



# Spotlight

East Angel  
Friends & Alumni  
Foundation

February 2021

## East High Alumni Heritage Hall To Celebrate 14 Inductees In 2021 Ceremony Postponed Due To COVID-19 Restrictions

by Marcia Tremmel Goldstein  
Class of 1969

### Chair of the Heritage Hall Selection Committee

The East High Alumni Heritage Hall Selection Committee has announced the final slate of 14 distinguished alumni inductees to be added to the Hall in 2021. The inductee class includes women and men from many generations who have been model citizens and noteworthy philanthropists, diplomats, journalists, military leaders, peace activists, musicians, artists, and community leaders who have made their mark on our city, the nation, and the world.

We had originally planned the induction for September 2020, but in accordance with restrictions on large gatherings, we rescheduled the events. We are planning the official induction ceremonies to be held in September 2021, if health precautions will allow. Watch the EAFAF website for more news about our final plans to be announced in Spring 2021.

The 2021 slate of inductees was chosen by the official selection committee, made up of former East High principals, faculty, and alumni. Over the past year, the committee worked from a list of more than 70 worthy nominees and selected the final 14 based on those nominees who best met the criteria of extraordinary accom-

plishments in their field of endeavor, and as a group represented the school's rich heritage of diversity of race, ethnicity, gender, field of achievement, and generation.

Heritage Hall is an educational and motivational project sponsored by the East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation (EAFAF). The Hall exhibit on the third floor of the school highlights East's rich historical heritage, honors the achievements and diversity of East High alumni, and provides role models for today's students. Since the unveiling of the Hall in September 2008, the exhibit will now include an impressive total of 91 inductees!

### HERITAGE HALL 2021 INDUCTEES:

**Joe Barry Carroll (b. 1958)**  
*Professional Basketball  
Champion, Philanthropist,  
and Author*  
Class of 1976

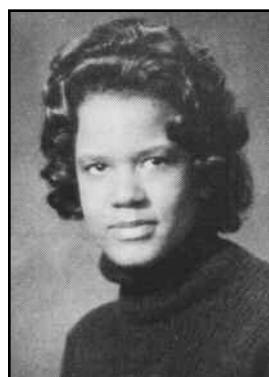
Joe Barry Carroll played 10 seasons (1980-1991) in the National Basketball Association (NBA), then turned his goals to social justice and art, summed up in his acclaimed 2014 "rags to riches" memoir *Growing Up... In Words and Images*.

**Jordan Casteel (b. 1989)**  
*Artist and Portrait Painter*  
Class of 2007

Harlem based Jordan Casteel paints life-size portraits of African American men and women in



June Morris Schwarcz,  
1936



Tina Walls,  
1973

domestic environments, street scenes, and places of business — works exemplified by her widely acclaimed 2019 exhibition at the Denver Art Museum, "Jordan Casteel: Returning the Gaze."

**Dr. Renee Cousins King (b. 1952)**  
*Pediatrician and Philanthropist*  
Class of 1970

Dr. Cousins has practiced pediatrics in Denver for more than 36 years, and has pursued her family's legacy of investing in the preservation and revitalization of Denver's historically Black Five Points neighborhood.

**Dr. Robert Dupont (b. 1936)**  
*Psychiatrist and  
Public Health Advocate*  
Class of 1954

Professor Robert Dupont is an American psychiatrist, known for his advocacy and national leadership in the field of substance abuse, authoring dozens of scientific articles, books, and monographs.

**Admiral Edward Ellsberg (1891-1983)**

*Navy Admiral and  
Military Historian*  
Class of 1909

Rear Admiral Ned Ellsberg pioneered engineering techniques for rescuing and salvaging sunken ships during World War I and II, and became the U.S. Navy's most prolific writer, authoring 17 books on military history.

**Gladys Caldwell Fisher (1887-1952)**

*Sculptor and Art Educator*  
Class of 1926

Gladys Caldwell Fisher sculpted dozens of pieces from the 1930s-50s in her favorite genre — life-sized animals carved from native stone, including her two Rocky Mountain Sheep which grace the front entrance of Denver's Byron White U.S. Courthouse (former U. S. Post Office).

**Phil Goodstein (b. 1952)**  
*Author and Historian*  
Class of 1970

Dr. Phil Goodstein, the "urban historian," has authored more than 20 books on our city's vibrant and controversial past, including his recent series tracing the history of the Denver Public Schools: *The Denver School Book, 1859-1967*.

**Gerie Grimes (b. 1950)**  
*Community Activist*  
Class of 1968

Gerie Grimes is President & CEO of Hope Center, where for 36 years she has led this Park Hill-

based non-profit that enables children and adults to become productive members of their community.

**Christopher Herlinger (b. 1959)**  
*Journalist and Author*  
Class of 1977

Chris Herlinger's passion for journalism and justice has led him to document the people's struggles in war-torn regions throughout Africa, Afghanistan, Haiti, Indonesia, and the Balkans — authoring three books including *When Mercy Fails: Darfur's Struggle*.

**June Morris Schwarcz (1918-2015)**

*Enamelist*  
Class of 1936

June Morris Schwarcz emerged as one of the most internationally renowned "enamellists" by creating hundreds of innovative vessels and sculptures fabricated in high heat with colored glass and metal, on display at dozens of museums worldwide. See Page 2.

**Alan Titus (b. 1945)**  
*International Opera Singer*  
Class of 1963

Alan Titus is an acclaimed operatic baritone who enjoyed a 40-year career singing in prestigious opera houses in Milan, Paris, Vienna, Munich, Rome, London, and Japan.

