

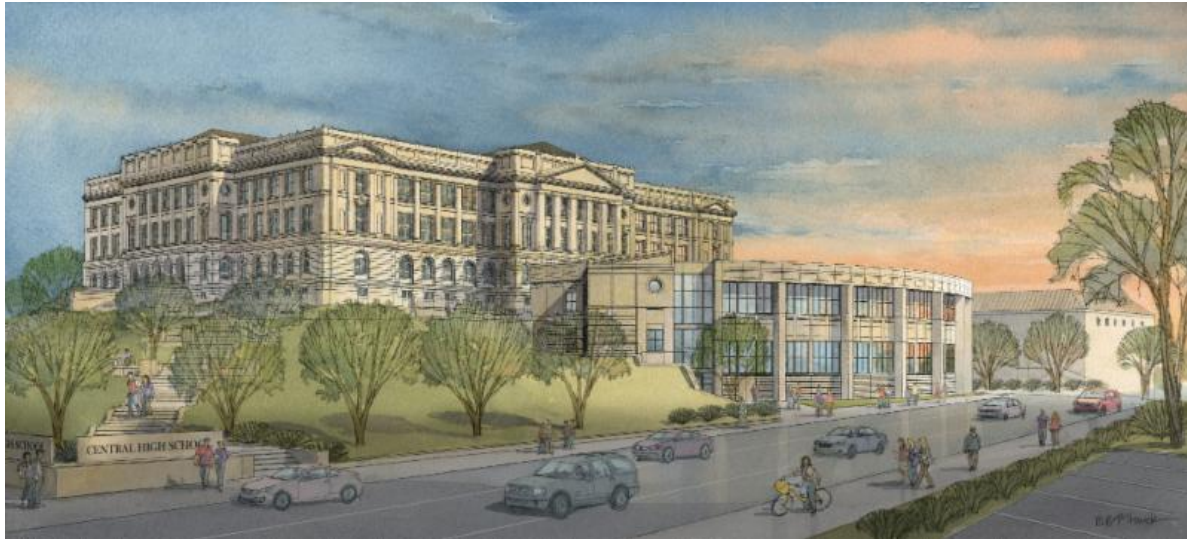
# Eagle News

April 2017



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
FOUNDATION

*Tradition of Excellence*



Watercolor rendering courtesy of DLR Group

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Dear Supporter,

It is critical to the Central High School Foundation that Central High does not forget about its past, continues to live successfully in the present, and is planning for its future. In recognition of the challenges that current and future CHS staff and administration face in educating our young people for both academic and career opportunities of today and tomorrow, particularly in a building designed in the 19th century, the Central Foundation has been asked to and has agreed to help upgrade Central High School into a 21st century educational facility.



In partnership with the Omaha Public Schools and through the generous support of Central High School alumni, as well as friends of the school and families of past, present, and future Central graduates, the Central High School Foundation is proud to announce that we will be breaking ground this summer on a 50,000 square foot addition on the east side of Central High School. Once the addition is completed, the re-purposing and upgrading of 25,000 square feet in the existing building space will follow.

The new Central High School addition will be attached to the east side of the building and will consolidate the art, instrumental music, drama, and vocal music departments as well as a digital library, into one location. The new building addition will also include a 300 seat black box theater that will be available for both school and community use. This project will not limit the significant role that the current auditorium plays in the school's operation. The addition's east entryway will provide a powerful connection to the Central High School

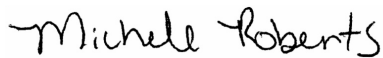
student parking lot and to downtown Omaha. The entry point of the addition from the existing building will be a showroom for visual and performing arts as well as a digital library. This space will also serve as the conduit from the existing building to the library and will offer panoramic views of downtown Omaha. This area will also provide access to four art studios and will function as lobby space for the black box theater on the lower level. The lower level of the addition will include music classrooms as well as rehearsal and performance space containing the black box theater. The addition's profile will be limited to below the elevation of the existing east structure. The addition's roof structure will become an accessible outdoor plaza significantly larger than the existing patio.

