

SYCAMORE

SPRING

2025



WHERE IN SYCAMORE IS IT?

Don't look yet, but the answers are in the back of the magazine.



Sycamore
School

INSIDE:

A Look at Sycamore's Early Childhood | Girls' STEAM Conference
When They Come Back: Sycamore Alumni

VOLUME 18.2

HEAD OF SCHOOL
John Huber

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Dr. Greg Merrell
President

HEAD OF EARLY CHILDHOOD
Jennifer Williams

HEAD OF LOWER SCHOOL
Tiffany Stahl

HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL
Katie Baker

DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT
Duane Emery

DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT
Jim Wood

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Patrick Juday

SYCAMORE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Amanda Brown
President

CONTENT/STORIES

6 SCHUTH EXPERIENCES NEW ZEALAND

Sycamore's science teacher writes about his journey after receiving the Borgmann Inspiration Fund award.

10 INSIDE EARLY CHILDHOOD

Teachers talk about Sycamore's youngest students.

14 Q&A WITH JENNIFER WILLIAMS

Head of Early Childhood

17 Q&A WITH A SYCAMORE PARENT

Janice Hrisomalos

18 FITZSIMMONS AWARDED LILLY ENDOWMENT GRANT

Sycamore science teacher will visit three countries as part of his award.

22 SYCAMORE CELEBRATES 27TH GIRLS STEAM CONFERENCE

Welcoming Middle School girls from across Indiana

ALUMNI STORIES

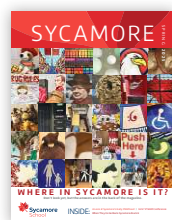
20 THE MERVIS FAMILY: 40 YEARS

28 WHEN THEY COME BACK: TEACHING AT SYCAMORE

32 KINCHEN RETURNS FOR SYCAMORE CONCERT

34 IN MEMORIAM: MIKEY CARDWELL

Remembering a bright star



ON THE COVER

Where are these items at Sycamore? Our longtime Middle School Science teacher, David Schuth, traveled throughout the school to capture images from classrooms, hallways, the outdoor area, and a couple surprises. Can you identify where these pics were taken? When you are finished, we have an answer key in the back of the magazine. Good luck!

ANSWERS: PAGE 51





- 26** HEAD OF SCHOOL CIRCLE
- 27** REFLECTIONS OF A FORMER SYCAMORE PARENT
- 38** MONTAGE: 40 YEARS IN PHOTOS
- 40** COLLEGE DESTINATIONS

- 41** HIGH SCHOOL DESTINATIONS
- 42** ALUMNI NEWS AND NOTES
- 43** NUPTIALS
- 46** SYCAMORE NEWS AND NOTES

Find Out More



sycamoreschool.org

To our Greater Sycamore Community,

I suppose it's expected that a Head of School will write an introductory letter in a glossy magazine such as this trumpeting "all the exciting things happening" at the school. Thus, at first I was hesitant to do so for this edition, with some desire, I suppose, to take an original path or mix it up a bit. Better to select a unique theme, or perhaps hand things over to generative AI to craft this introduction in an unexpected way?

But then I decided to set aside my reluctance and cynicism, and instead embrace my sense of wonder. Because truly, there are a great number of exciting things happening at Sycamore worthy of your attention. Not just in the day-to-day accomplishments that take place in classrooms throughout the building, or the incredible achievements listed in this magazine, but also the new initiatives that we're bringing to life. We should not be blasé because of the continuing success of Sycamore, but we should experience it with fresh eyes and with a childlike sense of joy.

This year we've been focusing attention in a number of areas, including (but not limited to) the following:

- Defining the role of generative AI in both teachers' work and students' curriculum
- Meeting the needs of our twice-exceptional gifted students by increasing staffing and developing more resources
- Providing our most experienced teachers and our teaching assistants with meaningful compensation so that they may continue to advance our school's mission
- Ensuring that our excellent math program is thoughtful and sequential as students progress from division to division
- Securing the safety of our students and employees through risk assessments of visitor screening, traffic patterns, and facilities needs

SPRING
2025

This list is just what comes immediately to mind. So much more is taking place, and will take place, at Sycamore.

All of this - the outstanding teachers and staff, the stellar program, the overall institutional strength—comes about through the support of the greater Sycamore community. It is only through the generosity of our families and friends that we can deliver on our mission year after year, ensuring that students reach their potential and lead responsible, constructive, fulfilling lives.

For those who have contributed to this success, I thank you.

Be well,



John Huber
HEAD OF SCHOOL



BORGMANN INSPIRATION RECAP

Schuth Experiences New Zealand

Sycamore Science Teacher David Schuth traveled to New Zealand as the 2024 Borgmann Inspiration Fund award recipient. The two-week journey began in the northern part of the country, and Schuth made a winding trek south. During the trip, he made stops for glow worms, whales, and country Airbnbs. Along the way, he reflected on what teaching at Sycamore means to him.

Waitomo Glow Worm Caves



Bridge over the melted
Fox Glacier in Westland
Tai Poutini National Park

IN HIS WORDS

When you're in a strange place, you get more reflective. Logistically, what could I fit in in two and a half weeks? All the different things to see and all the things that you want to see, but then you don't have time for. You have to narrow it down.

I did a lot of research before I wrote the application. I ended up going to at least 16 different places, unique places. I decided that I wanted to start at the top of the country and work my way down, beginning with Auckland, a large city with a population of two million or so out of the five and a half million people across the entire country.

“ ”

It's certainly an honor to be given the grant for the Borgmann Inspiration Fund. It makes you feel wanted. It makes you feel important. Am I where I should be? And the answer I kept coming to was 'Yes'.

SCHUTH



- [1] Tawhai Falls
- [2] The Glow Worms Cave rapids crew
- [3] Staying at a countryside Airbnb
- [4] Glow worms
- [5] On Waiheke Island





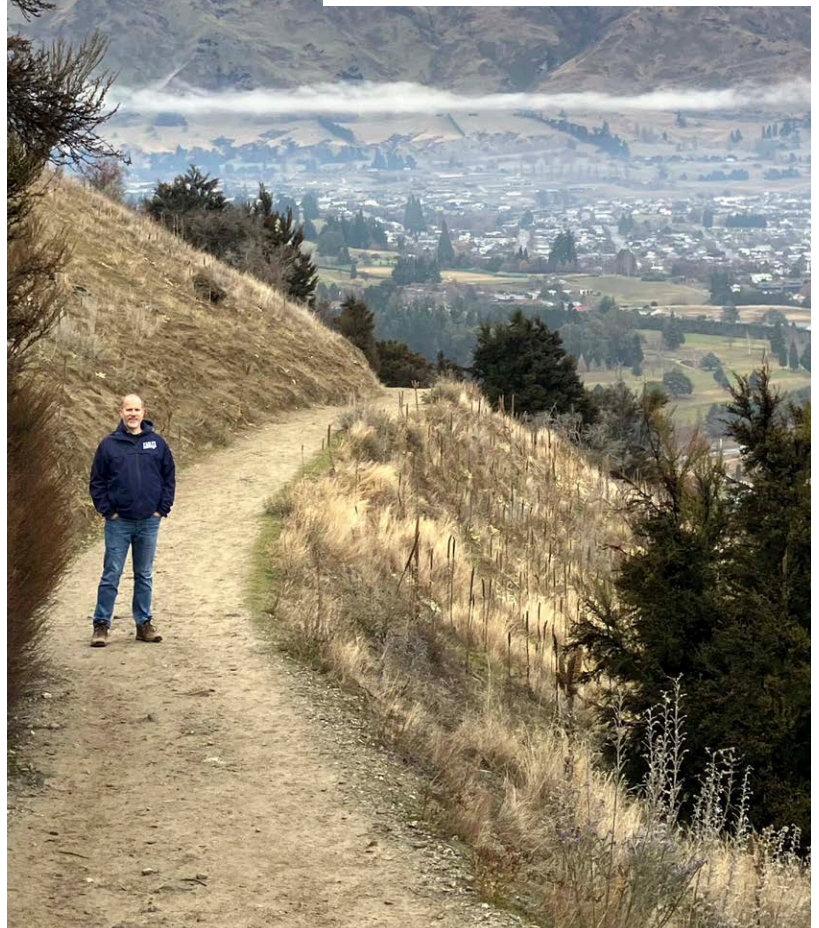
- [6] Visiting the Kiwi House
- [7] New Zealand rainforest on the way to the beach
- [8] Mount Iron Track

When traveling, I stayed, in some Airbnbs which were farms, which was pretty neat, and the people had a different perspective on life. I went to the glow worm caves. In the brochures, they showed you'd be in a little inner tube and floating along and could see the glowworms. But it had been raining and the underwater river was raining. I hadn't been that afraid for my life in a long time.

We traveled to see if we could spot a whale. We went out in an excursion boat, and we saw a sperm whale 100 feet off the boat—and it's big. Amazing.

It's certainly an honor to be given the grant for the Borgmann Inspiration Fund. It makes you feel wanted. It makes you feel important. Am I where I should be? And the answer I kept coming to was 'Yes'.

One of the things that was most striking was just how adventurous New Zealanders are. Being able to bring that idea back to the classroom, where you can be more adventurous and have that perspective as a teacher, it really starts to tie the globe together. ●



Inside the Classrooms of Early Childhood

INTERVIEWS WITH SYCAMORE TEACHERS

Sycamore School exists so that academically gifted children can experience the enriched, accelerated education they need to reach their potential and to lead responsible, constructive, fulfilling lives.
— SYCAMORE'S MISSION.



“ ”

I love getting to be a small part of each child's journey as we create core memories together.

RUTH MOLL

The insight of teachers who educate our youngest students can be especially enlightening. That is true when Sycamore Early Childhood teachers talk about what they love about the kids they teach, the challenges they experience with their students, and the growth they see as students move from Preschool to Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and beyond.

The youngest Sycamore students are 3, 4, and 5 years old. They are either entering school for the first time or have been at Sycamore for no more than two years if they started in Preschool.

“Some of the challenges include kids with different educational experiences prior to Sycamore and different backgrounds at home,” Preschool teacher Kim Pursch says. “I feel like we use routines and love to build a classroom where the kids feel safe.”

