



# The 13th Corner

Engaging alumni in preserving the Brighton legacy of educational excellence

2022

## New BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Famers inspire in art, law, education, communications, business and service

The 2022 members of the **Brighton Schools Alumni Association** (BSAA)/**Brighton High School** (BHS) **Alumni Hall of Fame** represent three decades of BHS graduates; activities in higher education, fine art, the law, business and communications; and a shared commitment to service and philanthropy.

Family, friends, classmates, colleagues, teachers and staff came from as far as New Mexico and Alaska to honor the new “hall of famers” at this year’s **Recognition Gala**, held on

**June 3** at the **Monroe Golf Club**. The 2022 honorees, by graduating years, are:

- **John W. Clark, Jr.**, BHS’54
- **Sharon D. Yates**, BHS’60
- **Bruce T. Wallace**, BHS’63
- **Jack M. Ferraro**, BHS’63
- **Ruth E. Thaler-Carter**, BHS’71

### About the honorees

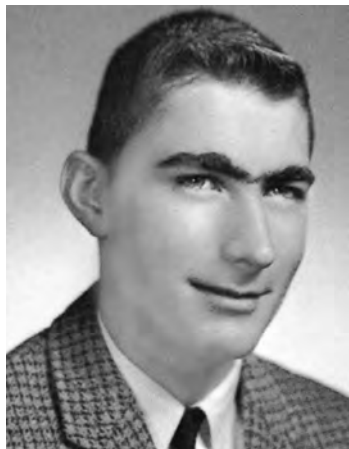
• John Clark, who was nominated by his brother **David F. Clark, Sr.**, BHS’59, was a professor of electrical, computer and bioengineering at Rice University and was a leader and mentor in professional associations on the national and international levels. He was instrumental in establishing the bio-engineering department at Rice — one of the first in the United States.

Clark’s research focused on electrophysiology, mathematical modeling of biological systems, nonlinear system dynamics and electromagnetic field theory. His nominator quoted a Rice colleague as saying that Clark was a pioneer in his field — “one of the first few people

in the country [who] recognized how engineering tools and models could be used in medicine and in healthcare.” He worked on important problems in brain-machine interfaces and neural-controlled prosthetics well before the term “neural engineering” was coined, according to another colleague.

Clark served as president of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and of IEEE’s Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society

*Continued on next page.*



New BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame members as BHS seniors: (above) Clark and Yates; (below) Wallace, Ferraro and Thaler-Carter.

## 2022 Hall of Fame honorees, continued

(EMBS), of which he was a founding member.

Clark received the IEEE Award for Outstanding Service to the EMBS and a Meritorious Career in Engineering Education. His many other honors included a Founding Fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering; an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellow in Germany; a Life Fellow of the IEEE for contributions to modeling in electrophysiology and cardiopulmonary systems; and a special award from the Houston Society for Engineering Medicine and Biology for “outstanding service to the biomedical engineering community of Houston” and founding the society to encourage young scientists in the region.

In teaching at Rice University for 49 years, Clark was also known for working with and mentoring thousands of undergraduate students and inspiring careers in biomedical engineering well before the university had a formal bioengineering department.



“Besides being an outstanding professor, he was an incredibly giving, loving and caring human being,” said his nominator. “We are proud to call him ‘brother.’”

• Sharon Yates is an example of someone who fulfills the idea that “success should be measured by ... how many lives someone enriched and made purposeful and better,” said nominator

**David deCalesta** (BHS’60). “Her story [is] of the dedication, motivation, sacrifice and hard work it took to become an acclaimed and contributing artist.

“It is important for students to see that their dreams of fulfilling chosen careers, no matter the recompense or glory, can be achieved. Sharon’s story is a powerful demonstration of how passion can achieve those dreams.”

Yates was the only female student in her graduate program at Tulane. After earning her master’s degree, she wrote more than 350 letters to colleges and universities before being offered a teaching position at the University of Louisville. She applied for the Prix de Rome five times before receiving this extremely competitive award for independent study in painting in Rome.

Her talents as an artist and teacher were recognized in 1986 when she was invited to participate in the Studio Arts College International Visiting Artist program for art students in Florence, Italy. The National Academy of Design recognized her mastery of her art by electing her as a National Academician.

