



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

EAGLE NEWS March 2024



With more than 185 supporters contributing over \$81,000, One Day for Central was a tremendous success. Thank you for your support on this day of giving.



Dear Supporter,

It is slowly warming up, and spring is in the air!

This year's annual 24-hour day of online giving was a great success thanks to the power of Eagle Nation! One Day for Central 2024 raised \$81,397 for Central High School. Thanks to your generous support, the Central High School Foundation can help our Eagles soar. Thank you, Eagles! Did you miss One Day for Central but still want to support the Central High School Foundation? [You can join Generation "C," our](#)

[annual giving campaign!](#)

The 2024 Central High School [Rock the Nest Silent Auction](#) is open! You can bid on an array of awesome items and packages regardless of whether or not you are joining us for trivia. [Click here to register for the Silent Auction.](#) As always, proceeds from this event will support the needs of Central's students and staff through scholarships, classroom grants, capital projects, and much more.

It's hard to believe that another school year is almost over, and the Senior Recognition Ceremony on May 14 is right around the corner. This year we will be awarding 77 scholarships to graduating seniors at Central High School, including the DeEmmett Bradshaw Zerbe, CHS 1943, and Mason Speltz Zerbe, CHS 1948, Central High School Student of the Year Scholarships. If you would like an invitation to attend this special event honoring our graduating seniors, [please email the Foundation office.](#)

As always, thank you for helping perpetuate more than 165 years - and counting - of tradition and excellence! Go Eagles!

Sincerely,

Michele Roberts

Michele Roberts, *Executive Director*

Register for Rock the Nest Trivia Night



Rock the Nest Trivia Night: Friday, April 5

Join us at the Paxton Ballroom for our Rock the Nest Trivia Night as we play an interactive trivia contest to raise money to help Central High School! Start rounding up your team of eight now: former classmates, neighbors, coworkers or really anyone who is just plain ol' fun. Add "watch Jeopardy!" to your to-do list and get ready for an evening full of fun, prizes, dinner, and some very special guests.

Our Rock the Nest events will include the following:

- A professionally-produced, high-quality experience emceed by Mike'l Severe
- Teams of eight for trivia
- Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners
- Dinner and dessert
- Special Appearances and Performances
- [Online Silent Auction](#)
 - Bidding Opens March 19 at 9 a.m. CT
 - Bidding Closes April 5 at 8:45 p.m. CT

As always, proceeds from this event will go to support the needs of our students and staff at Central High School through scholarships, classroom grants, capital grant projects, and much more. With your support, the Foundation can continue to honor the past, live successfully in the present, and plan for the future. *Please note: registration for this event will close once it is sold out or on Monday, April 1, 2024.*

Order of Events

- 5:30 p.m. – Registration & Social
- 6:15 p.m. – Dinner Served
- 7:00 p.m. – Trivia Begins

We hope to see you there!

[Register for Trivia](#)

Football Program Improves Skills in Las Vegas and Houston



Throughout the year, Battle Sports hosts various events which help players develop their skills as they compete against top teams from across the country. The Central High School Foundation recently covered the costs for our student athletes to participate in Battle 7v7 in Las Vegas and Houston. These experiences helped emphasize to the team that their education is an important part of the recruiting process as coaches look at grades as well as the player's talent on the field.

The costs of air travel, hotel accommodations, and club uniforms can put some players at a disadvantage when it comes to elite training opportunities like those offered at the Battle 7v7 competitions. Quite often, the cost exceeds more than a thousand dollars per player for each event. Funding from the Foundation allows members of the football program to participate in tournaments where they experience the speed of the game at its top levels in front of multiple scouting agencies. These events help them see the work required for their development as the team progresses towards the upcoming fall season.

"This experience definitely impacted me positively. Not only do we get to travel to the best tournaments, but we are also able to sharpen our skills against the best talent in the country, and we are excited for the upcoming season next school year."

