

Summer 2024



BLUEprint



Class of 2024 • Bridge Building • Academic & Athletic Successes • Creative Expressions • Community



From Head of School

Jerry Bates



We closed out another amazing school year at Riverfield and this issue of the *BLUEprint* highlights the learning and accomplishments of our student body. The 2023-24 year was the first year with full utilization of the Center for Creativity. Thanks to the unwavering support of our RCDS community, this addition to the campus saw students explore their creativity and inquiry in expansive ways—fully supporting Studio Art, Riverfield Rocks, Riverfield Film Lab, and the Riverfield Theatre Company. Our growing eSports program had a new headquarters and the Dowart Family Art Patio, Brown Family Makerspace, and practice rooms were put to good use by all ages across campus.

Our athletes and visiting teams benefited from the expanded Clark Gymnasium, fully equipped with a workout room, showers and locker rooms, and beautiful blue bleachers to accompany a great basketball court.

This was also the first full year of our faculty and students living out the new mission of Riverfield; Ignite adventure, inspire inquiry, and build excellence to empower students to change their world. Our teachers leaned into our newly articulated core values, commitment, strategy, and approach to learning from our youngest minds to our graduating seniors.

Throughout these pages, you'll find examples of ingenuity in the multi-faceted creation of pinball machines to explore disturbances and biomes, bridge building that goes beyond planks of wood and cement, and explorations of nature found on campus through the eyes of our K/1st classrooms. This, in addition to many stories of our students expressing ways to care for our planet, animals, and fellow humans, along with the successes of our incredible athletes.

I want to thank all of our parent and family volunteers who helped support our teachers, student programs, and our school. Tremendous family involvement is part of the “Riverfield Way” and that support is evident in our students’ successes and Riverfield experience.

As we open the 2024-25 school year, we will kick off a year full of celebrations to honor the 40th anniversary of Riverfield Country Day School. You are invited to celebrate with us at several signature events: old, new, and returning! It's been a great 40 years to be a Raven!

**Ignite adventure, inspire inquiry, and build excellence
to empower students to change their world.**

Accredited by:

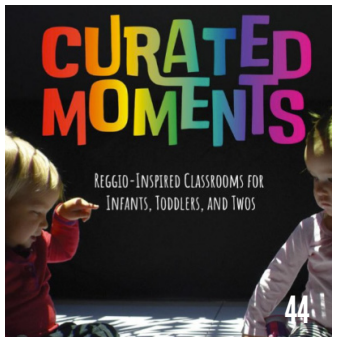




BLUEprint

celebrating the dreams, designs, plans, and projects of Riverfield students

SUMMER 2024



Annual Report
of Giving 50



On the Cover:

10th grade Design Doing class rebuilds a walking bridge on campus.

Congratulations

CLASS OF 2024

The members of the class of 2024 are tireless and enthusiastic supporters of each others' work. Whether at an athletic event, an art opening, or a band performance, they show up and cheer for each other. Poet Jeffrey Fry says, "the formula for success is two percent talent, eight percent luck, and ninety percent showing up every day." If this is true, then we can look for great success from the class of 2024! Please congratulate them on all of their accomplishments and join me in encouraging them as they move forward!

—Dr. Michael Berglund
Upper School Division Head



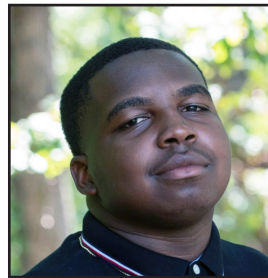
Addy Angel
Oklahoma State University



Jake Bell
University of Kansas



Jaydon Beuchat
*Oklahoma State University
Institute of Technology*



Kolby Brent
*Xavier University of
Louisiana*



Braeden Clinton
Oklahoma State University



Emma England
University of Tulsa



Abby Feken-Cole
*George Washington
University*



Maddox Ford
Oklahoma State University



Brogan Hale
University of Kansas



Johnson Hale
University of Oklahoma



Drew Holleyman
University of Tulsa



Charlotte Hooper
University of Texas-Arlington



Jenelle Jacobs
University of Kansas

LIFER



Josh Layne
*Northeastern State
University*



Macey Musick
University of Oklahoma

LIFER



Emi O'Dell
Tulsa Community College



Os Pano
University of Tulsa



Kennedy Patterson
University of Oklahoma



Sophie Phillips
Tulsa Tech



Trey Pope
University of Tulsa



Cameron Rutterford
University of Oklahoma



Maureen Sellers
Oklahoma State University



Alex Silman
Drury University



Sky Vincent
Belmont University



Gigi Williamson
Hampton University



Culminating Events



Upper School Commencement

On Friday, May 17, Riverfield's 2024 graduates strutted across the stage to receive their diplomas after **Dr. Michael Berglund** made their dreams come true with his graduation speech. The 25 Seniors challenged him to use ten words, one of them being "slay." Dr. Berglund did not disappoint, finding a multitude of ways to uplift the class with the encouraging words to, *Slay Every Day*.

The seniors chose **Trey Pope** to address the class as the student speaker. Reflecting back on his time at Riverfield, he shared his epiphany of realizing he would not be the man he is today had he not walked through the front doors as a Riverfield student in 2011. "Excellence is built not of the achievements of a single individual, but a collective story on how one got there," Pope continued. Utilizing his skills as a now, four-time National Qualifier in Speech and Debate, he used the examples of a factory and the design process to showcase the difference Riverfield has in producing well-rounded, critical-thinkers and creative collaborators. "What each of our teachers brings is something unique to their design. The design: us, the students. Each student has learned something special from each one of these teachers, making it possible for us to change our world." Pope shared a heartfelt statement about each and every one of his classmates before he closed, sharing the beauty of differences and diversity.

Toby Clark was honored to be asked by the Class of 2024 to be the faculty speaker. As a daily competitor of Wordle, Quordle, Connections, and the *NY Times* Mini Crossword, Mr. Clark leaned into the word play and offered each graduate five words that encapsulated their spirits and personalities. Collecting these words from his professional peers and experiences, he only had one rule: no repeats. Each student's five words were their own. To close, Mr. Clark shared, "My simple parting advice to you is: be you. Continue to expand on all of your natural talents and assets. And remember you always have all of us to support you, and cheer for you, and love you. Thank you for letting me share this moment with you and congratulations to the Class of 2024!"

Senior Awards

B. Thomas Clark Athletics Award

Braeden Clinton
Kennedy Patterson
Maureen Sellers

Tim O'Halloran Outstanding Citizenship Award

Abby Feken-Cole

Philipp Richter Exemplary Student Award

Charlotte Hooper

Martha S. Clark Head of School Award

Kolby Brent

Book Awards:

Arts: Maddox Ford;

English: Charlotte Hooper &
Abby Feken-Cole;

German: Jenelle Jacobs;

History: Trey Pope;

Math: Maddox Ford, Abby
Feken-Cole, Kennedy Patterson,
Josh Layne, & Jaydon Beuchat;

Science: Jaydon Beuchat;

Spanish: Charlotte Hooper &
Trey Pope;

Technology & Innovation:
Emma England



8th Grade Awards

Blue Raven Athletic Awards

Zoe Jackson
Rafe Ridenour

Citizenship Awards

Ben Fallis
Harry Phariss

Leadership Award

Sophia Diaz

Academic Excellence Award

Avery Beuchat

Raven 360 Award

Senna Miller

8th Grade Closing Exercises

On May 16, the 2023-24 8th grade class continued one of Riverfield's longest-standing and memorable traditions: 8th Grade Closing Exercises. In addition to the touching speeches from faculty as they deliver student awards, what makes this tradition so special is that each student shares a short speech of their own: personal reflections on their individual experiences, "in the Middle" [School]. This year's student speeches brought tears from proud parents and teachers, snickers from fellow 8th graders, and a whole lot of joyous laughter from the crowd. "Here's the thing about 8th grade," said **Sophia David**, "I learned many things, like how to perform, how to play guitar and piano, and how to use my drawings for projects or assignments. But the greatest thing I've learned is how to love myself."

5th Grade Bridge Crossing

Graduating 5th graders embark each spring on a cherished rite of passage: Bridge Crossing. Waiting in anticipation, when their name is called, students walk past their cheering classmates, hugging their parents and teachers before they step onto the bridge to the Middle School. As they cross, Head of School **Jerry Bates** offers a handshake, fistbump, or hug. On the other side, 6th and 7th grade students welcome them with loud hollers and hugs as their younger friends join them. This year, applause wasn't the only thing roaring. Booming thunder sped up the ceremony, with rising 6th graders racing across the bridge to beat the oncoming storm! All was well with the tree canopy protecting the crowd as the last student made their way across. They went on to the Middle School to be sorted into their Houses, the multi-aged community they will be in throughout Middle School.



Center for Creativity



On Visiting Day, November 17, 2023, students showcased their works and learning with families throughout the campus. From Rock Band rehearsals to an encore performance of *Orphan Train*, to family sculptures, making pickles, exploring big questions through pinball machines and re-enactments of historical events, Visiting Day lifted up our mission to ignite adventure, inspire inquiry, and build excellence to empower students to change their world. We ended Visiting Day with an official ribbon cutting for the Center for Creativity with Blue Raven choirs performing for families, teachers, and staff.

Our 2023-24 classes were the first to utilize the Center for Creativity classrooms and creative spaces. Riverfield Rocks, Middle and Upper School Studio Arts, Riverfield Film Lab, eSports, and Riverfield Theatre Co. flourished in their new spaces. Students of all ages collaborated and created their Design Doing projects using the Brown Family Makerspace,

including an all-school painting session to create the centerpieces for Riverfield Family Association's Sapphire Celebration.

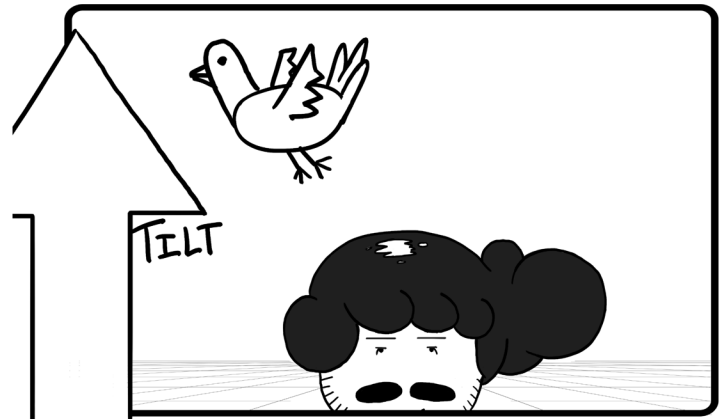
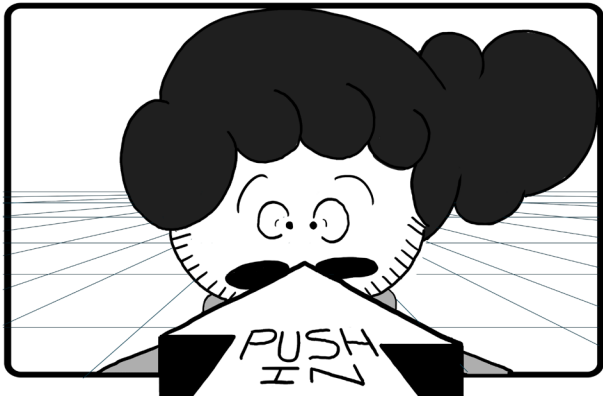
In the spring, auction winners from the 2023 Sapphire Celebration were wined and dined on the Center for Creativity Art Deck and art studio with an Italian-themed dinner catered by Mr. DeWeese and culinary arts students. eSports took on its second year and film students flourished using professional film gear. Near the end of the school year, the open-air art studio was transformed into a celebratory space to honor Director of Giving **Patti Grice** as she embarks on semi-retirement.