“First thing on the first day I read a book to our class titled, *Our Class is a Family*,” Pre-K teacher Jane Leeds says. “The premise of the book is that we spend many hours each day together at school, which makes us like a family, and we will show respect and kindness to honor our class family throughout the year. Each member of the class family is one part of the whole.”

“When Kindergarteners come to school there are many unknowns,” says Kindergarten teacher Denise Estelle. “Even though we spend some time with incoming Kindergarteners in the summer, they grow and develop so quickly that it can be hard to know what they will have learned.”

As for the most important skills that the teachers impart to their students? Pursch says it's perseverance, compassion, and

kindness. “Our motto in Preschool is ‘I can do hard things,’” she says. The emotional connection between a teacher and a child leads to a student's ability to tackle the things they learn—ideas that may at first seem difficult but become easier with the support of their classmates and teachers.”

“Before we can get deep into our instructional units,” Leeds says, “the two biggest pieces are making the important emotional connections with each student and building their social/emotional skills. Having ‘big feelings’ is so common. We need to be consistent with our expectations and acknowledge and ‘hear’ our students when they have needs. We help them understand which responses to their feelings are OK and which are not. This develops ‘confidence in self.’”

The growth the teachers witness may be the most rewarding part of their job, according to Estelle. “Watching a child learn to read is an incredible experience,” she says. “Some children start school eager to learn letters and sounds, while others arrive already reading. Reading opens the door to a world of knowledge and opportunity. While teaching children to read is important, fostering a love for reading is even more valuable.”



“ ”

I cherish the ‘aha’ moments and the facial expression and body language of a child at that big moment when they get something for the first time.

JANE LEEDS
Pre-Kindergarten
Teacher



“““

The most rewarding moments for me are when I see that invisible light bulb glow. While it's just an expression, sometimes it truly feels like I can see it happen. I especially love when a student surprises me by grasping a concept sooner than I expected.

DENISE ESTELLE
Kindergarten Teacher



Watching kids mature in the areas of confidence, communication, and respect for others, along with independence with their personal responsibilities and schoolwork, are the things Leeds says she loves in her Pre-K classroom.

Sycamore has a number of twice-exceptional (2E) students. These are gifted students who also experience a learning or developmental challenge like ADHD, autism, or dyslexia. For this reason, teachers have a deep understanding of the importance of growing healthy and strong social/emotional skills. “We keep getting

better and better in this area because we recognize the importance of these skills for success and the importance of continual training in these areas,” Leeds says. “Our smaller class sizes and adult-to-student ratio also help us with our ability to focus on these important skills.”

Kindergarten is a transformational year—physically, academically, and social-emotionally. The growth of Sycamore students throughout the year, leaving each grade a little more prepared for the next, is a development that the Early Childhood teachers all see.

“If you’ve been a part of the Sycamore community for a while, you might forget that most schools do not understand gifted children,” says Kindergarten teacher Ruth Moll. “I’m not talking about not getting them on a deep level. I mean they don’t even understand gifted children on a surface level. We know and love gifted children and their unique needs, and we use best practices to ensure all of those needs are met.”

“Students engage with a wide range of concepts and ideas,” Estelle adds. “While there are some teachers at other schools who work to provide similar experiences, this approach is the standard at Sycamore School.”

Moll believes Kindergarten is a magical year. “We focus so much on embracing a growth mindset with the students,” she says. “They come into Kindergarten as small, chunkier versions of who they will become. The physical growth throughout the year really marks that they are leaving their early childhood years and entering the middle part of their childhood. They outgrow our playground by the end of the year as they become stronger, lankier versions of themselves. Academically, they have become independent, flexible thinkers

who know how to use a variety of problem-solving strategies. Socially and emotionally, they have the skills to handle conflict peacefully and independently. It is always bittersweet to experience all the growth and then send them on their way for the next stage they are so ready to embrace.

“Having the skills and maturity to handle challenges as confident learners is a beautiful way for them to leave EC as they round the corner to Lower School.” ●



“ ”

Students come into
Preschool believing
they need help
doing things they
are very capable of.
By the time students
leave Preschool, I
believe they have
grown into students
willing to try things
before giving up.

KIM PURSCH
Preschool Teacher

Q&A

Head of Early Childhood

WHY THE FIRST YEARS OF SCHOOL REALLY DO MATTER



Jennifer Williams, Sycamore's Head of Early Childhood since 2015, began her career at Sycamore teaching in the Kindergarten classroom in 1993.

Jennifer Williams is the Head of Early Childhood at Sycamore. Before assuming her current role, Williams, who has been at Sycamore since 1993, was a Kindergarten teacher at the school. She knows Sycamore and what makes a Sycamore student unique.

"I had been teaching here for several years before my husband and I had children," Williams says. "When our oldest was about two years old, we realized we had a gifted child in our house too. I had lived it first as a teacher and then had the joy

of seeing the journey as a parent. From Preschool through 8th Grade I saw first-hand the amount of care, attention, and understanding my children received at Sycamore. While both of our children are gifted, they are very different from one another as learners, and Sycamore was an amazing experience for each of them."

Here's a wide-ranging conversation with Jennifer as she talks about the Early Childhood division, other areas of the school, and what Sycamore does to prepare students for life after Early Childhood.

GIVE A BIT OF BACKGROUND TO THOSE WHO MAY BE PARENTS OF YOUNG STUDENTS NOT AT SYCAMORE. WHAT IS EARLY CHILDHOOD?

JENNIFER WILLIAMS: In our Early Childhood division, we have three grade levels. Children start in our Preschool program when they're three years old. They go through Preschool, Pre-kindergarten, and Kindergarten. Preschool students can be here full day or half day. After that, our kids are here for the entire day, every day, and get to experience the full Sycamore program.

WHAT'S THE CLASS SIZE AT SYCAMORE?

JW: The teacher-to-student ratio needs to be low. While this is important for all young children, at Sycamore it's even more critical. The low ratio allows teachers to differentiate instruction as well as meet the social and emotional needs of their Early Childhood students. In Preschool, we have classrooms with three adults: a lead teacher and two assistants, and those classrooms have no more than 15 children each.

The next year in Pre-Kindergarten we'll go a little bit larger in terms of class size. We still have three teachers in each room and can have 18 students. When we get to Kindergarten there can be 20 students in each homeroom, and each classroom has a lead teacher and a full-time assistant. This 1:10 ratio continues throughout Lower School.

WHAT DO YOU VIEW AS THE BENEFITS TO HAVING THAT SECOND OR THIRD ADULT IN A CLASSROOM?

JW: It's invaluable. We absolutely could not do what we do without our assistants. They are essential to our program. When we differentiate for different skill levels and work with children in smaller groups, you have another adult there to teach. They also provide another set of eyes and can help support when a teacher might be doing a whole class lesson. They keep an eye out for what's happening with any behavioral, academic, and social-emotional needs.



YOU USE THE WORD "DIFFERENTIATION." IF SOMEBODY HAS NEVER HEARD THAT WORD USED IN AN EDUCATIONAL CONTEXT, WHAT DOES IT MEAN AT SYCAMORE?

JW: Differentiation essentially is getting to know the child as an individual and adapting the curriculum or the classroom to meet those needs. The overall curricular focus for the classroom might be the same, but the level of complexity or pacing supports the students' needs. Those needs vary among the students.

HOW DO SYCAMORE TEACHERS ACCOMPLISH THAT?

JW: It's our job to meet those needs. In addition to using formative assessments, Sycamore teachers build relationships with their students. They look for ways to challenge their thinking, encourage their creativity and problem-solving, and support their growth socially and emotionally.

HOW YOUNG ARE THE STUDENTS IN PRESCHOOL?

JW: Preschoolers are 3 by August 1. By the time they leave Kindergarten, almost everybody has turned six. Children go through a lot of developmental stages from three to six, and it's important to honor that growth. It's also common to see asynchronous development with young gifted students. They might be able to identify every element on the periodic table, but they

“ ”

The social-emotional piece—the valuing them as people in addition to the academics—is so important. When somebody thinks of a gifted school, a lot of times they think of a math or a science. It's more than that. As early as Preschool, our students get to interact and attend classes in Spanish, art, music, and PE. In Kindergarten, they start to engage more in media and technology education. It's amazing how our special area teachers enhance the kids' experience and connect with what they're doing in the classroom.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS



Physical Education and field trips are both a part of the Early Childhood curriculum.

are still learning how to share and play cooperatively with their classmates. Emotionally, they are still three years old, but they might walk into your classroom being able to read, and they won't even attempt to write their name because they can't get their hand to form the letters the way they want.

Perfectionism can sneak in there too. While asynchronous development is common for many gifted students, it seems to be more pronounced during the Early Childhood years. Sycamore teachers are trained in gifted education, so when they see these characteristics they understand. They know how to not only challenge but spark curiosity. They support and encourage. They help young children work through these frustrations and become more resilient and independent.

WHAT ELSE MAKES SYCAMORE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER SCHOOLS? WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE?

JW: We are one of the few early childhood programs in the country that focuses on the needs of young gifted students. In another preschool or early childhood setting our students might stand out. They might be the only one who is excelling or asking the big questions. Here at Sycamore their learning style and the big questions they ask are far more normalized. While gifted kids are individuals, they do find kindred spirits in our classrooms. They have friends who get excited about similar things, who have big feelings like they do, and are working through some of the same challenges.

At Sycamore, the environment is student-focused. We honor the developmental stages of Early Childhood, but children can be themselves, whether they're obsessed with the solar system, are into Broadway musicals, know every dinosaur, or want to spend their whole time drawing airplanes. We get it. They can be who they are. They're in a safe space with people who challenge them, support them, and love them. ●





With a Parent

IN HER OWN WORDS:
JANICE HRISOMALOS

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE SYCAMORE?

We know all the schools in the area. We considered all of them, and they're all great. But all the kids that I knew from high school that had gone to Sycamore seemed like they were in a different league than the others. They knew how to learn, knew how to study, knew how to do public speaking. We wanted to invest in our kids' education, in something that we know the return is going to be good for them. We knew that every Sycamore kid that we had interacted with was well educated, well spoken, had a great foundation for high school.

