

# PENNINGTON

Summer 2014

M A G A Z I N E







## Members of Pennington's Class of 2014 will be attending the following colleges:

Albright College; AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts; American University; Babson College; Belmont University; Boston University; Bucknell University; University of California at Berkeley; University of California at Davis; University of Central Florida; College of Charleston; University of Colorado at Boulder; Columbia University; Cornell University (2); Dartmouth College (2); Dickinson College (2); Drew University; Drexel University (2); Duke University; Eckerd College; Emory University (2); Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts; Fashion Institute of Technology; Forsyth Technical Community College; Franklin and Marshall College (3); George Washington University (3); Guilford College; Hamilton College (2); Hobart and William Smith Colleges Ithaca College; James Madison University; Johns Hopkins University (2); Johnson & Wales University; Providence (2); Kenyon College; Lafayette College (4); Lake Forest College; Lehigh University; Loyola University Maryland (2); Maryland Institute College of Art; University of Maryland, College Park (2); Methodist University; University of Mississippi; Monmouth University; Monroe College; Mount Holyoke College; Muhlenberg College; New York University (3); Northeastern University; University of Pennsylvania (2); Pennsylvania College of Technology; Pennsylvania State University, University Park (2); Philadelphia University; University of Pittsburgh; Purdue University; Randolph-Macon College; University of Redlands; University of Rhode Island; Rhodes College (2); University of Richmond; Rider University; Rowan University; University of St. Andrews (2); Saint Joseph's University (3); University of Scranton (2); Sewanee; The University of the South (2); University of South Carolina; Stevens Institute of Technology; Susquehanna University; Syracuse University (3); The College of New Jersey (2); University College London; Ursinus College (2); University of Vermont (2); Villanova University; Wake Forest University; Washington and Jefferson College; Wentworth Institute of Technology; West Chester University of Pennsylvania; Yale University.



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## FEATURES

### 3 Groundbreaking

Pennington made history during Alumni Weekend with a special groundbreaking ceremony to kick off the construction of the new Kenneth Kai Tai Yen Humanities Building.

### 3 Wesley Alumni House

The complete renovation and restoration of the former Lowellden is almost finished, and will be ready to welcome all alumni back for Homecoming 2014.

### 14 Biotech Startup with Roots in Pennington

D.J. Kleinbaum '01 was featured in *Bloomberg Businessweek* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

## ALSO INSIDE

- 2 Welcome Note from Dr. Hawkey
- 4 Order of the Tower Presentation
- 6 Commencement
- 8 Middle School Graduation
- 10 Alumni Weekend 2014
- 16 Athletics News
- 19 Performing Arts



It is a great honor to be writing this letter as the new headmaster of The Pennington School. Over my thirty-two-year tenure at the School, I have gotten to know many of you as a teacher, a coach, an advisor, a colleague, and an administrator.

Since 1982, I've been proud to hold a number of different positions at Pennington including head of Upper School, director of school counseling, and most recently, dean of faculty and associate head of school. Wearing so many different hats over the years gives me a unique perspective on The Pennington School, one which will help me immensely as we continue to move forward.

As I write this, just before the beginning of the 2014–15 school year, I am delighted to report that the School is in the best possible shape it can be to deliver the high-quality academic and extracurricular programs that define us. We have a superb faculty and terrific academic leadership leading the charge for academics, an enthusiastic and high-energy team in place for admission, and a new focus on alumni and advancement that aims to engage all of you in everything we are doing here.

Financially, there is more good news: we are making strong progress toward the original \$10 million target for the capital campaign; the Pennington Fund raised almost \$850,000 last year; and the endowment continues to grow to \$35,000,000 as of June 30. This growth in the endowment is significant, as it is these funds that are set aside for the long-term



Dr. Hawkey

benefit of the School. Pennington is fully enrolled for September, with the boarding enrollment up as well, and our commitment to diversity and global awareness is greater than ever.

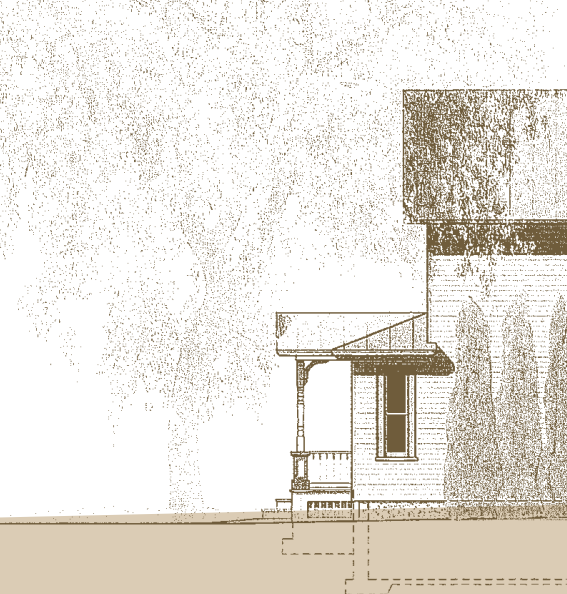
When you step onto campus this fall, you will see that the Wesley Alumni House is almost complete and ready to welcome our alumni back to campus for Homecoming weekend (October 11). The restoration and beautification of this historic building was made possible by a very generous gift from Joe

and Marion Wesley, whose ten grandchildren attended Pennington. And in this magazine, in addition to coverage of recent events, you'll read about D.J. Kleinbaum, a recipient of the Lionel R. Driscoll '40 Scholarship, who came to Pennington in eighth grade and is now at the forefront of what may be a revolution in scientific research. Earlier this summer he was featured in both *Bloomberg Businessweek* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that we send you this magazine and report to donors as we begin our 177th year. We could not be here without all of you—the generous volunteers and donors who support The Pennington School in so many ways.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William S. Hawkey".

