To the Incredible Class of 2018:

On behalf of the SCGSAH Alumni Advisory Council, we wish you success as you continue on in your unique creative endeavors. Congratulations on your graduation! As you continue on in your creative endeavors, we are excited to see what the future holds for you.
About the Cover

Each year the Chair of the Alumni Advisory Council sends a congratulatory letter to graduating seniors. This year’s letter was written by Laura Nevitt (Music, 2003) and charged the Class of 2018 with continuing the fight to make the world more beautiful through their art and the impact of their lives.

Show your love for your former department by giving directly to their discretionary fund. Your gift will support entry fees, field trips, and other opportunities vital to the Govie curriculum.

Give future Govies the opportunity to follow their art, pursue their dreams, and achieve their goals by donating to the Virginia Uldrick Scholarship Fund.

This is one of the most unique opportunities given to Govies and you can help make it happen!
Dear Alumni,

Greetings from Greenville and the most outstanding school on the planet! We’ve reached the end of another dynamic school term and you’ll be pleased to know that the South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities continues to thrive with a strong record of excellence in the arts and academics.

Throughout the 2017-2018 academic year, both students and faculty gained national exposure for various performances and achievements over the course of the year. Our school year culminated with commencement activities held at the Peace Center on May 24th and 25th. The annual Celebration of Achievement program highlighted the many awards, accolades, and college acceptances for the Class of 2018 as well as touching reflections from the faculty regarding the growth of our seniors into the world-class artists that they have become. We are pleased that the graduating class continued the long-standing trend of all students accepted into multiple colleges and universities with these 106 seniors garnering an impressive total of over $32 million in scholarship offers.

We recently hosted our second residency in the inaugural Presidential Guest Artist series with two incredible days featuring Laurie Anderson. Her “WHY Day” presentation included both our Govies as well as students from the Fine Arts Center where she presented stories behind her work, stressing the power of words and encouraging students to experiment among different art mediums and disciplines. The public performance of her new book, All the Things I Lost in the Flood, was presented to a packed house in Smith Recital Hall. The event was sponsored by the Graham Foundation and First Citizens Bank.

An additional highlight of the spring semester was our official groundbreaking for the new Music Building held on May 23rd. The building will include much-needed rehearsal and instructional space for our Music Department, our largest arts program. With site preparation already underway, construction on the project is scheduled to begin within the next several weeks with an anticipated date of completion in July 2019.

As always, I look forward to meeting more of you at our Alumni Weekend in August on the campus of the Governor’s School or at an event in the very near future. I wish you the best of success as you continue your professional lives and thank you for your continued support of the Governor’s School.