AS A PARENT, YOU SOMETIMES DON'T KNOW IF YOUR CHOICE IS THE CORRECT ONE. YOU'RE ALWAYS TRYING TO MAKE THE BEST CHOICE. DID YOU MAKE ONE THAT FEELS RIGHT?

Yes. The people are fantastic. It's not just the teachers who are amazing and so good about teaching gifted children, not just academically, but socially, and the emotional support. My daughter in particular is very hard on herself when she doesn't do something right. She's had teachers that have been so wonderful and taught her it's okay to make mistakes, and we're not perfect. They have a calming presence that really works with these types of kids. Jennifer Williams knows every kid's name on the first day of school. They want you to love your kids' school life, love their education, and feel like they're really welcome here. Kids feel as though this is a 'home away from home'. I've really loved that.

WHAT DO THE KIDS SAY ABOUT SYCAMORE? DID THEY QUICKLY LOVE SCHOOL? OR DID THEY LEARN TO LOVE IT? HOW DID THAT WORK?

My daughter had gone to another little preschool two days a week before we started at Sycamore, and she hated it there. I don't know if it was the age or what it was, but it just did not work out. I was very nervous when she started at Sycamore that she was going to have a hard transition. Immediately from day one, she loved it. I was even more worried about my son because he was born six months before the pandemic, but he completely blossomed here, and it's been so fun to see. He would come home every day, and he would say in the car, "Charlie is my best friend," and "I love Vivian." They are so sweet with these other kids.

DID EACH OF YOUR KIDS FIND THEIR PASSION, OR HAVE HELP IN FINDING IT?

One of my concerns was that my daughter loves art. I was worried that she wouldn't have the ability to explore that passion because she'd be so focused on academics. She has done so much art here. This girl has brought home so much art. I feel like if you do worry that the only focus is on academics, that is not the case. They have so many other things they do. Wherever the passion is for your child, they want to help facilitate that. ●

Janice has two students attending Sycamore and shares insight about her experiences at the school. Her daughter Daphne is in 1st Grade and son Ari is in Pre-Kindergarten. Both started at Sycamore in Preschool.

SYCAMORE'S

Brandon Fitzsimmons

AWARDED LILLY ENDOWMENT GRANT



Fitzsimmons and students ride a bus in Ecuador.

Sycamore Middle School Spanish teacher Brandon Fitzsimmons has been awarded a Lilly Endowment grant to travel to three areas of the world as part of a cultural immersion program that he has designed.

A \$15,000 grant from Lilly Endowment's Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program will fund three solo trips that Brandon will take to remote areas of the globe in 2025 and 2026. He will begin with a two-week journey to the deserts of Namibia, along with visits to the South African city of Cape Town and the

landlocked microstates of Lesotho and Eswatini.

Also planned is a month-long Summer 2026 tour of Central Asia, with multiple days in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan. During this trip, Brandon will also take part in a program with Indiana University's National Resource Centers for Area and Global Studies.

He will also visit the South Pacific island nations of Fiji and Tuvalu, often described as the least-visited country on earth.

As a multilingual Spanish teacher who has traveled to more than 60 countries, Brandon says that the highest and purest form of personal renewal is realizing that life is global. "Every day in the classroom I seek to inspire my students to think, live, and prioritize their lives in this fashion," he says. "As a fellow gifted youth who once memorized all the world's capitals during a single afternoon in the sixth grade, I continue to be entranced by the glorious nuances and iterations of language, culture, history, and geography."

Fitzsimmons is in his sixth year of teaching at Sycamore School, and his students regularly finish near the top on national proficiency exams, including eight Gold Medal Finalists in the 2024



National Spanish Exam. A total of 38 Sycamore Middle School Spanish students earned medals in 2024 for being in the top 75th percentile nationally. ●



Mervis Family and Sycamore: All Those Years Ago



Gabe, Isaac, Sam, and Joey

The Mervis family had a long run at Sycamore School. Michael and Julie Mervis had four boys attend Sycamore, with the oldest graduating in 2011 and the youngest in 2018. When most students leave Sycamore, they head to high school, to college, and then into a field they are passionate about. That pattern was true for the Mervis boys.

Michael was a long-serving Board member at Sycamore as well as an integral participant on a number of Board committees that ensured the school's growth. He confirms that the Sycamore experience was important for his kids as they developed into young men.

"The faculty and staff at Sycamore nurtured our sons' curiosity, developed

their confidence, and inculcated interpersonal skills that allowed them to work collaboratively and build lasting friendships,” Michael says. “Our sons’ Sycamore experiences helped them become good people as well as good students.”

The oldest of the four boys, Isaac (’11) graduated from University High School in 2015 and Davidson University in 2019. He is currently a program manager for United Way in Indianapolis. He oversees the Youth Board of the Caroline Symmes Children’s Cancer Endowment and is currently working toward a graduate degree in nonprofit management at Indiana University.

Joey (’13) graduated from North Central High School in 2017 and New York University in 2023.

He is the director of video content for BroadwayWorld in New York City. In 2020, he co-founded a video production company, which has since branched into public relations and social strategy (www.riverbendcreative.com). Joey also serves on the board of the Caroline Symmes Children’s Cancer Endowment.

Sam, who attended Sycamore during Early Childhood and Lower School, graduated from University High School in 2020 and The University of Southern Indiana in 2024. Sam has spent the last five years playing D1 basketball at USI while earning both undergraduate and graduate degrees in business.

Gabe (’18) is a 2022 University High School grad and is a junior at Davidson. Gabe is the bullpen catcher at Davidson and is working toward degrees in psychology and education policy while prepping for the MCATs. Over the past two summers, Gabe has worked as an EMT and as a research assistant in the Symmes Pediatric Cancer Lab at Riley Hospital.

Each of the four boys had different skills and needs. Michael says Sycamore was successful in finding ways to connect with them as individuals.

“Sycamore was a wonderful environment for supporting the social, academic and

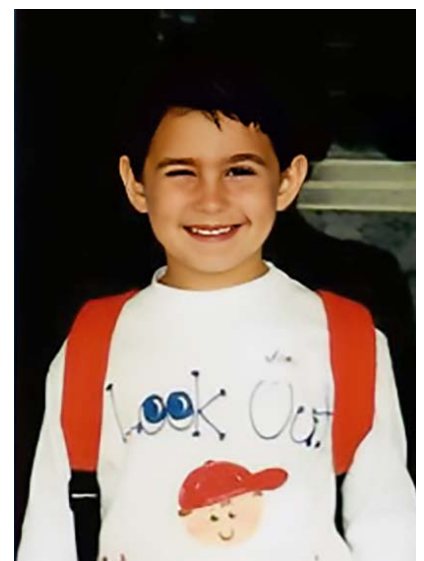
emotional development of the boys,” Michael says. “Joey performed in plays at the Indiana Repertory Theater during his 5th and 8th Grade winters. These performances required that he miss classes for much of January and February. The Sycamore staff supported him as he made up daily assignments and as his interests in theater and video production blossomed. Isaac and Gabe were able to develop both their academic and athletic skills.”

As he looks back at his own experience, Michael advises younger parents searching for the best school for their children to use common sense: Find the best fit.

“Choose the school on what is academically and socially best for each child. While having children at different schools may be challenging – during one fall we had children at four different schools and none of the boys had a driver’s license – the logistics are a brief annoyance for what will be a lifetime of benefit.”

“Sycamore’s clarity of mission is one of its greatest strengths,” he continues. “The Board and leadership consistently make decisions to allow academically gifted students to reach their potential. We would be remiss if we didn’t recognize the exceptional faculty and staff; our sons’ classmates also helped create a fantastic environment for learning.”

Michael says the uniqueness of Sycamore is one of its greatest attributes. “Sycamore is a novel environment in American education,” he says. “At Sycamore, it is not ‘uncool’ to be high achieving; it is just the norm.” ●



Sycamore Celebrates 27 Years of Hosting Statewide STEAM Conference

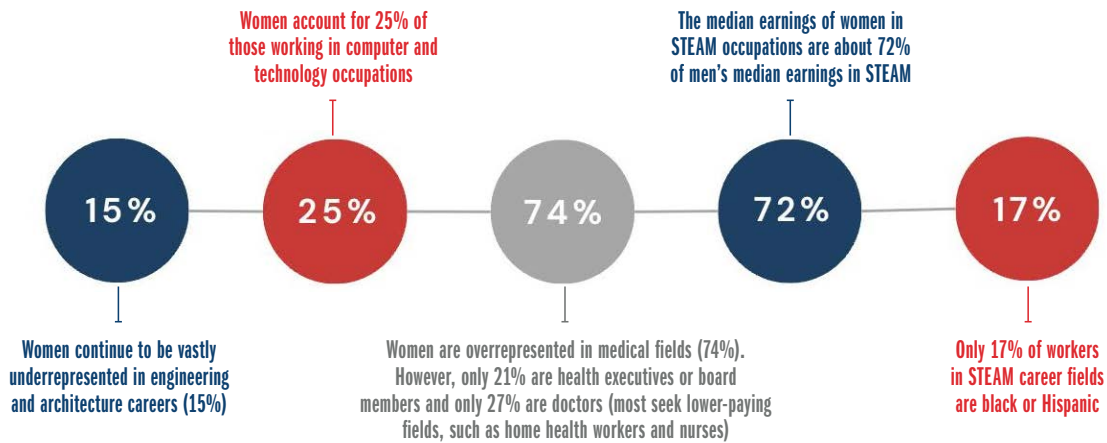
Pics from 2025 Girls
STEAM Conference



One of the marquee events that Sycamore hosts each year is the Girls' STEAM Conference. The 2025 conference marked the 27th year for the annual gathering of Middle School girls from across Indiana. January's event was attended by 297 girls who participated in 30 workshop sessions throughout the day.

The conference is organized by Sycamore School's Director of Extended Programs, Melissa Branigan. In her fourth year overseeing this event, Melissa is charged

SUPPORTING DATA



Sycamore students at the 2025 conference

with gathering and managing a team of staff and volunteers to ensure the STEAM Conference runs smoothly.

