



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

Eagle News

February 2019

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The CHS Drama Department Debuted "A Voice in the Dark: A Salem Story" on February 1

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is February, the time of year for grand gestures, and we are preparing for a few of our own!

We are excited about the return of the [CHS Alumni Luncheon Series: Passing Periods](#). The first one of 2019 will be held on Tuesday, March 5, from 11:30-1:00 p.m. at Field Club of Omaha. The guest speakers for the event will be Bob McMeen and Pete Wilger. We hope you take this opportunity to reconnect with old classmates and teachers, and make it a new tradition over your lunch hour!



[Rock the Nest Trivia Night](#) is also taking place next month! Join us on Sunday, March 24, for an evening of food, drinks, and trivia! [Registration is now open](#), and we would love to see you there! However if you are unable to attend, you can still purchase raffle tickets for the event. You do not have to be in attendance to win a raffle prize. There are lots of great packages to choose from, including tickets to the KC

Masterpiece 400 at the Kansas City Speedway and an Apple Watch Series 3! Check out the information below.

As always, thank you for helping perpetuate 160 years - and counting - of tradition and excellence!

Go Eagles!

Michele Roberts

Michele Roberts
Executive Director

Rock the Nest Trivia Night Registration is Open



Registration is now open for the 2019 Rock the Nest "Trivia Night." Mark your calendar to attend this fun interactive event on Sunday, March 24, 2019, at the Omaha Design Center (1502 Cuming Street.)

Start rounding up your team now: former classmates, neighbors, coworkers or really anyone who is just plain ole 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"...

[Click here to join the fun!](#)

Rock the Nest "Trivia Night" is an interactive trivia contest played in teams of eight. Teams will take part in six rounds of ten questions each, with fun categories ranging from movies to history and everything in between. There will be something for everyone. The fun doesn't stop there, however. There will be plenty of chances to win prizes, through a raffle and trivia winnings, and dinner will be provided.

Rock the Nest Raffle Prizes - Buy Your Tickets Today

To purchase raffle tickets in advance, please call us at 402-556-1996 or fill out and

mail in the attached form [here](#) to purchase tickets.
Raffle tickets are \$10 each or \$25 for three tickets.
Need not be present to win. All raffle tickets are automatically eligible for the Grand Prize Raffle.



Grand Prize: Trip to Florida

One Week at Surfside Resort in Destin, Florida and 2 round trip airline tickets

Donated by: Matt, CHS 1974, and Sherri Aden

Retail Value: \$4,000.00

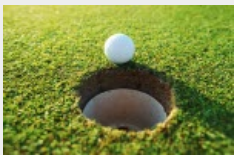


The Perfect Watch

An Apple Watch Series 3, the ultimate device for a healthy life (Space Gray, 38 mm, GPS)

Donated by: Nebraska Furniture Mart

Retail Value: \$279.00



Golf at Dismal River Club

Two days of golf for a foursome including carts and one night lodging in two King suites at Dismal River Club in Mullen, NE

Donated by: Dismal River Club

Retail Value: \$2,600.00



Color Me Purple

14K White Gold Amethyst Pendant

Donated by: Borsheims

Retail Value: \$540.00



2019 International Omaha

4 VIP tickets, which includes VIP Lounge Access and 2 parking passes, to the Speed Jumping Series Final on April 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the 2019 Burlington Capital International Omaha at the CHI Health Center Omaha

Donated by: International Omaha

Retail Value: \$600.00



An Eagle on the 18th

4 tickets to Pavilion #2 at the 18th Fairway on Thursday, July 18 at the 2019 Pinnacle Bank Championship at Indian Creek Golf Course

Donated by: Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Heartland Chevy Dealers

Retail Value: \$1,000.00



Feel Your Heart Race

4 Grandstand Tickets to the Saturday, May 11 KC Masterpiece 400 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Race

Donated by: Coca-Cola

Retail Value: \$500.00

Who's on First, What's on Second

Four seats behind home plate to College World Series Finals Game #1



and Game #2 on Monday, June 24 and Tuesday, June 25 with parking pass for each game
 Donated by: Harley ('65) & Beth Schrager
 Retail Value: \$500.00



Historical Omaha

Three framed prints from the Omaha Heritage Masterpiece Collection by Don S. Davis, including Central High, First Street Car, and Court House; a copy of Citizen Akoy by Steve Marantz ('68)
 Donated by: Tim and Doreen Herbert and the Central High School

Foundation
 Retail Value: \$230.00



Treat Yourself

\$159 gift certificate to the Magnolia Hotel and a \$150 gift card to

the Flatiron Café

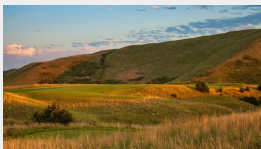
Donated by: Magnolia Hotels and the Jamrozy Family
 Retail Value: \$309.00



