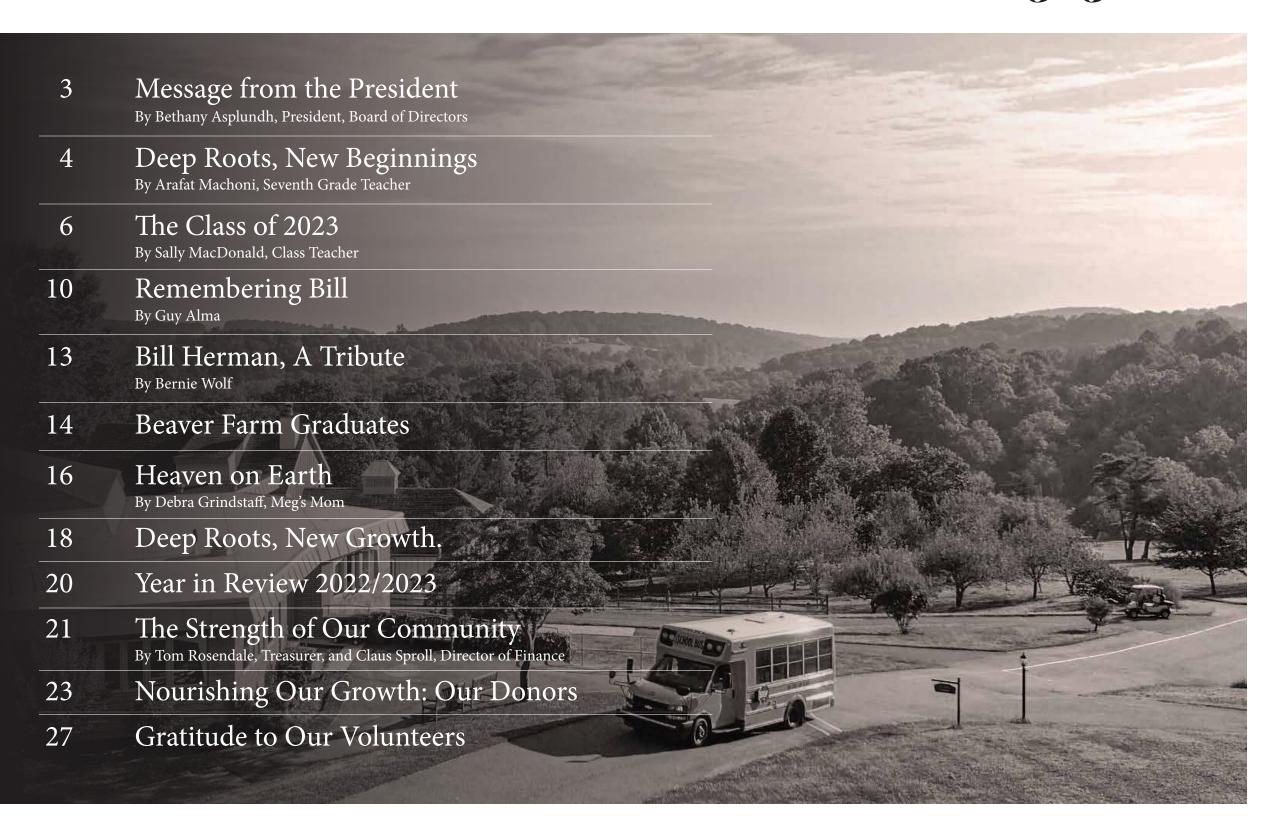


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Photography contributions from:
Michael Oliveira

## Message from the President



ver the past few years, I have planted many trees on my property: some of them bare whips, some twelve feet tall, and some in between. With the recent mild winter and wet spring all of the trees have grown considerably,

developing lots of new shoots and bright green leaves. They are all considerably taller, and even the whips, which a couple of years ago resembled sticks in the ground, have now taken on the shape of the trees they are to become. I cannot see under the ground, but if I could, no doubt, I would see equal growth in the intricate and mysterious root systems of all of these trees.