"We typically have around 40 volunteers and 85-90 workshop presenters," Branigan says. "Volunteers are Sycamore staff and community members, which includes alums and alum parents. These volunteers are passionate about inspiring girls to seek out STEAM fields and learn more about them."

The goal, she says, is to create a memorable and inspiring day for girls who are beginning to think about their future

careers and to give them guidance and hands-on experiences.

"I am most proud of the opportunity we get to inspire so many young girls each year," she says. "After the conference, we receive emails from parents thanking us for providing this opportunity for their girls to try out STEAM fields. We also get emails from parents of girls who attended in the past who are now adults and have chosen a STEAM field career."

Branigan appreciates that Sycamore can welcome girls to the conference who might need financial assistance to participate.

“ ”

I am most proud of the opportunity to inspire so many young girls each year. After the conference, we receive emails from parents thanking us for providing this opportunity for their girls to try out STEAM fields. We also get emails from parents of girls who attended in the past who are now adults and have chosen a STEAM field career.

MELISSA BRANIGAN

“With the support of our conference sponsors, we were able to give 95 scholarships to girls who would not otherwise have been able to attend,” she says.

The conference starts at 8:00am and runs through the afternoon, with each girl participating in five different sessions. Since taking over her lead role, Melissa and her committee have worked to develop new opportunities for girls to experience during the day.

“The conference has grown with the varied session topics we now offer,” she says “We seek out STEAM fields and careers that are innovative and maybe a little “outside of the box” for girls to try, and they seem to love it.” In 2025, the conference added skilled trades and construction, and both, according to Branigan, were popular with the girls.

“A goal for the conference is to continue to inspire all middle school girls through

Sycamore hosts Middle School girls who travel from across the state for the event.





new and innovative workshop sessions and to continue to provide opportunities for girls who may not otherwise be able to attend, utilizing our scholarships,” she says. “I would love to increase the number of skilled trades sessions we offer to the girls. Those sessions also provide an amazing hands-on experience for the girls in STEAM concepts.”

Melissa was asked why Sycamore continues to hold an event that requires year-round planning by a committee of staff and volunteers. Her answer was simple: She wants Sycamore to inspire not only its own students but also those from other schools.

“We want to continue to inspire the next generation to seek out courses and careers in STEAM fields,” Branigan says. “Our mission for the Girls’ STEAM Conference is to support and supplement STEAM education for middle school girls in the state of Indiana. We recognize the underrepresentation of females, particularly females of color, within science and technology. Through this conference’s immersive experiences, hands-on activities, and interactions with female professionals, we hope to heighten girls’ interest in STEAM career pathways and inspire them, when their time comes, to choose science and technology careers.” ●

THE HEART OF GIVING:

The Head of School Circle at Sycamore School

The Impact of Giving: Head of School Circle members are Sycamore champions. Their support helps sustain a vibrant and dynamic learning environment, fostering curiosity, innovation, and excellence among students.

2024-25 SYCAMORE DONORS



Please use this QR code to review a list of 2024-25 Sycamore donors. We sincerely thank all contributors for supporting Sycamore and its students. Your investment is critical to the mission of our school! If your name is not included, there is still time to add it. Please consider joining other donors by making a gift online at sycamoreschool.org.

Every great school depends on the generosity of those who believe in its mission. At Sycamore, philanthropy is more than just giving. It is an investment in the bright futures of the students in our care. The Head of School Circle, Sycamore's annual leadership giving society, is a testament to the commitment of our most generous supporters.

The Head of School Circle recognizes Sycamore parents, alumni, and friends who contribute \$2,500 or more in unrestricted dollars to the Sycamore Fund between July 1 and June 30. Payment of unrestricted Sycamore Inspires pledges; unrestricted, outright gifts made at the yearly auction; and matching dollar amounts from employers, will count toward membership.

"I am deeply appreciative of all of the support from our families, alumni, faculty, staff, and others," says John Huber, Sycamore's Head of School. "The greater Sycamore community is incredible. The Head of School Circle recognizes those who are able to make a leadership commitment to Sycamore, and I am thankful to them for their devotion and generosity. My family and I have chosen to make Sycamore our top philanthropic priority. I am so pleased to see the many families join me to make such a commitment to the benefit of Sycamore students."

Head of School Circle donors help fund critical operational expenses and play a vital role in fostering the school's mission. Their generosity ensures that students have access to state-of-the-art technology, enriching academic and athletic programs, inspiring field trips, distinguished guest speakers, and financial assistance for families in need.

"We realize that not all parents, grandparents, graduates, and friends can give at the Head of School Circle level," Jim Wood, Sycamore School's Director

of Advancement says. "Gifts of all sizes remain appreciated and are critical for Sycamore's success, but we hope those who are able will consider this leadership opportunity.

Exclusive Benefits and Meaningful

Engagement: Beyond the satisfaction of supporting Sycamore's educational excellence, Head of School Circle members enjoy unique opportunities to engage with the school community. As a token of appreciation, members receive:

- An invitation to special events, including:
 - The Fall Borgmann Inspiration Fund recipient presentation, celebrating an exceptional staff member who embodies Sycamore's spirit
 - The Spring Symphony on the Playground, including a delightful picnic dinner accompanied by live music
 - A Town Hall Meeting with the Head of School and Board Chair, offering insight into the school's vision and strategic direction
- Special news updates from the Head of School, keeping members informed on key initiatives and developments
- A Squadlocker coupon for Sycamore swag, allowing supporters to demonstrate their school pride
- A personal birthday card from the Head of School as a heartfelt thank-you
- An advanced copy of the Sycamore School Magazine, providing exclusive stories and updates on the school community •

Scan to learn more about the Head of School Circle giving society.



25 Years Later:

REFLECTIONS FROM A FORMER SYCAMORE PARENT

BY RANDEE MILLER

The parents of Kellee Miller reflect on what a Sycamore education has meant for their daughter—and their own family.

Kellee Miller, '00, fully enjoyed her grade school years in the wonderful learning environment at Sycamore. The staff and fellow students created a supportive experience that inspired a thirst for knowledge and intellectual curiosity she still carries with her today. After Sycamore, she went on to Brebeuf High School and graduated from Purdue University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences and Biology. She loved the big school environment at Purdue with Big Ten sports and life at Delta Gamma Sorority.

Coming to the conclusion of college life, with career goals in focus, Kellee moved to Boston to study at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. After graduation, she became a Doctor of Dental Medicine, a career goal since she was young. Four years living in downtown Boston gave her the opportunity to pursue a water sport as well. She achieved certifications in sailing during her free time, and she remains an avid sailor.

Following graduation from Tufts in 2013, she completed a Dental Residency in hospital-based General Dentistry at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. Dr. Miller then started her dental career in Chicago where she practiced General Dentistry and Holistic Dentistry at an office in the loop. She enjoyed living in the city, sailing on Lake Michigan, and taking additional classes in cosmetic dentistry to become even better at her craft. Even though her formal education was over, the thirst for knowledge that Sycamore instilled remained. Today, Kellee continues to take classes in the latest techniques and research at the prestigious Kois Center to ensure the best outcomes for her patients.



Dr. Kellee Miller

She met her husband, Dr. Sean O'Grady, a fellow dentist, while living in Chicago. They moved to Denver, where they started their own dental practice, OG Dental. They enjoy skiing and hiking in Colorado and return to Chicago in the summer for sailing on Lake Michigan. ●

When They Come Back

Robbie Sheffield & Courtney Brody Return to the Classroom—as Assistant Teachers

During the 2024-25 academic year, two of our first-year teaching assistants are Sycamore graduates. After being on the other side of the desk for a semester, they reflected on returning professionally to their alma mater.

ROBBIE SHEFFIELD

Class of 2016

First Grade Teaching Assistant

I first came to Sycamore in Pre-K as a four-year-old and graduated from 8th Grade in 2016, almost ten years later. It has been a little surreal to return and find my two Kindergarten teachers Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Stahl as the Division Heads of Early Childhood and Lower School, my former Computer/Technology teacher, Mrs. Baker, as the Head of Middle School, and my former English, Grammar, and Language Arts Teacher, Miss O'Malley, as the Alumni Coordinator!

My Sycamore experience was characterized by dedicated, well-informed teachers who exuded expertise in not only their subject areas but also in working with gifted children. I still have vivid memories of the Middle School Physics labs, History lectures, and Word-Within-the-Word practice that laid the foundation for my future learning in AP and Honors courses at Brebeuf and in college. I fondly remember our 5th Grade field trip to the hills and valleys of the Great Smoky Mountains in Tremont, Tennessee.

Earlier this semester, I was able to enjoy a meal with my brother Matt and sister Ellie, graduates from Sycamore classes of 2007 and 2008, respectively. Specific facts about art history, biological sciences, and historical anecdotes often bleed into our conversations, prompting one of my parents to ask, "Where did you learn



that?” More often than not, the answer is something along the lines of “Sycamore in Mr./Mrs. So-and-so’s class.”

I graduated from DePauw University in 2024 with my B.A. in Psychology, and I am interested in the psychology of school-aged children. I saw a return to my roots here at Sycamore as an exciting opportunity to explore gifted education and learn from the best!

My respect for teachers, educators, and the counselors who shape the next generation has done nothing but grow during my time assisting with First Grade. I love getting to know each student and watching each story unfold. Like well-sown seeds, it has been so rewarding to watch the confidence and worldview of each student sprout and grow throughout this year!

COURTNEY BRODY

Class of 2013

Pre-Kindergarten

Teaching Assistant

I came to Sycamore in Preschool during the 2002-2003 school year. My time learning here gave me a strong foundation of both educational and life skills that I carry with me every single day. I was encouraged to challenge myself, to approach topics from multiple perspectives, stay organized, be independent, and always want to deepen my understanding of subjects. I think spending eleven years here gave me the opportunity to develop unique socio-emotional and academic skills that I took with me through college. I had experiences at Sycamore that widened my worldview and taught me the importance of being open-minded and aware of life outside of my Sycamore “bubble.”

What sets Sycamore apart from all other grade schools is the academic challenge and the encouragement to explore subjects in depth. Sycamore supports curiosity and allows students to really develop critical thinking skills, and that stands true to this day.