**Tina Walls (b. 1955)**  
*Business and Civic Leader*  
Class of 1973

Walls retired from a successful executive career with the Altria Group (formerly known as Philip Morris), and has now become a philanthropic force promoting arts, culture, educational equity, anti-racism, and women's rights in the Denver community. See Page 2.

**Philip, Jr. Wilcox (b. 1937)**  
*Diplomat and  
United States Ambassador*  
Class of 1954

Distinguished diplomat Philip Wilcox served in dozens of diplomatic posts culminating in high level state department positions drawing on his expertise in Middle Eastern Affairs and his devotion to fostering peace in the region.

**Andrew Woolfolk (b. 1950)**  
*Musician and Recording Artist,  
Earth, Wind & Fire*  
Class of 1968

Andrew is an accomplished flutist, saxophonist and percussionist who was a long-serving member of the Grammy-award winning Earth, Wind & Fire (EW&F) band from 1973 to 1993.

**NOTE:** The January 2020 edition of the *East High Alumni Spotlight* announced some of the inductees listed above with more detailed biographical sketches. Here is the link to that article on the EAFAF website: <https://eastangelfriends.org/wp-content/uploads/Alumni-Spotlight-2-20.pdf>.

The article also listed two inductee nominees who were remarkable individuals who lived in Denver, but have since been disqualified because they did not attend East High School: Sister Mary Luke Tobin, and Ruth Humphries Brown. The Heritage Hall committee would like to thank family members of these two women who informed us of their true educational roots in Denver's parochial or private schools. We regret the error.

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## Heritage Hall Exhibit Gets A New Lease On Light



A new state of the art lighting system has been installed in the cases of the East Alumni Heritage Hall which will greatly enhance the beauty and readability of all of the biographical panels of the Hall inductees. Described as a "high performance" system with optics and glare shield, the lighting uses LED technology that diffuses the light with lenses while creating a bright and energy-efficient glow.

The ambitious project was generously funded by the East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation (EAFAF). Jerrel Armstrong, EAFAF Buildings and Grounds Chair headed up the project, which took many months to plan and build. Pro bono consultation was provided by Chris Davis of the Lighting Agency, a Colorado based company of lighting design specialists.

## Sullivan Gateway Restoration Nearing Completion

Prior to its renovation, which is now near completion, the Dennis Sullivan Gateway was rapidly becoming a crumbling eyesore. Consequently it was included on the Colorado Preservation Endangered Historic Site list. Today, the site has returned to its former state of glory as one of Colorado's most impressive public works.

This is good news to friends and alumni of East High and hopefully to the citizens of Denver, as East is just five years away from celebrating its 100th year on the City Park Esplanade. Mark the Fall of 2025 on your calendar.

In the early 1900s, under the leadership of Mayor Robert Speer, the City Beautiful Program was initiated. It was intended to develop several of the city's parks as grand places for the enjoyment of Denver Citizens. At this particular time, East High was still on



California and 20th streets downtown.

Originally the esplanade served as the grand entrance to City Park. In the Fall of 1925, new East opened its doors on the Esplanade.

The story of the deterioration of the parkway is typical of so many historic settings. The freeze-thaw cycles, plants growing out of the broken spaces in the walls, (Continued on Page 4)

East Angel Friends &  
Alumni Foundation  
P.O. Box 6015  
Denver, CO 80206

## From The Principal . . .

Denver East High School Alumni and Friends,

As such strong advocates of our school, you know that every decade has brought its own unique experience to the lives of our Angels. This 2020-21 school year has quickly made it's mark as one that will be remembered through the ages!

Just as each of our lives has been affected in unforeseen ways by the worldwide coronavirus pandemic, our experience at East High School has been one that has changed what "school" means to our students and our staff. Since last March, school has not been a place, but it has been a community. Thankfully, the strength of our Denver East has been in community since the doors to our grand building were opened in 1924.

This year, the computer screen has become the classroom door through which our Angels access their teachers, their classmates, their assignments, and their learning. After being thrown into "remote learning" last spring, our amazing teachers have worked hard, learned much, and are now providing high quality learning experiences, through the internet, for our students.

Please, take a minute to think about what it would have been like as a first year student, or as a senior, not yet having been in your school this entire year. It's been hard. Our young people need their friends and teachers in front of them, and our school building needs their footsteps, their voices, and their spirit to, once again, resonate through the halls.

As I write this, we are looking forward to a gradual and safe return for our students. Our plan is to start with students coming for just half of their school week with steps toward being the full-time and high-flying Angels that we value and appreciate so much!

Over the course of the last year, a continuing point of pride for our community has been the incredible parent and alumni support that sustains our success. Through the East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation alumni support has not skipped a beat during this pandemic. The resources that EAFAF is providing our students and our teachers has continued to be astounding. From books, internet access, and teacher grants, to investing in our beautiful auditorium and Heritage Hall, your investments through this foundation make a difference every day.

Just a note about a team that so many keep an eye on, our "We the People" Constitutional Scholars team. Even through the internet, our "Con Law" team has captured the Colorado State Championship and will participate in the National Competition this Spring. Your support of this team, as with so many other contribution, helps to ensure that our students thrive and sustain the excellence of our school that is your great legacy.

