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CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

EAGLE NEWS July 2024



English Language Learners' Visit to Washington D.C. Highlights Nation's Past and Inspires Students' Futures



Dear Supporter,

As summer flies by, I hope you're having fun in the sun and staying cool in these heatwaves!

We are looking forward to hosting our annual back-to-school teacher luncheon on Wednesday, August 7. We are fortunate to have countless incredible faculty and staff members at Central, and the Foundation is honored to host this annual event to ensure our teachers are welcomed back before the start of the school year. Speaking of which, students return to the

revered halls of Central for their first day of class on Thursday, August 15. The first day of school will be here before you know it!

This summer, we were able to send 20 English Language Learner students on a trip to Washington, D.C. to experience our nation's history in person. If you'd like to learn more, click on the video above or read on below for more details.

In other news at the Foundation, the [Quill and Feather](#) is back with new stories, written by Brett Comstock. Also, be sure to tune into new episodes of our podcast, [Eagle Tales](#), hosted by Josh Bucy. We are so excited to share these with you!

There are plenty of announcements about [class reunions](#) coming up this fall, so make sure to [update your record](#) to ensure that your invitation and event communications are mailed to the correct address.

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

Sincerely,

Michele Roberts, Executive Director

Your Impact: Eagles Soar to Washington D.C.



This summer, twenty students who are enrolled in English Language Learner classes at Central were able to visit Washington, D.C. The goal of the trip was to allow students to make connections between what they've learned in US History class and the places where these events happened.

“My favorite moments of the trip were the simple questions and observations students made and discussed with each other as they considered questions of American values and national memory. I was so impressed by them; they are seeing and thinking deeply about everything. We are so grateful to the Edward and Sally Malashock Family Foundation and CHS Foundation for this experience.”

- Sarah Lehn, CHS Teacher

Because of the financial support from the Edward and Sally Malashock Family Foundation, a group of students who are new to the United States were able to visit the nation's capital with their teachers. Many of these students see themselves pursuing careers in law, advocacy, and education, and this trip helped them envision these goals even more clearly.

“The trip was an unforgettable experience. It showed us that you can have fun learning about U.S. history. It wasn't just about the places and monuments we visited, but it was also about the quality time that we spent with our classmates and teachers. I will always remember this trip with love and nostalgia.”

- Yareli Mora, Class of 2024

Your donation to the Central High School Foundation helps support our students at Central High School, including experiential learning opportunities outside of the classroom. To continue to help our Eagles soar, join Generation “C” today!

[Join Generation "C"](#)

Central High School 2024 Hall of Fame Inductees



2024 Hall of Fame Inductees



We hope you will join us for the 25th Annual Central High School Hall of Fame Dinner and Ceremony, which will be held on Thursday, October 17th, 2024. The Central High School Alumni Association is proud to induct ten individuals whose paths from the halls of Central High School led them to the highest levels of achievement in business and community service.

To learn more about the Central High School Hall of Fame, [click here](#). Is there someone you would like to see in the Central High School Hall of Fame? Remember, for them to be considered by the Central High School Alumni Association Hall of Fame Selection Committee, they have to be [nominated](#).

Congratulations to this year's Hall of Fame class!

- **Matthew Aden**, Class of 1974
- **Robert X. Fogarty**, Class of 2001
- **Kristie Hayes, M.D.**, Class of 1973
- **Keith Kretschmer**, Last Attended 1951
- **Col. David A. Napoliello**, Class of 1964
- **Jed Ortmeier**, Class of 1997
- **Harold Pharoah**, Class of 1966
- **Richard Steele**, Class of 1961
- **Judy Storm**, Distinguished Educator
- **Patrick Venditte**, Class of 2004

[Register for the Hall of Fame](#)

Where is the CHS Logo?



This summer, the CHS logo could be seen traveling across Europe with alumni and friends on their thirteen-day trip. Pictured above on the left it can be seen

on Omaha Beach in Normandy, and on the right also in Omaha's sister city with the mayors of Normandy themselves.

This trip featured stops in eight cities and towns across England, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands. While they were in France, these Eagles were able to visit the grave of Marion Crandell, CHS 1889, who was the first woman killed at the front in World War I, and one of only six women buried in Mose Argonne American Cemetery. After this, in the Netherlands, they were able to visit the town of Margraten where six Central graduates who were killed in World War II are buried. Upon their arrival, they were greeted by the mayor at City Hall, and were then able to meet the six families who adopted the Central graduates' graves.