Until I returned this school year as a Pre-K assistant, I never appreciated or understood the love and genuine care for



students, and particularly the patience, that comes with teaching.

I feel so lucky to be part of the Sycamore community. My family started at Sycamore in 1993 when my brother Scott enrolled; my sister Mary started in 1997, and when I graduated in 2013, it was noted that the Brody family had been a part of Sycamore for 20 consecutive years. I think that longevity creates a feeling of a second home, and that reminds me every day how much of a family Sycamore is to me. I still get so excited every time I see one of my former teachers in the hallways. I began life-long friendships in the very same classroom where I now get to teach. It is truly such a special feeling of gratitude, excitement, love, and happiness all in one place. ●

WHAT MADE YOU
WANT TO RETURN?

“““

The opportunity to contribute to such a loving and caring community that I feel like I have been part of my whole life.

BRODY

ALUMNI



[1] Before he returned to Sydney, Australia in pursuit of his Master's in Design Innovation, **Krishan Recinto**, Class of 2015, and his dad, Bob, visited Sycamore. They witnessed the many changes that have occurred on the campus during the past decade and spent part of an afternoon reconnecting with faculty and staff.

[2] **Lily Grace Martinson '22** and her brother **Henry '24** returned for Grandparents' Day.

[3] **Jake Lee '21** came for a visit and to spend some time with his 8th Grade sister **Leni**.

[4] Mr. **Robbie Sheffield '16** and **Alexandra Lange Miller '09** were substitute teachers in 1st Grade. This is the first time two alumni subbed in the same classroom on the same day.





[5] Jay Wetzel '95 hosted a party at his Broad Ripple establishment, Union Jack Pub, during the holidays. Pictured left to right: **Kyle Hagner '97**, **Charles Tam '02**, **Erica Hagner Harrison '99**, **Emily Biesecker '00**, and **Jay. Mary O'Malley** and **Jeff Stroebel** also attended the gathering.

[6] The **Cabellon kids: Colin '21, Ava '19** also joined their sister 6th Grader **Lily** on Grandparents' Day.

[7] **Elizabeth Emhardt '04** worked with 8th Grader **Rachel Louis** at the Girls' STEAM Conference.

[8] **Tyler Palmer '98**, who now resides in North Carolina, visited Sycamore with his family and his parents this past winter.

[9] Indiana Kick-off Quiz Bowl Tournament reunites Sycamore current students and alums.



Alumnus returns to Sycamore for a Concert

BY MARY O'MALLEY
Alumni Coordinator



Multi-talented musician and composer, and Sycamore graduate, Justin Kinchen returned to his hometown for an enjoyable March afternoon of music at the Schrott Center for the Arts on Butler University's campus. He was joined by the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Matthew Kraemer. He was also accompanied by several guest artists for a wide range of musical genres from classical to jazz to contemporary. Justin engaged the audience by playing violin, trumpet, and piano, singing, and conducting the orchestra. Featuring unreleased music from two very different albums, *Out at Sea* and *Yours Truly*, he showcased his unique musical voice. It was an unforgettable event attended by several of his former Sycamore classmates and teachers.

Justin came to Sycamore a few days later to perform for the 7th and 8th Graders, and he delivered an inspirational talk about creating good work habits and setting goals.

Kinchen, Class of 2016, is a Miami-based musician, conductor, and composer.

Under the tutelage of Professors Scott Flavin and Brian Lynch, Justin continues to develop his diverse gifts at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music. Drawing from his breadth of experience in both the



jazz and classical worlds, he seeks to combine various influences into a unique musical voice.

Beginning his violin studies at the age of four and trumpet at nine, he has been committed to his lifelong passion ever since. Growing up in Indianapolis, he was an active member of a prestigious music community. Kinchen was a leader in the Indianapolis Youth Orchestra during his decade-long involvement, including as concertmaster in his senior year at Park Tudor. He was a selected performer in the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's Side-by-Side competition for three consecutive years. He was selected as a first violinist in the Indiana All-State Orchestra and as a trumpeter in the

All-State Honor Band and All-State Jazz Band.

At the University of Miami, he has been selected to perform in a range of concerts with other world-class talent. He performed in the Melton Mustafa Jazz Festival with his combo, was selected to perform in an open rehearsal with Joshua Bell and the Academy of Saint Martin in the Fields Orchestra, and performed with Arturo Sandoval for the filming of his HBO Documentary.

As a Fellow for the Henry Mancini Institute at the Frost School of Music, Justin is now pursuing a double Master's degree in Violin Performance and in Studio Jazz Writing. ●

From left: Dr. Susan Karpicke, Eileen Prince, Glenna Lykens, Deb Stewart, Justin Kinchen, JoDee Grau, and Mary O'Malley

MEMORIAM

MIKEY CARDWELL

CLASS OF 2021

University High School student and Sycamore graduate Mikey Cardwell passed away unexpectedly in November 2024. A friend to many and an inquisitive, deep-thinking individual, a number of parents, friends, and teachers shared memories of Mikey.

This photo was taken in October 2024 when Mikey volunteered to be a panelist for this year's Sycamore Alumni Panel.



MIKEY

OUR “UTTERLY” EAGLE

COMPILED BY
MARY O’MALLEY

One of my earliest memories of Mikey was an unusually cold field trip to the Zoo. No matter how many times I offered him gloves, Mikey would not put them on. He needed his hands free to write all the facts. He jumped from enclosure to enclosure, reading information signs out loud, probably no less enthusiastic than the zoologists who first made these discoveries. Equal to his own excitement, he wanted others to feel the thrill of walrus flopping in big piles to keep warm with their blubber. Was there anything better than knowing this? That was the day I learned Mikey lived joy-forward. His spirit was utterly contagious.

Years later, as I quizzed him before a history bee, his head cocked to the left over and over as he belted out the answers, I remember thinking “Is that where he stores it all? Is the head flip some kind of switch?” I knew of his intellectual power, but I had no idea the wattage until I jumped into the deep end of the pool with him that day. I recall being surprised by his lack of hubris. He knew he had a rare gift, but ego didn’t seem to interest him. Learning wasn’t a ladder, it was a doorway.

And to that end, he was kind on principle. He was kind and humble because he was kind and humble. His friendships mattered. His community mattered. Kelly asked, “How can our class be us without Mikey?” Mikey was an Eagle’s eagle, so integral to the spirit of the Class of 2021, that he was a kind of a beacon. I can hear him in my head, cracking the joke, “Did you say beak or beacon?” Both Mikey, you were both. May we honor his memory by continuing to stretch our minds, ask capaciousness of our hearts, and choose humility over hubris. By the way, the longest snake ever discovered was a 32 feet 9.2 inch reticulated python. Ask me how I know.

With a nod to his parents’ Michigan home, due to Mikey’s endless Michigan State Spartan wardrobe that I kept track of him while I was a chaperone.

He will be forever missed by those of us who had the joy of knowing him.

LORI FULK

*Past parent and current Sycamore Nurse,
with inspiration from Kelly Fulk, Class of ‘21*

“““

I knew of his intellectual power, but I had no idea the wattage until I jumped into the deep end of the pool with him that day. I recall being surprised by his lack of hubris. He knew he had a rare gift, but ego didn’t seem to interest him. Learning wasn’t a ladder, it was a doorway.

LORI FULK

When Mikey entered my 5th Grade Advisory, he was quite shy, a little goofy, and all heart. During his four years of Middle School, he warmed up and shared more of his unconventional sense of humor with our advisory group. There was a period when he communicated in donkey brays, and it wasn't clear whether he was mimicking a donkey or had actually transformed into one himself, but his love for this animal was powerful and his homage to it was endearing. Not only did Mikey's sharp wit and quirky personality crack us up on a regular basis, it held us together. He was simply magic, filled with spirit and open-heartedness. He lit up the room with his huge smile and brought joy to others around him, always inviting us in to share the joke with him.

In Middle School Mikey's long curls would often cover his eyes, perhaps offering protection when he needed a moment to himself. However, when he returned to visit Sycamore during high school, there was no more hiding. Mikey was shining bright, radiating warmth to all around him. With each next visit, I would find that he had grown, not only in physical stature but also in composure, sense of self, confidence, and overall maturity. He retained a light-hearted goofiness (still Mikey, after all!) but impressed me with a depth of self-assuredness that he was coming to know within himself.

At high school information night his senior year, he impressed my youngest child. Of all the students who presented about their high schools, Mikey was the one who shared the most exuberance, not only for University High School, but for the world around him, and for life itself. I will always treasure my memories of Mikey. He was one of a kind.

DR. SAMANTHA OUTCALT

*Sycamore Psychologist
Middle School Advisor*

Mikey was my classmate from Preschool until our senior year of high school. I have memories of him from playgrounds, hallways, classrooms, field trips, and more. The memories are too many to summarize, so I will describe how he made me feel instead. One of Mikey's biggest characteristics was his positive energy, and no matter the situation, he lifted everyone's spirits with his attitude and his sense of humor. His funny comments during our Middle School morning Advisory always made me laugh, and he even had a way of making challenging classes feel more enjoyable. His hard work set an example for me and helped me to not feel too frustrated



or to give up. Looking back, I realize how much those small moments meant and how special it was to just have Mikey around during those years. I am very sad that someone who brought so much joy to others is no longer here, but I'll always remember the way Mikey made the people around him feel.

ELI BERGER

*Classmate and friend
Sycamore Class of 2021
University High School
Class of 2025*

Light plays an integral part in our lives. Waves and particles collectively banding in various lengths to brighten rooms, spot our focus, and fuel our planet's growth. A boat adrift, looking around in a sea of darkness to see a light in the sky—albeit billions of miles away—is bright enough to serve as an ensign, allowing us to find our path forward. For the past 18 years, Mikey Cardwell has been a beacon of light for all of us, his light shining at various frequencies in our lives. During his time at Sycamore, he literally lit up the room with his finger quick on a buzzer to answer a trivia question. Whether spoken in English, Spanish, or French, his message was clear and from the heart. Mikey's laugh was on a wavelength of its own. Typically sourced from the beloved band room, it played louder than any Careless Whisper in the halls.