*Once an Angel, Always an Angel,*

Mr. John Youngquist, Principal

# East High Constitutional Scholars 'We the People ... The Citizen And The Constitution'

by Beth Gower

East was scheduled to represent Colorado in the National "We the People" competition in April of 2020, determined to recapture the National Championship title. The dedicated 33 member team, their teachers, and all community supporters were disappointed the in-person national competition was canceled due to the COVID pandemic. It was a difficult ending for the East team of 2019-2020, as so many students experienced. The 2020 National Competition trip was also to mark Susan McHugh's final teaching/coaching



Susan McHugh

experience for East High. The Con Scholar community was looking forward to another national victory before her June retirement. As with her students, this was not the celebratory plan for concluding Susan's more than successful tenure at East. Susan McHugh is truly a gifted teacher, no matter if it's speech, debate, law, or political science. She is a teacher with high expectations who motivates students to achieve at their highest level. Susan would be the first one to say the Con Scholar teams receive great community help and support, but all three times Susan took a team to Nationals, East won first place! To this remarkable teacher

and role model, East says **THANK YOU!**

**The 2020-2021 team members are:** Ellie Adams, Hagan Archer, Lindsay Bader, Rashad Brimah, Annalee Christopher, Graham Cummings, Stephanie Danahey, Charlotte Donelson, Ella Eichberg, Annabel Filippini, Roxana Flores, Ben Getches, Sonya Hay, Aidan Hodgkin, Kari Jackson, Riley Kelly, Caroline Kochevar, Ruby Leuthold, Hosanna Magana, Kai Moore, Scarlett Prather, Khaki Sawyer, Jaxson Sharpe, Gavyn Stiles, Ruby Stephens, Maximus Vogt, Rain Watt, Jude Wolf.

Fortunately, Matthew Fulford, who taught and coached with Susan McHugh, will continue on with Mandy Hostetter providing the teaching and coaching. Competitions will be held remotely over Zoom and while that brought some initial challenges, the students have handled the adjustment impressively.

Without ever meeting in person, students hold panel meetings, class, and rehearsals remotely. First semester proved just how resilient students can be. Their overall enthusiasm for the competition, despite the new barriers, has been heartwarming for the teachers to witness. East won the state competition on December 15,

2020, for the 31st time, and will Zoom in April for the national competition.

There will be no traveling to Leesburg, Virginia, and the National Conference Center. There will still be oral questioning and discussion by demanding judges who are college professors, government policy makers, justices, and judges from state and federal offices. Historical knowledge combined with understanding, supportive evidence, and the ability to make application to current situations, events, and issues are the norm.

In addition to the intellectual talents and experience of Matt and Mandy, East continues to appreciate the community members, and former East parents who contribute hours of their time and expertise to help prepare the new team — especially this year with so many additional complications. We are proud of all those who engage and help make this level of learning possible.

Special thanks to panel coaches: **Scott Barker, Dan Culhane, Justice Melissa Hart, Jeff Pearson, Paige Romer, Judy Schulmann, John Walsh, and Richard Wedgle.**

East so hopes to return to an in-person competition for school year 2021-2022!!

## Spotlight Turns One Hundred Years

On April 7, 1921, the first edition of the East High *Spotlight* rolled off the presses.

The initial staff was comprised solely of members of the boys' *Scribblers' Round Table*, a group of young writers. According to the description in the 1921 Annual, the purpose of the club was to establish a high school newspaper where the students would have a voice in their school.

The first editor of the *Spotlight*, Frank Johnston, was also the president of the *Scribblers' Round Table*. The most significant change would be the inclusion of girls to the staff. In the early days of East High School the clubs and activities were segregated with girls having their own organizations. The *Spotlight* would be of the first to be coed.

Over the years the *Spotlight* would look like and conduct busi-

ness just like their adult counterparts: *The Denver Post* and the *Rocky Mountain News*. The big change would come

in the '70s as high school students would desire their publication be more than a mouthpiece for the school district. They began to publish stories about what was happening in the "outside" world (i.e. the Viet Nam War, the Civil Rights Movement, and Earth Day.

More and more the paper became primarily a publication of "op-eds" as students wished to share their political and cultural opinions. Most recently the paper has even changed its format. It does not look like the old newspaper, but more like a magazine filled with opinion pieces. Happy Birthday to the East *Spotlight*, you are part of the long and proud history of East High School.

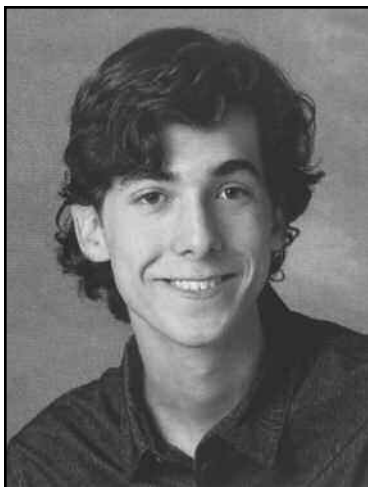


## Scholarship Awards 2020

Started in 1926, awards are based on specific qualifications, recommendations, written application, and an interview. Since 2011, and the creation of the East Angel & Alumni Foundation (EAFAF), the scholarship program has been supported and funded by the Foundation. East alums also provide scholarships, often a specific class donates in honor of a classmate, or as part of a reunion celebration.

In May of 2020, the **East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation, the Thomas W. Bean Foundation, the Epstein-Smith family and James & Bonnie Reece** generously provided scholarship dollars to 24 students totaling \$54,000.

