



# Spotlight

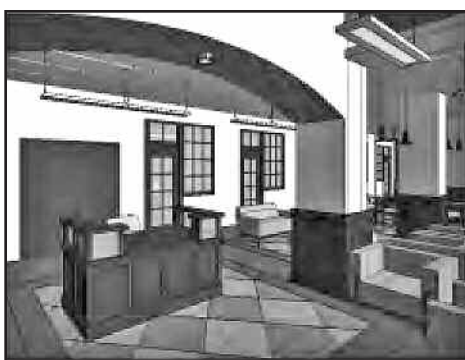
## East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation

February 2014

### Campaign For The New Counseling Center At East High School

Chances are, if you graduated from East within the past 40 years, you share a common memory of the counseling center. Come fall, 2014, this may change. At January's welcome back breakfast for faculty, Principal Andy Mendelsberg announced exciting plans for an overhaul of both the Guidance Counseling Center and the Future Center (college counseling) — spaces currently separated by a classroom. While not much has changed about the physical space of East's counseling program, there has been tremendous progress in students' postsecondary paths and the space needs to be renovated to support this progress.

In 2013, more than 90% of East High School seniors graduated. That's in comparison to 59% for traditional DPS high schools. Of those graduates, 88% went on to pursue post-secondary education at either four-year (76%) or two-year (12%) institutions. When you overlay the facts that 36% of East's 2,400 students receive free



and reduced lunch and that 20% of them are "first generation" students, these statistics are truly impressive.

This progress is due to the dedication of teachers, counseling staff, and most of all, students. Commensurate with such growth, the number of students requiring counseling has increased dramatically as has use of the counseling centers in all areas: academic counseling, psycho-social counseling, college application, and financial aid. The counseling center is used by 2,400 East students, faculty, adult volunteers, the vast majority of East parents, and more than 250 college recruiters. For many, it is the first impression visitors have of East High School.

At the request of Principal Mendelsberg, the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation (EAFAF) provided \$50,000 to fund

architectural fees for the design of a new counseling center and for the determination of its cost in May 2013. Initial designs were completed in September. In addition to combining the two counseling spaces and greatly enhancing student and staff efficiency, key project features include:

- The expanded center will be air-conditioned and provide approximately 3,600 sq. ft for the existing counseling staff and three additional staff members
- A staffed reception area, a large central open space for collaborative sessions, large group gatherings, college presentations as well as private counseling offices.
- As college admission and financial assistance programs are now administered online, technology enhancements will ensure rapid online access throughout the space.
- The aesthetic design of the new space will reflect historic architectural elements of the main building.

East's building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2006 and is 90 years old; all funds from recent bond initiatives are allocated thru 2017 to maintenance and im-

provement of the building's infrastructure. Therefore, a fundraising campaign was approved by EAFAF to support the approximately \$570,000 project. The campaign has raised funds and pledges sufficient to secure the commencement of the project. The remaining \$40,000 in funds will be raised during the first quarter of 2014. Contracts will be awarded and the counseling center will be complete when school opens in Fall 2014.

If you wish to support this project, contributions in any amount are greatly appreciated. Please send checks payable to EAFAF (MEMO: COUNSELING CENTER) P.O. Box 201404, Denver, CO 80220. EAFAF is a 501 3(c) organization and contributions are deductible for tax purposes as allowed by the IRS.



### Justin Brierly: One of Denver's Most Distinguished Educators

When East High alums gather at the school for a class reunion, much of the talk is about special adults who helped shape their values, work ethic and careers. One name

which comes up in the discussions a lot is Justin W. Brierly, perhaps one of East's most colorful and effective teacher/counselors.

Justin Brierly was fiercely proud of his Columbia University degree and the kind of education he received there. He was distressed over the lack of attention shown by Ivy League schools on students isolated in the middle of the country. He was convinced that East High had a fair number of students who should be granted admission to these prestigious schools and he made it a life-long career to place promising students into elite colleges.

One of his students, Norman Augustine, recalled how he was called into Mr. Brierly's office and handed two packets to fill out — one to Princeton University and the other to Williams College. "I had no thought that I could get into such colleges, as very few Denver students did. He must have seen something in me and I chose Princeton." Norm would graduate with honors and would fashion out a career as a CEO of a major aerospace company.

Justin was born in 1905, and after graduating from college, moved to Denver in 1937, and was hired to teach English at Denver East High School. At that time, many teachers served as counselors, but Justin would take counseling a step beyond the normal expectations. For 14 years he taught East students to value learning and to develop an appetite for the world's finest literature. He knew they would need this experience to survive at these universities.

He was so good at his job that in 1951 he was moved downtown to become the supervisor of College and Guidance for the DPS. His impact on the entire system was immeasurable. He also served on the committee for the Ivy League Scholarship Board in Denver. During World War II, Justin was invited by Prime Minister Winston Churchill to come to England and be a consultant for the evacuation of children from urban areas which were under high risk from Ger-



Justin Brierly, coordinator of college and scholarship guidance at East, and Frank Bowler, director of the College Entrance Examination Board.

man bombing. He would retire from the DPS in 1971 ending a 36 year career.

