

chatter

WHITTIER
HIGH
SCHOOL
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
& EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

The Cardinal Chatter

Produced occasionally for the benefit of many

P.O. Box 65, Whittier, CA 90608-0065

Edition #1 of 2016



1926 Wurlitzer to be installed in WHS Auditorium - Thank You, Bill Wood

ORIGINAL DESIGN FULFILLED WITH WORLDLY WURLITZER

The Whittier Union High School District Auditorium was completed in 1940 with 2,741 seats to replace the original auditorium, now the library, that was severely damaged in the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake.

This classic art deco building, which has seen more than 50,000 graduate - as well as musical performances by Bob Hope, theatrical plays

and movie sets, was originally designed with space for a Wurlitzer Organ.

The Alumni Association refurbished all the seating and now has secured the donation of a 1926 theater organ from Seattle. The complete renovation and installation of the organ will allow an October 2016 unveiling.

Bill Wood, Class of 1941, has carried the effort by leveraging donations, overseeing construction and

assisting the district with every aspect of the project. The Vic Lopez Auditorium will be ready soon.

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HALL OF FAME

DINNER AND
SCHOLARSHIPS

APRIL 17, 2016 @5:00 PM

Twelve student scholarship recipients and five new members of the Whittier High School Alumni Association & Educational Foundation Hall of Fame will be introduced at the 17th Annual Event held in the WHS Library. This year's inductees include John Lasseter, Heber Holloway, Ivannia Soto, Steve Saleen, and Marc Bermudez.

Retirement for Thorstenson and Eshilian in 2016

Sandy Sanchez and Lori Peel were both students at Whittier High School in 1972. They were exemplary students, compassionate individuals, and had their sights set on attending Whittier College and eventually becoming teachers. They had unique roads to the Cardinal/Poet intersection, yet similar passions for enriching the lives of every student.

Superintendent Sandy Sanchez Thorstenson '73 and Principal Lori Peel Eshilian '72 have opened doors, careers, and acceptance through their work and their examples. No one ever completes a conversation with either one of them wondering what they do for a living or the depth

of their passion for education, students, and the teachers who make it all happen.

The most consistent mantra for the district, under Sandy's leadership has been, "Whatever It Takes." This was and continues to be not only philosophical, but also literal.

The changes at Whittier High School established and sustained by Lori include the district motivation and the functional reminder that "Every day is Game Day at WHS."

These "Cardinals for Life" are already in the Hall of Fame, and will both be in the library on April 17th to usher in the next group of good examples.

William C. Gordon Library

Willie Gordon and his lifelong friend, Carlos Rodriguez, made a pact to become lawyers when they were in the fifth grade. Some people don't remember anyone in their fifth grade class, Willie and Carlos remembered to make their dream and their promise come true. They also graduated from Whittier High School together in 1955, Willie was the ASB President, and are both now in the WHSAAEF Hall of Fame.

Willie continued on to become an internationally recognized author, and Carlos a judge. When Willie returned to the Whittier High School campus several years ago, he fell in love with his alma mater, again. He walked through the buildings talking about his memories of every classroom, and every hallway. He walked through the

doors to the library and found himself in his place of peace. The library had been his quiet kingdom.

The library Willie entered was not nearly as pristine as the relatively new place he had studied while in high school. Styles and preferences had changed the look in many buildings, including the library, and the contrast of old quality against quick and easy, had not sustained the integrity of the design. Willie saw the need and asked the Principal, Lori Eshilian, if he could help restore the library while advancing the technology systems at the same time. The answer was yes and the outcome is remarkable.

The three contributions provided by Willie and his spouse, author Isabel Allende, to the library restoration and enhancement project have totaled \$230,000.



Attorney and internationally renowned author, Willie Gordon was the ASB President when he graduated from Whittier High School in 1955. He was inducted into the WHSAAEF Hall of Fame and fell in love with the school all over again. Willie has made three donations to Whittier High to refurbish the library that now total \$230,000.