**Alex Schor** received the special \$6,000 **Alumni & Friends Scholarship**. Alex is described by his teachers as intellectually gifted, the epitome of a well-rounded student, and the nicest person one could possibly be. When asked about his first semester of college: "I have really enjoyed being at Yale despite the unusual circumstances. I appreciate the scholarship, as it helped me attend Yale, easing some of the financial burden. I lived on campus fall semester even though my classes were all virtual. The school did a really great job with testing and public health measures and with fostering a cohesive social environment. I took two computer science classes, Spanish literature, and a class called "Jazz and Architecture." They were all a ton of work and I have learned so much. East prepared me well! My extracurriculars have been mostly online and have included cybersecurity competitions and chess. Next semester I'll be attending classes remotely from my home in Denver, since first-years were only allowed to study in-person for fall semester. I have been invited to work on a computer graphics research project for the summer of 2021 in New Haven. If the pandemic situation allows, I will! I want to thank you



Alex Schor

again for the generous scholarship."

Additional remarkable East seniors receiving EAFAF scholarships: **Ella Achenbach, Chloe Boule, Elijah Bruggeman, William Daley, Barry Dechtman, Jake Kelly, John Flanagan, Becca**

**Hockman, Lachlan Humphrey, Camiya Ibanez, Tavonne Johnson, Jake Kelly, Jahcinda Law, Milo Martinez, Sophia Means, Riley Nabefeld, Madison Ordonez, LaMar Philmon, Clay Rasmussen, Nadia Smith, Joseph Smith III, Elaina Weakliem, Ewan Wummel, and Halime Yilmaz.**

In addition to the EAFAF scholarships, six other scholarships were awarded. Con Scholar team participants **Max Boubin, Rebecca Chapman, Adrian Glennie, Sophie Goldberg, Alexa Goldstein, and Madison Moore** each received a family scholarship in honor of 1992 Con Scholar **Ethan Wolf**, and 1996 Con Scholar **Emily L. Saslow**.

**To give a scholarship in your name, on behalf of your family, or in honor of your graduating class, contact Beth Woodard: liz.ziewoodard@comcast.net or Cissy Nuanes cissynuanes@gmail.com.**

## 2021 Heritage Hall Inductees

**June Morris Schwarcz • Class of 1936 • 1918-2015**  
*A Treasured Enamelist*

June Morris made her mark early at East as a writer and scholar. Her passion turned to art and design in college — earning degrees at the University of Colorado and studying industrial design at the Pratt Institute of Design from 1939-1941. In the 1950s, she was introduced to the art form of enamelist at the Denver Art Museum.

After relocating to Sausalito, California, with her husband and family, Schwarcz soon emerged as an internationally renowned "enamelist." This unique and meticulous art form which fuses colorful glass onto metal at high temperature, dates to the 9th century. Her remarkably innovative vessels and sculptures are housed at dozens of museums worldwide.

Myriad awards honoring Schwarcz include: The Enamelist Society Award, Who's Who in American Art, and the "Master of the Medium Award" by the Smithsonian Institution. In 1985, June was designated a "Living Treasure" by the state of California.



Julian Williams photo, from the American Crafts Council archives  
**June Schwarcz**

**Tina Walls • Class of 1973**  
*A Force For Social Change In Denver*

Tina was born in Little Rock and has family ties that go back to the "Little Rock Nine" Central High School desegregation struggle in 1957. Moving to Denver as a child, Walls attended East during court-ordered citywide school integration as an open enrollment student. She was a member of the award-winning Speech Team and served on the Student Council becoming Head Girl.

After graduation from Mills College she worked at the Colorado General Assembly's Legislative Council and later enjoyed a successful career as a corporate leader and executive, culminating with C-level positions with the Altria Group.

Upon retirement and return to Denver, Walls has become a philanthropic force promoting arts, culture, education equity, anti-racism, and women's rights. She currently serves as Education and Community Engagement Chair for the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, President of Save Venice, a member of the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Advisory Committee, and former President and member of the Denver Chapter, The Links, Incorporated. The National Urban League awarded her the Douglas H. Gannon Award for breaking down barriers to equal opportunities.



Denver Center for the Performing Arts photo  
**Tina Walls**

# A Dedication To Teachers — Past And Present

by Richard Nelson

*"A Teacher Affects Eternity,"*  
(Brooke Adams)

This year one of East High School's finest teachers, George Mansfield, passed away. He joins a long list of exceptional East High teachers who chose to dedicate their lives to the education of this community's youth.

*"In a completely rational society, the best of us would be teachers and the rest of us would settle for less."*

(Lee Iacocca)

In this strange time, the concept of teaching and the value of teachers have come under greater scrutiny than usual and their task is being more fully realized as essential to a healthy society. I have read and listened to today's teachers as they talk about the risk they take in person-to-person learning. But, they are also agonizing over virtual learning. Education is intensely personal and not being able to be in person with their students seems unnatural.

About every 30 years an entire slate of really good teachers leave the ranks and a new batch of young men and women enter East High School to embark on their own personal journeys. The quality of these young minds is the main reason that East has remained at the top of the game as a relevant place of learning.

Every child deserves a champion, an adult who insists that they become the best they can be. The East High Community can be proud of the long line of wonderful teachers who have made education their life and East High School as the place to be.

Turn to Page 4 to read a teacher's perspective on "Teaching at East in 2020."

## East High Teacher Honored

**Editor's Note:** Many of the early yearbooks would highlight and honor a faculty member. Mary Sabin received this distinction in the 1931 East High *Angelus*, reprinted below. Accompanying photo at right above.