William S. Hawkey, Ph.D.





# Groundbreaking Ceremony

On Saturday, May 17, The Pennington School Board of Trustees and School administration held a ceremonial groundbreaking in the Campus Center. Kicking off Alumni Weekend, a large group of alumni, current students and parents, faculty, staff, and friends of Pennington filled the room and celebrated the start of an ambitious plan to enhance the campus with this new building.



## Wesley Alumni House

Joe and Marion Wesley, proud grandparents of ten Pennington alumni, visited Pennington to put a spade in the ground in front of the new Wesley Alumni House, which is nearing completion as this magazine goes to press. A complete restoration and renovation of the former historic Lowellden, Wesley Alumni House will contain the offices of the Alumni and Development group and be the center of activity at all alumni events on campus. A ribbon-cutting and dedication of this building will take place during Homecoming 2014, on October 11.

Above photo: Construction continues on the new Wesley Alumni House, due to be completed this fall. Left photo, shown from left to right: Bill Hawkey, Marion and Joe Wesley GP '93 '94 '94 '95 '98 '99 '01 '02 '03 '03, Penny Townsend, and Peter Tucci '79 breaking ground.



# 2014 ORDER OF THE TOWER Recipient

Kenneth Kai Tai Yen '84



On Friday, May 16, the Old Guard, alumni who graduated from Pennington forty or more years ago, gathered with members of the Class of 1984 celebrating their thirtieth reunion. In the Campus Center, beautifully decorated for the occasion, the happy crowd toured the Silva Gallery of Art, examined architectural models of the new buildings going up on campus, looked at old yearbooks, and enjoyed a meal together. Among the speakers that evening were (now former) Head of School Penny Townsend, Chair of the Board Peter Tucci '79 P'16 '16, Dr. Bill Hawkey, and John Bennett '84.

The high point of the evening's event was the presentation of the 2014 Tower award. The Order of the Tower recognizes alumni, teachers, or friends for outstanding service to The Pennington School or to the wider community. Nominations for the Order of the Tower are taken from the School community.

The 2014 award was presented to **Kenneth Kai Tai Yen '84**, chairman of the Yulon Group and one of Taiwan's most prominent business leaders. Using Skype technology, Ken was able to view the proceedings live from his house in Taiwan, and the audience was able to hear his comments and reactions as he listened to remarks and received his award.

Those in attendance were treated to a video that Ken produced for the occasion, giving some background about his company and his family, as well as clearly demonstrating the strong feelings he has for The Pennington School that prompted his cornerstone gift to construct the new humanities building. As a teen, after experiencing some unhappy times at other American schools, Ken came to Pennington and found a true home. Though he was at the School for less than two full years, his time at Pennington had a profound impact on his life. He said "During my ten

years in the States, the happiest time I had was at Pennington," and the New Jersey audience rose to give him a standing ovation.

"Your success as an entrepreneur and international businessman is inspirational. As chairman of the Yulon Group, you model the values of honor, humility, and virtue that Pennington nurtures in our students. You have fully embraced the School's motto "Only the Excellent," and you have brought great honor and distinction to your school. We are proud to claim you as an alumnus of Pennington.

Your generosity to Pennington, celebrated in the naming of the Kenneth Kai Tai Yen Humanities Building, also inspires. The new building will greatly enhance our ability to encourage engagement and help prepare our students for successful academic careers and fulfilling, productive lives. You have helped create a transformative effect on the Pennington community, and all of us here are exceedingly grateful."

—Peter Tucci '79 P'16 '16



## Meet Charlie Brown

Charles D. Brown is the director of advancement at The Pennington School. His appointment, which was first announced by Bill Hawkey in April, is a homecoming: Charlie began his career in institutional advancement at Princeton University and spent three years in development at The Pennington School before going on to other institutions. He has had a long career in strategic consulting and fundraising for nonprofit organizations, focusing especially on independent schools and institutions of higher education.

As director of advancement, Charlie oversees the School's fundraising and alumni relations endeavors, working with a six-member staff as well as alumni and parent volunteers. He also works closely with the Board of Trustees and its development committee. Charlie

brings to Pennington extensive experience in fundraising and strategic consulting: he served as associate director of annual giving at Princeton University, his alma mater, from 1979 to 1988 before becoming director of development at The Pennington School. He went on to serve for six years as director of development and campaign director at The Lawrenceville School before returning to higher education with positions at Johns Hopkins and Stanford universities. From 2004 to 2010 he was principal of his own consulting firms, working with universities including Harvard, Hawai'i Pacific, and San Jose State, and schools including St. Albans, Sidwell Friends, Gilman, Pingry, and Phillips Exeter Academy. He comes to Pennington from The Haverford School, where he had been director of development since 2010.

"We consider ourselves very fortunate to have Charlie Brown return to Pennington," said Bill Hawkey. "His depth of experience, coupled with his knowledge of The Pennington School and the surrounding community, makes him a tremendous asset to the School as we continue to meet the demands of a twenty-first-century education. Charlie's intelligence and warmth are valuable both professionally and personally, and we are delighted to have him return as a colleague."



