Fourth grade students welcome guests with a lively performance from “Go West” on the morning of Grandparents and Special Friends Day.
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ON THE COVER: Seniors gather for a final few moments prior to Commencement. From left, Zachary Culham ’15, Jack Copeland ’15, Ashlyn Coleman ’15, Timothy Perry ’15 and Julia Peacock ’15.
Schools and education are about preparing students with knowledge, skills and values to make positive contributions in their future world. At Bullis, our role is no different, though our approach—and our continuing effort to improve it and find new ways to engage students—certainly is. This issue of Bullis Magazine looks at some of these new approaches, particularly in academic programs and facilities.

The Discovery Center, set for groundbreaking this fall, marks a new milestone in our School’s history. This 67,000 square-foot building at the heart of the campus quad, replete with state-of-the-art features, building materials and learning tools, will enhance the daily experience of every Bullis student. Its design will provide endless opportunities for students to stretch their imaginations and think big...to dream up and develop fresh ideas. Today’s dreamers will be tomorrow’s innovators—and they must be ready to tackle our world’s most pressing problems.

Understanding the human experience is critical to preparing our students for life beyond Bullis. Our STEM and Entrepreneurship signature programs give them outstanding platforms to learn about technology and business innovation, transforming ideas into realities. Two additional signature programs were launched this year: Humanities & Global Studies and Visual & Performing Arts. The students in the HGS program develop global competence through the interconnected and interdisciplinary study of cultures. This year’s students became compassionate global citizens with the desire and ideas to improve the lives of others close to home and around the world.

Twenty-first century education goes far beyond books and traditional teaching. I am so proud of the many creative ways we engage students today to ensure they are prepared for tomorrow. Seeing our results, I’m very optimistic about the future.
HAVANA NIGHTS AT BULLIS

This year’s March Gala, with a colorful “Havana Nights” theme, raised $345,000 in support of financial aid and professional development programs, including $116,000 from Raise the Paddle to fund a new fitness center. The new fitness center will be an expansion of the existing center to become a place where all Bullis students will learn about fitness and healthy habits.

Gala attendees got into the Cuban spirit while enjoying vibrant music, exotic food and incredible auction items. With great appreciation, we thank Gala Co-Chairs Krysti Hinton P’11, ’12, ’16 and Tammy McKnight P’15, ’18 for their tireless efforts, enthusiasm and leadership; Total Wine & More and David and June Trone, P’12, ’14 for their generous support and sponsorships; and the many parent volunteers who donated countless hours of creativity to the Gala. Their efforts, combined with the energetic participation and generous bidding of the Gala’s attendees, produced a memorable event that displayed the positive impact and generous contributions of the community.

HONORING OUR SUPPORTERS

Each spring, Head of School Dr. Gerald L. Boarman hosts an event to honor and thank the donor and volunteer leaders who have given generously to Bullis during the school year. Among those in attendance, a few receive special awards each year:

- Philanthropists of the Year: Connie and Pat Caulfield, P’14, ’20
- Volunteer of the Year: Livia Christensen, P’22
- William F. Bullis Benefactor Award (started in 2015): Bruce Kogod, P’99, ’01
Financing From the Ground Up: A Woman’s Perspective

A new Humanities & Global Studies Capstone class taught by Dr. Constance Giles launched this year to foster an interconnected view of cultures and individual perspectives. Six seniors from the Class of 2015 enrolled and came together to produce a documentary. Here is their story.

IN THE BEGINNING

CHARLOTTE TRAVER

When the course began, we each had different project ideas. For example, I was interested in exploring teen homelessness while Lily was interested in improving lunch options for needy children. Soon we realized that we were all interested in women and families and decided a group project—creating a documentary—would be the most effective way to send a powerful and meaningful message.

First we drafted, edited and finalized a proposal. We prepared individual proposals for peer review as well as a group proposal. We also began to identify agencies and experts for information and support.

After Dr. Giles approved our group project, we zeroed in on a specific topic. We were passionate about equality in the workplace and female empowerment, but wanted a different angle to explore, so we met with a panel of female teachers for guidance. When microfinancing and its impact on local communities was mentioned, we all jumped at that idea and began to brainstorm the story we could tell.

We also developed a cohort contract for our group with clear rules of engagement and responsibilities for our yearlong work together.

To check ourselves, we implemented a weekly feedback survey to critique our individual contributions.

Our final project plan was due in mid-November. By that time, we had identified a major source of information and support: the Women’s Microfinance Initiative (WMI) led by Robyn Niertert, president and founder. WMI has an international ground-up focus on microfinance and support, so we added a parallel domestic focus via A Wider Circle, a Bethesda-based organization. Founder and Executive Director Mark Bergel and Director of Education Liz Anne Ganiban provided a wealth of information. Finally, we decided to explore the difference between a ground-up approach and an institutionalized banking approach, so we planned a visit to the World Bank to understand its microfinancing programs. By December we were ready to put our plan into action.

Above: Humanities and Global Studies Capstone students interview A Wider Circle’s Executive Director Mark Bergel.
“When you give money to a woman you’re supporting a family.”
—Robyn Nietert
President
Women’s Microfinance Initiative

GATHERING INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

LILY EBRAHIMI-QAJAR

Initially, we spent time researching basic information about microfinancing and its effect on poverty. While researching organizations that paralleled our project proposal, we discovered WMI. Robyn later became one of our mentors for the entire project. She taught us a great deal about the WMI process and later gave us feedback on our documentary as a whole.

We also each read and reported on books related to our topic. This information was helpful later writing the documentary script.

We forged key connections with Mark Bergel and Liz Anne Ganiban, Jean Philippe Prosper from the World Bank’s IFC and Dr. Karen Lewis, a member of the Federation of American Women’s Clubs Overseas.

Filming most of our interviews provided abundant information and footage. While the interview with Mr. Prosper was not featured in the final documentary, he helped us understand institutionalized vs. non-institutionalized aid. Dr. Lewis’ interest reassured us that our documentary would attract a variety of interest.