Yates also received an Ingram Merrill Foundation grant to paint in France; Award for Excellence in Teaching, faculty enrichment grants and Medal of Honor from the Maryland Institute College of Art; Shatalov Award, National Academy of Design; Award of Excellence, Sunbury Shores Arts and Nature Center (SSANC); and a seed grant from the America the Beautiful Fund’s Artists for Environmental Conservation program.

Her work has been displayed in 18 solo exhibits and 31 group exhibits in 27 galleries, and in public collections at Yale University, the Allen R. Hite Art Institute and National Academy of Design, and two Baltimore law firms.

“Sharon serves as a role model; engages, listens and provides feedback; has vision; encourages and critiques without being judgmental; demands excellence; is passionate about her subject; motivates; and earns the respect

of colleagues,” deCalesta said. “Her long-term teaching appointments at the Maryland Institute College of Art and University of Maine, Machias attest to that level of leadership.”



Yates created an international art course between the Maryland Institute College of Art and SSANC in Canada, a cooperative venture that ran for 19 years. In the Maine community where she now lives, she served on a local community board, promoted local art exhibits and mentored local artists.

“Her whole professional life, including her retirement years, has involved giving back by exhibiting her art to enrich the lives of the community of art lovers; promoting learning and appreciation of painting for her students and mentorees; and promoting their professional development and employment,” said deCalesta. “I have never met a person more completely committed over an entire life to the betterment and improvement of others than Sharon. Giving back is at the core of who she is and of what she does.”

• Bruce Wallace is a litigation attorney for nonprofit organizations and Native American townships/tribes on environmental matters and other issues. He has more than 30 years’ experience as lead counsel in environmental and complex litigation in all Michigan courts, administrative tribunals and federal courts in about 40 jurisdictions, including serving as lead counsel in current federal and state litigation against



licensing and continued use of old pipelines. He is active in the American Bar Association, State Bar of Michigan and Washtenaw County Bar Association, and founder of the county bar association's Environmental Section.

Wallace is a trustee and past chair of the boards of trustees of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and Michigan League of Conservation Voters (MLCV), and a member of boards of directors for charitable fundraising of those organizations and active in other environmental groups. He also lectures about environmental law at the University of Michigan Law School and is the co-author of a law school textbook about environmental litigation.

Wallace has received the highest level for ability and ethics from Martindale-Hubbell, a national organization that rates attorneys in those categories — a rare achievement, according to his nominator, fellow attorney **Donald J. Gasink**, BHS'63. He is also in *Best Lawyers in America* and *Michigan Super Lawyers*.



Wallace is “one of the top leaders and volunteers of countless hours to build and support the NWF, not just in the causes but also in fundraising and planning needs,” said Gasink. “In the MLCV, fellow board members and administrators have said he has been a significant force at all levels to reach consensus and compromise among extremely varied points of view, from ultra-liberal environmentalists to

ultra-conservative hunters and sports people.”

Wallace's contributions to the careers of new attorneys are renowned as well. “Within the Ann Arbor legal community, he is near to being a legend when it comes to helping young attorneys and attorneys new to the area,” Gasink said. “He goes out of his way to meet them and offer assistance ... as a welcoming and unusual voice.”

Wallace's legal distinction goes beyond the environmental sector. “He has initiated and pursued cases through trial and appeal, such as ... the first to establish liability of professional basketball teams for injuries caused during games by players, where a jury also awarded punitive damages that exceeded what he and [his] co-counsel asked for,” Gasink said.

Wallace has also represented native American tribes in his legal career.

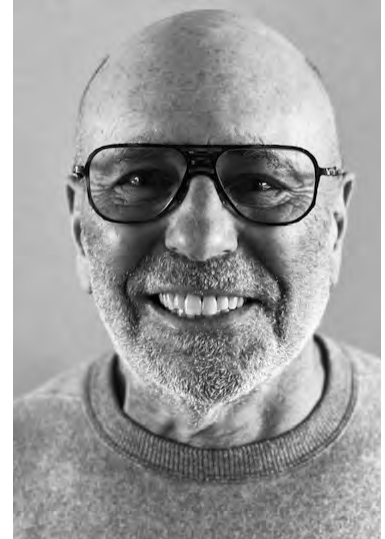
His community service extends even farther: When bank mergers “swept away” the favorite name of a local bank, Wallace joined with friends and clients to set up a new bank, capitalize it and grab the beloved name.

- While Jack Ferraro has had a successful career in finance in the U.S. and abroad, he was honored for his lifelong commitment to philanthropy and volunteer leadership service in nonprofit organizations, with a special focus on educational institutions.