The portions of the existing building spaces that currently house the library, vocal music, instrumental music and art will be re-purposed and updated for use as ACP, Student Support, ELL and general classrooms. This recaptured space of up to 25,000 square feet will also have other possible uses including learning studios, project based labs and success centers for tutoring and individualized learning.

The Omaha Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission and the Omaha Public Schools have completed a comprehensive review of the addition proposal and has given its approval to proceed with the project. I encourage you to visit our website for [project updates](#) and pictures of the floor plans, as well as [follow us on social media](#). We will have a time-lapse video through the duration of the project.

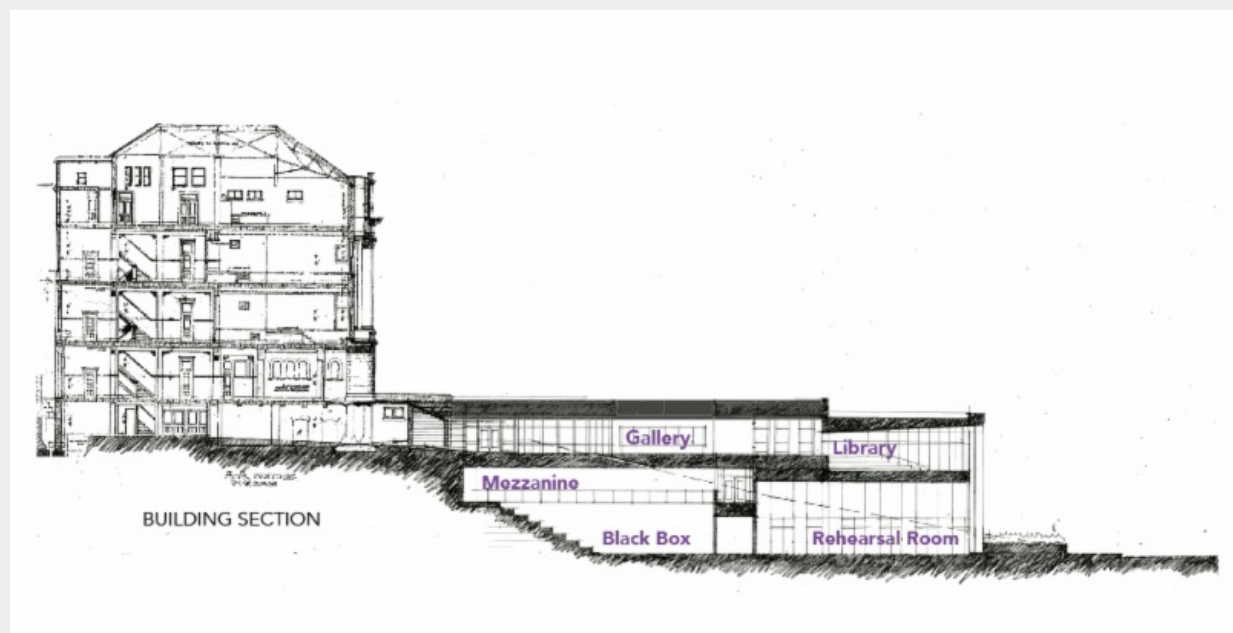
Again, thank you for helping perpetuate 157 years - and counting - of tradition and excellence! Go Eagles!

Sincerely,



Michele Roberts  
Executive Director

## Work Scheduled To Start This Summer for Building Addition



Side view of the new building addition

The Central High School Foundation is proud to announce that the 50,000 square foot addition onto the east side of Central High School remains on schedule to be completed in the winter of 2018. The \$22 million project will include a new library, a blackbox theater, and new spaces for the art, music, and drama departments. Once the new addition is complete, OPS will begin to re-purpose and renovate the areas that were relocated to the new addition.