PROCESS

ASHLYN COLEMAN

We discussed possible formats for communicating our research and decided that we wanted to produce an engaging documentary to share with a wide audience. We spent December through January completing research and filming interviews.

Ms. Nietert contributed additional footage from a recent visit to one of WMI’s sites in Buyobo, Uganda. Since none of us knew how to
In February and March we compiled the considerable information we had on hand and turned it into a concise and compelling story. Our goal was to showcase the documentary at the April Capstone Symposium.

**FINAL PRESENTATION AND LESSONS LEARNED**

**MOLLIE CARROLL**

After months of hard work, we were really pleased with the end result. The 20-minute film includes infographics, interviews, b-roll footage from WMI’s Uganda program and our own insights, along with ways to support WMI and A Wider Circle.

We showed the documentary four times during the April Capstone Symposium that showcased all the work of the students in Signature Program capstones. Shown on a widescreen, the film looked great. We also screened the documentary during an evening event for parents that same day.

Our final project was a solid representation of a year of work and research and the lessons learned throughout the process will carry us forward in the future.

The group component was one of the most important aspects of the project. In school we learn to collaborate on short-term projects, yet abilities are really tested when you must rely on partners for a year-long project. We learned more than ever about communication skills.
and collaboration. Each of us had different ideas of what the final product should be; to reach the end we had to compromise and respect each other. This skill will be invaluable in the future.

We also learned to craft and verbalize a solid argument. Each of us had ideas, yet at first we struggled to communicate them. After months of practice we greatly improved, transforming from passive students to active members of a community.

The most important lessons were following our passions and finding ways to make a difference in the community. We repeatedly asked ourselves how to share our work with others and have an impact. Along with the documentary we conducted a few successful fundraisers, raising nearly $900, to increase our impact. It was empowering to see how even small steps can have an immediate effect.

Everything we learned will stay with us well past graduation. We have become better communicators and more involved members of our community and broadened our abilities beyond typical classroom knowledge.

**LONG-TERM IMPACT AND CONNECTIONS**

**KYAH AYERS**

Over the course of this class, a goal has been to cause change. We kept that in mind throughout the creation of our documentary. I hope the future of our documentary is infinite and that students will remember it for years to come.

We wanted to affect people who in turn might help women become successful and self-sustaining. We received lots of positive feedback from students about how their mindsets were changed. We plan to follow up with adults who offered additional contacts and means to widen the reach of our documentary.

We are the future, and we will need to continue to support and get involved with organizations like A Wider Circle and Women’s Microfinance Initiative. We will continue to lead the fight against poverty in the world.

“The enthusiasm of the young women in the HGS Capstone program was palpable from our first meeting and continued through to the final cut of the film. Their curiosity made it clear that they had given considerable and measured thought to the topic.

On their way to college, these women will bring their outlook to a larger academic world and I hope this project has made an impact on their thinking on poverty as a global issue.”

—Robyn Nietert
President, Women’s Microfinance Initiative and HGS Capstone Mentor

To watch the documentary visit www.bullis.org/hgs

At top, from left: Women’s Microfinance Initiative president Robyn Nietert joins HGS Capstone students, Ashlyn Coleman, Charlotte Traver, Lily Ebrahimi-Qajar, Kyah Ayers and teacher Dr. Constance Giles for their film’s screening. Not pictured: Mollie Carroll.
Creating a Legacy of Leadership

67,000 SQUARE-FOOT GERALD L. BOARMAN DISCOVERY CENTER
When Bullis opened its doors in Washington D.C. to 13 students in 1930, it quickly outgrew the New Hampshire Avenue mansion, prompting founders William and Lois Bullis to search for a pastoral environment to support the School’s growth. Thirty years later, when the modest Silver Spring campus reached its limits, the school relocated again to the countryside of then-rural Potomac, transforming 80 acres of farmland into the finest school they could envision. At the time, Bullis offered just two buildings, yet tremendous potential—even then, a school for the future.

Since the beginning, Bullis has transformed itself more than once—relocating, enrolling girls, adding new buildings and countless renovations to spaces, terraces and fields. Physical changes and new signature curricular programs are all part of the School’s continued upward growth.

With each transition, Bullis achieves greater excellence, benefitting the School and its community.
This fall, as more than 800 students eager to learn arrive on campus, Bullis will break ground on a remarkable new building at the center of our academic quad, the result of the combined efforts and generosity of the entire Bullis community. Unique among area independent schools, the 67,000 square-foot Gerald L. Boarman Discovery Center will provide students in all grades the space to explore, collaborate and create as part of a rigorous curriculum that develops both technical and leadership skills.

Our Discovery Center is the nation’s first building intended to bring STEM, entrepreneurship and arts together under one roof for 2nd-12th grade students. With a design that complements the existing campus buildings and blends beautifully into the campus environment, the new building bridges the Bullis past and its future. This first phase in Bullis’ new 20-year master plan also includes the installation of a second turf field with permanent bleacher seating.

The learning and gathering spaces provided by our new Discovery Center are uniquely designed to enhance the high caliber of 21st century learning synonymous with Bullis, and will encourage creativity and collaboration and—above all—help Bullis School provide an innovative, significant and lifelong education for every one of its students.

**Discovery Center’s features include:**

- Functional yet stunning design incorporating brick, glass, stone and environmental details.
- Progressive learning and community spaces to increase current classroom space by over 50%.
- Fabrication Lab featuring 3D printers and a Maker Space with a full range of appropriate tools and creative opportunities.
- Studio theater with retractable seating.
- Innovation labs for entrepreneurship classes.
- Outdoor learning lab for Lower School students.
- Technically advanced telepresence room.
- Café and social gathering areas.
- A rooftop terrace and more.
The new building will catapult Bullis to the next level. It will ensure that students will have the equipment and environment necessary to be innovative, inquisitive and experimental...to dream and think big and become inspired for their studies...and for life.”

—Karl and Livia Christensen, P’22
“The Discovery Center will help our students better experience the rigorous programs we offer and give them room to grow. Contributing to the Capital Campaign was a no-brainer, because it was another way for me to show my support for what we do every day at Bullis. It makes me proud to be a member of the community.”