“This nomination focuses on his lifelong commitment to nonprofit organizations,” said nominator John P. Gannon of the Hackley School. “In my 30-year career in the nonprofit sector working for a university, a medical school and an independent school, Jack's philanthropic and volunteer leadership are unparalleled and stand alone.”

In addition to being “one of the most revered and dedicated volunteers in the Hackley [School] history,” Ferraro has been involved with the Cornell University Graduate School of Management, Sundance Institute (Utah), National Ability Center (Utah), Blair Academy (NJ); Advisory Board of the Center for Medical Innovation (CMI) of the University of Utah in Salt

Lake City, Utah, since 2001; and Executive, Audit and Finance Committees of the board of directors of BMP Sunstone Corporation, a for-profit Chinese company listed and traded in the USA with offices in China and the USA.



Ferraro went through the Brighton schools from first grade through high school. After receiving his MBA from Cornell University's Graduate School of Business and Public Administration (now called the Johnson School), he lived and worked in Switzerland, England and New York.

- Ruth Thaler-Carter is a freelance writer/editor/proofreader/speaker who is known for her appreciation of a Brighton education, keeping classmates and other friends connected, and leadership in professional and philanthropic organizations.

“Ruth has long credited her passion for writing to her education at BHS, and to two teachers specifically: **Louise Thomas**, sixth-grade English, and **Elizabeth Hart**, BHS Critical Reading & Writing and AP English,” said nominator **Treelee MacAnn**, BHS'71.

“The strong grounding in grammar that Miss Thomas instilled in me and the critical thinking and writing training from Miss Hart inform everything I work on,” Thaler-Carter said. “I think of them every time I write, edit or proofread something, whether for myself or my clients.” She created a BSAA scholarship in their memory.

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# Honor teachers, classmates and classes, staff and more with pavers in BHS Courtyard Garden

If you always wanted to leave a mark on BHS, there's a way to do so: Buy a paver in the BSAA's **Courtyard Garden**.

The BSAA created the Courtyard Garden in an area formed by additions to the high school, with the help of BHS staff and the leadership of the late **Scott Miller**, BHS'54. Students participated in the design process, and BHS staff and the BSAA helped

construct the garden. Several benches honor past classes and individuals, and pavers are woven into a brick pathway throughout the space.

You can use a paver to recognize yourself or a graduating student, your BHS or another BCSD class, students of all ages, families, faculty and staff, friends, BHS sports teams, or a reunion year. (No commercial sponsors.)

Pavers are 8x8-inch fired clay and laser-etched with text you provide — up to three lines of copy at a maximum 14 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.

For an order form, go to [www.brightonalumni-rochester.org](http://www.brightonalumni-rochester.org). Funds from the purchase of pavers support courtyard maintenance and other BSAA projects. For more than one paver, please use separate forms.

## Hall of Famers, continued

Thaler-Carter is “one of the biggest boosters for BHS,” MacAnn said. “She could easily be the class historian. She has actively kept classmates and other old friends connected, including being on the BHS'71 reunion committee for many years.”

According to nominator **Leora Zeitlin**, BHS'73, “One old friend said, ‘Ruth was the Internet for all of us before there was the Internet!’”

Known as the Queen of Networking, Thaler-Carter is active in professional associations in the USA, Canada and England; publishes booklets and blog posts, and presents workshops and webinars, about freelancing; and created the “Be a Better Freelancer”® conference.

“From the beginning of her career, [Ruth] has advocated — and encouraged her colleagues to do the same — for fair compensation for freelance editorial work, and has provided guidance for launching freelance editorial businesses,” Zeitlin said.

Thaler-Carter has received a Big Pencil Award from Rochester's Writers and Books and a Philip M. Stern Award from Washington (DC) Independent Writers; and been named a *Brighton Connections* magazine “Inspiring Woman in Our Community” and a Communicator of the Year by the DC

chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.

She helped create an alumni association for the Encampment for Citizenship (EFC) youth democracy program that she attended in 1970, and teaches in the high school journalism workshop of the Greater St. Louis Association of Black Journalists.



Zeitlin also recalled two “public editorial efforts” that Thaler-Carter undertook in Rochester. “Years ago, she noticed that the stone sign for Cobbs Hill Reservoir said ‘Resevior’ and she went through the ranks of city government to get it fixed. And she requested that the Town of Brighton correct

several typos in its standard marriage license form before she would sign it!”