A Tee-rific Time

ArborLinks Weekend Package includes an overnight stay at a four bedroom cottage, 2 rounds of golf for a foursome, dinner, and breakfast

Donated by: Mike & Susan Lebens ('70) and ArborLinks
 Retail Value: \$3,000.00



Hunt at Dismal River Club

One and a half day upland bird hunt for four people, including two nights lodging in a luxury cabin at Dismal River Club in Mullen, NE
 Donated by: Dismal River Club

Retail Value: \$6,200.00



Driving to Excellence

Teen Driver Education Course and Central High School Reserved Parking Spot

Donated by: National Safety Council, Nebraska, and Central High School
 Retail Value: \$365.00



Better ACT Now! - There are Two Opportunities to Win

John Baylor Test Prep in person class for ACT or SAT in Omaha, Lincoln, or Kearney

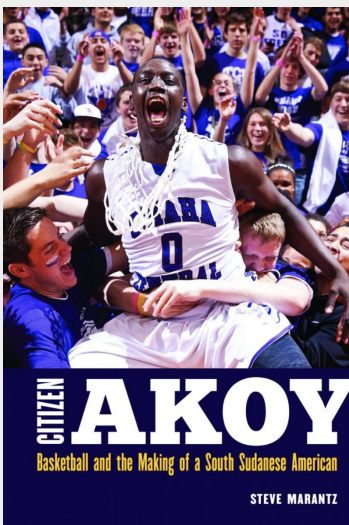
Donated by: On To College with John Baylor
 Retail Value: \$385.00

3MT Test Prep for ACT in Omaha

Donated by: 3MT Test Prep

Retail Value: \$225.00

Alumni in the News



Get your copy of "Citizen Akoy" autographed! CHS grad **Steve Marantz** ('69) will be signing copies of his new book *Citizen Akoy: Basketball and the Making of a South Sudanese American* on Friday, February 22 at 6 PM at The Bookworm.

The book features Akoy Agau, who led Omaha Central High School to four straight high school basketball state championships (2010-13) and was a three-time All-State player. One of the most successful high school athletes in Nebraska's history, he's also a South Sudanese refugee. At age four, Akoy and his family fled Sudan during the Second Sudanese Civil War, and after three years in Cairo,

they came to Maryland as refugees. They arrived in Omaha in 2003 in search of a better future.

Steve Marantz is the author of *The Rhythm Boys of Omaha Central: High School Basketball at the '68 Racial Divide* (Nebraska, 2011). He has worked as a writer, researcher, and producer for ESPN and has covered sports, government, and politics for the *Kansas City Star*, *Boston Globe*, and *Boston Herald*. His podcast, "That Championship Season," features great champions and their moments in history.

Citizen Akoy: Basketball and the Making of a South Sudanese American is available for purchase through the [University of Nebraska Press](#) and [Amazon](#). Copies will also be available for purchase at [The Bookworm](#) on Friday.



Creighton University senior **Christina Siek** ('15) was recently highlighted as the Chamber Choir Senior of the Week. Christina is in her fourth year as a soprano in the Chamber Choir. Along with choir, she has also been involved as an emergency room volunteer at Nebraska Medicine, currently conducts research in the Biology Department, is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma, and works both as an organic chemistry lab teaching assistant and at the Russell Child Development Center on campus. After graduating in May she will be continuing her education at the Creighton University School of Dentistry as part of the class of 2023.



Dirk Chatelain of the Omaha World-Herald recently wrote about the recruitment of track and football star **Gale Sayers** ('61) when he was a senior at Central. After receiving more than 100 scholarship offers and committing to 17 different schools, Gale decided to attend the University of Kansas. [Click here](#) to read the stories behind Gale's decision and recruitment process.

Join Us for the First Passing Periods Luncheon of 2019



Eagles all across Omaha are brushing shoulders for a quick hello during the Central High School Foundation's [Alumni Luncheon Series: 'Passing Periods.'](#) and we hope to bump into you there! For \$15, you can enjoy a great meal, catch up with friends you haven't seen since first period, talk with teachers that you haven't seen since homeroom, and listen to our exclusive lineup of guest speakers.

Our Next Luncheon Date is:
Tuesday, March 5, 2019
11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Field Club of Omaha
3615 Woolworth Avenue
Omaha, NE 68105

Guest Speakers:

Bob McMeen, Performing Arts Department Head from 1970-1988
Pete Wilger, Performing Arts Department Head from 1994-2018

To register online, please register and pay using the online registration link below. You will receive a confirmation email upon completion of your online registration and payment.