— Evelyn Beckman
Foreign Language Teacher at Bullis since 2006
“I am convinced that STEM will put Bullis in the forefront of innovative learning. It will help our children and grandchildren become willing and able to lead future generations into a better world.”

—Dr. Jens Neumann
Grandfather
Class of 2022

“We not only provide a gift to our children in sending them to Bullis but we also have an ownership stake in helping the school provide the best for our children. We need to help Bullis keep up with the ever-changing world, and to provide for the school that makes it stand out as an academic powerhouse and at the same time maintains its core values.”

—Brad and Monique Buckles, P’25

IMAGINE Lower Schoolers planting seeds in their own greenhouse and then transplanting them to the garden in their outdoor lab, which is sized perfectly for them to be able to reach, water and harvest.

IMAGINE musical theater students presenting an intimate cabaret performance in the studio theater...and the next day retracting all of the seats in the same theater to create a gallery for Middle School student-artists to present their latest artwork.

IMAGINE a student center filled with students mingling, relaxing and enjoying snacks from the school café after the class day has ended and before rehearsals and athletic practices begin.
OUR TIME IS NOW!

We urge you—Bullis parents past, present and future, Bullis alumni and all friends of Bullis—to share our mission to prepare highly motivated and excited students for their next steps in college and beyond. Our world depends on the readiness of future generations to carefully and collaboratively guide it. With your assistance and enthusiastic support, our Bullis students will be the change-makers and leaders of tomorrow.

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To pledge your support to the Creating a Legacy of Leadership campaign, please make gifts online at www.bullis.org/campaign or by using the enclosed envelope.

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Or visit www.bullis.org/campaign
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The success of the Creating a Legacy of Leadership Campaign is only possible because of the incredible generosity of the many Bullis Community members who have already pledged their support for this project.

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Graduation Moments

The Music Center at Strathmore, North Bethesda, Maryland
Richard K. Jung Faculty First Award Winners
Kerry Hosmer (left) and Emily Simpson with former Headmaster Dr. Jung, P’04, ’10. Not pictured: awardee Carolyn Hasfurter.

Outstanding Scholar Samuel Greenberg

Guest speaker Paralympic champion and author April Holmes

Dr. Boarman introduces Ashlyn Coleman before she delivers the Message of Welcome.
Class of 2015
College Matriculations

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Brown University
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Case Western Reserve University
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Davidson College
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The George Washington University
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University of Pennsylvania
University of Southern California
University of Virginia
University of Washington
Virginia Commonwealth University
Wake Forest University
Washington University in St. Louis
West Virginia Wesleyan College

Class of 2015 Lifers

Bullis Lifers, back row, from left: Kyle McKenzie, Sam Greenberg, Blair Signora, Tommy Blair, Timmy Perry, Bruce Jansa and Nick Lowenthal. Front row: Lauren Halle, Taylor Hoffman, Stephanie Kaplan, Olivia DePandi and Dariah Manesh.
Awards for Members of the Class of 2015

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<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Founders’ Award</td>
<td>Sarah Bair</td>
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<td>The William H. Price, Jr. Citizenship Award</td>
<td>Jack Copeland</td>
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<td>The Manuel José Baca, Jr. Joy of Living Award</td>
<td>Caden Ulanet</td>
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<td>The Michael Ivey Achievement Award</td>
<td>Lillian Cantral</td>
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<td>The Community Service Award</td>
<td>Mollie Carroll</td>
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<td>The Alumni Award for Outstanding</td>
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<td>Achievement in Athletics</td>
<td>Kyla Lewis</td>
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<td>Andrew Petkevich</td>
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<td>The David P. Hellekjaer Award</td>
<td>Jessica Mays</td>
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<td>Devonte Williams</td>
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<td>The Douglas London Award for Excellence in English</td>
<td>Sophie Roberts</td>
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<td>in Foreign Language</td>
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<td>The Barbara Marks Award for Excellence in Science</td>
<td>Stephen Clement</td>
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<td>The John H. Dillon Memorial Award for Excellence in Science</td>
<td>Jordan Czerwiec</td>
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<td>The John W. Spencer Award for Excellence in Mathematics</td>
<td>Samuel Greenberg</td>
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<td>The Irene Ford Smith Memorial Award for Excellence in Social Studies</td>
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<td>Tali Champney</td>
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<td>Arman Salmasi</td>
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<td>The Award for Excellence in Technology and Engineering</td>
<td>Alexander Truitt</td>
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<td>The Award for Excellence in Music</td>
<td>Eliana Roseen</td>
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<td>The Award for Excellence in Theatre</td>
<td>Fallon McKnight</td>
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<td>The Award for Excellence in Art</td>
<td>Lauren Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Award for Excellence in Dance</td>
<td>Chandler Bryant</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Outstanding Scholar Award</td>
<td>Samuel Greenberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards for members of the Class of 2015 were presented</td>
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<tr>
<td>at the Senior Awards Reception, May 31, 2015.</td>
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Former Headmaster Lawrence Bullis ’54 greets Founders’ Award winner Sarah Bair ’15.

Dr. Boarman recognizes Outstanding Scholar Samuel Greenberg ’15.
Favorite teachers:
Mr. Chellman was my history teacher twice since I have been here at Bullis. His famous throwing the textbook into the trash can, pushing the motto “Don’t just do the work, but rather actually learn something,” his wall of *Time* magazines, and his wanting to see every student excel, not just his own students but all students of the Bullis community, are what has made him one of my favorites.

Mr. Moreau really challenged me both inside and outside of the classroom, and is energetic about what he teaches. He helps students who first choose to help themselves, and he gives everyone an equal opportunity to gain extra help.

Future plans:
I will be in the University Honors program at the University of Maryland. I plan to double major in accounting and sports management, and hope someday to become the chief financial officer of a professional sports team.

Advice for future seniors:
Senior year is your last chance to go out with a bang, so do everything big. Reach out to those who you were never able to make a connection with, rekindle friendships that may have been lost and give your best in all you do whether in the classroom, in a club, on the field or on the stage. Make memories that you will remember forever, and never forget the ones you will leave behind.

