Generally Speaking...

Grant High School Alumni Association / June 2026

Will we see you at our All Alumni Picnic?!?

Calling all Grant Alumni!! The weather is beautiful, the days are long, and we have the perfect excuse to get outside. It's officially time to dust off those lawn chairs and join us at the Grant High School Annual Alumni Picnic!

What's on the Menu?

We've got your classic summer favorites covered! Expect freshly cooked hot dogs, chips, and refreshing cold water, plus plenty of sweet treats. Please feel free to bring your own picnic. Non-alcoholic beverages as well as beer/wine in small containers are allowed. Enjoy this fun time with your friends.

The Game Plan

The main event starts at 1:00 pm. Arrive and sign in; pay your dues at this time, too, to join the Alumni Association. Food will be available and donations are welcome!

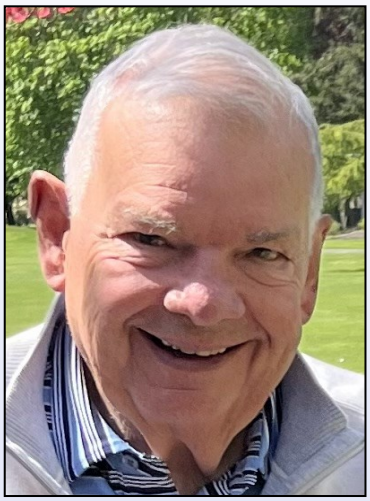
Class photos take place around 2:30 pm. Stick around and join your classmates in a group photo. After that, you have all afternoon to unwind and connect with friends new and old. Enjoy music, reminisce, or just catch up with friendly faces.

The Details

When: Sunday, July 26 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm
Where: Grant Park Picnic A shelter, located in the northeast corner of the park, near Hollyrood School.
What to bring: We'll provide the food, water, and seating, but feel free to bring your favorite lawn blanket, chair, sunscreen, and any class identifiers you may have. We can't wait to catch up with all you. See you at the park!

Jenny (Sonk) McNassar, '82
Questions? Email jennifermcnassar@gmail.com

President's Letter



Fellow Grantonians,

I'd like to congratulate four Grant alumni who will be inducted into the PIL Hall of Fame on November 8th at the Red Lion Inn. Those selected this year are **Alex Hairston**, Class of 2011; **Chris Sturgeon** (deceased), Class of 1992; **Peris Penn**, Class of 2012; and, **Rob Kennewell**, Class of 1977. We're proud of them all!

I would also like to congratulate **Brihana Michaud** who was named to Portland's Rose Festival Court.

A big welcome to **John Mears** as he has been selected to serve as a board member of our alumni association. John is from the class of 1970, and also taught and served for many years as a track coach.

Don't forget about our annual picnic on July 26th, when the alumni association will host the all-class picnic at Grant Park. I hope to see you there.

Jack Cain, '61
GHSAA President

John Mears joins GHSAA Board of directors

The Grant Alumni Association is pleased to welcome **John Mears**, Class of '70 to its Board of Directors. John's connection to Grant spans more than five decades!

John returned to his alma mater in 1986 and spent 30 years there as a special education teacher, mentor, and track coach. During his career, he helped countless students succeed both in the classroom and on the track, earning a reputation for dedication, encouragement, and unwavering support.

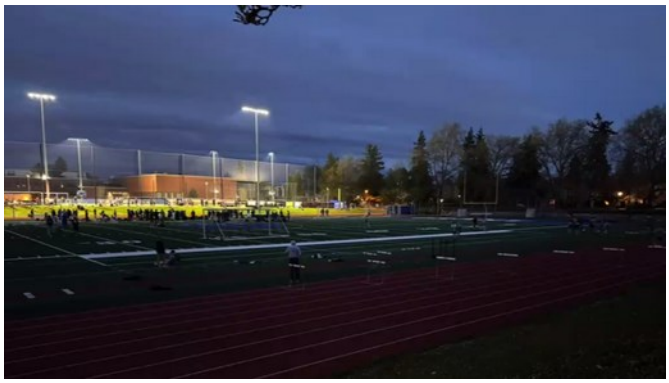
John coached Grant track and field for more than two decades, contributing to numerous championship relay teams and receiving honors including PIL Assistant Coach of the Year and Optimist Educator of the Year.