Capria DeVenuto Award to the Most Outstanding and Devoted Swimmer at The Pennington School  
*Lauren Klei*

The William E. Long Award to the Senior Boy Making the Greatest Contribution to Pennington School Athletics  
*Paul McWhirter and Austin Sumners*

The Brigid Kilfoyle '91 Memorial Award to the Senior Girl Making the Greatest Contribution to Pennington School Athletics  
*Madeline Gordon*

The 2014 National Merit Commended Student Award  
*Francesco Bertolini, Benjamin Kramer, and Tess McGuinness*

The Teamwork Wins Scholarship Award  
*Kelsey Sharer*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in English  
*Tess McGuinness, Alexandra Rego and Rachel Shavel*

The Stephen Crane Writing Contest Award for Poetry  
*Henry Sheeran*

The Stephen Crane Writing Contest Award for Short Fiction  
*Alexandra Rego*

The Stephen Crane Writing Contest Award for Personal Essay  
*Tess McGuinness*

The Pennington School Award for Excellence in Spanish  
*Harneel Riar*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in French  
*Tess McGuinness*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in German  
*Henry Sheeran*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Latin  
*Julia Weeder*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Chinese  
*Sara Sachs and Kelsey Sharer*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Mathematics  
*Jiaqi Huang*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Science  
*Weijia Tang*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in History  
*Francesco Bertolini*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Religion  
*Caroline Morano*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Technology  
*Michael Reardon*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Journalism  
*Hayden McGovern, Alexandra Rego and Dylan Reim*

The Pennington School Award for Outstanding Contribution to *The Penseman*  
*Rachel Costas*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Instrumental Performance  
*Julia Weeder*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Vocal Performance  
*Tess McGuinness*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Excelling in Video Production  
*Benjamin Kramer*

The G. Arthur Campbell Award for Distinctive Service in Drama  
*Henry Sheeran*

TPS Award to the Senior Excelling in Technical Theatre  
*Nicholas Kuharsky and Timothy Secrest*

The Pennington School Award for Continued Excellence in Theatrical Performance  
*Ellie Jarboe*

The Kersey Award for the Student Showing Most Promise in Visual Art  
*Elizabeth Childers*

The Pennington School Award for the Senior Excelling in Photography  
*Rachel Costas*

The Pennington School Award for the Senior Excelling in Sculpture and Ceramics  
*Amelia Jones*

The Pennington School Award for Peer Leadership  
*Julia Weeder*

The Head of School's Award for Scholarship (Valedictorian)  
*Tess McGuinness*

The Associate Head of School's Award for Scholarship (Salutatorian)  
*Julia Weeder*

The Charles G. Bennett '59 Memorial Award for School Spirit  
*Andrew Gordon and Kathryn Martinides*

The Pennington School Award for International Citizenship  
*Kwon Hwang*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Outstanding in Volunteer Service  
*Logan Campbell*

The Pennington School Award to the Senior Who Has Shown the Most Noticeable Improvement  
*Chadd Gray*

The Pennington School Award for Outstanding Citizenship  
*Charles Paige and Melissa Paragamian*

The Head of School's Award to the Best All-Around Student  
*Hong Joon Ahn*

## CUM LAUDE SOCIETY Spring 2014 inductees

Hong Joon Ahn  
Jessica Bush  
Logan Campbell  
Kwon Hwang  
Hayden McGovern  
Nina Milizzo  
Melissa Paragamian  
Alexandra Rego  
Sara Sachs  
Rachel Shavel  
Henry Sheeran



**1** Kristen Emmerson '14 **2** New graduates throw their caps into the air following the ceremony. **3** and **4** Members of the Class of 2014 before the Senior Class Dinner on Friday evening **5** Pennington Singers perform at the Baccalaureate ceremony. **6** Everyone had a wonderful time under the beautiful tent at the Senior Class Dinner, decorated by the Parents Association.





**7** Pamela McGuire P'98, and Dave and Judy Paragamian P'12 '14 '18 listen to the Commencement address. **8** Greg Oldsey '15, president of the 2015 Senior Class Committee, carries the American flag into the Commencement ceremony. **9** Happy almost-graduates gather on the Plaza for photos. **10** (Now former) Head of School Penny Townsend makes welcoming remarks. **11** Felix Almentero '14 poses with Fernando Muzzio and Daisy Rivera-Muzzio P'14. **12** Lizzie Childers '14 and Corrie Gray '14 smile for a selfie.





**1** Zoe Michaelson with Head of Middle School Todd Paige **2** Jiaying Liu with teacher Lisa Houston **3** Jingyuan Lu with teacher Drew Lloyd  
**4** The Class of 2018 **5** Ryan Totaro is a proud Middle School graduate.





**6** Students beam as they depart with their diplomas. **7** Grace Colalillo with teacher Karen Voorhees **8** Callie Bouton, valedictorian **9** Middle School Chorus **10** Graduating eighth-graders at the ceremony **11** Ayanna Johnson presents a personal reflection.