The Center for Creativity is fulfilling its purpose as a hub for all RCDS arts programs and creative projects. Special thanks to all of our iNSPiRED Campaign supporters for helping to build this elevated space for our students and faculty.

Riverfield Film Lab

Riverfield Film Lab was reborn in the new Center for Creativity space. Loaded with editing bays and film equipment, Middle and Upper School students created, scripted, storyboarded, filmed, acted, and edited short films and music videos under the direction of teacher and alumni **Jake Redmond**. With the help of Mr. Redmond's alter-ego, Mr. Sketchmond, students learned the ins and outs of filmmaking. On Sunday, May 12, student films graced the big screen at Circle Cinema. They also held special screenings at the 2024 ISAS Arts Festival in Austin, Texas. Check out student films on our YouTube channel by scanning the code below.

"The space and equipment have been great to bring the quality of the projects up. But more importantly than the equipment has been the freedom for students to make what they want and actually bring their ideas to life. The dedication of these students to put in the hard work that comes with making a film has been so affirming as a teacher," Mr. Redmond said. "Making movies is hard, arduous work, and I feel students are seeing that, but they are also seeing where all that hard work leads. My favorite thing is seeing students hype each other's projects up and getting motivated to do better by seeing others' work!"



Scan to watch student films & subscribe to our YouTube channel



Junior Internships



Reese Covey at Tulsa Dermatology Clinic



Alumni Abby Gore with Jackson Baker & Holden Williams



Jackson McGillen at KKT Architects

During junior year, students take on week-long internships, giving them valuable insight to their potential career paths. “We choose January intentionally because our juniors are beginning the college research process and likely have a career interest that may impact their college choice,” said **Daniel Hodges**, Dean of Student Activities. “Students take ownership in the process of finding internships in their fields and we are so grateful to receive such great support from the RCDS community in hosting our students.”

This year, students put in the work with the following: Justice Link Tulsa with Judge (and alumni mom) Michelle Keely; Fabricut; Horse and Sensory Therapy at Northwoods Fine Arts Academy; Oxley Nature Center; Tulsa Dermatology Clinic; Frore Systems in San Jose, CA; Rhodes Hieronymus; Mullican and Hart Litigators; KKT Architects; Occupational Therapy at St. John Rehabilitation Hospital; and Tulsa Riverside Airport. Families, if your business or employer can help provide internships in the future, please email dhodges@riverfield.org.

Tales of the Upside Down Forest

As the children of the 2s Deer class embarked on their investigations, teachers noticed a spark of curiosity and desire to share their discoveries with friends in Rabbit and Squirrel classes. Recognizing this opportunity for collaboration, the teachers designed engaging provocations to foster working together as they created the interactive, life-size, board game, *Tales of the Upside Down Forest*.

Through these collaborative moments, the children shared and exchanged ideas to build upon each class’s investigations and relaunch their projects in new ways. Deer class students started with creating a story for the game with their characters being monsters. All students in the classes collaborated on the rules of the game and helped each other in constructing trees out of branches and dyed felt. Through sketches and drawings of characters, they brought the board game to life using a Glowforge to make a carousel, bridges, and ramps. “Everyone did a great job sharing their ideas and working together,” said Deer class teacher **Taner McKee**.



YANA & the Kindness Crew

YANA (You Are Not Alone) is a student-led group that focuses on kindness and inclusion in our community. The group was started by **Samantha Holsopple** when she was in the 5th grade in 2022. She is now in Middle School. “The first year YANA had five members; last year there were eight members; this year YANA had 25 members,” said Lower School Counselor and YANA organizer **Kim Harper**. “We met in committee groups weekly for a working lunch and it was a lot of fun and friendships were built.”

YANA projects this year included designing and sharing stickers with positive messages on Visiting Day, creating Valentine’s cards and hiding them around the Lower School to spread some extra love on Valentine’s Day, and writing, directing, and filming the video, *Kindness Crew*, to screen at our final Round-Up. Thank you YANA members for helping keep our community kind and inclusive!



Scan to watch
Kindness Crew



ART GALLERY



Phillip, Sky Class



Julia, Sky Class



Dani, Sky Class



Kaleidoscope of Color

The children of the Butterfly Class were fascinated with the concept of light: how to capture and move it, reflections, and color. Teachers curated microenvironments with projections, lights, and augmented reality, creating spaces to manipulate shadows and light and try to capture illusive projections. They asked, “In how many ways can light, color, and lines become friends?” This was the spark of what became a living, interactive kaleidoscope. As they explored their curiosities of space, scale, perspective, lines, shape and colors, they created strategies to bring colors, movement, design, and creative expression to life.

They created a digital work with neon colors streaking through a dark background that was printed on a large scale. Exploring possible materials beyond digital prints, glue, and wood, a sewing machine was introduced to the classroom. With every press of the needle and delicate stitch, the children meticulously put triangular pieces

of fabrics together to form a circle. They played with their fabric kaleidoscope in natural light, as the sun danced within the clouds, creating different shadows and movement. Indoors, they placed the kaleidoscope on a lightbox table, then, with the turn of a dial, the children manipulated the glowing light illuminating from their fabric, transforming it into a mesmerizing kaleidoscope of ever changing colors.

The children wondered if they could create an entire space into a kaleidoscope. Through collaboration with other classes, the playground became a kaleidoscope in nature. With vinyl and gel squares prepared and the playground beckoning, the students ventured forth to find the perfect spot for their creation to catch the sunlight. Together they carefully hung each piece, infusing the playground with a symphony of colors.



Riverfield Theatre Co.



For the students of Riverfield Theatre Company, the 2023-24 school year, was a year of firsts: their first year under the direction of **Marta Reiman**, their first year to utilize practice and tech spaces in the new Center for Creativity, their first year to fill the Smolen Family Black Box Theatre with scenery, music, hundreds of spectators, laughter, tears, and applause.

The season opened in early November with a production of *Orphan Train* by Aurand Harris. Set in New York City and the Midwest in 1914, *Orphan Train* and our young actors told the story of homeless immigrant children who were sent in large groups by train, from east coast cities to the American Midwest, in hopes of finding them suitable, loving homes. From lights and sound to stage management, from chorus line to center stage, students in 6th-12th grades worked cooperatively

to present this spectacular and moving debut performance in the Smolen Family Theatre and immediately began dreaming of what was next!

Theatre Director Marta Reiman brought an exciting opportunity to the table looking forward to the next fall: Broadway Licensing Global (BLG) was hosting a nationwide contest for schools to be named first in their state to present *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: High School Edition*. Communications Coordinator **Ali Fallis** created a video entry to represent the creative diversity of Riverfield Theatre Co; Mrs. Reiman submitted it to BLG, and they won!

On the heels of a successful fall production and the exciting *Harry Potter* news, our student actors were more inspired than ever to deliver an impressive spring musical. And did they ever! *Mean*



Girls: High School Version was “so fetch,” they sold out four shows, two weekends in a row. “This show has created so many conversations with students around how we want to behave at Riverfield,” Mrs. Reiman said. “The type of inclusive community we want to have, as well as the need for us to all take care of each other and our mental health. We have discussed the importance of the language we use, satire, the dangers of social media and misogyny, feminism, activism, and what healthy friendships look like.”

NJHS Giving Back and Giving Thanks



Before the Thanksgiving holiday break, Riverfield's National Junior Honor Society students, along with their friends in the 6th/7th math class, pitched in to serve a Thanksgiving meal and distribute groceries and turkeys to guests.

They joined over 340 volunteers at the annual Tulsa Dream Center Friendsgiving event. This massive community effort provided over 1,200 turkeys and fresh and shelf stable produce so others could have a full holiday feast.

Upper School Sharing the Love

Each year, Upper School students plan and execute service projects to support organizations that work to make Tulsa more safe, equitable, and inclusive for all. This school year, students volunteered at Global Gardens, Animal Aid of Tulsa, Catholic Charities, Iron Gate, Goodwill, Emergency Infant Services, Tulsa Animal Welfare, and Tulsa Dream Center.

The Iron Gate service learning group collaborated with National Honor Society students to collect candy to create Valentine's Day bags with sweet notes and treats. On Valentine's Day, students went to Iron Gate



to serve the meal, perform live music, and give their treats to Iron Gate guests in celebration of the holiday.

The Betsy Project has Record Year



Over the holidays, The Betsy Project, led by **Ivy Graham**, created and sold pet baskets, raising \$1,100 for a dog in the care of Animal Aid of Tulsa. Thanks to the fundraising efforts, the dog was treated, put on weight and became healthy enough for adoption. The students named her Raven! In the spring, The Betsy Project expanded the annual Dog Wash to include a 5K Dog Dash and Dawdle, kissing booth, and adoptable dogs from Tulsa Animal Welfare and Animal Aid of Tulsa. They raised \$500 for spay and neuter vouchers for those in need.

From Celle, Germany, to Tulsa, Oklahoma



In November 2023, Riverfield's German language program partnered with Tulsa Sister Cities, offering a life-changing, 12-day experience for 20 German students from Celle, Germany, and RCDS host families, along with chaperones, Annika Schwekendiek and Maren Schrock. RCDS and German students got to know each other with a trip to the Gathering Place, where they scoured the park on a virtual scavenger hunt. Each host family planned places to go and activities with their guests to experience Tulsa during their stay. The groups came together to eat delicious food at Mother Road Market and have a blast at Main Event.

RCDS is grateful to the host families who helped make this experience possible. "I have always wanted our family to participate in an exchange program, ever since we traveled together to Spain with the Spanish class in 2023," said

parent **Molly Jarvis**. "Our German guest Emil fit in with our family, activities, and interests perfectly."

RCDS students had some unexpected surprises hosting teens from another country. **Mary Renner**, 9th grade, realized there were a lot of things that are taken for granted as an American. "The German students were excited to have things like air conditioning in the houses, or free refills at restaurants, and stuff that I just never really thought about until they came over," Mary said. **Sierra O'Malley** soaked in the whole experience, sharing, "The best part of hosting an exchange student was getting to know the people and getting to go to fun places I don't go to that often. This was an amazing experience, I feel like I have another sister and I hope we stay close."

Sky Vincent's parents found the experience to be a great

opportunity for their senior. "Watching my own teenager take ownership of the hosting experience was amazing. Sky felt responsible for Laura and happily participated in activities with her," parent **Rachel Blue** said. "She genuinely enjoyed having another teen around."

The landscape of Riverfield and Tulsa was something that surprised the German students. Laura Heise said coming here took some getting used to, "The sheer size of everything! The streets, houses, even the cars are big." Hanna Post enjoyed listening to music in the car as they went place to place, "Everything is so far away from each other." Jonathan Homagk looked back on his visit to Tulsa with a heart full of gratitude, "It was wonderful. How well your school organized this exchange and how amazing we were treated."

Thanks to our German Teachers who organized this visit, **Herr Chris Day**, **Frau Angie Novak**, and **Herr Tanner Sturgeon**. They are building a global community and that is a beautiful thing.



Riverfield Rocks

Riverfield Rocks 2023-24 boasted 16 bands: four 4th/5th grade, six Middle School, and six Upper School bands. Rehearsing and recording in the new band rooms in the Center for Creativity, these performers honed their skills on their respective instruments to get ready for a full year of epic performances.

“Being in the Center for Creativity has been a phenomenal leap forward for our program,” said Director of Riverfield Rocks **Paul Knight**. “It’s been a dream years in the the making to help these students reach their full potential.”

Cafe Night, hosted by Rock Band seniors, was held in the Upper School cafeteria on December 16. Student musicians wooed the crowd with their musical talents, showcasing original music and solo work.