A BSAA board member said that “Ruth has been an integral part of and dedicated contributor to the BSAA almost from its inception. She has been responsible for virtually all publicity and media ... She has spent countless volunteer hours at these tasks without remuneration and while still maintaining and growing her personal professional writing business.

“In the words of one of her BSAA colleagues, ‘We couldn’t have done it without her.’”

Perhaps most meaningful to Thaler-Carter is being nominated by her brother, **David Thaler**, BHS'74, who said: “She has an incredible talent for keeping people informed and connected ... Whatever task she takes on, Ruth does it professionally, accurately and always with a smile.”

## Nominations are open for 2023

Classmates, colleagues, friends and family are invited to nominate BHS alumni for the 2023 class of the BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame. For the nomination form, go to: <https://www.brightonalumni-rochester.org/bsaabhs-alumni-hall-of-fame>. Deadline: **December 15, 2022**.

# BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame members to date

2006:

Jacksel M. Broughton '42\*\*/Frederick Trost '53/David Kearns '48\*\*/  
William F. Scandling '40\*/Pauline Yu '66

2007:

Brad Berk, MD '71/Arthur Lonne Lane '57/John Shoemaker '60

2008:

Daan Braveman '65/Karen Noble Hanson '61\*\*/Robert A. Weisbuch '64

2009:

Christine Gleason, MD '71/Jim Gollin '76/Sandy Gradinger '54\*\*/Alan Shestack '56\*\*

2010:

Hank Appelbaum '58\*\*/Irene Taylor Brodsky '88/  
Laura L. Carstensen '71/Tom Richards '61/Tom Scalea, MD '69

2011:

Richard Appelbaum '60/Jim Crawford '54/Hank Greenwald '53\*\*/J. Allan Hovey, Jr. '41\*

2012:

James Allison, MD '60/Jeffrey Levy '59/John Milliman '56/Jerry Stahl '57

2013:

Caroline (Caren) Breese Hall '56\*/Nancy Gong '74/Stuart L. Hart '70/  
Bruce Laumeister '52

2014:

Robert Goldman '77/Roger Friedlander '72/Cass Balch Morgan '63/  
William W. Pinch '58\*\*/Susan Salitan Robfogel '60

2015:

Burt August '33\*\*/Gary Berger, MD '60/Tina Monshipour Foster '93/  
Pete Heinrich '55\*/Joe Klein '68

2016:

Stephanie Weinstein Dodson '79/Michael Gollin '74\*\*/  
Karen Eckberg Gottovi '58/Amy Shuffelton '88

2017:

Alan Lefor, MD '73/Peter Lovenheim '71/Alan Ziegler '55

2018:

Steven Marx '65\*/Doug Rutzen '83/Jaime Wemett Saunders '94/Samir Shah, MD, '84

2019:

Myron "Flint" Beal, MD '68\*\*/Lynn Astarita Gatto '70/Tom Hamburger '70/Bob Lambrix '57

2020:

Wayne Berman '74/Danette Campbell-Bell '92/Fred Eidlin '60\*

2021:

Heather Miller Podesta '88/Gail Hunt-Reeke '60/Alex Zapesochny '89

*\*Honored posthumously \*\*Deceased since honored*

## 2022 BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame Committee

Devin Cannon '05, Steve Gaudioso '63 (*chair*), Peter Lovenheim '71\*, Maryjane Kimmell Link '58,  
Marcia Loomis '64, Susan Salitan Robfogel '60\*, Kay Salerno '56, Alan Ziegler '55;\*

*Non-alumni:* Tom Hall (Brighton Central School District/BHS), Jody Siegle (Brighton Education Fund).

*The Selection Committee membership is confidential.*



# BSAA awards three scholarships for 2022

Thanks to the continued generosity of BHS alumni, teachers and staff, the BSAA was delighted to once again present scholarships of \$2,500 per year for four years to each of three outstanding college-bound BHS seniors this year. Applicants provided their BHS transcripts; details of extracurricular, community service and work activities; and essays about the BHS experience that shaped their future directions.

• **Chloe Cheatle** will attend the Rochester Institute of Technology. She was in the Urban-Suburban Program, received a St. Lawrence Book Award and BHS Art Subject Award in Ceramics; played the bass in the school orchestra; and was in the Gender Sexuality Alliance, including serving as president.