1

# Alumni *Weekend* 2014

2







**1** Jerry Eure '75 and former faculty member Emil Bretzger share a moment. **2** Fun on O'Hanlon Green by the welcome tent **3** Former faculty Terry Burns, Suzanne Applegate Parry '89, David Parry '90, Ashley Parry, Mike Loy '89, teacher Betty Burns, Michele Loy, Mr. Bretzger, Jen Star '89, Wick Childrey, Jane Bott Childrey '89, Ian Childrey, Lilly Childrey **4** Kenny Brown '89 and Jane Childrey '89 **5** Ellen Sabino '84 P'20 **6** John Biddiscombe '63, Alumni Association Board president, speaking at the Alumni Luncheon **7** The Campus Store-on-the-Go





1



3



4



2



5

**1** Franklin Sanders '84 before the groundbreaking ceremony for the Kenneth Kai Tai Yen Humanities Building **2** Alumnus and former trustee Dick Sharrett '46 **3** Arty the Ox shows his Pennington colors. **4** Jim McKee '48 makes a point at the alumni barbecue. **5** Eric and Diana Seiler '74 P'13 '15 '17





**6** Headmaster Dr. William Hawkey P'10 '12 '20 **7** John Biddiscombe '63 and Flo Casper S'64 **8** Bob Beckett Sr. '52 GP'14 peruses the display. **9** Marion and Joseph Wesley, Sr. GP'93 '94 '94 '95 '98 '99 '01 '02 '03 '03 stand in front of the future Wesley Alumni House. **10** Rob McClellan and Johnny Bennett '84 **11** Steve Thomson '73, Penny Townsend, and John Rufe '73 in the Campus Center.

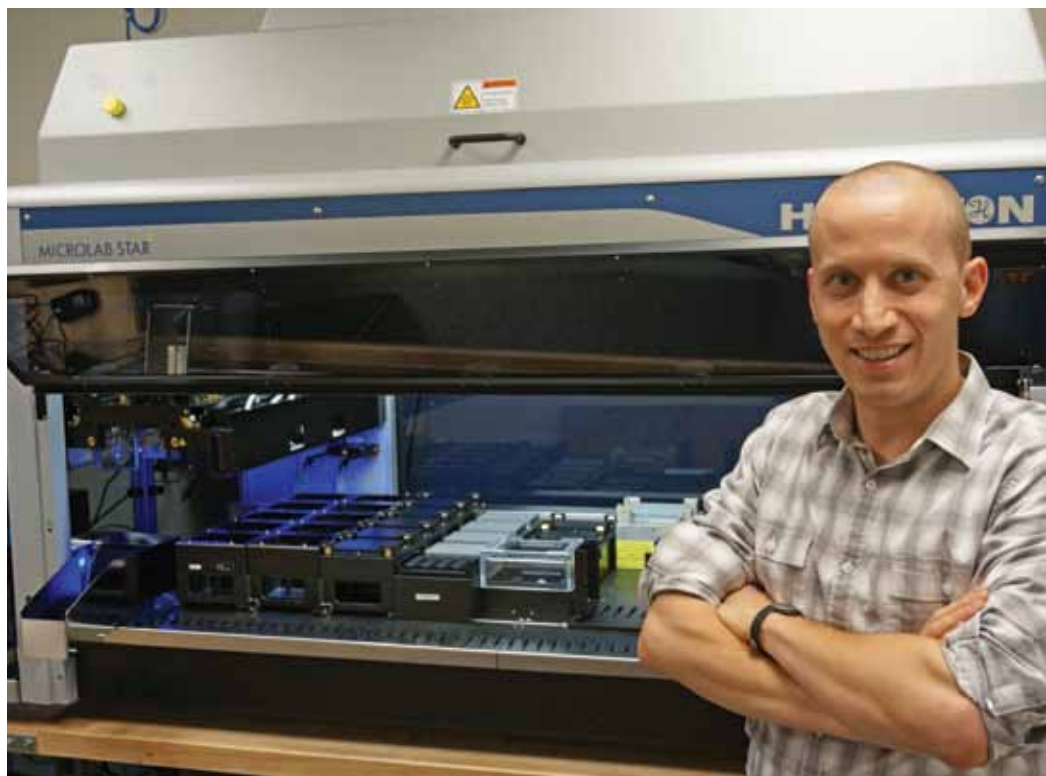
## Biotech start-up with roots in Pennington

by A. Melissa Kiser

D. J. Kleinbaum '01 is at the forefront of what may be a revolution in scientific research. Earlier this summer *Bloomberg Businessweek* and *The Wall Street Journal* each ran feature stories about Emerald Therapeutics Inc., the Silicon Valley biotech start-up company of which Kleinbaum is co-founder and co-CEO.

Emerald is among a few companies using robotic computers, controlled by software the companies have developed, to perform laboratory experiments. The equipment can gather and record data and complete certain processes such as counting cells on microscope slides—the “grunt work” vital in this kind of biological research—in a fraction of the time required by a human lab team. The resulting increase in efficiency offers the potential to find scientific breakthroughs far more quickly.

What is especially novel, and what gave rise to the articles in national publications, is that Emerald, rather than keeping its equipment closely guarded to use only for its own experiments, is making its lab available to others via the Internet. For a fee, the Emerald Cloud Laboratory will be able to perform any of about forty common scientific tasks for “anyone with a credit card and an Internet connection,” as Kleinbaum says.



*“I grew up a lot at Pennington,” Kleinbaum says. “Before Emerald, the only real experience I had had of managing people and trying to produce something was as the editor of *The Penntonian*.”*

Entering Pennington in eighth grade as a Lionel Driscoll Scholar, Kleinbaum graduated as valedictorian of the Class of 2001. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in biological sciences at Carnegie Mellon University, where his childhood friend and neighbor three houses away on Emerald Drive in Yardley, PA, Brian Frezza, was also pursuing his degree.

Kleinbaum says that his experience at Pennington “absolutely” shaped his career. Taking organic chemistry as a senior-year independent study with Science Department Chair Tom Horsley was especially influential because he expected Kleinbaum to try to figure things out on his own before meeting with him. “He gave me the textbook and essentially said, ‘Have a go at it. Come see me when you’ve finished a chapter.’ He was a fantastic mentor that way: he wouldn’t let me

come to him and ask him to teach me the material in the chapter. Being thrown in the deep end and having to teach myself made me much more prepared for my work at Carnegie Mellon.”