Justin was a practicing attorney and a patron of the performing arts. He served as the director of

the Central City Opera House from 1937-1948. He was also a board member of the American Committee of Emigres in the Professions and an advisor to the board of the Institute of International Education. Upon his retirement, he served as the assistant to the president of Colorado Women's College and while there established the Martha Faure Carson Dance Library as a tribute to his life-long friend. Upon his death, the library was renamed the Carson-Brierly Dance Library and is now a part of the Penrose Library at the University of Denver.

East High School is currently active in the placement of students in college and in keeping the department of college counseling vital and modern. Much of the success of students in the years from 1937-1971 is due to Justin W. Brierly, whose obituary in the *Rocky Mountain News* had the following tribute: "Justin W. Brierly was one of Denver's most distinguished educators."

### Alumni Heritage Hall Induction 2013

From all reports, the recent East High Alumni Heritage Hall Induction Ceremony was a rousing success. 300 alums gathered September 19, 2013, at the Denver Art Mu-

seum to honor 16 new inductees. They join 45 previous inductees.

The event was sponsored by the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation (EAFAF) and was the

best attended of the three heritage hall events. The Ponti Room at the museum was the best venue of the three events and the guests (Continued on Page 2)



Class of 2013 inductees in attendance, left to right, back row: Peter Teets, Leon Kelly, Dick Robinson, and Robert Smith. Front row: Daniel Howe, William Pace, Louise Lamphere, and Eddie Robinson.

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East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation  
P.O. Box 201404  
Denver, CO 80220

## Hello All In The Land Of Angels:

This year we are the home of 2,436 proud Angels. Young people want to come to East! They know of our great history and tradition and are confident they will experience success in school and life. This year East was recognized as a Distinguished or Blue School and is the only traditional high school in Denver to have that rank! East's graduation rate is one of the best in the nation — 91.5%.

Just a few of the successes our students experienced in the last year are:

In April of 2013 our Constitutional Law team placed third in the nation. Our Speech and Debate team is ranked 43rd in the nation, out of 5,000 teams. Our basketball teams, both girls and boys, are ranked and preparing for State competition, and our world class choirs continue to compete in national competitions at the highest level. The academic and athletic successes of our students continue and we are proud of our exceptional students and student-athletes.

I am frequently asked, "what makes East so special." All of you, the East community, are responsible for making East unique. The dedication of our faculty and staff to student success, and the investment of our parents and alumni in time, effort and financial contributions to sustain our tradition of excellence is special. From mentoring to fundraising, the contributions made by our volunteers is beyond remarkable. THANK YOU for your commitment to our school and for helping us provide a quality education and school experience for our Angels.

Sincerely,  
**Andy R. Mendelsberg**  
Principal  
Denver East High School



## Heritage Hall Induction

(Continued from Page 1)  
raved about the food catered by Palettes. Special thanks for the support of inductee Dick Robinson who helped EAFAF secure this wonderful venue. Dick sits on the board of the Denver Art Museum.

It turned out to be a great gathering of the East community, as alums from several decades conversed and shared stories. Of the 16 alums inducted, nine are living and seven deceased. Of the living, only one, jazz musician Bill Frisell, was not in attendance due to a scheduling conflict. The inductees spoke about the impact of an East High education on their careers.

Cleo Parker Robinson served as the Mistress of Ceremonies. Cleo, a renowned dance instructor in Denver, graduated from George Washington High School. "I was a victim of the boundaries. My heart has always been at East and many of my dearest friends are Angels."

The East Jazz Combo under the direction of Keith Oxman and the East High Honor Choir, under the direction of Will Taylor provided wonderful music for the event. We were very privileged to have well-known trumpeter Ron Miles (Class of 1981 and a 2010 HH Inductee), play with the jazz combo for the entire event. Needless to say, all were thrilled.

The next morning, all eight inductees attended an all-school assembly at East. Students enjoyed the stories of the inductees, who reminded them that they too were once teenagers with the same kind of dreams and aspirations as those in the audience. Inductee Robert

Smith graciously gave of his time to talk to three East High classes prior to the assembly.

Following the assembly, a reception was held in the library. The inductees were able to see the cases outside the library where their plaques were enshrined. It also gave them time to talk informally with the many students in attendance.

The event was a financial success because of the generous donations and sponsorships of East alums and East community businesses. After expenses, the remainder of the donations and ticket sale proceeds will go toward maintaining Heritage Hall. Special thanks should be given to Monty Cleworth (Class of 1978) for his generous donation which allowed us to build additional cases this past summer for future hall inductions.

Such a large event could never be successful without the strong support and hard work of the committee members. The Event Host Committee included: Sue Clinton and Carol McDermott, Co-Presidents, and Andrea Dikou and Beth Gower, Event Co-Chairs and Liz Adams, Kathy Calum (1968), Marsha Chavez, Carla Clark (1980), Graylon Cole (1971), Marcia Tremmel Goldstein (1969), Ellen Gray, Pat McElhinney (1960), Cissy Nuanes and Andy Mendelsberg, East Principal.