Hall of Fame Members

2000

Richard Nixon
Patricia Nixon

2001

Vic Lopez
Jan Slater Lopez Wood
Maxine Milner Rich

2002

Bob Chandler
John Arrambide
Myron Claxton
Dolores Lautrup Ball
Hubert Perry
Patricia Reilly Hitt

2003

Brian Beck
Glen Kelly
Joan McNeilly Nay

2004

1964 Football Team
Don Kelly
Joan Meister
Jack Mele
Seaborn Nolin
Homer Rosenberger

2005

Richard Deihl
Jean Godwin Good Lietzau
Brad Hoover
Howard Steelye
Gloria Wallace Steelye

2006

Don Jenkins
Marilyn Magness Carroll

Christian Markey

Richard Newton

2007

Robin Dore
Ed Hookstratten
Robert Tranquada
Bill (D.E.) Wood

2008

David Butler
Stuart Gothold
Lorraine McPherson Sawyer

Tom Phelan
Robert Ponce
Morris Sawyer

2009

Tom August
William C. Gordon
Cathie Moon Brown
Richard Pickup
Sandra Sanchez Thorstenson

2010

Roderick Hills
Louise Johnson Pascale
George Mattias
Louise McMillian Kempf
Richard Owens

2011

Clifford Jordan
Don Kracke
James Milliken
Carlos Rodriguez
Danny Romero
Marian Wilson Hodge

2012

Steve Gothold
Rick Harold
Marilyn Hoffstetter
Patricia Hoffstetter
Breene Murphy
David Owens
Gus Valasco

2013

O.C. Albertson
Bob Henderson
Bob Horn
Mitzi Reichling Anderson

Joe Vinatieri

2014

Glen R. Allison
Carol Jean Bennett
Clark Brundin
Alfred Gobar
Bill House
Lori Peel Eshilian
Carol Tenopir
Patty Carretto Brown

2015

Stan Cole
Johnny Lefler
Yosh Nakamura
Frank Poucher
1948 Basketball Team

2016 Nominees

Marcelo Bermudez
Heber Holloway
John Lasseter
Steve Saleen
Ivannia Soto

Every day you are allowed to submit another nomination for the Whittier High School Hall of Fame. You can do it online or fill out the next page and mail it to the P.O. Box 65 in Whittier.

Our most senior (living) member of this wonderful group is Hubert Perry from the Class of 1931. He is 102 and still residing in Whittier. On April 17, our youngest member will be Ivannia Soto from the class of 1994. Her first year of eligibility was last year. She is the youngest member of the HoF to date.

The primary requirement, besides a graduate or staff at WHS is that of having provided local, state, national, or international impact to others.

WHITTIER HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION HALL OF FAME NOMINATION

The nominee must have graduated from Whittier High School 20 years prior to nomination or been employed at Whittier High School. In addition to a positive record at WHS, the nominee must have distinguished him/herself professionally, in community service, through volunteer work, or other endeavors that have resulted in international, national, state, or local impact.

Name of Nominee _____

Class Year _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

WHS Honors/ Awards/distinctions _____

College/University/Military Service _____

Degrees Earned _____

Career/Professional Information _____

Community service/volunteer work _____

What is the local, state, national, or international impact that qualifies this nominee?

Person submitting nomination:

Name _____

Date submitted _____

Class Year _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Does the nominee know about this nomination: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Please check if you are sending additional supporting data, documents, or photos

Nominations are accepted anytime at: whittierhighalumni@gmail.com or

Whittier High School AAEF

PO Box 65

Whittier, CA 90608-0065

www.whittierhighalumni.org

Cardinal Passings

Only once in 17 years have we shared a premature announcement. If you read your name here, please contact us quickly. We will be very happy to hear from you.

If you read your friend's name here, we are sorry for your loss. If your friend has passed and their name is not here, please inform us.