Almost sixty years ago a small group of idealistic visionaries dug deep into a hillside in Glenmoore, PA, and planted the Beaver Run Camphill School. Over the years many people have contributed the necessary elements to grow the school and make it strong: teachers, administrators, homemakers, maintenance workers, community members, parents, and especially the children. We can witness the fruits of their hard work and dedication every day walking through the campus. Underneath it all, unseen yet connecting and nourishing every aspect of the school, are the roots. Without these Deep Roots the school could not continue.

We now find ourselves at the beginning of a new era of The Camphill School. It is time for us to move forward with fresh shoots, green leaves, and New Growth. We are committed to informed change and progress, incorporating the wisdom of the past every step of the way. This involves renovating old buildings and building new ones that are better adapted to our students' needs and abilities. It involves making our campus more sustainable and environmentally friendly, while also increasing safety for our community. Our Master Plan goes to great lengths to preserve the welcoming beauty of the school while making the changes necessary to continue providing the children with the best possible experience.

Please join me in supporting our Deep Roots and New Growth, as we move into the future of The Camphill School.

Warmly,

Bethany Asplundh
Bethany Asplundh
President, Board of Directors

## Deep Roots, New Beginnings

By Arafat Machoni, Seventh Grade Teacher

ducation is one of the most important aspects of society. It is through education that we develop the vital skills of life, build an understanding of social norms, develop sound judgment and reasoning, and learn to discern right from wrong. As the world advances and changes, so must education. In recent years there has been a growing need for new beginnings in education, particularly in the field of special education.

The idea of deep roots in education refers to the essential values and principles that have always been at the heart of learning. Critical thinking, capability building, creativity, resourcefulness, and collaboration are some of the guiding principles of education today. New beginnings refers to the growth and changes that are needed to keep education relevant. Education systems must adapt to meet the changing needs of students to adequately prepare them for life in an ever-changing world. Educators must be willing to embrace new teaching systems and methods to ensure the success of their students.

In recent years, there has been a growing shift in the field of special education from the traditional teacher-centric approach to a student-driven, hands-on approach, which recognizes the importance of building on students' individual strengths and experiences. The basic principles of this method are that knowledge is constructed. That is, students build on what they already know, that students learn how to learn, and that learning is contextual, social, and an active process.

In this regard, there are other systems that have embraced and taken this approach a step further. Curative Education is one such example. In addition to embracing the idea of active student participation in the learning process, Curative Education also takes into account therapies, and recognizes that a child's lifestyle and overall life situation can help or hinder their learning. Thus, the scope of a Curative Education teacher is broader than that of a Special Education teacher whose primary focus is on academic learning and skill development.

Deep, sturdy roots and new beginnings in education are essential for creating relevant education systems that ensure positive outcomes for students with, and without, special needs.



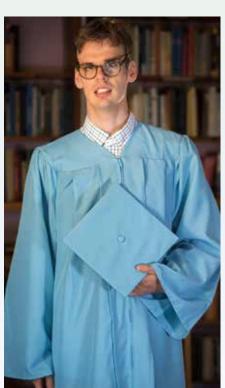
## The Class of 2023

By Sally MacDonald, Class Teacher

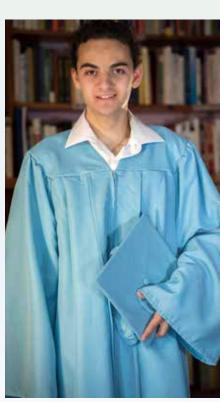
Alec joined our class in November of 2022. Though coming late, he immediately made friends. He has a charming smile and great sense of humor, which he reveals to his classmates with the fun and games he plays with and, sometimes, on them. He added lighthearted joy to our class. He made progress on his work skills, and we know he will continue to cultivate them at Beaver Farm.

Alex is a determined young lady who knows what she wants. She is diligent with many tasks and made many improvements to the garden here at Beaver Run. She likes being outside in nature and enjoys working with her hands. One of Alex's favorite activities is accomplishing things in the wood shop. She loves to split logs and use tools. We call her "Alex Angel" because her smile is so warm and bright. We know she will shine that light on Beaver Farm.

