewarding, and retaining the best teachers. The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School received $10,450,586 in gifts supporting the academic life of the school. These gifts created new funds for teaching, professional development, and classroom technology.

Financial Aid and Student Life
Funds for need-based financial aid and merit scholarships are critical if Miss Porter’s School is to enroll bright, motivated girls whose academic achievement, leadership, character, and artistic and athletic abilities distinguish them, and to build a student community diverse in talent, interests, culture, race, religion, and geography. The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School added $7,875,176 to the endowment for financial
aid and student life, but this area remains one of particular ongoing need as the school looks toward the future.

**Academic Facilities and Other Gifts**

The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School generated significant funds to ensure the maintenance, growth and enhancement of the school’s unique and historically significant campus. The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School received gifts of $10,398,621 in support of academic and residential facilities and campus planning.

**Annual Fund**

The Annual Fund supports the Miss Porter’s School experience: fine teachers, a beautiful campus, a diverse and talented student body, vast clubs, activities, and sports teams. The resources the Annual Fund routinely adds to the operating budget are of great importance to the school; such gifts are a way every Miss Porter’s School constituent can express affection, admiration, and support for the school. From the planning stages to the conclusion of The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School, gifts to the Annual Fund totaled $21,960,444.

**Estate Giving**

Always an indispensable part of philanthropy, The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School saw a particularly generous degree of support recorded through gifts of bequest, through the designation of the assets in a qualified retirement plan and through charitable gift annuities. These “future gifts” are a generous manifestation of faith in the generations of Farmington girls yet-to-come and a significant means for ensuring an individual’s part in the school’s legacy of learning. The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School total includes more than $9 million in future gifts.

**Why Undesignated Giving?**

Of all the ways to support Miss Porter’s School, the most effective is undesignated giving. Funds contributed without restriction by the donor allow the school the maximum flexibility in deploying its resources to meet the most pressing institutional needs. This enables the board of trustees to lead the school and manage its progress in the best ways possible. How does making such a gift support the vibrant enterprise that is Miss Porter’s School? Contributions to undesignated funds touch every aspect of campus life—from the classrooms and the library, to the athletic fields, arts studios, and the dormitories.
LOOKING FORWARD:
CELEBRATING OUR SHARED ACHIEVEMENTS

Miss Porter’s School is prepared as an institution to capture opportunities, to meet challenges, and to claim the exemplar. We have declared our ambition to be the exemplary girls’ school through our strategic planning work and in the development of our guiding principle statements.

Through the successful completion of The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School, the largest in our school’s history, we are one step closer to achieving all that we believe is possible. This campaign helps to secure our current operations while ensuring our ability to attain our visionary goals. We will be able to continue to offer the very best and most relevant education to the very brightest young women, for whom Miss Porter’s School is their first choice in their secondary school options.

In a time when the merits of single-sex education are still debated, Miss Porter’s School is experiencing the largest enrollment in the school’s history, with 333 students. Our admission yield has exceeded 50 percent for the second consecutive year, while our acceptance rate has decreased by nine percent. For us, there is no question about the value of girls’ schools, but more importantly, there is no question about the value of a Miss Porter’s School education. We are proud to state that we keep the promise articulated by our mission statement, we define our institutional goals and practices, and we inspire by setting our aspirations high. We are known to say what we do and do what we say.

As your Head of School, it is my job to address the school’s current needs while looking forward to what lies ahead. I can assure you that the future will hold more of the same. We will continue to build on the remarkable work of those who have come before us, to celebrate the successes we enjoy, and to move forward seeking and setting the best practices for girls’ education.

You should feel proud of what the successful conclusion of The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School means for our school and confident that your ongoing philanthropic support will leverage its effects to improve all of the resources available for our students. The successes of Miss Porter’s School are our shared achievements, and your support of the campaign has been essential. We could not have done it without you. And, we will not be able to do it without you. Within our legacy lies our future.

Sincerely,

Katherine G. Windsor, Ed.D.
Head of School
OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Donors listed here are those whose cumulative gifts and pledges from July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2011 equal $1,000 or more. Miss Porter’s School is grateful to all donors whose gifts made The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School a success. All other donors are recognized by the school’s Annual Report.

$5,000,000 +
†Barbara Lang Hacker ’29 and
†Mr. William D. Hacker

$1,000,000 to 4,999,999
Anonymous (2)
Mr. Bruce B. Bates
Elisabeth Cole Carpentieri ’57
Barron and Tami Collier
Emily Ridgway Crisp ’59
Antoinette Mayer Fallon ’46
Joanne Fleming Hayes ’64
Judy Olin Higgins ’54
Mimi Colgate Kirk ’57
Diane A. Nixon ’53
†Virginia Durand Shelden ’39
Nancy Klingenstein Simpkins ’73
Jean Hudson Witmer ’73
Patricia Plum Wyde ’58

$500,000 to 999,999
Anonymous
Anne Firestone Ball ’51
Anne Cox Chambers ’38
Lucy Pulling Cutting ’54
Louisa Copeland Duemling ’54
Barbara Higgins Epifanio ’79
Mrs. M. Burch Tracy Ford
Jean McBride Greene ’51 and
Mr. John K. Greene
†Margaret Hixon Hanson ’33
Mary Ann BonDurant Hodgkins ’54
Louise Woolworth Lamphere ’76
Cameron McClellan Lamphier ’74
Elizabeth Mead Merck ’38
Gaier Notman Palmisano ’69
Gloria Barnes Van Norden ’41

$250,000 to 499,999
Anonymous
†Marian Wood Baird ’33
Lucille Parsons Balcom ’30

†Nancy Smith Bates ’51
Fraser Bennett Beede ’81
Elizabeth Kilcullen Blake ’69
Mary Ann Bickford Casey ’56
Helen H. Chatfield ’64
Mr. Robert Deutsch and Ms. Laurie Egger
Clover Macdonald Drinkwater ’64
Ann Posey Ferguson ’56
Jennifer Fuqua Fowler ’93
Mary Slocum Harris ’47
Rebecca Miller Harvey ’59
Lucile Walker Hays ’56
Judith Milliken Holden ’68
Anne Stillman Nordeman ’65
Susan Putnam Peck ’75
Nanabee Stuart Pillsbury ’61
Victoire Griffin Rankin ’60
Rebecca Wean Stilin ’83
Marcia Dines Strickland ’50
Milbrey Rennie Taylor ’64
†Anne Smith Waud ’30
Melissa Wheeler Waud ’81

Ms. Catherine D. Wood
Odette Artimo Worrell ’85

$100,000 to 249,999
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Barbara Babcock ’55
†Alice Baby Bent ’27
†Mr. George P. Bent II
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Amelia S. Berg ’80
†Dorothy Gatins Brewster ’32
Nancy Pierce Briggs ’50
Diana Dwyer Brooks ’68
Deborah Winston Callard ’56
Mr. and Mrs. H. Augustus Carey
Mr. Edmund M. Carpenter
Jean Markewald Chapin ’56
Constance B. Coburn ’83
Nona Murphy Collin ’83
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Dudeck
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Duff
Cynthia Greenleaf Fanton '65
Janet Isham Field '66
Elaine Walker Fiske '64
Blair Stevenson Fleischmann '48
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Paulette Bragg Fownes '42
Elizabeth Alexander Goddard '68
Dianne T. Goodnow '77
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Mr. and Mrs. David B. Hill

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Marilen Grosjean Tilt '60
Doreen Ma Wang '76
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Mary Watts Watson '38
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Mr. Peter Wheeler and
Ms. Elizabeth Munro
†Mrs. Margaret C. Whitman
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Wilcox

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Elisabeth Nicholson Holmes '54
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Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Cheshire
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Nancy Bell Cox '66
Cynthia Laughlin Cooper '47
Kimberly Crew '85
Joan Lewis Danforth '49
Margaret Porter Davis '52
Mary Wallace de Compiegne '50
Barbara Baldwin Dowd '67
Nancy Adams Downey '59
Lulie Pierpont Eide '67
Ann Rockefeller Elliman '44

Isobel L. Ellis '81
Patricia Monroe Emery '52
Valerie Greene Flynn '81
Sharon and Milton A. Fuller, Jr.
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Peggy Nash Gifford '48
Alexandra Erickson Golinkin '73
Mary Thorne Gould '43
Beatrice Holden Guthrie '59
†Alice Kelley Harlow '23
Jane Snow Hatch '53
Anne Millicen Hoglund '71
Deming Pratt Holleran '61
Sally Ann McPherson Isham '44
Adrienne Osborne Ives '50
Emily Graves Jones '60
Susan Briggs Kitchen '76
Lisa J. Kunstalder '70
Lisa S. Lewis '77
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Darcy S. Mauro '83
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Anne Labouisse Peretz '56
Margaret Taylor Phelps '44
Frances Gillmore Pratt '56
Emilie Mead Pryor '79
Deborah du Pont Riegel '59
Letitia Roberts '60
Sarah Hickox Ross '51
Vale Asche Russell '51
Elizabeth Standish Sackson '83
Alison Vance Scherer '90
Tina Shawpleigh Schmid '66
Mr. and Mrs. Craig G. Schoon
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Jane Parker Shotwell '56
Margot Hawley Spelman '53
†Helen D'Olier Stowell '30
Vivian Day Stroh '75
Veronica Mallory Stubbs '66
Kristen Kossick Swenson '85
Nancy Bryan Taylor '47
Diana Russell Terrato '86
Katharine Richmond Trotman '60
Daryl Brown Uber '79
Mrs. Herbert A. Vance
†Maud Tilghman Walker '36
Ms. Barbara S. Wells
Kathryn Eklund Wise '84
Gay Firestone Wray '55