ADAMS HICKOK, Elaine '58	9/2015
ALLEN, Johnny '48	8/2014
BROWN, Robert Henry '50	1/2016
COLLINS, Mike '69	10/2015
CONTRERAS, Ernest RR '59	12/2014
ESTMANMUNGER, Alice '58	9/2014
HOFSTETTER, Patricia '43	3/2015
HUTCHINGS WINNEN, Nancy '45	11/14
JOHNSON WAER, Dorothy '43	5/2015
KROHN, John Frederick '57	12/2014
LASSLEBEN, Robert M '45	10/2014
LICHT, Janet '70	12/2015
MacLEAN, Milton Alan '42	12/2015
MAHAN, Michael '56	6/2015
MOORE, Eric Lee '58	2/1976
MORIARTY, Ted Jr. '48	2/2015
NEWTON McMINN, Sharon '54	2/2015
OLSON, Noel Ivar '54	2/2015
PERNELL, Harry Clark '56	11/2014
RAILSBACK, Guy F '43	6/2015
SCHIMMELMAN JENNINGS, Sandra	7/14
TAYLOR LIGHTBOY, Linda '58	9/2014
TIBBS, Thomas "Craig" "Casey" '58	2/15
TOWNSLEY WAGNER, Donna '71	2/2015
TREFRY, Allan Band Director	9/2014
WILEY BENSON, Virginia '38	12/2014
YOUNGER, Philip S. '71	11/2015



CLASS GIFTS - WHAT WAS YOURS?

The words and Cardinal mascot were originally placed on the auditorium by the Class of 1991. Then, after 20 years of fading and sea gull excrement, the Classes of 2010 and 2011 joined forces to renew the work and include special coatings that reduce the effects of sunlight and eliminated the effects of the birds.

If you can recall your Class Gift to the campus, please send us an email or a post on the Facebook page. We would like to compile an unabridged list of all gifts. We may also discover that there are gifts that have not been renewed, and that will provide ideas for future classes.

Many classes are now also adding a special gift of a scholarship from the proceeds and donations at their reunions. The Class of 1948 has named several scholarships with generous contributions to the Alumni Association. Each year, at the Hall of Fame Dinner, 12 scholarships are presented to seniors to assist with their college expenses. 11 of the scholarships are for \$1,000 and the final one is for \$2,000. Naming one of the scholarships for one year requires a donation of \$1,200. This covers the cost of the plaque and dinner for the student and two family members. A perpetual \$1000 scholarship requires a one time donation of \$50,000, \$2000 scholarship requires \$100,000 gift. The stipulations of the endowed scholarship must be approved by the Board of Directors.

If you or your class are interested in a special gift or a scholarship, please contact us via email or leave a message at the school, 562-698-8121 ext. 2010. We will get back to you as quickly as we can. We are all volunteers.

Three BIG Awards at WHS

California Gold Ribbon School,
Title I Academic Achievement, &
California Golden Bell Award.
These are all very recent, and quite wonderful. Now everyone knows what we have always known.



Whittier High School Alumni Association & Educational Foundation

invites you to the

17th Annual Hall of Fame Dinner

in our beautiful

WHS Library

Sunday, April 17, 2016 @5:00

Please mail in your reservation & check to WHSAAEF - PO Box 65, Whittier, CA 90608

OR

Complete your reservation on line at www.whittierhighalumni.org

Reservation Form

Name _____ Class of _____
Name _____ Class of _____
Guest(s) Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____
Phone# _____

Number attending _____ @ \$75 = \$ _____

WHS Alumni Association & Educational Foundation

is accepting nomination forms for well deserving alum to be inducted into our **WHS Hall of Fame**. You can use the enclosed application or download an application from the website.

www.whittierhighalumni.org Please send the application form in immediately to be considered for this year's Hall of Fame Ceremony.



www.whittierhighalumni.org

Reunions/Contacts for 2016 – Some classes have dates already....& others just have a contact person. Don't miss out on your next reunion! Visit the WHS website www.wuhsd.org/whs & go to the Alumni Tab for the most up to date info. Or contact Janice Lanham Zolnekoff (Class of '70) at the school 562-698-8121 x2010 or email janice.zolnekoff@wuhsd.org

1946 Class Info: No future reunions planned. Contact Henri Pellissier at henri@pellissier.org

1951 Class Info: No future reunions planned. Contact Pat Hoyle Sly 562-695-6575 or email oneslymom@aol.com or call Eleanor Montgomery Muth 562-696-2058 or email elnbil@verizon.net

