



Generally Speaking...

Grant High School Alumni Association / Summer 2024

Grant High School Centennial news!



The alumni association will recognize Grant's official 100th birthday on Friday, September 13, 2024. The celebration will include a special rose planting by Royal Rosarians honoring the occasion, a Grant band performance, and a photo taken in front of the school with all students.

Later in the day there will be a home football game in the bowl at 4:00 PM with a special half-time program. Look for information in an email in early September and on Facebook: [OFFICIAL U.S. Grant High School Alumni Association](#).

We have a new web address and email

All the planets seemed to align in a negative way for the alumni association recently. Losing Bob Stayton created another hitch: the payment to renew our website name was connected to his account and happened to come due shortly after his death. It seems that as soon as the payment was missed, a broker snapped up the name holding it hostage unless we submitted their asking price of \$2880! We decided to pass on that...

The end result: we have a new website: GrantAlumniPDX.org. Check it out and be sure to bookmark the site. (**DO NOT GO TO OUR OLD URL** (grantalumni.org) as it is now owned by someone else and looks suspiciously like click-bait.)

Please also note that the association also has a new email address that "matches" our website: GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com

Champions again!



Grant High School's Constitution Team was crowned champions at the [We The People National Finals](#), held in Washington, DC on April 15, 2024. This national academic competition on the Constitution has been taking place since 1988 and is run by the California-based Center for Civic Education.

Congratulations to the students, advisors, and family members! And if you'd like to support the team's efforts, you can [donate here](#) to help alleviate the expenses they incurred.

You can hear more about their amazing journey in KOIN-TV's report, [available here](#).

President's Letter

Fellow Grantonians,

It is with great sadness that I write this as the new president of your alumni association. As the former vice-president, I stepped into the position with the passing of President

Bob Stayton, '61. Bob was a classmate of mine and he will be missed by many.



With this being the 100th anniversary of our great school, the centennial committee has done a superb job in putting on events, starting in February with a double header basketball game and the induction of this year's Hall of Fame honorees. In March, we had an Open House and free concert by **Tom Grant**; and in late May, Bruce McDonald produced a fantastic fund-raising production that showcased many alumni, as well as current Grant students. On September 13th another celebration will be held at a football game in the Grant Bowl.

Just to let you know, your \$25.00 in yearly dues support students and alums in many ways. We fund an annual scholarship for a Grant senior who will be continuing their education at an Oregon institute, and this year's scholarship winner is **Lydia Moise**. Additionally, we contributed to the Constitutional Team for their trip to Washington DC.

The picnic, too, is a costly event, as permits, table and chair rentals, and portable restrooms are expensive. Your dues payments help fund these activities. A form is available on page 9 explaining more details.

With regards,
Jack Cain, '61, GHSA President

2024 All Alumni Picnic



Calling all alums to gather on **Sunday, July 28** at **1:00 PM** at our usual place, the Hollywood Shelter in Grant Park, off 36th Avenue. Catch up with classmates from long ago (longer for some of us than others!) and just have a fun trip down memory lane. Alumni association volunteers will also be available to help you join, or for you to pay your dues if you need to catch up.

[GrantGives](https://grantgives.com) / grantgives.com will join us again this year with lunch offerings of grilled hotdogs, chips, drinks, treats, and "meal deals." For those unfamiliar with the organization, GrantGives is a 501c3 parent-led group that raises money for student activities, and is seeking support from folks who attended Grant and have fond memories of their time in a club, on a team, or with a student activity!

Funding resources for GrantGives are low, and they hope YOU can help fill funding gaps so kids can continue to do what they love to do! Any amount is helpful. Please go to grantgives.com for more information or to donate! This organization deserves your support.