From the time Kleinbaum and Frezza were 16 or 17, they had talked about starting a biotech company together, and they kept thinking about it while they were at Carnegie Mellon. The two even considered doing so right after graduation, but they were told by experienced entrepreneurs that getting the necessary funding would be next to impossible unless they had “those three letters [Ph.D.] after our names.”

Taking that advice, the two enrolled in graduate school, completing their doctorates in 2010. Kleinbaum earned his Ph.D. in chemistry at Stanford,



doing research in an organic chemistry laboratory, while Frezza finished his degree at Scripps. Throughout their years in graduate school, Kleinbaum says, the pair pondered what Emerald—named for their street in Yardley—should be. They read, brainstormed, and “vetted dozens of ideas.”

Their initial plan was the development of an antiviral nanotech platform to find treatments for diseases such as HIV; it was a perfect fit, given that both men had training in computer science as well as biochemistry. The rub, as Kleinbaum puts it, was that “you need lab space to raise money, and you need money to get lab space—and we had neither.” On the very day that they were planning to move back to Pittsburgh and return to Carnegie Mellon, which had offered lab space in exchange for a small percentage of the company, they had a meeting with San Francisco venture capitalist Peter Thiel.

Thiel requested a week to persuade them to stay in Silicon Valley. Kleinbaum’s lease had run out, so the two men stayed in a Motel 6 with their possessions stored in Kleinbaum’s car. The due diligence performed by various investment groups took far longer than a week, but Thiel’s Founders Fund became the lead investor for the new company.

“I grew up a lot at Pennington,” Kleinbaum says. “Before Emerald, the only real experience I had had of managing people and trying to produce something was as the editor of *The Penntonian*. It was actually valuable experience in learning how to set expectations and delegate well—and in dealing with criticism when you make unpopular decisions. Having a thick skin is very useful when trying to raise money from venture capitalists.”

As Kleinbaum and Frezza built systems for their own scientific team to search for disease treatments, they sought to cut down on the manual labor so that the team could be much more efficient, with the software enabling each person to control a greater volume of experiments.

At some point, though, the founders recognized that the system was so powerful that they could not capture all of its value internally. Because there are other researchers doing similarly important work, they decided that “everyone should have access to this.”

Searching for antiviral therapies remains an important component of Emerald’s work, but now the technology the team developed will help others in the same field of research achieve results more efficiently, too. Some members of the company’s board expressed concern that

sharing these technological advances might facilitate a competing research group’s discovery of a disease treatment or cure that Emerald is also seeking, but Kleinbaum and Frezza consider that possibility a plus rather than a minus. Should that happen, they will rejoice that the discovery has been made and will move on to work toward the next elusive therapy. As Kleinbaum puts it, “As great as the therapies are that Emerald was founded to seek, there are others.”

Pennington’s D.J. Kleinbaum continues to make the School proud.



## SPOTLIGHT JANE BOTT CHILDREY '89

### Meet our new Director of Alumni Relations

The Pennington School is delighted to welcome Jane Bott Childrey '89 to the office of Alumni and Development, where she will take on the post of director of alumni relations. Jane graduated from Pennington in 1989 and has been a very active class representative for many years. She has a degree in business administration from Queens University of Charlotte. Jane has worked as a property manager, as a vice president of sales for New Career Inc./Express Personnel, and most recently as a program consultant for Pontoon Solutions (Adecco, NA). She is also vice chair of the Mecklenburg County Personnel Advisory Board,

a position she has held for more than five years. Her great strengths in building relationships and organizing events will benefit all of our alumni, and she is looking forward to getting in touch with you.

*“Coming back to The Pennington School is like coming home again. I am looking forward to connecting our alumni with everything Pennington has to offer today, and to letting all of you know where we are headed in the future. It is going to be a busy and fun year!”*



## The story of the season was Jerry Jiang '15

### BOYS' TENNIS 5-7

Yangeng "Jerry" Jiang '15 wowed us all by setting all-new TPS tennis records with his Player of the Year award and an undefeated season. Jerry was All-Prep, won the Mercer County Tournament, and became the Prep B #1 singles champion for the second year in a row.



### GIRLS' LACROSSE 9-5

Girls' lacrosse had another banner year and entered the Mercer County Tournament. The team had another stellar season in large part due to the scoring tandem of Christine Carugati '16 and Morgan Pinado '16; the two sophomores were selected to the first team. Carugati was one of twenty-four players selected to compete for Team New Jersey in the Under Armour All-America Lacrosse Underclassmen Elite tournament, billed as the nation's definitive gathering of the prototypical lacrosse elite.







## BASEBALL 14–6

Boys' baseball did it again with another fantastic season. Baseball finished second in the preps behind only Lawrenceville, which they defeated during the regular season. Team members making *The Star Ledger's* first team included Mike Reardon '14 who had a strong year on the mound, along with Austin Sumners '14 and Mike Ratner '14.

## GOLF 10–2

The golf team started their season off with six straight wins and never looked back. Seniors Brad Frank and Trevor Loeb led a talented group of players who all made contributions to the team's many successes. Frank managed a second place finish in the NJISAA Prep A and B States.



## GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD 9–3

The girls' track and field team ran well all season and placed the following on first team—Alana Cook '15 (200), Devon Duch '17 (triple jump), Shaynie Hayward '15 (shot put), and the 4 x 400 relay team. Also receiving recognition on either second or third team were Kathleen Seiler '17 (3,200), Alexandra Zahn '17 (high jump), Rosemarie Taylor '15 (discus), Aleksandra Kiszka '14 (200), Bethany Reim '15 (3,200), and Elaina Lawrence '15 (triple jump).

## SOFTBALL 3–3

Girls' softball began their season with a 3–0 start and continued to play well throughout. Senior pitcher Caroline Morano completed an excellent career, throwing fastball after fastball while leading her team. Fellow senior Jenny Nelson played outstanding defense at first base and hit for a ton.





## BOYS' LACROSSE 4–11

Another great success story was the fantastic seniors who brought pride to the boys' lacrosse program, leading it to a 10–4 win over Friends Central on Senior Day. The team's seniors include Aidan Belfiore, Andrew Gordon, Gregory Gravalis, Saif Naqvi, Danny Parseghian, Daniel Presutto, Charlie Sproul, and John Stewart.

## BOYS' TRACK & FIELD 8–4

The boys' track and field team was also awesome, with outstanding individual and team events and efforts. The team placed Benji Williams '15 (high jump) on second team and Armani Mendez '15 (long jump) and Kevin Maley '16 (high jump) on third team.

# ATHLETIC AWARDS SPRING 2014

## VARSITY

### Baseball

Red Raider Award—*Michael Ratner*  
Coaches' Award—*Patrick Nelson*  
Most Improved—*Derek Hullings*

### Golf

Red Raider Award—*Bradley Frank*  
Red Raider Award—*Brad Ebersole*  
Most Improved Award—*Elizabeth Koloski*

### Girls' Lacrosse

Red Raider Award—*Abbey Pitarresi*  
Coaches' Award—*Courtney King*  
Most Improved Player—*Sophia Sansone*

### Softball

Greatest Contribution—*Caroline Morano*  
Coaches' Award—*Jen Nelson*

### Boys' Lacrosse

Red Raider Award—*Dan Parseghian*  
Coaches' Award—*Saif Naqvi*  
Lawrence Pitt Award—*Marcellus Morris*

### Tennis

Sportsmanship Award—*Austin Kuppek*  
Team Captain Award—*Luke Decker*  
Ironman Award—*Jerry Jiang*

### Boys' Track

Red Raider—*Benji Williams*  
Coaches' Award—*Brendon Gosling*  
Stoker Award—*Armani Mendez*

### Girls' Track

Red Raider Award—*Aleksandra Kiszka*  
Coaches' Award—*Alex Barch*  
Stoker Award—*Sophia Mavellia*

## JUNIOR VARSITY

### Baseball

Coaches' Award—*Chase Williams*  
Red Raider Award—*Tynan Mayer*

### Girls' Lacrosse

Coaches' Award—*Audrey Plimpton*  
Red Raider Award—*Kerry Runkle*

### Tennis

Coaches' Award—*Zonghao Gao*  
Coaches' Award—*Junquan Zong*



# BEAUTY and the BEAST

by Lisa Houston

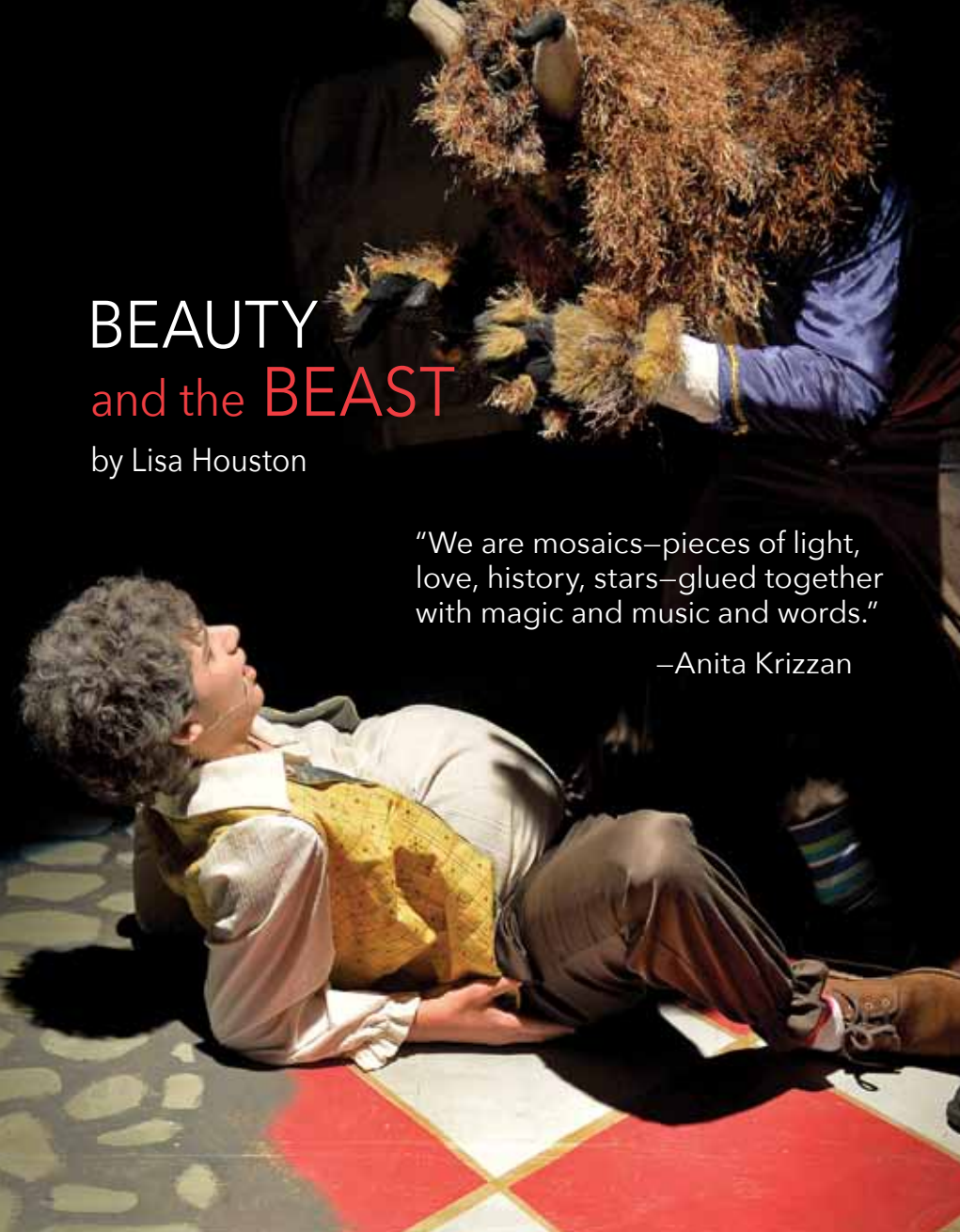
"We are mosaics—pieces of light,  
love, history, stars—glued together  
with magic and music and words."