These past four years, Mikey has been a beacon of community, support, and trust



Cardwell and friends during
6th Grade Advisory

as he led the University High School community on foot in cross country, in spirit in Pep Band, in wisdom on Academic, and in heart in every action he lived. What an honor it has been to be in the path of that light for so many years.

As physics has taught, electromagnetic radiation is present whether visible or not. The energy that empowers light is neither created nor destroyed. It is ours to learn from, to grow from, and to radiate forward.

JAMIE MACDOUGALL

*Former Head of Middle School
at Sycamore School*

*Current Assistant Head of School
at University High School*



TO CELEBRATE
40 YEARS OF
SYCAMORE,
we pulled a number of
photos from the archives
to share, dating back to
the school's founding
in 1985.





SYCAMORE CLASS OF 2021

College Decisions

Ainsley Bale
Indiana University

Elyse Barth
Wake Forest University

Eli Berger
Indiana University

Sam Boncosky
Indiana University

Colin Cabellon
Purdue University

Alex Chen
University of California,
Berkeley

Kavya Chheda
University of Michigan

Triston English
Purdue University

Sophie Farnum
Saint Olaf College

Lukas Fiur
Rose-Hulman Institute
of Technology

Jack Foltz
Temple University

Kelly Fulk
Purdue University

Emily Ganter
Princeton University

Nour Ghoneim
Indiana University,
Indianapolis-
BSMD Program

Amelia Gollapudi
Indiana University

Neela Gussick
Washington University,
St. Louis

Emily Hackwelder
University of Notre Dame

Elizabeth Harlow
Purdue University

Phil Jervis
Ball State University

David Jiang
Harvard University

Jake Lee
Stanford University

Nate Liang
University of California,
Berkeley

Alex Lipkovich
Indiana University

Daniel Liu
Harvard University

Xindi Liu
University of Pennsylvania

Larissa Lo
The College of William
and Mary

Avi Maun
University of Cincinnati-
BSMD Program

Rayna Moiz
Butler University

Heidi Momodu
Tennessee State University-
BSMD Program

Ini Odelowo
Purdue University

Daniel Peyton
Indiana University

Sam Rudavsky
Harvard University

Katie Sanft
Imperial College London,
London England

Elizabeth Schuth
Indiana University

Annabel Simpson
Savannah College of
Art and Design

Siri Vuppalachchi
UCLA

Ellie Wang
Indiana University

Phifer Whorley
University of Notre Dame

Insia Zaidi
Northwestern University

In the fall of 2021, only two Sycamore graduates began their freshman year at North Central High School. This year Sophie Farnum and Jake Lee will graduate as valedictorian and salutatorian respectively.

CLASS OF 2025

High School Destinations

BREBEUF JESUIT BRAVES

Ella Baker
Ashton Fuhrmann
Nick Hartsock
Harlan Kelly
Theo Kelly
Arshawn Moayed
Jesse-Robert Momodu
Neal Narayanan
Suraj Shah
Joe Truesdale

CARDINAL RITTER RAIDERS

Nicolas Spalding-Price

CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL GREYHOUNDS

Shruti Abhilash
Izzy Abraham
Madison Brown
Laura Cai
Ishin Fujita
Prudy Peng

CATHEDRAL IRISH

Violet Fortner
Matthew Roth

DAVIDSON ACADEMY ONLINE

Nirdvaita Chandrana

HERRON HIGH SCHOOL ACHAEANS

Layla Emmert

NORTH CENTRAL PANTHERS

Leni Lee

PARK TUDOR PANTHERS

Yazan Afaneh
Pierce Hawkins
Addison Liu
Rachel Louis
Savannah Murray
Jacob Salzinger
Kelvin Yan

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL OF INDIANA TRAILBLAZERS

Jane Ai
Joshua Alcantara
Charlie Appel
Daniel Bazeley
Keith Deng
Ellie Eaton
Leo Salerno
Jack Stetzer
Landon Truesdel

ZIONSVILLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL EAGLES

Jaidyn Virvani

Alumni News and Notes

National Merit Scholarship Finalists: Sycamore Class of 2021

Brebeuf	Phillips Andover Academy
Avi Maun	Nate Liang
Sam Rudavsky	Benjamin Franklin High School (New Orleans)
Larissa Lo	Xindi Liu
Carmel	
David Jiang	
North Central	
Sophie Farnum	COMMENDED SCHOLARS
Park Tudor	Carmel High School
Emily Hackwelder	Kelly Fulk
Daniel Liu	Alex Lipkovich
University High School	Park Tudor
Tristan English	Nour Ghoneim
Emily Ganter	Neela Gussick
Phifer Whorley	Insia Zaidi

Candidates for U.S. Presidential Scholars: Sycamore Class of 2021

Carmel High School	University High School
David Jiang	Emily Ganter
Park Tudor School	Benjamin Franklin High School (New Orleans)
Emily Hackwelder	Xindi Liu
Daniel Liu	
Insia Zaidi	
Phillips Andover Academy	
Nate Liang	

Rising Stars of Indiana Class of 2026 (current juniors)

Brebeuf	Park Tudor
Shivani Desai	Connor Kacena-Merrell
Cathedral	Kaitlyn Park
Ford Lee	Riti Tandra
	Zionsville
	Liam Hendry

Park Tudor Cum Laude Society Class of 2025

Nour Ghoneim	Daniel Liu
Neela Gussick	Siri Vuppalachchi
Emily Hackwelder	Insia Zaidi

NEWS

Anais Beuoy, Class of 2024, a freshman at North Central, had the honor of interviewing 16-year-old Yolanda Renee King, the only granddaughter of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King. The event, held at the Central Library, featured Yolanda King's book *We Dream a World*.

The goal of both girls was to inspire other young people, no matter their age. Anais reflected, "I'm so excited that I got to help someone so closely related to someone that made such a big change."

Annamaria Ebersole, Class of 2022, a junior at Park Tudor School, recently created a nonprofit called Kaution for Kids. It is a 501(c) 3 organization that will give youth injury prevention kits to mainly middle school students. In the kits are gauze rolls, band-aids, nutrition bookmarks, electrolyte packets, and other items. Also, inside the kits are pamphlets about youth injury prevention and guidelines for preventing injury such as getting enough sleep, stretching, and eating a good diet. Annamaria serves on a small board with a couple of members to discuss ways to further involve the nonprofit into the community. The new nonprofit is partnering with various organizations such as Calvin Fletcher's Coffee Company and the Oaks Academy Middle School Track Team. If you are interested, check out: Instagram [@kaution_for_kids](https://www.instagram.com/kaution_for_kids) or the website at kautionforkids.com.

Kelly Fulk, Class of 2021, a senior at Carmel High School, is the Indiana State Debate Association Champion in the policy event.

TJ McWilliams, Class of 2019, a wide receiver from the University of Minnesota, has signed with the University of Louisville Cardinals football program. He redshirted during the 2023 season and earned Academic All-Big Ten honors during the 2024 campaign. TJ was also named all-conference, all-state, and all-county while at North Central High School. He was selected to the 2022 IndyStar Super Team his senior year. His father, Terrence, played defensive end at Louisville.

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES

Tom Schroeder, Class of 2004, is in his third year as an Assistant Professor of Textile Engineering, Chemistry and Science at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. He graduated from University of Michigan with a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering in 2016. One of his papers, "An electric-eel-inspired soft power source from stacked hydrogels," was published in the journal *Nature* and later became a Jeopardy TV quiz show question. He spent three of his Ph.D. years at the Adolphe Merkle Institute in Fribourg, Switzerland. He earned his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Northwestern University in 2012.

Eddie Gill IV, attended Sycamore from Early Childhood through 5th Grade. He spent the next year in Australia before attending and graduating from Carmel Schools. Eddie holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and a Master's in Nonprofit Management from Grace College.

Throughout college, he worked at the Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams, gaining experience in research, education, and aquarium management. He also played basketball at Grace helping his team reach the Sweet Sixteen and Elite Eight in his final two years. Additionally, he previously served as an orangutan keeper at the Indianapolis Zoo. Eddie is a passionate environmental advocate, lifelong outdoorsman, and champion for diversity in the outdoor community. His professional journey with Friends of the White River (FOWR) began with an internship and has led to roles as Development Manager, Director of Outdoor Education, and in January 2025, as Interim Executive Director.

Eddie founded Journey for a Cause, a project dedicated to raising awareness in diverse communities about the benefits of the outdoors. In 2021, he completed a 10-day boat journey to promote the benefits of the outdoors and industry inclusivity.

David Yang, Class of 2003, has been selected for the role of Urology Chair for Mayo Clinic Health System (MCHS) in Minnesota.



In this new role, he will lead the Urology practices in the Southeast Minnesota and Southwest Minnesota regions. Dr. Yang will define and implement a strategic plan to improve quality, safety, efficiency, patient experience, and staff satisfaction within the Urology practice.

He received his medical degree at Indiana University School of Medicine and completed his Urology residency and Andrology fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He serves on the Mayo Clinic Urology Education Committee and chairs the Mayo Clinic Health System Revenue Optimization Subcommittee.

Dr. Yang is board-certified in Urology from the American Board of Urology and is a member of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, the American Urological Association, the Sexual Medicine Society of North America, the Society for Male Reproduction, and the Society of Urologic Prosthetic Surgeons. He will continue his Mankato-based practice in addition to the Minnesota Chair of Urology role.

NUPTIALS AND BIRTHS

SPRING EDITION

Tom Schroeder '04 married Michelle Fleming in July 2023 in Indianapolis. Sycamore class members in attendance were Kylie Bemis, Joel Haas, Nick Huster, and Alan Murugan.

Kellee Miller '00 married Dr. Sean O'Grady in late July 2024 in Chicago, Illinois.

Michael Baldwin, his wife, Caity, and Sycamore 2nd Grade sister Lily welcomed Sophie in August 2024.

Robbie Davidoff '05 and his wife, Miranda Garvin, welcomed their first child, a son, William, in September 2023 in Carnegie, Pennsylvania.