In 2015, he was inducted into the Grant Hall of Fame in recognition of his accomplishments as an athlete, coach, and educator. Additionally, John's commitment to Grant extends beyond his years in the classroom. All three of his children and two grandchildren are Grant alumni. And his daughter Annie represented the school as Grant's Rose Festival Princess.

We are delighted that John is bringing his deep knowledge of Grant history, his passion for education, and his lifelong commitment to the Grant community to the Alumni Association Board.

Exciting "Grant Us Lights" update!

Good things come to those who wait and we've been waiting a VERY long time, but it's finally official: The lights are installed and ready to be turned on! We're not exactly sure when the lights in the Grant Bowl will be turned on for good, but they'll definitely be on for the Fall sports season!



Grant Bowl in April 2025 (Courtesy City of Portland public hearing)

We appreciate everyone's support for getting this over the finish line and look forward to celebrating with our community soon before the Fall season starts! Let's turn out in big numbers for our teams. What fun it's going to be, finally, under the lights!!

Submitted by Colin McLean, '97

Your alumni dues in action!

The GHS Board Members recently received this thank you note for sponsoring the 2026 Grant Grad After Party! They were expecting more than 325 graduates to take part, and emphasized how much our generous support means to them.

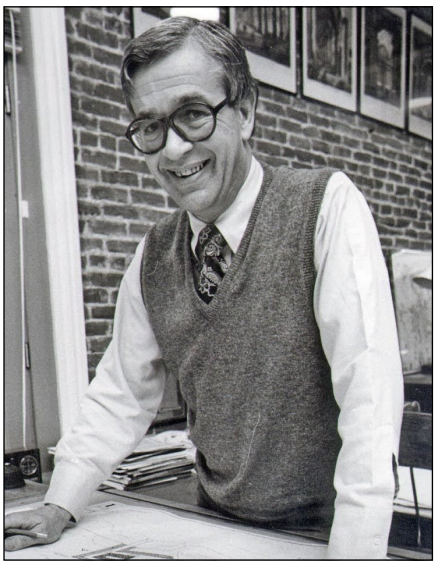
If you're not familiar with Grant's Grad After Party, it not only gives seniors an opportunity to celebrate this important milestone together, but also helps keep them safe and off the roads on graduation night. Win, win!

In recognition of our sponsorship, our logo has been featured in the following places:

- Printed "Early Bird" flyers were posted throughout the school
- Digital "Early Bird" flyers were posted in Grant's online newsletter and across Grant social media channels
- Info was displayed on five large digital display boards located throughout the campus
- Sponsor callout on the event ticketing page and sponsor reel on the event FAQ page
- Ongoing social media recognition posts leading up to the event
- Printed flyers were distributed to every senior (all 525 of them!)
- Large poster displays were at multiple tabling events throughout the spring
- Dedicated sponsor thank-yous posted on social media following the event
- The graduation slideshow displayed on two jumbo screens at the ceremony venue
- Our affiliation / support was printed in all 525 printed graduation ceremony programs

Graduation private "after parties" oftentimes get out of hand. We're glad our donation helped to reach the seniors and gave them an alternative and safe place to celebrate. This is your dues in action!

Grant High School Alumni Association Hall of Achievement



George McMath, Class of 1948

George participated in football, basketball and was a member of the ski team while attending Grant. He flew army reconnaissance planes during the Korean War before earning a degree in architecture from the University of Oregon. His grandfather was the legendary architect A.E. Doyle who, along with his mother, pushed him towards architecture.