—Anita Krizzan

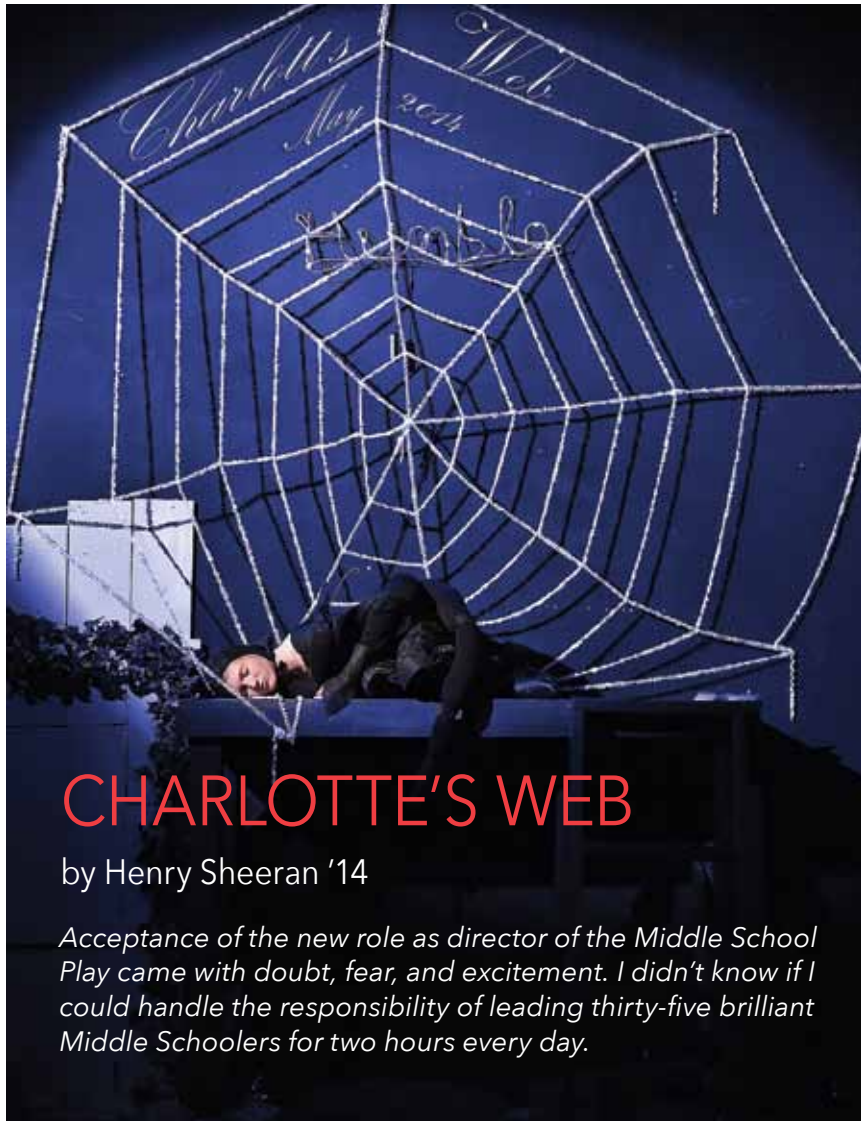
*Beauty and the Beast* is aptly titled. It is both a beauty, and a beast. All musicals are huge undertakings; there are so many elements, so many moving, growing, living parts, whirring and spinning like Maurice's invention. As one hundred Pennington students put their talents together to get the dialogue, blocking, dancing, music, costumes, and technical elements all in line, it seemed like we would always be caught under the spell of problems to solve.

Time worked against us, like the petals dropping off the rose, and Mother Nature, the enchantress that she is, never showed us any mercy during winter 2014! That is the beastly aspect of doing a musical. The beauty comes through the magic of theatrical and musical storytelling, and in the audience's reaction. Belle's story is a common one—being misunderstood by others, feeling stuck in one place, seeking escape from daily life. Many of us can relate to her longings for adventure. On the other side is the Beast—searching for humanity and love. Pennington Drama has many of us under its spell. Kudos to the cast, crews, band, faculty, and parents who made it all happen.

