



Pioneer

VOL. 21 NO. 2 FALL 2016

Alumni Newsletter

Thomas M. Barger Family Scholarship

By Wilma Bates



At left: U-High Science teacher Luke Luginbuhl with 2016 Thomas Barger family Scholarship Winners Emma Merriman and Christina Su. Barger Family members present were Thomas Barger III ('58) and Kathleen and Carter ('61) Barger.

Thomas M. Barger was a beloved instructor of physics and chemistry from 1913-1943 at University High School. The first volume of the U-High yearbook, *The Clarion*, published in 1929, was dedicated to him. He left an indelible mark on the students of U-High and was fondly remembered in many poems, skits, and his invitation to perform a saxophone solo during senior activities in 1925.

Thomas was a 1902 graduate of ISNU and spent his childhood around the Normal campus. He was a confidant of ISNU President Fairchild and was pleased when Fairchild directed ISNU's energies to the preparation of teachers. Thomas was quoted as saying, "You can have all the degrees on earth and not be worth a hoot as a teacher. School teaching is an art, and a good teacher is a precious animal. Degrees are just tags." In addition to teaching physics and chemistry, he also coached baseball. Upon

retiring in 1943 from U-High, Thomas remained active in the community serving on various committees and boards and chairing the 55th Class reunion of ISNU class of 1902, in 1957. Thomas and his wife, Grace, reared their children in the Bloomington/Normal community, and the legacy of Thomas lives on within the lab school. There have been six family members enrolled in the Lab Schools over the years, including Thomas' great-great grandson, a current member of U-High class of 2019.

The influence and impact Thomas made on the U-High Science Department is still evident to this day as students are recognized for their outstanding work, commitment to excellence, and dedication to the study of physics and chemistry.

To honor their grandfather, Carter and Thomas Barger III decided to support and reward U-High students who excel in physics and chemistry. Thomas III, a 1958

graduate, and Carter, a 1961 graduate, followed in the footsteps of their father, Thomas Jr., who was a 1929 U-High graduate and 1932 ISNU graduate. Two awards will be given annually to U-high students, with one student representing the discipline of physics and one student representing the discipline of chemistry. The 2016 winners of The Thomas M. Barger Family Endowed Scholarship were Christina Su for chemistry and Emma Merriman for physics.

U-High appreciates the dedication and generosity of the Barger family and their commitment to the students of U-High.

Please contact Wilma Bates, associate director of development at (309) 438-4304 if you have any questions about making a gift to the Lab Schools or need information on funding priorities.



University High School Alumni Association

Illinois State University | Campus Box 7100, Normal,
IL 61790-7100 | (309) 438-8542
Website: UHigh.IllinoisState.edu
Email: UHighAlumni@IllinoisState.edu
Facebook: We Are One: U-High Pioneers

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HOME COMING Social

2016

FRIDAY

-September 23-

held at Horton Field

House from 4:30-7p.m.

• FREE LIGHT DINNER

• FREE FOOTBALL
TICKETS

• FREE PARKING

Use lot G83 at Main and
Willow Or lots G82, M82,
F82 off Adelaide by
Tri-Towers

Disability parking at F82
adjacent to Horton Field
House

Open to ALL U-High alumni and their families!

Varsity Football
Kickoff against
Prairie Central
at 7 p.m.



Opportunity to
purchase U-High
spirit wear from
the UHS Booster Club.



Everyone is Welcome!

TIME CAPSULE REINSERTION

9 a.m., North Hallway by Library,
University High School

AWARDS & RECOGNITION PROGRAM

9:30 a.m., Stroud Auditorium,
University High School



THE Pioneer

A L U M N I N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 21 Number 2, Fall 2016

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Illinois State University

University High School

Campus Box 7100

Normal, IL 61790-7100



2016 U-High Reunions

Class of 1946

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Luncheon at Jim's Steakhouse second Wednesday of the month at noon

Class of 1947

MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Westminster's every fourth Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m.

Class of 1950

MONTHLY BREAKFAST

CJ's Restaurant every fourth Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m.
Contact: Donna Mae Geske Jordan at (309) 662-9345 or
Gordon Schroeder at (309) 452-2875

Class of 1955

60-YEAR REUNION | September 23, 2016

Contact: Betty Lichty Mayes at (248) 380-6690 or lesnbet@aol.com

Class of 1956

60-YEAR REUNION | September 23, 2016

Horton Field House 4 p.m.
Contact: Dorothy Anderson Stewart at (309) 663-1157

Class of 1966

50-YEAR REUNION

September 23—informal gathering and September 24—dinner
Facebook page: University High School Class of 1966
Contact: Jim Eckert at (309)723-4241 or anchorjim@frontier.com
Penny Landgraf Sides at (309)208-4338 or cavalcade6@hotmail.com

Class of 1967

50-YEAR REUNION | Date to be announced for 2017

Contact: Margaret Theis Bratcher at margaretbratcher8849@gmail.com

Class of 1969

ANNUAL HOLIDAY REUNION | December 24

Lunch at the Grand Café
Contact: Karen Mercier Cruis at (309) 662-8909 or karen@stametdp.com

Class of 1971

45-YEAR REUNION

Encouraged to attend Homecoming Tailgate September 23
We had so much fun in July that we're gathering again!

Class of 1981

35-YEAR REUNION | September 23 and 24

Contact: Shelley Livingston at (309) 310-2706 or sal1313@aol.com

Class of 1986

30-YEAR REUNION | September 23 and 24

Contact: Blaise Jarecki at (205) 566-4258 or blaise.jarecki.jxat@statefarm.com
Facebook page: University High School Class of 1986 Reunion

Class of 1991

25-YEAR REUNION | September 24 at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at Medici

Contact: Dan Klauss at frau klauss@gmail.com
Facebook page: U-High Class of 1991

Class of 1996

20-YEAR REUNION | September 23 and 24

Contact: Jennifer Yang at jenniferyang78@yahoo.com or (847) 312-9138
Eric Schlipf at eric.schlipf@gmail.com
Facebook page: University High School—Class of 1996

Class of 2001

15-YEAR REUNION | September 24, 6 p.m.—dinner at Alexanders

RSVP to: Ryan Scritchlow at (309) 287-6294 or rscritch@hotmail.com
Facebook page: University High School Class of 2001

Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's School (ISSCS) Everyone is welcome

ANNUAL REUNION | September 16–17

September 16—Eastland Suites 5-10 p.m. | September 17—ISSCS dinner 12 p.m.
Contact: Bernie Latta '60 at (309) 829-1991
or (309) 261-4272 or bern.latta@comcast.net
Debbie Burt Macchiaroli '73 at (312) 758-0321
or homersatisses@gmail.com
Facebook group: UHIGH AND ISSCS MEMBERS GROUP

Opportunities
TO SERVE!

If interested in serving your alma mater, please contact any board member or email us at uhighalumni@IllinoisState.edu.

- Awards Committee members
- Website coordinator
- At-large board member

Lead like a
PIONEER!

Make your class reunion a reality by stepping up to get the ball rolling for your class reunion by contacting one of the Alumni Relations Coordinators. Gatherings can range from simple to elaborate! Customize your celebration! And remember that reunions don't have to be on milestone years or limited to one class. Be creative and imaginative to organize a reunion of Pioneers who were sports teammates or cast members and crew of a play or an alliance that published the Clarion together. Let the UHS Alumni Association assist in the process to locate classmates. Email the UHSAA at uhighalumni@ilstu.edu or call (309) 438-8542.