In February, from the Cain’s Ballroom stage, bands performed their hearts out to an enthusiastic crowd of concert goers. Even two of the founding members of Talking Heads came out to enjoy the show! “Riverfield Rocks!” Tina Weymouth said. Bandmate Chris Frantz was equally impressed. “It was a splendid and exciting performance. I’m so glad we made the trip from New York all the way to Tulsa for this.” Band member of Twenty Minute Madness, **Scarlett Nowicki** took

in the scene from behind the drums. “When I first started in Riverfield Rocks, I was really scared. But, once you’re up on that stage, whoa! It’s awesome.”

Llamapalooza did not disappoint, despite Oklahoma’s weather moving the show from Saturday to Sunday, April 28. The crowd showed up to ROCK, giving our rock bands a great audience as they finished out the year with incredible performances. Senior **Sophie Phillips** and sophomore **Cohen Bachle**, with their band Lego Boi, surprised the crowd with a raging version of “Sabotage” by Beastie Boys.

Congratulations to all of our performers! These productions would not be possible without the parent volunteers, commitment of students, and the teachers who set the stage for musical success!

RIVER FIELD ROCKS



Photo credit: Kevin Nowicki

The Story of Middle School



In the spring semester, 6th and 7th grade students took an interest in Riverfield's social media presence. Working in committees with our Communications Department, they learned about effective and engaging content creation.

Students formed groups based on what aspects of Middle School life at Riverfield they wanted to share and collaborated to create their own content for our Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube accounts.



The groups focused on Spring Trip, Legacy, Nightwatch, and other Middle School traditions. They created video reels and photo carousels, infographics, printable flyers to spread event news around campus, and more. One group created a touching YouTube short about the impact **Coach Kole Simon** has made on them as basketball players, while another worked to bring back an old Middle School tradition: the Staff v. Student basketball game! While the staff came out victorious, it was an epic hoop battle enjoyed by all and an excellent culmination of learning about effective, engaging, and exciting public communications.



Scan to watch clips from the
Staff vs. Student Basketball game



ART GALLERY



Parker Corbin, 10th



Syd Feken-Cole, 11th



Reese Covey, 10th

Riverfield Athletics

JV & Varsity Basketball



The Varsity boys basketball team had another great season finishing with a 20-7 record and a top 15 ranking. They won the District Championship, the Regional Championship, and finished the season with a tough loss in the Area Championship game.

Braeden Clinton, Kolby Brent, and Cameron Rutterford were the three seniors who ended their high school careers with an 81-21 record in four years—the most wins by a class in school history! In their four years, they reached the Area Tournament each season and qualified for State in 2022. Braeden finished his career with the most points in RCDS history (1,630) and was named All-State in basketball! “Cameron averaged double-double for the season and was a true difference maker for the team. Kolby was our leader, our toughness, our attitude, and a fan favorite,” said Athletics Director **Jason Bogle**.

Junior **Anthony Harper**, sophomores **Max Carson-Harper** and **Parker Corbin**, and freshman **Scott Thompson** were key contributors to the success of the Varsity team. “This team, along with our Junior Varsity team, practiced hard, they played hard, and they truly embraced the culture of Riverfield Basketball,” said Coach Jason Bogle.



It was a re-building year for our young Varsity girls basketball team with new coach **Baylee Wooten**. They won two of their last three games and dropped a close game in Districts. The future is bright for Ravens Basketball!

Cheering on all of our Ravens Basketball players were the RCDS Cheer squad, bringing excitement and team spirit to games and pep rallies.



Middle School Basketball

“The strength and perseverance of this team wasn’t measured in wins, it was measured in heart,” said 5/6th grade girls **Coach Tanner Sturgeon**, and his fellow Middle School coaches agree. All four Middle School basketball teams left it all on the court this year in an exciting season full of determination, dedication, and growth. “There has been an exponential increase in student interest over the past two years,” Sturgeon continued. “We had a four-win season this year, three more wins than last year.” New-to-Riverfield 7/8th grade **Coach Baylee Wooten** agreed. “They endured a rough season and didn’t give up, and that’s the point. That’s what will make them strong in the face of adversity. I am so proud of

every single girl that played for me and proud of the improvement each one of them made individually and as a team.” At the end of their first season in the newly renovated Clark Gymnasium, boys **Coach Kole Simon** agreed it was a great year to be a Raven!

Congratulations to all of our Middle School players, with special shout-outs to those who represented Riverfield in the Conference All-Star games: **Emelyn Beuchat, Sadie Fisher, and Ahni Neel** (5/6th girls); **Jameson Bayer, Duncan Galbraith, and Nate Metcalf** (5/6th boys); **Sophia Diaz and Maya Vaughan** (7/8th girls); and **Hudson Bogle, Ben Fallis, and David Roberts** (7/8th boys).



Drumline & Homecoming

Homecoming was extra special this year thanks to the return of RCDS Drumline.

The drumline played stationary, building up team spirit as they supported Raven athletes. The Homecoming Court, pictured right, was made up of **Braedon Clinton** and **Nicya Moore**; **Cameron Rutterford** and **Aila Walker**; King and Queen **Kolby Brent** and **Gigi Williamson**; and **Chase Hill** with **Lily Clark**.



Varsity Soccer

The Riverfield girls' soccer team consisted of 22 players this year! Several players were new to the sport and quickly picked up new skills as well as a love of the game. The team faced a few challenges this season as they competed against new teams in the district and dealt with injuries that affected starting players. Even through these challenges, the team rallied around each other and fought hard through district play. Several freshmen became starters for the team.

A special congratulations to the 2024 Girls Varsity team who were named the 3A Academic Achievement State Champions! The 3A All-District award went to **Emily Kiker**. **Macey Musick** was given a 3A All-State honorable mention and the 3A All-District honorable mentions were given to **Reese Covey**, **Nicya Moore**, and **Katie Smith**. Congratulations to **Kennedy Patterson** who was selected as a member of the 3A All-State Team! She represented the East Team, helping to secure the win of All-State Champions on June 8 at Fort Gibson Stadium. Coach **Erica Barnard** started

coaching Kennedy as a young player on the "Pink Jaguar" team and coached her later as a Varsity Riverfield Raven. "I am so proud of this girl. Now, she's an All-State Champion!"

Riverfield boys hosted a 3A Playoff game for the first time in RCDS history. Unfortunately, the game was lost to a strong Cascia Hall team that was 4A last year. Senior **Johnson Hale** scored a consolation goal in the defeat with just 15 seconds left on the clock! In district play, there were wins against Commerce, Claremore Sequoyah, Cleveland, Verdigris, Tulsa Central, and Inola. Junior **Anthony Harper** netted 16 times including six penalties and a dramatic extra-time winner against Cleveland. Anthony signed on as an amateur defender with FC Tulsa over the summer. Other goal

scorers were **Quinn Steenson** (4), **Johnson Hale** (3), **Cole Patterson**, **Braeden Clinton**, and **Everett Hanson** with one each.

All-District honors were awarded to **Anthony Harper**, **Logan Moren**, goal keeper **Parker Corbin**, **Cole Patterson** and **Quinn Steenson**. All-District honorable mentions went to **Josh Layne**, **Alejandro Rubio**, and **Anthony Rubio**. Coach **Dave Saunders** said, "I am so proud of every single member of my squad for all their hard work and achievements. They got better as footballers, developed their sportsmanship, and had fun."



Ravens Tennis



It is a testament to the players that both girls and boys teams play in the 5A class despite Riverfield being one of the smallest schools in OSSAA, earning 8th (girls) and 7th (boys) place team results at the OSSAA 5A State Tournament.

The girls were led by Seniors **Kennedy Patterson** and **Maureen Sellers** along with 2023 State Singles Champion **Lily Clark** (10th). The team included **Reese Covey** (11th), **Nicya Moore** (9th), **Katie Smith** (10th), **Cyra Walker** (9th), and **Rylyn Williams** (9th). The season ended with Maureen and Lily teamed up to play No. 1 Doubles, Kennedy and Katie played No. 2 Doubles, and freshmen Nicya Moore and Cyra Walker played the Singles positions. **Reese Covey** was playing the No. 1 Singles position when her season ended with a devastating injury.

The Doubles teams and Nicya at No. 2 Singles qualified for state. Nicya earned a victory to make it to the second day at State. Kennedy and Katie were an unseeded team, but upset the No. 8 seed

in the first round en route to an 8th place finish earning the team points for RCDS. Lily and Maureen were the No. 2 seed going into state having lost two straight set matches to Holland Hall prior to the state tournament. Maureen, named All-State, ended her school tennis career on the podium for the fourth consecutive year, a first for an RCDS tennis player. She competed in the All-State games July 23 at the University of Tulsa.

The boys team joined the 5A class and had six seniors, **Jake Bell**, **Jaydon Beuchat**, **Johnson Hale**, **Josh Layne**, **Trey Pope**, and **Cameron Rutterford**. All positions qualified for state with **Johnson Hale** and **Trey Pope** at No. 1 and No. 2 Singles, **Jake Bell/Quinn Steenson** (10th) and **Ethan Chesher** (10th)/**Cole Patterson** (10th) playing No. 1 and No. 2 Doubles. "This is the first time RCDS has had three All-State players in one year," said Coach **Toby Clark**. *Tulsa World* featured Riverfield's accomplishments in the article, *Jenks, Riverfield dominate East All-State tennis selections*.

Jake and Quinn were state champions in 2023 at 4A No. 2 Doubles, and they showed their merit finishing 6th at 5A No. 1 Doubles. Johnson Hale and Jake Bell were named All-State.

Ravens Junior High team (grades 7-9) coached by **Jen Clouse** was lean in numbers but performed well all season. The girls team included **Quinn Clouse**, **Sophia Diaz**, **Zoe Jackson**, **Maya O'Malley**, and **Maya Vaughn**. The boys team included **Wynn Dorwart**, **Alex Gund**, **Adam Hasty**, **Benett Moren**, and **Harry Pharriss**. The future is bright with many players joining next year's varsity team.



Cross Country



Cross Country started the year strong with early-morning runs throughout the campus and trails. “I am so proud of the work that this team has put in this season. It was a season of growth for all of us. It has been an absolute joy to watch the athletes

develop as individuals but also as a team,” said Cross Country **Coach Jen Clouse**. This year, Riverfield Cross Country focused on techniques of racing as individuals and as a team. The Upper School boys team ran 5Ks and the girls team competed in two-mile and 5K races. The Middle School teams ran one and two mile races throughout the season.

Cross Country set out with a goal to make it to State this season and the Upper School boys team qualified and were awarded 2A Academic All-State Champions! Senior **Reese Covey** qualified for State as an individual runner and ran a personal record best time. The Upper School girls team lacked one runner to qualify but everyone ran their fastest time of the season. Senior runner **Josh Layne** said, “I really can’t believe it’s all over. This is the start of something amazing at RCDS and I can’t wait to see what happens in the future.”



BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERSHIP OPEN NOW - SEPTEMBER 20!

Ravens Booster Club Members are our BIGGEST FANS. They volunteer their time at admissions gates and concession stands, support fundraisers and events, and their financial support through a once-yearly membership fee is **absolutely essential** to the success of our athletic programming. JOIN NOW for the 2024-25 seasons and help us make our 40th anniversary year the BEST ONE YET for our incredible student-athletes!

2024-25 OFFICERS

President John Harper, **Vice President** Vicki Patterson,
Recording Officer John LeMaster, **Treasurer** Holly Gund, **Historian** Michael Peters

SCAN TO JOIN



Middle School Soccer

Middle School boys and girls took on the season with a lot of improvement and grit.