Favorite memory:
The fall dance performance during my freshman year of “B TV,” or Bullis TV, in which we performed a selection of pieces based on popular past and present TV shows. From “Pretty Little Liars,” to “Dance Moms,” this event is what motivated me to continue dancing while at Bullis, and hopefully in college as well. I will never forget the pieces we performed, and the connections I made with other dancers and with Ms. Hill.

Favorite lunch:
Baked Chicken
Devonte Williams

Favorite teachers:
Both Mrs. Turett and Mrs. Schaeffer were always available when I needed them the most. They provided me with great advice and made sure I was consistently prepared.

Future plans:
I am looking forward to attending Indiana University where I plan to study communications.

Advice for future seniors:
Finish your senior year strong and don’t get lazy towards the end.

Favorite lunch:
My favorite lunch was without a doubt General Tso’s chicken.

Favorite memory:
By far, it’s the fan support (Dog Pound) during football games, especially the little kids that would give me high fives in the end-zone and celebrate with me after I would score a touchdown.
Generation to Generation

Legacy Family Portraits

Each graduation we capture photos of families with multiple graduate connections, including siblings, parents, aunts, uncles, cousins and, for the first time this year, grandparents who previously graduated from Bullis.
Kristina ’13 and Alexandra ’15 Frye
Audrey (Greenhouse) ’86, Justin ’15 and Jonathan ’82 Friedlander
Alec ’15 and Hayley ’14 Economakis
Jason ’10, Jordan ’15 and Josh ’13 Czerwiec
Jamaal ’15 and Adena ’09 David
Samuel ’15 Greenberg; not pictured: Jessica ’11
Audrey (Greenhouse) ’86, Justin ’15 and Jonathan ’82 Friedlander
Kristina ’13 and Alexandra ’15 Frye
Jack ’15 Copeland; not pictured: Danny ’13
Samuel ’15 Greenberg; not pictured: Jessica ’11
Nathaniel '11 and Taylor '15 Hoffman

Henry Knopes '15; not pictured: Archer '10

Dariah '15 and Keon '13 (3rd from right) Manesh

Jonah '15 and Daniel '13 Nielsen
Christian ‘12 and Timothy ‘15 Perry

Sophie ‘15 and Daniel ‘12 Roberts

Kristen ‘85 (Gilliam) and Connor ‘15 Schultz

Blair Signora ‘15; not pictured: Jennifer ‘89 (Blair)

Charlotte Traver ‘15; not pictured: Lucy ‘12
Cupcakes and Coffee

This spring, the Alumni Office surprised the seniors during snack time with our fourth annual “Countdown to Graduation” event. Over hot chocolate, coffee and custom Georgetown Cupcakes the seniors were celebrated and took their first steps in establishing alumni status by providing their independent contact information and following the alumni office on social media.

Senior Lunch

In April, seniors gathered for their annual Senior Lunch. The event featured Bullis history trivia and prizes and a special message from Entrepreneurship Coordinator and alumnus Marc Steren ’89. Marc shared his personal experiences of the significance Bullis has had in his life and why it’s so valuable for alumni to remain connected with the School and each other.
SPRING ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The varsity girls lacrosse team celebrates winning the ISL-A Division Championship.

Middle School girls capture ISL Track & Field Championship for the second consecutive year.

OTHER ACCOLADES

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK
Private Invitational victory at Georgetown Prep in a 24-team field

WRESTLING
Individual IAC championships were captured by Blake Matthews ‘16, Aryemis Brown ‘17 and Nick Moskov ‘16
Congratulation to the following athletes who will play varsity athletics in college. Above, from left: David McLaurin (West Virginia Wesleyan, football), Ben Webster (St. Mary’s, baseball), Kyla Lewis (Notre Dame, track), Kaylah Hodge (U.S. Naval Academy Foundation School, tennis) and Nate Lewis (Saint Anselm, football). At left, back row: Cameron Link (Rhodes College, lacrosse), Emily Renkey (Colby, soccer), Zac Culham (St. Mary’s, lacrosse) and Tyler Gutman (College of New Jersey, swimming). Front row: Jonathan Holland (Penn State, football), Devonte Williams (Indiana University, football) and Damola Orimolade (Marist College, football).

SUCCESS LEADS TO COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES

Bullis basketball coach and academic coach Bruce Kelley led the East team to victory as coach in the 2015 McDonald’s All-American Game in Chicago. “For one-time public fame that’s as good as it gets,” said Kelley, “but give me Bullis every day of the week.”

ALL-MET HONORS FOR BULLIS ATHLETES

The Washington Post awarded spring All-Met Honors to Bullis athletes:

Girls Tennis Player of the Year: Ines Vias ’15
Boys Lacrosse First Team: Drew Petkevich ’15
Honorable Mentions to:
Kaylah Hodge ’15 (tennis)
Nicky Petkevich ’16 (lacrosse)
Steven Shollenberger ’16 (lacrosse)
Paul Steele ’16 (lacrosse)
Taylor Suplee ’18 (lacrosse)
Mia Suplee ’17 (lacrosse)
Kyla Lewis ’15 (track and field)
Masai Russell ’18 (track and field)
Kyla Lewis ’15, Mia Gya ’16, Alexis Postell ’17, Masai Russell ’18 (4x400 Relay, Track & Field)

For full listings visit www.washingtonpost.com/2015-spring-allmet

ALL-AMERICAN COACH KELLEY

“Give me Bullis every day of the week.”
Building Support for BULLIS—One BRICK at a Time

Please print text as you wish it to be engraved on the brick. Per brick maximum: 15 characters per line; 3 lines

Print one letter or character per block. Please use a separate form for each brick you order.