2024 Reunions and Special Events

Class of 1954 - 70TH Reunion

- Saturday, August 3, 2024
- 12:00 – 4:30 PM / full buffet lunch & open bar
- Portland Yacht Club / 1241 NE Marine Dr
- Questions: Pete Charlston / pvcharlston@yahoo.com / 503.282.1607

Class of 1964 – 60TH Reunion

- Saturday, July 27, 2024
- 4:00 - 8:00 PM
- Colwood Golf Center / 7313 NE Columbia Blvd
- Questions: Christi Knutson / granthigh1964@aol.com
- Facebook: [Grant High Portland Class of '64](#)

Class of 1974 – 50th Reunion

- Saturday, September 14, 2024
- Eastmoreland Golf Course / 2425 SE Bybee Blvd
- Questions: Virginia McMillan McCarthy / granthighclass74@outlook.com
- Facebook: [Grant High School Class of 1974](#)

Class of 1975

- ALL Grantonians are invited to Rogue Eastside Brewery
- 928 SE 9th Ave any first Saturday of the month (7:00 pm) for ALL Grant Alumni
- Questions: Sara Wiedmaier Gonzalez / gonzalez.sara90@gmail.com

Class of 1984 – 40TH Reunion

- Weekend of August 16 and 17, 2024
- Questions: Robby Bain robertwbain@gmail.com
- Facebook: US Grant HS c/o "1984"
- Questions: Robby Bain / robertwbain@gmail.com

Class of 1989 – 35th Reunion

- Saturday, August 10, 2024
- 6:00 -10:00 PM
- Aloft @ Cascade Station / 9920 NE Cascades Pkwy
- No ticketing; food & drink available for purchase
- Facebook: [Class of '89 U.S. Grant High School 35 Year Reunion](#)

Class of 1994 – 30th Reunion

- Friday, August 9, 2024
- 7:00 – 11:00 PM / \$30
- McMenamin's Kennedy School / 5736 NE 33 Ave
- Questions: Emily Engdahl / emily@tinebristlecoastal.com
- Facebook: [Grant High Class of 1994 30th Reunion](#)

Class of 2004 - 20th Reunion

- Planning is underway for a Nov./Dec. reunion
- Details to follow
- Questions: Amy Barton (Johnson) / amyjohnson1013@gmail.com
- Facebook: facebook.com/GrantHS2004

33rd Annual MacMillan Jones Golf Tourney

- Thursday, August 22, 2024
- Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club in North Plains
- 1:00 pm start
- Proceeds support the scholarship
- Questions: Steve MacMillan / 503-260-7271

Annual Mel Krause Memorial PIL HOF Golf Tournament

- Monday, September 9, 2024
- Langdon Farms Golf Club - Aurora
- 4 Person scramble
- Details at pilhalloffame.org/events/golf

13^h Annual All-Alumni Picnic

- Sunday, July 28, 2024
- 1:00 – 4:00 PM
- Grant Park Hollywood Shelter, off 36th Ave
- Water, popcorn and cookies provided

Is your class planning a reunion? We'd love to post your information; just send it to GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com. We'll add it to our website and include it in any upcoming publications.

2024 Hall of Achievement recipients

Thank you for helping us identify and honor the remarkable individuals below who embody the spirit of Grant High School.

Dick Allen, '54: After Dick graduated medical school in 1965 he began practice in Portland. During his career he was elected President of the Multnomah County Medical Society and later the Oregon Medical Association, appointed to the Governor's Commission on Healthcare, and worked with John Kitzhaber to develop the Oregon Health Plan. He was elected to AMA's Council on Medical Education and then Chair, Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education. In 2007, he was awarded the AMA's highest achievement honor, the Distinguished Service Award; the only Oregon physician to receive this award. He has been named the Oregon Doctor-Citizen of the year, and twice received the OMA's presidential citation.



As Chair of the ACGME, he developed their strategic initiative committee to develop standards of competency for all US medical specialty trainees, and then developed standards for national resident work hours. While Assistant Dean for GME at OHSU, he developed a re-entry program for trainees to maintain licensure, and was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dick has also been active in the community as an U of O alum, served as president of the Oregon Club of Portland and the UOAA, spent 20 years on the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol (with two years as President), chaired the Multnomah Athletic Club Balladeers, was president of the Lang Syne Society of Portland, and has served in a number of positions at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Doug Capps, '61: Doug attended the University of Oregon, graduated from Portland State University, earned a master's degree from the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and a law degree from Northwestern School of Law. Prior to retirement, Doug held executive-level positions in local, regional, and state government agencies, and has been a consultant in public affairs and community/government relations, principally focused on urban planning, development and transportation issues. He has served in leadership positions on several local non-profit boards dedicated to Portland's community, cultural, and civic life, including the Portland School Board and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral's governing board.