The girls team was limited in numbers but played great together as a team. Their first win was a knock out 7-0 with goals by **Reese Jewett** and **Estella Smolen**. **Avery Beuchat** kept the opposing team from scoring with a save in goal. **Coaches Tim Clark** and **Jessica Ball** guided the team this season.

The boys team had a great season with four wins, five losses, and one tie. With several returning players, the improvement from year to year was impressive. **Parker Belford** was the leading goal scorer. Center Back **Rafe Ridenour** was named Middle School Male Athlete of the Year. **Coach Matt DeWeese** led the boys and is looking forward to a full roster with new and returning players.



Photo credit: Julie Cavender Photography

Lower School Athletics

Forty 3rd and 4th grade players improved their basketball skills and showed school spirit when competing against area teams, earning five trophies in tournament play. The 3rd grade girls earned runners-up, and the 4th grade boys earned third place honors in the Anderson Tournament. The 3rd grade boys earned consolation champions, and the 4th grade boys and girls teams earned runners-up honors in the Pretty Water Tournament.

The inaugural season of Lower School Running Club took place this spring. Forty-five students learned the benefits of running as a healthy activity that can contribute to success in other sports. With

the help of Coach **Scott Chesher** and parent volunteer **Lauren Avery**, they learned proper stretching and running techniques while improving their pace and endurance. Running Club will return next school year.

Another addition to Lower School sports was the 4th/5th student-led initiative to form a cheer group to support their fellow athletes. Eight girls started the group on the playground and boosted school spirit every chance they got.



New Landscape on Campus



The 2023-24 school year saw major additions come to fruition on the Riverfield campus, the biggest being the opening of the Center for Creativity: a 15,000 square foot building that serves the entire school population with engaging and collaborative spaces. The construction road that passes the tennis courts was paved and transformed into a new road that will help alleviate congestion during carlines and events on campus. Although the road was not open by the end of the year, students used it to walk to some of their favorite spots; pollinator gardens, playgrounds, hiking trails, and bee boxes to name a few.

Visitors and families coming to campus may have noticed a new addition: signage to help navigate the

parking lots. **Mia Wolek** was part of the 11th grade Design Doing group that took on this project. “We wanted to help parents and families know where they are supposed to park when they come here for Visiting Day and Expo. Naming the parking lots was a good way to do that,” Mia said.

“We presented several alliterations in a survey to Middle and Upper School students and asked them to vote on their five favorites,” Mia said. “We designed signs and worked with **Chad Williams** to make them.”

Now, when you pull into campus, you’ll either park in Raven Roost, Paddywack Parking, Llama Lot, Henry Hideaway, or Alpaca Avenue!

Science and Cuddles

The Upper School genetics class used DNA samples of dogs that were up for adoption at the Sand Springs Animal Shelter to identify the various breeds. They played a friendly game of Battle of the Breeds to chart out the results of the Wisdom Panel DNA tests and helped the shelter with a campaign to have the dogs adopted. Senior **Emma England** got to know some of the pups, “Scout wants to play and definitely has that puppy energy.” Scout’s DNA was 33 percent Australian Shepherd, 24 percent Miniature American Shepherd, 12 percent Labrador Retriever, six percent Pit Bull and five percent Golden Retriever.



Riverfield Family Association



What an incredible year!

The Run for Riverfield, a fan favorite, was another success, which raised over \$111,000 and pumped students up to support our school. Funds raised purchased a bus and van. The previous year's Run for Riverfield allowed for an additional road on campus and newly paved parking lots. The new road will be opened in the 2024-25 school year. The next Run date is October 16, 2024, just as we head into Fall Break!

RFA hosted another convivial Sapphire Celebration, helping to raise just over \$223,000. And how could any of us forget Mr. Bates swinging on the silks?! March 1, 2025, will be our next celebration. Save the date!

We saw an increase in RFA involvement, both in monthly meetings, and in overall volunteership. Thanks to all of our officers and to everyone who volunteered throughout campus and at RFA events!

Riverfield friends and families went out and enjoyed many of our

Dine and Donate opportunities, the biggest hit being the Tulsa Oiler's game, which was paired with a performance of the National Anthem by the Blue Raven Singers and Legends.

Staff Appreciation Week was relished by the RCDS team, who could feel the love that was spread during the week. Each staff member got to participate in the punch prize wall, which allowed them to punch through a hole, covered by paper in a large wooden board (think giant Connect 4), and grab a gift card ranging from \$25 to \$50. Staff were also treated with a breakfast, brunch, and lunch; a soda cart; candy cart; popcorn and candy day; and, students and families wrote the sweetest (and some hilarious) personal notes to staff.

Thank you for everything you have done to support our school during the 2023-24 school year. The Riverfield Family Association is only as strong as its volunteers, and this year proved we can handle anything.

If you are interested in finding out more about RFA, please email rfa@riverfield.org to be added to the email list. We would love to have YOUR input!

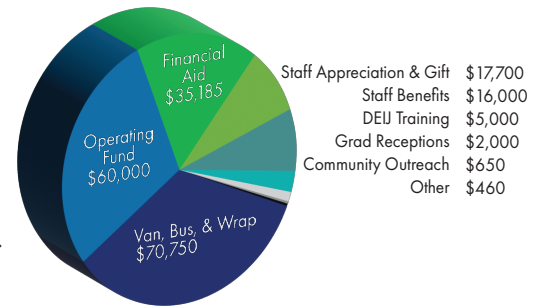
Sincerely,

Heather Ward
2023-24 RFA Board President

RFA Funds

Gross Raised: \$346,000

Total Distribution: \$207,745



2024-25 Officers:

President: Suzie Wood
 Vice-President: Somer Johnson
 Recording Officer: Bryce Murray
 Treasurer: Christie Osborne
 Fundraising Representative:
 Devon Nowicki

Save the Date



October 16, 2024





SAPPHIRE CELEBRATION

Guests of this year's Sapphire Celebration leaned into the creativity of the theme, *Art Comes to Life*. Held at River Spirit Casino and Resort, the event featured living artworks and an aerial artist who helped to raise over \$35,000 for the Martha S. Clark Scholarship fund. The night continued on the dance floor with DJ Kylie keeping the crowd moving!



Pre-School and Lower School students enjoyed running in a party-like atmosphere while Middle and Upper School students participated in the Color Run. Donations were made from all 50 states resulting in Mr. Bates getting slimed. Several other administrators and teachers were also slimed as a result of various goals and challenges being met. The \$111,000 raised supports RCDS transportation needs.



Underground Symphony



K/1st Woods Class students blew us all away with their original *Underground Symphony*, which they performed for their families in the Smolen Family Black Box Theatre! Being interested in the magical music of nature, the class wanted to bring that magic to the stage. With the help of their families and teachers, they created woodland creature costumes and choreographed moves to music they composed inspired by the sounds they hear when outdoors. The students transformed themselves into foxes, bees, turtles, bats, and bunnies while others played instruments, making a magical *Underground Symphony*! Bravo, Woods Class!



Scan to watch

Wind Chimer Machine

The Purple Class took on creating a Rube Goldberg Machine, which is a chain reaction-type machine. Inspired by nature, they decided to create a machine that would make chimes sound. With great perseverance, tenacity, and grit, they created each element of the machine, tested theories and worked through the steps of the scientific method dozens of times, embracing a lifestyle of trial and error thinking. The deep thought and hard work the children poured into the Wind Chimer Machine was evident in each iteration, test, challenge, and joyful exclamation.



Innocence Project: Real World Impact



Students on a phone call with inmate David Fleenor

The 9th grade science and history classes joined forces to study the criminal justice system. Starting with studying the history of the death penalty, they focused on how perceptions of the practice have changed over time, how little the practice itself has changed, and the potential flaws of its use, including considering whether it is constitutional under the 8th Amendment.

To investigate their questions further, students chose the case of David Fleenor, a prison inmate in Oklahoma who asserts that he was wrongly convicted. Students poured over opening statements, court testimonies, the autopsy report, and Mr. Fleenor's request for commutation.

Throughout the spring, they prepared interview questions and spoke with Mr. Fleenor multiple times, developing an intimate knowledge of the events of the case and the person behind bars. They considered how a young man might be wrongfully convicted and what that suggests about the criminal justice system in Oklahoma.

In their research, students learned about a non-profit organization called the Innocence Project which works to free the innocent, prevent wrongful convictions, and create fair, compassionate, and equitable systems of justice for everyone. They reached out to the Innocence Project with their findings of the Fleenor case.

Mary Renner hoped their research would help but wasn't sure if they would have an impact on Fleenor or the Innocence Project. "I know that because we've been studying it for so long, we've learned the ins and outs of the case and a lot about the way the legal system works," Mary said. "I think most of us are more invested in this project than we have been in others. We've kind of built a relationship with Fleenor over the past few weeks. It makes me upset that he's spent so many years in prison. It feels like there is a wrong that needs to be righted."

At the end of the Spring Expo, students who worked on the project piled into the Learning Center for one last call with Mr. Fleenor. The Innocence Project had taken on his case! Science teacher **Jessica Ball** shared with them the impact of their work, "For the record, he has said that you have changed his life. You guys caring about him has inspired him to continue to do better and be better."





Building a Legacy While Learning

Pulling into the RCDS campus, just outside the fence around the Upper School pond, rested a walking bridge that had seen better days. The 10th grade Design class, a year-long course in which students learn to work with clients in interdisciplinary ways, took on the task of rebuilding the bridge, integrating their learning with design, chemistry, history, and math.

The genesis of the project was an exploration of the connections between Roman architecture and geometry. Students quickly moved through prototyping different kinds of bridges, bringing in experts to help them understand what would and wouldn't work.

In chemistry, students explored Roman concrete recipes, making concrete blocks used for an arch. Making concrete helped students visualize how math and chemistry were used to make strong support structures that safely carry weight to the ground while being self-healing. They also used the same mathematical formulas ancient Roman architects used in design and engineering.

Three groups were formed to take on different parts of the bridge-building project: documentation, design, and building. **Deacon Martin** served as the project lead. "I've never experienced being the leader in this way, especially not in construction," said Deacon. "It's been surprising to me how fast we've built this bridge with all of us working together."

Design team students had to dig into the space and location of the bridge, ensuring it would not only be safe for those who crossed the bridge, but that it would accommodate its immediate environment. "We learned about how the design of the bridge is important in constructing it to sustain weight," said **Mubashshira Uddin**. "We also had to design the bridge to allow water to go under the bridge in a way that works for the drainage system when it rains. Our measurements had to be very specific to make it safe."

The building team worked hard to mix and pour the concrete for the footing while long planks of wood were covered in weather sealant. In keeping with the culture of RCDS, students wanted this bridge to be constructed out of materials the campus already had on hand. "It was important to utilize some of the materials we already had. We used leftover rebar from the new building and the maintenance team helped us with tools," said **Cohen Bachle**. "It also helped us save money without having to buy everything we needed."

The bridge's base was in place in time for Spring Expo and the groups continued to work on the bridge up to the last week of school. The plan is to dedicate the bridge to long-time security guard, **Willie Love**, who was on the maintenance team that constructed the original bridge. "We want to do something kind for him. Mr. Love has been here since this campus opened," **Ellerly Rettinger** said.



Deep Dive: Humanities & Tulsa's History

Every 8th grade class takes a deep dive into the intricacies and events of Tulsa's history through their studies in humanities. As a group, this year's class asked two big questions that guided their investigations; "How can humans use plurality, optimism, and choice to counter the extremes of the binary mindset?" and, "How can something be good and bad at the same time?"

They specifically focused on the Osage Reign of Terror through the study of David Grann's *Killers of the Flower Moon* and transitioned their focus to the Tulsa Race Massacre with the book, *Dreamland Burning* by Tulsa author Jennifer Latham.