Early on in his career George became interested in protecting and preserving Portland's architectural history after the Ladd Building was torn down at midnight to build a parking lot. The first landmark preservation ordinance was written to ensure the protection of other historic buildings. George is responsible for helping the Pioneer Courthouse being saved, restoring Union Station, Multnomah Falls Lodge, U.S. Customs House, the Old Church and many more. George also advised on changes to the Central Library which his grandfather Doyle designed.

George is revered in the preservation community where an award was established that is awarded annually to a leader in the field in his name and honor. George suffered a debilitating stroke in 1996 and passed away in 2007. He is survived by three children. Read more about George's contributions here: **https://design.uoregon.edu/george-mcmath-1959**

Terrance Scott, Class of 1990

Terrance was a strong student athlete both in the classroom and on the track where he was a hurdler all four years. Always interested in music, he and his childhood friend Bosco Kante (Grant '89) decided their senior year to be in the music business and start their own label, Jus Family Records.

A rapper, Terrance's stage name is Cool Nutz. Their dream was realized in 1992 and they began recording for themselves, as well as others. Terrance also has recorded on other labels and met performers from around the world. He is known internationally from his extensive traveling to Europe, South America, Japan and Australia, to name a few, and has recorded over 20 albums. *(continued on next page)*

In 1995 Terrance co-founded Portland hip hop shows that were well received, and in 2022, Terrance was honored with an induction into the Oregon Music Hall of Fame.

Most recently you can see Terrance on television in a Portland Spirit commercial with the theme "I love Portland". A rapper, radio personality (12 years on jammin 107.5), tour manager, record label owner and entrepreneur, Terrance continues to write new songs, produce albums and work the business end for various performers.

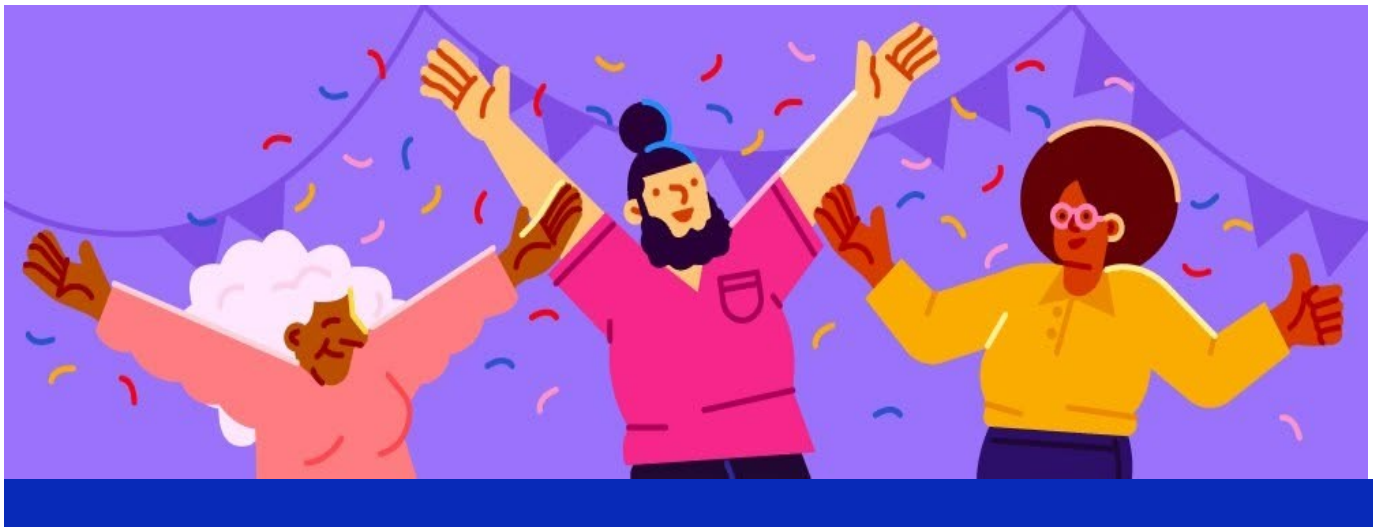
Married and the father of three, Terrance still resides in the Grant neighborhood where his children are Grant Generals, too!