For project updates and pictures of the floor plans, please [click here](#) to visit our website. We will continue to post building and design updates on our website, so be sure to bookmark [this page](#)

to follow updates!

Thank you for helping us ensure that Central doesn't forget about its past, continues to live successfully in the present, and is planning for the future. Go Eagles!

Media Coverage:

[Omaha World-Herald - Work scheduled to start this summer on addition at Omaha Central](#)  
[KMTV 3 News Now - Central High School to get new addition, renovations](#)

## Rock the Nest 2017 - Thank You!



We held our annual fundraiser Rock the Nest "Trivia Night" on Sunday, March 26th. Over 300 Central High School (CHS) parents, faculty, alumni, students and friends gathered at the Scouler Ballroom in Omaha to celebrate "Eagle Nation." Guests enjoyed dinner, a raffle and a friendly trivia competition. The event raised over \$35,000 for Central High School.

Trivia was one of the evening's activities that brought everyone together. After six rounds including "A-List Celebrities", "Songs at the Cinema", and "Do the Math" the following teams were recognized:

**First Place - Table #1:** Christina Flaherty Colling, Tom Colling, Mike Daugherty, Dan Falcon, Erica Meyer, Junior Meyer, Jennifer Walker, Jim Walker

**Second Place - Table #30:** Henry Cordes, CHS 1981, Susan Stiles, CHS 1981, Cheryl Goodwillie, Michael Goodwillie, Claire Goodwillie, CHS 2009, Victor Sherony, Keith Winton, Lisa Winton

**Third Place - Table #25:** Catherine Grow, CHS 1980, David Packard, Connie Huck, Matt Huck, Heidi Pospisil, CHS 1986, Matthew Pospisil, CHS 1986, Ellie Wolcott, Peter Wolcott



The Grand Prize winner of a one week stay at the Surfside Resort in Destin, Florida and two round trip airline tickets, donated by Matt and Sheri Aden valued at \$4,000, was Anne Koerten.

The following individuals were raffle prize winners:

Par Fore the Course - Jerry Bexten  
Antarctic Ice Patrol - Jennifer Johnson Taylor, CHS 1991  
Night Out on the Town - David Pavel, CHS 1984  
Pinnacle Bank Championship - Jerry Bexten  
Saddle Up! - Mike Goding  
Time of Your Life - Peter Kuzelka, CHS 2013  
License to Drive - Kent Schilling  
Holiday Blooms - Ed Kilton  
Kansas City Speedway - Holly Herman, CHS 1978  
Student Success - Greg Dushan  
Eagle Pride - Lyn Bouma

Thank you to all who attended or bought raffle tickets. We hope to see you again next year!

Save the Date - OmahaGives! is May 24!



Our annual online day of giving, OmahaGives! 2017 presented by American National Bank, returns on Wednesday, May 24. Your donation helps the Central High School Foundation ensure that we continue to provide field trips for students, upgrade classroom equipment, and provide our Eagles with the tools they need to be successful. You can visit [omahagives.org](http://omahagives.org) from now until May 23 to schedule a donation which will be processed on May 24, or you can make your donation through [omahagives.org](http://omahagives.org) on May 25 from 12:00 am through 12:00 am. Donations must be made using a credit card or Omaha Community Foundation account. You can find the Central High School Foundation's profile [here](#), and we will update our page with stories and testimonials in the weeks to come. For 24 hours, your donation will help qualify us for additional prizes and matching gifts!

Remember to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) to get live updates on May 24!

## Golf Fore Eagles on June 5



On Monday June 5, 2017, the Central High School Foundation will host its 15th annual Golf Fore Eagles presented by Project Advocates at Field Club of Omaha. With over 200 participants expected to be registered, we are thrilled to be hosting both morning and afternoon flights to accommodate all the golfers. There are a few slots still available, so sign up now to reserve your spot today! Don't miss out on all of the fun, and register now!