Top left: Cameron Warner '14 as the Beast threatens Maurice, played by Anthony Hannani '14; Lower left: Rachel Shavel '14 as Belle; Lower right: Members of the ensemble invite Belle to "Be Our Guest."







## CHARLOTTE'S WEB

by Henry Sheeran '14

*Acceptance of the new role as director of the Middle School Play came with doubt, fear, and excitement. I didn't know if I could handle the responsibility of leading thirty-five brilliant Middle Schoolers for two hours every day.*



Top: Kathleen Horsley '18 played Charlotte, the articulate spider who saves Wilbur's life. Bottom: Wilbur the pig, played by Zeynep Cavusoglu, surrounded by the barnyard ensemble vying for his attention..

I was unsure of whether I could draw great meaning from a children's book. Most of all, I didn't think I was any smarter than the kids I was about to work with—this never changed. Like every new adventure I undertook in the Black Box or the Lecture Center, directing *Charlotte's Web* was a voyage of discovery. This time, however, I had a crew on my ship. Through working with them, I conquered the first two fears. First, the crew treated me with nothing but respect—I forgot how much theater fosters mutual respect. Second, I found profound lessons in the work, and so have the actors and the crew.

Part of the beauty of art, and theater especially, is the process of creating it. From Ayanna's immediate (and amazingly casual) transformation into a wild and arrogant fair announcer to Kathleen's struggle to embody the power and sadness of a dying friend and mother, we found that everyone has his or her own process. And we all saw truths in these processes—some found parts of themselves in their characters, and others took on aspects of their character themselves. It was through these processes that we were enlightened to many of the themes of this play.

The most pervasive theme in our work was how, through birth and friendship, life and its beauty are immortalized. The play begins in the morning—the morning of that day, the morning of the spring of that year, and the morning of Wilbur's life. The play also ends in the morning—the dawn of Charlotte's children's lives, the dawn of a new period for Wilbur, a new spring season. This motif sheds the light of a 6:00 a.m. sunrise on our lives as well. We are all at a cusp of some sort—I am about to leave for college, the Middle Schoolers are off to ninth grade—we are all immersed in the light of our own mornings. As long as we remember the Golden Rule, to "sing and dance and play" and remain "aware of wonder" as the characters of this play learn to do, we can find beauty and meaning in our lives throughout the rest of our proverbial day. We must remember that the beauty of life is no more complicated than Wilbur's "wanting to breathe in the beautiful air and lie in the beautiful sun."



# TORNADO CAT

Creating something meaningful is a difficult task. It only becomes more difficult when you add thirteen high school seniors (haunted by the evils of senioritis and college process-induced insanity) to the equation. This was the plight of the first-period Senior Seminar class. Our story began in a chapter entitled "Art and Reality," from Anna Deavere Smith's *Letters to a Young Artist*, which was required reading for the course. This was the spark that inspired a journey into the galaxy of art, led by our very own captain, Ms. Houston.

The senior writers garnered pearls of wisdom about the presence of art in truth and the relevance of beauty in reality. They discovered through their writing, and by directing approximately fifty peers, that beauty shrouds everyday happenings. They scoured out the art of communication and the offensiveness that occasionally follows.

Throughout the process, such words as tumultuous, chaotic, and even catastrophic floated around the School regarding the play's development. As Ms. Houston loves to tell her students, "Theater is chaos." That's part of the beauty: there is no 'correct' way to go about writing, directing, and producing an original show. The writers' expression was grown from a chaotic soil—their insight developed like a tornado—but once the elements touched down to earth, it was pure success.

As Nietzsche once said, "We have art in order not to die of the truth." Audience members would say that *Tornado Cat* was an entertaining and thought-provoking piece, chock-full of aliens, space ships, and harmonicanizing hobos, providing insight into one of life's most important questions: what role does art play in our truth?



Top: Scott Meggitt '17 as the Hobo, Sarah Haeckel '15 as Shakes Spears, and Owen Kula '15 as George the Gorilla Man envision a new society. Lower left: Will Cromarty '17 as Grandpa takes a stroll in the park. Lower right: Ellie Paige '17 as Newt the Alien, studies the Businessman, played by Steven Shen '15.

# *please* JOIN US



All alumni, parents, and friends are invited to  
**HOMEcoming 2014!**

*Save the date:* October 11, 2014

Come back to Pennington and tour the new  
**Wesley Alumni House.**

A dedication ceremony will be held at 10:30 a.m.  
followed by an Open House all day.

For more **information**

and a complete schedule of events, please visit our website at  
[www.pennington.org/alumni/upcoming-events/homecoming](http://www.pennington.org/alumni/upcoming-events/homecoming)

Athletic Hall of Fame  
presentation at Corson  
House at noon

Exhibit in the Silva Gallery  
of Art

Homecoming Row

Athletic contests all  
afternoon

Campus Store with new  
Pennington gear





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## Upcoming EVENTS 2014-2015

**October 11**  
Homecoming

**October 19**  
Admission Open  
House

**November 5-8**  
Fall Play

**November 5**  
Parent Association  
Fall Social

**November 16**  
Fall Concert

**November 24-28**  
Thanksgiving Break

**December 13**  
HomeFront Holiday  
Party

**December 16**  
Holiday Service  
of Lessons and  
Carols

**December 22**  
Winter Break  
begins

**January 6**  
Classes resume