**If you have name(s) of alums you want to be considered for future Heritage Hall induction, please contact Marcia Goldstein at [marciagold@msn.com](mailto:marciagold@msn.com).**

### EAST HIGH HERITAGE HALL INDUCTEES CLASS OF 2013

Robert Bate (1949) Physicist	William Pace (1964) Human Rights Activist
Leslie Friedman Davis (1940) Businesswoman	Ralph Peck (1930) Civil Engineer
Bill Frisell (1969) Jazz Musician	Opalanga (Donna) Pugh (1970) Storyteller
General Robert Herres (1950) U.S. Joint Vice Chiefs of Staff	Jane Silverstein Ries (1927) Landscape Architect
Daniel Walker Howe (1955) Pulitzer Prize Historian	Dick Robinson (1947) Businessman
Rev. Leon Kelly (1971) Anti-Gang activist	Eddie Robinson (1950) Businessman
Kenneth Kendal King (1918) Philanthropist	Robert Smith (1981) Philanthropist
Louise Lamphere, (1958) Ph.D. Anthropologist	Peter Teets (1959) Aerospace Engineer

### 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. Report address changes to webmaster Liz Adams at [webmaster@eafaf.org](mailto:webmaster@eafaf.org).

## ALUMNI WINGS

### Monty Cleworth, Class of 1978

— has spent his adult life in pursuit of projects and ideas that sustain the quality of life for his life-long home of Denver, Colo.



He graduated from East High School in 1978. Known for his academic success, he was also involved in the *Spotlight*, the East High Speech Team and was a member of the Angel tennis team. Monty attended Amherst College, graduating in 1982, with a degree in economics. In 1984, he earned a master's degree in business from Stanford University.

Before joining Monticello Associates, an investment management firm, in 1997, he worked at Hanifen, Imhoff Inc. and Founders Asset Management LLC. He is well-known in Denver for his devotion to worthy causes and is a major contributor to projects such as the Snowmass Mastodon Project, the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, the Denver Art Museum, the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS), among others.

He sits on the board of DMNS and is involved with the Edwin Carter Legacy Society, which encourages people to work in the museum as part of their estate planning. He is a true citizen of Denver and was one of the first to purchase one of the Museum Residences in the Golden Triangle. He is a world traveler, a climber of the world's mountains, and a regular marathoner for a charity cause.

Monty showed his appreciation for his alma mater with a generous donation that allowed the

Heritage Hall Committee to build two new cases for future inductions.

### Phil Goodstein, Class of 1970

— Seldom does a year pass that it appears Phil Goodstein has published another book about some aspect of Denver's history. The



native Coloradan and eastsider is one of Denver's most prolific freelance urban historians. His most recently published book is *Lumber Baron Inn: Denver's Mystery Mansion*.

Phil attended East High School and graduated in 1970. He earned three degrees in history, a BA from Metro State College, an MA from the University of Denver and a PhD from the University of Colorado. His main historical focus was on Eastern European History. He has deep roots in the Denver Jewish community and has written about Jewish influence in the political, economic and cultural aspects of Denver life.

Much in the style of the muckraker journalists of the early 20th century, Philip's works offer a view of the importance of the many and different neighborhoods that make up Denver's history.

See website for list of books: [capitolhillbooks.com/tag/phil-goodstein/](http://capitolhillbooks.com/tag/phil-goodstein/).

### Tina Walls, Class of 1973

— Tina attended East High School during the civil rights movement. Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, she was the younger sister of Carlotta Walls LaNier, a member of the Little Rock Nine. In a recent *Denver Post* article, Tina said that al-

though she remembered only bits and pieces of that time, the fact that her sister and parents fought for access to education played a huge part in her own career.

After graduating from East, Tina earned a degree in administration of legal processes at Mills College in Oakland, California. "I am a product of the Denver Public Schools, the Denver Central Library and the Natural History Museum. They were my refuges." She would spend her adult career dedicated to education and the arts.

The Urban League awarded her the Douglas H. McGannon Award which pointed out her dedication to "breaking down barriers and widening the doors of equal opportunity."

She left the halls of corporate America in 2009 and would retire from the Altria Group (formerly Philip Morris). She returned to Denver where she became a philanthropic force. She would serve as director on three boards: the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Legacy Media Institute and Save Venice. She is a past president of the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and is a member of the Denver Foundation's Arts Affinity Group. She is president of the Denver Chapter of the Links Inc. a non-profit social and service group committed to enriching the lives of African Americans. In *The Denver Post* article she summed up her life by stating, "There are very few doors that I didn't open to see what was on the other side. I was a curious child..."

## A LOOK BACK East Teacher Organized WWII Relief Effort



In 1948, Denver East High School became involved in Colorado's first Sister City and the second in the United States. In the summer of 1947 **Amanda Knecht**, a French teacher at East, visited Brest, France and was moved by the devastation of the city. She returned with a mission to make a difference.