Name__________________________________________________________

Relationship to Bullis____________________________________________

Address________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip____________________________________________________

Phone___________________________________________________________

Email___________________________________________________________

Preferred Location (choose one):
□ Front of the Marriott Family Library  □ Kline Alumni Stadium

Brick orders are payable in full. Please mail your check for $250, made payable to Bullis School, along with a completed form to:

Bullis School Advancement Office
10601 Falls Road, Potomac, MD 20854

Questions? Please email bricks@bullis.org

All contributions are tax deductible to a 501(c)(3) organization in accordance with IRS regulations.
Through the decades, Bullis has readily stepped up to any challenge it has faced. Now, our School is on an upward trajectory with a new master plan and an extraordinary new building on the horizon—along with a wave of enthusiasm and generosity among our community. The Class of 2015 is the latest to leave Bullis, moving beyond its security and familiarity to head off to college and the future. Like their predecessors, they leave a great legacy as Bullis scholars, athletes and performers, and take with them lifelong friendships and enduring ties to their alma mater.

This school is remarkable—always resilient, resourceful, forward-thinking—and one of its most exceptional qualities is its ability to approach any challenge as an exciting opportunity, a hurdle to be cleared in triumph rather than hesitated before in fear. In our history as well as in recent years, we challenged ourselves to grow—and we did. We challenged ourselves to embrace technology, to teach in new and different ways, to place the student at the center of the educational experience, to be diverse, to win championships, to stretch artistic boundaries, to create new business models, to invent wonderful things and to help others at home and abroad.

Now we face the greatest philanthropic challenge Bullis has ever encountered: to raise the funds necessary to build the impressive Gerald L. Boarman Discovery Center (read about it on pages 8-17), and we are well on the road to success. Over $22 million of our $27 million goal has been raised in gifts and pledges to date. Each and every day, we are redefining—and reimagining—the possibilities through your generous, enthusiastic and important participation.

We know the outcome of this challenge. We know it will culminate in a groundbreaking for the Discovery Center and a heartfelt celebration of our wonderful Bullis community as we once again turn what might seem a difficult hurdle into a golden opportunity—and a golden age—of growth, success and victory for our School.

“Now we face the greatest philanthropic challenge Bullis has ever encountered.”
ALUMNI CRAB FEAST: From left, Chelsea Carroll ’10, Victoria Koegel ’10, Anna Murphy ’10, Michael Shuster ’10, Matthew Peterson ’10 and Kevin Clayton ’10.
Not many lawyers decide over Twitter they’re going to start their own firms, but for Jessica Reddick and her partners, that’s exactly what happened. “My friend Yondi tweeted out one day, ‘I just need to start my own firm.’” Yondi and Jessica’s mutual friend Keli replied back “Let’s talk about that,” and the women were on their way down a path that would result in KMR Law Group, a boutique law firm in Chicago where each attorney brings her own experience to a firm that serves a variety of areas, including tax assessment, entertainment, commercial and residential real estate transactions and estate planning.

The initial meetings between the three founding partners took place in 2011 and included a full year of research and connecting with other attorneys who had started their own practices. The trio left their jobs and gathered advice from website developers, tax consultants and other industry people. “We know that most people in our field are older and/or male,” Jessica said. “As three young women, we wanted to be sure that we were very strategic and smart about how we presented ourselves.”

By September 2012, the firm opened and Jessica, Keli and Yondi hit the ground running. The women focused on specific practice areas—Jessica and Keli together on corporate and real estate, Keli on property tax law, and Jessica and Yondi on entertainment law. The partners sent electronic blasts to everyone they knew announcing their new endeavor, and joined selective industry professional groups to spread the word and soon, they had their first two clients. In addition, after a request to provide six months of legal work for a larger firm, KMR Legal Staffing was born. The three did not feel they were taking on too much too quickly; they saw an industry need and jumped on the opportunity to incorporate it into their brand. The results have definitely been worth it.

Jessica’s personal journey prior to this point, though, included other fields, and in fact, she says she never intended to be a lawyer. “At Bullis, I enjoyed English with Mr. Hibbs. He was an excellent teacher who encouraged a love for reading. I was also always really into math—I liked its certainty as well as the fact that complicated problems can really show you how to think. These are all things that ultimately helped me become a better critical thinker and lawyer.”

After Bullis, Jessica attended Haverford College, where her appreciation of complex thinking led to a degree in sociology. Upon graduation in 2004, Jessica landed a position with Morgan Stanley, which
allowed her to utilize her love of math, but ultimately, she says, the job was not for her. She left after one year to work with her father in real estate in Washington, D.C., where he was chief of real estate for the D.C. Government. Shortly after, they left so her father could start his own commercial and residential real estate development firm. “I learned so much from working with my dad, which has served me well in life. He’s incredibly entrepreneurial and not afraid to take risks.”

Also not afraid to take a risk, Jessica left real estate to try paralegal work for a large law firm. She discovered she had a natural legal mind which fit her inquisitive nature. Jessica applied to law school and attended Loyola University in Chicago, from which she graduated in 2010. During one summer break from law school, she worked for the legal counsel for a bank that focused on real estate development (combining her passions for math and real estate made this a great fit). Other summers, she worked for a nonprofit created to assist the mayor of Chicago handle the foreclosure crisis in the city. Jessica stayed on after graduation and gained invaluable experience working as a real estate attorney there for five years.

In her true “go-getter” fashion, Jessica remained at the nonprofit until December 2014, while KMR Law Group had already opened its doors. “I handled both jobs full time for two years,” Jessica says. “I was committed to the work I was doing with the mayor and wanted to see it through.”

Today, KMR Law Group has made its mark on the industry as the first black female-owned law firm on record in Chicago. The focus on their individual and collective strengths in marketing their services is certainly working and their use of social media as a means of promoting themselves is quite unique in an industry that is centuries old. They have a strong presence on social media and often text with their clients. Jessica says that people just “get them and seem to appreciate their fresh take on how to conduct business.”

Jessica’s advice to those considering a change or a risk? “Go for it! It was scary to start my own firm and worry about whether or not I’d succeed, but if I hadn’t tried, I wouldn’t have reached the peak I’m at. There aren’t that many chances in life to really do what you want on your own terms. I wouldn’t change a thing.”