1956 Class Info: 60th Reunion?? Contact: Don Lee 562-943-3512 or email: donjenlee@msn.com, Joyce Wall Schilling 714-536-0386 jhschill@aol.com or Lois Senteney Bennett 562-947-3060 or email: loisabenn@yahoo.com

1961 Class Info: 55 year reunion?? Contact: Ed Keesling 760 365 8193 ededkeesling@aol.com or Clyde Hensley clydehensley3@gmail.com

1966 Class Info: 50 year Reunion will be **Sat. Oct 8, 2016** at 5pm at the California Country Club. Cost is \$80/person. Send RSVP & Payment to WHS 1966, 2070 W. Merrill, Show Low, AZ 85901. Contacts: Betty Halte Cauley 562-947-6931 blcauley6@msn.com, Sally Huntsman: sally.huntsman@gmail.com, or Pat Duncan: whs66cards@gmail.com

1971 Class Info: 45 year Reunion?? Please email April Lockwood Morrow at whittierhigh1971@gmail.com Check out Facebook "Whittier High School Class of 1971"

1976 Class Info: 40 year reunion?? - No contact info. Facebook page "Whittier High School Cardinals – Class of 1976"

1981 Class Info: 35 Year Reunion?? Contact Darlene Galindo Hankinson email dhankinsonsavon@gmail.com Facebook page "Whittier High Class of 1981 Reunion Page"

1986 Class Info: 30 yr reunion?? Facebook page "Whittier High School Class of 1986"

1991 Class Info: 25 year reunion?? Contact Matthew Nelson at matthewwnelson@yahoo.com or at 909-633-1092. Facebook page "Whittier High School Class of 1991"

1996 Class Info: 20 year reunion?? Contact Joan Santiago McFarland at ph 562-594-5656 or via email at jmcfizzle@yahoo.com Facebook page "Whittier High School Class of 1996 – 20 Year Reunion"

2001 Class Info: Planning for our 20th in 2021!!! Facebook "WHS 2001 reunion". Contact Rosie Velasquez at 562-686-2264 r.velasquez11@gmail.com . Check out photos on Facebook!!!

2006 Class Info: 10 year reunion??? Senior Class Presidents were Monique La Marr & Steven Reaza 949-398-1621 sreaza.747@gmail.com

2011 Class Info: 5 year reunion? Contact Senior Class President Cindy Ontiveros on Facebook.

www.whittierhighalumni.org

Board of Directors

Chris Magdosku '89
Board President

Pat Sly '51
Vice President

Ben Meza '67
Vice President

Founding Board

Dave Butler '62
Vic Lopez '46
Joe Vinatieri '70
Sandy Thorstenson '73
John Peel '74
Esther Hole Welsh '41
Cathy Warner

Laurie Welsh Peel '80
Secretary

Lori Peel Eshilian '72
Principal

Bill Wood '41
Jan Slater Lopez Wood '47
Dick Ferguson '54

John Peel '74
Treasurer

Candace Godoy 2016
Student Representative

Don Lee '56
Craig Dean '65
Joe Vinatieri '70

Karen Boulter '71
Immediate Past President

Janice Lanham Zolnekoff '70
Mike Sands '88



Auditorium Made New

The Whittier Union High School District Auditorium was built in 1940, and was a WPA project. Today, thanks to the Alumni Association, the interior looks just as good as it did then.

The more than 2400 seats have been refurbished through a process that required each seat to be removed, taken apart, sandblasted, powder coated, reupholstered, reinstalled, and arm rests sanded and coated.

New numbers and letters were placed on each seat, and now you can have your name on a seat you sponsor. The cost ranges from

\$150 - \$1000. You might imagine that the highest priced seats are front and center, orchestra area, and the lower priced seats are near where you sat as a freshman.

A few families have purchased entire rows, while some individuals have sought out that seat or two that they can recall when a special relationship started, or was their senior seat.

The naming is for the life of the building, so it can be very fun when you return for tours or performances. A picture of your seat, with your name is a wonderful memento. Giving it as a gift, priceless.

WHSAA&EF
P.O. BOX 65
WHITTIER, CA 90608-0065

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