Brest, France, a lovely port city, was occupied much of the war by the Nazis. During the heavy Allied bombing during the latter part of the war, much of the city was destroyed, including libraries, hospitals and schools. Almost 5,000 flyovers and sorties eventually brought about the surrender of the occupying forces.

When Amanda Knecht returned to Denver, she shared her experiences with her students. During the school year of 1947-48, she and her students raised in excess of \$32,000 in spare change. The full amount was presented to the City of Brest to be used in rebuilding the Children's wing of the Brest City Hospital. In response to this gesture the city of Brest immediately proceeded with the concept of jumelage (twinning) affiliation between Brest and the city of Denver.

Many more Sister Cities would follow. They were a testimony of the power of people-to-people contact between two cities which share a common interest.

## Alumni Scholarship Program Awards 2013

The original Alumni Scholarship fund, started in 1926, marks its 88th year. At the prompting of alum James E. Tracy, the fund was reactivated and reorganized in 1995 into a specific scholarship program distributing Alumni scholarships at the Senior Awards program each May to outstanding, graduating seniors. Awards are based on specific qualifications, recommendations, written application, and an interview.

Since 2011, and the creation of the **East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation**, the scholarship program has been supported and funded by the Foundation. Scholarships are also often provided by East alums, or a specific class in honor of a classmate, or as part of a reunion celebration. **These scholarships make a difference!** For some it makes attending college possible, and for others it makes a special choice a reality.

In May of 2013, with the generosity of the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation, Thomas W. Bean Foundation, the Epstein-Smith Family, James Reece, (1960) and the Class of 1973, **15 students received a total of \$35,000.**

**Elizabeth Greenberg** received the special \$6,000 **Alumni and Friends Scholarship**. "Elizabeth is a remarkable young woman with an open and curious mind, an exemplary student, highly skilled and buzzing with curiosity and willingness to lead. She is intelligent, truly thoughtful and open to new ways of looking at an issue," as described by East teachers.

When asked about the **value of**



**Elizabeth Greenberg**

**her East High education:** "I have obviously benefited from the academic classes at East and the skills I have learned. But I have learned even more from the people. The most important lesson I learned from East: I can connect with anyone. As a Speech and Debate captain and yearbook editor, I

can be in a lab group with a member of the boys varsity basketball team, the biology expert for the school's Science Olympiad, and the lead in the fall play and we can all laugh at the same things and work together. It doesn't matter how little we share on the surface, we have all been educated to get along with one another no matter what differences may seem to pull us apart. **And that's more of an education than I could have expected.**" An East Angel who will always represent herself and East High well!

In addition to the EAFAF Scholarships, two students received a **James E. Tracy** scholarship, a scholarship established by family and friends of former East principal and alum James E. Tracy. Three students, Con Law Team participants, received scholarships in honor of former Con Law student Emily L. Saslow.

**To give a scholarship in your name, your family's name, or in honor of your graduating class, contact Beth Gower: [mbgower44@gmail.com](mailto:mbgower44@gmail.com) or 303-877-3563. EAFAF had 40 applicants this year and could only help 15. We are always seeking tax-deductible donations for deserving students!**

# East High Constitutional Scholars

## 'We the People ... The Citizen And The Constitution'

In May of 2013 the East High Constitutional Scholars Team placed third in the nation in the **We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution** competition in Washington, D.C. East has represented the Denver Public Schools and the State of Colorado well. It is significant that East has placed in the top 10 repeatedly in this demanding national academic competition — **20 top 10** placements, **four of which were first place**, out of 24 competitions. East has a long and proud history of Constitutional Scholars. Determined, hard-working East students, with wonderful school and community support, have set a high standard for all participating teams — local and national.

In April of 2014 East will not be representing Colorado in the National competition. Each year the East team has had to work harder to win the State competition — everyone's goal has been "beat



East!" Cherry Creek School District's Grandview High School, after several years of such striving, and in spite of East's terrific team, finally managed to slip past East by a few points and win the State Championship. Heartbreaking, naturally, for team members and all involved in this rigorous academic effort, especially since it has only happened once before — Clear Creek County won the State title in 2002.

The national "We the People" competition, as it is now known, started the school year of 1987-1988 as part of the Bicentennial Celebration of the drafting of the U.S. Constitution. With the exception of one year (1989) East has participated in the competition since its inception. 2014 will be the 27th year of the national competition and East has represented Colorado 24 times. Team members, past and present, consider "Con Law" to be one of the most difficult and time-consuming undertakings of their high school career — and one of the most rewarding.

We are proud of all the East participants for their hard work and all those adults who engage and help make this level of learning possible. And we are **most grateful** to all those who provide financial support to make this competition a reality for East students year after year! We can hardly wait for 2014-2015 — watch out!

## South Rebel Earns Her Angel Wings

Over the 140 years of East High history, a friendly rivalry has existed between Denver South and Denver East High Schools. The athletic teams often clashed in heated athletic competition. There were even some romantic stories that ended in what became known as "border marriages."