Emily Palmer Moore '08 and her husband, Josh, had their first child, a son, Wilson, in October 2024 in Evanston, Illinois.

Ellie Hoover Osterman '08 and her husband, Jake, welcomed Amelia (Millie), their first child, between Christmas and New Year's in Indianapolis.

Matt Borgmann '04 and his wife, Ruth, had their first baby, a son, Samuel Robert, in late January in Greensboro, North Carolina. This is the second grandchild for Diane Borgmann, former Head of School.

Ellie Sheffield Roberts '08 and her husband, Charlie, had their first baby, Parker David, in late January in Indianapolis. He is the nephew of Robbie Sheffield, Sycamore alum and First Grade Assistant Teacher.

Bradley Scholars Meet

Four Sycamore alumni, who are Caroline D. Bradley Scholarship awardees, gathered with other scholars from around the country for the Bradley Seminar in Pasadena, California in February. **Tess Eggeson** (2024), **Nate Liang** (2021), **Emily Hackwelder** (2021), and **Dominic Gasper** (2023) are seen here during a service project preparing supplies for California fire victims. Samantha Outcalt, Sycamore staff psychologist, a long-time partner with the Institute for Educational Advancement (which administers the scholarship) presented to parents of CDB scholars.



Avi Maun '21 Attends the Molecular Medicine in Action Program!

Congratulations to **Avi Maun '21** for being selected to participate in the prestigious Molecular Medicine in Action (MMIA) program at Indiana University. Out of over 200 applicants from across Indiana, Avi was chosen as one of only 50 students to attend this memorable two-day symposium focused on research in molecular biology, cancer therapy, and cytogenetics. Avi's excitement and commitment to furthering scientific research is inspiring, and we look forward to what he will do in the future!

Recent Grad Surpasses 700 Days of Wearing Sycamore Logo

Shayen Maun, Class of 2024, had been collecting Sycamore shirts for a few years, and upon a bet with a friend, he decided to wear one every single day for a month, including under suits and uniforms. A month became a year, and a year became two. By the time his 8th Grade graduation rolled around, he had worn a Sycamore shirt for 729 consecutive days, only breaking the streak after his final day at Sycamore, which he reluctantly agreed to do. The day before his first day of high school, his mother, Sumi, gifted him with this quilt made of his favorite Sycamore t-shirts from the bunch, a sentimental memento before a fresh start at Brebeuf Jesuit.



Sycamore Sweep at Rose-Hulman

In November, nine Park Tudor students traveled to Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (RHIT) for the annual High School Mathematics Competition. The competition was attended by several hundred high school students representing dozens of schools from around the state. The top 12 students in each grade level were awarded prizes, and each grade level was awarded a grade-level prize based on four select student scores. Park Tudor's nine students, all Sycamore graduates, won a total of twelve awards with every Park Tudor student in attendance winning some level of recognition.

1ST PLACE | Junior | **Kaitlyn Park**, 2022

2ND PLACE AND MARY RHEIN MEMORIAL AWARD | Freshman | **Justin Warren**, 2024

3RD PLACE | Sophomore | **Sameer Zaidi**, 2023

4TH PLACE | Freshman | **Gavin Sigua**, 2024

5TH PLACE | Freshman | **Chloe Sigua**, 2024

8TH PLACE | Junior | **Owen Zhang**, 2022

9TH PLACE | Freshman | **Krishna Una**, 2024

10TH PLACE | Junior | **Alexander Cheng**, 2022

12TH PLACE | Junior | **Arnay Garhyan**, 2022



Two Sycamore Students Meet Musician Stephen Sanchez

Leo Sniderman, Class of 2022, and **Sadie Sniderman**, Class of 2024, attended the Stephen Sanchez concert at Everwise Amphitheater at White River State Park, where they were allowed to go backstage and visit with him. Sadie had met Sanchez when he made a visit to the Sniderman home to visit her after she was unable to attend a previous show.



Park Tudor Academic Quiz Bowl Team Wins State Championship with All Members being Sycamore Alumni.

Park Tudor's Academic Quiz Bowl Team competed in the State Quiz Bowl Championship in March. Members of the winning team are all Sycamore alumni and include: **Evan Ting**, '24; **Gavin Sigua**, '24; **Insia Zaidi**, '21, and **Sameer Zaidi**, '23. Eighteen teams from high schools across the state of Indiana qualified for the event, with Park Tudor being the number one seed. The Panthers compiled a 9-1 record. This is the first State Quiz Bowl Championship that Park Tudor has won in 11 years.

Sycamore Alum Launches Words for Wishes

Riti Tandra (Sycamore '22) is a junior at Park Tudor High School and has launched Words for Wishes, a unique start up aimed at solving a problem faced by many — searching for the right words to express feelings. Riti's talent as a writer has been recognized by the National Council of Teachers and the Nancy Thorpe Foundation, and she is involved with DECA and Young Investors Club. Riti combined her two passions, poetry and business, to create the program.

Sycamore Auction Raises Money for School

Thanks to everyone who attended or contributed to the 2025 Sycamore Auction. The event was held at the 502 East Event Centre in Carmel on Saturday, March 1. Over \$90,000 in net income was raised through silent and live auctions, a raffle, and a wine pull. Of that total, more than \$47,000 was raised during a fund-an-item portion of the evening. That money will be directed toward a much needed new lighting system in the theater, and more funding is needed to completely underwrite the project. If you are interested in participating in this effort, please contact Jim Wood at wood.jim@sycamoreschool.org.

More than 250 families, teachers, friends, and supporters attended the event, making it a great night for Sycamore School. Sycamore past parent, **Dr. Dipen Maun**, was the winner of the "Are You Smarter Than Your Sycamore Student?" Contest. The competition, in its second year, was again hosted by long-time science teacher David Schuth.



Salerno and Peng Win Scholarships

Current Sycamore 8th Graders **Leo Salerno** and **Prudence Peng** have been selected as 2025 Carson Scholars. With this honor, they each receive a \$1,000 scholarship award that will be invested for their college education, along with a medal and certificate. Sycamore will also receive a Carson Scholars Fund trophy. The two students were chosen for demonstrating the highest standards of academic achievement, integrity, and civic and social responsibility. They will celebrate at the Carson Scholars Fund's Annual Awards Banquet in Pittsburgh, PA. Access a complete list of the 2025 Carson Scholars at www.carsonscholars.org.

Sycamore Sweeps Top Two Spots at Quiz Bowl Tourney; Qualifies Two Teams for Nationals

At the National Academic Quiz Bowl Tournament in Chicago on May 10-11, Sycamore Team A finished 9-4 overall and finished tied for 13th in the nation out of 160 schools. Sycamore Team B finished 4-4 and placed 93rd in the nation. Sycamore A (**Daniel Bazeley, Kelvin Yan, Harlan Kelly, Aarnav Silodia, and Charlie Appel**) was also 1st overall at the state competition with a record of 7-0. Sycamore B (**Allison Jeray, Theo Kelly, Leo Salerno, Keith Deng, Joseph Zhu, and Jonathan Lin**) finished 2nd in the state with a record of 4-3. **Aarnav Silodia** averaged 68.57 points per game to lead all scorers, while **Allison Jeray** was 4th overall in individual scoring. The final championship competition was an all Sycamore Quiz Bowl match.

Sycamore's Quiz Bowl teams are coached by MS History Teacher **Tony Young**.

Two Sycamore Students Honored For Spanish Excellence

At the annual Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association (IFLTA) Conference in Indianapolis, **Zoe Singh** (7th Grade), placed first in the Middle School level of the 2024 IFLTA Fall Conference Poster Contest. Zoe was also the state Grand Prize winner across all levels. **Prudy Peng** (8th Grade) placed second in the contest. The theme of the conference and poster contest was LEAP into the Future with Languages.



Sycamore Students Earn Arts and Writing Awards

Sycamore student writers earned 15 Regional Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards, with three pieces advancing to the national level. Sycamore entries were judged against thousands of others written by Indiana students in grades 7-12.

GOLD KEYS

(all now entered in the national competition)

Addison Liu: "The Memory Giver" (flash fiction)

Prudence Peng: "What's the Kindest Way to Say, the End?" (film and animation); "The Girl with a Skull Earring" (painting)

SILVER KEYS

Layla Emmert: "The 10 of Swords" (flash fiction)

Addison Liu: "The Crow, the Man, and the Beggar" (flash fiction)

Izzy Abraham: "Hidden" (poem); "Mirror, Mirror" (poem); "Misogyny" (poem)

Ishin Fujita: "Humanity's Hatred" (poem)

Joshua Alcantra: "Gear in the Virtual Machine." (science fiction/fantasy)

Prudence Peng: "The War: An Untold Story from a Bowl's Perspective" (science fiction/fantasy)

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Izzy Abraham: "Gifted: Beyond the Brain" (personal essay and memoir); "Ladylike" (poem)

Prudence Peng: "3:08" (science fiction/fantasy)

Addison Liu: "Bottled Up Feelings" (short story)

Huber Presents at NAIS Conference

Sycamore Head of School **John Huber** was a featured presenter at the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) Annual Conference in Nashville, Tennessee in February. He was a co-presenter on "Opening a Time Capsule, Building a New One: Help Forecast Independent Schools' Next 20 Years." The NAIS annual conference brings together independent school leaders to connect, explore, and gain new ideas. The conference featured a number of speakers discussing dynamic programming designed to help schools, students, and the school communities.

Sycamore Earns Two Spell Bowl State Titles

The 7th/8th Sycamore Team earned a tie for first place in the Indiana Academic Spell Bowl as Indiana's 2024 Grand Champions at the Junior level. Sycamore earned 71 out of a possible 72 points. Team members include **Izzy Abraham, Savannah Reymmer, Mikhaela Starnino, Kushi Chandra, Rachel Louis, Shruti Abhilash, Zoe Singh, and Caroline Cheng.**



The Sycamore School Elementary Division Spell Bowl Team also earned the top spot in Indiana with a first place finish.