President's Letter

As the deadline rapidly approached for articles to be submitted for the U-High Alumni newsletter, I was once again reminded of what it means to be a Pioneer. Side note: I'm honest enough to recognize that I'm the procrastinator in any group. Even with months of advance notice, I wait until the very last minute to get work done. Yes I'm busy, and there are never enough hours in the day, but if I'm honest, this is simply who I am. And maybe I also like the adrenaline rush that comes with epic last-minute efforts! Over the years, many of my Metcalf and U-High teachers shared strategies with me to get work done on time: read a chapter a night, write a paragraph a day, or do just one part of your project early. However, during my tenure at U-high, I'm pretty sure every major paper or assignment was still accomplished by pulling an all-nighter or with the help of CliffNotes. (Yes, I used CliffNotes! Shocking!)

At any rate, after 15-plus years of fantastic, dedicated, irreplaceable service, Kathy Murdoch decided it was time for a break. Kathy left some massive shoes to fill—especially in the timely deliverance of articles for the U-High newsletter! I am forever in her debt for all she has done for the U-High Alumni Association. She is the definition of a Pioneer in every form. (And, if you'd like to try Kathy's shoes on for size and help with the newsletter—just let me know!)

So that's the story of how I came to be in charge of the alumni newsletter for this fall. After the initial comedic effect that a landscaper—who can't spell to save his life—somehow managed to find himself in charge of writing a newsletter wore off, what did I do? I procrastinated! I wasn't worried as the deadline for articles was pretty far off. Spring is my busy time, and it took countless prodding emails from the administration before I finally sat down and looked at my calendar. I figured I have two weeks so it's a piece of cake! Well ... in reality I'm out of town for a few days, and it should be turned in on Friday instead of Monday, and then I realized: oh, no ... there's no more time left to get this done!

Upon my realization that I am now up against the deadline with much work to do in a small amount of time, I did the only logical thing. I reached out to my fellow board members and alumni asking for help. Remember how I started this article by saying I was reminded this week of what it means to be a Pioneer? Well, you can always count on Pioneers to help out. Pioneers never disappoint. The response from my fellow alumni was fast, thought-provoking, and exactly what I asked for and needed. It was fantastic to read the various responses to help create our newsletter articles. I couldn't have asked for anything better.

This is my final president's letter—and yes, it is being written the day I need to turn it in. After all, I told you I was a procrastinator! But the thought I want to leave you with is that there are many ways to get involved and be more active: check out an alumni board meeting, join a committee, be a part of the Homecoming festivities, or help set up your class reunion. I would implore (check out that fancy word use) you to get involved. There are tons of ways from small ones (like bailing out your president via an email) to stepping up and filling an empty spot on the board. There's even an opening for a newsletter coordinator (hint, hint)! If someone who can't spell worth a darn can be in charge of a

newsletter—then surely you can find a way to be involved, too. There are many different ways to participate. And always remember if you get stuck on a project ... since you are a Pioneer, you only have to reach out and ask for backup no matter where you find yourself. Take the leap of faith and get involved. It's good to be a Pioneer alum. We have a legacy to uphold.

Sincerely,
Ryan Scritchlow '01
Alumni Board President



Letter from the Superintendent

Welcome from the Laboratory Schools at Illinois State University, and more specifically, University High School! We have just completed an incredibly successful school year in which we saw the class of 2016 earn over \$13 million in scholarships. While this class is very accomplished, it is also like so many of the past classes that have graduated from U-High and have gone on to do tremendous things in college and beyond. Each of you has a story of how U-High has helped you on that journey. It is what keeps you engaged with your class and U-High, and we appreciate all that you do to support your alma mater. One such story is that of our own social science teacher and basketball coach Robert Fitzgerald. He was just named a Fulbright Scholarship winner and will spend the second semester of the upcoming school year in England working with educators on developing curriculum that better recognizes the diversity that is such a part of our nation's history. We are certainly proud of this accomplishment, but it also helps us realize that you may have similar stories of accomplishments that will help inspire our students to greater heights. I hope you will share those with us as they happen so we can continue to demonstrate our Pioneer Pride!

Sincerely,
Jeff Hill, Ed.D.
Laboratory Schools Superintendent

Alumni through the decades

BOPI President Tom Mercier '71 received the Legacy of Excellence award. Mercier has worked with Easter Seals of Central Illinois, Timber Pointe Charitable Foundation, Employers Coalition for Healthcare Inc., McLean County Chamber of Commerce, Illinois Manufacturers Association, National Association for Printing Leadership, and United Way of McLean County finance committee. He has mentored and supported many business owners and young professionals, and recently offered 1,000 free prints of any Illinois nonprofit brochure submitted to his business.

Kevin Kelly '81 is the president of HK Foods, Kelley's Gourmet, an Illinois condiment company recognized for an award-winning product. Kelley's Gourmet won the 2016 gold medal in the Worldwide Mustard Competition for its Kelley's Gourmet Stone Ground Mustard. The company previously won the gold medal in 2013 in the same category.

Robert Lee Kendrick '84 grew up in Illinois and Iowa, and now lives in South Carolina. After earning his M.A. from Illinois State University and his Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina, his first book, *Winter Skin*, was recently published in June 2016. He says he owes a big thanks to Ms. Clesson, Ms. Fortune, and Ms. Zielinski for turning him on to literature and encouraging him to write while at U-High.

Chris Gramm '89 was elected delegate to the National Nominating Convention, 18th Congressional District by the Republican Party in April 2016.



Gerald Sullivan '91 U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Gerald F. Sullivan, a 1991 graduate of University High School, was recently assigned to Joint Base Andrews in Maryland as the security forces manager for the 11th Security Support Squadron. His duties include ensuring security missions for the president, vice president, and various heads of state. He oversees more than 100 personnel with the daily support mission of training, supply, combat arms, and one of the largest military working dog (K-9)

sections in the Department of Defense. He just completed a three-year assignment at the Pentagon as the nuclear security policy analyst for the Air Force deputy chief of staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, 2nd Oak Leaf Cluster, for his service to the headquarters. He has been in the Air Force since 1993.

Scott Filipiak '94 had an interactive show in Salt Lake City in January 2016 specializing in barcode artwork.



Yen Quach '94 was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in April 2016. During her career at U-High from 1991-94, Yen scored 1,778

points and averaged 17.1 points over 104 games, dished out 499 assists, grabbed 599 rebounds, shooting 47.4 percent from the field and 62.2 percent from the free throw line. She became the first female to compete in the state finals in four sports: volleyball, basketball, softball, and track. Yen was a first-team all-state pick and MVP of the IBCA All-Star Game. She later played on NCAA Tournament teams at Louisiana Tech and Southwest Missouri State.

Dan Hubbard '01 released a self-titled, self-authored album in April 2016. He is on tour this year.



One of the most prolific players to compete at Stanford, **Ogonna Nnamani Silva '01** was a four-time All-American and First Team All-Pac-10 selection, leading Stanford to NCAA titles in 2001 and 2004. As a senior, she was named the NCAA Championship Most Outstanding Player, the ESPN CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year, the AVCA National co-Player of the Year, the recipient of the NCAA Top VIII Award and the Honda-Broderick Cup for 2004-05 given to the best college female athlete in the nation. An outside hitter, Nnamani Silva holds the NCAA record for kills and solo blocks,

recorded a school-record 2,450 career kills, and is first in sets played (498). She represented the United States in the Olympic Games in 2004 and 2008, earning a silver medal in the latter. After graduating with a degree in human biology, Nnamani Silva played overseas in Puerto Rico, Switzerland, Turkey, Italy, and the Czech Republic. She helped lead two professional teams to national league championships in 2007 (Swiss Volleyball League) and 2010 (Czech Extraliga), and led her team to a second-place finish in 2006 (Puerto Rico LVSF), and made two appearances in the European Champions' League Final Four in 2007 and 2008. Nnamani Silva was the 2000 Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year. She is currently a clinical research assistant at the Cancer Center at Stanford. She recently began her studies at UCSF Medical School.