Laura Gunderson, Class of 1991

Laura was an active Grantonian: freshman class treasurer, a member of the National Honor Society, and on the soccer and softball teams. She also was on The Grantonian staff.

The Oregonian was part of her life as a young person because of her grandparent's involvement; Al McCready was an editor in the 1970's and Connie McCready, was a reporter in the 1940's. While working toward her journalism degree at the University of Portland, Laura began working at The Oregonian. She started on the sports desk in 1995 taking phone calls and had successive assignments covering education, politics, retail, public safety and investigation. She was promoted to management and the editorial page in 2016. As managing editor for news she oversaw breaking news, politics, business, and the investigative teams. She was also the first woman to lead the editorial / opinion pages.

After a nationwide search, Laura was named the newspaper editor as well as vice president, in June 2025. Her grandparents would be proud of their granddaughter who certainly earned her new position. Laura is married and the mother of two girls.



Class reunions and upcoming events

Class of 1964 – 80th Birthday Party
· Saturday, July 25, 2026
· 4:00 - 8:00 PM
· NoHo's Hawaiian Cafe; 4627 NE Fremont
· Questions: **granthigh1964@aol.com**

Class of 1966 – 60th Reunion
· Thursday, July 23, 2026
· 4:00 PM
· Amalfi's Restaurant, 4703 NE Fremont
· Questions: **randiblack37@gmail.com**

Class of 1972 - 72nd Birthday Gathering
· Saturday July 25, 2026
· 3:00 Wilshire Park
· Casual get together for connection and conversation
· For more information: **Jeanine Bassett**

Class of 1976 - 50th Reunion
· Saturday, July 25, 2026
· 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.
· Amalfi's Restaurant 4703 NE Fremont. No Host bar & apps.
· Questions & RSVP: **marth4healing@gmail.com**

Class of 1986 - 40th Reunion
· Saturday, August 8, 2026
· 6:00 - 11:00 pm
· Embassy Suites Hotel; Queen Marie Ballroom
· Website: **GrantHighSchool1986.com**
· Questions: **granthighschool1986@gmail.com**

Class of 1996 - 30th Reunion
· Saturday, July 18, 2026
· 7:00 – 11:30 pm / Rose City Book Pub, 1329 NE Fremont
· PICNIC! Sunday, July 19, 2026
· 1:00 – 4:00 pm
· Wilshire Park
· Questions: **Elise@bookpubpdx.com**

Class of 2006 - 20th Reunion
· Friday, August 7, 2026
· 12:00 School tour
· Family picnic in Grant Park
· Saturday, August 8, 2026
· 7:30 – 11:00 p.m. $20
· Alberta Street Pub, 1036 NE Alberta

Class of 2016 - 10th Reunion
· Saturday, June 27 2026
· 5:00 pm / Hi-Top Tavern, 5015 NE Fremont St
· Interested?

15th Annual Grant High School All-Alumni Picnic
· Sunday, July 26, 2026.
· Wilshire Park
· 1:00 – 4:00 PM
· Hotdogs, chips, cookies and water provided

35th Annual MacMillan Jones Golf Tourney
· Thursday, September 10, 2026
· Pumpkin Ridge Ghost Creek Club – North Plains
· Golf, lunch and hors d'oeuvres: $195.00
· Details here: **grantalumnipdx.org/events**

Annual Mel Krause Memorial PIL HOF Golf Tourney
· Monday, September 14, 2026
· Langdon Farms Golf Club / Aurora
. 18 holes / 4 person scramble
. Details: **www.pilhalloffame.org/events/golf**

Our All-Alumni Picnic!