Her community activities and volunteer work include being a Peer Educator for SOAR, an organization that works to reduce the rates of sexually transmitted infections and unplanned pregnancy in the City of Rochester. She worked for Spirit Halloween and as an artist's assistant at Airigami.

The support and friendship of BHS music teacher and orchestra director Dr. **Rachel Lauber** has had the most impact in shaping her future, Cheatle said in her essay.

"It is incredible to me that 'D-Law' has led such an interesting life,

performing around the world, winning multiple awards and even conducting university orchestras, and she's still here every day to support us as BHS students," she wrote. "Not only have I grown as a musician with her help, but D-Law recognized my interest in the arts and encouraged me with creative projects for performances. With her support, I experimented ... to illustrate posters for Brighton Orchestra concerts, as well as created an immersive environment with other students that was inspired by the music we were to perform for an unusual classroom performance."

Perhaps most importantly, this teacher "provided a sense of normalcy in a very abnormal time," Cheatle wrote — the Covid era. "For me, her classroom is a home away from home."

• **Jack Hannagan** is heading to SUNY-Binghamton. He received a Chemistry Achievement Award for AP Chemistry; Brighton Achievers Award; Outstanding Delegate, UNAR Model UN Conference; and RIT Innovation and Creativity Scholarship.

Hannagan's activities at BHS included editor in chief and news editor with the *Trapezoid* student newspaper, JV and varsity tennis, Eastman Community Music School, captain or member of the Math Team, French tutor for several years, Key Club volunteering member, and tennis coach.

Hannagan also worked at Wegmans Food Markets.

"I most cherish my BHS experience because of an activity outside the school walls," Hannagan in his application essay. "Before my freshman year of high school, my middle school French teacher — **Madame Mashewske** — asked me to tutor a few incoming middle school students ... Although I was thrilled to be considered for this opportunity, I was a bit skeptical at first. I doubted my ability to help students, especially as I only learned French two years prior. However, something clicked almost immediately

after my first tutoring experience. I immediately felt in my place helping other people learn new things. Every summer since my freshman year, I tutored at least one Brighton student in French, eventually branching out to [helping] a student in a different district."



Hannagan is still uncertain about what he wants to do in the future, but the tutoring experience has been "extremely meaningful, because it highlighted my passion for working with others," he wrote. "While I've always been especially interested in science and math, French tutoring emphasized that I want to help others in the next stages of my life; it illuminated my desire to pursue the STEM field and help other people at the same time."

• **Olivia Martinez** will attend Nazareth College. She received a 2022 U.S. Principal Award and was an officer in Friends of Rachel, a member of the Culture Climate Team and a band performer. Her community activity included the Liturgical Music and Dance team and Youthgroup. She also worked at Rochester General Hospital and as a babysitter.

Martinez started her education in the Rochester City School District and was accepted for the Urban-Suburban Program in Brighton in third grade.

"There was one music teacher for kindergarten through sixth grade and

*Continued on next page.*

# 2022 Hart-Thomas Scholarship recipient demonstrates writing skills and savvy

This year's **Hart-Thomas Scholarship** recipient earned her award for writing skills in a variety of genres and an interest in pursuing writing-related work as a career.

The 2022 recipient is **Sophie Zhou**, who has taken English 9 and 10, AP English Language and Composition, Creative Writing, and AP Literature and Composition at BHS, as well as Economics 103: The Economic Way of Thinking at the University of Rochester, for which she wrote weekly research papers and ruminations/essays. She published articles in the BHS *Trapezoid* newspaper about "Coronavirus Spreads More Than Disease" and "The Beginning of the End? Standardized Testing's Complex History and Uncertain Future."

At presstime for the newsletter, Zhou was waiting to hear whether her poem "Anticipation" had been accepted by the *Thrush Poetry Journal*

— an indication of the kind of extra effort that is core to the Hart-Thomas Scholarship.

Zhou's coursework writing includes essays for AP English about "Miltonian Sexism: Patriarchal Power Structures in Paradise Lost" and "Stages of Life Artist's Statement: Gatsby Through a New Lens." She has a clear, evocative writing voice and strong command of grammar.

Zhou will attend the University of Michigan, where she plans to major in economics and statistics in the honors program of the School of Literature, Arts and the Sciences. Her favorite authors are Sarah J. Maas and Maya Angelou and her favorite novel is *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi.

Because the goal of this scholarship is to encourage and recognize the creativity of BHS students who go beyond school publications to exercise their writing and publishing skills,



scholarship founder **Ruth E. Thaler-Carter**, BHS'71, provided tips about getting published.