Tyler Shoemaker '03 is a veteran of Indiana sprint car racing and found himself racing in the "Chili Bowl" at the Tulsa Expo Center, among a record 336 competitors from 34 states and five countries. All were vying for the replica of the Golden Driller, the trophy that's awarded to the winner of the nearly week-long event, held in January.



Andrew McDowell '05 was named head boys basketball coach at U-High in April 2016. He graduated from U-High in 2005. While at U-High, McDowell

played under legendary U-High Coach Cal Hubbard. McDowell went on to receive his bachelor of science in business teacher education from Illinois State University in 2013. He was the varsity coach at Lexington High School from 2010-2013 and had a three-year record of 50-40. He then came to U-High to be the freshmen basketball coach for the past three years. He is excited to coach at U-High because of the tradition of our basketball program and the special place that U-High has in his heart.

Alumni through the decades (continued)



Lance Cpl. Duncan A. Harris '12, a Marine with Company C, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, Marine Forces

Reserve, poses for a photo at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, April 6, 2016. Harris rescued a drowning victim on July 28, 2015 during a weekend vacation with his family at Emerald Isle, North Carolina.



Keita Bates-Diop '14, is giving back to the global community. Keita, along with 11 other student-athletes, traveled to Jamaica in May as a community service

project to distribute shoes to those in need. Over 850 pairs of shoes were distributed. Keita is a junior at Ohio State, majoring in economics, and is a starting member of the basketball team. Thanks to the U-High community and the boys basketball program for their shoe donations for Keita to take on his trip.

Trey Watts '14, spent last summer interning with the Jet Propulsion Lab at Cal Tech for NASA working on planetary exploration. Trey, a junior at M.I.T., also participated in the Experimental Sounding Rocket Association Intercollegiate Rocket Engineering Competition, an international competition in Green River, Utah, where they built a rocket that can travel into space.

In the halls of U-High

The *Washington-Post* recently released its most up-to-date national rankings of **America's most challenging high schools**. U-High made the list and is currently ranked at **No. 1,583 nationally and No. 53 in Illinois**—the highest ranked school in downstate Illinois. The rankings are based on the number of students who take advanced-placement tests divided by the number of graduates. The rankings included other statistics for each school as well.

Graduation was held in May in Braden Auditorium for our seniors and their families. These **students were offered over \$13,000,000 in scholarships** to continue their educations at colleges and universities around the country. The hard work and accomplishments of these graduates are evidence of the academic excellence here at U-High.

Twelve U-High students were chosen for the **Illinois Music Educators' Association District 3 Jazz Ensembles**. These students travelled to Olivet Nazarene University, rehearsed with their respective ensembles, and performed in an afternoon concert. Jazz band members included: Stephanie Chow, Alex Keene, Seba Nassar, Rosa Rolon, and Matt Stamets. Jazz choir members included: Jonathan Boudreaux, Thea Cornwell, Jeff Kapraun, Caroline McKinzie, Lianna Pfister, Ryann Piker, and Samara Ribbens.

U-High had a number of students selected for the **Illinois Music Educators' Association District 3 Concert Ensembles** in November. After a day-long festival, these students performed at Braden Auditorium. Band members included: Cole Bateman, Jonathan Boudreaux, Anastasia Ervin, Kristin Koe, Nathan Matheis, Jenny Park, Rosa Rolon, Christina Su, and Seba Nassar. Chorus members included: Thea Cornwell, Nick Dunne, Grace Henderson, Drew Johnson, Ellie Landes, Andrea Martinez, Catie Mussey, Lianna Pfister, Logan Piker, Samara Ribbens, Emily Rodriguez, Stephanie Soukup, and Catherine Winger. Orchestra members included: Jessica Huber, Sarah Park, Ethan Schlenker, Matthew Suh, and Ava Trevarthan.

This year's **Mr. U-High** was a huge success! The event filled Stroud to capacity as 17 seniors competed for the crown. At the end of the night, the judges awarded the honor of Mr. U-High to Brendan Wall. The event raised over **\$6,000**.

Senior Matt Napolitano was named to the **soccer all-state team**. He was the only Pantagraph-area player selected by the Illinois High School Coaches Association for this honor. Teammates Calum Smith and Michael Juarez were selected for all-sectional honors. Matt was later named Pantagraph Intercity Soccer Player of the Year! He contributed 37 goals and 21 assists to the Pioneers season in which they reached No. 3 in state rankings.

The **National Council of Teachers of English's Program to Recognize Excellence** in Student Literary Magazines awarded University High School's publication, *Brome and Beyond*, the highest award it bestows for the 2015 edition entitled "Night Owls." The Creative Writing Club's sponsor is Cassie Graham, and the student editors of this edition were Erin Thompson, Sydney Ritsema, Marissa Thompson, Olivia Jocson, LeeAnn Broderick, Alena Culbertson, Sam Shaffer, Antonia Cash, Ryn Walling, Caity Ruud, and Isabel Dawson.

U-High had all-state vocalists and instrumentalists this year. Singers who placed in the **Honors Choir at All-State** were: Thea Cornwall, Grace Henderson, and Andrea Martinez. Selected to participate in the all-state choir was Logan Piker. All instrumentalists, while selected to go to all-state based upon district auditions, had to re-audition at the festival. Winning seventh chair in the honor's orchestra was Ethan Schlenker on cello. On viola, 16th chair in honor's orchestra went to Jessica Huber. In the honor's band, Christina Su won 22nd chair in the honor's band, and Cole Bateman won a spot in the all-state festival band on saxophone. In the area of musical composition, Stephanie Chow placed third for her composition "Bleaker Streets" in the commercial/popular music category.

U-High was very successful at the **IHSA State Speech Tournament**. Senior Christina Su placed sixth in prose reading and is this year's state champion in informative speaking. The speech and debate teams enjoyed more success at the District National Qualifier Tournament at Normal West. The speech and debate teams advanced 12 speakers to the national tournament—a new school record! National qualifiers included Josh Henderson, Matt Stamets, Henry Wissmiller, and Travis Baird in

public forum debate, Austin Spaulding in congressional debate, Cree Harris in dramatic interpretation, Logan Piker and Emily Rodriguez in duo interpretation, Patrick Deneen in international extemporaneous speaking, Christina Su and Jacob Mattia in informative speaking, and CeCe Hill in program of oral interpretation.

University High School came home with several honors at this year's **National Speech and Debate Tournament** in Salt Lake City, Utah. **Patrick Deneen** finished in 2nd place in the extemporaneous commentary event out of more than 400 student competitors. **Christina Su** finished 10th in informative speaking. **Jacob Mattia** and **Cece Hill** advanced to the top 60 in their individual events. As if these impressive results weren't enough, U-High was named a speech School of Honor at the event and is listed among the top 40 schools in the country out of 1,150 teams represented at nationals.

The annual Bloomington-Normal **Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO)** Competition was held at U-High.