Opposite page: KMR Law Group founders, from left, Keli Knight, Yondi Morris and Jessica Reddick ’00.
Top row: Jessica’s senior portrait from the 2000 edition of Roll Call. Top right: Jessica’s KMR company portrait.
Bottom: Founders of KMR Law Group, from left, Jessica Reddick ’00, Yondi Morris and Keli Knight.
INSPIRING TRIUMPH FROM TRAGEDY

Josh Basile's days at Bullis were filled with classes, sports, arts and fun. His life changed forever though, when, in 2004, an ocean wave slammed into him during a beach vacation, leading to a shattered neck and life as a quadriplegic. Not letting his injury quell his spirit, Josh now defines himself as a lawyer, inventor and philanthropist.

A year after his injury, while adjusting to his new reality, Josh co-founded with former Bullis teacher Jane Altshuler the Determined2Heal Foundation, which helps those affected by spinal cord injuries transition productively into life with paralysis. Josh and Ms. Altshuler reconnected following his injury, when she would visit him during in-patient therapy, and the two discussed ways they could give back to others with spinal cord injuries.

An avid lover of golf, Josh played frequently before his accident. After, he returned to the course relatively quickly, but as a spectator. “I still enjoyed the mental game of golf,” he recalls, “I just lacked the physical movement.” Years later, Josh dreamt about a device that would allow people with physical limitations to putt a golf ball with precision. The following day, Josh and his caregiver tinkered with making such a device, and the Pendulum Putter was born.

The result was an adapted putter that swung, albeit wobbly and inconsistently. Two more versions to improve the device followed. Josh now has two patents on the putter—one for a gravity powered golf swinging device and one for the use of a protractor to calibrate and determine the power of the swing. He is currently testing the Pendulum Putter and creating a mass producible design, which he hopes to soon make available to the public.

In order to compete again on the entire golf course and not just the greens, Josh also created “slingshot golf” in which a player uses a slingshot to hit longer shots and advance the ball toward the green. The Pendulum Putter is put to use once on the green. Working with a caddie for the physical use of the putter and a protractor to measure, Josh analyzes each shot, assessing if the putt is uphill or downhill and the amount of left or right break. He then determines the power needed to get the ball into the hole.

“I love everything about slingshot golf and the putter,” says Josh. “I can be on the course and compete with friends. A big part of the game for me was always the mental mathematical component of assessing each shot. I always enjoyed math and this is an extension of that.”

While Josh’s injury limited him physically, he strengthened his mind and pursued a law degree so he could fight for others catastrophically injured. In 2013 Josh graduated magna cum laude from the David A. Clarke School of Law at the University of the District of Columbia and is currently a medical malpractice attorney at Jack H. Olender and Associates in Washington, D.C.

“The injury forced me to refocus my life and change some goals,” says Josh. “There’s so much life to live and I’m truly excited to wake up and go after each day.”
Taylor Johnson ’09

Knowing the Right Time to Pursue One’s Dreams

“Come through the window,” is Taylor Johnson’s advice often to anyone approaching a new task, job or other opportunity. It also may be the key to her success as a poet. “Everyone expects you to come through the door,” she says, “but if you come through the window it’s unexpected and presents new prospects.”

Taylor has been a voracious reader since the age of two, but it wasn’t until starting Bullis in 7th grade in Mr. Andy Marusak’s English class that Taylor fell in love with writing as well and learned the formula of how to write a five paragraph essay—a formula that the organized and methodical Taylor applies to many aspects of writing to keep everything neat and concise. At Bullis, Taylor developed both strong writing skills and self-confidence. Asked in English class by Ms. Molly Chehak to lead a class discussion on Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man, Taylor remembers “that allowed me to discover I could have a voice and opinion that others might listen to.” Taylor also appreciated the challenges Bullis provided, saying “I learned how fun it is to go through something that’s new and scary, on the playing field, on the stage, or in the classroom and still today I look for new ways to challenge myself.”

Taylor graduated from Oberlin College in 2013 with majors in creative writing and black studies and chose to move back to Washington, D.C. to give back to the community where she grew up. For the past two years, Taylor has been teaching with Critical Exposure, a nonprofit which promotes social and political advocacy through photography with D.C. public high school students. Leaving this summer to pursue writing full time through a Brown University writing residency, Taylor will miss working with students. “They are hilarious! I will miss laughing with them, learning from them, connecting with them, and encouraging them to act as advocates for themselves and their work.” Ready to commit to a focus on personal writing, Taylor plans to explore long expository works in the residency. “I’m looking forward to getting deeper with my writing and excited to reap the benefits of this prestigious writing fellowship.”

Outside of the work with Critical Exposure, Taylor has continued to write and perform regularly, and recently had an essay published in “Outside the XY,” an anthology about masculinity among people of color, published by Magnus Books, as well as a poem in The Minnesota Review, a journal of creative and critical writing.

Taylor returned to Bullis during National Poetry Month to speak to students across all divisions about poetry, learning to be your own advocate and demonstrating confidence. Teacher Amanda Lombardo said, “Taylor’s visit was incredibly well received by students who were all clamoring to participate. They particularly loved seeing one of their own—a Bullis graduate—on stage sharing experiences, thoughts and dreams that all can relate to. It was also exciting for the staff to see a Bullis graduate living their dream and building a life from something they are so passionate about.”
Jerry May Alumni Golf Tournament

The Bullis Alumni Association hosted 80 golfers—alumni, parents, Bullis staff and friends—at the Jerry May Alumni Golf Tournament in May. Everyone enjoyed playing on Falls Road Golf Course and had a wonderful day reconnecting with friends and former teachers as well as newcomer and former Washington Capitals hockey star Peter Bondra who played with Dr. Boarman’s team.

Special thanks to co-chairs George Mavrikes P’14, ’17 and Eddie Bullis ’86 P’17, and to our donors and sponsors for making this year’s event a success.

Mark your calendars now for next year’s tournament—Friday, May 13, 2016.

Above, from left: Upper School Academic Coach Bruce Kelley, former teacher Dean Sclavounos ’63, Shawn Kane ’94, Middle School English Teacher Andy Marusak ’66 and Middle School Social Studies Teacher Glenn Hunter. Above right: Former Washington Capitals hockey star Peter Bondra with Head of School Jerry Boarman.