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Mr. and Mrs. Lee M. Bass
Mr. Donfred Berg
Elizabeth Collin Biddle '47
Serena McKnight Bowman '83
Mr. John A. Bross
Linda N. Cabot '76
Nora Leake Cameron '60
Mrs. Edmund N. Carpenter II
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Cheshire
Robin Rowan Clarke '56
Nancy Bell Cox '66
Cynthia Laughlin Cooper '47
Kimberly Crew '85
Joan Lewis Danforth '49
Margaret Porter Davis '52
Mary Wallace de Compiegne '50
Barbara Baldwin Dowd '67
Nancy Adams Downey '59
Lulie Pierpont Eide '67
Ann Rockefeller Elliman '44
The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School included a goal to increase the school’s unrestricted assets. The over $12 million in unrestricted gifts from donors ensured this goal was achieved.
Miss Porter’s School provided a critical foundation for my daughters, Allison ’07 and Katie ’09, to excel in college and beyond. Our endowment gift will hopefully perpetuate that experience for many girls in the years to come, for when you look at the problems facing America today, a strong education is not merely “nice to have” but rather, it is vital. An education like Miss Porter’s School provides is one of the most valuable gifts that you can provide your children.

— ROBERT DEUTSCH
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†Elizabeth Mills Coolidge ’44
Elizabeth Pisacano Coons ’85
Colleen R. Cooper ’85
Marie McCook Cooper ’37
Marion Moore Cope ’53
Kira Mohaupt Cordasco ’93
Mr. Steven L. Cormor
Lynette Maxwell Cornell ’51
Storris Lamb Cote ’82
Katrina Gonzalez Coto ’90
Mariana Potatine Cotten ’60
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Amanda Crames-Orozolek ’84
Susan Harris Crompton ’56
Mrs. J. Noyes Cravy
Susan Parrott Cray ’77
Angela Tilley Crates ’86
Anita Racioppi Craven ’51
Brenda Cravens ’63
Carol C. Cravens ’64
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey W. Crawford
Mr. Gerry P. Crean and Ms. Cathy A. Kies
Dorothy Macdonald Crocker ’65
Elaine Crocker
Elizabeth L. Crockett ’74
Sybil S. Croft-Nikolic ’56
Dr. Edward Cronin and Dr. Helen Crowe
Katherine Zipser Cross ’88
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Joanne Espanol Cserek ’92
Sophia du Bruil Cue ’86
Jennifer Drew Cunningham ’85
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Mr. and Mrs. William S. Cushman
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Mr. and Mrs. Loic de Kertanguy
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Maria-Helene Manville de laire ’52
Edith Myles de Montebello ’57
Aby King de Perez ’96
Mariana Mann de Saint Phalle ’48
Felicia M. De Sanctis ’86
Mr. and Mrs. Carl de Stefanis
Julie Buddy de Wolff ’53
Sixty-one percent of Ancients supported the Annual Fund during the second phase of the campaign.

† Deceased
Annual Fund participation by current parents increased from 52 percent to 66 percent during the second phase of the campaign.
I am so proud of what the school has become—a vibrant, intellectually challenging, warm, and fun-filled environment that is proof that single-sex education is relevant today. I view annual support as an annual reaffirmation of my support for the mission of Porter’s, and I believe it is critical to provide unrestricted annual giving to give the administration the flexibility to meet the school’s needs as they arise.

— TRUSTEE CLOVER MACDONALD DRINKWATER ’64

† Deceased
Susan F. Kelley ’69
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Kelmar
Mrs. James Kelso
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Kennan
Anne Sibley Kennedy ’53
Mr. Peter M. Kennedy
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kenny
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Mr. and Mrs. Chang Il Kim
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Dr. and Mrs. Kunsoo Kim
Ms. Rosa Kim and Mr. Kiwon Chang
Mr. Ryang Kim and Ms. Young E. Chang
Dr. and Mrs. Seok-Yong Kim
Mr. Taesung Kim and Ms. Jeongwha Lee
Dr. Youngjin Kim and Dr. Yoonae Choi
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Catherine Alexandre King ’89
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Eleanor Watson Kinsella ’75
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Pee Fong Lim ’99
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Mr. and Mrs. Brian H. Lindroth
Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Lindsay
Mary Adams Lines ’68
Kathleen Lingo ’61
Sarah Klish Liu ’90
Marion Orrick Livermore ’69
Wendell Willis Livingston ’75
Elizabith Hammond Llewellyn ’64
Johanna Young Llewellyn ’89
Frances Aldrich Llopis ’63
Alice B. Lloyd ’73
Tangley C. Lloyd ’62
Mary Ann Riegel Lockhart ’41
Dr. Henry S. Lodge
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The Annual Fund grew by 84 percent during The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School, and its final year, there were remarkable examples of annual giving as an expression of community building. In 2010-11, every member of the senior class made a gift in support of the Annual Fund. Following their lead, 100 percent of the school’s faculty and staff, board of trustees, Alumnae Board, Nominating Committee, and Parent Leadership Committee also made gifts to the Annual Fund. This collective show of support may have inspired Ancients, who increased their participation in the Annual Fund by ten percent during this same time.
My sister Pam Paton ’56 tragically lost her life the summer after her first year at Miss Porter’s School, but she had told me several times in that spring of 1953 that she had never been happier. I adored my sister, and I appreciate the opportunity to be able to give a scholarship in her memory. It helps me honor and remember Pam while helping other students have the privilege of a Porter’s education. I also get to know each student who receives her scholarship, so how can I lose?

— JOAN PATON TILNEY ’46

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Leonore Shiland Taylor ’37
Mary Hammond Taylor ’24
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Jean French Thomas ’30
Susan Bickford Thomas ’62
Priscilla Robinson Thompson ’27
Mary Chester Tilt ’24
Victoria P. Tilt ’57
Claire T. Townsend ’70
Ann Smith Townson ’54
Virginia Tracy

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Diana M. Trent ’60
Lindsay Brennan Tricot ’84
Alice Moss Truesdale ’10
Nancy Sharp Van Vranken ’56
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† Deceased
In the first phase of the campaign, 15 donors documented bequest intentions. In the second phase, 44 donors documented bequests—an increase of nearly 200 percent.
Miss Porter’s School is grateful to those who demonstrated their visionary leadership during the campaign through the various forms of planned gifts. These gifts include bequests, IRA gifts, charitable gift annuities, pooled income fund contributions, charitable trusts, charitable lead trust and gifts of life insurance.

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Richard P. Eide
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and Donald Kitchen
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Peter O. Crisp
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Richard P. Eide
Barbara Higgins Epifanio ’79
William E. Epifanio
Janet Isham Field ’66
Robert H. Forrester
Jennifer Fuqua Fowler ’93
Elizabeth Alexander Goddard ’68
Alexandra Erickson Golklin ’73
Wendy Crisp Henderson ’83
Judith Milliken Holden ’68
Donald J. Kirk
Mimi Colgate Kirk ’57
Lynn Bowby Knowles ’83
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Lafayette Lamphere ’76
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Heather Lynch McAuliffe ’94

Donald J. Kirk
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Olive A. Lyons ’88
Elizabeth Markham McNamara ’81
S. Gregg Renfrew ’86
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Milbrey Rennie Taylor ’64
Zach H. Taylor, Jr.
Gloria Barnes Van Norden ’41
Anita Barker Weeks ’77
Catherine Whitney Welles ’79
Christopher S. Welles
Katherine G. Windsor, Ed.D
News from the Faculty Room

Chair of the English Department Kate Doemland attended a special National Endowment for the Humanities Institute at The Mark Twain House & Museum in Hartford, Conn., and in Virginia City, Neb. The subject of the institute was “Mark Twain and the Culture of Progress.”

Associate Athletic Director Kristen Grabowski recently began coursework towards a Master of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies at Dartmouth College.

English Teacher Eleanor (Ellie) Lindenmayer '01 earned a Master of Arts in English from the Bread Loaf School of English of Middlebury College.

Science Teacher Samantha Littlejohn was named the recipient of The Class of 1959 Teaching Fund for a Career in the Classroom.

Art Teacher Marlo Marrero completed an Online School for Girls faculty professional development course in blended learning and participated in a global leadership conference at Phillips Andover Academy.