The BSAA appreciates BHS alumni who make it possible to continue honoring **Louise Thomas** and **Elizabeth Hart** by supporting the Hart-Thomas Scholarship.

## Scholarships, continued

only well-behaved students were able to attend art class," she recalled in her scholarship essay. "At first, I was devastated to leave my friends, and teachers whom I loved. I now understand what a blessing it was. The aspect of Brighton that had the biggest impact on my future is all of the opportunities that were available."

Especially important to her was that Brighton had two music teachers for third- to fifth-graders, and two more for band. "At Brighton, there was an art room stocked with everything my artistic mind desired," she wrote. "I learned to use music and art as a way to relax — a tool that I still use."

Martinez joined community outreach clubs, participated in groups to help students who experienced harassment and bullying, "and ulti-

mately felt like I made an impact on people's lives," she said. "The experiences gained from community service solidified my desire to work in a field helping others."



Martinez also found the Brighton counseling to be "amazing," she

said. "Talking with them helped me narrow down my career selection to occupational therapy, which will help me continue to help others by enabling them to cope with disabilities."

For Martinez, the Brighton experience has been everything the school system could hope to provide: "I owe this [career direction] and more to the opportunities I received at Brighton," she said.

Thanks to the generosity of alumni, the BSAA Scholarship has provided financial aid to 28 BHS graduates to date. The BSAA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, so all gifts are fully tax-deductible. Every gift counts, no matter how large or how small! Send checks to BSAA Scholarship, 2035 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618; for PayPal, use [scholarship@brightonlumni-rochester.org](mailto:scholarship@brightonlumni-rochester.org).

## BHS 2022 reunions

The pandemic put most reunions on hold last year, but some classes are holding in-person events in 2022. We are creating a page for reunions at the BSAA website. To have your reunion included at the website and in future BSAA newsletters, send event details and contact information to: [newsletter@brightonalumni-rochester.com](mailto:newsletter@brightonalumni-rochester.com).

To arrange reunion tours of BHS, contact principal **Tom Hall** at [tom\\_hall@bcsd.org](mailto:tom_hall@bcsd.org).

- **Class of 1971** 50th+1: **August 27** at King's Bend Park. For updates, contact **Linda Eppstein MacKenzie** at [lmackenzie3045@gmail.com](mailto:lmackenzie3045@gmail.com) or 585-330-9513 with your e-mail address and information for classmates who might have updated details.

- **Class of 1972** 50th: **September 2022**. Organizers need updated e-mail

addresses. Send contact information for yourself and classmates to [relliott@rotoliteelliott.com](mailto:relliott@rotoliteelliott.com) or [jhyde918@gmail.com](mailto:jhyde918@gmail.com).

- **Class of 1974: September 8–10**. Contact **Thorner Harris**, [thornerb@aol.com](mailto:thornerb@aol.com).

- **Class of 1977** 45th: **July 29–31, 2022**. Friday and Saturday nights, Pane Vino on the Ave.: Friday, 5 p.m., cocktails and hors d'oeuvres (come in your best '70s outfit — you may win a prize!). Saturday: 5 p.m., cocktails; 6:30 p.m., dinner. Sunday: 11:30 a.m., Brighton Public Market, BHS — food trucks, music and shopping for fresh produce. \$55 per person. Send checks to class treasurer **Jennifer Held**, 15 Coldwater Crescent, Rochester, NY 14624; Venmo, use [@Jennifer-Held-4](https://www.venmo.com/@Jennifer-Held-4); Zelle, Jennifer Held, [Jdheld8@gmail.com](mailto:Jdheld8@gmail.com).

## The BSAA wants you!

The **BSAA Board of Directors** has openings for new members, and is especially interested in seeing involvement from younger alumni so the association can establish a strong foundation for the future.

BSAA board membership is not onerous. The board meets in person and via Zoom four times a year (with occasional special meetings) and meetings usually only last about an hour.

The board makes decisions about BSAA projects and events. Board members are not required to provide financial support, but are expected to pitch in on projects or committees.

For more about joining the board of directors, send a message to [president@brightonalumni-rochester.org](mailto:president@brightonalumni-rochester.org).

## BHS racks up more awards

The 2022 *U.S. News* Best High Schools rankings placed **Brighton High School** at #846 nationally — among the nearly 18,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia — and #79 in New York state that were ranked on six factors based on performance on state as-

sessments and how well they prepare students for college.