Back row, from left: David Posnick ’08, Shawn Kane ’94, Josh Posnick ’03, Justin Nemeroff ’09, Vlady Tintchev ’06, Josh Ein ’06, Keith Cohen ’06, Andrew Dewey ’05, John Simpson ’98, Ross Koenig ’02, Grant Hollingsworth ’04, Andy Marusak ’66, Ed Bullis ’86. Front row, Josh Basile ’03, Paul Davis ’04, Brandon Chasen ’04, Zack Harwood ’06, Hunter Gosnell ’06, Brian Will ’08, Craig Aronoff ’04 and Mavrikes ’14.
Young Alumni Day

The sixth annual Young Alumni Day took place in early January, bringing a great crowd of alumni from the classes of 2010-2014 back to campus for an enjoyable lunch and visits with former teachers and classmates.

“What amazed me about this event was how I could come back to school and feel like I never left,” said Paul Mavrikes ’14. “Bullis means the world to me, and it was wonderful to come back and talk to old friends and teachers while hearing about where Bullis will go in the future. It was a fantastic day all around.”

Alumni returning for the day included, back row, from left: Brooke Gutschick ’13, Josh Czerwiec ’13, Ian Giles ’14, Paul Mavrikos ’14 and Drew Nicholas ’14. Front, from left: Dana Daniels ’13, Morgan Williams ’12, Trish Barton ’12 and Moriah Ratner ’14.

Far left: Danny Copeland ’13 and Coach Pat Cilento
Top: Brooke Gutschick ’13, Associate Head of School Mike Reidy, Dana Daniels ’13
Bottom: Trish Barton ’12, Morgan Williams ’12, Olivia Holmes ’12 and Taylor Burris ’14
REVIVED ALUMNI CRAB FEAST

An old Bullis tradition returned on the last day of school: the Alumni Crab Feast! To mark the revival of this fun event, more than 50 alumni returned to campus to enjoy crabs along with other seafood and sides generously donated by Cameron’s Seafood, as well as a cookout with food from Potomac Village Deli Catering and lots of laughter, fun and reminiscing about days at Bullis.

Staff and members of the Bullis community joined alumni on the Penny Bunting Terrace. They also saw plans and heard from Head of School Dr. Gerald Boarman about the new Discovery Center that Bullis will break ground on in the fall. Former Head Dr. Richard Jung also attended and congratulated Dr. Boarman and the Board for adding this new building at “the right time” for the school.

The Discovery Center will be built where the current playground is located. Alumnus Carl Tugberk ’98 recalled the construction of that playground by his classmates, parents, staff and friends in 1994, and agreed with Dr. Jung that the new building—and a new playground that will be built nearby—is a good way to remember their teamwork years ago and is a perfect time for Bullis to move ahead in providing exciting new learning facilities on the campus for the next generation of students.

Save the date for next year’s alumni crab feast—Friday, June 10, 2016!
Mystery Alumni Photos

Can you identify the people in any of these photos? Email your answers to:

Jennifer (Hayman) Okun ’99
at jennifer_okun@bullis.org
by August 7. The first person to answer correctly will win a prize from the Alumni Office!

Answers to Mystery Photos from Fall/Winter Magazine

Current parent and trustee Jon Halle ’88 was the first to correctly identify, from left, Diana Norris ’89, Deborah Hurwitz ’89 and Michelle Johnson ’89.

Nobody has yet identified the alumni in the second photo (at right), so if you know who they are, please submit your answers to the Alumni Office.

To view all mystery alumni photos, visit www.bullis.org/alumni
child, daughter Milly, on February 18. Proud sister Sammie is 3. The Sugars reside in Gaithersburg.

’96

ABIGAIL (TANNEBAUM) SHARON is a local documentary filmmaker who made her independent documentary film debut this Spring with her film “Rudy + Neal Go Fishing” about an American veteran who suffers from PTSD and goes fishing for therapy. Prior to making the film, Abigail has been producing and directing documentaries for over 15 years for National Geographic, Discovery Channel, and PBS.

NICK CADE works in freelance advertising in Los Angeles, where he had created several successful ad campaigns for companies. One of his most recent ads for Toyota, entitled “To Be a Dad,” portrays a father as his daughter’s hero as she is growing up, but she becomes his hero as he drops her off to begin her time in the service. This particular ad was featured during the Super Bowl.

Congratulations to NEYSA (KECKICH) MCDONALD, MD, who was voted a “Top Doc” in pediatrics for 2015 by Connecticut Magazine. She lives in Fairfield, Connecticut with her husband and three children.

’01

KIM KHOO married Alex Capaldi on January 17 at the Sumerour Studio in Atlanta GA. The wedding party included Matron of Honor Carolina (Quintero) Cely ’01 and bridesmaid Amielle Moreno ’01. Also in attendance was Jared Goldstein ’02. Kim and Alex currently live in Atlanta, GA where they both work in the film industry. Kim is an assistant production office coordinator whose credits include “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay 1 & 2” and the “Ride Along” franchise. Alex is a production office coordinator whose past credits include “John Adams,” several Marvel productions, and the upcoming “Insurgent.”

Congratulations to JEREMY FEINBERG, CPA/ABV, MBA, for becoming a principal at the firm of Taksey Neff Feinberg, LLC, in Rockville, Maryland.

CHRIS FORD and Megan Schanbacher were married on May 30 at Chris’ grandmother’s house, The Oaks, in Warrenton, Virginia. Also in attendance were Bullis alumni Anne Berkeley ’99, Darius Ferdows ’01, Jeremy Feinberg ’01, Ahmed Elattar ’01, Nick Konstantopoulos ’01, Franciscos Economides ’01 and James Bulmer ’01. Chris graduated from Penn State University in 2005 with a degree in economics and works at Boeing as a trade control specialist, and Megan is a lawyer. They live outside Philadelphia.