If you're interested in learning more about this trip, keep your eye out for the story about it in the *Quill and Feather*, which will be published in the coming months.

[Read the Quill and Feather](#)

2024 All Student Orientation



As the school year draws closer, don't forget to mark your calendars for the All Student Orientation, which will be on Tuesday, July 30th from 9 AM to 3 PM, and Wednesday, July 31st from 12 PM to 7 PM. It will be located in the courtyard at CHS. Students will be receiving their packets in the mail at the end of the month, so if your address has changed, please update this information in your portal account or contact the school at 531-299-2660.

2024 Scholarship Spotlight



Allen and Doris Oglander Scholarship Recipient

ELLIANA SITTING EAGLE

Introducing Elliana Sitting Eagle, CHS 2024, the recipient of the 2024 Doris and Allen Oglander Scholarship. This fall, Elliana will be attending the Minnesota State University, Mankato, where she will be majoring in Ethnic Studies.

“I love Central and wouldn’t trade my four years here for four at any other school. It has given me so many opportunities, and I wouldn’t be the person I am today without it.”

Congratulations, Elliana, and good luck in the fall!

The Quill and Feather Returns with New Stories



Official Blog of the Central High School Foundation

As summer rolls along, dig into some new material from the *Quill and Feather*, written by Brett Comstock. [Bookmark this page](#) and [follow us on social media](#) to stay up-to-date on our latest articles!



Meet Amy Fischer – 2024 Female Student of the Year



Meet Jordan Boyer – 2024 Teacher of the Year



[Meet Charlie Yale - 2024 Male Student of the Year](#)

Listen to a New Episode of Eagle Tales



A new episode of *Eagle Tales* has been published! *Eagle Tales* is a podcast from the Central High School Foundation that highlights the amazing things that alumni have achieved since graduating from Central.

Tune into Episode 19 of *Eagle Tales* to hear our host Josh Bucy speak with John Orduña, a class of 2002 alumnus who is a professional singer residing in Chicago.

Want to be notified of new episodes as they are released? Subscribe to *Eagle Tales* on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), or wherever you listen to your podcasts!

[Listen to Eagle Tales](#)

Alumni Spotlight: Jack Nixon, CHS 1968



Jack Nixon graduated from Central High School in 1968. From there, he attended the University of Kansas where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Journalism, and was named Outstanding Senior for the class of 1972 in the William Allen White School of Journalism.

Jack has spent the last forty years doing play-by-play radio reporting for athletics at New Mexico State University. Named the "Voice of the Aggies," Jack has broadcasted over four hundred NMSU football games and over one thousand men's basketball games. He is one of only seven radio announcers in history to broadcast over one thousand college basketball games for one school.

Jack's fierce dedication to his career has not gone unnoticed; he has been given numerous awards since the beginning of his career in 1972. Among these awards, he has been named Sportscaster of the Year several times by both the New Mexico Broadcasters Association and the National Association of Sports Writers and Broadcasters.

Jack was most recently honored with his induction into the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame.

Congratulations, Jack, and thank you for making us proud!

[Nominate an Alum for the Spotlight](#)

[Join the 1859 Society Today](#)



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 1960 at their class reunion in 2021!

Upcoming Reunion Schedule

[Class of 1964](#)

September 20-21, 2024

[Contact Jeannene Rice Mason](#) 402-301-9234

[Jeannette Rice Johnson](#) 402-699-0820

Class of 1965

September 5-6, 2025

[Contact Holly Jepsen Hoberman](#)

Class of 1970

POSTPONED

July 25-26, 2025

[Class of 1979](#)

November 9, 2024

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

[Class of 1984](#)

September 6-8, 2024

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

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

[Register and Pay to Attend](#)

[Class of 1989](#)

September 13-14, 2024

[Class of 1994](#)

October 18-20, 2024

centralhigh1994@gmail.com

[Join the Facebook Group](#)
[RSVP to Attend](#)

[Class of 2004](#)

September 6-7, 2024

Contact Ally Thomson, Steve Hogan, Daniel Gutman

[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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