To register by mail, please mail your check to:
Central High School Foundation
1823 Harney Street, Suite 203
Omaha, NE 68102-1913

Please register by Friday, March 1, 2019. If you have any questions please contact Sydney Davidson at 402-556-1996 or events@chsfomaha.org.

[Click here to register!](#)

Mark Your Calendars

Your favorite events are back! Plans are well underway for our spring events, and you won't want to miss out on all the fun! These are great opportunities to reconnect with your high school classmates, have fun, and raise money for your alma mater. We hope to see you there!



[Alumni Luncheon Series: 'Passing Periods'](#)

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Field Club of Omaha

11:30 am - 1 pm

Guest Speakers: Bob McMeen, Performing Arts Department Head 1970-1988

Pete Wilger, Performing Arts Department Head 1994-2018

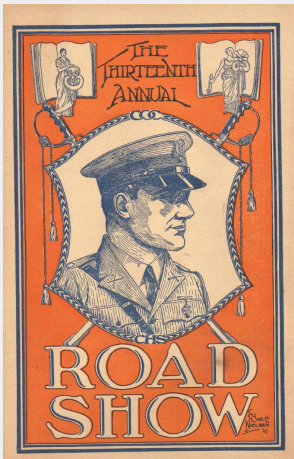


[Rock the Nest Trivia Night](#)

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Omaha Design Center

5:30 - 9:00 pm



105th Annual Road Show

Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6, 2019

Central High School

Friday - 7 PM CST

Saturday - 2 PM CST and 7 PM CST



[OmahaGives! 2019](#)

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

Stay tuned for more information on Omaha Gives! 2019

[CHS Golf Fore Eagles](#)

Monday, June 3, 2019

Field Club of Omaha

Morning Flight: 7:30 am



Eagle Wrestlers Soar at State Championship



At the A-2 District Tournament on February 9, nine Eagles qualified for the NSAA Wrestling Championship held last weekend at the CHI Health Center. Here are the nine boys who qualified along with their respective weight classes:

- 106 - Arian Alai
- 113 - Emilio Haynes
- 132 - Chris Kueny
- 138 - Ray Hubbard
- 145 - Deon Davis
- 152 - Justin Davis
- 182 - Karon Davis
- 195 - Jacob Hilding
- 285 - Jacob Frezell

Five of the Eagles placed, with Emilio Haynes finishing 2nd, Deon Davis 4th, Justin Davis 4th, Jacob Frezell 4th, and Jacob Hilding 5th. As a team, CHS finished in 6th place with 88 points. The Eagles are led by head coach Jimmie Foster and assisted by Matt Storm ('04), Keygan Foster ('12), and several volunteer coaches.

2019 Student and Teacher of the Year Nominations



Pictured left: 2018 Student of the Year Alec Rome
Pictured right: 2018 Teacher of the Year Diane Allen ('86)

It's that time of year where you have the opportunity to recognize your favorite teacher as well as an outstanding senior student at Central! To submit a nomination for the 2019 DeEmmett Bradshaw Zerbe ('43) and Mason Speltz Zerbe ('48) Central High School Student of the Year Scholarships or Teacher of the Year, [visit our website by clicking here](#) and sending the completed forms to the Central High School Foundation office. The deadline to apply is Monday, March 25, 2019. The Senior Recognition Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 7 PM in the CHS Auditorium.

Update from the Alumni Association



On a regular basis the CHS Alumni Association receives donations to its library arts collection. The collection includes literary publications, music, and other artistic achievements, and it represents the considerable achievements of CHS alumni who have generously donated their works.

The Arts Library consists of works of fiction, non-fiction, text books, and musical sound tracks – over 300 items currently on display in the Central High School courtyard. The Library is maintained by the Central High School Alumni Association, and with the assistance of the CHS Foundation, new items are solicited and added on a regular basis. A complete listing of contents can be viewed in the [CHS Alumni section](#) of the Foundation's website.

A Few Highlights of the Arts Library Include:

Strange Angels by Jonis Agee. Jonis Agee is a writer of short stories, novels, essays, and screenplays. She is the author of thirteen books, including five novels and five collections of short fiction. Three of her books have been New York Times Notable Books. She is the Adele Hall Professor of English at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln

The Book of Qualities by Ruth Gendler. Ruth Gendler is an artist, writer, and teacher committed to the transformational potential of the arts. The Book of Qualities, now in its 40th printing, has been adapted as a two act theater piece and translated into German, Japanese, and Chinese. In addition to her personal essays and poems, Gendler writes books about the arts, education, health.

Offensive Football and I Am Third by Gale Sayers. Gale Sayers is a former professional American football player who earned acclaim both as a halfback and return specialist in the National Football League (NFL). After graduating from Central in 1961, he was twice recognized as an All American while playing for the University of Kansas Jayhawks. Sayers was drafted by the Chicago Bears in the first round, fourth overall, in the 1965 NFL draft. His autobiography, I Am Third was the basis for the 1971 made-for-TV movie Brian's Song. Sayers was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1977.