Director of Technology Karen McKenzie was named the recipient of The Crisp Chair for Information Technology.

House Director Michele Musto attended the national conference of the American Association of State and Local History where she received a Leadership in History Award for her work as the curator of the Cornwall Historical Society’s exhibit, “Visions and Contradictions: The Foreign Mission School, 1816-1826.”

Associate Head of School Carol Santos was named the recipient of The Ellen Stuart Poole ’26 Academic Chair. Ms. Santos also began the Mid-Career Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership at the University of Pennsylvania.


Director of Admission Liz Schmitt presented, “It Takes a Village: Recruiting a Class, One Student at a Time,” at the Secondary School Admission Test Board’s Annual Meeting 2011.

Executive Assistant to the Head of School Deborah Smith has been named to the Connecticut Association of Independent School’s Head’s Assistant Commission.

Chinese Teacher Wen-Lin Su taught an intensive Chinese summer program at Glastonbury High School in Glastonbury, Conn. The program was led by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language and Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools.

Music Teacher Kathleen Szymczyk began the Doctor of Arts in Leadership Program at Franklin Pierce University.

Director of Visual Arts Grier Torrence served the Educational Testing Service and the College Board for the fifth consecutive summer as an Advanced Placement Studio Art reader. He also exhibited in a one-person show at Farmington’s Barney Library’s Hoppin Gallery.
My volunteer experience began just like many others have,” recalls Trustee Janet Isham Field ’66. “It was my 25th Reunion and I agreed to chair my class’s committee. But, my fundraising for school really began in earnest when I was asked to serve on the Campaign Executive Council during Phase I of the Campaign for Miss Porter’s School.”

In 2007, Janet became a trustee and with her new role, there came a new request—to co-chair the capital campaign. The assignment would be a significant undertaking, and Janet thought closely about the prospect. “Ultimately, I decided that this was an effort that I could make for the betterment of school, and that it was a compliment to be asked to serve in this capacity. And, as it turned out, I was never sorry that I said yes.”

Working with the campaign provided Janet with opportunities for education and engagement. “Believe it or not, the greatest challenge I overcame through this volunteer opportunity was learning how to ask for major gifts. It may sound peculiar that I had to learn this after accepting the co-chair responsibility, but while I had certainly raised money for school before, this was a whole new level. It took some learning by doing, and I appreciated the assistance I received from the Development Office.”

During the campaign, Janet’s enthusiasm was maintained by staying closely connected to school. She credits the weekly campaign phone meetings for keeping her inspired. “We caught up on school life, campaign updates, brainstormed strategies, and discussed regional events. It was always fun for us to attend Farmington receptions around the country. We enjoyed spending time with Head of School Kate Windsor, who never failed to impress those in attendance. Her leadership and call to ‘claim the exemplar’ should inspire each of us to do our personal best on behalf of and in support of Farmington.”

For Janet, the achievement of the campaign is a shared accomplishment. “It was the effort of volunteers that made the success of this campaign possible,” she says. “We caught up on school life, campaign updates, brainstormed strategies, and discussed regional events. It was always fun for us to attend Farmington receptions around the country. We enjoyed spending time with Head of School Kate Windsor, who never failed to impress those in attendance. Her leadership and call to ‘claim the exemplar’ should inspire each of us to do our personal best on behalf of and in support of Farmington.”

Janet believes the Principal Gifts Group, a committee of truly dedicated Ancients who met monthly via conference call during the campaign, deserve special recognition. “The PGG was really the campaign volunteer nerve center, and these dedicated women were critical to our ability to meet our goal.”

Such committed volunteers were essential, for the campaign was not without its trials. As Janet recalls, “We were only one year into the second phase when the economic outlook changed so dramatically. We were forced to think about new strategies in order to balance the need to continue to move forward with the economic uncertainties that confronted our donors.” It also was of particular importance to educate donors on the value of unrestricted giving during this time as these gifts give the school the most financial flexibility.

“I feel good about the donors whom I solicited for the campaign,” shares Janet. “Their commitment to the school and their thoughtful generosity is inspiring, and I truly know that their ‘treasure’ will be well stewarded and well used by the school.

“If I learned one thing about being a donor through this experience it is this: decide what you are passionate about, ask questions, listen, consider and make your best gift using a vehicle that works best for you, whether an outright gift, a multi-year pledge, or a planned gift. Then enjoy the wonderful feeling that comes from what you have done to help ‘shape a changing world!’”
A Role Model’s Role Models

Campaign Co-Chair Mimi Colgate Kirk ’57 Describes the Evolution of Her Experience as a Volunteer

“F”irst off, I have loved being a volunteer for Miss Porter’s School,” says Trustee Mimi Colgate Kirk, when asked about her now 44 years championing Farmington. “My experience has been filled with great fun and plentiful opportunities to work with remarkable role models.”

In 1967, Mimi joined the school’s Fairfield-Westchester branch. Each year, the group provided a cultural event for their members, whether a trip to a museum or a visit from a faculty member. “It was a wonderful way to reconnect with school,” shares Mimi. After years as branch volunteer, Farmington Founder, and Annual Fund representative, Mimi joined the Alumnae Board. “Lucy Cutting ’54 was the then president of the Alumnae Board. I was so impressed with her. I had been a stay-at-home mom, and I had not been exposed to women holding leadership positions. Lucy was the first of my Farmington role models.”

In 1984, Mimi took on what she refers to as her “first grown-up job” as a volunteer, heading Annual Fund efforts. “We would have telethons in New York City with sandwiches made and transported by Lynne Stewart ’75 and myself. I remember lots of hard work but much enthusiasm. Alumnae participation was an impressive 55 percent, but we raised only 25 percent of the funds we do now!”

Mimi became a member of the board of trustees in 1990. Despite her already impressive resume, she did not immediately feel ready for the role. “Although I was still getting acclimated, it was very inspiring to watch these women run meetings, make decisions and lead campaigns. Edwina Millington ’49, Caroline Macomber ’50, Margee Harper ’53, Missy Crisp ’59 and Missie Rennie Taylor ’64 were more wonderful role models for me in their dedication.”

In 1993, something changed and in turn, so did Mimi. “With the arrival of Burch Ford as head of school, I could sense a shift in direction—girls were expected to be leaders. I found this new direction extremely exciting, and I was happy to try to make it happen,” she recalls. Enthused, Mimi took on the charge, working closely with former Director of Development Kathi O’Connor. “Doing any job for Kathi was a delight. She could make me feel like I had done a fantastic job even if I had only made a phone call.” Mimi’s efforts did not go unnoticed. “Five years ago, two more role models, Judy Holden ’68 and Barbara Epifanio ’79 (daughter of Judy Higgins ’54, role model exemplar) asked if I would rejoin the board and co-chair the campaign’s second phase with Janet Field ’66.”

With this new undertaking, Mimi found great reward. “Julia McCormack, senior director of institutional advancement, and Eric Ort, director of leadership gifts, never questioned our ability to meet our goal, despite the economic challenges we faced,” she states. “Then, along came Head of School Kate Windsor, yet another role model. With her at the helm, our students are bound to grow up with the chance, courage, and confidence to shape a changing world.”

At the close of the campaign, Mimi is quick to point out those she believes deserve the real credit. “I am so grateful for the support the school has received from our donors and volunteers. We could not have been successful without their great efforts.” And, though her work is complete, Mimi has a new mission.

“I’d still like to reach out to all those available Ancients who are not yet engaged with school. It is so important for alumnae to experience school as it is today—how different it is and yet how it retains so much of what we remember—and to know that Farmington is, and will always be, our home,” she says. “I’d like to show them how they too can volunteer, have fun and become philanthropic leaders. For when women realize their ability to make meaningful gifts, anything is possible.”
Going Abroad

Fulbright Scholar Jacqueline Sofia ’05 Heads to Jordan

Jacqueline Sofia ’05

Fulbright Scholar Award winner Jacqueline (Jackie) Sofia earned her bachelor’s degree in international studies from Johns Hopkins University in 2009. She is a part-time graduate student at the university’s Center for Global Health at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she formerly served as a program associate.

Jacquie Sofia spent her high school and college careers with a sense of commitment to the world but believed the knowledge she sought to become a global citizen could not be found inside a classroom or within a textbook.

Her inspiration to apply for a Fulbright Scholar Award derived from her work with Dr. Nancy Glass at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. Dr. Glass had selected Jackie to be her research assistant at the House of Ruth, a shelter for survivors of inter-partner violence in the city of Baltimore. Jackie’s work with these women was an awakening, “It made me realize that there was so much more to learn, and that these women’s stories told a whole host of truths about the world. Their wisdom regarding life’s hurdles was more extensive than anything I would learn in school.”

In Jordan, Jackie will study the institutional response to female domestic violence in partnership with a foundation and a national commission to implement methods for first-responders. “I am hoping to gain greater insight on what is being done for female survivors and current victims of inter-partner violence,” she shares. “There has been a lot of documented progress in the past five years, but I am interested in talking with those who are more closely working within the support system: healthcare professionals, lawyers, activists, professors. What is their perspective on the current situation, and what greater improvements can be made?”