Doug and his wife **Liz Stavney, '61**, live in Northeast Portland and will be a fourth generation Grant family when their grandson enters high school.

continued on next page

2024 Hall of Achievement recipients, continued

Tom Grant, '64: Tom is an instrumentalist, singer and entertainer. He was taught by his musical father to play piano and drums, and learned about music styles by listening to records at his father's record store. His brother, **Mike, '60**, is also a professional musician who has worked with George Harrison of The Beatles.

During the 70s, Tom worked with Jim Pepper on the classic song "Witchi Tai-To"; played with Woody Shaw, Joe Henderson, Charles Lloyd, and drummer Tony Williams; and toured worldwide. In the 80s and 90s Tom became known as the father of the Smooth Jazz sound with several number one recordings on the Smooth Jazz charts.



Tom supports a number of charities. He is one of the original pianists of the ten Grant concerts in Portland and Seattle, organizes an annual concert for a non-profit feeding the disadvantaged, has supported Grant through performances for the alumni association, and has created a foundation for a student in the music department.

Amelie Hastie, '84: Professor Hastie joined the Amherst faculty in 2010 as the founding Chair of the Film and Media Studies Program. She serves as the Faculty Director of the Schupf Fellows Summer Program. Her research and teaching focus on film and television theory and historiography, feminism, and material cultures.

Amelie was awarded her BA, Literature and Society from Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island; an MA, English and Comparative Literature, Modern Studies Program from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; PhD, Modern Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She is the author of "The Bigamist;" "Cupboards of Curiosity: Women, Recollection, and Film History;" "Columbo: Make Me a Perfect Murder;" "Duke University Press' "SpinOffs" series, as well as essays for professional journals.



She has been the recipient of awards and honors from Hendrix College, University of California-Irvine, and University of Southern California.

Congratulations to our 2024 Hall of Achievement recipients!

Do you want a quick and easy way to pay your 2024 GHSA dues? Just click the QR code to the right and away you go! Other dues options are listed on page 9.



A Sensational Century ... of Stardom

Dynamic performances and fascinating history dazzled audiences in the Grant Auditorium on May 30 and 31, 2024. *A SENSATIONAL CENTURY OF STARDOM: Celebrating 100 Years of Performing Arts at Grant High School* enchanted alumni and community members alike in a glamorous celebration. Picture this: 252 students, alumni, staff and guests participated as performers or helpers!

Alumni involved in the show spanned seven decades! The show was written and directed by former Grant Theatre Director Bruce McDonald. Special appearances included Congressman Earl Blumenauer and his daughter **Anne Blumenauer, '96**; former Grant Vocal Music Director Doree Jarboe; and, Principal James McGee. A surprise appearance by noted musician **Thomas Lauderdale, '88** added to the fun at the Thursday, May 30 performance.

Current students wowed the audiences: the mysterious Ghostly Figures, the Grant Dance Collective with "100 Years of Dance" (10 minutes, 10 dances, 130 costumes!), the Jazz Ensemble which recently won 1st in State, the cast of this year's production of "Grease," and the Royal Blues. Alumni singers who were in the audience joined with the Royal Blues for "I Am But A Small Voice," a touching moment with Doree Jarboe conducting. Alumni emcees led the festivities: **Ian Doescher, '95**; **Ron Luebbert, '77**; **Erin Matthews, '91**; **Nancy West Pascual, '78**; **Ted Rooney, '79**; **Kristina Hutsell Rothwell, '83**; **Vin Shambry, '01**; **Karen Marrs Sims, '85**; **Fatimah (Dominique) Steffanoff, '82**; **Andrea White, '91**; and, **Charelle Bembry Woods, '95**. The alumni emcees sang at the beginning and end.