Sincerely,

Cedric L. Adderley

From the President

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Sincerely,

Cedric L. Adderley
1. Where were you born? Columbia, South Carolina. I grew up in Irmo.
2. What one thing really makes your day? Bubbles. I love bubbles, especially the giant ones!
3. What is your most marked characteristic? My drive.
4. Do people ever say you look like a celebrity? Which one? Yes, one that’s not worth mentioning. It’s just because of my bald head.
5. Are you an introvert or an extrovert? I’m a bit in between. It takes me a while to warm up to new people. But with my tribe, definitely an extrovert.
6. What is your favorite movie? Up, The Incredibles, Wall-E.
7. Is your desk messy or neat? Messy. My dorm room was a disaster in high school.
8. What was your first job? Taught baby ballet to 3-year-olds in middle school.
9. What is your pet peeve? Men telling me what to do. I’m a grown woman...SIT DOWN SIR.
10. What is your favorite thing about Greenville? Memories of my grandmother. We used to have Sunday picnics at Reedy River Falls Park after church—mac and cheese, cornbread and all.
11. What was your first car? “Little Blue.” Electric blue Honda Civic that I bought when I was 21.
13. What is your favorite comfort food? Grits done right. Falls Park after church—mac and cheese, cornbread and all. I’m fond of the cold. So it’s gotta be tropical or desert mountains.
14. What type of music do you most enjoy? Marvin, Aretha. Al. Black Panther and will reprise her role in the Marvel Comic Universe as a member of the Dora Milaje, Wakanda’s all female elite military force, in
15. What is your most extravagant indulgence? Not into brands. I like what I like. Maybe a pair of $200 shoes for a premiere. They’re AMAZING and I wear them all the time!
16. What store would you choose to max out your credit card? I’m sometimes like to garden, but my green thumb is brown...
17. What is your favorite thing to cook? Blueberry pancakes and cheese eggs.
18. What was your last vacation? New Orleans. I loved that city!!!
19. What is your favorite thing about Greenville? Memories of my grandmother. We used to have Sunday picnics at Reedy River Falls Park after church—mac and cheese, cornbread and all.
20. How did you meet your spouse/partner? Aren’t we being a bit presumptuous in assuming I have one? LOL, I met my partner at work.
21. What advice would you give to a current Govie? Don’t let anyone’s expectations define you as a person or an artist. Be fearless.
23. Are you a good dancer? I hope so because I do it professionally. And I do love a night spent getting sweaty on the dance floor.
24. Do you prefer the mountains or the beach? Both but I’m not fond of the cold. So it’s gotta be tropical or desert mountains.
25. What are your hobbies? I sometimes like to garden, but my green thumb is brown...
26. Have you ever met a famous person? Who? Yeah, been fortunate enough to work with and perform for a few. Oprah is really nice.
27. What was your last vacation? New Orleans. I loved that city!!!
28. If you could invite five people, living or dead, to dinner, who would it be? Eartha Kitt, my grandfather, my partner, Dominique Morisseau, and Malcolm X.
29. What do you miss most about SCGSAH? I had amazing friends and roommates senior year. I’ll always be grateful for Mrs. McKnight, Mr. Butler, and Ms. Schantz!
31. On what television show would you most like to be a character/contestant? A political drama that challenges the perception of black women in this country.
32. If you could have any superpower which would it be? The power to morph into anything or anyone at anytime throughout history.
34. What is one thing people would never guess about you? I lacked confidence as a freshman at SCGSAH, to the point who didn’t really have a place in the dance program then and didn’t really have a place in the world I knew. I began to rebel against tradition a bit. I began to find my voice.
35. What is the “coolest” Govie experience you have ever had? End of the semester food fight with my roommates and RA. There was ketchup and mustard everywhere!
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Marija Juliette Abney, a Columbia, South Carolina native, received her BFA from The Alley School/Fordham University, her MA from NYU’s TISCH in performance studies and is an alumnus of The William Esper Studio’s Two Year Meisner Training Program. She was featured as “The Cheetah” in Disney’s The Lion King, performed in FOX Searchlight’s Black Nativity, and Broadway’s After Midnight, which won a TONY award for best choreography. Additional theater credits include: New York City Opera’s final production of Anna Nicole, Mariah Carey’s All I Want For Christmas Is You, and In Your Arms at San Diego’s Old Globe Theater. Film/tv credits include: Luke Cage, Isn’t It Romantic, The TONY Awards, Dancing with the Stars, The Tick, The Latin Grammy Awards, and The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. She recently joined the Marvel Comic Universe as a member of the Dora Milaje, Wakanda’s all female elite military force, in Black Panther and will reprise her role in Avengers: Infinity War and the final installment of Avengers to be released in 2019.
The SCGSAH Alumni Newsletter features stories of alumni who are making a difference in various fields.

**Stephanie Mundy Self**, 2003 Music alumna, was named as the 2018 UGA Terry College of Business Outstanding Young Alumni Award Recipient. Read more here.

2001 Music alumnus **Wade Davis** is involved in an exciting and life-changing after-school program in Baltimore. OrchKids, a free after-school program started a decade ago with just 30 children, now reaches 1,300. Read more here.

Recent graduate **Vicky Brown** (CW, 2018) was selected as 1 of 16 recipients of the Gold Medal Portfolio awards from Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. This is the program’s highest national honor and it comes with a $10k scholarship! Her work will be publicly displayed in the Art.Write.Now.2018 National Exhibition at the Parsons School of Design and Pratt Institute’s Pratt Manhattan Gallery in New York City. More here.