Antonio came to The Camphill School in third grade and brought his musical talent with him. He plays the piano beautifully and dazzled us with his guitar playing in the senior play Beyond Beaver Run. Along with his musical talent, Antonio is a hard worker, willing to do anything that is asked of him. In fact, there is no job that Antonio has not mastered. Beyond work and music, he is a wonderful friend, always making sure that others are taken care of. He is a true gentleman.







Audrey was new to The Camphill School this year and she fit right in from her first day. With a big, bright smile and contagious laugh, she brought a special friendly spirit to our classroom. She loves to dance, and will gladly show her ballet moves, if asked. Audrey has a real love for the theater, not only watching, but as a player, as she demonstrated in the senior play. She will certainly spread her joy at Beaver Farm.

Eva has been at Camphill since first grade. Eva is enthusiastic about all aspects of learning, and she never gives up. Once she sets her mind on something she will complete any job with pride. You can always rely on Eva for the truth. She is very interested in others and is aware of their needs or if something is amiss. She has a wonderful sense of humor and loves to laugh. When Eva smiles it's like a ray of sunshine. Look out Beaver Farm, here comes the sun!

who cares deeply for others. She is the artist in our class. She can paint and draw beautifully, always putting her own creative flare on her work. She has a real talent for handwork and weaving, completing many amazing projects. Jasmine independently runs errands around the campus sharing her dazzling smile with others. She is happiest when she is enjoying cupcakes and hanging out with her friends. She will continue to share her many talents with Beaver Farm.







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## The Class of 2023

(Continued)

**John** joined us in the ninth grade. With his big, warm smile and the twinkle in his eyes it is hard not to smile with him. He is an extremely hard worker, honing his skills on the land crew and in the store. He has a good work ethic and never complains. Don't let his strength fool you, he likes to relax and chill with his friends. Beaver Farm is lucky to have such a gentle young man.

Jordyn has an adventurous spirit. She loves to play sports and take bike rides, which she learned here at Beaver Run. She has really improved her game of soccer over the last few years, too. Jordyn's real dedication, though, is to her friends. She values people more than anything else. She is always there to help if someone is in need, rooms and offices. She learned with her big smile and her loving disposition. She takes many friend- others succeed in their tasks as ships with her to Beaver Farm and

Meg joined Beaver Run in second grade. If there is music, Meg is dancing or singing songs with others. She amazes with her knowledge of lyrics and is happiest when music is playing. Meg worked diligently in the garden helping maintain and create beautiful flower arrangements for the classnew skills in the store and helped well. She is a gentle, sweet young we know she will make many more. lady who enjoys people. We know she will continue to share her love for music with everyone at Beaver Farm.

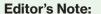






Sweet Stephanie has been here since first grade. Over the years Stephanie blossomed and grew into a hard worker, capable of doing a variety of jobs. She especially shone in the prevocational program where she worked diligently in the garden, made deliveries with the biking crew, and enjoyed making paper, one of her favorite crews. She loves flowers and music and will brighten our day with her smile when she hears a song she likes. She will bring that bright- Beaver Farm. ness with her to Beaver Farm.

Sylvie has grown so much over her years at Camphill. She is a quiet, happy young lady. She observed her friends and enjoyed their silly antics and she even joined in the fun. She loves music, with a preference for The Beatles. She gave a wonderful presentation on wolves to the entire school. She learned to ride a bike for delivery crew and even rode it in the class play. Sylvie has a smile that lights up a room and will surely light up



2023 marks the commencement of another member of this class's journey. Their teacher, Sally Mac-Donald, retired at the end of the school year. Sally has worked at The Camphill School for over twenty years, starting as a paraprofessional, then training to become a teacher. She has guided many classes through their high school years, inspiring her students to become mature, hardworking, and kind young adults. The entire Camphill School community wishes each member of the Class of 2023 and their teacher, Sally, all the very best on the next steps of their life's paths.