With both of these historical events recently spotlighted in films, books, social media, and the call for reparations from the remaining survivors of the Tulsa Race Massacre, the students found parallels in conversations and investigations that are happening today. "They engaged with investigative reports and journalism from *The New York Times* and compared their findings with the yellow journalism and



Students listening to Greenwood expert & CEO of Oklahoma Center for Community and Justice, Phil Armstrong

reports from the Tulsa Historical Society's digital archives of autobiographies, photographs, The American Red Cross reports, business directories, and first-account interviews," said English teacher **Brandi Thomas**.

After reading *Killers of the Flower Moon*, they worked as a group as if they were a detective agency, collecting evidence on the people, places, and crimes that took place in the land of the Osage. Analyzing primary sources such as the student files at Indian boarding schools and photographs published in the *Osage Journal* allowed the students to construct their understanding of Oklahoma in the 1920s with visual representations of crime scene boards.

With clarity and conviction, students presented their argumentative essays supported by research, attention-grabbing hooks, clear thesis statements, counterarguments,

smooth transitions, and proper parenthetical references. "Through this comprehensive approach, students not only developed their analytical and writing skills but also cultivated a deeper understanding of historical events in Tulsa and their resonance in contemporary society," Mrs. Thomas said.

Through their investigations, students delved into systemic racism and challenges that people of color have faced throughout history. With the extraordinary nature of the historical Greenwood District, the neighborhood that encompassed Black Wall Street in Tulsa, students gravitated to the graphic novel, *Across the Tracks*, to build on their understanding about Greenwood before the Tulsa Race Massacre, focusing on entrepreneurship and community. They created a one-pager that focused on the successful years of Greenwood and the citizens of Black Wall Street. They ended the study of these two historical events

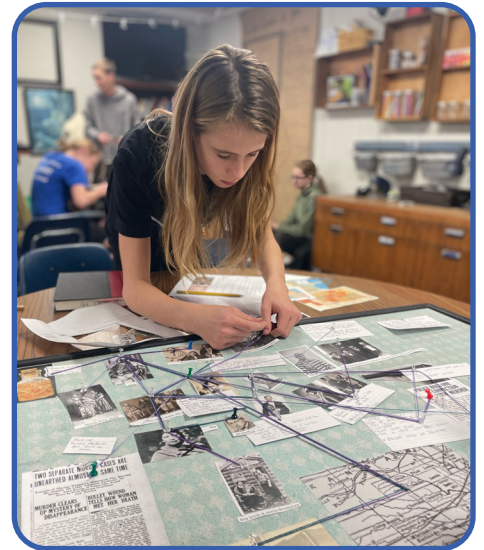


through interactive “compare and contrast” escape room experience.

With such heavy content in this course, ending the year with optimism was important. To tackle their second question, students created the Rainbow Project to explore the contradictory and uncomfortable idea that sometimes good can come from evil. The idea was to represent a rainbow that emerges from one of the traumatic events they studied this year. “I chose to do a project outside of my comfort zone this time and recorded a podcast about Jim Crow laws, racism, and resiliency,” **Logan Thompson** said. With an eye on Greenwood, **Evie Fowler** focused on the strength and beauty of Greenwood. “Greenwood’s success showed that while the Jim Crow laws were horrible and oppressive, they inadvertently helped to grow Black communities and make

them stronger. Greenwood was an amazing example of rising against the oppressor, and is a great signal of hope throughout history,” Evie said. “For my Rainbow Project, I made a necklace with different beads and charms to represent the Greenwood community and prosperity.”

The 8th grade students got out of the classroom several times for field explorations, toured Art Deco buildings found in downtown Tulsa, studied human anatomy at The University of Tulsa Biological Anthropology Lab, and walked the living history of the Greenwood Rising Museum and the Greenwood Cultural Museum.



40
RCCDS
1984-2024

Family Campout
Raven Revelry Returns!

October 4, 2024

Environmental Sustainability & LEGO

Riverfield was one of 100 U.S. schools selected to test curricula that LEGO developed with Denmark company Ramboll. The curricula introduces students to the topic of environmental sustainability and uses LEGO to create environments that protect habitats and decrease water, light, and sound pollution.

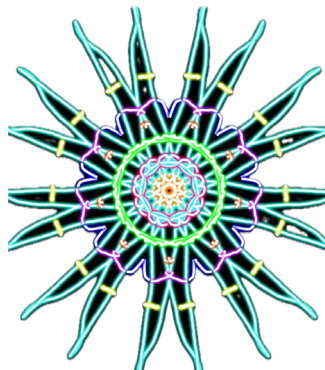
Ramboll selected Riverfield as one of two schools in the U.S. to do a site visit and get feedback from students directly. “Riverfield was a perfect fit for this research as our students are used to play-based education and design challenges,” said Middle School Science teacher Rachel Langley.



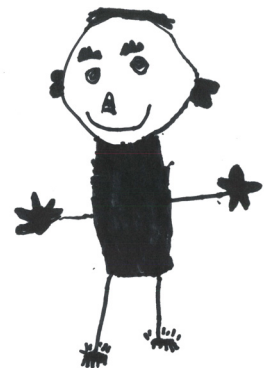
ART GALLERY



Blue Class



Butterfly Class



Purple Class

A Gift of Art, 10 Years Later



Prairie Class students took notice of a handmade art work of yarn and sticks that hung in their classroom. As they looked closer, they recognized names of some of the big kids across the bridge. Those were the names of K/1st students from 10 years ago! The current, and mighty, students took turns to carefully walk the

artwork to the Upper School where they gifted it to the students who created the artwork! The “big kids” were nostalgic as they remembered wrapping the yarn and connecting the sticks together. This beautiful heirloom of years past is now on permanent display in the Upper School.

A Well for Garden Beds

Tenth grade Earth and Physical Science and Environmental Science classes collaborated to improve the efficiency of watering raised garden beds near the pond, the gardens in the Rogers Circle, and the vegetable gardens by the tennis courts.

As with any design project, research was at the start. Students tested the water quality and were pleased to find virtually no nitrogen or phosphorus compounds and little chloride, making for a quality water source. They constructed a cason for the well and the digging began. Using a hand auger they started pulling up the soil, giving them the opportunity to evaluate the differences between the soil at various depths.

The well was complete at 11 feet deep and a water table at seven feet, giving a four foot water column for pumping. **Callum Hotz** said, “This was my greatest accomplishment because it was a project that we were able to fully complete and I’m pleased with how much I learned about water tables and aquifers while we were doing the well project.”





Pinball

Students in the 2nd/3rd grade classrooms took on an epic investigation where their research and collaborations evolved into amazing, hand-crafted, story-filled, explorations of biomes in the form of pinball machines.

Pinball machines may not seem like an obvious choice. Let's take a look at how these students decided to build pinball machines when investigating the question, "How do disturbances impact an ecosystem, and what are the mechanisms they employ to adapt, recover, or transform in response to these changes?"

The classes started the year by breaking down individual components of the question, starting with the word "disturbances."

The classes did experiments across campus, including trips to the creek, mixing Mentos and soda, and activating yeast in Garden to Table. "When we throw rocks into the water it disturbs the fish and other animals," **Lorelai Osborne** observed. "When we get in the water, we are the disturbance!"

Inspired by hamster maze videos on YouTube, the classes created mazes out of cardboard. They watched the classroom pets, Baker, Cowboy, and Merlin, navigate their way through tubes, tunnels, and ball pits, around soft spikes, and over bridges. The pets were not the only ones to have fun. Through collaboration in P.E. and Community Circle, students designed and constructed their



own obstacle courses in the Green Gym. "These fun collaborations resulted in deeper understandings of perspective, empathy, process disturbances, teamwork, and sportsmanship," said Forest Class teacher **Lori Iorns**.

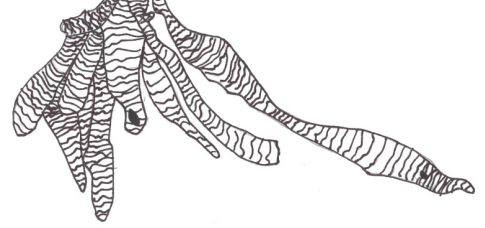
The next word the group explored was "ecosystems." In their small groups, they researched tundra, desert, rainforest, and aquatic ecosystems. Students also researched the catalyst for many disturbances: weather. After playing a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle pinball machine for research, the students delved into the idea of building a pinball machine to represent their group's biomes and reflect the disturbances within them.

Starting with cardboard, each group workshopped their ideas to create characters and lay out their ecosystem's environment and obstacles. Peer feedback was crucial to the next phase of design

as they helped each other consider what could make their pinball machines better.

"Mechanism" was the third word they broke down in their investigation. They set out to design their own spinners, flippers, multi-ball play, bumpers, and plungers. With the help of maintenance team member **Jack Maxey**, their teachers, and specials teachers, students began constructing all the elements you would find in a pinball machine. Using 3D printing for ramps and the Glowforge for characters, a variety of tools, glue, and a lot of creativity, the pinball machines began to take on a life of their own! Complete with hand-painted backdrops, details, lights, and digital scoreboards, the biome-themed pinball machines were ready to play at Spring Expo!

Communication in Nature



Snails, caterpillars, rolypolies and other small creatures became treasures to children in the K/1st classrooms as they explored playgrounds and trails. As they discovered, collected, and connected with these creatures, their imaginations took flight. “They began narrating the lives of these creatures,” said Sky class teacher **Ashleigh Sanchez**. “Suddenly, a caterpillar became a knight from a far away land, heroically protecting its family!” Through the stories they created, the children began to wonder...*do these creatures have conversations? What stories do they tell?* Their big question emerged, “What role could communication play in nature?”

The children landed on The Wallow as the perfect spot to observe the different ways nature communicates.

As researchers, the students spent time at The Wallow and put up trail cameras to capture data of animals during the day and night. Through their written theories, data collection, and conversations, they began to develop theories about communication.

They explored time and how it relates to

daily life, animal adaptations and habitats, created theories using the scientific method, and collected and interpreted data. As the classes formed committees, they looked closely at communication in nature with a focus on trees, leaves, wind, water, frogs, tadpoles, and roots.

To represent their theories, each child in the Sky Class helped create an interactive mural in the K/1st hallway, inviting students and families to experience what role communication could play within nature, and to see that *The Wallow is Alive!*

The Woods, Prairie, and Sky classes painted four massive murals reflecting nature scenes at different times of the day. Collaborating with Art Teacher **Kirsten Redmond**, the students’ sketches were translated to 7 feet by 9 feet canvases. They hand-painted their findings in nature,

complete with Glowforge speech bubbles above paper-mache and sculpted creatures communicating with each other. These beautiful murals now hang in the highest point of the K/1st Wing, a perfect view for the reading loft.



Yellow Class Bakers



The Yellow Class began the school year with two interests emerging: baking and serving others. The young students were interested in the social connections between service workers and their customers. With exploration of these interests, the children chose to merge them into the idea of baking lots of treats and selling them at a bake sale. “I loved serving the people. They paid money and I got to give them the treats!” **Camden Slater** said.

With a solid idea, the Yellow Class discussed how they could take it a step further. Classmate, **Lyle Johnson**, who previously participated in the Lemon-Aid Project, a RCDS family’s non-profit that supports the Lindsey House said, “The lemonade stand gave us the idea to have a bake sale! We did a good job because we made all the goodies, and we sketched, and had our meeting with Mr. Bates!”

The budding entrepreneurs offered cookies, cakes, brownies, apple pie, and, of course, lemonade! True to Riverfield’s approach of learning, the students did their research, toured tasty bakeries, held a business meeting with **Jerry Bates**, and a construction meeting with **Jack Maxey**. “We used a whole thing of wood. It was big and we put LED lights on it!” said **Hawke Benham**. They collected their data on the best place and time to have their bake sale on campus and what prices they should charge.