2014 CW alumna **Kirby Knowlton**'s work was published in The Greensboro Review, a North Carolina literary journal published twice yearly that strives to publish the best in poetry and fiction by new and established authors.

2018 graduate **Aidan Forster** (CW) was chosen as the inaugural recipient of the 2018 YoungArts Lin Arison Excellence in Writing Award, which includes a $50,000 scholarship!

Aidan had a banner senior year as a YoungArts Finalist, National Scholastics Writing Awards recipient, National Merit Finalist, and a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts Program candidate, the nation’s highest honor for high school artists. (Photo courtesy of the National YoungArts Foundation.)

2004 Music alumnus **Jarvis Benson** was part of the orchestra for NBC’s live broadcast of Jesus Christ Super Star on April 1.

2008 Voice alumnus **Marcus Shields** has been accepted to the Merola Opera Program as an Apprentice Stage Director. Marcus was chosen from hundreds of young adults who auditioned. He is currently serving as the Visiting Assistant Professor of Opera Directing at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

2018 President’s Alumni Award Winner, **Temnete Sebhatu**, attended the Governor's School for Creative Writing and graduated in 2007. She was selected for her achievements in her career with Apple as well as her work with The One Love Foundation, helping educate young people about toxic relationships. Her work for Apple and The One Love Foundation has been awarded at the One Show, D&AD and the Clios. Her work for Conservation International premiered at the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference in Paris. In 2017, she was featured in Business Insider’s “30 Most Creative People in Advertising Under 30.”

2017 VA alumna **Lainey Davidson** continues to garner recognition for her short film Zero. Her film, which she produced as a student here at the Governor’s School, recently received the award for Best Story from the Teen Animation Festival International. Lainey attended the festival, which was held in May at the Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco, and had the honor of visiting Pixar Animation Studios.

**Engagements**

**Brian Matheny** (Music, 2004) and Kayla Spagnola

**Chad Bagwell** (Drama, 2002) and Brigitte Cesario

**Class Notes**

Where Are They Now?
In May, the Governor’s School held a groundbreaking ceremony for our beautiful new music building. The two-story, 10,000 square foot building will feature additional studios, practice rooms, large ensemble spaces, and humidity-controlled instrument storage space. Construction will begin soon and doors will open next summer.

History faculty member Rusty Godfrey received the S.C. Educator of the Year Award from the South Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Mr. Godfrey has taught history for 25 years, the last 16 years at the Governor’s School. The school is very fortunate to have passionate educators like Mr. Godfrey on our staff.

It is such an honor to have five of our amazing seniors featured in TOWN magazine’s stunning Arts Issue. Check out their stories, written by Creative Writing Department Chair Scott Gould. The incredible photos for this article were taken by Paul Mehaffey, TOWN Art Director and photographer.

Actor and Drama alumna (Class of ’05) Teyonah Parris returned to campus to share her professional training and experiences with our drama students. While on campus, she led master classes and a guest artist forum on acting and the realities of the profession. Her words of wisdom to students: “Don’t let the industry dictate your life.” Teyonah has had recurring roles on TV series such as The Good Wife, Mad Men, Empire, and Survivor’s Remorse, and leading roles in the films Dear White People, Chi-Raq, and Buffalo Soldier Girl. Most recently, she landed a lead role in the CBS drama pilot Murder.

Under the direction of ceramics faculty member Elaine Quave, visual arts students from the Governor’s School and Kingstree Senior High School participated in the national One Thousand Horses project. Their clay horse figurines, replicating the style of the early Greeks, are currently on exhibit at the Williamsburg Hometown Chamber. From there, they will be sent to Washington, D.C., to be included in a spectacular exhibit at the International Spy Museum that will launch Making/History: The Trojan Horse Project by Handshouse Studio. Learn more about the One Thousand Horses project here.