Her goals are ambitious, and the trip is not without its own unique first. “This is my first time traveling abroad, so I am already prepared to experience a lot of ups and downs along the way. I never wanted my first time visiting a foreign country to be a vacation of any sort; I always imagined it being a truly meaningful time in my life that would throw everything I’ve ever known on its head and make me ask a lot of questions, both of myself and of society on a global scale.”

Jackie realizes that her trip will be filled with highs and lows and welcomes the personal growth derived from both. “Despite whatever struggles I may encounter, I’m looking forward to welcoming them with open arms,” she states. “I am looking to take myself out of my comfort zone and to gain as much experience as I do humility on this trip.

“The people you meet and come to know, whether you’ve spoken for five minutes or five years, can be the most influential encounters in your life.”

—JACQUELINE SOFIA ’05

“In the end, I want my time in Jordan to provide me with an even greater sense of curiosity about the world and a greater desire to influence it for the better,” continues Jackie. “I do see the Fulbright as a stepping stone [to shaping a changing world]; however, I don’t know if I will so much shape a changing world this time, but learn a great deal about the world that will hopefully benefit others. For me, the mission has a deeper meaning, that in the end we will not only shape the world, but it will also shape us.”

Join Jackie as she recounts her experience in Jordan by visiting her blog:
http://begintheworld.blogspot.com
The Online School for Girls (OSG) is the world’s first girls’ only online school. The school offers a challenging and supportive online learning experience that emphasizes connections among participants; incorporates collaboration into the learning experience; inspires and rewards creativity; and engages in real-world problems and applications while having students probe the social and ethical dynamics that define and stretch our global society.

“The Online School for Girls broadens the educational opportunities available to girls by offering an independent school experience that is not limited by location,” states Head of School Kate Windsor. “Like traditional independent schools, OSG teaches girls what it means to be literate, participatory, and fluent in the tools of the 21st century. The very delivery mechanism of OSG coursework provides a compounding effect of the curriculum by teaching a skill set vital to girls today: technology, communication, analysis, and access to global concepts.”

“We are thrilled that a school of the caliber of Miss Porter’s School is joining our efforts to create the best possible online courses for girls and professional development options for faculty members,” said Brad Rathgeber, director of the Online School for Girls. “Miss Porter’s School has a longstanding reputation both within their local market and nationally for providing a challenging and supporting learning environment for girls. By becoming members of the Online School for Girls, they will help bring a great classroom experience online.”

OSG teachers are scholars and faculty leaders at their home campuses who lead initiatives in science, technology, engineering and math curriculums, global programs, and leadership development. They know that girls need to feel strong connections with their teachers and peers, and to work collaboratively in the classroom. More than a remote, individualized online curriculum, an OSG class is an active, engaging classroom.

In its OSG courses, students are brought together from around the world within a construct similar to campus-based girls’ schools. With their teachers, students create a creative learning experience within an online classroom specifically tailored to the ways that girls learn best. Classes have no more than twenty students, and students are known and appreciated.

A candidate for accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, approved by College Board for Advanced Placement instruction, and a member of the National Association of Schools, the Online School for Girls stands alone as the online educational option that understands the unique position girls occupy in the online educational space. By aligning itself with such an institution, Miss Porter’s School has the opportunity to develop a long-standing relationship with the organization and to delve deeply into the options OSG presents for our students and faculty.
OPENING CONVOCATION & Awards Ceremony

The Porter’s community kicked off the 2011-2012 school year with opening convocation.

Students were honored with the following academic awards:

Mary Parker Foss New Girl Award  
Madeleine Murphy ’14

The Professor Alex Chang Prizes Academic Achievement  
Hae Jin Park ’12

Exemplary Character  
Charlesa Redmond ’12

The Doris M. Prout Latin Achievement Award  
Jesse Claflin ’14

The Kay Smedley Prize for History  
Sarah Goldman ’12

The Cum Laude Society  
Stephanie Denoyer ’12
Sarah Goldman ’12
Alexandra Selldorff ’12
Nora Weathers ’12

The Vassar Book Award  
Sarah Berg ’12

The Brown University Alumni Award  
Stephanie Denoyer ’12

University of Rochester Humanities/Social Sciences Award  
Hibba Meraay ’12

The Harvard/Radcliffe Club Book Award  
Nora Weathers ’12

The Williams College Book Award  
Lillian Corman ’12

The Rensselaer Medal  
Nora Weathers ’12

The University of Rochester Science Medal  
Alexandra Selldorff ’12

Bryn Mawr College President’s Book Award  
Kerry Quarantello ’12

The Cornell Club of Hartford Award  
Emily (Wynne) Hannan ’12

The Princeton Book Award  
Natascha Lamprecht ’12

The Smith College Book Award  
Charlesa Redmond ’12

The Trinity College Book Award  
Hae Jin Park ’12

The Phyllis Katz/Wellesley College Award  
Sarah-Palmer Garrett ’12

The Yale Book Award  
Clare DeSantis ’12

SARAH PORTER HONOR ROLL

Class of 2013, elected at end of freshman year  
Lauren Benjamin  
Francesca Childs  
Shana Coffey  
Morgan Grady-Benson  
Kathryn McElheny  
Bryn Portella  
Anna Preston  
Koeun Seol  
Aurora Stone  
Sera Takata

Class of 2013, elected at end of sophomore year  
Abigail Arky  
Amina Bility  
Caela Brodigan  
Samantha Buczek  
Yung-Ching Chang  
Jed-Joan Edziah  
Abbie Gantner  
Nora Holmes  
Julia Shumlin  
Yufan Zhang

Class of 2014, elected at end of freshman year  
Boyoung Ahn  
Alison Andrade  
Anna Cho  
Ariel Chu  
Jesse Claflin  
Helen Gallagher  
Catherine Kandrysawtz  
Hyojin Kim  
Jee Young Lee  
Madeleine Murphy  
Madeleine Preston  
Caitlin Reynolds  
Emily Saulnier
This summer, ten students joined Photography Teacher Marlo Marrero, House Director Raegan Chekas, and Ancient Sloane Sandler ’05 for a ten-day art and service trip to the Dominican Republic.

For the first six days, the group camped in Los Calabazos. Hiking in and out of the mountainous region with cameras and equipment in tow was a significant undertaking, but the group began the work of their trip enthusiastically as they delved into their photography and pottery craft.

In Los Calabazos, the group benefited from a special guide. Joining them on their trip was Artist Angels Tello Pardo, founder of AMUCA, a non-profit dedicated to revitalizing the traditions of Taino clay sculpture by teaching Dominican farm women self-worth through the art of ceramics. Ms. Tello Pardo introduced the group to her work and the women of her cooperative.

“Under her guidance, we were more than just students of pottery, we were students of life,” states Ms. Marrero. “We were humbled as we met humble women. They shared with us what it means to be a woman in rural Dominican culture, and our girls talked about the culture of being a teenage girl in the United States.”

“Angels taught me that anyone can help others and that by helping others, you help yourself,” says Isabel Blank ’13, and Ms. Marrero agrees. “By experiencing the workshop Angels teaches the local women, we learned how the women of AMUCA develop self-confidence and awareness through the initiative,” she says. “Our students had a new appreciation for empowerment and self-esteem and how it can be gained through art.”

Students appreciated engaging in a complete immersion experience. “I have fallen in love with this country, this culture and this language,” enthuses Ymani Francis ’12, and Isabel expounds on the transformative journey. “I put myself out there to accept all the good and all the bad, and I am unbelievably proud and happy that I did.”

“It was my mission to give the girls permission to experience our trip from a place of being instead of doing,” recalls Ms. Marrero. “Our experience was guided by weather, land and culture, not bound by time, production and results.”

The group then traveled to Sosua, a resort town, where they experienced the disheartening contrast of the resort experience versus the poverty of the local community. In Carabete, the group had an educational meeting with the executive director of The Mariposa Foundation, an organization dedicated to the urgent need for community-based solutions to end poverty, to learn about their work to tackle these social issues.

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The trip culminated in an exhibition of photographs and pottery in the Donaldson Gallery in the Olin Arts and Sciences building by the Porter’s group, Ms. Tello Pardo and the women of AMUCA. It was a reunion of sorts, as Ms. Tello Pardo traveled to Farmington to attend the reception and to lead workshops. To view the exhibit, please visit www.porters.org/artgalleries.

Sophomores Named Squash Scholar-Athletes

Varsity squash team members Courtney Anderson and Elizabeth (Liddy) Renner have earned U.S. Squash Scholar-Athlete awards. The award is granted to high school students who excel in both academics and squash, achieving a GPA of 3.5 or higher and competing in at least four U.S. Squash sanctioned tournaments in a specified one-year period.

Successful Summer for Golf Champ

Varsity golf team member June Conti ’13 competed in the 55th Annual New England Women’s Golf Association Championship and finished seven under the rest of the junior field to become the 2011 New England Women’s Junior Amateur Champion.