The Yellow Class took this idea to the next level by designing a logo, sewing their aprons, and making fliers to promote their bake sales to the RCDS community! “I was excited to do my first bake sale and my mom came to help me with the lemonade,” said **Colin Trammel**. “I was happy when she bought treats, too!”



The Yellow Class Bakers hosted several bake sales on campus and decided to continue to support the Lindsey House with their profits. By the end of the second semester, the Yellow Class raised over \$1,200!

Yellow Class teachers **Amber Thompson** and **Stephanie Weber** were inspired by how these creative students navigated their own learning. “If this is what these brilliant kids are capable of in Pre-School, imagine what impact they will make as adults,” Mrs. Thompson said. “I look forward to watching how each of these students will change their world.”



Blue Ravens Choirs & the Art of Music

Led by music and choir teacher, **Libby Sublett**, Blue Raven Juniors, Singers, and Legends had a membership of 80 singers this year! All choirs performed on Visiting Day at the ribbon cutting of the Center for Creativity. The Juniors and Singers each had a winter and spring Round-Up performance. The Legends and the Singers (40 in total!) sang at an Oilers game and truly felt like rockstars in the Cain's-themed greenroom backstage at the BOK Center before taking the ice for the National Anthem. The Oilers game was full of Raven Pride with over 100 Riverfield families filling the stands.

Ms. Sublett also coordinates music outreach for the Lower School. This year, the Tulsa Opera presented *Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World* which included opera-singing puppets! In addition, a string quartet came from Tulsa Community College to play for the Lower School during a Round-Up.



ISAS Arts Festival



The ISAS Arts Festival, held April 11-13 in Austin, Texas, promotes Upper School arts activities to foster high standards and stimulate creativity in the performing and fine arts programs of ISAS schools and in the individual endeavors of students and teachers. Students from Riverfield Rocks, Riverfield Film Lab, Riverfield Theatre Co., and Studio Arts displayed and performed their works to massive audiences filled with their peers. “Riverfield students showed up and showed out! The paintings were exceptional and the adjudicator was floored, our student films were clearly a cut above others, and our rock bands were on point,” said Head of Upper School **Dr. Michael Berglund**.

Speech & Debate



Raven Speech and Debate performed at seven regular season tournaments and four post-season tournaments, including the National's Tournament held in June. At the Tournament, **Trey Pope** and **Jackson Baker** set Riverfield history. Trey Pope became the very first student at Riverfield to qualify four times, receiving the Four Time Qualifier award. Trey competed in US Extemporaneous speaking. Jackson Baker also made Riverfield History by being the first competitor to reach the octo-finals (top 60) in Humorous Interpretation!

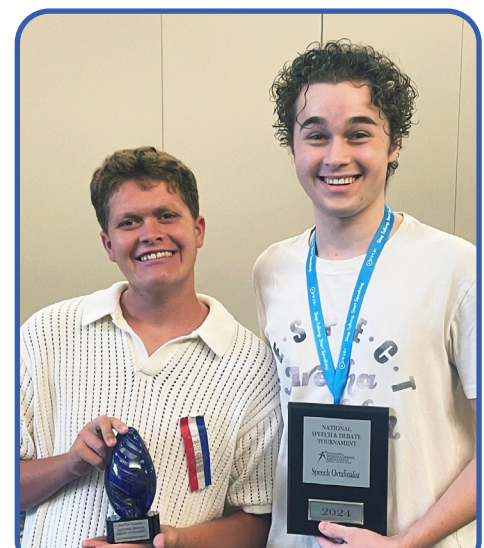
Trey, a senior, looked back on his Speech and Debate career at RCDS. "I have become the first, now, four-time National Qualifier with Riverfield's program, have won two individual State titles, and received the honor of Academic All-American. It is because of Speech and Debate that I have

found my voice and passion to use my voice to stand up for others who can't do so for themselves," Trey said. "I have a passion to become an attorney. I'll be going to the University of Tulsa to study Pre-Law, majoring in History and minoring in Psychology."

The overall Speech and Debate Team had 28 students on its roster with 45 qualifying events in Regionals, securing 1st place in Sweepstakes. At the State Championships, the Raven team placed 2nd in Academic Achievement and 2nd in Sweepstakes. They performed in Policy Debate, Public Forum Debate, Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking, and Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking.

In May, Jackson Baker competed in the International Digital Speech and Debate e-Championship presented by the Tournament of

Champions and National Speech and Debate Association. He placed 3rd in Original Oratory with his piece, "Fighting the Diabetes Stigma," and 3rd in Humorous Interpretation with his adaptation of "The Blues Brothers."



Trey Pope & Jackson Baker after Nationals

eSports Expands in its Second Year

The 2023-24 eSports season saw growth in game titles and teams. Moving into the new Center for Creativity, the program expanded to add a Middle School *Valorant* team; **Grant Holsopple, Adam Krefft, Aaron Le, Scarlett Nowicki, Rafe Ridenour,** and **Jace Vandy**, coached by senior **Alex Silman**. The new kids on the block finished the season by clinching the Oklahoma Scholastic eSports (OKSE) League State Tournament; *Valorant* victory!

The Middle School *Halo Infinite* team; **Ben Fallis, Parker Knight, Scarlett Nowicki, Garrett Williams,** and **Zander Williams** won 6th place in the OKSE State Tournament.

Upper School teams, coached by **Paul Knight** and **Tanner Sturgeon**, included *Mario Kart*, *Splatoon*, *Fortnite*, *Rainbow Six Siege*, and *Call of Duty*. The *Mario Kart* team (4v4); **Callum Hotz, Emily Kiker, Memphis Lee, Nathan McCormick,** and **Adam Stansill** improved their win total twofold with a record of 12-6, finishing the fall season ranked No. 3 in the state, qualifying for the OKSE League State Tournament. They closed the spring season with a record of 10-6, placing 15th in the state.



This was the first season to have two *Mario Kart* (2v2) traveling teams. The duo, **Emily Kiker** and **Gavin Bennett**, qualified for the State Tournament and made three rounds before being eliminated.

Splatoon, *Fortnite*, and *Rainbow Six Siege* were the new titles to the program, giving Raven eSports the opportunity to learn what will be needed to qualify next year. All teams did great even with a learning curve and the *Rainbow Six Siege* team (**Tye Alderman, Gavin Bennett, Maddox Ford, Evan Gaines, Nathan McCormick,** and **Brody Thomas**) made their way to the Oklahoma Scholastic eSports State Championship!

Middle School Academic Bowl

Three Middle School Academic Bowl teams competed against other schools in the Lake Country Conference on October 23, 2023. The 6th grade team, **Zach Haase, Amir Moussa,** and **Lucas Randolph**, placed 2nd for their grade.

The 7th grade team, **Saxton Babb, Kamal Daouk, Emily Holloman, Henry Hulsey,** and **Hannah Martin** placed 2nd, only missing 1st place by one question.

The 8th grade team placed 1st with a 30-point victory over the 2nd place team! Congratulations to **Avery Beuchat, Archer Hargett, Senna Miller, Bennett Moren,** and **Scarlett Nowicki**!



STAYING IN PATINA GREEN COUNTRY

SIGNED



RIVERFIELD PROUD

Congratulations Anthony Harper!

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Roots & Shoots: Rebuilding our Bee Hives

Middle School Roots & Shoots fall and spring classes set out to create a cultivating and nourishing environment for honeybees and mason bees. In the fall, Roots & Shoots students cleared the beds, tilled the soil, and planted a pollinator garden for the honeybees.

The students also built and posted a habitat for mason bees to build their nests by filling tubes with layers of mud and wax. The mason bee habitat is in the butterfly garden near the Rogers Building and the honeybee boxes are nestled in a clearing just up the new road.

Seventh grader **Hannah Martin** was part of the spring group and was grateful the fall class had foresight for the honeybees. “It was important to have the pollinator garden to be planted close to the bee boxes. They now have a place for their nutrients and energy that is close, so they don’t have to work as hard,” said Hannah.

The spring Roots & Shoots class refurbished a bee hive consisting of two brood boxes and a honey super (used to collect the honey). They scraped the dirt from the frames, removed old wasps nests, and painted the outside of the bee boxes with fresh coats of paint. With the help of teacher **Courtney O’Malley** and parent **Dave Clouse**, the students suited up in full-body beekeeping suits and moved the active hive into the new boxes. The 2024-25 class will harvest delicious honey in the fall!



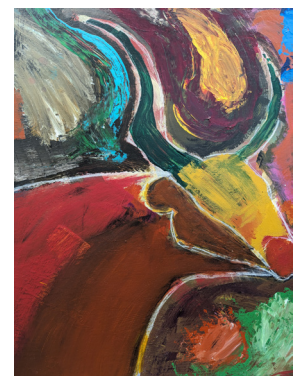
ART GALLERY



Cora Vandy, 6th

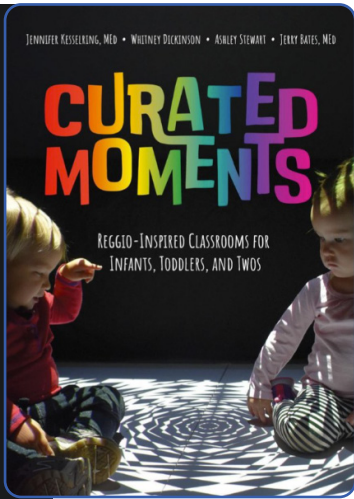


Maya O’Malley, 7th



Raleigh Thompson, 7th

Staff & Leadership Excellence



Curated Moments

Pre-School leadership and staff have presented our school's approach to learning from the earliest of ages. In April, **Jerry Bates** and **Ashley Stewart** presented their talk, "Empowering Children," and **Jen Kesselring** and **Whitney Dickinson** introduced the newly published book with a presentation title of the same name, "Curated Moments," at

the World Education Forum in Vancouver. Pre-School faculty and administration captured the environments of learning for our tiniest students in the book, *Curated Moments: Reggio-Inspired Classrooms for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos*. The book is designed for early childhood educators to incorporate RCDS teaching philosophies into their classrooms in accessible and sustainable ways. *Curated Moments* is available through the Kaplan Early Learning Company and was published by Gryphon House. We are grateful for all of our incredible teachers and staff who help Riverfield live out its mission every day. This book is a source of pride for our Pre-School teachers and the amazing work that they do. bit.ly/curated_moments

Science-focused Tag Team represents Riverfield!

Upper School Science teacher **Rachel Langley** and **Jesse Wren**, Lower School Library Media Specialist, completed their first year of the the National Air and Space Teacher Innovator Institute, a two year program. In spring of 2024, Jesse and Rachel presented at the National Science Teacher Association Conference in Denver, CO. Along with their fellow colleagues from the Smithsonian Teacher Innovator Institute, they presented to an audience of educators on how to utilize *Citizen Science* projects and guided inquiry learning, giving students the opportunity to do work that can be used in real scientific research. An additional congrats to Rachel: at the 2024 Awards Banquet, the Geoscience Foundation of Tulsa recognized her as the winner of the 2024 Excellence in Teaching Award.



Pinnacle of Achievement

Congratulations to Molly Jarvis, Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer Cherokee Nation Cultural & Economic Development, Riverfield board member at large, and Booster Club president, for being honored with the Pinnacle Award for Corporate Business. Jarvis was honored alongside several women who are exemplary leaders in the Tulsa community and who demonstrate professional success and commitment to service.



Thank you to all who supported the **Raven Fund** this year!