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## Remembering Bill

By Guy Alma

or each of us there is a person who comes into our life as an unexpected gift. Bill was that gift in my life. I arrived in Beaver Run in August of 1990, a twenty-four-year-old volunteer from London with an English accent and absolutely no experience living or working with children with disabilities. Living in the USA was wonderful and different, but I had been prepared for that by a prior visit to the States and by soaking up American movies and TV shows. By contrast, nothing prepared me for the Camphill experience.

The USA is a place of possibilities, a vast continent that is host to the pre-eminent culture of the modern western world. It is a culture that is colorful, brash, confident, and young at heart. Camphill is a different world altogether. It is quiet and gentle. Introspection and interdependence are twin pillars of life. To look inwards at oneself, and to change so that the other can be understood and supported in the way they need best, are inherent values. The philosophical and spiritual traditions out of which the Camphill Movement has grown have ancient roots and perennial shoots. If America is a race car, Camphill is a slow stroll through nature.

It didn't take long before I met William Charles Herman. Bill was a New York attorney. a take-no-prisoners practitioner of divorce proceedings with a mind like a scalpel and a wit every bit as sharp. He loved three things: his family, practicing law, and Camphill. His daughter, Sarah Jane, had become a student at Beaver Run in January of 1977. Bill and his wife Betsy witnessed the transformation that Sarah Jane went through, and initially didn't comprehend how that change could have happened. They dug deeper, forming close friendships with house parents and teachers like Ingo Maier and Ursel Pietzner, and came to understand that there was a magic at work in the place that was possible because of the slow, gentle, rhythmical pace of daily community life and of seasonal festivals, of classroom learning, and love and laughter in the homes.

By the time Sarah Jane had been at Beaver Run for a year, Bill and Betsy had become staunch advocates for The Camphill School. In the fall of 1978 New York withdrew all of the students from the school overnight. The State wanted to form its own special education classes in accordance with new federal rules and needed to keep the funding in its own local educational agencies to build the programs. Bill went to bat for Camphill, losing that first fight with the New York Board of Regents, but becoming a director of Beaver Run's Board in the process. This began a lifelong journey for him that would lead to him becoming a founding member of the Camphill Association of North America, and of the Camphill Foundation of North America, eventually serving as President of both organizations' Boards.

The communities of the Camphill Movement occupy two worlds. The first of these is deeply human, where what matters most is people, the health of the relationships between them, and the individual growth that can occur as a result. The second is what is often referred to as "the real world," the world where the community is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and the school is a licensed Approved Private School. This second world is one created not of the living tapestry of human encounter, but of the systems required by regulation, financial control, and public oversight.

These two worlds theoretically overlap, but in practice there is often a difficult tension between them. Bill was able to see into both worlds and help Camphill navigate them. He was a devoted parent who loved the school and its people, and he cherished and nourished them. As a lawyer and director of the Board, he understood the requirements of regulatory compliance and the costs and benefits associated with them. As the surrounding world became more complex and more demanding, Bill stayed by Beaver Run's side, providing insight, support, and sound judgment at every step of the way. He was never afraid of a fight, but like all those who are truly confident he knew how to avoid unnecessary conflict.

Bill helped the school grow, and he watched with love as the Camphill Movement in North America established itself in Canada, California, New York, New Orleans, and in many places in between. Bill and Betsy's home in New Rochelle became an unofficial

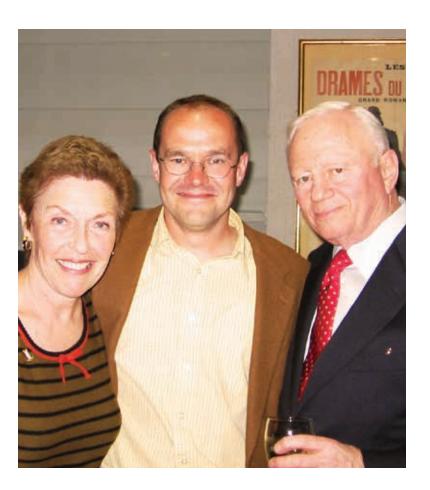
headquarters of Camphill. Many important meetings took place there, with Bill presiding and Betsy providing all of the comforts of home.