A Slacker poll put BHS at #23 in the best public high schools in New York State, using rankings from Niche — 60% of the score is based on academics and grades, calculated from state assessment proficiency tests, SAT/ACT scores and survey

responses. Culture and diversity, parent and student surveys of their overall experiences, and teachers each contribute to 10%. Clubs and activities, health and safety, resources and facilities, and sports count for 2.5% each.

BHS received an A+ grade from Niche, in part thanks to its 11:1 student:teacher ratio.

The **Brighton Schools Alumni Association** (BSAA) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Contributions are tax-deductible under IRS law and may be sent to:

**BSAA**

2035 Monroe Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14618



Founded in 1999

Celebrating  
service to BHS alumni  
and the Brighton schools

The **13th Corner** is the annual newsletter of the **Brighton Schools Alumni Association** (BSAA).  
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# Alumni news

• **Peggy Berg**, BHS'73, has received the Global Hospitality Award from the International Hospitality Institute for her work on behalf of women in the industry and related projects.



• In 2019, the NeuroCuresNY (NCNY), a nonprofit organization with **Bradford Berk, MD**, BHS'71 (a BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame member) as one of its directors, was chosen as one of the Life Sciences Power 50 as part of New York's \$620 million Life Science Initiative and received a \$5 million grant.

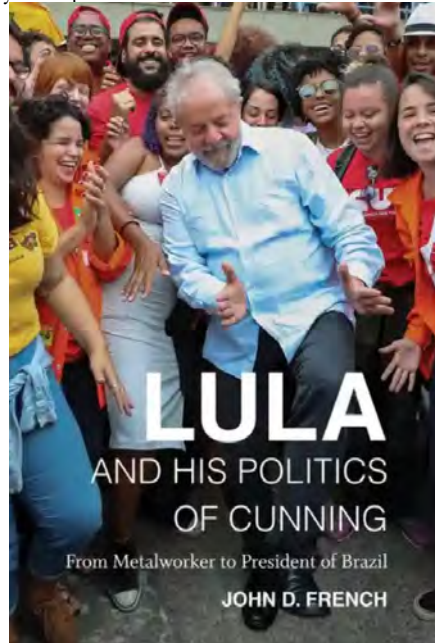
NCNY is a collaboration between Weill Cornell's Burke Neurological Institute, the University of Rochester's Neurorestoration Institute and the Wadsworth Center that was founded to study and develop treatments for neurological disabilities in individuals disabled by strokes.

• **John French** (BHS'71) recently published *Lula and His Politics of Cunning* (University of North Carolina Press), which the *Guardian* included in its 2021 list of "Books that explain the world: *Guardian* writers share their best nonfiction reads of the year."

The *Guardian's* Tom Phillips said of French's book: "At first sight, *Lula and His Politics of Cunning* appears to be a book about Brazil's past: the storybook tale of a sharp-witted union

leader who rose to become 'the most popular president in the history of Brazil and perhaps the world.'

"But French's masterly account of Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's journey from rural poverty to the Brazilian presidency – and his subsequent downfall – is infused with the present and the future. 'The story is not yet over,' French writes of his 76-year-old protagonist, who looks poised for a sensational political comeback in next year's presidential election.



"The looming showdown between the leftist Lula and his far-right arch-rival, Jair Bolsonaro — elected in 2018 after Lula was jailed by a judge who went on to work for Bolsonaro — hovers over French's biography. The author's contempt for the current

president — whom he calls a 'fascistic far-right troll' — is also clear.

"... Based on French's admiring telling, Lula the pit viper is gearing up for the fight of his life."

• **Rob Gooze** (BHS'71) and his wife Mary were named Outstanding Grass Roots Fundraiser by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Greater Madison (WI) for their support in finding a cure for metastatic breast cancer through their The One Woman Many Lakes - More for Stage IV Fund. They were nominated by the Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni Association.

• **Randy K. (Lempert) Morgenstern**, BHS'70, has joined the board of directors of Rochester's Writers and Books literary center. She spent her higher-level academic and early employment years outside New York State and returned to Rochester in the early 1980s.