The emcees explained history and trivia about performing arts at Grant in between the various acts. A special moment brought much applause as they "relived" an iconic entrance from **Nancy West Pascual, '78** who starred in "Hello Dolly" in 1978 at Grant. And in a scene recreated in disco 70s fashion from the 1999 production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" were **Celeste Arias, '03**; **Autumn Dawley Giles, '99**; **Mikey Hays, '10**; **Charlotte Jackson, '18**; **Bill Schaumberg, '99**; **Josh Sidis, '99**; and, **Vin Shambry, '01**. Starting the show off were three generations of the Stilwell Family: **Rochelle (Rocky) Menashe Stilwell, '70**; **Lesley Stilwell Sacks, '97**; **Elizabeth Sacks, '27**; and, **Albert Sacks, '31**.

Students and alumni worked together on production staff. Other fun moments came via video greetings from several Grant alumni now working professionally in performing arts. Multimedia designers added professional elegance to the celebration: Tim Bergmann with his "Sensational" graphic artistry; **Michelle Anderson, '89**, with the PowerPoint preparation; **Tom Cook, '88**, with video sequences preparation, and **Zach Hoffman, '92**, with the souvenir program design. Several former performing arts teachers who attended were acknowledged with thanks for their years of service and artistry: theatre directors Dan Hays, Todd Hermanson, Barbara Hollcraft and Chris Lane; instrumental music directors Nick Budge and Allen Evans; and, vocal music director Katy Wagner. The performing arts teachers currently at Grant are Marjorie Anderson (scenery and lighting designer), **John Eisemann, '06** (vocal music director), Branic Howard (audio engineer), Christopher McCurdy (instrumental music director), Jessica Murray (dance director), and Trisha Todd (theatre director).

The show was definitely a feel-good event, as all who attended felt pride as a Grantonian and pride in the legacy of a sensational century of stardom at Grant. To see the images used in the show along with photos, videos, program, and poster, just [click this link](#).

A Sensational Century ... of sports



Last fall, our homecoming football game celebrating “A Sensational Century of Sports” was canceled because our field was deemed unplayable. So we switched gears and showcased our men’s and women’s basketball teams in February, with double-header basketball games in the Grant gym. Our fantastic band was on hand and at halftime the newest inductees to our Sports Hall of Fame were presented.

GrantGives operated the concession stand and we barbequed hot dogs right outside the gym in beautiful weather. A big thank you to Liz Ralston of Performance Foods for their generous donation.

We ended the day with both our teams winning. It was a great day to be a Grant General!

A Sensational Century ... of excellence at our open house

A salute to Grant’s 100 years of excellence was showcased at an open house at the school on March 16, 2024. The open house provided a gathering space in the Commons for alums to visit while sipping lemonade and enjoying special cookies from Helen Bernhard’s. The library was open for those wanting to reminisce while looking through past memoirs. School groups represented were Mock Trial, Royal Blues, Culinary Arts, Yearbook, Woodshop, Band, Student Store, Leadership, Dance Collective, Constitution Team, Robotics, Cheer, and Affinity Groups.

Tom Grant, '64 charmed attendees in the auditorium with a wonderful concert of music chosen to represent Grant through the school’s ten decades. Marilyn Keller, Jazz Society of Oregon Hall of Fame inductee, joined Tom wowing all with her wonderful voice.



We hope you'll join us for
Grant's 100th Birthday
Celebration on Sept. 13, 2024.
More information on page 1.

2024 Student highlights

Grant's 2024 graduates have garnered multiple championships, honors, and awards this past year, not to mention numerous sports signing.