June was also one of 36 junior golfers selected to compete in the Golf Digest Junior Pro-Am, part of the Travelers Championship Pro-Am. June was paired with PGA Tour pro Morgan Hoffman for a 9-hole scramble. The pair finished seven under par. June then competed in the Dutchess County Women’s Amateur, shooting a four-over-par 148 to tie for second place in the two-day tournament.

Leading the Pack

Senior Nora Weathers experienced a successful start to the 2011 cross country season. A four-year varsity runner, Nora finished in first place in every race through November 1, including duel meets and invitational. Nora even set a new course record at the Gordon Glover Invitational at Suffield Academy in Suffield, Conn. “Nora is known for her speed, grit, focus, determination, and outstanding leadership,” shares Head Coach Kate Doemland. “Her work ethic, humility, and dedication to her team are inspirational to all.”

BADMINTON

Highlights of the season include big wins over East Hartford and Hamden High Schools.

FIELD HOCKEY

Varsity Field Hockey’s impressive win-loss record included eight shut-outs where the opposing team did not achieve one goal.
Junior Advisors Jump In

**Swimming with Grace**

Porter’s community service club, Concordia, welcomed 39 Grace Academy students to campus for a day of educational activities. Grace Academy provides quality, tuition-free education to girls in grades five through eight from low-income families in Hartford. Grace Academy students toured campus and the art studios, and participated in activities at the pool, including swimming lessons, water skills training, and water volleyball.

In the past year, Concordia has developed an ongoing relationship with the school. Porter’s students visit Grace Academy weekly to provide students with homework assistance and music lessons. Co-Head Sarah Goldman ’12 notes, “These girls are extremely motivated, and their dedication to education is astounding. It is great to be a part of their development.”

**Head over Heels for Porter’s**

The Porter’s community kicked off the start of the school year with the annual carnival. Both students and faculty joined in the celebration which included a wealth of carnival games, bountiful cotton candy, and even a spontaneous cartwheel competition.

**Admission 101**

The Office of Admission led their third Annual Independent School Admission Workshop with co-host Avon Old Farms School this fall. Over 170 guests descended on Porter’s campus to learn from student and parent workshops on the application process, interviewing skills, and the student experience.

**Reaching for the Top**

Student leaders arrived on campus early for a leadership weekend of training and team-building activities. Events included a ROPES course experience, which proved we all can get by with a little help from our friends!
Friday, June 3, marked the 168th Commencement Exercises. Parents, students, faculty, and Ancients joined in celebrating the graduation of the 87 members of the Class of 2011.

After a welcome by Head of School Kate Windsor and remarks by Student Head of School Brandie Morris and Second Head of School Reyna Venkat, the audience was treated to an emotional and moving performance by the Perilhettes.

Graduates then listened to Jessica Jackley’s commencement address. Ms. Jackley, the former chief marketing officer and one of the founders of www.kiva.org, the world’s first peer-to-peer micro-lending website, is the founder and chief executive officer of www.profounder.com. She enthusiastically advised each graduate to seek out new adventures and to be purposeful in charting her own course.

The awarding of the diplomas was followed by several traditions, including the Hanging of the Daisy Wreath, carrying of the Daisy Chain, and singing of school songs at the fountain.

“Enjoy the feeling of being uniquely you and note it. Think about who you are and whom you would like to become—not what others, including your parents and your teachers, want for you, but what you want. Believe in yourself. This particular understanding of who you really are and what you really care about will serve you well as you delve into the many decisions you will have to make in your new place…It is with great confidence and much anticipation that I look forward to watching you shape a changing world.”

— excerpted from Dr. Katherine G. Windsor’s commencement address.
Graduation Traditions

Hanging of the Daisy Wreath
Immediately following the presentation of diplomas, a wreath of daisies is hung to honor all Ancients, past and present. The seniors who have the largest number of Ancients in their families gather together, and the girl with the longest and closest line of legacies hangs the wreath. The Perilhettes and legacies then sing the Alma Mater, written by Margaret Williams in 1910.

“I leave Farmington a different person than I was when I arrived. I leave with undying friendships, with respect and gratitude for my teachers, and with excitement for the future. Most importantly, I leave knowing I will return, and knowing that, in the meanwhile, I will carry you all with me wherever I roam. Thanks, Class of 2011, for being my home.”
— by Emily Harris ’11, excerpted from “Musings on Fortune” first published in Haggis/Baggis, June 2011

The Daisy Chain
There is no written record of when Miss Porter’s School first adopted this tradition, though it is believed to date back to the late 19th century. Students wove the chain from daisies they picked in local fields and, in 1909, the “Daisy Chain Song” was written by senior Dorothy Draper. The seniors sing this song as they carry the chain from the Swan Pond up to the fountain garden. They are escorted by the Perilhettes, who carry crooks to help the girls keep the rhythm. Today, our local florist uses over 8,000 daisies to weave the “chain our hearts made fast and entwined around the school.”

Planting of the Ivy
Along its way to the fountain garden, the daisy chain stops at the American Beech, the largest tree on campus. When the girls reach the tree, the Student Head of School and Head of Perilhettes are given a silver trowel and a pot of ivy for planting at its base. Then the daisy chain resumes its course, and the ceremonial trowel is returned to its cabinet, safely locked away until the next graduation.

Singing at the Fountain
Since 1908, the songs “Moonbeams” and the Farmington “Alma Mater” have been sung at the fountain by all students and Ancients present. This marks the conclusion of graduation ceremonies. As the girls and their families disperse, members of the Archives Club cut a length of the daisy chain and take it to Sarah Porter’s grave in Riverside Cemetery on Garden Street, where she has rested since 1900.
The Maria McKinney Prize for English
Lauren Roemke

The English Writing Prize
Alexandra (Alex) Bayer

The Farmington Historical Society American History Prize
Mallory Brown

The Shirley Langhauser Award in History
Maura McQuade

The Sarah B. MacLennan Humanities Award
Emily Harris

The Elizabeth Noyes Hempstone Award for Excellence in Modern and Classical Languages
Alexandra (Alex) Bayer

The Doris Prout Latin Improvement Award
Lauren Roemke

The Mathematics Department Prize
Dana Fry

The Mary S. McIntosh Prize in Mathematics
Eileen Roteta

The Dartmouth College Book Award
Dana Fry and Emily Harris

The Alice Hamilton Award for Excellence in Science
Alyssa Calder

The Mount Holyoke College Book Award
Lauren Roemke

The Environmental Action Award
Norah Young

The Cum Laude Society Awarded in the fall
Mallory Brown
Alyssa Calder
Dana Fry
Emily Harris
Haena Lee
Lauren Roemke

The Cum Laude Society Awarded in the spring
Rebecca Aklilu
Alexandra (Alex) Bayer
Lynnette Chan
Meghan Horne
Susanna (Suzy) Jivotovski
Maura McQuade
Lulu Ouyang
Sarah Priest
Eileen Roteta

The Florence Palmer Douglas Award
Dana Fry

The Alumnae Association Award
Alexandra (Lexie) Polacek

The Hughes Art Award
Lynnette Chan and Alexandra (Allie) Hagerty

The Miss Porter’s School Ceramics Award
Susanna (Suzy) Jivotovski and Maura McQuade

Photography Award
Maria (Emmie) Skinner

The Hughes Music Award
Emily (Em) Surprenant

Jean D. Grey Theatre Prize
Lauren Tierney

The Joanna Mitchell Radway Memorial Prize for History of Art
Susanna (Suzy) Jivotovski and Maura McQuade

The Polly Laughlin Memorial Trophy
Amanda Rimsa

The Jane Durston Groat Prize
Holly Haynes

The Lucy Byrd Pegau Award
Maria (Emmie) Skinner

The Haggis Baggis Literary Award
Alexandra (Alex) Bayer and Emily Harris

The Virginia Corrigan Tracy Prize for Journalism
Emily Harris

The Dotty Morrell Coleman Award
Alyssa Rimsa

The Linda Fulton Burns Memorial Award
Sarah Carlson Cottone
Our newest Ancients are matriculating at the following colleges and universities.

American University
Babson College
Barnard College
Barry University
Belmont University
Bentley University
Binghamton University
Boston College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Cedarville University
Colgate University (2)
College of Charleston
Connecticut College (2)
Cornell University (3)
Davidson College
Dickinson College
Emory University (2)
Endicott College (2)
Franklin and Marshall College
Georgetown University (2)
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College (3)
Hamilton College
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges (6)
Johns Hopkins University (School of Arts & Sciences)
Lehigh University
Marymount Manhattan College
McGill University
Mount Holyoke College
New York University (2)
Northeastern University (4)
Providence College
Randolph College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rollins College (2)
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
The University of Alabama
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Trinity College (2)
Union College (2)
University of California at Santa Barbara
University of Connecticut (2)
University of Maine
University of Miami
University of Mississippi
University of Nebraska at Lincoln
University of New Hampshire
University of Pennsylvania (2)
University of Richmond (2)
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Vanderbilt University
Waseda University
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Yale University (3)

Katie Noll, Amy Tsacoyeanes, Lexie Polacek, Judy Blakelock, and Lizzie Mann

Ariel Fernandez

Taylor Leonard-Coleman, Evadne Cruz, Amy Day, Holly Haynes, Chimbere Nwaoduh, and Amanda Rimsa

Hari Formica and Jaclyn Lena
Rain could not dampen the spirits of the more than 250 Ancients and guests who returned to Farmington to celebrate Reunion 2011.