As much as Bill did to shepherd Camphill into its own future, he did more to support the individuals within it. I know this personally. Bill admired the coworkers who lived alongside the children, teaching and tending to them. He had a soft side which he didn't often show, but when he witnessed the tender moments of daily life at the school his smile was unmistakably present. He simply loved bearing witness to the work.

Bill and Betsy took Camphill's coworkers under their care, giving them a place to stay when they were in New York, bringing them gifts when they visited the community, and providing a shoulder to lean on in times of personal crisis. In my case Bill was a mentor, teaching me how to think strategically, how to interact with donors in New York City boardrooms, and how to balance the values that he held so dear in Camphill with the inevitable compromises that regulation and bureaucracy require. He and Betsy were friends to my wife and boys who fondly remember piloting the Sarah Jane, Bill's fishing boat, through the choppy waves of Long Island Sound in pursuit of BlueFish. Our own children are grown men now, but at various points along the way I reached out to Bill for advice on parenting, particularly in the tougher moments. His advice was always simple, and invariably sound.

Bill had desperately missed Betsy since her passing in early 2020, frequently commenting that he was ready to join her. He passed away quietly at home on April 3 of 2023. His son Howard, his daughter-in-law Vivian, and his beloved granddaughter Phoebe, were all with him. Bill was a giant, as full of passion and grit as a man can be. He will live long in our memories, and forever in our hearts.







## Bill Herman, a tribute

By Bernie Wolf

ill and Betsy's daughter Sarah Jane started her enrollment in January of 1977. On their first visit under the guidance of Ursel Pietzner, they experienced and fell in love with the Camphill magic, which positively influenced their lives and benefited Camphill from that day on.

Legend and mythology is used to describe personalities for whom everyday facts only create a dim glimpse into their character, attributes, and strengths. Pictures that call upon our imagination can convey the true nature of a person for which mere words fall short. Such imaginations are more real than facts and must not be dismissed as fantasies. It is in this way that I wish to write about Bill.

Notice that in my first sentence I referred to "Bill and Betsy." From the initial meeting with them, they were experienced as a united and complementary "dynamic duo." Many pairs of people—real, legendary, or fictional—come to mind. The eastern mystical symbol of Yin and Yang is one way to express the symbiotic, mutually supportive, collaborative effect of two human beings. Their combined love and work for Camphill, its mission, its coworkers, and its students was a sustaining positive force for these many years,

I knew Bill as a Board member of The Camphill School. He was also very involved with both the Camphill Foundation and Camphill Association of North America. His abilities to keep his focus on and apply his energy to the well-being of Camphill were noteworthy, whether it be financial health, coworker sustainability, or programs and lifestyle for the students. If there was an issue to be discussed which might be controversial or confusing, it was so important to talk it through thoroughly with Bill ahead of time, integrating his viewpoint and getting him on board.

Bill appears for me in the image of the Eagle. The eagle soars high in order to obtain a wide and clear view. Then it perceives, out of this big picture, what details need attention. Bill had this clarity of sight. He could carry the big picture. When there were details that needed strengthening and focused attention, he was there with the necessary recognition and power of sight.

Bill appears for me in the image of the Lion. The lion is a symbol of the courageous heart, which stands fast before all challenges, and can lead others ahead without fear. Like in Aesop's fable "The Lion and the Mouse," the lion can also



show great compassion, as when in the fable the lion, caring for the one who is small and vulnerable, sets the mouse free.

Bill appears for me in the image of the Bull. The bull is a picture of untold strength. This is strength that when turned in the right direction creates new worlds. Fundraising was one of Bill's great strengths. His devotion and commitment to Camphill, its values and its needs, were unfailing. Bill was one of the builders of The Camphill School and Camphill in North America.