This event is the youth initiative of the NAACP. The purpose is to encourage academic and cultural excellence among African-American youth. U-High was proud to congratulate U-High students Jordyn Blythe, Boston Cooper III, and Rhea Gibson on their recognitions at this event. Jordyn was selected as a gold medal winner in dramatics and oratory and a bronze medal winner in music instrumental classical (piano). Boston was selected as a gold medal winner in entrepreneurship. Rhea was selected as a gold medal winner in poetry-performance and drawing and a bronze medal winner in poetry. As gold

medal winners, all three students attended the 38th National NAACP ACT-SO Competition held in Cincinnati in July.

U-High junior Jordyn Blythe recently competed in the national NAACP ACT-SO Competition in Cincinnati. The competition attracted 600 students from around the nation. Jordyn was awarded a gold medal in dramatics for her monologue performance. Congratulations Jordyn!

The U-High Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) team won the team state championship at the **WYSE competition** in April! Individuals who placed were: biology—Advika Kamatar and Jacob Mattia (tied for 4th place); chemistry—Jacob Mattia (5th place) and Perry Lim (6th place); computer science—John Diffor (1st place) and Alok Kamatar (3rd place); English—Alena Culbertson (2nd place) and Patrick Deneen (6th place); math—Alena Culbertson (2nd place), Alok Kamatar and Kristin Koe (tied for 6th place); and physics—John Diffor (1st place).

Jacob Mattia and Mary Claire Lartz were crowned this year's king and queen of the 2016 Prom Court. Other members of the court included John Diffor, Brett Drake, Matt Napolitano, John O'Connell, Jon Rink, Jillian Campbell, Cassie Holmes, Madigan Landess, Mia Riddell, and Christina Su.

Senior Perry Lim was selected as the winner of the 2016 State Farm Holiday Classic Scholarship. His selection was based on recognition of his scholastic record, athletic achievements, school and community involvement, along with leadership skills.

Junior Charlie Cutting was named to the Scholastic Bowl Class AA all-sectional Team. This is the first time in over a

decade that a U-High student has been selected for the all-sectional team.

Six of our graduating seniors have been selected by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation to receive a **State Farm Companies Foundation Scholarship award**. These students are among 100 recipients selected from 1,150 applications. These awards reflect the outstanding achievements of these students—Hannah Boyd, John Diffor, Andrea Martinez, Jacob Mattia, Kylie Personette, and Jon Rink.

STATE your Passion. STATE your Pride.

Please share news about yourself, your family who attended U-High, or a classmate so that it can be published in the next issue of The Pioneer. This publication relies on the efforts of all alums to alert the editing staff of newsworthy tidbits. Please send information and photos to uHighAlumni@IllinoisState.edu or mail to University High School Alumni Association, Campus Box 7100, Normal, IL 61790-7100.

Address Updates

We need your help updating addresses. Please send Pioneer address updates to uhighalumni@IllinoisState.edu or use the mailing address and telephone listed on the upper left hand of page 2 in this newsletter.

Our goal is that every Pioneer gets their free copy of *The Pioneer* newsletter in their mailbox. But try as we might, there are many alumni who do not have a current address listed in our database. Ideally, we like to have a mailing address, an email address, and a telephone number listed for each alum in our database.

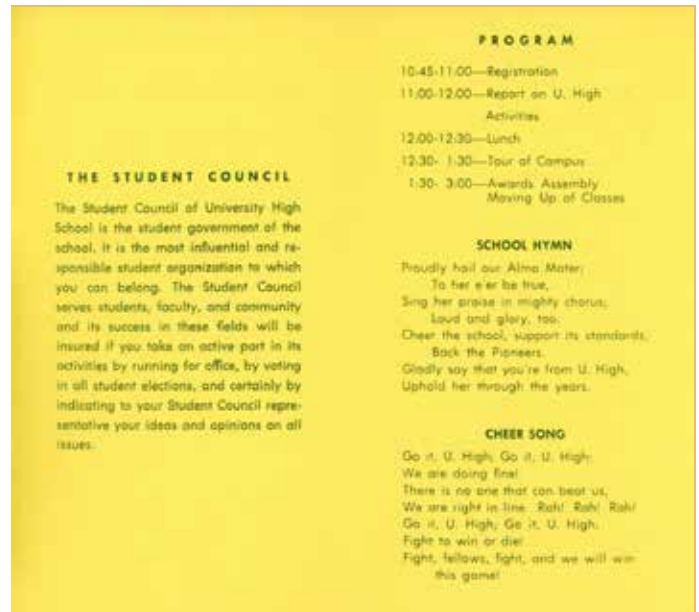
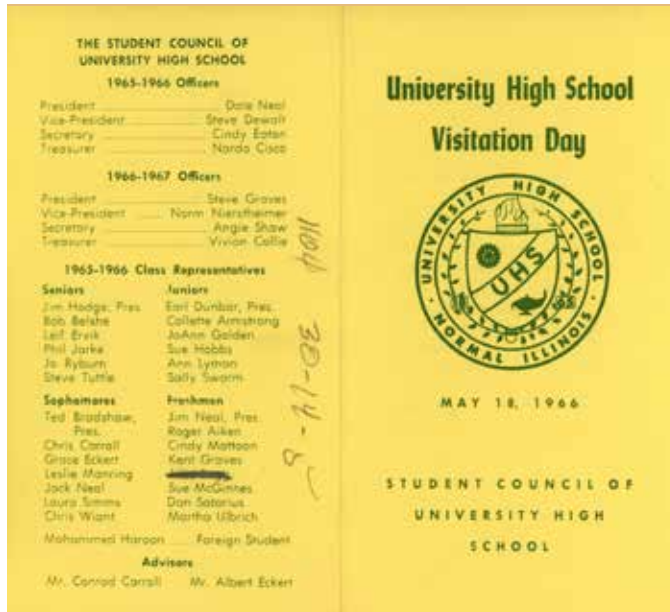
Our database is used for newsletter mailings and to contact classmates who are planning a reunion. We understand and respect the sensitivity of such information.

So please help us by sending your own address or addresses of fellow Pioneers. Parents, please update your children's current addresses. Remember, UHS has been at the same address for over 50 years while most of you have not!

Class Night

By Ryan Scritchlow '01

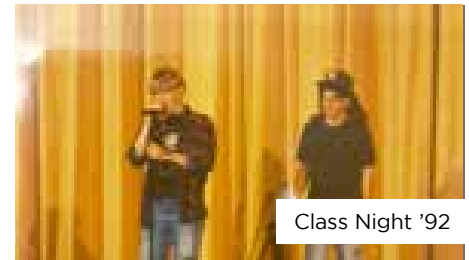
Class Night is a long-standing U-High tradition that began in 1911. As one would expect, Class Night has evolved over the past 105 years. From its original more somber experience, it progressed to become a live “action” event, and today Class Night is pre-recorded utilizing current technology—more evolutions are likely in the future. However, across the decades, two key aspects of the evening have endured: the passing of the Lamp of Knowledge and the “moving up” of classes. The passing of the Lamp from the seniors to the juniors first occurred in 1912. The Lamp of Knowledge was incorporated in the school crest in 1929 based on a school-wide vote that year—likely based on Class Night experiences!