Back on campus, Ancients took the opportunity to attend classes, a lecture by 2011 Sarah Porter Award for Excellence in Teaching Award recipient Sarah Quinn, and an alumnae art show, "Art of the Ancients." The Gilbert and Donaldson Galleries displayed the work of Amelia B. Black ’01, Kerry Bryan Brokaw ’76, Ann S. Fisher ’06, Robin Howe ’76, Cynthia Cutting Robinson ’81, Cassandra N. Rodrigues ’06, Alicia Sands Tiberio ’01, and Marguerite Cunningham Wilson ’66.

The annual Gala Dinner included a Sarah Porter Society celebration commending former members of Miss Porter’s School’s Board of Trustees and Alumnae Board. Next, Renee Schanck Ross ’36 was honored as the oldest Ancient in attendance, celebrating her 75th Reunion; Pippa Tubman Armerding ’86 was recognized for traveling the greatest distance to celebrate with her class—to Farmington from South Africa; and Robin Rowan Clarke ’56 was applauded as the very first Ancient to register for Reunion.

Saturday’s program began with the Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving featuring guest speaker Leith Speiden ’61. After breakfast and student performances, it was time for the Alumnae Association meeting with presentations by Head of School Kate Windsor, Student Head of School Clare DeSantis ’12, and Alumnae Board Co-Presidents Sloan Frazer Pendleton ’85 and Alice Hamblin Williams ’79, P’10. The Classes of 1961, 1963, and 2005 were presented with the Reunion Giving Bowl, the Annual Giving Bowl, and the Silver Pitcher respectively.

Following lunch and class photos, guests attended “Storytellers,” a session in which Ancients in the literary arts shared inspiration and anecdotes. Poet Deming Pratt Holleran ’61, travel and food writer Holly Chase ’71, writer Susan Ritz ’71, and designer and author Annie Laidlaw Selke ’81 welcomed their classmates for a discussion moderated by Eleanor (Ellie) Parker Lindenmayer ’01, a member of Miss Porter’s School’s English faculty. Annie Laidlaw Selke ’81 offered a book signing after the presentation.

On Sunday, classmates enjoyed their last Reunion moments together over a lovely brunch before sharing their good-byes after a wonderful weekend together.

Every year, Reunion Weekend exemplifies what graduates know to be true: a Miss Porter’s School relationship is a lifelong friendship.
“You represent the foundation and the backbone of our amazing school. You are an important part of our legacy, and you are essential to our future.”

— Head of School Kate Windsor, Reunion Weekend address

If your class year ends in 2 or 7, save the dates of October 12 through 14 for REUNION WEEKEND 2012

For more information on Reunion, please visit www.porters.org/reunion
CLASS photos

1936 & 1946

1951

1966

1971

1986

2001
Lois Wodell Poinier writes, “I talked to Barbara Burke Tilley in Hawaii. She took a group of her stepchildren to Alaska on a Disney Cruise in June. I spent two weeks in Weekapaug in July. My three greats were there with Page Poinier Sanders ’61, their grandmother and grandfather. If anyone is left of my class let me know.”

Margaretta (Peggy) Waller Vreeland writes, “I’m still living at Meadow Lakes with good friends and plenty to do—though on a cane now. Will be 90 this year—can’t believe it!”

Mary Cecil Major writes, “I left NYC in 1945 because it was too crowded and came to California. Now I find my grandchildren returning to the East Coast: one to Chapel Hill (UNC), one at NYU, one at Williams (Williamstown, Mass.)! I did get East last fall to see my sister Amanda Cecil Schuster ’38, who has had a stroke. I wish I could have joined Holley Randall Smith for Reunion this fall, but my family won’t let me travel alone.”

Patricia (Pippa) Landon Kauders writes, “Physically fine, mentally a question. Still enjoying Arizona in winter though not the six months we used to be there. We are now down to two-month visits. I am proud and happy to say my granddaughter is at MPS. I never could get into the school today. It is very strong and has competitive admissions. What an exciting place to be.”

Elizabeth Beers Fierro writes, “I have five children and seven grandchildren, and I have been acting, teaching, and directing all my adult life. It’s all due to Jean Grey, who steered me to my first acting school in NYC. Everything flowered from there! From NYC to Philly and environs and then to Martha’s Vineyard. I was in Jaws as well—the woman who slapped the sheriff.”

Sarah (Sally) Robinson McAndrew writes, “I am sad to report that my husband, Peter McAndrew, died in September 2010 after a long struggle with pulmonary fibrosis. We were married for only 10 years. Now alone, I treasure my women friends even more, Farmington and elsewhere.”

Joan Merrill Collins writes, “I am just back from a Tauck tour of Canyonlands. Our magnificent national parks are a true treasure. I send love to all my classmates and would like to hear from my roommates.”

Gwynne Garbsich McDevitt writes, “I have four wonderful grandchildren: Molly (20) in college, Katherine (16), and twins Nellie and Jack (7). Lucky I see them often! I also still work with Gordon and English Setters for field trials.”

Nancy Potts Masland writes, “Looking forward to our 60th! Busy, both with educational consulting and traveling. Bill and I celebrated our 55th anniversary with a trip to the Isle of Skye in September, retracing our 1958 steps. Our grandchildren are graduating from high school and one is heading
on a gap year to Norway. Bill is still doctoring so we see each other on weekends. Back for Bryn Mawr reunion and seeing Joan Ingersoll Coale.”

Cornelia Ladd O’Grady writes, “Bob and I will travel to France and Germany in July with our oldest son Standish, daughter-in-law Anne, and grandson (18) from San Francisco. Great to see Paris and Berlin, etc., through our grandchild’s eyes.”

Harriet Daniels Gardner writes, “I will be in South Africa, hopefully viewing fabulous wildlife.”

Harriet Daniels Gardner writes, “I will be in South Africa, hopefully viewing fabulous wildlife.”

Beverly Ward Docter writes, “Our oldest granddaughter headed to Dartmouth this fall, so we’ll make a few trips to New England from California to see her.”

Ann Richards Gridley writes, “Oscar Gridley (3) has a new baby brother known as Max, born on April 19, 2011. As grandparents, Richard and I don’t find it too hard to fly to Paris to see them and their parents. Our daughter Sarah (Harvard ’90) bought a home in Cleveland where we spend our summers. She teaches poetry at Case Western Reserve University.”

Anne Proctor Walker writes, “Just had a wonderful visit here in Vermont with Susan (Susie) Robinson Bowers and her husband, Jim.”

Deborah Zinke de Camaret writes, “Having passed the fifth year in clinical psychology and psychopathology at the University of Toulouse, thus earning the title of clinical psychologist, I will be teaching three courses in psychology at the university, translating articles, and counseling at the International School of Toulouse. My daughter Alexandra and her husband, Philippe, and my two granddaughters Justine (12) and Camille (11) also live in Toulouse. My 90-year-old father and I will be taking a trip to Dordogne in September. I visit him and my two brothers in Cincinnati every Christmas.”

Meredith Montgomery Charreyron writes, “Our family of six has dispersed and relocated. Pierre and I (sadly) left the Alpine region of Grenoble for the northern plains of France and the small university town of Compiègne. With our two youngest at McGill, Juliette working with Warner Bros (Paris), and Simon living at L’Arche de Beauvais… our nest is empty. But there is lots to do with Pierre (the UTC university president) and me running a new chapter of VSArt (socio-cultural association) in Compiègne and working...”
for VSArt in Paris as well. Come visit. We have just purchased a little ‘pied-à-terre’ in Paris Xlème.”

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40TH REUNION

Reunion Chair
Rebecca Faunce McDermott
Elizabeth Miller Halaby

Reunion Committee
Elizabeth St. John Abelt
Susan Jefferts
Laurel J. Lucey
Rosemary L. Ripley
Winifred Cleveland Sherman
Mary Willis Thompson

75

Fairfax Fullerton Fair writes, “I am now the pastor/head of staff of The First Presbyterian Church in Ann Arbor, Mich.”

77

35TH REUNION

Cathy I. Levy writes, “I have joined the Council for Economic Education in New York City as their vice president of development. I currently reside in Tuckahoe, N.Y.”

81

Hope Connors writes, “Made it to Reunion! Needed some great camaraderie with Farmington grads in our class! Started teaching again—subbing—K through 8 so far and loving it! Still doing healthy, sustainable interior design. My daughter Hopie (7) is the light of my life!”