Governor’s School Strings teacher Katie Dey is making a difference in Haiti, along with other Upstate community partners. She’s leading efforts to support music programs in Cange, a village in one of the poorest regions of the country. As a part of this mission, 200 orchestral instruments and 300 recorders have been donated for the project so far. More here.

In April, The Governor’s School for the Arts Foundation held a closing reception for Visual Arts faculty member Paul Yaneko’s stunning solo exhibition at The George Gallery in Charleston. In addition to admiring Paul’s latest work, guests learned about the Governor’s School and what it’s like to teach here as a practicing artist.

Get your Govie Alumni T-shirt today!
$17 (includes shipping) • Many Sizes To order: alumni@scgsah.org or 864.282.3724
Kayla Badea Abaza • Pratt Institute
Christopher Jacob Aimone • Rutgers University
Zane Alexander Austill • Fordham University
Graham Phillip Barber • USC - Columbia
Noah Price Broam • USC - Columbia
Joshua Dalton Brock • College of Charleston
Amanda Virginia Brown • American University
Hunter McCrae Brown • Furman University
Emma Lynn Burton • College of Charleston
Samuel Kell Campbell • West Virginia University
Sarah Anna Cathcart • USC - Columbia
Jeffrey Michael Chen • USC - Columbia
Marvin James Cofield • USC - Columbia
Benjamin Isaac Connelly • Furman University
Emma Lillian Cont • Pace University
Adam Michael Conversano • University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Griffin Douglas Cordell • Winthrop University
Kylie Jean Cordell • Warren Wilson College
William Allen Counterman • Clemson University
McKenna Wood Crosby • College of Charleston
Dana Morgan Crytser • USC - Columbia
Graeme Ellis Culpepper • Indiana University - Jacobs School of Music
Matthew Alexander Currie • Loyola University - New Orleans
Michelle Laurensina Rosemarie Cuylits • Warren Wilson College
Layton Miles Davis • New York University
Elizabeth Simone Diaz • New York University
Jackson Leland Dickert • Pratt Institute
Jeremiah Lee Dickson • Ringling College of Art and Design
Payton Emma Dziekan • Eastman School of Music
Jewel Elizabeth Carol Edwards • Winthrop University
Emily Rose Enlow • Furman University
Fanny Isabel Estrada Lugo • Hollins University
Natalie Nicole Fanello • Northern Michigan University
Nicholas Alexander Ferez • Parsons School of Design - The New School
Michael Ryan Ferro • Wofford College
Aidan Russell Forster • Brown University
James Isaac Gibbs • University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Garrett Richard Graettinger • The Citadel
Jacob Paul Griffith • University of Minnesota
Lucas Curtis Grondin • Parsons School of Design - The New School
Hannah Sophia Hannsmann-Clemens • UNC-Greensboro
Kenley Blake Hardwick • Marymount Manhattan College
Madison Elizabeth Harr • Hollins University
Salleigh Lauren Harvey • Furman University
Josheyn Willett Hawkins • Southern Methodist University
Korianna Henderson Hays • Winthrop University
Elizabeth Eugenia Henderson • Clemson University
Kelsi Nicole Herriott • Coastal Carolina University
Sarah Noelle Hill • Winthrop University
Roman Vincent Holder • USC - Columbia
Kevin Dorian Hopkins • Maryland Institute College of Art
Tamia Danel Horton • Pace University
Victoria Grace Hyder • College of Charleston
Rush Olivia Johnston • Johns Hopkins Peabody Institute
Sierra Skye Jolly • Parsons School of Design - The New School
Amy Noelle Jordan • Clemson University
Annalie Mae King • Furman University
Whitney Alexander Kluttz • Rochester Institute of Technology
Matthew Maybry Ledbetter • University of Alabama
Lucy Kathryn Leonard • George Mason University
Ana Luisa Licon Lopez • Clemson University
Gabrielle Malaniak • Eastman School of Music
Robert Jamie Mason • The Juilliard School
Alyssa Katherine Mazzoli • Bryn Mawr College
Alice Kaleigh McCall • USC - Columbia
Morgan Huntley McGee • USC - Columbia
Noehmi Medina Gomez • Tri-County Technical College
Madeleine Frances Mitchell • McGill University
Sarah McKethan Monroe • Converse College
Veronica Tiffany Montalvo • Fashion Institute of Technology
Jenna Love Montgomery • Milligan College
Josie Elaine Moore • University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Keaton Packor Mykleby • New York University
Nathan Thomas Noel • University of Minnesota
William Izell Norman • Florida State University
Tara Lee Norton • New College of Florida
Abigail Erin Oldstrom • College of Charleston
Abbigail Hart Perry • College of Charleston
Sydney Marie Porth • Oberlin College Conservatory of Music
Lena Roze Pregenzer • Winthrop University
Westley Lynwood Quattlebaum • Winthrop University
Ciarra Frankie Ramey • Brevard College
Darian Ahmad Ritter • Loyola University - New Orleans
Kenia Yamileth Romero Romero • Savannah College of Art and Design
Jillian Rose Rowe • College of Charleston Honors College
Margaret Elizabeth Saldeen • Maryville College
Stephen Tyler Sanford • USC - Columbia
Emma Daniel Sargent • Clemson University Honors College
Brian Taylor Scardace • Converse College
Takumi Segi • School of Visual Arts
Brian Andrew Shoop • Oberlin College Conservatory of Music
Charlotte Lynn Shuler • USC - Columbia
Andrew Joseph Small • Cleveland Institute of Art
Delvon Morice Survine • Maryland Institute College of the Arts
Kyle Michael Tolbert • University of Southern California
Anna Mandela Torres • University of King’s College
Nathan Craig Vondergeest • University of Maryland
Lucy Byrd Wallace • Oberlin College Conservatory of Music
Savannah Grace Walters • Case Western Reserve University
Olivia Sue Jun-Ling Ward • USC - Columbia
George John Weisner • Point Park University
Jasmynn Santoria Whitfield • Parsons School of Design - The New School
Elora Jade Yochum • Pace University
Rachael Winn Yon • Virginia Commonwealth University
Richard Raymond Yurewitch • The Cooper Union for the Advancement of the Arts
Mikayla Aerin Zwerdling • Parsons School of Design - The New School
Senior Send-Off