110 in the Shade, a CD featuring Inga Swenson. A 1950 graduate of Central High School, Inga Swenson studied drama at Northwestern University. She had many supporting roles in her early career, and as a trained lyric soprano had many starring roles on Broadway. She received a Tony Award nomination for Best Actress in a Musical for her performance in 110 in the Shade. She is best known for her role of Gretchen Krause in the TV sitcom Benson.

Donations to the Library can be mailed either to the Foundation office or personally delivered. Two copies are requested, one for the Arts Library and one to be stored in the CHS Library.



Upcoming Events:

Alumni Association Meeting

Monday, March 4 at 6:30 PM

Central High School

Room 131

All are welcome to attend. Come learn about the Alumni Association and the many opportunities for you to get involved.

Eagle Business Alliance

March 14

Time and location TBA

2019 Class Reunion Schedule

Class of 1959

September 20-21, 2019

Contact: Terry Foster or David Krecek

etf@cox.net

Class of 1964

September 6-7, 2019

Contact: Jeannene Rice Mason

masonjeannene@aol.com

Class of 1969

August 2-3, 2019

Contact: Rosemarie Lahs Matza

central69reunion@gmail.com

Class of 1979

July 13, 2019

Contact: Anne Scott-Miller Roberts

central79@gmail.com

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

Class of 1984

Date: TBD

Contact: Pat Salerno

psalerno@dundeebanking.com

Class of 1989

September 6-7, 2019

Contact: Kurt and Julee Goeser

goeser5@gmail.com

Class of 1994

October 4-5, 2019

Jeff Darst

Jeffrey.darst@childrenscolorado.org

Class of 1999

September 27-28, 2019

Contact: Jane Luethge

Jmluethge1@cox.net

[Join the Facebook Group](#)

Class of 2009

October 18-20, 2019

Contact: Doug Knickrehm, Ali Hodges, Chloe McPherson, and Bailey Rutten

Doug.mainebased@gmail.com

If you haven't set the date for your 2019 reunion yet, contact Sydney Davidson at events@chsfomaha.org for help getting started.

2018-19 Generation C Chairs - The Crossman Family



[Photo by Michele Zephier Photography](#)

Eagle Spirit runs deep for the Chairs of this year's Generation "C" campaign. As a family of multi-generations of Omaha Central High graduates that includes Margaret Crossman Wonn, ('43), and Mary Crossman, ('69), the Crossman Family understands the importance of the exceptional education that they received from Central High School. Rusty Crossman ('66), and his two daughters Elizabeth Crossman Cook ('95) and Allyson Crossman Slobotski ('98), continue to be important members of the Central community. Other Even with their busy lives, they all boast impressive lists of community service and remain passionate about giving back to their alma mater: Central High School.

Rusty ('66) is an Omaha ophthalmologist whose incredible vision for Central High School led to the creation of the Central High School Foundation in 1996. Rusty received his undergraduate degree from St. Olaf College before completing his doctorate degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. His energy and enthusiasm for his alma mater are boundless, and the positive results will impact Central and the Omaha community forever. The most important thing in Rusty's life is his family. Rusty is married to Stephanie Meyers and has 3 daughters, 1 son, and 5 grandchildren.

Elizabeth ('95) graduated from Texas Christian University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with a major in finance and a minor in accounting and French. She has been employed with First National Bank for the past twenty-two years, currently serving as the Sr. Director of Talent Acquisition and HR Business Partnering. Liz currently serves on the CHS Hall of Fame Selection Committee as well as the Executive and Human Resources Committees for Heartland Workforce Solutions. Some of her interests include following Husker football and volleyball, playing golf, enjoying country music, and spending time with her husband, Shawn, and her three boys: Evan (9), Nathan (7) and Ryan (5).

Allyson ('98) also graduated from Texas Christian University majoring

in accounting and finance. She then received a Master of Accounting from TCU and her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. The first five years of her career she worked for Koley Jessen P.C., L.L.O. focusing on estate planning and tax disputes. She has spent the past seven years as an in-house state tax attorney for Union Pacific Railroad. Within the Omaha community, Ally served as the first Guild President for the WCA Omaha as well as Treasurer for the Midlands Mentoring Partnership. She currently is the Scholarship Advisor for Chi Omega Sorority at UNO. Ally and her husband Mark have twin boys: Leo and Parker.

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

Tagg Your Holiday Purchases - Download the App!



You can now 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 3,250 fan milestone, we will award a great prize from the Central High School Alumni Store. Winners will be pulled from our Facebook Fans!

Corporate Sponsors



The Central High School Foundation

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