Most U-High alumni know there isn't another school in the nation where an entire class works together to develop a Class Night program, pretty much the entire evening, as a fun way to honor teachers and fellow students. Yes, there is liability in giving students “free reign”—hence today's shift to pre-recording to allow review and editing! Yet across the years, Class Night has done exactly what it was designed to do: it bonds us all together for the very first time as alumni. It also provides us with memories that we will never forget. From start to finish, Class Night was a rite of passage that took years to reach. While some aspects have changed over the years, the underlying themes remain the same, and the Lamp of Knowledge still burns as brightly today as it did over 100 years ago. As incoming freshmen, we all walked into U-High Stroud Auditorium wide eyed, not knowing what exactly to expect. We were partly terrified—and partly invigorated—with no real understanding of what the evening involved or meant but were excited just to be there. (That is, unless you had older siblings who informed you about the horrors that awaited you as you were

to be paraded in front of the entire school! At that point you were more terrified than excited—but isn't that what older siblings are for?) As incoming freshmen, we didn't get any of the jokes, but since the older kids were laughing, we laughed, too. We spent the majority of the evening looking around at new classmates, and we missed a lot of what was going on because we were trying desperately to look as confident as possible while being totally scared. It was a very stressful walk to your new seats, but by the end of the evening we were officially in high school! This was the very first time we ever did anything as a class at U-High. Of course, that point is lost on an incoming freshman. But now as an alum, we can look back and appreciate that Class Night was the first time we met many of our friends. At the end of the evening we were just excited not to be in junior high anymore, to be officially a Pioneer, and we looked up on stage at the outgoing seniors with great envy. Man did they have it made—heading off into the real world. A year later as incoming sophomores, we were incredibly happy we were no longer freshmen! We had made friends to

sit beside and hang out with. We had now been Pioneers for a year and were getting to know all of our fellow classmates. While sitting there in Stroud, our class was more a group of groups instead of one group. We thought we knew what the evening was about, understood some of the jokes, and mostly felt happy to not be a lowly freshman anymore! Most of us were relieved if we didn't get made fun of, but laughed even if we did. At the end of the evening we looked at the seniors leaving, and we actually knew some of them as they headed out into the real world. But if we are honest, we would say we were mainly happy to not be freshmen anymore. As incoming juniors, we began to gain a larger understanding of Class Night and its real purpose. We had gained a better understanding of what it meant to be a Pioneer. Chances are we got most of the jokes and were probably the butt of a couple. We laughed a lot and were shocked that someone actually said that on stage in the presence of adults and teachers. As juniors we knew which teachers were revered and which ones were not. But a good chunk of the evening was spent trying to figure out



what we were doing afterwards. By the end of the evening, we were upperclassmen, no longer peons. We made it! The seniors on stage looked so happy.

Finally, the Class Night arrived when we got to be the incoming seniors—we had officially made it! Everyone knows seniors are kings of the school! It took us three long years, but looking back—oh how the time flew! This Class Night was an evening we looked forward to all year as it marked the start of our final year at U-High. We now understood all of the inside jokes: you know, the ones the teachers and admins don't get ... or at least we thought they didn't. We were still made fun of and the butt of a few jokes, but we didn't care since "those guys" were leaving and were old news. We know all our classmates pretty well and have bonded as a class. We proudly took our new seats in Stroud and accepted the Lamp of Knowledge with a burning desire to lead the way into a bright senior year, all the while secretly wishing we were on stage with the seniors about to leave.

Then we arrived: we became the outgoing seniors. It was finally our turn. We were done with school and heading out to the real world—so what could the teachers really do? We knew it was payback time for all of the jokes. We decided our class would have the best Class Night ever. It's our final night. As typical seniors, just as much planning went into what we would do afterwards as went into the evening. We worked for months on the wills and skits trying to see what we could get past the

ever watchful eye of the teacher in charge of trying to herd an entire class into doing the right thing. What we didn't realize at the time is that the same teachers who were watching and shaping us had also spent the previous four years teaching us the Pioneer way. While the teachers gave us just enough rope to hang ourselves, they somehow knew we wouldn't. Whether it was careful placement of students or just through their watchful eye, it all worked. We may have dangled a bit, but they were there to make sure we made it through. And at the end of the evening we proudly passed on the Lamp of Knowledge that we so carefully cared for the past year, and we vacated our seats for the very last time. We were so ready to embark out into the real world that we didn't realize: it was over. It was the last time we gathered on the stage as an entire class. Only in that last Class Night moment as a Pioneer did we finally realize we now wished we were the incoming freshmen—for they were just beginning.

Robin Gould '69

Class Night in 1969—the theme of our skit was "Alice in Pioneerland," a spoof on "Alice in Wonderland," warning underclassmen and incoming freshmen about the hazards of eating food from the vending machines, smoking in the boys room, what really happened in the faculty lounge, and the dangers of P.E. Every senior was asked to participate in the skits, and our Class Night was held in Capen Auditorium. As the moving up of

classes occurred, each class felt the significance of their "new" section. After passing on the lamp of knowledge, we were now on the outside looking in, and a dance for all five classes was held on the university Quad.

I continue to believe Class Night was one of the best experiences at UHS. As an incoming freshman, I thought it was awesome!

My friendships from U-High

I continue to have good friends from high school, and some of these friends attended Metcalf with me. I contend that these friends know all about me and my family, and they love me anyway! My friends and I make efforts to attend life events and travel together to celebrate milestone birthdays! Additionally I have also made some "new" old friends from our class, by working on and attending the reunions for our class. Starting at 10 years we have held a reunion every five years!

Being a Pioneer

For me being a Pioneer meant carrying on the family tradition of both of my parents. I am a second-generation Pioneer, along with my sisters and eight cousins! Since then our family has had two more generations of Pioneers. I met my husband at U-High, and one of my daughters met her husband at U-High. I bleed green and gold! Go U!

Class Night (continued)

Nola Gannaway '72

U-High was a wonderful experience for me. I couldn't wait to be a UHS freshman. I had studied my older brother's UHS yearbooks and knew of the many Pioneer traditions. The Class Night event was much anticipated. The senior skit was fun, even though I likely didn't really "get" any of the jokes as an incoming freshman. :) The Moving Up of Classes and the Passing of the Lamp of Knowledge was taken very seriously! Then we went out into the Quad for my first high school dance on a beautiful starry night. Two years later at the Class Night dance, a handsome young man asked me to dance. I said yes, and we have been dancing together ever since. Yes, I married my high school sweetheart.

To me, U-High means traditions (serious academics, athletic events, music, drama, speech, other activities, AND acceptance of students no matter what activities they choose to participate in).

U-High means alums who encourage their children and grandchildren to become Pioneers.

PROUDLY SAY THAT YOU'RE FROM U-HIGH, SUPPORT HER THROUGH THE YEARS!

Bruce Naffziger '73

What was U-High like for you? Having attended grade school at Metcalf, I found UHS to be an extension of an environment that helped us grow in so many ways. Our first focus was education—it was the foundation that framed the rest of my life, positioning me well for college and eventually my career in systems at State Farm; life is about continuous learning. The second focus was athletics. Athletics give you a mindset that influences every aspect of your life: hard work and perseverance produce personal satisfaction and teach you to constantly strive to do better. While I was not a great athlete in grade school, I did have significant success in high school and earned a full scholarship for football at ISU. Lastly, the third focus was interpersonal relationships. At UHS I met people from many other schools. We had differing backgrounds, ethnicities, and abilities, but we learned to relate, cooperate, and learn together. UHS provided great preparation for the rest of life.

What defines U-High for you? UHS is unique; it is one of a kind. You were allowed (and encouraged) to excel as far as you were willing to work. There were minimums that

you had to achieve, but how much beyond that you wanted to go was all up to you.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? A Pioneer is not just a mascot, it is a concept. I view a Pioneer as someone who forged into the unknown world, gave it their all, and developed this country into the greatest nation this world has ever seen. Pioneer exemplifies freedom, prosperity, hard work, kindness, and giving to others.

Did your friendships continue after U-High? Yes. We visit my best friend regularly. We see classmates around town and keep in touch on social media.