In the spring of 2010 it was suggested we hold a picnic that includes **all** Grant alumni. On short notice we were able to book Wilshire Park on Sunday, July 25, 2010.... and our all-alumni picnics began!

In 2018 we moved from Wilshire to Grant Park. Our attendance varies from year to year but we always have a fun crowd! It's especially fun if a class holds their reunion with us (heads up: we will provide tables and chairs for any class that opts to celebrate with us on picnic day!).

Luckily the weather has never been an issue with the sun shining brightly, which is always welcome when the decade photos are taken mid-afternoon.

Join us Sunday, July 26, at 1:00 p.m. We'll have cookies, and water!

2026 GHSAA Scholarship Recipient

The Grant High School Alumni Association is proud to announce **Manuel Caminotti** as the recipient of the 2026 Grant High School Alumni Scholarship in the amount of $5000.

This fall, Manuel will attend Portland State University, where he plans to pursue a degree in Computer Science. Throughout his time at Grant, Manuel intentionally built his skills by enrolling in computer science-related coursework each year. His studies included engineering, animation, website development, and game design, allowing him to develop a strong foundation in both technical and creative aspects of technology.

From creating websites and small video games to currently collaborating with a classmate to develop an original video game, Manuel has consistently demonstrated initiative, curiosity, and a commitment to learning. He looks forward to continuing his growth as a creator and developer while pursuing his college education.

In addition to his academic accomplishments, Manuel credits a formative experience during Grant's Spanish Cultural Immersion Program with helping shape his perspective on service and teamwork. During a six-week trip to Costa Rica, he participated in a community project to restore a local soccer field. The experience strengthened his appreciation for collaboration and inspired him to continue serving others through community involvement.

The Grant High School Alumni Association congratulates Manuel on this well-deserved recognition and wishes him continued success in his academic and professional pursuits.

The Association would also like to thank the scholarship committee—**Breanna Jackson** (Class of 2004), **Janice Quall Routt** (Class of 1967), **Kirsten Humbar** (Class of 1989), and **Becka Carter** (Class of 1996)—for their time reviewing applications and interviewing finalists.

Since 2008, the Grant High School Alumni Association has awarded an annual scholarship to a graduating senior who exemplifies Grant Spirit and plans to continue their education through an Oregon college or university, community college, or career training program.

Submitted by Breanna Jackson, '04

Meet Princess Briahna Michaud

Briahna Michaud was selected as our 2026 Rose Festival Princess for Grant High School, an honor that runs in the family! Her cousin, Daniela Gray, represented Grant as the school's 2024 Rose Festival princess.

Princess Briahna is a junior with plans to earn a bachelor's degree in biology before pursuing medical school. She hopes to become a physician specializing in dermatology, oncology, gynecology, or anesthesiology.

A dedicated student-athlete, Princess Briahna competes on Grant's varsity cross country, golf, and swim teams. Her commitment to fitness extends beyond school athletics—she has participated in weightlifting for the past three and a half years, visits the gym at least four times each week, and logged more than 1,000 miles of running last year. In addition to her athletic pursuits, Briahna volunteers at Providence Portland Medical Center in the Stroke and Traumatic Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit.

When reflecting on her experience as a member of the Rose Festival Court, Princess Briahna shared that the friendships she formed with talented and accomplished young women from across the Portland area were among the most meaningful parts of the experience. Through those relationships, she gained exposure to new perspectives and broadened her understanding of communities beyond her own. The experience also served as a lasting reminder of the value of stepping outside of her comfort zone. Perhaps most importantly, the Rose Festival Court helped Briahna discover her voice as a leader and advocate. Prior to joining the Court, she did not see herself as someone who could represent her community on a larger platform. Today, she is confident in her ability to make an impact and connect with people in ways she never imagined.