Beth Gower is a proud graduate of South High School, and yet she found her way to East High School, as a teacher, and then as a dedicated volunteer. She has become a loyal friend and supporter of East and its programs.

She is but one of dozens of other volunteers who have or are serv-



ing East High School. But, looking at her accomplishments, it becomes obvious that she deserves the distinction of being a special Angel. She has used her numerous leadership, persuasive, and organizational skills on a number of key projects.

Beth came to East as a teacher in 1981. In 1987, Principal Jim Tracy asked her to spearhead a movement to bring back the East High alumni association. Under her leadership the East Alumni and Friends Association was formed. She served in several leadership capacities for many years.

She was on the committee that proposed the idea of an East High museum in the tower and was responsible for its construction. She was on the original Alumni Heritage Hall committee and once again was a contributing manager with Joel Noble in building the Heritage Hall cases, and later used

her organizational skills behind the scenes to do the time-consuming work to make sure the induction ceremonies were quality events. She worked to help East High School gain landmark status and entry into the National Historical Registry of Historical Buildings. She was also involved in the naming of the Robert Colwell library at East.

Beth has assisted in the Athletic Hall of Fame events and for a number of years has organized alumni breakfasts to welcome current teachers and staff back to school second semester with the opportunity to have intergenerational conversations with loyal Angels. Her most recent project was the refurbishing of the elegant East High social room.

One of her many skills involves fund raising. As the chair of the alumni scholarship committee she raised thousands of dollars to assist worthy students. She has also been in charge of raising money to fund the highly successful East High Constitutional Scholars program since 1988.

She currently sits on the executive committee of the recently organized East High Angel Foundation. These are but a few examples of Beth's dedication and spirited work.

In order to succeed in these areas it takes vision, organization and a commitment to detail. Beth Gower has, over these many years done all of these. She epitomizes the old East creed of aristocracy: "...Service is the best test of success...and by serving as I would be served, I shall be a true citizen of East High..."

an integrated school. Prior to the Fair Housing Act of 1959, a very small percentage of African-American students lived outside the red-lined areas that separated most white and black families.

JoKatherine graduated from Howard University and began her professional career in New York City and currently provides diversity training throughout the county and is presently a contract Clinical Social Work Therapist for the DPS. Jerome was one of the first African-Americans to join the Peace Corps. For over 37 years he was the President/CEO of the National Urban League for various cities in the U.S.

## Missing Cherub Returns Home After A 53 Year Absence

Many mysteries abide at East High School and one has been the loss of beautiful statuary, most of which was brought over from Old East when it was razed in 1929. The most notable mystery has been what happened to the Minerva and Venus de Milo statues that used to grace the center staircase in the main lobby? On a smaller scale, at least one missing statue has returned to its home.

Back in the late '50s or early '60s (the exact date is hard to come by), a young, ardent East lad wished to show his love for a special East girl. He removed a three foot statue of a cherub from the Angel Garden and placed it in his dream girl's garden. Although the girl never dated the boy, the Angel remained with her until recently.

The cherub was returned to East and once again takes its place in



the Angel Garden in the South lawn area. It is a statue of a young angel with a paintbrush and palette. Welcome home Angel.

## Presidents' Message

Welcome to another edition of the *Spotlight*, sponsored by the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation (EAFAP).

Thank you! Your support has made it possible for the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation to support East in its mission of providing the best education for all students. We try to remove the barriers so that all students have an opportunity to access Advanced Placement Classes, avail themselves of our top ranked Speech and Debate program, join the choir or drama/theater productions, or become involved with our many sports teams and clubs groups.

Our board is comprised of committees that work with student programs, the East alumni, the history committee dedicated to preserving the actual history of East, as well as the building itself (East is on the National Historic Registry), development and fundraising, and the student scholarship committee.

We are excited to share with you our goals and accomplishments this year as we support Denver East High School.

Every three years or so, the Heritage Hall Committee of EAFAP puts on a spectacular event honoring notable graduates of East (see related article).

EAFAP has provided seed monies to kick off the much needed counseling center renovation project. This is a very exciting prospect for the East community.

One of the many great programs that the EAFAP has is the Faculty and Student Grant program. Each fall, East faculty and staff are invited to apply for grant funds through this program. This year the committee funded 38 grant requests for funds totaling more than \$39,000. The requests were thoughtful and meaningful and demonstrated a real commitment to the students and community of East. The grants are awarded to the faculty and staff at East to continue with their mission of providing the best educational opportunities and to experiment with new programs for all Angels. Below is a list of some of the grants funded this year.

- Funding for our Speech and Debate program (ranked in the top 50 in the nation)
- Continuing support for East's new EA Live! Broadcasting venture
- Continuing support for the Constitutional Scholars team
- Funds for an assistant athletic trainer to work with all our student athletes
- Funds for the music department to bring professional musicians into our classrooms
- Funds for a support group for some of our homeless student population
- Cooking classes for our special education students

East High was recognized this year as a Distinguished or Blue School and is the only traditional high school in Denver to have that rank! EAFAP, for many years, has been able to provide East with funds to increase academic support classes and programs, giving teachers and administration the freedom to do what they do best: educate!