Bill appears for me as a wonderful Human Being. He integrated the virtues of the eagle, the lion, and the bull to be the beloved, insightful, courageous, compassionate, faithful, and hard-working person that he was. There is no doubt that his passing feels like a tremendous loss. Yet if in warm memories we call on him with the conviction that he still is available to share his clarity, his courage, his compassion, and his moral strength for Camphill, we may find that he can still offer guidance and advice to us as we try to move forward.

If we imagine Bill shining down from heaven and interested to help us in our endeavors, then this verse by Rudolf Steiner can help us connect with him:

The spirits sent by God
Shine like stars
In the skies of eternal being.
May all human souls
In the realm of earth existence
Behold the light of their flames.

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## Beaver Farm Graduates



Amelia joined us in 2019 and grew so much in that short time. In her own words: "I wanted to come to Beaver Farm because I had a lot of different things that were holding me back from being who I really am. I did address a lot of those areas and have improved so much."

Amelia, we cannot agree more. She participated in most of our crews in her time here but found her true calling at Foxfield Flowers. She became an excellent transplanter, wreath maker, and flower harvester, so much so that she intends to work with flowers after she settles into her new home at Leander House. Amelia was a friend to so many Beaver Farmers over the years. She laughed with peers in crew, bonded with housemates, learned from coworkers, and now considers herself to have friends all around the globe. She is hardworking, resilient, and strives to be the best version of herself every day.



Asa is a strong, resilient, and thoughtful person. At Beaver Farm, Asa was a steadfast friend, hardworking gardener, and always up for a run before and after a long day at crew. Asa worked in several crews: Pottery and Fiber, Foxfield Flowers, and Arts and Humanities where he set

an amazing example each and every day. He made beautiful, dried flower wreaths, glazed gorgeous pottery, and went on fun outings, always with enthusiasm. As a loves music, dancing, food, and any excuse to dress up. He is a natural born leader and a kind friend. As a moved to Massachusetts and is hoping to find meaningful work and community in the town of Great Barrington.



Braden is a cool, relaxed, and go-with-the-flow kind of guy, and we have considered it an honor to call him a Beaver Farmer. He was part of our Farm and Estate crews where he cared for our animals and the land. He loved being outside and on the move, taking in all of the sights

around campus. Braden was very helpful with outreach where he and a friend cleaned and tidied up at a local horse stable. In Farm House, Braden was a reliable and gentle friend who decided breakfast is one of his favorite meals of the day! He loved spa days where he kicked up his feet and relaxed after a long day of hard work. Braden is now with Partners Creating Community and made a new home at Frog Hollow Farm, located just down the road in Kimberton.



**Brian** made a departure from Beaver Farm before spring break to his new adult placement at Stanton Home in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. While at Beaver Farm, he was a member of our Estate and Farm crews where he had plenty of opportunities for fresh air. Brian was

incredibly helpful with land work and gentle and patient with

our animals. Brian loved his down time as well and enjoyed lounging in Silver Maple's living room with his friends. He also loved wagon rides, hiking, and, of course, our famous Beaver Farm lunches.



**Buey** is a sweet and funny young man who absolutely loves the outdoors, which he got plenty of here at Beaver Farm. As a member of the day program, he got to garden, bake, process herbs, make art, and perfect his laundry folding and cleaning skills alongside his many friends. Buey

was a huge fan of hiking and bonfires as well as his weekly music group, where he was often found dancing and singing along. A multitalented artist, he is also an accomplished painter, sewer, and wool felter. Buey was a favorite among his friends who loved to join him for a walk. He was a real leader, often helping his friends complete tasks when they needed a little help.



Ethan was part of our Farm and Estate crews where he helped care for the animals and land of Beaver Farm. This year, he moved to Foxfield House, which meant he got to start every day with a hike to his crew, which was perfect because he loves being outdoors. Ethan has an

amazing smile and sparkling blue eyes with which he greeted every visitor to our campus, warmly welcoming everyone he met. His enthusiastic, outgoing, and playful personality made him well-liked by his peers. When he wasn't taking care of our pigs and cows, he enjoyed music and talking about his family on his device. Did we mention he is a technology whiz? Ethan is such a vibrant guy; this place will be too quiet without him.