The record of Mary S. Sabin is unique in the history of East High School. For 40 years (1891-1931) she has not only been an instructor but also a dominant personality. Her influence and activity in and outside the class room have caused her to be known and loved by all East students. She will remain an "Angel" and East will continue to feel influence.

Mary Sabin is a native of Colorado, and attended the old Broadway School and Wolfe Hall in Denver. She graduated from Smith College in 1891 and immediately began teaching at East in science and mathematics. She received her Master's Degree from the University of Denver in 1907.

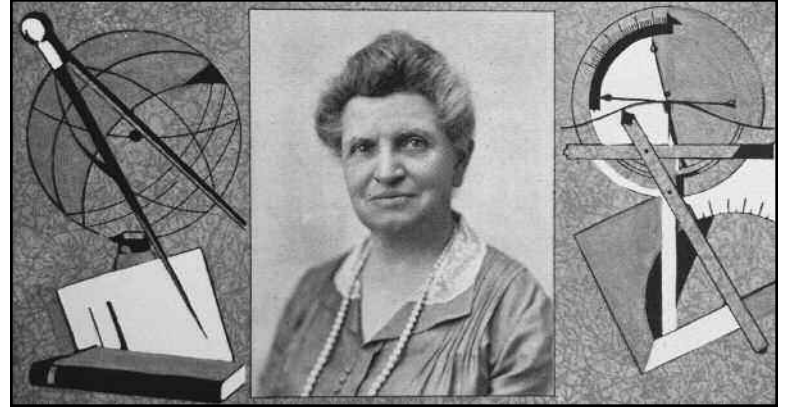
Miss Sabin has always taken a prominent part in professional and scholastic activities. She was the chairwoman of the Curriculum Committee on Mathematics for senior high schools and a past president of the Denver Teacher's Club. She helped promote intramural sports for girls and she was elected an honorary member of the "D" club (a boys interscholastic sports organization).

## 100th Birthday Student Council Is Organized At East High School

In 1921, what would come to be called the student council was organized at East. It would replace the former organizations known as the Boys and Girls Welfare Committees.



George Mansfield



Mary Sabin

## Flights Of Angels — Alumni & Faculty

### A List Of East Alumni Who Passed Away In 2020

These were the only ones for whom we received notification.

**YVONNE ANNE BUDIG LILLEHAUG COLLINS (1937)** 1920-2020  
**BARBARA MILLER GLASER (1939)** 10/27/1921-8/19/2020  
**ZINETTE SPORE MOORE (1940)** 1922-2020  
**MIRIAM KRAMER SCHAEUBLE (1940)** 3/29/1922-3/31/2020  
**BARBARA BOWES MCCARTHY (1944)** 1926-2020  
**ELIZABETH JOHNSON (1944)** 2/11/22-2/23/2020  
**DONALD WINTER STEIN (1944)** 10/3/1927-2/27/2020  
**ROBERT WALTER LARSON (1945)** 3/20/1927-5/18/2020  
**ROBERT FULLERTON (1947)** 4/1/1922-5/25/2020  
**BERYL BYROM MCGRAW (1948)** 8/16/1930-3/30/2020  
**MORTON PEPPER (1948)** 1930-2020  
**NANCY BELL WOODWARD (1950)** 9/30/1932-7/10/2020  
**JAMES DIKEOU (1951)** 6/22/1933-7/16/2020  
**GERALD MARCOVE (1951)** 6/19/1933-7/21/2020  
**JAMES PAUL SAMARAS (1951)** 5/25/1933-4/29/2020  
**STUART A. GOTTESFELD (1953)** 1935-5/14/2020  
**MARIANNE WHITE HILKER (1953)** 7/5/1935-7/27/2020  
**RICHARD DALE HAZLETT (1955)** 1937-2020  
**ROBERT KARL KINGERY (1956)** 7/16/1938-4/16/2020  
**SALLY RIPPEY (1956)** 9/6/38-11/11/2020  
**DIANA RICHARDSON GROVES (1957)** 3/20/1940-8/13/2020  
**ALFREDA GUY (1959)** 1/31/42-4/24/2020  
**JOHN TOBER (1959)** 1/8/1942-6/27/2020  
**DENNIS ALAN BRESCIA (1965)** 10/24/1947-4/28/2020



Irwin Hoffman

### IRWIN HOFFMAN • Class of 1949 WAS A PIONEER EDUCATOR

Irwin Jacob Hoffman, honored both as a pioneering mathematics teacher and successful tennis coach, died October 14, 2020. He graduated from East High in 1949 where he excelled in the sport of tennis. He went on to win the Colorado State Tennis Championships in doubles and was runner-up in singles. He earned a tennis scholarship to the University of Denver where he played on its championship team. He graduated from DU in 1953 with a degree in mathematics and physics.

When George Washington High School opened in 1960 he joined the staff and started the first course in computer mathematics in the country. President Ronald Reagan presented Irwin with the Presidential Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics in 1983. Additionally, as a result of his development of the carpool program, President Richard Nixon honored him with a personal letter and a folded United States flag from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

His love for tennis continued his entire adult life. He became the tennis pro at the Green Gables Country Club where he taught a succession of young players many of whom became Colorado champions. He was inducted into the Colorado Tennis Hall of Fame in 2017 and he received the coveted JCC Denver Sports Hall of Fame award.

### GEORGE MANSFIELD • Class of 1945 5/24/27 - 12/6/2020

George was a highly respected and beloved educator. He lived by high values throughout his long and full life and was generous and compassionate. He was a spiritual man with a great intellectual curiosity, yet he loved nothing more than being with people. He is remembered as a person with an infectious and mischievous sense of humor.