As alumni of East, we invite you to visit our website <http://eafaf.org> to learn more about the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation and all our programs, from food distribution, books, bus passes, student mentoring, bricks and pavers and more. Your donations, no matter what the size, truly make a difference and ensure East High continues to graduate distinguished Angels into the community!

As we look forward to 2014 ... walk for A+Mentors, East High Art Walk, Athletic Hall of Fame new inductees.

**Sue Clinton and Carol McDermott**  
Co-Presidents

### EAST ANGEL FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Carol McDermott	Marcia Goldstein
Sue Clinton	Beth Gower
Liz Adams	Ellie Horn
Megan Bertron	Mark Hoskin
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Diana Bray	Elisa Moran
Kathy Callum	Debbie Round
Graylon Cole	Matt Wolf
Georgianna Forbes	Andy Mendelsberg, Principal

## East Alumni/Faculty Breakfast

### Hosted By

### East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation

On January 6, 2014, the spacious East High lobby was the stage for the gathering of teachers, staff, alumni and friends of East. The Alumni Committee of the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation (EAFAP) organized the Welcome Back Breakfast. The breakfast recognizes, rewards and celebrates the teachers and staff as they begin the second semester of the year. It also provides an opportunity to mingle with alumni.

Carol McDermott, Co-President of EAFAP, told the group of 200 the second semester breakfast tradition started in 2006 as a thank you to the outstanding East faculty and staff, and as a reminder of the long and significant heritage of East. The breakfast provides an opportunity for the current keepers of the East legacy to converse with alums that have shared the traditions of East, benefited from them, and continue to enrich East. Principal Andy Mendelsberg was the gracious master of ceremonies.

Along with the catered breakfast, there was a drawing for 32 prizes. A total of \$960 in various gift cards to restaurants, coffee shops, bookstores, and cash awards was given out! Prizes were compliments of EAFAP and the East parent community.

Alums braving the 10 degree weather to attend the early morning breakfast included: Claudia Richardson Barry (1953), Joe Blake (1954), Bill Cook (1956), Rev. Leon Kelly (1971), Dick Robinson (1950), and Eddie Robinson (1947). Two former East principals were in attendance: Kathy Callum (1968) and John Youngquist. Also present were EAFAP Co-President Sue Clinton, Beth Gower from the EAFAP Board and Alumni Committee, and longtime East friend and former parent Bobbie Heisterkamp.

Claudia Richardson Barry said, "I had great fun visiting with the other East alums and being back in the atmosphere and spirit of East!"

# Jerome Biffle Named To CHSAA Hall Of Fame

Jerry Biffle, one of East High's most highly decorated athletes, was inducted into the Colorado High Schools Activities Association (CHSAA) Hall of Fame, January 29, 2014. He became the eighth East athlete/coach to be so honored.

Jerry was the mainstay of the East High track team which captured state championships in 1944, 1945 and 1946. He won state titles in the 100 and 200 yard dashes, broad jump and high jump. He attended the University of Denver where he was a "one-man wrecking crew" leading the pioneers to their first Skyline League championship ever. He was named All-American in 1950.

He capped off his brilliant career by capturing the gold medal for the broad jump in 1952 in Helsinki, Finland. He had the privilege and honor of being trained by the legendary Jesse Owens.

He joins seven others of the East family in the CHSAA Hall of Fame: Adolph "Pat" Panek, Bill Weimar,



Jerome Biffle

Gregg Browning, Ron Shavlik, Chris Babbs, Betsy Allen and Rich Tate. He was also named to the Colorado Hall of Fame in 1968. He joins fellow Angels Pat Panek, Joan Birkland, Chet Nelson, John Adams and Ron Shavlik in that Hall.

Jerry spent his entire adult education career as a teacher and college counselor at East.

## Athletic Hall Of Fame Ceremony Slated For Fall 2014 — 22 Athletes To Be Honored

The history of athletics at East High School goes back as far as 1894 when there was not a DPS league or any state athletic association or many high school teams to play. Over that 119-year period, East has produced an abundance of excellent athletes. In an attempt to honor some of them, the East High Athletic Hall of Fame was created in 2007.

The sixth edition of the East High Athletic of Fame has been announced with a ceremony set for the fall of 2014, at East High School. To date, a total of 198 athletes and coaches have been inducted into the hall, with a new class of 22 athletes being inducted next fall. Later this year, check the website [eastangelfriends.org](http://eastangelfriends.org) for confirmation of the date. The breakdown represents: 145 male athletes, 43 female athletes, 29 coaches and five special awards.