The Raven Fund bridges the gap between tuition income and the operations of our school. To make a one-time or recurring donation in support of our mission, scan the QR code or visit riverfield.org



Clint Rataczak, Director of Giving | crataczak@riverfield.org

Academic Honor Roll

Raven Roll (3.75-4.0 GPA)

Flynn Babin
Alexander Ball
Parker Belford
Emelyn Beuchat
Avery Beuchat
Hudson Bogle
Ruby Buchner
Nash Chandler
Leo Chaney
Alexander Clouse
Quinn Clouse
Josh Connolly
Claire Cook
Hailey Cox
Kamal Daouk
Noah Davison
Sophia Diaz
Keeley Dodson
Jack Dorsey
Ben Fallis
Sadie Fisher
Evie Fowler
Duncan Galbraith
Gwen Gaskamp
Zach Haase
Luke Hagedorn
Kristine Harbison
Archer Hargett
Adam Hasty
Aniston Hill
Shadow Hofstrom
Emily Holloman
Samantha Holsopple
Grant Horten
Lyla Howard

Henry Hulsey
Zoe Jackson
Ben James
Evelyn Johnson
James Jones
Elizabeth Kilpatrick
Aaron Le
Charlie Lemaster
Katie Logsdon
Hannah Martin
Maxwell Mathews
Gus McKay
Emerson McManus
Nate Metcalf
Senna Miller
Bennett Moren
Gracie Morgan
Amir Moussa
Ahni Neel
Bodhi Nicholas
Scarlett Nowicki
Maya O'Malley
Grayson Pagel
Harry Phariss
Lucas Randolph
Rafe Ridenour
David Roberts
Lucy Rotenberg
Keller Ruleford
Estella Smolen
Henry Stacklin
Hudson Stewart
Raleigh Thompson
Logan Thompson
Miles Tindell

Fall 2023

Remi Ullrich
Cora Vandy
Maya Vaughan
James Walker
Eli Walker

Hannah White
Hudson Willeford
Roman Williams
Garrett Williams
Zander Williams

Sam Ames
Jackson Baker
Remi Barnard
Caroline Bates
Jake Bell
Gavin Bennett
Jaydon Beuchat
Max Carson-Harper
Ethan Chesher
Lily Clark
Parker Corbin
Addy Coutant
Katy Coutant
Reese Covey
Alexa Deys
Vivian Doerr
Abby Feken-Cole
Lilian Ferguson
Maddox Ford
Evan Gaines
Ian Gilliland
Alex Gund
Brogan Hale
Anthony Harper
Chase Hill
Drew Holleyman
Xavier Hood
Charlotte Hooper

Channing Horten
Wyatt Horten
Oliver Ihrig
Jenelle Jacobs
Charlie Jones
Emily Kiker
Sailor Lee
Stone Loosvelt
Deacon Martin
Baker Martin
Nathan McCormick
Jackson McGillen
Xavier Messenger
Logan Moren
Makayla Morgan
Macey Musick
Parker Nicholas
Sierra O'Malley
Yati Patel
Cole Patterson
Kennedy Patterson
Trey Pope
Charlie Ramirez
Mary Renner
Junuh Ridenour
Charlie Rotenberg
Cameron Rutterford
Maureen Sellers

Middle School

Upper School

Ruby Snyder
Quinn Steenson
Aiden Uddin
Kurtis Villafane

Sky Vincent
Rylyn Williams
Holden Williams
Mia Wolek

Honor Roll (3.5-3.74 GPA)

Saxton Babb
Jameson Bayer
Sophia David
Ryley Hester
Sam Kilburn
Brady Knight
Memphis Ronk
Dax Sanders
Noah Sherill
Jace Vandy

Tye Alderman
Addy Angel
Kolby Brent
Jackson Coon
Annika Crader
Juno Crader
Omega Dempsey
Wynn Dorwart
Emma England
Johnson Hale
Ella Holsopple
Callum Hotz
Memphis Lee
Nicya Moore
Os Pano
Sophie Phillips
Ellery Rettinger
Alex Silman
Stella Thomas
Mubashshira Uddin
Cyra Walker
Kenyon Williams

Raven Roll (3.75-4.0 GPA)

Flynn Babin
Parker Belford
Emelyn Beuchat
Avery Beuchat
Hudson Bogle
Nash Chandler
Alexander Clouse
Quinn Clouse
Hailey Cox
Kamal Daouk
Sophia Diaz
Jack Dorsey
Ben Fallis
Sadie Fisher
Evie Fowler
Duncan Galbraith
Gwen Gaskamp
Zach Haase
Luke Hagedorn
Kristine Harbison
Archer Hargett
Adam Hasty
Aniston Hill
Emily Holloman
Sam Holsopple
Grant Horten
Lyla Howard
Zoe Jackson
Ben James
Evelyn Johnson
James Jones
Elizabeth Kilpatrick
Aaron Le
Katie Logsdon
Hannah Martin

Gus McKay
Emerson McManus
Nate Metcalf
Senna Miller
Bennett Moren
Amir Moussa
Ahni Neel
Bodhi Nicholas
Scarlett Nowicki
Maya O'Malley
Grayson Pagel
Harry Phariss
Lucas Randolph
Rafe Ridenour
David Roberts
Estella Smolen
Hudson Stewart
Logan Thompson
Raleigh Thompson
Miles Tindell
Remi Ullrich
Jace Vandy
Maya Vaughan
James Walker
Hudson Willeford
Garrett Williams
Roman Williams
Zander Williams

Spring 2024

Sam Ames
Addy Angel
Jackson Baker
Caroline Bates
Jake Bell
Jaydon Beuchat
Kolby Brent
Lily Clark
Cat Connolly
Jackson Coon
Parker Corbin
Addy Coutant
Katy Coutant
Reese Covey
Alexa Deys
Vivian Doerr
Charly Etris
Abby Feken-Cole
Lilian Ferguson
Maddox Ford
Evan Gaines
Ian Gilliland
Alex Gund
Brogan Hale
Johnson Hale
Anthony Harper
Chase Hill
Violet Holderby Manus
Charlotte Hooper
Channing Horten
Wyatt Horten
Oliver Ihrig
Jenelle Jacobs
Charlie Jones
Emily Kiker
Josh Layne
Memphis Lee

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Nathan McCormick
Jackson McGillen
Xavier Messenger
Logan Moren
Makayla Morgan
Macey Musick
Parker Nicholas
Sierra O'Malley
Os Pano
Yati Patel
Kennedy Patterson
Trey Pope
Charlie Ramirez
Mary Renner
Ellery Rettinger
Junuh Ridenour
Charlie Rotenberg
Cameron Rutterford
Maureen Sellers
Ruby Snyder
Quinn Steenson
Mubashshira Uddin
Aiden Uddin
Kurtis Villafane
Sky Vincent
Kenyon Williams
Holden Williams
Gigi Williamson
Mia Wolek

Honor Roll (3.5-3.74 GPA)

Saxton Babb
Alexander Ball
Ruby Buchner
Leo Chaney
Sophia David
Noah Davison
Keeley Dodson
Shadow Hofstrom
Henry Hulsey
Charlie Lemaster
Gracie Morgan
Lucy Rotenberg
Keller Ruleford
Dax Sanders
Henry Stacklin
Cora Vandy
Eli Walker
Hannah White
Zaylee Yost

Tye Alderman
Remi Barnard
Gavin Bennett
Max Carson-Harper
Abe Chaney
Ethan Chesher
Braeden Clinton
Juno Crader
Drew Holleyman
Xavier Hood
Callum Hotz
Deacon Martin
Nicya Moore
Cole Patterson
Austin Snow
Stella Thomas
Scott Thompson
Cyra Walker
Rylyn Williams

Alumni Class Notes

Carl (Berry) Siegel ('10) graduated with a bachelor's degree in History and Theory of Art and Architecture (self-designed degree program), with a minor in Linguistics from the University of Oklahoma in 2014. He worked as a Research Assistant and later Adjunct Research Coordinator



for the College of Architecture for several years before pursuing his master's degree in Information Studies from the University of Texas at Austin. He graduated in 2022 and now lives and works in Buffalo, New York, as Collections Manager for University Libraries. He has a rescue dog named Lily who moved with him from Texas.



Madeline (Berry) Cameron ('11) graduated with a bachelor's degree in Cultural and Historic Preservation from Salve Regina University in Rhode Island in 2015 and with her dual Master's degrees in

Historic Preservation and Urban Planning from Columbia University in 2019. After living in St. Louis for three years, she and her husband Jon now live in western Montana where they just purchased their 10-acre slice of heaven. She works remotely as the Director of Marketing and Media for a real estate team based in St. Louis and is excited to start working on their dream home and homestead in the coming months. Maddy spends a lot of time hiking with her dogs and taking photos.

Taylor Birkes ('15) graduated in May with her master's degree in Special Education with a focus on autism spectrum disorder from Northeastern State University. She will be starting her new job as a Special Education teacher at Emerson Elementary.



Elora (Wymore) Perrin ('16) and Miranda met in 2019, and tied the knot on May 7, 2022. They were married in beautiful Colorado surrounded by their closest friends and family. Fellow Alumni **Ragan Auxter** and **Ally Carson** were two of Elora's bridesmaids. They reside in Okmulgee where Elora owns an equine boarding and training facility, Creekside Stables. Always an animal lover, when Elora was a student, it was not a rare occurrence for her to be bottle feeding some sort of orphaned animal. She was also a member of the Roots & Shoots program. Elora's love for Riverfield has continued with her joining the Pre-School staff in the summer of 2024. "Right now we only have fur kiddos: six dogs, seven mini pigs, five horses, two bottle baby goats, a bottle calf, chickens and ducks. When we get around to expanding our family, I can't wait for our child to attend Riverfield. I loved my time there, and am so excited they will get to attend such a phenomenal school."





Austin Bates, Josie (Harris) Standridge, Rilynn Mason, Megan Bose, and Savannah Mosier ('17) celebrated Memorial Day Weekend in Lawrence, Kansas. They created a tradition last year to start integrating hometown visits into their travels. Now that they live all throughout the United States, they are taking the time to visit each other in their new places of residence. This trip was to visit Savannah Mosier who is completing her Ph.D in Bioengineering at the University of Kansas.

Ashtyn Fox ('17) and Tollie Pugh ('18) met in Pre-School at Riverfield as students in the Blue Class. They began dating when they were in Upper School and after graduation both went on to attend Oklahoma State. The pair were married in December 2023 and Ashtyn began working at Riverfield as a Pre-School teacher during the 2023-24 school year.



Reese Goettel ('17) is going into her third year as an IT Recruiter at Addison Group in Oklahoma City. She recently was engaged to Sam Walter and married in July 2024. Her other love is her puppy named Ernie; a mini weenie dog. Reese recently joined as a volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and is enjoying the experience of being a "Big". She's looking forward to what's next in her life.

Braden Bates ('19) took a new position at KJRH this spring as a multimedia journalist (reporter) at the station. This is an on-air position which means he works in the field gathering and putting together stories in Tulsa and surrounding areas.



Braden said via Facebook, "I am very excited for this next step in my career and can't wait to be able to serve my hometown community and beyond. Thank you all so much who have supported me thus far! I am honored to have you all as co-authors in my story. Here's to more years at KJRH."



Dylan Briggs ('19) graduated in May from the University of Tulsa with a Bachelor of Arts in both Psychology and Political Science. He is taking a gap year to study for the LSAT and apply to law school.

Hannah Grenier ('20) graduated from The University of Tulsa Collins College of Business in December 2023 with a B.S.B.A in Business Management concentrating in Innovation and Entrepreneurship with a minor in Economics. She is currently with the Savannah Bananas as a Ticket Operations intern. Hannah travels with the team to many different ballparks, helping to ensure fans have the best experience possible. She says the ballparks in the west are some of her favorite, having the most colorful and vibrant backdrops.