TEAM MEMBERS

Milo Buonanno (5th)

Demi Cui (5th)

Tabby Ko (6th)

Sohum Pai (4th)

Nikhil Pesek (5th)

Arjun Polsani (5th)

Brooklynn Reymmer (6th)

Jackson Reymmer (5th)

Shanti Una (6th)

Jayden Xu (4th)



Sycamore Hosts Central Indiana Mathcounts Competition



On February 14, Sycamore School hosted the Central Indiana Region Chapter MATHCOUNTS competition, welcoming 144 students from 13 schools. Teams competed for four guaranteed spots at the state level while individuals competed for 15 spots.

Sycamore's team, consisting of **Kelvin Yan**, **Nicolas Spalding-Price**, **Joseph Zhu**, and **Logan Tormoehlen** finished in 2nd place. Sycamore lost to Creekside Middle School by only 0.25 points, the smallest margin possible. Individually, Kelvin finished in 4th place, Logan 6th, Joseph 8th, and Nicolas 25th. Additionally, Sycamore had 10 individuals finish in the top 25% of all competitors: **Aarnav Silodia** (13th), **Kacie Yan** (14th), **Gavin Ceppa** (18th), **Alan Shen** (23rd), **Suraj Shah** (26th), **Sanaya Parikh** (31st), **Michael Mergott** (34th), **Nirdvaita Chandrana**, **Emma Lu**, and **Albert Jiang**. The five Sycamore students in the top 16 also competed in the countdown round. **Kelvin Yan** led Sycamore in this round, finishing in 4th place.

With their 2nd place finish, Sycamore's team advanced and will defend the state title they won last year. As individuals, Aarnav and Kacie earned individual spots at the state competition.

Sycamore competitors are coached by Trent Tormoehlen and Bob Fischer.

Alcantara Selected as Top Junior Innovator

Sycamore 8th Grader **Joshua Alcantara** was selected as one of the Top 300 Junior Innovators in the 2024 Thermo Fisher Scientific Junior Innovators Challenge, a Middle School science fair competition hosted by the Society for Science. Joshua's award included a cash prize from the Department of Defense STEM Program. Additionally, Sycamore and Joshua each received a one-year subscription to Science News Explores Magazine.

Three Students Earn Spot in History Bee Nationals

Three Sycamore Middle School Students placed at the regional History Bee competition in March. 6th Grader **Alice Howard** and 7th Grader **Aarnav Silodia** each placed 2nd in their division, and 8th Grader **Daniel Bazeley** placed 1st in his division. All three have qualified to compete at the National competition this summer.

Sycamore Awarded Best Private School and Best After-school/Summer Camps by the Indy Star

For the second consecutive year, Sycamore was selected as "Best Private School" and "Best Summer Camp and Afterschool Program" in the Indianapolis Community's Choice Awards. The selection process began with public nominations. That was followed by a voting round to determine the finalists and winners from among the top five nominees in each category. The Best Things — Indianapolis Community's Choice Awards culminated with the announcement of winners at a gala ceremony attended by six Sycamore staff representatives.



Sycamore Camps and Programs Featured at Indiana Statehouse

Sycamore's Summer Programs were selected as one of only 16 programs featured at the Indiana Statehouse for the Indiana Afterschool Network's Statehouse Day. The event lets "outside of school time" leaders and volunteers meet with state-level elected officials. The goal is to learn how program providers can partner with the state for greater community impact.

Jeremy Kaylor and **Linda Nichols** represented Sycamore at the event.

Sycamore's award-winning summer program offerings are designed to help students discover and explore new topics and interests, build confidence and creativity, and keep their academic skills sharp. Registration is now open for the June—August 2025 summer sessions at sycamoreschool.org

Hagerman Earns Honor from Purdue University

Sycamore parent **Jeff Hagerman** was honored with a 2024 Emerging Leader and Outstanding Construction Engineering Alumni Award from Purdue University. The University's prestigious "Outstanding Alumnus Award," was given to Jeff for his dedication, skill, and contributions to the construction industry. Purdue recognizes graduates, like Jeff, who have had remarkable careers leading companies and who have helped move the industry forward with unique projects and technological developments.

ISSMA Solo/Ensemble 2025 Results

The Sycamore music department participated in the ISSMA Instrumental Solo / Ensemble Festival at North Central High School. Sycamore students received 40 Gold Ratings and qualified for state in three events.

STATE QUALIFIERS — GOLD RATING IN GROUP I

Ellie Eaton | Bass Clarinet

Prudence Peng | Violin and Flute

Pedometer Challenge Winners

Teachers **Sean SVV** (Preschool), **Courtney Brody** (PreK), and **David Schuth** (MS) were the winning team in the Sycamore Wellness 2024 Pedometer Challenge. During a two-week challenge, 33 teachers and staff (11 teams of three) competed, taking a total of 2,681,640 steps in 14 days. Each member of the winning team received a gift card as a reward for their hard work.



Sycamore Musicians Earn Honors at ISSMA Contest

Vocal and piano students performed in the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) festival at Noblesville High School, garnering 33 gold ratings, three silver ratings, and two state qualifiers.

*2025 ISSMA RESULTS VOCAL / PIANO
STATE QUALIFIERS – GOLD RATING IN GROUP I*

PIANO

Laura Cai
Ishin Fujita

7/8 OCTET

Leni Lee
Izzy Abraham
Laura Cai
Ishin Fujita
Jaidyn Virvani
Mina Raiesdana
Addie Liu

5/6 QUARTET

Lily Cabellon,
Georgia Bohley
Citla Ceppa
Tabby Ko

5/6 QUARTET

Lily Cabellon
Violet Swearingen
Georgia Bohley
Audrey Ting

Peng Performs with Symphony

Sycamore's **Prudence Peng** (8th Grade) performed at the 2025 Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Side-by-Side Concert on February 12 after completing four week's of intensive coaching and sectionals with Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra musicians. Prudy earned the honor to be the only middle school violinist performing by completing a competitive audition process. Sycamore's Mr. Noah Buchholz attended the concert to show support.

Indianapolis Youth Orchestra and Sycamore

Sycamore's **Prudence Peng** (8th Grade), **Lucy Ko** (7th), **Joshua Alcantara** (8th), and **Ellis Moy** (7th) helped open the Indianapolis Youth Orchestra 43rd season at an event at the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel. Sycamore teachers **Dr. Matt Murdock** and **Noah Buchholz**, along with students **Savannah Reymmer**, **Brooklynn Reymmer**, **Jackson Reymmer**, **Charlotte Pryor**, **Clara Moy**, and **Leo Salerno**, and Sycamore alum **Alessandro Salerno**, attended in support of our young musicians.

Sycamore Represented at All-Star Music Event

Sycamore students participated in several All-State Ensembles at the Indiana Music Educators Conference (IMEA) in January in Fort Wayne.

ALL STATE ELEMENTARY CHOIR

Willa Dregits

ALL STATE MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR

Izzy Abraham, Laura Cai, and Scarlett Cross

ALL STATE JUNIOR HIGH BAND

Ellie Eaton and Prudence Peng

Sycamore's Band Director **Dr. Matt Murdock** was chosen as the inaugural IMEA Multi-Level Music Educator of Excellence Award.



Cross Sings National Anthem at Gainbridge Fieldhouse

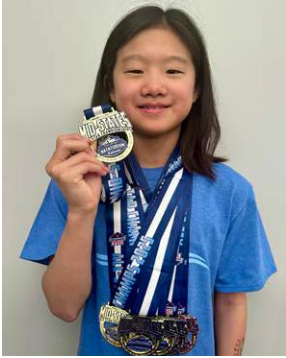
Sycamore 7th Grade student **Scarlett Cross** was chosen to sing the *National Anthem* at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in February before the Pacers' minor league (G-League) game.



Sycamore 5th Grader Earns Swimming Honors

Sophia Liu, a Sycamore 5th Grader, represented Team Indiana at the 2025 Mid-States All-Star Swimming Championship Meet in January at the IU Natatorium. She competed in six individual events and two relays and secured five gold medals, two silver medals, and one bronze medal. Sophia earned 110 points, the highest total for all 10 & under girls.

Sophia trains with the Fishers Area Swimming Tigers (FAST). FAST was recently recognized as a Gold Medal Club by USA Swimming, ranking them among the top 20 swim clubs in the nation. One of her coaches, Robbie Sheffield, a Sycamore alum and current 1st Grade assistant teacher at our school, has been instrumental in her development.



Artwork from Three Sycamore Students Displayed at Newfields

The artwork of three Sycamore students was accepted into the Newfields "Inspired by Universal Beauty" student art exhibit. The Newfields jury, who chose the art for the exhibition at the museum, included museum professionals, community members, and local artists. The jury selected twelve works for the show, including the following submissions from Sycamore:

Layla Emmert (8th): "Tap into Art"

Corinne Martinson (6th): "Assortment of Clubs"

Nithya Polsani (3rd): "Nature's Story Unfolds"



WHERE IN SYCAMORE IS IT?



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Paige Green Spanish room | 17. Lower School music room |
| 2. Jeremy Kaylor/ Quest Room | 18. Sycamore Theater |
| 3. Jean Wright 4th Grade room | 19. Denise Estelle Kindergarten room |
| 4. Cara Hermacinski 3rd Grade room | 20. Early Childhood lobby |
| 5. Sycamore Gym | 21. Jane Leeds Pre-K room |
| 6. Brandon Fitzsimmons MS Spanish room | 22. Tony Young MS History room |
| 7. Jessica Mixell 1st Grade room | 23. Outside entrance door near Leroy Richins office |
| 8. Lori Reiter office | 24. Ruth Moll Kindergarten room |
| 9. Allison Hayden MS History room | 25. Samantha Outcalt office |
| 10. Lower School Science room | 26. David Schuth MS Science room |
| 11. Front entrance / grass area | 27. Beth Simpson MS Language Arts room |
| 12. Hallway between Gym and Theater | 28. Nathan Keith MS Math room |
| 13. Meg Caudill - MS Science room | 29. Judy Noneman - Innovation Lab |
| 14. Theater soundboard | 30. Artwork in hallway |
| 15. Clare Voigt - 2nd Grade room | |
| 16. Julie Clawson 4th Grade door | |



1750 West 64th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46260

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No.984
Indianapolis, IN

SYCAMORE

2024 Sycamore Alumni panelists