The hall was initially set up to honor top athletes from East's long history of athletic tradition. The history of East High athletics started with four sports being established: football, basketball, baseball and track. These would come to be known as the "major sports." After East was established at its present location on the Esplanade, seven "minor sports" would be

added: tennis, swimming, golf, gymnastics, wrestling, soccer and lacrosse for the boys. Girls sports, added after Title IX came into law, would be: softball, volleyball, soccer, gymnastics, swimming, track, basketball, golf, field hockey and tennis. The new class represents a variety of sports and recognition of each decade of EHS athletics.

### CLASS OF 2014

- 1909 – Homer Griffin, Baseball
- 1926 – Ross Brown, Football
- 1937 – Billy Lewis, Basketball
- 1945 – Bob Frederic, Football
- 1948 – Frank Van Meter, Golf
- 1950 – Harry Taggart, Football
- 1955 – Roger Kinney, Baseball
- 1957 – Ted Epstein, Special award
- 1957 – Jerry Lane, Track
- 1965 – Lee Omohundro, Football
- 1969 – Felton Johnson, Gymnastics
- 1970 – George Speliotos, Football
- 1972 – Belinda Knight, Track
- 1977 – James Richardson, Football
- 1977 – Lori Thomas, BBK/Tennis
- 1982 – Michelle Moore, Basketball
- 1984 – Kathy Hathaway, Soccer
- 1995 – Susie Givens, Swimming
- 2005 – Amy Freedman, Volleyball
- 2007 – Gillian Winbourn, Field Hockey
- 2007 – Andrew Lay, Lacrosse
- 2008 – Jamiko Verner, Basketball

### EAST HIGH PROFILE 2013-2014

ENROLLMENT	2,436
ETHNICITY:	
Anglo	47%
African American	30%
Hispanic	19%
Asian	3%
Native American	1%
STUDENTS QUALIFYING FOR FREE LUNCH	36%
STAFF:	
Administration	6
Full-time teachers	141
Library/Media	1.5
Paraprofessionals	17
Social Worker	1
Psychologists	1.5
Nurse	1
GRADUATES: 2013	
4 Year Institutions	77%
2 Year Institutions	12%
Vocational Schools	1%
Employment	1%
Armed Services	1%
ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES	23
NATIONAL MERIT	
Semi-Finalists	6
Finalists	6
Commended	5
SPECIAL EDUCATION:	
Hearing Impaired	
Adaptive Functioning	
Disability	

## 2014 REUNION DATES

### CLASS OF 1944

Feb. 21

Pinehurst Country Club  
11 a.m.

Contact: Beverly McMurria  
[bevmcmurria@gmail.com](mailto:bevmcmurria@gmail.com)

### CLASS OF 1954

June 6-8

Contact: Elaine Cladis  
[ecladis@comcast.net](mailto:ecladis@comcast.net)

[www.1954eastangels.com](http://www.1954eastangels.com)

### CLASS OF 1964

August 15-16

Contact: Buddy Noel  
[buddynoel@noellawoffice.com](mailto:buddynoel@noellawoffice.com)

### CLASS OF 1974

No Information Available

### CLASSES OF 1976-80

July 25-27

Contact: Carla Clark  
[carlaclark@comcast.com](mailto:carlaclark@comcast.com)

### CLASS OF 1984

No Information Available

### CLASS OF 1994

June 20-22

Contact: Annie Leuthold Hatter  
[anniehatter@gmail.com](mailto:anniehatter@gmail.com)  
[1994eastangels@gmail.com](http://1994eastangels@gmail.com)

### CLASS OF 2004

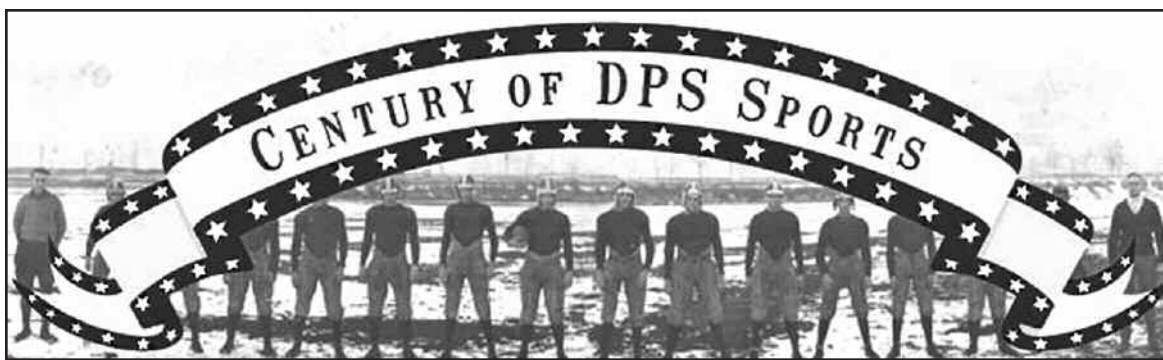
June 13-15

Contact: Elizabeth Battle  
[elizabeth.battle@ymail.com](mailto:elizabeth.battle@ymail.com)  
303-618-1044

CHECK EAST HIGH FOUNDATION WEBSITE  
[eastangelfriends.org](http://eastangelfriends.org)

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

We encourage you to visit the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation website at [eastangelfriends.org](http://eastangelfriends.org). This will allow you to keep up with events at East. It will also allow you to volunteer your time for one or more of the many committees we have to offer. There is opportunity provided to donate to a worthy East cause of your choosing and a chance to keep up to date about upcoming class reunions.