Congratulations Class of 2018
Each year, right before the excitement of graduation day overtakes us all, we have a class dinner to celebrate our soon-to-be graduates. We call this Senior Send-Off. This year on May 23rd, faculty, staff, and alumni were invited to join the Class of 2018 for one of their final meals on campus. We were excited to have Fulton Burns, a summer programs alum and current member of the Drama faculty, on hand to give the sparkling cider toast to the Class of 2018 and welcome these graduates into the alumni community.
After school I started working at Tiger Sports Shop in Clemson. I worked here for 5 years as the Web Designer and Marketing Director. I really enjoyed my job but felt a void and wanted to take time off to work on my art. That is how I became involved at The Arts Center in Clemson.

Currently I am a teacher at The Arts Center of Clemson. I started volunteering at TAC and that has segued me into teaching the kids art class, hold a painting/printmaking open studio every Saturday, and performing regular printmaking technique seminars where people learn and make their own prints. In the fall, I will be teaching a printmaking class and possibly a figure drawing class (schedules are still being made).

I am really excited about our summer camp at TAC this year where I will be teaching three different classes. It’s really gratifying to work with the youth at TAC because I am able to teach something that I love and share with children who have a passion for the arts. Their wanting mirrors what I was given at their age and it is nice that I can play a part in giving back in this capacity.

While teaching, I have slowly continued my education by earning my Masters Degree in Fine Art at Clemson University. With my degree I want to continue teaching. I have really found a passion for teaching due to TAC. I also do a lot of fundraising and volunteering for The National Kidney Foundation. This organization is very important to me because my dad received a transplant when I was young. Because of the disease, it caused more health problems and he passed the week I graduated college. I love educating people about organ donation and how many people you help by being a donor. We have several events every year and it’s special to tell people about this great organization.