Morning Flight: 7:30 a.m.

Afternoon Flight: 12:30 p.m.

Cost is \$150 per golfer and includes:

- 18 holes of golf, cart and driving range
- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner for all participants
- Commemorative gift
- Chance to win a new car (hole-in-one)

This year's honorees is Dr. Keith Bigsby.

[Click here to register](#) and learn more about the CHS Golf Outing!

## Central Grad Stars in New AMC Show "The Son"



Photo courtesy of the Associated Press

One Central grad is making it big in Hollywood. Zahn McClarnon, CHS 1986, was cast as the Comanche war chief Toshaway in the new AMC show "The Son." McClarnon will be working with James Bond actor Pierce Brosnan in this 10-part Western. Zahn has also starred in the FX show " Fargo " and the Netflix show " Longmire . " Zahn says that his teacher Pegi Georgeson, CHS 1961, was an inspiration to him while at Central. " The Son " airs on AMC on Saturdays at 9/8 CST. [Click here](#) to read more about Zahn in an article from the Omaha World-Herald.

## Clark Lauritzen Named President of First National Bank



Photo courtesy of Ryan Soderlin  
at the Omaha World-Herald

It was announced last week that Clark Lauritzen, CHS 1995, was going to become the new President and Chariman of First National Bank of Omaha and First National Bank of Nebraska. Clark becomes the 6th generation of his family to lead First National Bank. Congratulations, Clark! [Click here](#) to read more about Clark's promotion from an Omaha World-Herald article written by Cole Epley.

## Gale Sayers, CHS 1961, is Battling Dementia



Roger and his brother Gale were multi-sport  
athletes while attending Central

Congratulations to Gale Sayers, CHS 1961, on recently being named one of the Kansans of the Year by the Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas! Gale, who had an incredible football career in college with the Kansas University Jayhawks and in the NFL with the Chicago Bears, has



been battling dementia according to his wife Ardythe. Our thoughts are with the "Kansas Comet" as he runs by this obstacle in his path. [Click here](#) to read the article about Gale and his battle with dementia.

## Behrens Returns as Central Basketball Coach



Eric Behrens, CHS 1992, won seven state titles in 13 seasons at Central

On Friday afternoon, Central Athletic Director Luke Dillon announced that Eric Behrens, CHS 1992, will be returning to Omaha to be the next head coach of the boy's basketball team. Behrens, whose son Roman will be a senior next season, previously coached at Central for 13 seasons, accumulating a 283-62 record along with 7 state championships from 2001 to 2014.

Welcome back, Coach! [Click here](#) to read the Omaha World-Herald article about Behrens' return to the Central bench.

## Upcoming Class Reunions

Class of 1947  
May 5, 2017  
Noon  
Anthony's Steakhouse  
(72nd and F Streets)  
Contact Jerry Freeman  
- [beamertbell@aol.com](mailto:beamertbell@aol.com)

Class of 1957  
August 18-19, 2017  
Contact Shelley Stern  
- [Hstern5@cox.net](mailto:Hstern5@cox.net)

Class of 1962  
August 25-26, 2017  
Contact Beth Sargent  
- [beth.sargent@cox.net](mailto:beth.sargent@cox.net)  
402-598-5253



**Class of 1967**

August 18-19, 2017

Contact Howard Borden- [Hbordenomaha@gmail.com](mailto:Hbordenomaha@gmail.com)

Cell: 402-578-4162 or 402-556-0577

Debbie Schwertley - [Dschwertley@aol.com](mailto:Dschwertley@aol.com)

Cell: 402-669-1209

**Class of 1987**

August 4-6, 2017

Contact Joe Fogarty - [gauntboy@gmail.com](mailto:gauntboy@gmail.com)

Cell: 206-856-6469

Contact Maria Summers - [msrhea87@gmail.com](mailto:msrhea87@gmail.com)