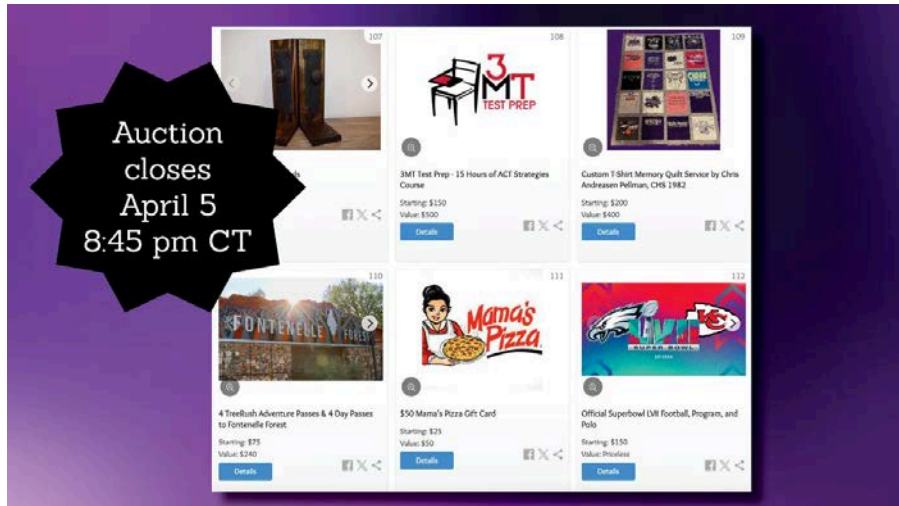
- DeAnthony Dial, Class of 2026

Your donation to the Central High School Foundation helps support our

students at Central High School, including student athletes. To continue to help our Eagles soar, join Generation "C" today!

Join Generation "C" Today

Silent Auction is LIVE



No matter whether or not you are playing trivia, you can still bid on an item and/or packages. [Click here to register](#) for the Rock the Nest Trivia Night Silent Auction. Bidding is now open and will close on Friday, April 5, 2024, at 8:45 PM CT.

As always, proceeds from this event will support the needs to Central's students and staff through scholarships, classroom grants, capital projects, and much more. Through your support, the Foundation can continue to honor the past, live successfully in the present, and plan for the future. We would also like to thank everyone who donated items to this year's Silent Auction. Your generosity allows us to continue these events that bring our Central community together and to support our students and staff. Thank you!

View Silent Auction

CHECK OUT OUR GIFT CARDS!



Alumni Spotlight: Hannah Harlow, CHS 2011



As an associate producer on the WGN Morning News in Chicago, 2011 alumna Hannah Harlow experiences new faces and exciting challenges every day. The show is known for its goofy and informal tone, celebrity guests, and over-the-top antics. In her role, she helps prepare for segments, orchestrates crazy skits, and creates behind the scenes content. Occasionally she is in front of the camera, trying a wild activity live on air or wearing a costume and always committing to the bit!



From time to time she also takes on more serious endeavors, such as field producing on election night from candidates' campaign headquarters, writing for WGN's history show *Backstory*, and interviewing a variety of people. She has had the opportunity to sit down with childhood cancer survivors giving back through St. Baldrick's Foundation, a Ukrainian Fullbright Scholar determined to help soldiers with PTSD amidst the war, and community officials educating teens about the dangers of vaping.

According to Hannah, "WGN-TV has been a great environment to learn and I'm so grateful to work beside people that are invested in helping me grow!"

Keep up the great work, Hannah!

[Nominate an Alum for the Spotlight](#)

Eagle Tales Podcast: Bruce Krogh ('71)



New year, new Eagle Tales episode! A new Eagle Tales podcast episode has been published featuring 2019 CHS Hall of Fame inductee Bruce Krogh. During a long career in engineering research and education, Krogh established himself as an expert in the design and applications of computer control systems. As a final act in his career, Krogh moved to Rwanda to become founding director of Carnegie Mellon University-Africa, a branch of the school's engineering college. Listen to this episode to learn about control systems, smart grids, and Bruce's time in Africa.

Eagle Tales is a podcast during which our creative director, Josh Bucy, sits down with a Central High School alum to talk about their time at Central and how it has impacted them. Listeners hear all about the amazing things that alumni are doing to change the world! You can find this podcast on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), or the [Central High School Foundation website](#).

[Listen to Episode 17](#)

Eagle Senior Wins State Debate Title



Senior Charlie Yale won State Congress Debate in Lincoln over the weekend! He is the first Central debater to win a state title since Kenneth Allen '77 and Paul Hoffman '75 won Policy Debate in 1975. Charlie is also the first-ever Congress champion from Central! His teammates Henry Carstens and Evalina Sain placed in Octofinals in Public Forum. Congratulations to these Eagles on record-setting performances!

Your donation to the Central High School Foundation helps support our students at Central High School, including debate members. The Foundation supports the debate program through a classroom grant. To continue to help our Eagles soar, join Generation "C" today!

[Join Generation "C" Today](#)

[Join the CHSAA for Dinner and a Show - the 2024 Road Show](#)

Turn back the clock . . .



. . . and come to alumni Road Show outing

How long has it been since you have attended Road Show? The Central High School Alumni Association is hosting a dinner before the Road Show on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 6 PM.

Dinner will be served in the courtyard, catered by the Greek Islands restaurant, before heading to the auditorium to take in the amazing talents of today's Central students.