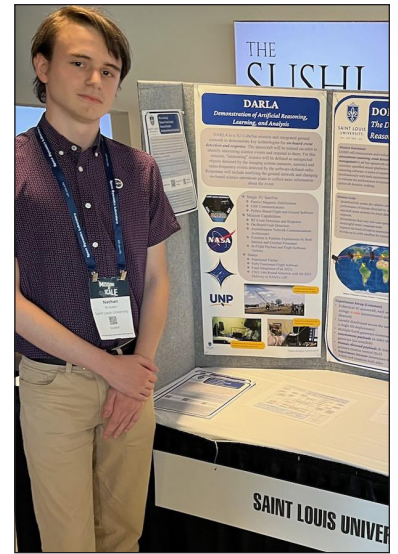
Fans First Entertainment owns the Savannah Bananas as well as two other teams, the Party Animals and the Firefighters. Hannah has been working many of the first-ever Party Animals headliner games to kick off their own mini-world tour, which she says has been so upbeat and exciting.

Clay Powell ('20) attended Riverfield for 14 years before graduating. He was an active member in a number of activities at Riverfield and was heavily involved in Riverfield Rocks. This spring, he graduated from Florida State University with a bachelor's degree in Athletic Training with minors in Chemistry and Biology. Starting this fall, he will attend medical school at Oklahoma University College of Medicine in OKC. He is not yet sure what he wants to specialize in, but has early interests in Urology, Orthopedics, and Physiatry!



Tara Fritts ('21) felt a deep sense of purpose to move out of state after attending two years at Oklahoma City University. After studying Comedy Writing and Performance at Columbia College in Chicago, Tara studied improv theatre at The Second City and recently performed as a cast member in their Coached Ensembles program. Tara likes doing stand-up comedy, hanging out with friends, and taking long walks along Lake Michigan. "I feel as though I have finally found my true calling and owe my thanks to Mrs. Brillhart for helping me see my potential as a performer during my time at Riverfield, and beyond."

Nathan Morice Brubaker ('22) is a rising sophomore at Saint Louis University. He is the lead engineer of a team of students working with a faculty adviser to design and build working "cubesats," small square-shaped miniature satellites that launch into space as part of a selective launch initiative by NASA. By having their satellite selected for launch, their team has shown that it will benefit NASA by addressing aspects of scientific exploration and technology development consistent with NASA's goals. Their work has allowed Nathan the opportunity to attend and staff the Saint Louis University booth at the SmallSat conference, a gathering of individuals in academia, industry, and government to share knowledge about successful small satellite missions.



Davieon Clinton ('23) joined Bacone to play basketball and the school closed shortly after. He will be moving to Arkansas to attend a Christian college where he will play basketball and study Business and Sports Management. Clinton says he is 'super excited' to start this incredible new journey. "I may have taken the long way around, but the key is I found a way!"



Let's get together

Mark your calendars for Alumni Reunion Weekend: November 23, 2024!

Tell us your story

We love hearing from you! Check in to tell us what's new at riverfield.org/alumni

Stay connected

Join our alumni group! facebook.com/groups/rcdsalums

Our Mission

Ignite adventure, *inspire* inquiry, and *build* excellence
to empower students to change their world.



RIVERFIELD
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Annual Report of Giving

Director of Giving Patti Grice

Dear friends,

This is my final *BLUEprint* letter as Director of Giving. I have enjoyed my 17 and a half years working for the Advancement Office. We have raised a lot of money for the school over the years, but more importantly, we have grown together as a community. As I often told the faculty and staff, every gift is a thank you to them for the amazing job they do every day. They made my job easy. I cherish the people of Riverfield—my co-workers, the students, the volunteer leaders, and all the families and friends. I have been blessed to connect with so many wonderful people.



I am pleased to introduce the new Director of Giving, Clint Rataczak. He is delightful and comes with over 21 years of experience as the Advancement Director of an independent school in New York City. Fortunately for us, he returned to Tulsa a few years ago. He grew up in Joplin and graduated from TU, so he is right at home in this part of the world. I am eager for everyone to meet and embrace him in the community. I will continue to be around on a part-time basis to help with the transition. He joins the wonderful Advancement team of Ali Fallis, Lauren Holloman, and Bonita James.



Thank you to all who have been a part of my journey, including Jerry Bates, who has been my boss, mentor, and friend and guided me through this part of my career. Riverfield is an amazing place and I am so thankful for everyone who has crossed my path here.

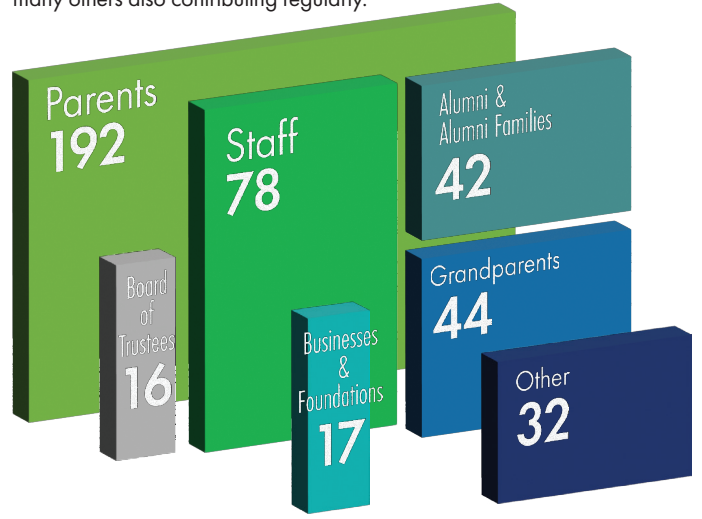
Wishing you all the best,

Patti

Use the QR code to view a complete list of supporters.

Donor Demographics Who Gives to Raven Fund

Raven Fund donors are primarily current families and staff with many others also contributing regularly.



Annual Donors Repeat Giving

How many years our 2023-24 Raven Fund donors have been contributing.

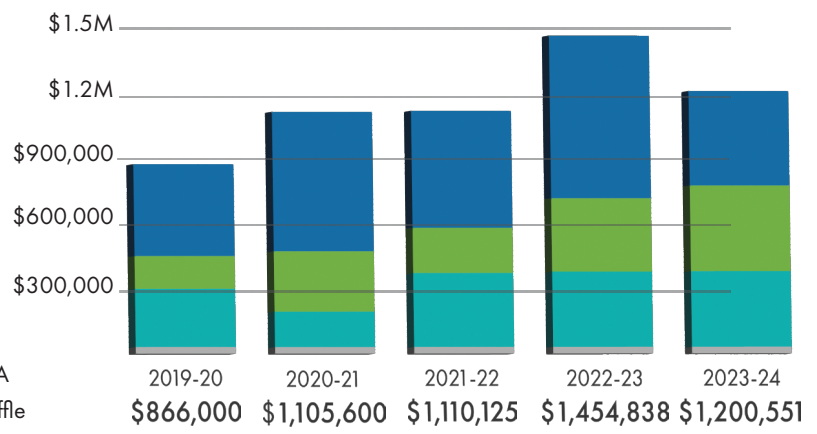


109 new donors in the last 2 years

Giving History

Fiscal Year Comparison

Giving and fundraising continues to grow, breaking the million-dollar mark for four consecutive years.



Legend: iNSPIRED, RFA, Raven Fund, Raffle



Board Chair Michelle Anderson

I joined the board in the early 2000s, serving my first tenure. I rejoined the board in time to see the addition of the Center for Creativity and the Clark Gym expansion. I am honored to once again serve Riverfield as the Chair of the Board of Trustees!

prepared for the world we live in, well-equipped with the experiences only a Riverfield education can offer them.

I look forward to my next year as chair along with my dedicated and committed board members. And I thank you in advance for your participation and support! Here's to another great year of being a Raven!

Sincerley,
Michelle Anderson
2023-24 Board Chair

Hello to my Riverfield Family,

I appreciate this opportunity to reach out to you as we celebrate finishing our 2023-24 year and look forward to the next.

I've seen a lot of growth over my 24 years as a Riverfield parent, starting with bringing my daughter, **Alexis Anderson** ('14), to tour the Riverfield Pre-School in 1999. After that first tour with Marty Clark, while driving through the parking lot, Alexis let me know that this place was her school. My almost 3-year-old daughter didn't understand the concept of a waitlist, so I was very grateful that a spot opened up for her the next day! This set the trajectory for all three of my children to graduate as proud Riverfield Ravens.

Alexis was in the first group of Rock Band students and one of the first students to be on drumline. Her brother **Brett Anderson** ('18) followed suit, basking in the experience of being a leader in basketball, tennis, and on the stage as a bass player. My youngest, **Amelia Anderson** ('23), began her Riverfield experience attending board meetings in her infant seat. She took advantage of everything Riverfield had to offer in athletics, the arts, and academically. Now, a sophomore at Spelman College, she still calls Riverfield home.

Tremendous family involvement is at the core of the Riverfield culture and that commitment carries over into the financial support of our school. I want to thank everyone who donated to the Raven Fund and participated in the Raven Fund Rave. The Raven Fund is crucial to covering the operational costs of running this school, which is not covered by tuition alone.

The board has focused on strategic planning which helped launch our revised mission. Together, with our educators, we dug into the foundation of Riverfield's educational concepts, articulating our beliefs and values. Doing so has provided guidance for our outstanding faculty to live out the mission through our commitment, strategy, and approach.

We updated the bylaws and board committee charters to add new perspectives with representatives from the DEI Alliance, Booster Club, and Alumni Association, who along with RFA, now have permanent seats at the table of the Board of Trustees.

As we go into the next phase of strategic planning and into our 40th year, we are focusing on what's next; the future of Riverfield. I know this work will allow our families and future alumni to enjoy a similar outcome as my children—graduates who are

2023-24 Board Members

Executive Committee

Michelle Anderson, Chair
Heather Ward, Vice-Chair & RFA President
Christie Osborne, Treasurer
Bert Peake, Recording Officer
Lisa Rhynes, Advisory Council
Jerry Bates, Head of School
Jim Gotwals, Legal Counsel

Members at Large

Jenny Belford
Molly Jarvis
Robin Jones
Thomas Keeter
Katie Murray
Vicki Patterson
Jennifer Schumacher
Aaron Tiff
Tom Vincent
Sam Wayt

By the Numbers

Breakdown of 2023-24 Gifts



*Funds include money raised outside of gifts, such as raffles, RFA fundraisers, etc.

Riverfield
Theatre  co.

J.K. ROWLING'S

Harry Potter
AND THE
CURSED CHILD


HIGH SCHOOL EDITION

COMING THIS FALL



IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY!

40

RCDS
1984-2024

Forty years ago this summer, Martha S. Clark and her team of passionate, innovative, empowered educators were gearing up to begin the very first academic year at Riverfield Country Day School. August 2024 marks the 40th Anniversary for RCDS and you are invited to celebrate with us all year long!

Mark your calendars to join us for these Riverfield Signature Events: old, new, and returning in the 2024-2025 school year!

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| September 30 | Raven Classic Golf Tournament |
| October 4 | Family Campout: Raven Revelry returns! |
| October 16 | Run for Riverfield |
| November 22 | Visiting Day: 40th Birthday Edition |
| January 17 | Homecoming: Welcome back, alumni athletes! |
| March 1 | Sapphire Celebration |
| April 26 | Llamapalooza |



RIVERFIELD

COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

2433 West 61st Street

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74132

918.446.3553

riverfield.org

Save the Date

3.1.25



SAPPHIRE CELEBRATION



Celebrating 40 Years

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