Governors School afforded me a great education and a basis for college. I feel so incredibly lucky to have attended the school and am still close with a lot of friends as well as my teachers. I am lucky to be a working artist and to have found a career in the arts, and I don’t think this would have happened without SCGSAH.
Furthering Education
We are excited to celebrate our 2018 high school graduates in this issue, but we also want to recognize alumni who graduated from college or earned advanced degrees this year.

Ashleigh Brosseau (Dance, 2004) received her MBA from Washington State University

Amanda Palmer (Music, 2010) graduated with her Juris Doctor degree from Loyola University of Chicago

William Louis Smith (Drama, 2008) graduated from Harvard Law School

Jessa Hollingsworth (VA, 2008) graduated with a doctorate in nursing practice from USC in December

Megan Murph (Music, 2005) graduated this year with her Ph.D. in Musicology and Ethnomusicology from the University of Kentucky

Josh Meyers (Music, 2011) graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law

Peyton Johnson (Music, 2014) graduated from Eastman School of Music

Madeleine McEntire (Music, 2014) graduated from Converse College

Alumni Weekend Events Schedule

Friday, August 3rd
5:30-6:30 p.m. Happy Hour
Universal Joint, 300 E Stone Ave

6:30-8:30 p.m. Let the Good Times Roll
Stone Pin, 304 E Stone Ave
Hosted by the Foundation

Saturday, August 4th
10:00-10:30 a.m. Breakfast
Fruit and breakfast pastries will be served in the Visitor’s Center Lobby

10:30-11:45 a.m. Back to Class Sessions
Creative Writing: Mamie Morgan
Visual Arts: Paul Yanko

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch on Campus
Join faculty, staff, and other alums for a family-friendly lunch in the courtyard

1:00-2:00 p.m. Dessert with the President: Loggia

2:00-3:00 p.m. Open Mic: Smith Recital Hall

6:30-7:30 p.m. An Evening at The Warehouse
A celebration of all alumni, especially the Class of 2008!
The Warehouse Theater
37 Augusta Street

8:00 p.m. Fidelio: The Warehouse Theatre

We’ll Miss You!
With the end of this school year, we said “Farewell” to three beloved members of our Govie community. Math faculty member Libby Higgins, Director of Guidance Services Lela McKnight, and Music faculty member Nancy Smith retired after a collective 50 years of service to our school. These women have made meaningful impacts in so many students’ lives and will be deeply missed by our community. We wish them all the best and hope that they enjoy their well-earned retirement!
The **Class of 2018** graduated on **May 25** at the Peace Center. These **106 students** represent 27 South Carolina counties and received over **$32 million in scholarship offers** from colleges, universities, and conservatories across the nation. Parents, Staff, faculty and alums were invited to celebrate this group of wonderful artists on **#GovieDay** by posting on social media to display **Govie Pride**. Here are some of the pictures we received.
SCGSAH is life changing—you’ve said it yourself.

Show your support.

1. Advocate for the school. Contact your member of the state legislature and the governor and share what the Governor’s School means to you and our state. Not sure who to contact? Check out our website for contact information.

2. Join the Party. Our summer reunion and regional events are great ways to celebrate with fellow Govies.

3. Serve as a Class Agent. Help us stay connected with your class.

4. Attend a current event. Come back, reminisce, and support current Govies. A performance calendar is on the website.

5. Spread the word. Be a proud Govie. Your success illustrates the impact of arts education.


7. Update your alumni contact information. How can we tell you what’s happening here if we can’t find you?

8. Join the alumni community and help reach others. The official SCGSAH Alumni Group is up and running on social media. India to California, we’ve got the Govie World covered—but only if you are in it.

9. Donate to the GSA Foundation. Give small, give big. Everything donated directly helps fund artists, activities, and students.

10. Fill in the blank. With a creative, diverse group of alumni, new ideas for involvement are always developing; share them!

SCGSAH Anna King, Alumni Coordinator
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alumni@scgsah.org

GSA Foundation
Tim McClain, Executive Director
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Tim.McClain@gsafoundation.net