Championships and awards

- Grant Jazz Ensemble: 1st Place in State
- JazzChanges PDX (all girls combo): 2nd Place.
- "Grant Magazine": awarded the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Crown Award
- Constitution Team: 1st place (and their fourth national championship)
- Western Regional Scholastic Art Awards:
 - Gold: **Noah Mador, Stephen Saldivar**
 - Silver: **Alexandra Barouty (x2), Kate Kahlin, Maia Eckhardt, Mason Hnath, Eva Maris-Petrovskaya, Sophia Spencer, Thalia Sterner**

Sports news

- Girls Golf Team: PIL championship
- Spring college signing:
 - **Erin McDevitt**, U-Mass Lowell, soccer
 - **Charlie Kapranos**, PLU, basketball
 - **Vashon Hargdes**, PCC, basketball
 - **John Kent**, Kenyon College, baseball
 - **Reuben Elliston**, Centralia College, baseball
 - **Benson Deibele**, Linfield, football
 - **Cameroon Reed**, Lewis and Clark, football
 - **Aiden Wood**, Lewis and Clark, football
 - **Quinn Bevan**, University of Arizona, rugby
 - **Travis Weksler**, Westminster College, soccer
 - **Will Peterson Savannah**, College of Art & Design, soccer
 - **Lillian Courtange-Dyke**, Willamette, cross country/track & field
 - **Benaati Louvouezo**, Utah Valley University, track & field
 - **Emerson Storer**, Linfield, golf

Congratulations to all!!



A blue poster for the 2024 Alumni Picnic. At the top, the text "2024 ALUMNI PICNIC" is written in a white, hand-drawn, arched font. Below the text is a circular image of a picnic spread on a red and white checkered tablecloth, featuring hot dogs, burgers, chips, and a bowl of beans. Below the image, the text "SUNDAY, JULY 28" and "1:00-4:00 PM" is written in a white, hand-drawn font. Below that, the text "GRANT PARK HOLLYROOD SHELTER, OFF 36TH AVE" is written in the same font. In the center of the poster is a photograph of a group of people, including several young women in the foreground and older adults in the background. Below the photograph, the text "WATER, POPCORN & COOKIES WILL BE PROVIDED, AND GRANTGIVES WILL HAVE GRILLED HOTDOGS, CHIPS, DRINKS, TREATS, AND SPECIAL 'MEAL DEALS.'" is written in a white, hand-drawn font. At the bottom of the poster, the text "SEE YOU THERE!" is written in the same font.

2024 ALUMNI PICNIC

SUNDAY, JULY 28
1:00-4:00 PM
GRANT PARK HOLLYROOD SHELTER,
OFF 36TH AVE

WATER, POPCORN & COOKIES
WILL BE PROVIDED, AND GRANTGIVES
WILL HAVE GRILLED HOTDOGS,
CHIPS, DRINKS, TREATS, AND
SPECIAL "MEAL DEALS."

SEE YOU THERE!

2024 GHSA Scholarship Winner



The Alumni Association proudly announces **Lydia Moise, Class of '24**, as our 2024 scholarship recipient. Lydia was active in the Black Student Union, and was on the volleyball, softball and wrestling teams during her years at Grant. She credits those involvements, as well as Self Enhancement Inc., with developing her teamwork and leadership skills.

Lydia has spent over two years working in fast food, and shows her creative side braiding hair. As a participant in the OHSU School of Dentistry program, "Dental Explorers," Lydia had hands on experience and sharpened her interest in the field of dentistry. Lydia will attend the University of Oregon in the fall with the goal of eventually becoming a dentist. We are happy to be able to help her get started.

New cell phone policy for Grant High students in September

A new cell phone policy will be implemented at Grant starting in the fall.

All students will be required to lock up their phones and smart watches for the entire school day. Students will be assigned a lockable pouch called a Yondr which will secure their devices until the end of the school day, when they will be unlocked.

Grant High School Principal James McGee said the hope is that this will help create a "more focused and engaging learning environment." Phone-free classrooms lead to "improved academic performance, increased student engagement, enhanced focus and concentration, reduced distractions and disruptions and stronger social interactions and collaboration among students," he wrote.



[Read more in the article by Joseph Galivan, Axios Portland.](#)

2024 Grant High School Rose Festival Princess



Daniela Gray, Class of '25, is Grant's 2024 Rose Festival princess.