Caitlin Read McNally writes, “I was diagnosed with breast cancer in the fall of 2008, right as I was poised to sign with my contractor for a gut rehab of my Summit, N.J. home. Miserable treatments including chemo, double mastectomy and radiation ensued. Two and a half years later, things are settling down, and my girls (9 and 12) are doing well. My mother and grandmother also had this miserable disease. So far I’m doing great, keeping fingers crossed.”

82

30TH REUNION

Reunion Chairs
Jennifer (Jenny) Koehler
Lisa Sweeney Beagan
Ashley Jones Tagatac
Class Dinner Chair
Lindsey Buttner Carlisle

87

25TH REUNION

Reunion Chairs
Aubrey Thorne Carey
Regina Travers Stettinius
Mary Stanton Smith
Reunion Committee
Tara Smith Gohlmann

90

Tonya M. Meeks was profiled in the Women to Watch feature for The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, Tenn.) about her job as development manager for Shelby Farms Park. Tonya is a member of the Shelby County Conservation board and the Greening Greater Memphis board, and serves as adviser to the Green Jobs Memphis Planning Initiative. Women to Watch profiles women who are “successful, doing great things or making Memphis a better place.”

Karen T. Staib, a complex litigation attorney, was chosen by the Hartford Business Journal to receive its annual 40 Under Forty Award. The 40 Under Forty Award recognizes outstanding young professionals in the Greater Hartford area. Karen, a partner in the Hartford office of Shipman & Goodwin, was recognized for her commitment to success, personal growth, and community involvement. She is a member of Miss Porter’s School’s Board of Trustees.

Amy M. Woodford writes, “Hi everyone! We enjoyed the summer on the farm, riding the horses out across the beautiful countryside and spending time at the beach, too! I recently saw Alexandra (Ally) Wheeler Gabriele, Lisa McCormick Mannix, and Emilie W. Sommerhoff. Also saw Courtney O. McGovern this past winter. So great to see them—it was like no time had passed at all. Also a shout out to Heather McConnel Goukler, Natalie Harvey Hefter, Tonya M. Meeks, Julia Harris Brown, and Sheila Pierce Ortona—thanks, ladies! Anyone nearby Philadelphia or Baltimore, get in touch. It would be lovely to reconnect.”

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20TH REUNION

Reunion Chairs
Kimberly (Kim) Nolen Getker
Heather Anderson Heuston
Madame Athena Chang

Elizabeth B. Anderson writes, “My husband, Matt Tocks, and I welcomed into the world a baby girl, Charlotte Malvina, who was born on Wednesday, August 18, 2010 in New York City.”
Eileen Flynn DeLaO writes, “We welcomed another daughter on February 1, 2011. Lisette Inez looks very much like big sister Clara but has her own delightful personality. I continue to explore religion through freelance articles and a biweekly column in the Austin American-Statesman and the course I teach (journalism and religion) at the University of Texas. Love to all my Farmington friends!”

Savile C. Lord writes, “It has been a wonderful spring with a huge move from my hometown of Washington, D.C., to southern Minnesota. I have had the distinct pleasure of spending more time with Qian Wang Smith, Eric Smith, and their girls, Helena and Gabrielle, who live in Minneapolis. Wishing everyone well.”

Christine A. Matava shares that she, Chrishaundra L. Lee, and Sarah Cichon attended the National Arts Club celebration of 100 years of Women’s Wear Daily. Chrishaundra is governor and head of fashion.

Amy Tambini Rothman shared the happy news that she had a baby boy, Bayler Upton Rothman, on December 20, 2010.

Lindsay B. Sherman writes, “On June 18, 2011, I married Mr. Lars Sherman in Litchfield, Conn., and was lucky to have my best friends by my side.” Pictured from left to right: Cheyne Munk Beys, Kelly L. O’Boyle, Paulina Mejia, Lindsay B. Sherman, Andrea Valdes-Fauli Oguz, and Heather Lynch McAuliffe.

Obidimma O. Okobi writes, “Since arriving back in New England, I have been reminded of my Farmington roots through several serendipitous encounters, including several library check-ins with Elizabeth F. Werbe ’93, who attended Harvard Graduate School of Education and received her Ed.M in 2011. It doesn’t end there though! A Facebook post re-connected me with Jennifer (Jenn) Gorzalsen ’95, who also attended HGSE (in 2003) and received her master’s degree in the same concentration that I am in (School Leadership). Jenn is currently living in my hometown of Pittsburgh, Penn., and teaching at the Winchester-Thurston School. Serendipity struck again a couple weeks ago while I was chatting over lunch with Brooke McCaffrey, one of the kindergarten teachers at my internship site. Brooke is the younger sister of Molly McCaffrey Schlobohm ’94. She was there during the unforgettable rainstorm that marked our graduation so many years ago! Lastly, there’s at least one another Ancient here at HGSE; I met her VERY briefly in the library; she’s from the class of 1989. I didn’t catch her name, though. If you are reading this, please drop me a line at ookobi1@me.com so that we can have tea or something!”

Ashley Green Dorin writes, “My husband, Ryan, and I are pleased to announce the birth of our first child, Elle Green Dorin. She was born on March 24, 2011, the same birthday as her mommy. We could not be happier!”

Editor’s Note: These photos from Fashion Week were miscaptioned in the last issue of The Bulletin. We regret the error and share the correct captions: (Photo at left) Lisa A. Silhake ’77 (left) and Christine A. Matava ’94 (right). (Photo at right) Sarah Cichon ’94 (left) and Christine A. Matava (right).
Nancy C. Hsieh shared this photo taken in Sardinia, Italy in September 2010. Pictured from left to right: Marie-Denise Dormis, Christina L. Gerber, Kate V. Hemphill, Nuala E. Droney, Maura E. Reilly, and Nancy C. Hsieh.

Winter Berry Gallant writes, “I was thrilled to marry Keith Gallant on June 5, 2010 in the company of our family, friends, and of course, my Porter’s girls. Since that time, we have been very busy getting settled in to living in Syracuse, N.Y., where I’m completing my residency in pediatrics, and my husband works at a local dairy. We would love to visit with anyone passing through the area—it promises plenty of snow and gorgeous summers!” Pictured from left to right: Katherine L. McSpadden, Katherine L. Creighton, Winter Berry Gallant, Elizabeth B. Hobson, Clare S. Creighton, and Hannah Smith Law.


Agnes Bell Wetteroth writes, “I am halfway through my Master’s in Teaching English to speakers of other languages at UMBC. I love being back in school and learning so much. On the whole, life is pretty good for me these days.”

Rebecca E. Ross Russell writes, “Hey all! I’m just getting settled in London, where I’m studying international development at the London School of Economics. It’s a great city, but super expensive! I spent most of last year working in an orphanage in Tanzania, and have since started a small nonprofit to continue working with them. Check it out at www.thesmallthings.org. Life is good!”

The parents of Flora E. Mendoza shared, “After being selected for the very prestigious Coro Fellowship Program for 2010-2011, Flora worked for Humanity in Action in Amsterdam for six weeks this summer. Flora then enjoyed traveling to Brussels, Berlin, Prague and Vienna. Flora also plans to visit Serbia, Bosnia, and the Balklands, and end her travels in Rome, Italy. She makes New York City her home base.”
Mei-Ling C. Wong writes, “I was just accepted to graduate school at UCSF’s School of Nursing for the fall of 2011. The Master’s program is for an acute care pediatric nurse practitioner. I will continue to work as a bedside nurse in the Pediatric ICU at UCSF while working on my degree. Hope everyone is well!”

07
5TH REUNION
Reunion Chairs
Ana D. Calciano
Alexandra (Ally) M. Hashemi
Cordelia M. Sklansky

According to a press release from the Rhode Island School of Design, Nathalie Jolivert was selected by Gensler, a leading global design and architectural firm, as the winner of its third annual Diversity Scholarship, which recognizes emerging talent in African-American college students who are enrolled in an architecture program. The award includes an academic scholarship and a full-time internship with Gensler.

08
Emily G. Cummings writes, “Greetings! I have finished my first year of engineering school at Dartmouth and am heading back to HWS for my senior year. I will be graduating with my class of 2012 and then one more year at Dartmouth. This summer I return to Geneva and begin my second summer of research on the Finger Lakes, doing water collection and analysis with my advisor. Time is sure flying by!”

The parents of Brittany E. Johnson shared, “Brittany competed at the Nationals for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association in Lexington, Ky. The IHSA has over 8,300 riders from over 370 colleges and universities. Brittany competed in three different classes and placed 5th in the Individual Open Fences and 4th in Individual Open Flat. Brittany also competed in the Cacchione Cup and finished 10th. The top 36 riders from across the country qualify for this cup by winning their region with the most points during the year.”

According to a Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s Athletics press release, Muryum K. E. Khalid was honored for academic excellence on the Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association’s 2011 Division III Academic Honor Roll.