’02

RADIANCE (WALTERS) HARRIS is an attorney at Kelly IP in Washington, DC where she practices trademark and copyright law. She also owns an online health and fitness coaching business, helping people around the country lose weight and get healthy using comprehensive at-home nutrition and fitness programs.

’05

KIMBERLY BUNTING and Paul Tennessee were married on June 6 at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Potomac, Maryland.

Congratulations to TORI CLIFFORD and Stewart Pollock who were married on November 22, 2014 at the St. Regis Punta Mita Resort in Punta Mita, Mexico. The two met in August 2005 at freshman orientation at the University of Virginia. After college, they spent two years traveling, volunteering, and farming together in Latin America and South East Asia. They then decided to settle down and moved to San Francisco, where they currently live. Tori is a solar energy marketing executive and Stew is an attorney specializing in public interest civil litigation.

’07

JESSE OVERALL graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in May and will move this summer to New York to work with the British firm Clifford Chance. Jesse graduated from the London School of Economics with a bachelor of arts degree in history in 2011, and then attended the University of Chicago where he studied international relations.

Congratulations to MARIA BONNER who graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in May. This fall, she will begin work at White & Case LLP.

'93 Sammie (3) and Milly (4 months) Sugar, daughters of Peter Sugar ’93 and his wife Nida

'01 Tori Clifford ’01 and her husband Stewart Pollock at their wedding in November

'01 Amielle Moreno ’01, Kim Khoo ’01, Carolina (Quintero) Cely ’01 and Jared Goldstein ’02

'02 Radiance (Walters) Harris ’02 owns an online health and fitness coaching business.

'05 Kimberly Bunting ’05 and her husband Paul Tennessee are greeted by family and friends at their wedding in June.

'07 Jesse Overall ’07 at his graduation from Georgetown University Law Center in May
Mini Interview with...

ELISE WIDERLITE ’11 was selected as one of six valedictorians and Dean’s Medal recipients at Georgetown University’s 2015 commencement. An English major with journalism and psychology minors, Elise was a staff writer for The Hoya, a summer tour guide and dancer with the Georgetown University Dance Company.

Here’s an excerpt of a recent conversation with Elise:

How did Bullis prepare you for college?

One of the best things is how Bullis’ curriculum closely mirrors a college’s liberal arts curriculum and wide range of courses. Bullis fostered my love of literature, which is why I chose to major in English. Ms. Lombardo and Ms. Chehak introduced me to great authors and taught me how to approach texts and think analytically.

Writing and presenting are essential in college and Mr. Marusak and Mr. Hunter were instrumental in preparing me. Mr. Marusak taught essay structure and Mr. Hunter coached me on presentation etiquette and outlining, which is necessary for note-taking and studying.

What are your future plans?

I am really excited to learn about media and entertainment as a page for NBCUniversal. It’s thrilling to work for a company considered a leader and innovator in the field.

Ultimately, I’m considering two paths—television entertainment production or content development, or entertainment law. This year will help me figure out which best suits me.

What advice do you have for Bullis alumni in college?

Take courses outside your comfort zone to learn as much as you can. Ask a lot of questions, challenge assumptions and stay curious to get everything out of your education. Get involved on campus to meet people while giving back to your community and enjoying a reprieve from school work demands. Finally, take advantage of office hours to develop rapport with professors, which is advantageous for getting recommendation letters.
'09 Harrison '09, Olivia '07 and Blake '09 Grady enjoying each other’s company last Christmas
'09 Blake Grady '09 with one of his Teach for America pre-K students
'11 John Overall ‘11 at his graduation from Davidson College in May
'11 Valedictorian Elise Widerlite ‘11 at Georgetown University’s graduation

SHARE YOUR NEWS


YOUR CLASSMATES AND FRIENDS WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

To be included in the next Bullis Magazine Class Notes, send your news to Assistant Director of Alumni and Events Jennifer Hayman Okun ‘99 at: jennifer_okun@bullis.org.

High resolution photos (JPEG format) are welcome!

Deadline is September 30, 2015 for fall-winter magazine.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 23 | Homecoming/Alumni Family Tailgate | 5:00 p.m.
OCTOBER 30 | Fall Theatre Festival | 7:00 p.m.
NOVEMBER 7 | Jazz & Dance Show | 7:00 p.m.
DECEMBER 12 | US Festival of Light | 7:00 p.m.
DECEMBER 16 | LS/MS Festival of Light | 6:00 p.m.
JANUARY 7 | Young Alumni Open House | 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Check bullis.org/calendar for additional events.
ACROSS
1. Nickname for Clark Hall building on the Silver Spring campus (two words)
4. This building commemorates the 50th year of the School’s founding (two words)
8. How many football IAC championships has Bullis won?
9. New location on campus: _____ Space
11. The William H. Price _____ Award
13. Place on campus: _____ Garden
14. One of Bullis’ signature programs
15. Community service event: _____ Drive
17. In 1930, Bullis’ first location was a former embassy of which country?
18. Headmaster from 2002-2010 (last name)
19. Prior to Experiential Education, this annual event for seniors was called Senior _____

DOWN
1. Popular Bullympics event (three words)
2. “Lead the _____ Way”
3. The two gyms inside the Athletic Center are affectionately known as the Old Gym and _____ Gym
5. A dress code staple for girls
6. Bullis graduates are part of our _____ Association
7. The name of Bullis’ student cheering section at athletic games (two words)
10. Bullis has a big birthday this year! How many years of Bullis will be celebrated? (two words)
12. How many alumni are currently employed at Bullis?
16. Longtime Middle School English teacher: Ms. _____ Okulski

SOLUTION
Need help?
Visit bullis.org/alumni/crossword
...the spirit of community service

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301-299-8500
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Bullis Magazine is published two times a year by the Office of Institutional Advancement and distributed to alumni, parents, grandparents and friends. Letters and suggestions for future articles are welcome.

Located in Potomac, Maryland, Bullis School is a private, coeducational, nondenominational college preparatory day school for grades 2-12. Bullis admits students of any race, color, religion, and national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, financial aid programs and athletic and other school-administered programs. Visit our website at www.bullis.org

Mira Fink '19, Ceramics