Central alumni, parents, staff, or anyone who wants to enjoy this 100-plus year Central tradition is invited to attend this event. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students/children. All proceeds benefit the Central Drama Department. [Sign up today through the alumni association's online store!](#)

Questions? Contact Henry Cordes at cordes@owh.com.

[Register for this Event](#)

[Join the 1859 Society Today](#)



[What is Your Legacy?](#)

Named for the year of Central's founding, the 1859 Society honors donors who have included The Central High School Foundation in their estate plans. By arranging for such deferred gifts, alumni, parents, and friends of CHS play a vital role in securing the future of Omaha's oldest educational institution. Combining financial planning, estate planning, and tax planning techniques, planned giving enables donors to make gifts of significance often with tax and financial rewards. If you're interested in joining the 1859 Society and making a planned gift, contact Michele Roberts at the CHSF Office at 402-556-1996 or michele@chsfomaha.org.

[Click Here for the 1859 Society Brochure](#)

Upcoming Class Reunion Schedule



The Class of 1971 at their class reunion in 2022!

Upcoming Reunion Schedule

[Class of 1959](#)

April 26-27, 2024

[Terry Foster](#) 402-871-7275

[Dave Krecek](#) 402-677-3607

[Larry Gilinsky](#) 402-598-7006

[Join the 1959 Facebook Group](#)

[Class of 1964](#)

September 20-21, 2024

[Contact Jeannene Rice Mason](#) or [Jeannette Rice Johnson](#)

Class of 1970

POSTPONED

July 25-26, 2025

[Class of 1974](#)

May 31 – June 3, 2024

Contact information for each day:

[Shelli McCall-Vodicka](#) 402-677-1227 Friday and Monday activities

[Cindy Goff](#) 402-510-6537 Saturday activities

[Sara Achelpohl](#) 402-707-9190 Sunday activities

[Kevin Buckner](#) 240-432-7268

[Class of 1979](#)

November 9, 2024

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

[Class of 1984](#)

September 6-7, 2024

Contact [Beretta Smith-Shomade](#) or [Betty Brown-Broughton](#)

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

[Class of 1989](#)

September 13-14, 2024

[Class of 1994](#)

October 18-20, 2024

Details TBD

[Class of 2014](#)

October 4-5, 2024

If you are the reunion organizer for your class and haven't finalized a date, please [contact Erika Buffington at events@chsfomaha.org](mailto:events@chsfomaha.org) or call 402-556-1996.

2023-24 Generation "C" Chair - Leslie Gotch

The Central High School Foundation is proud to announce Leslie Gotch, CHS 1964 as the 2023-2024 Generation "C" Chair.

With 27 years of consecutive giving, Leslie Gotch has never wavered in his support of Central High School.

Born in San Diego to two WWII Navy veterans, Leslie, the eldest of five children and his family moved to Omaha in 1952. He attended Pickard, Belle Ryan, and Jackson Elementary Schools. "I could not wait to get to Central High School in 1960. My grandmother had just retired as the pastry cook in the



cafeteria, so when I went through the lines, the ladies would sometimes put a brownie or piece of cake on my tray and not charge me the 7 cents!"

Leslie has fond memories of his time at CHS. "I loved being a student at Central - the

opportunity to be able to study several courses with different teachers was exciting. My teachers taught me to be a critical thinker which was integral in my future career as a computer security engineer."

His talents were in high demand by not only the private sector, but also the U.S. military. "My company produced a specialty product that would scan every email and file passing through the network. This product was incorporated into the military's new messaging systems used on bases from Qatar to Pearl Harbor. Eventually my customers included NATO, The Department of State, and other intelligence agencies."

While at Central, Leslie participated in activities outside the classroom. "I was very involved in the JROTC program. I was on the crack squad rifle drill team for two years and the Hussars my senior year. The Hussars were a precision drill team that performed at the Aksarben coronations."

Now enjoying his retirement, Leslie continues to value the importance of education and giving back to his community - core values he learned, in part, during his time at Central High School - he volunteers at the information desk at a local library and went back to school to study five international languages.

Join Generation "C"

Support CHSF While You Shop



The Central High School Foundation has partnered with TAGG (Together A Greater Good) to provide an easy and free way to support the Foundation.

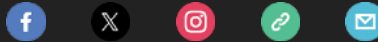
It's easy to do! Just go to the link tagg.today, snap a photo of your receipts from [participating businesses](#), and a percentage of your total will be donated to the Central High School Foundation. Visit their [website](#) to learn more!

Stay Connected With Us on Social Media



Are you on [Facebook](#)? How about [Instagram](#) or [X](#)? Follow and like us across social media platforms to stay connected to other Central alumni, staff, parents and supporters, all while receiving the latest news.

Thank You to Our Adopt-A-School Partner



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