He was born and raised in Denver and graduated from East High School in the class of 1945. While at East he earned All-City honors in basketball. While attending the University of Denver he again played basketball for the Pioneers. He had a distinguished 30 year career as a teacher, elementary principal, and administrator before retiring. He spent the next 17 years with Cherry Creek where he was principal of several elementary schools. He retired a second time and became the Executive Director of Elementary Education. During his 47 years in education he inspired a legion of students, teachers, principals, and educators everywhere. He was inducted into the Cherry Creek Schools Wall of Fame.

George was a devoted advocate of East High School and one of his most satisfying moments in his retirement years was sitting in on the Alumni Scholarship Committee. He never quit enjoying the company of young people.

### FLORENCE MARIE SMITH • Class of 1940 • 1922-2020

Florence was born October 18, 1922, and passed away October 8, 2020, in Denver. She graduated from East High School in 1940 and was married to legendary East High history teacher Price Smith, who preceded her in death. She and Price traveled the world together.

Florence enlisted in the Waves, learned to fly and became an Air Traffic Controller Specialist during World War II. Upon her discharge, she graduated from the University of Denver and was a third grade teacher at Pleasant View Elementary School for more than 30 years.



George Mansfield



George Smith

### GEORGE SMITH • Class of 1946 June 1, 1928 - October 24, 2020

George was a 1946 graduate of East High School. He experienced a childhood accident before the age of 4 that resulted in the loss of use of much of his right hand and arm. With the support of his family he developed an attitude of challenging himself to rise above his misfortune.

As a young man, George was an Eagle Scout and despite his physical limitations excelled as a football and baseball player for the Denver Athletic Club in the Young America League. He was named on the All-City baseball team while playing for the East Angels. He was honored by being inducted into the East High Athletic Hall.

He graduated from Colorado A&M (CSU) in 1951 and became a property manager. He married Mairlou Milano, an East and A&M graduate. The two became active in the promotion of square dancing and eventually built a highly successful business called The Outpost where they taught hundreds the skills of square dancing and round dancing. He was inducted into the Denver area Callers and Cuers Hall of Fame.

One of the more remarkable aspects of his life was his love for mountain climbing. Again, despite his handicap, he overcome and in his lifetime he climbed all 68 peaks over 14,000 feet in the contiguous 48 states at least twice. In 1961 he climbed the Matterhorn. George and his sons became the "Climbing Smiths" and they conducted a mountaineering school for teenage boys

### PETER TEETS • Class of 1959 2/12/42 - 11/29/2020

Peter B. Teets, an East High Graduate of the class of 1959 and an inductee into the East High Heritage Hall in the class of 2013, died on November 29, 2020.

Following his high school graduation, Peter would earn a B.S. and M.S. degree from the University of Colorado and a MBA from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He would go on to complete a highly successful 37-year career in the aerospace and defense industry.

He began his career in 1963 as an engineer at the Martin Company and quickly rose through the ranks of Martin Marietta. In 1977 he became President and Chief Operating Officer of Lockheed Martin Corporation. In 2001 he became the Under Secretary of the Air Force and Director of the National Reconnaissance Office.

His extraordinary career in aerospace and defense won him numerous awards including the Dr. Wernher von Braun Space Flight Trophy, the Dr. Robert Goddard Memorial Trophy, the Hartinger Award, and induction into the Colorado Space Heroes Hall of Fame.



Peter Teets

### SHEILA FEENEY:

#### A MASTER TEACHER AT EAST

In the long history of East High School, several teachers left indelible imprints on East students. One of these legendary teachers was Sheila Feeney. Born on June 29, 1939, Sheila passed away on June 15, 2020. She will be remembered by her many students as a teacher-scholar and educational leader.

She taught for 29 years in the Denver Public Schools, the majority of the time as a Social Studies teacher at East High. She had at least three of the qualities necessary for success in the classroom. She was scholar and historian who knew her subject well, she had the ability to deliver her material and to make history interesting and relevant to her students, and she thoroughly enjoyed working with young people.

She was the first East teacher to be a teacher-coach of the Constitutional Scholars Team. It was a proud moment in 1988, when her East team placed 6th in the nation the very first year of competition. Sheila laid the groundwork for other East teachers to continue the success of this highly academic program.

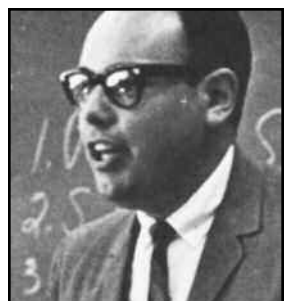
Born in Davenport, Iowa, Sheila entered the Immaculate Conception Academy of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She left to pursue a career in public education but continued her association with the Academy. She earned her B.A. from Marycrest College in Davenport and her M.A. from the University of Northern Colorado.



Sheila Feeney

### GERALD HEDGES: EAST HIGH TEACHER

Gerald Wayne Hedges, aged 85, of Centennial, Colo., passed away May 7, 2020. A graduate of South High School, Jerry taught in the English department at East for 20 years before finishing his final 20 years at his Alma Mater (South H.S.) He earned his B.A. degree at the University of Denver and his M.A. degree from the University of Illinois. He was affectionately known by his students as a "master grammarian."