## DPS All-Century Athletic Teams Honored

In conjunction with the celebration of the 113th anniversary of Denver Public Schools athletics, a website has been created in order to capture the athletic past and to reminisce about former players, coaches, administrators and members of the greater community who helped shape the Denver Public Schools athletic program.

Do you recall a great player? Do you remember the great players and teams of the past? Do you remember the days of dirt fields and cramped, sweaty gymnasiums? Do you remember the spirit of winning a league or state championship? This website project

will assist you in your journey into past memories.

The All Century Teams project was announced this past fall and the first fall and spring sports have been selected by a committee representing the 10 schools in DPS history. Each semester, a boys' and a girls' team will be announced. In the fall of 2013, the first boys' football All Century Team was announced along with the girls' volleyball team. In early 2014, the boys' and girls' basketball teams will be selected. This spring, boys' baseball and girls' soccer will be honored. To view these lists go to <http://athletics.dpsk12.org/DPS110/Index.html>.

The criteria used to select the All Century teams includes but is not limited to Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) All State selections, Colorado High

School Coaches Association (CHSCA) All State selections, *The Denver Post* and Rocky Mountain All State and All Metro selections and other recognized sources.

If you know of a player deserving of recognition, send an e-mail to John Andrew at [athletics@dpk12.org](mailto:athletics@dpk12.org). Include validation for this nomination. You may also write John Andrew, Department of Athletics, 2700 West 7th Avenue, Denver, Co 80204. If you have old photographs or news clippings, send them along with your nominations (PDF format preferred). Please include your name and contact information.

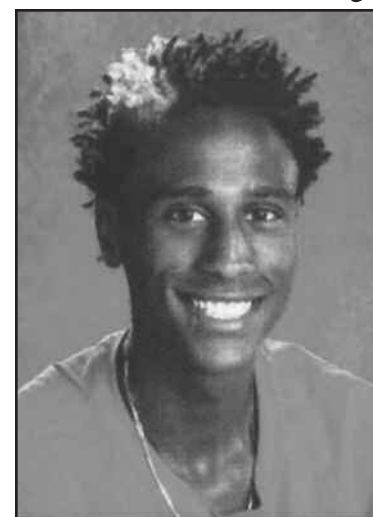
As a part of the All Century program, certificates for all players selected to the All Century teams are available upon request. This project will be most successful with your help and contributions.

## East Runner Captures Rare State Title In Cross Country

In October 2013, Cerake Geberkidane ran a record pace in the Colorado state cross country tournament. In doing so, he became only the second East harrier to actually capture first place in the state tournament. His brother Ashi Geberkidane, became the first East runner to win the CX Country title (2012). Cerake's record time of 15:48.2 broke the record set by his brother and earned Cerake the honor of being ranked fourth in the nation.

Cross country is a team sport and it is difficult for one person to win the title just on his own efforts. East High has won the team cross country title four times: 1958, 1959, 1964, 1967, but the highest individual ranking until 2012 was a second place finish in 1959 by Pete Nims and a third place finish by Tarry Harrison in 1965.

Several colleges are interested in Cerake and he has his sights on a spot on the Olympic team in 2016. "I want to attend a college that



Cerake Geberkidane

will prepare me for the Olympic trials. But I am also looking for a college that will give me a solid education for the future." Several colleges have been pursuing Cerake, but he will wait until spring to sign. Cross country coach Steven Kohuth has this to say about this special young man: "He brought energy and a sense of happiness every day to practice." Cerake has received significant attention by *The Denver Post* and *Sports Illustrated*.

### Visit Our New Online Store!



## EAST ANGEL SPIRIT STORE

[www.eastangelstore.com](http://www.eastangelstore.com)

Shop online for East spirit wear, alumni gear, grocery cards and other "Angel Extras"!

We offer flat rate shipping or free in-store pick-up of all online purchases!

Shop in-store or pick up your order at East during regular store hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Friday  
11:00 am – 12:15 pm  
2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Wednesday  
10:45 am – 11:45 am  
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Thursday  
10:45 am – 11:45 am

We are located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor next to the Main Office

All profits directly benefit East High School

Contact us at: [eastschoolstore@gmail.com](mailto:eastschoolstore@gmail.com)

## SUPPORT EAST HIGH PROGRAMS

BUY KING SOOPERS OR SAFEWAY CARDS

EACH CARD \$10.00

CARDS CAN BE RELOADED TIME AND AGAIN

5% OF EACH GROCERY OR GAS PURCHASE GOES BACK TO SUPPORT EAST

SIGN UP FOR A CARD ONLINE AT [www.eastangelstore.com](http://www.eastangelstore.com)