What memories do you have from Class Night? Class Nights have changed a great deal since I graduated in 1973. To me it represented a summary of our high school experiences—both the good and the bad. It highlighted friendships (both good and bad), great and not-so great teachers, and our experiences growing up. It also helped to dampen bad behavior—you didn't want to end up being mentioned at Class Night in a bad way. Wills, skits, and the passing of the Lamp of Knowledge were very meaningful. The moving up of classes was the highlight of the event—it was great when you were finally seated in the senior section! We have attended many Class Nights since we graduated. We hold many great memories from each of them.

Debbie Davis Clement '78

What was U-High like for you? I was thrilled to be able to attend U-High so I could pursue my interest in music. Little did I know of all the opportunities and doors that would be opened for me. Previously I had attended a private school with a weak music program. Being able to work with instructors at U-High who understood me and were patient with me was priceless. I also received valuable instruction that gave me a strong foundation for future success in life. I have wonderful memories of playing lead and supporting roles in many plays. Stroud Auditorium was my second home as we spent so much time there. Many wonderful friendships were formed, and time was spent in Stroud while we prepared for shows, concerts, and competitions.

What defines U-High for you? This is an interesting question. I was attending U-High when a decision was made to close down all the lab schools. I still remember the day the administrators gathered us in Stroud to share that news. It was a shock

and a sad time for all Pioneers. But, we are Pioneers and don't take decisions like that lying down! So, we "circled the wagons" and worked out plans to fight the decision. Thankfully, the decision was reversed based on student and parent feedback/activities. As a result, U-High was funded and allowed to stay open.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? Pioneers came from many different nations, religions, races, and walks of life. But, they all had similar things in common. They wanted to open new trails, build a better life for themselves, their families, and those that followed. Isn't that what U-High Pioneers and our heritage are all about?

Did your friendships continue after U-High? I have several close relationships that did continue after high school. However, life happens and as the years passed I lost contact with many of my U-High buddies.

Then, something fantastic happened ... Facebook! I have several friends here in the Bloomington-Normal area. We try to get together for lunches and have encouraged out-of-town Facebook friends to let us know when they are in the area so we can gather for happy hour or lunch. We put together quick Facebook event invitations and welcome any and all that can come.

What was Class Night like for you? I remember my first Class Night which was amazing! I felt very welcomed and was so excited to be a Pioneer. I also remember the tradition of moving from one area of Stroud Auditorium to another. I was so excited to take my place as a freshman. I also remember my senior Class Night. I think we may have been the first class to have it after it had been banned. Obviously, we had a lot of "rules" we had to follow but our class was up for it. There were a few tears shed that night with the realization that one part of life was ending and another was just beginning. And what a wonderful life it is, in part, based on my experience at U-High.

Diane Black '79

What was U-High like for me? U-High was a training ground for college and life. Open campus is an incredible teaching tool. It was the first taste of freedom. The fact that the teachers would place such a trust in the students instilled a feeling of confidence and gratitude. It was an opportunity to become more responsible and reap the privileges that come from handling that freedom well, or the consequences from abusing it. It was a school with teachers like Mr. Parmantie who inspired and encouraged. It was an atmosphere that fostered discussion and ideas.

What defines U-High for me? It is a school that recognizes that it takes students from all walks of life to make each and every one of us better citizens. It is a school that promotes diversity of thought, talents, and skills.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? For me, a Pioneer is someone who guides and leads the way. It is about leading the way, not only in academics and sports, but in accepting a variety of students who possess varying degrees of talents and varied interests. It is about developing excellence of character. It is the courage to think outside the "world's" definition of success and to define it in a much broader and more inclusive sense. It is about how we handle success and, more importantly, how we handle the trials and burdens of life that make us true Pioneers.

Did your friendships continue after U-High? Yes. I have found that the friendships developed at U-High remain strong. The bond of being part of the U-High family remains.

What memories do you have from Class Night? I remember the inexpressible joy I felt of being able to share Class Night and the moving up of classes with my sister and friends.

What was Class Night like for you? It was a time to look back at the year and laugh at ourselves, as well as recall the fun and sad times. It was a time to look forward with great expectation.

Nick Slahor '89

What was U-High like for you? Looking back now, it was very much like a family. Some teachers were parents, some were aunts and uncles, and others were like cousins. Our classmates were our brothers and sisters. Just like at home, sometimes dysfunctional and always loving, you had to learn how to get along with ALL of your family. It was a great life lesson.

What defines U-High for you? It was foundational. The school provided me with the basic tools to take on the next steps and phases in my life. The teachers, staff, and coaches were outstanding!

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? The application process to the school was a big deal for me. At that young age to formally fill out the application, wait weeks for an answer, and then to receive the letter that I was accepted stuck with me for life.

Did your friendships continue after U-high? Some did and some didn't.

What was Class Night like for you? It was the conclusion of a journey that began four years earlier. It was a GREAT time with friends, sharing experiences, and acting like a fool! It was a relief and the excitement of finishing something, it was the fear and uncertainty of what comes next, and it meant growing up.

Jenny Li Fowler '92

What was U-High like for you? I loved and still love U-High. My family moved to Central Illinois when I was in sixth grade, and it wasn't until I attended U-High that I felt a sense of belonging in Bloomington-Normal. My life in Central Illinois really began at U-High. It's a very special place for me.

What defines U-High for you? I know U-high is a preparatory school, and it's made to feel collegiate, but I loved the intellectual atmosphere of the school and how it really held the students accountable.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? I believe Pioneers are driven, thoughtful, and purposeful.

Did your friendships continue after U-High? Absolutely! Some of my closest friends to this day were people I met at U-High. (Love you Kara Donaldson and Erin Spoor Rogers!)

What memories do you have from Class Night? I remember Eric Brown dressed as Mr. Cooper. I remember Bob Fitzgerald rocking out vocals for the band. I remember John Handy and Neal Hubbard dressed in black acting as "security" for the band. I remember Reagan Carter hopping across the stage for the "Come on Eileen" skit. I remember a controversy over the senior song. Funny thing is, I have no recollection of my own roles at Class Night. Ha!

What was Class Night like for you? You know, the details are a bit of a blur now, but what remains strong are the emotions from the evening. I remember feeling so proud of my classmates; in awe of the

people we were all becoming; happy to be graduating; excited about going to college; sad to be leaving U-High; just a wave of strong emotions.

Bob Fitzgerald '92

Jim Valvano once said, "If you laugh, think and cry, that's a heck of a day." At every Class Night I have been to—and it's close to 20 now—I have laughed, thought, and cried. It is truly a special event, and we are blessed to have it as part of our tradition.

I have only fond memories of Class Night my senior year—singing with friends, watching the Lamp of Knowledge get passed down, moving to the stage for the last time, and watching the incoming freshmen awkwardly take their seats for the first time. It was the perfect capstone moment to our four years at U-High. And I can think of no better way to end the high school experience than Class Night.

Though times have changed, and live skits have given way to video submissions, what makes Class Night special has always stayed the same. It is, has been, and always will be about the bond forged between U-High Pioneers. It is the end of an era for some, and the beginning for others. It is one of those things unique to our school that makes us extraordinary.

Larry Pontius '92

What was U-High like for you? Terrific. Horrific. Great. Ugly. All of the highs and lows you have as a teenager as you are trying to figure out who you are and who you might want to be. I formed great friendships, had silly moments, and had sad moments. All in all though, I think I came out a better person.

What defines U-High for you? Maybe it still exists, maybe it doesn't, but what I loved about U-High was the ability to set your own course. You chose your classes, and you chose what you wanted to do. There was a freedom, which of course, came with a responsibility. It set us up well for college.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? For me: charting your own path.