Gerald Hedges

## President's Message

### A Toast To The Class Of 2020

Greetings East friends and alumni. It has been a very different year for East High School, and for EAFAF too. It has been amazing to watch East teachers and the administration navigate the ever-changing world of COVID, online learning and all the many challenges that come with it — always focused on the students' experience and still striving to improve outcomes even as (hopefully) it is drawing to a close.

EAFAF has had to adapt this past year as well. From offering, selecting, and awarding teacher grants and senior scholarships entirely online to learning to fundraise via Zoom, it's been a year of thinking on our feet. Volunteers for Angel Packs and the food pantry never missed a beat, moving operations outside to support students and families in need during a time when the need for support is surging.

The Buildings & Grounds committee took advantage of an empty East High School — working with DPA to install a new state of the art projector in the auditorium and also teamed up with the Alumni committee for a much-needed upgrade to all of the lighting in Heritage Hall.

The Alumni committee also teamed up with EAFAF's communications committee to launch a new website where East alums can reconnect with each other and share stories: <https://www.eastangels.network/>. The new site just went live over the holiday and has already had more than 1,500 visitors. We hope you will visit the site and let us know what you think.

So, while 2020 has been tough for most everyone, we've found plenty to be grateful for from the generous volunteers, donors, and alumni at East. We can't thank you enough.

I'll leave you with one final story of Angels paying it forward: Last spring when COVID first hit and students and teachers abruptly switched to online learning, senior classes everywhere were faced with a litany of hurdles to overcome and disappointments to contend with — a virtual only college selection process, canceled proms, "drive-by graduations," and the like. East seniors were no different, accept that having spent the year raising money for East's traditional after-prom celebration, that too was canceled. Faced with yet another COVID let down, when the Class of 2020 got together to decide what to do with those proceeds, they voted to donate them (more than \$20,000 dollars in all) to EAFAF and asked that they be used to support low-income families and special needs students at East overcome the challenges posed by another year of remote learning.

So if you are in need of a little inspiration heading in to the new year, look no further than your newest class of East alumni. Hear-hear, Class of 2020.

Cameron Bertron

East High Angel Foundation President

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Help us to keep track of you when you move.

We can then be confident that alumni materials will continue to be sent to you.

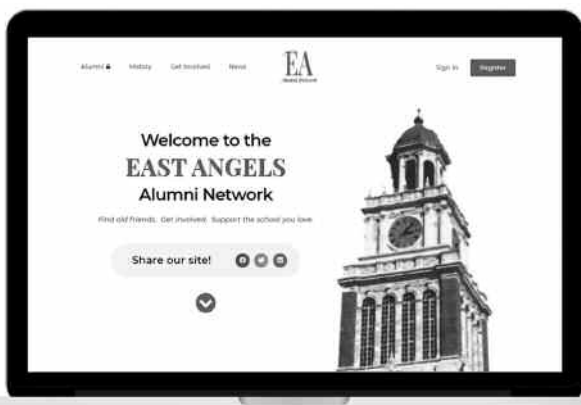
To report address changes, please go to [www.eastangelfriends.org](http://www.eastangelfriends.org) and click on "Contact" to update your information.

## We're very excited to announce the launch of the East Angels Alumni Network!

Hello, friends and alumni of East High!

Whether you are here in Colorado, living in another state, or even another country, *we want you to stay connected to East High School*. As you know, one of the greatest things about East is the passionate commitment to the school from both the students and their families.

With this in mind, we have developed and just launched the **East Angels Alumni Network ([www.eastangels.network](http://www.eastangels.network))** to help you "find old friends, get involved, and support the school you love."



The East Angels Alumni Network will connect you to **other East alumni and former faculty**, provide updates on **school news**, share **school history** and **stories of other graduates**, and **facilitate reunions**.

We encourage you to **visit and register with the site today** to start connecting with former classmates and friends.

### Visit the New Site!

Most importantly, our new website will enable you to help support the most vital aspects of East High School — the building and grounds, the teachers and administrators, and the students.

We look forward to watching this website grow, and are confident it will provide another way for our community to support our school for years to come.



## Teaching At East In 2020

by Matthew Fulford

This year has generated mixed emotions for everyone, though the level of ambivalence felt by teachers is profound. As an East social studies teacher — who is known to possess an opinion or two on various matters — I often find myself making contradictory statements in the same conversation: "Kids just need to be back in school," I say (and believe) with conviction. "Until we can guarantee that schools are safe we shouldn't be risking our lives." Such is the experience of an East teacher in 2020. Nowhere will you find a group of professionals more committed to their school than the teachers, counselors, support staff, administrators and other adults who have chosen East as their place of work. Everyone is completely devoted to the East community. That is why it has been heart-wrenchingly painful for us to be put in a position whereby our *raison d'être* — our core professional mission — is placed in conflict with our own personal feelings of safety.

Back in August, I was enormously skeptical about our ability to teach students remotely from the beginning of the school year. The spring experience was ... fine. Teachers and students were in survival mode, but our job was to wrap up an otherwise normal school year with as little damage as possible. The losses were still significant as graduation, athletics, and prom, for example were all absent. Yet the bulk

of the learning had already taken place for that year. Beginning remotely in August felt different to everyone: from the assistant principals and counselors tasked with reimagining the entire schedule, to the individual teacher considering how to adapt their curriculum to an online setting taught in nine-week quarters. Towering above these challenges in our minds, however, was the enormous question of *how we were going to actually get to know our students*.