Divya M. Malinowski writes, “I’m entering my final year at North Dakota State University and am super excited for it! I’ll be graduating next spring with a major in zoology and a double minor in psychology and chemistry. This summer I have been busy, filling my time as an admissions assistant, giving tours for prospective students (brings me back to my MPS days as the Co-Head of Tour Guides) as well as submitting veterinary school applications. I also began a new job as a complex manager, where I manage an NDSU apartment complex of 70 apartments and about 300 tenants. It has been a lot of fun so far and I’m looking forward to the rest of the year. Also, I’m not sure if anyone there heard, but I was recently featured in the Wall Street Journal in an article on how NDSU’s campus appeals to out-of-state students. MPS was mentioned more than once. On another note, my brother and sister-in-law are expecting a baby girl and I can’t wait for her to become a Daisy! I hope all is well and I look forward to returning soon to see the changes made on campus since I’ve left—Farmington will always be my home!” (Editor’s note: For Diva’s full class note, visit www.porters.org.)

09
Alexandra E. L. Lazowski writes, “I am currently a sophomore at Johns Hopkins University, majoring in East Asian studies. I am also involved with the Hopkins debate and investment teams. I spent this past summer working for an international finance consulting company in Beijing, China.”

According to the school’s website, Hannah P. Mirza led last year’s University of California—Davis lacrosse team with a school-record 58 draw controls.

Jennifer L. Schoelwer writes, “Alyssa P. Kasanoff made time to visit me at my new home in D.C. this summer. We enjoyed all the regular monuments of our nation’s capital, but the highlight was taking in a private tour at George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate.”
Thai C. D. Matthews was selected as the winner of the 2011 Hurston/Wright Award for College Writers, which honors excellence in fiction writing by students of African descent who are enrolled full time at United States colleges and universities. The award is given in recognition of the best previously unpublished short story or novel excerpt. Thai, a student at Wellesley College, was honored for her short story You Are Here.

The parents of Michelle M. Regius write, “We are proud to share that Michelle has done an internship at International Needs Australia this summer. International Needs is a Christian overseas aid and development agency located in Melbourne, Australia. Michelle’s internship involved designing a youth advocacy program so that students in high school and youth groups can learn about and spread awareness of the poor and underprivileged in developing countries.”

IN MEMORIAM

Emma Coulter Ware ’34
5/29/11

Eleanor Muir Johnson ’38
Daughter of Frances Tener Muir 1916 †
Mother of Sheila W. Johnson ’61
Mother-in-law of Elizabeth Kelley Johnson ’66
Great-Aunt of Christina Johnson Smith ’97
6/9/11

Anita Nash Harkins ’40
Daughter of Esther Auchincloss Biltz 1913 †
Niece of Annie Burr Auchincloss Lewis ’20 †
Sister of Esther Biltz Langham ’51 †
Cousin of Jacqueline Bouvier Onassis ’47 †
Cousin of Lee Bouvier Radziwill ’50
Cousin of Nina Auchincloss Straight ’55 †
Cousin of Janet Auchincloss Rutherford ’63 †
Cousin of Maya L. Auchincloss ’77
7/8/11

Barbara (Boo) Townsend Weller ’41
Sister of Marie Antoinette Townsend Gordon ’36 †
Sister of Andrea Townsend Lashar ’53 †
Mother of Leslie Weller ’71 †
Aunt of Marie Gordon Whitbeck ’59
Aunt of Lucia Gordon Gumaer ’61
Aunt of Lisa Townsend Seaman ’77
Great-Aunt of Marie Whitbeck McNabb ’84
8/4/11

Fanny Baldwin Adams ’42
Niece of Fanny Baldwin Morgan 1916 †
Niece of Cynthia Baldwin Pease 1917 †
Niece of Priscilla Baldwin Preston ’21 †
Niece of Jane Baldwin Gillespie ’26 †
Aunt of Phyllis Preston Lee ’38 †
Aunt of Elizabeth Baldwin ’70
Cousin of Cynthia Landon Barker ’38 †
Cousin of Patricia Landon Kauders ’41
Cousin of Elizabeth L. Crockett ’74
Cousin of Phyllis Crockett Gallagher ’79
Cousin once removed of Helen N. Gallagher ’14
2/20/11

Sally Keyes Hermann ’44
Daughter of Emily Shepley Keyes ’23 †
Niece of Mary Shepley Briggs ’27 †
Sister of Mary Keyes Otto ’50
Sister of Emily Keyes Barksdale ’56
Cousin of Jean Briggs Quandt ’50
Cousin of Sally Shepley Lilly ’51
Cousin of Sophie Shepley Pelissier ’59
Cousin of Clare F. Shepley ’59 †
7/12/11

Jeannette Ballantine Molzer ’47
Granddaughter of Elizabeth Ballantine 1885 †
Daughter of Anne Crawford Lombard ’29 †
Niece of Julia Crawford Harris ’24 †
Cousin of Elodie Ballantine Emig ’74
10/12/11

Lucia Armstrong Williams ’49
Mother-in-law of Alice Hamblin Williams ’79
Grandmother of Lucia K. Williams ’10
7/31/11

† deceased
Ancients, parents, grandparents and students gathered at the home of Joan and David Hill P’12 to hear the latest Porter’s news from Head of School Kate Windsor.

Seated, from left: Maureen Hughes P’85, G’12, Elaine Aarons G’12, Cindy Schaefer Walker ’63, Gerry Evans Tuten ’59, Nancy Hughes ’85, Joan Hill P’12, Missy Kalat ’67; Standing, from left: Bunny McClanahan Thompson ’58, Rev. Paul Thompson, Craig Gemmell, Alan Aarons G’12, Bobbi Dudeck P’05, ’09, Jonas Katkavich, Susan Shea McPherson ’62, Montana Ortel ’11, Annie Hill ’12, Haley Hughes ’12, Kate Windsor, Gillian Dudeck ’09.

Not pictured: Connie Smith Plimpton ’78, Laura Reckford ’81.

Members of the Sarah Porter Society and Moonbeams Circle joined together for a special lunch hosted by Dr. Windsor.

Discover castles and ancient standing stones, gardens and estates on a summer cruise through the Celtic isles in the company of fellow alumnae.

Embark Clipper Odyssey in the Georgian city of Edinburgh and travel to Inverness to see the battlefield of Culloden and Cawdor Castle. Explore prehistoric sites on the Orkney Islands then see rare flora as well and purple heather in full bloom at Inverewe Gardens. Continue to the Hebrides for a private visit to a shooting lodge and a wee dram at a single-malt distillery.

Explore the city of Belfast and be welcomed into two country estates by their owners. Conclude in Dublin with a private visit to a famous garden and time to enjoy this lively city.

Experience the cities of Edinburgh and Dublin more fully on trip extensions. See parts of Edinburgh Castle not open to the public on an Edinburgh prelude and take a curatorial tour of the National Gallery on a Dublin postlude.

Please join us for what promises to be a journey to remember, and bring your children and grandchildren. Students ages seven to 17 receive special rates. To reserve, please email caitlin@academicarrangements.com or call 212-514-8921.
Making Our Dreams Our Reality

BY BARBARA HIGGINS EPIFANIO ’79
President of Miss Porter’s School Board of Trustees

As board president, my goal is to work with trustees and members of the Alumnae Board to cultivate a culture of philanthropy that extends to the larger Miss Porter’s School community. Full, active engagement in the school today and participation in the school’s fundraising initiatives are essential to our future and elemental to our institution.

Miss Porter’s School is in the enviable position of possessing a robust endowment. Certainly, we know that few of our peer schools can make the same claim, but we must be equally clear in asserting that this hallmark affords our ability to provide all the best features of the exemplary education we offer.

Our entire community should, and must, take great pride and celebrate with joy in the work we have achieved for it is what makes us who we are. We should be inspired by the triumphant completion of The Campaign for Miss Porter’s School for we not only met, but surpassed, our goal. This accomplishment proves what we know to be true: when Farmington sets its sights, there is no obstacle we cannot overcome.

Equally as truthful is the reminder that our great success is not an opportunity to rest upon our laurels. We must remain committed to our focus, mission, and best practices. Building upon our school’s strong culture of philanthropy will be crucial and preeminent as we look to the future. It must not be forgotten. It must not be left unattended.

Whether a board member, Ancient, or parent, we each possess the ability to galvanize the greatest gifts from each other. How will we do this? Dedication, determination, proclamation, and most of all, participation. We must each lead by example. Commitment to philanthropic giving to Miss Porter’s School requires a heartfelt desire, the motivation to set the necessary resources aside to make a gift, the ability to inform other community members of your philanthropic priority and encourage theirs, and the consistency to repeat these steps annually.

Just as it was in Sarah Porter’s time, there are needs to fulfill and hopes for our future. Every member of our community can play a role in making those dreams a reality for the current and future students of Miss Porter’s School, and I hope you will join me for the next steps of our amazing journey.
Happy New Year

from

MISS PORTER’S SCHOOL

Wishing you a peaceful and promising 2012!