Daniela was the volleyball captain and played on the softball team. Outside of school, she enjoys sewing, cooking, snowboarding, volleyball, softball, hanging with friends, biking, thrifting, and working out.

Daniela intends to enter the medical field to become a nurse.

Photo and information courtesy of the Rose Festival

Become a member of your Alumni Association

All Grantonians are a part of the Alumni Association; **BUT** are you a dues paying member? If not, we need your support now!

Financial Needs:

- Funding scholarships for a deserving student
- Assisting with the organization of our Centennial events such as the Open House Celebrating Grant Excellence, our “A Sensational Century of Stardom” show, and the upcoming birthday event and home game in the bowl
- Supporting extracurricular activities such as the much celebrated Constitution Team and the national award-winning “Grant Magazine”
- Covering operational costs of our twice-yearly newsletter and paying for the annual all alum picnic

Costs:

- Our annual dues need to increase threefold to support the cost of organizing our annual picnic
- Your contribution ensures that we can continue publishing “Generally Speaking” which highlights alumni achievements and keeps us connected

The Impact:

- Your dues could fund more scholarships for deserving students to pursue their dreams
- Your dues could support more of the many extracurricular groups to competing in competitions which enhance our school's reputation
- Your dues help bring together alumni and support traditions such as the annual picnic

Collective Goal:

- Together, we can make a significant impact on current and future students
- Your support helps maintain the legacy and excellence of our alma mater

Four Easy Payment Options:

- Pay using the form below and send to the PO Box noted
- Pay at our picnic
- Pay using Venmo: Grantalumni (@Christi Knutson)
- Pay on the alumni website: grantalumnipdx.org/dues-and-donations.html

Please fill out and enclose the form below with your annual dues and mail to:

US Grant Alumni Association / PO Box 13291 / Portland OR 97213-0291.

Name(s) _____ Maiden name _____

Email address(es) _____

Graduation Year(s) _____ Address: _____

Enclosed Dues: \$25 Single _____ \$40 Couple (both GHS alums) _____ \$250 Lifetime _____

NEW WAYS TO SUPPORT US! Are you a supporter of Grant High School? Show your support with a donation, and we'll make sure you receive our newsletter and any special announcements. Fill out the form above and check this box: _____

Is there a special area you'd like to support even more? Additional donations can also be made to these funds:

Scholarships _____ General Fund _____ Centennial Celebration Wrap-up _____



Officers

~ President ~

Jack Cain, '61

~ Vice President ~

open

~ Secretary ~

Karyl (Loback) Whelan, '61

~ Treasurer ~

Christi (Rollwage) Knutson, '64

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Henry Breithaupt, '66

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Kathi (Stipe) Swanson, '61

Jennifer (Sonk) McNassar, '82

Bruce McDonald, honorary member

James McGee, GHS Principal, ex officio

*If you are interested in being
on the board, contact us at*

GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com

US Grant High School Alumni Association

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Portland OR 97213-0291

Editor: [Sue Middleton](mailto:Sue.Middleton@usps.gov), '74

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Next issue: Winter 2025

Newsletters are emailed to all
alumni for whom we have a
current email address. Paid members
receive a physical copy by USPS.

Boldface = Grant Alumni



“Grant” us lights!

On February 20, 2024, Portland Public School District secured a long-term lease with Portland Parks & Recreation to allow Portland School District full control of the Grant bowl. This lease finally gives our community hope to install lights and bring our student-athletes home.

On May 31, 2024, PPS School Board and Facilities & Operations department agreed to move forward with the permitting process to install lights at the Grant Bowl. This is a huge step forward, which will allow our student-athletes who play football, soccer, and lacrosse to finally play home games in front of their family and friends. In addition, track and field will no longer have to finish their home meets in the dark.

There's one caveat, however! The Grant community must raise all monies to install the lights, approximately \$500,000. We're calling on community members to spread the word and help us bring our student-athletes home. Visit grantbowlcoalition.org or use the QR code below for further information on how to donate.



grantbowlcoalition.org