The Grant community is proud of Princess Briahna's accomplishments and looks forward to seeing the impact she continues to make through her academic pursuits, service, and leadership. Each year, the Rose Festival Foundation selects 15 high school juniors and seniors to serve on the Rose Festival Court. Court members receive a $5,000 scholarship through The Randall Group—an increase from the previous $3,500 award—as well as a professional mentor sponsored by Wooden Consulting, and a wardrobe provided by community partners including Adidas and Fred Meyer.

During the coronation ceremony held at Oregon Square Park on June 5, 2026, Anika Rigby of Lincoln High School was crowned Rose Festival Queen.

By Breanna (Probasco-Canda) Jackson, '04

Celebrating over 20 years of connection, tradition and pride

Have you considered joining the Alumni Association? Twenty years ago a small but determined group of graduates came together with a shared belief that the bonds formed at Grant were worth keeping strong. From that spark, our alumni association was born. What began as a handful of volunteers has grown into a vibrant network of graduates spanning generations and geographies.

Since then, we've honored our past, supported the schools, celebrated achievements, and mourned losses. We hosted reunions, funded scholarships, and kept classmates connected through newsletters and gatherings.

Everything we do depends on support from dues-paying members which funds events, student support, ongoing outreach and this newsletter. If you've appreciated these connections, please become a supporting member today. Let's carry the legacy forward together.

Your Board of Directors meets monthly devoting volunteer time to keep GHSAA moving forward. **SUPPORT US** by paying online at **grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations**, using the QR code, or by printing out the form below and mailing it to us. Whatever way you choose, we appreciate it!

Individual Dues	**Couple Dues**	**Lifetime Membership**
$25/year	$40/year (both Grant alums)	$250

Or pay using this QR code!

Name(s) _____ **Maiden name(s)**_____

Email address(es) _____

Address: _____ **Graduation Year(s)** _____

Enclosed Dues: $25 Single _____ $40 Couple (both GHS alums) _____ $250 Lifetime _____
Is there a special area you'd like to support even more? Additional donations can also be made to these funds: Scholarships _____ General Fund _____

Didn't attend Grant High School? You can still show your support with a donation, and we'll make sure you receive our newsletter and any special announcements. Fill out this form and check this box: _____

Mail your dues to: GHSAA / PO Box 13291 / Portland OR 97213-0291
We are a recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Grant High School Alumni Association

Officers
President: Jack Cain, '61
Vice President: Open
Secretary: Karyl (Loback) Whelan, '61
Treasurer: Christi (Rollwage) Knutson, '64

Board Members
Henry Breithaupt, '66
John Mears, '70
Tracie (Marrs) Lynch, '73
Fatimah Steffanoff, '82
Jennifer (Sonk) McNassar, '82
Colin McLean, '97
Breanna (Probasco-Canda) Jackson, '04
Bruce McDonald, honorary member
James McGee, GHS Principal, *ex officio*

We currently have vacancies on the Board. If you are interested, contact us at ***GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com***

Scan the QR code to quickly access links to our social media sites..

US Grant High School Alumni Association
PO Box 13291
Portland OR 97213-0291
Editor: Sue Middleton, '74

GrantAlumniPDX.org
GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com

Links to our newsletters are emailed via iContact to all alumni for whom we have a current email address.

We've gone electronic!

We hope you enjoy our Alumni Association eblast! If you are not familiar with the term, an eblast is simply a letter that's electronically "blasted" via email, and to do this we use iContact.

Distributing a newsletter via iContact is much more efficient than our previous method. We currently have email addresses for nearly 5000 alumni, and since our Gmail account only lets us send 100 emails at a time, you can imagine what a process that was.

We will be using iContact to send out newsletters, alert you to important events coming up, and share important and/or timely information about the goings-on at Grant. We promise we won't bombard you with emails.

We receive many compliments about our eblasts. However, if you don't want to receive them, feel free to delete or unsubscribe. To do that, simply scroll to the bottom of the eblast and click the *Manage Your Subscription* link.

We hope you enjoy this new way to keep in touch with each other. Suggestions or comments? Please send them to us at **GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com**.