To a teacher, relationships are everything. Without them you not only have classroom chaos, you fail to develop the community that allows students to thrive. The fear that this would be a year without real teacher-student relationships resonated with the staff. What a delight it was throughout the month of August, therefore, to be repeatedly proven wrong. I was amused to see some my colleagues teaching online and joking with their students, just as they would in class. I enjoyed it when my own students giggled and tried to get me off topic by drawing attention to a strangely pronounced word from my muddled northern-English accent. In fact, despite the utter strangeness of it all — the fact that we were all teaching and learning from our own homes — it was these moments of familiarity that were heartening. They made me realize what I had to look forward to being back inside East High School and also made me beam with admiration at the 14- to 18-year olds who had shown so much more resilience than most of their teachers had by the same age.

Nevertheless, we are all soberly aware of the challenges that await us when we can physically return to East. Many students thrived in an online setting; a large number did not. Exacerbated academic challenges and gaps await us, especially among our Black and Hispanic students. Significant emotional and mental health crises have gone unrecognized or untreated. So, while we should all be impressed at how students and faculty have reimagined school in order to make the best of this crisis, we need to remember that our return to the building presents us with an opportunity to improve school for every student. We are so eager to be back inside our beautiful building to see the students every day who make this job so worthwhile. Still, we should all aim much higher than just a "return to normal."

## SPOTLIGHT ON EAST ALUMS

### EAST GRADUATE RECONFIRMED FOR HIGH COURT

Melissa Hart, class of 1987, was recently reconfirmed to her seat on the Colorado Supreme Court. The former Angel was originally appointed to the court by Governor John Hickenlooper in December 2017. Prior to joining the court Justice Hart was a professor at the University of Colorado Law School and was the director of the Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law.

While at East, Melissa distinguished herself as one of the top 10 scholars in the class of 1987. She was active as a member of the East High speech team and was the 1987 winner of the historic Wolcott Sight Reading contest.

She earned her bachelor's degree from Harvard-Radcliffe College. Upon graduation, she taught at a high school in Athens, Greece. She returned to Harvard and earned a law degree in 1995.

### TATTERED COVER HAS NEW LOCAL OWNERSHIP

They were two bright young students who were rivals at Denver high schools. Today, they have

joined forces to become the driving force behind the sale of local, iconic Tattered Cover Book Store. Kwame Spearman graduated from East High School in 2002, and his partner David Back graduated the same year from George Washington High School.

Both men established exceptional college careers. Kwame graduated with honors from Columbia University with degrees in history, political science and African American studies. David graduated magna cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania. Both earned advanced degrees from Harvard University, Swame in business and David in law.

These two entrepreneurs stepped in to form an investment group of 11 local figures. Kwame is the chief stockholder and CEO of the organization and David will serve as the chairman of the board.

They do not plan to shut down any of the four locations, although the LoDo location on Wynkoop Street will be moved to McGregor Square across from Coors Field. A fifth Tattered Cover is slated to open in the Westminster area.

### EAST HIGH GRADUATE PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

Judy Kawamoto, class of 1961, recently published a book titled: *FORCED OUT: A Nikkei Woman's Search for A Home*. The book sheds light on the economic, physical and cultural effects of "voluntary evacuation" of Japanese American families during World War II. (A Nikkei is a Japanese emigrant. Although they have a Japanese ancestry, they are citizens of another country). Amid hysteria and bigotry, the American government would force nearly 120,000 American citizens out of their west coast homes and into internment camps. Approximately 5,000 left the coast in anticipation of the order and fled inland to Wyoming, Montana and Colorado. Judy's family was one such family.

Many of the children of these families found themselves in Denver schools, especially East and Manual High Schools. While at East, Judy was a Seraph Sister, a White Jacket, a member of student council and a participant in the Wolcott Sight Reading contest.

### East Traditions Canceled

For the first time in the long history of the Woodbury Declaration and Wolcott Sight Reading programs were canceled. The programs were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic which closed East High School for most of the 2020 school term.

The Woodbury contest began in the very first year of East's existence in 1874 at Arapahoe School. The program ran every year since that opening date for 156 years. The Wolcott Sight Reading program ran for 153 years starting in 1877 at the Arapahoe School.

These cancellations were only two of several traditional events to be canceled at East. The Senior prom and the East High graduation ceremony were also canceled. Another significant cancellation was the Constitutional Scholars trip to nationals.

## Sullivan Gateway Restoration

(Continued from Page 1)

graffiti, vandalism, and human neglect all contributed to the dire situation.

In 2016, a Master Plan was completed by Bishop Mundus Designs and the renovation began to take shape in phases. As of 2020, the last major work was done on the crumbling walls. This included repairing all of the 300 feet of terra cotta walls which were split evenly on the west and east sides of the Esplanade. Earlier, the Dolphin Fountain located near Colfax was repaired and two small lion head fountains were carved into the two walls.

The Esplanade was first conceived in 1906 by George Kessler, but it would be 11 years before the project was completed. Besides the walls and the fountain, two towering 40 foot statues were erected. On top of the two doric columns were statues that memorialized

two important groups in the early growth of Denver and Colorado. One statue has two women who represented the Homestead families and the other statue has two men who represent the mining industry. The statue of women is noteworthy in that there are so few outdoor monuments dedicated to the contributions of women.

John Clark Mitchell, a Denver banker, donated \$35,000 to build the gateway (1966) and dedicated it to Dennis Sullivan, his friend and his colleague. The city owns the property on which the parkway stands. The funding and motivation for this renovation involved several groups: Denver Parks and Recreation, History Colorado, and several advocate groups, which include our own East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation. We are proud to tell you that the crown jewel of East Colfax is back and well.