Morgenstern has contributed to the Jewish Community Center and Israel Bonds; created the Jewish Book Festival; began the Jewish Singles Network; and directed the Women's Philanthropy Division of the Jewish Federation for 14 years, overseeing more than \$2 million in philanthropic funds and celebrating more than 100 Lions of Judah. She manages human resources for Radio Social in Rochester, which she co-owns with her husband **Dan** (BHS'70). They previously owned Clover Lanes Bowling Alley, the site of many BHS reunion events.

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## Sharing news about BSAA alumni

The BSAA has begun developing a database that includes news about and deaths ([www.brightonalumni-rochester.org](http://www.brightonalumni-rochester.org)) of BHS alumni. The information is accessible through the BSAA website. If you know of classmates who have won awards or honors, published new books, made other important contributions to a profession or community, or who have died, send the information (with graduating year) to [newsletter@brightonalumni-rochester.org](mailto:newsletter@brightonalumni-rochester.org) for the BSAA website and future issues of the *13th Corner* newsletter.

# BSAA dedicates digital displays at BHS

The BSAA held a ceremony on **October 28, 2021**, in conjunction with the **BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame** events, to dedicate the state-of-the-art interactive digital displays that the BSAA has donated to **Brighton High School (BHS)**. The displays are in the BHS main lobby for easy access by students, faculty, staff and visitors, and provide information about BSAA programs and events, Brighton schools history, and BHS activities and resources.

Designed by Empire Digital Signs of Rochester with material provided by the BSAA, the primary goal of the displays is to feature videos of **BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame** members. "We see this as a way to inspire current, former and future students to become 'hall of famers' themselves, and encourage nominations to the hall of fame from classmates, friends and family members," said BSAA president **Steve Gaudioso**, BHS'63.



*BSAA vice president/treasurer MaryJane Link (above), BHS'58, welcomes alumni, including BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Fame members and their families, and BHS staff (below) to dedication event.*



*BSAA president Steve Gaudioso, BHS'63, explains how the digital displays work and thanks supporters of the project.*





# Supporters turn out for 2021 hall of fame Gala



Barry Eidlin for his father, 2020 honoree Fred Eidlin; 2020 honoree Danette Campbell-Bell; 2021's Gail Hunt-Reeke and Alex Zapesochny.



Alex Zapesochny and family members.



Danette Campbell-Bell with family and friends.



BHS representative to the BSAA Matt Comeau (left) and 2021 seniors who helped with setting up the Recognition Gala.



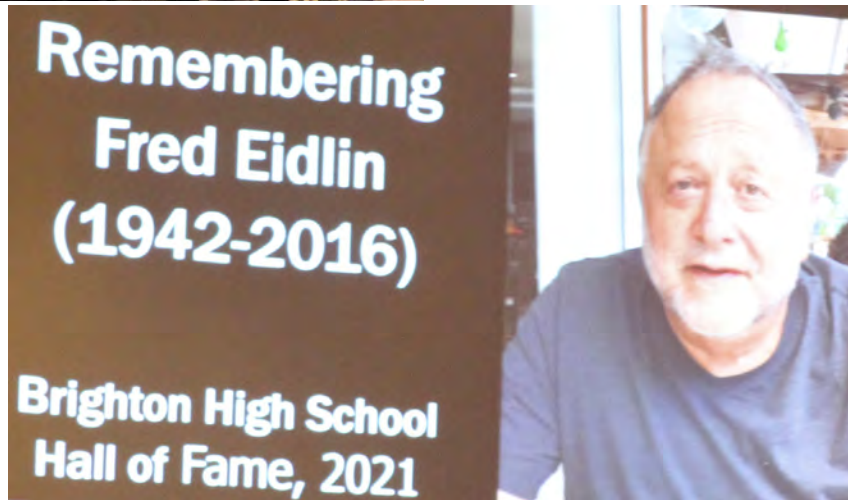


*Melinda Gaudioso (left); BSAA board members Victoria Brzustowicz and Ruth Thaler-Carter, both BHS'71; and Pat Jones Corbett, BHS'47.*

*BSAA/BHS Alumni Hall of Famer and committee member Peter Lovenheim (below), BHS'71; Elisa Siegel; Jody Siegle, Brighton Education Fund; and Kay Salerno, BHS'56, BSAA board member.*



*Gail Hunt-Reeke and her husband (left).*



*The family's tribute to 2020 hall of famer Fred Eidlin (left), BHS'60.*

*BSAA president Steve Gaudioso, BHS'63, presenting plaques to Gail Hunt-Reeke, Fred Eidlin's son Barry and Danette Campbell-Bell.*