**Class of 1997**

August 4-7, 2017

Contact Quiana Mitchem - [CentralClassof97Reunion@gmail.com](mailto:CentralClassof97Reunion@gmail.com)

**Class of 2007**

September 22-23, 2017

Contact Jane Hartig - [omahacentral2007@gmail.com](mailto:omahacentral2007@gmail.com)

Cell: 402-680-7857

Class President Mark Arehart

Cell: 402-216-5305

**Class of 1952, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1992, 2002 - Dates To Be Determined**

**2018 Reunion Schedule**

Class of 1958

October 12-14, 2018

Contact: Jackie Jepsen McLellan

402-491-3692

[Jmdellan8@cox.net](mailto:Jmdellan8@cox.net)

**Class of 1968**

August 24-25, 2018

Contact: Joanne Wagner Givens

Cell: 402-515-0987 // Home: 402-571-5593

[jgivens1950@gmail.com](mailto:jgivens1950@gmail.com)

Other Contacts:

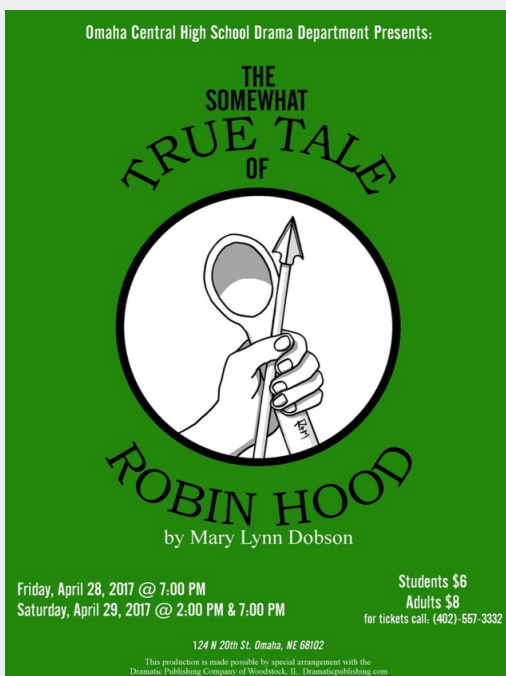
Pam Weiss Friedlander - [pfriedla@cox.net](mailto:pfriedla@cox.net) or 402-334-8773

Jim Costello - [costellosteel@gmail.com](mailto:costellosteel@gmail.com) or 402-670-9612

If you have not set up your class reunion for 2017, contact [Brittany Gunn](#) at the Central High School Foundation to get started at 402-556-1996. The Foundation has a plethora of resources to help make your class reunion the very best possible. This list will continue to be updated as more reunions are scheduled, but these are the classes that have secured dates so far.

**Central Spring Play Production**





The Omaha Central High School Drama Department proudly presents their spring play production of *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood* by Mary Lynn Dobson.

Production dates are:

**Friday, April 28, 2017** at 7:00 PM

**Saturday, April 29, 2017** at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM Central High School Courtyard

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students with their school ID. Tickets can be purchased by calling (402) 557-3332 beginning Monday, April 10, 2017 and will also be sold at the door before each show.

For more information about the production, contact Scott Mead, at (402) 557-3300 ext. 3317015 or by email at [Scott.mead@ops.org](mailto:Scott.mead@ops.org).

## Join Generation C Today!

Although he graduated in 1966, Robert Batt has never lost his Eagle Spirit, and his passion for Central High School is as strong today as it was when he was running through the halls to get to class. While at Central, he was an active member of JROTC and involved himself in the French and Math clubs. Beyond graduation, he has demonstrated a long-lasting commitment not only to Central High School, but the Omaha community.