Did your friendships continue after U-high? Absolutely. We have all stumbled toward adulthood together. Sometimes it'll be a long time inbetween hearing from them, but when there's a meetup, the old connections are still there.

What was Class Night like for you? A nice wrap up of four years. It was ours, you know? But, it didn't feel like an ending.

Class Night (continued)

Amy Graham Jennings '92

What was U-High like for you? Attending U-High was an unforgettable privilege that provided me with supportive educators, lasting friendships, treasured memories, and individualized career guidance.

What defines U-High for you?

Quality, well-rounded, education. Also, U-High's smaller classes and diverse student body welcomed an intimate atmosphere, which was helpful in forming connections with other U-High families.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer?

Quite simply, someone who guides others in fulfilling their full potential.

Did your friendships continue after U-High? Yes. In fact, for nearly 26 years, five of us meet annually, traditionally at Christmastime.

What memories do you have from Class Night? I recall the moving up of the classes ceremony, along with the student skits.

What was Class Night like for you? Class Night was a unique opportunity to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and contemplate the future. It was a joyous event produced by U-High students that solidified friendships, families, and memories.

Tom Feely '93

What was U-High like for you? My time at U-High was a truly enjoyable experience from an academic, activity, and relationship perspective. It provided me with an avenue to meet new classmates that would become lifelong friends, learn about a wide variety of subjects and classes, participate in many different school activities and sports, and experience and learn from some of the best educators and coaches.

What defines U-High for you? To me, U-High is defined by the word opportunity. As a student who transferred in midway through my freshman year, it could have been a difficult transition for me. However, what I found at U-High was a welcoming and encouraging set of teachers, students, and administration. They truly cared to give you the opportunity to succeed, as both a student of the school and as a person in life and took the time to help you out along the way.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? Being a Pioneer to me means taking the lead as an individual to do what's right and understanding that anything is possible if you put in the hard work and effort. I am very appreciative of the U-High staff that taught me this throughout my years at the

school as I still use this approach in my daily life.

Did your friendships continue after U-high? I gained a lot of friendships from my time at U-High that continue to this day. Still living in Bloomington-Normal, I am able to interact with a number of these friends on a daily basis in both my personal and work life. I would have to say the best friend that I made from U-High is my wife, Laura (Sullivan) Feely, whom I met my junior year at U-High.

What memories do you have from Class Night and what was Class Night like for you? Class Night was a great tradition at U-High that I will always remember. It was a time to be creative and reflect on some of the wonderful and funny things that happened during your years at the school. The passing of the torch to the next class made you realize how meaningful your time at U-High was.

Kurt O'Connor '94

What was U-High like for you? It was a great experience. The open campus freedom and size of the classes, caliber of students, teachers, and coaches were outstanding.

What defines U-High for you? I believe the preparation for college and the relationships I was able to build with the students, teachers, and coaches, given the size of the school and the intimate nature where everyone knew each other, was a great experience and something that differentiated U-High from other schools.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? Knowing and respecting the other students, teachers, and coaches. Also understanding the expectation that the experience is intended to prepare you for college life and provides an atmosphere that would be similar to college.

Did your friendships continue after U-high? Yes I still have several friendships that began at U-High.

What memories do you have from Class Night? The fun atmosphere of being a spectator as a younger student (especially walking in as an eight grader) and maybe being made fun of in a friendly way by the senior class. I also remember that pulling the fun event together as a senior and presenting in front of the large crowd was a really amazing experience.

Jordan Martens '01

What was U-High like for you? U-High was an incredibly fun, rewarding, and foundational time for me. Each day was a new chance to meet or work with someone different, experience something new, and learn something you didn't know before. I owe so much of my development and maturity to the classmates, teachers, and coaches I interacted with at U-High on a daily basis.

What defines U-High for you? An amazing amount of opportunity in front of you. Whether it be a wide variety of classes, the freedom to set your own schedule and go out on open lunches and learning to not to abuse that privilege, the incredible array of extracurricular activities and sports to participate in if you want, etc., there was always something new to experience. Coming from a grade school with the same friends/classmates for a number of years, U-high was an opportunity to meet a large group of new classmates, friends, teachers, and coaches that offered different perspectives and teaching/coaching skills.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? I think helping you to find your path in life and taking advantage of it. In a time when everyone is really growing up physically and mentally at different times, U-High helps you to develop your skills/knowledge, interests, social skills, etc. that set you up for long-term success. I don't know that everyone leaves U-High knowing exactly what they want to do career-wise (I know I didn't well into college), but the foundational skills for life inside and outside of the classroom were there for me because of U-High.

Did your friendships continue after U-High? Yes—like anyone else, I have some friends I talk to or hang out with more than others after high school, but those friendships I formed at U-High will last a lifetime ... at least I hope and intend to make that the case :)

What memories do you have from Class Night? It depends—as an eight grader coming into high school or being a senior? Obviously a BIG difference. Being an eight grader, I remember dreading “the walk” past the upperclassmen (both guys and girls). I also remember loving the jokes/skits despite not really knowing anyone involved. This night was a culmination of all of your four years together for one last time. Even after all the fun, the best part was the passing of the torch and

respecting what the night was all about and seeing it as both a beginning of a journey for some and the end of a chapter in life for others.

Jacob Bobbitt, '05

What defines U-High for you? U-High was a great experience for me and a very good fit. The diversity of the student body was great. The teachers were always available. This type of atmosphere is what I became accustomed to and led me to Augustana College. U-High prepared me for college through the quality of the education and professionalism of the faculty. U-High treated the students as adults, and I can say that this put me a step ahead of some of my peers when I began college.

Did your friendships continue after U-high, and if yes, what do they mean to you? Several of my friendships have continued, and I still actively stay in contact with around five to 10 fellow alumni. However, any time that I'm in Bloomington-Normal (or anywhere else), and I bump into other alumni, we begin talking as if not a day has gone by.

What memories do you have from Class Night and what was it like for you? Class Night was always a great night. When I began at U-High, I may not have understood any of the jokes or skits, but as time went on and each class ahead of me "moved up," I came to appreciate the night a lot more. The skits/jokes (and the ability to laugh with one another) helped form the bonds of the U-High community. I may not remember any of the specific skits from each year, but I do remember the "moving up of classes," which welcomed the next incoming class of freshmen, while at the same time said goodbye to the senior class.

Duncan Terry '16

Duncan will be a freshman in the fall of 2016 at the University of Wyoming, studying Mechanical Engineering National Army, and is an ROTC scholarship recipient.

What defines U-High for you? U-High is a place like no other. It's a place where no matter your race, gender, etc. you gather with peers to be something most people will never be: a Pioneer.

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? To be a Pioneer is to walk the halls of past and future Pioneers with a sense of pride; to be one of the greatest students in the world. I'm proud to be a Pioneer, just like my mom and uncle. My brother will graduate next year, and perhaps one day my siblings will be Pioneers too. Pioneers are active and productive members of society who work to better not only their own lives, but those around them.

Did your friendships continue after U-high? I know some friends will still be around for a long time. Some I probably will never see again, but I know all will be very successful.

What memories do you have from Class Night? I enjoyed every video, as well as hugging all the friends, teachers, and coaches who shaped my high school years. I played the part of the U-High Pioneer in one of the videos. I'm happy my classmates wanted me to do that.

What was Class Night like for you? It was a fun, emotional experience I will never forget. The moving up of the classes is an important tradition.

Need U-High memorabilia

Please consider donating your memorabilia to U-High to help preserve some of our history. Memorabilia may include prom tickets, student IDs, yearbooks, photos, parking tickets or placards, event programs, letterman U's or letter jackets, cheer pins and banners, class syllabuses, and just about anything you may have saved to remember your days at U-High. If you can include names, dates, or history of the items, it would be greatly appreciated but certainly not required with the contributions. Recently we received a number of items from a 1960 graduate, including a Pioneer Diary, pictures, programs, Illinois History books, a U-High letter, and even dance cards with a list of who she would be dancing with throughout the evening. Please feel free to drop off donations to the U-High office or library. The Illinois State University archivist will document and store submitted items.

Clarion Yearbooks needed

To donate or purchase yearbooks (\$10), please contact the UHS Alumni Association at uhighalumni@IllinoisState.edu or call (309) 438-8546. Donations can also be left at the school library.

Facebook

Currently we have 2,000-plus members in our Facebook group "We Are One: U-High Pioneers." This is an open group, and all may join and post notifications of interest to fellow Pioneers.

Alumni Award nominations needed

The Alumni Awards committee needs your help to nominate fellow classmates to be considered for the alumni awards. Please forward names to the UHighAlumni@IllinoisState.edu or contact the awards committee chair. While a brief description of why the alum is being nominated would be appreciated, it is not necessary to make the nomination.

All nominees for Distinguished Alumni and Pioneer Hall of Fame will be contacted to accept the nomination and will submit a detailed autobiography to aid the awards committee in the selection process. All completed nomination forms will be retained and re-evaluated each year. Selection is completed in the spring and the awards presentation is held in the fall at Homecoming. Nominees are encouraged to update their information periodically.

Candidates for Distinguished Alumni must be U-High graduates while candidates for Pioneer Hall of Fame and Alumni Service must have attended U-High. Friends of U-High may include individuals, groups, or businesses that have provided exceptional service or gifts to UHS.

A listing of past recipients can be found at the U-High website at UHigh.IllinoisState.edu/Blogs/Alumni.

Hayden renovation

To all you Pioneers who were once Thomas Metcalf Wildcats:

Thomas Metcalf School's Hayden Auditorium is undergoing a renovation. The 60-year-old auditorium will receive a facelift including all new seating, lighting, painting, and carpeting at an estimated cost of \$150,000. By making a gift of \$300, you can underwrite a seat for Hayden. Donations of \$500 or more will be known as the L. J. Thomley Level of Giving. This is to honor Jane Thomley who was Metcalf's drama teacher and allied arts director for over 30 years. With your gift in support of Hayden Auditorium, all donors underwriting seats and donating to the L.J. Thomley fund will have their names proudly displayed on a beautiful plaque at the entrance to Hayden Auditorium. Generations to come will benefit from your generous contributions. If you'd like to make a contribution, please make checks payable to Illinois State University Foundation and mail to: Pat Miles, Illinois State University, Campus Box 7000, Normal, IL 61790.

Visit: Metcalf.IllinoisState.edu and click on the "Gift a Seat" story in the "News and Highlights" section and follow the "Give Now" icon to make a gift online.



IN REMEMBRANCE

Marjorie Eileen Feek Brady '36
died 3/3/16

Francis E. Brown '48
died 12/23/15

Thomas Issac Bryson '64
died 3/20/16

Jeanette Thomas Cleary '58
died 2/20/16

Nancy Lee Sizemore Dittmar '53
died 1/3/16

Jeffrey L. Erdman '74
died 1/27/16

Lendsy Gaiter '51
died 2/10/16

Joseph Deane Hinshaw '73
died 5/29/16

Florence M. Houghton '43
died 2/2/16

William R. Mette Jr '47
died 5/9/16

LouBelle Ann Rupp Nafziger '39
died 3/13/16

Anthony Parker '80
died 10/19/09

Janet Irene Ritchie '54
died 6/28/16

Rebecca Jane Kraft Scholl '61
died 1/7/16

David E. Shelley '72
died 1/27/16

Donald R. Thompson '59
died 5/10/16

Ryan Michael Trudo '94
died 12/20/15

Marilyn A. Hoyt Turner '49
died 12/13/15

Darcie L. Vliet '68
died 12/16/15

Joyce Barbara Soyez Washburn '53
died 4/3/16

Esta Ann Baker Wessels '59
died 1/6/16

Joan Fleming Tanner Winter '47
died 5/27/16

Robert Fitzgerald receives Fulbright Award



Robert Fitzgerald U-High '92, ISU B.A. '97, ISU M.S. '04, ISU Ph.D. '13 has been offered a Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching grant to United Kingdom by the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Fitzgerald is one of only 45 U.S. citizens who will travel abroad through the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program in 2016-2017. The program operates in over 160 countries worldwide. Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential. The Fulbright Program is an international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

Since 1946, under legislation introduced by the late U.S. Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has given approximately 360,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, and scientists the opportunity to study, teach, and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. A total of 53 Fulbright alumni from 12 countries have been awarded the Nobel Prize, and 85 alumni have received Pulitzer Prizes.

Fitzgerald will be going to the United Kingdom for spring 2017. Most likely he will be at the University College London Institute of Education, where he will take classes and work with U.K. teachers on making their and the U.S. history curricula more inclusive to reflect the diverse and multicultural populations.



U-High Alumni Association Awards nomination form

Distinguished Alum • Pioneer Hall of Fame • Alumni Service • Friend of U-High

NOMINEE'S NAME

GRADUATION YEAR (OR YEARS ATTENDED)

PERSON MAKING THIS NOMINATION

()
PHONE

EMAIL

All nominees will be contacted to **accept the nomination** and to send a detailed autobiography to aid the awards committee in the selection process. All completed nomination forms will be retained and re-evaluated each year. Selection of recipients is completed in the spring and the awards presentation is held in the fall at Homecoming. Nominees are encouraged to update their information periodically.

A composite list of past recipients and award definitions is available at www.uhigh.ilstu.edu/blogs/alumni.

RETURN ALL NOMINATIONS TO
Attention: Awards Chairperson
University High School Alumni Association
Campus Box 7100
Normal, IL 61790-7100

Or email to
UHighAlumni@IllinoisState.edu





ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
Illinois' first public university

University High School
 Campus Box 7100
 Normal, IL 61790-7100

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 Uphold her through the years!**



NAME _____ MAIDEN NAME (IF DIFFERENT) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

U-HIGH GRADUATION YEAR _____ () _____
 PHONE _____

() _____
 FAX _____ EMAIL _____

Special giving opportunities for alumni and friends

The University Laboratory Schools, U-High and Metcalf, are grateful to alumni and friends of the schools who make donations to support and enhance the educational experiences for our students. All gifts are welcome. Please use this form if you would like to make a gift at this time. Several priorities are listed. If you prefer, please specify your own amount.

\$1,000 ___ \$500 ___ \$300 ___ \$100 ___ Amount of your choice _____

If you would like to speak to someone about making a gift, an estate gift, or funding priorities, please contact Wilma Bates, Associate Director of Development for the Lab Schools at (309)438-4304. Please send your donations to Illinois State University Foundations, Campus Box 8000, Normal, IL 61790-8000

Please designate my gift to

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- U-High Stroud Auditorium—7105936
- Lab Schools Performing Arts Endowment—7105267
- U-High Athletics and Recreation—7105267
- Faculty Enhancement Endowment—7105435
- Lab Schools Student Life/Wellness—7105267
- U-High Facility Updates and Renovations—7105928
- Metcalf Building Updates and Renovations—7105430
- Other _____
- U-High Science Laboratories—7105931
- Lab Schools Classroom Technology—7105930