Bob is a well-recognized business man in Omaha, having served as the company spokesperson and Executive Vice President of Nebraska Furniture Mart, a Midwest institution in the furniture, appliances, and electronics business. In addition, he has been a mentor to many young people in Omaha and a supporter of civic causes such as purchasing video cameras for police cruisers. He also served on the Omaha Personnel Board, and supported initiatives and collaborative efforts at UNO, his alma mater. He is currently a member of the Boys Town Advisory Board and a regular donor to The Heart Ministry Center. At the state level, he is Chairman of the State Liquor Commission and has served on other state service committees. Nationally, he served on the U.S. Concert Committee for Yellowstone to help raise funds to restore fire-ravaged Yellowstone National Park.



Photo by Laurie and Charles Photographs

For his community service, civic efforts, and university support, Bob has received plenty of recognition. UNO presented him with its Citation for Alumni Achievement and with a Distinguished Alumni Award. The Omaha Press Club also selected him as a "Face on the Barroom Floor." He credits his success and sense of responsibility to his community to the foundational education he received at Central High School. Generations of the Batt family have attended Central, such as his sister Ellie Batt, CHS 1970, who sits on the Central High School Foundation Board of Directors. In this way, the Eagle Spirit is not just a result of his time spent at Central High School; it is a family tradition.

To learn more about Generation "C" and to join today, [click here!](#)

## Together a Greater Good



TAGG your purchase by taking a picture of the receipt rather than taking a picture of a QR code! That way if you forget to TAGG your purchase before leaving the restaurant, you can take a picture of your receipt after getting home!

Omaha Central High School Foundation has partnered with TAGG (Together A Greater Good), an Omaha start-up, to provide an easy and free way to support the Foundation. TAGG offers a smartphone app that, when used at 120 participating local businesses, the business will donate 5% of your purchase, any day any time! The app, available on iPhone and Android devices, is free to download and easy to set up. Here's how to get started:

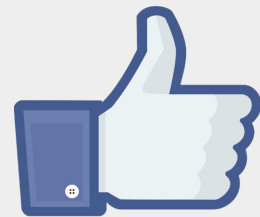
- 1) Go to the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and download the free app 'Together a Greater Good' to your iPhone or Android device.
- 2) When it's time to pay at a participating business, click the orange 'TAGG My Purchase' button on the app and tell the cashier that you want to 'TAGG' your purchase.
- 3) On your phone, enter in the total pre-tax amount of your purchase and click 'Next.'
- 4) When you go to TAGG a purchase, you will now have the option to take a picture of your receipt (instead of asking a cashier for a QR code to scan). We ask that you do this within 7 days of purchase.
- 5) On your phone, select Central High School Foundation from the list of organizations.

To learn more about TAGG, check out their [website](#). Happy shopping!

## Like Us on Facebook!

Are you on Facebook? [Like our Facebook page](#) to be connected to other Central alumni, staff, parents and supporters, all while receiving the latest news.

We are continuing to grow our social network! When we reach our 2,500 fan milestone, we will award a great prize from the Central High School Alumni Store. Winners will be pulled from our Facebook Fans!



## Follow Us on Instagram!



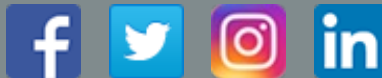
Are you on Instagram? Follow the Central High School Foundation [@CHSFomaha](#) for historical pictures of Central and its students. Instagram is a photo-sharing social media platform that is available for free for any smartphone. We want to be an active part of your network, so connect with us today to get started.

## Not Receiving Mailings? Update Your Record!

Haven't received information from us in a while? It might be because we don't have your new mailing address or email! Look for your name on our ['Lost Alumni'](#) list, then [fill out the form](#) to update us on how to get in touch with you!

All alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years are strongly encouraged to visit our website to [update their record](#), especially if they have not received updates and mailing from the Central High School Foundation at their own address. For many of our younger alumni, we send mail to the home they lived in upon graduating from Central.

## Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors



Central High School Foundation // Historic Library Building // 1823 Harney Street Suite 203  
Omaha, NE 68102-1913 // 402-556-1996