Jad was part of Camphill for so long that everyone has a sweet story to tell about him. A funny, kind, and gentle soul, Jad always found ways to be helpful and loved trying new things. Jad spent his mornings bouncing between the herb processing and kitchen crews where he was king

of compost runs and errands. In the afternoon, he helped with cleaning and enjoyed fun social activities with his peers. He enjoyed music, books, games, and walks outside when it was warm and sunny. We wish the best for Jad in the future and hope he continues to live his best life.



Jaime is a curious and inquisitive young man who is always up to date on all of the comings and goings around him. Jaime found happiness in working on the farm caring for the animals and lending a helping hand. Other activities he enjoyed were hiking, going on outreach,

and socializing with his pals. Hands down, one of Jaime's most favorite things was to shake a tail feather up on stage!

Whether performing at the Gala or during a school festival Jaime had the beat. Jaime will be missed, but we know he will stay in touch because he will be staying in Chester County at a home run by Adesha Village.



JP has a big smile and even bigger personality. JP has a natural flair for the dramatic and is a great fan of the visual and performing arts. Some of his favorite things to do at Beaver Farm were listening to and playing music, singing, dancing, and attending plays, festivals, and

community discussions. Though JP loves to express himself and celebrate, he was never afraid to get his hands dirty and learn new things. JP is a natural sportsman and enjoys running and tennis. JP is one hardworking young man who appreciates friendships and support for those who understand and know him best. JP will be missed at The Camphill School. We wish him the very best in finding a community of supportive people who will celebrate JP's skills and talents.



McKayla is a hardworking fashion queen. Whether working in the kitchen, processing herbs, washing eggs, or cleaning, she performed her best every day. She was truly community minded, dedicating herself to making Beaver Farm a better place. McKayla honed her cook-

ing skills while preparing organic lunches for the community and made sure the food was delicious as well as nourishing and healthy. In the day student unit, she took a leadership role when it came to keeping the building clean and tidy. McKayla was also an amazing friend and cheerleader. She encouraged her peers to do their best and jumped at the chance to help someone have the best day they could. McKayla loves music, games, farm animals, swimming, and bowling. She is truly a young woman who lives her life to the fullest. The place just won't be the same without her! McKayla is currently exploring her options for the next steps with the help of her family and supports coordinator.



Meira enjoyed her time at Beaver Farm where she worked in both the Garden and Life Skills crews. She helped harvest salad for lunches and completed household chores like laundry and cleaning for her friends in the community. She especially loved Life Skills because she got

to spend time with her friend Samantha, who helped Meira blossom this year. Around the campus, Meira loved books, traveling, helping with dishes, pulling weeds, and especially her afternoon Music crew where she was all smiles as she harnessed her inner percussionist. Meria's bright shiny brown eyes and warm smile will help her make fast friends as she moves through life. She is now back in New Jersey, having

joined Everas Community Services in Paterson. She also participates in a day program at NJECC in Little Ferry. We wish Meira the best and hope that she continues to pursue her interests.



Robert, or Bobby for short, had everyone wrapped around his finger with adoration of his endearing smiles and friendly interest in those around him. Though Robert is nonverbal, he expresses his joy and gratitude regularly and showed us those "goal post arms" which are a

sure sign of a great day. Robert was a master supervisor and always gave those around him the encouraging nods they needed to get the job done. He was the heart and soul, the social butterfly, and the mischief man all rolled into one at Beaver Farm! Robert was conductor of the symphony that is Beaver Farm! Robert is easy to love and hard to let go. We will miss him so much for all of the wonderful qualities that he brought to school with him each day. Now that his time at Beaver Farm is over, Robert will continue to live at home in Pottstown while exploring options for day programming.



We are so thankful to have had **Sasha** at The Camphill School. She was a compassionate, thoughtful, and enthusiastic member of our community who always looked out for others with patience. Sasha was part of Foxfield Flowers, Arts and Humanities, and Childcare crews,

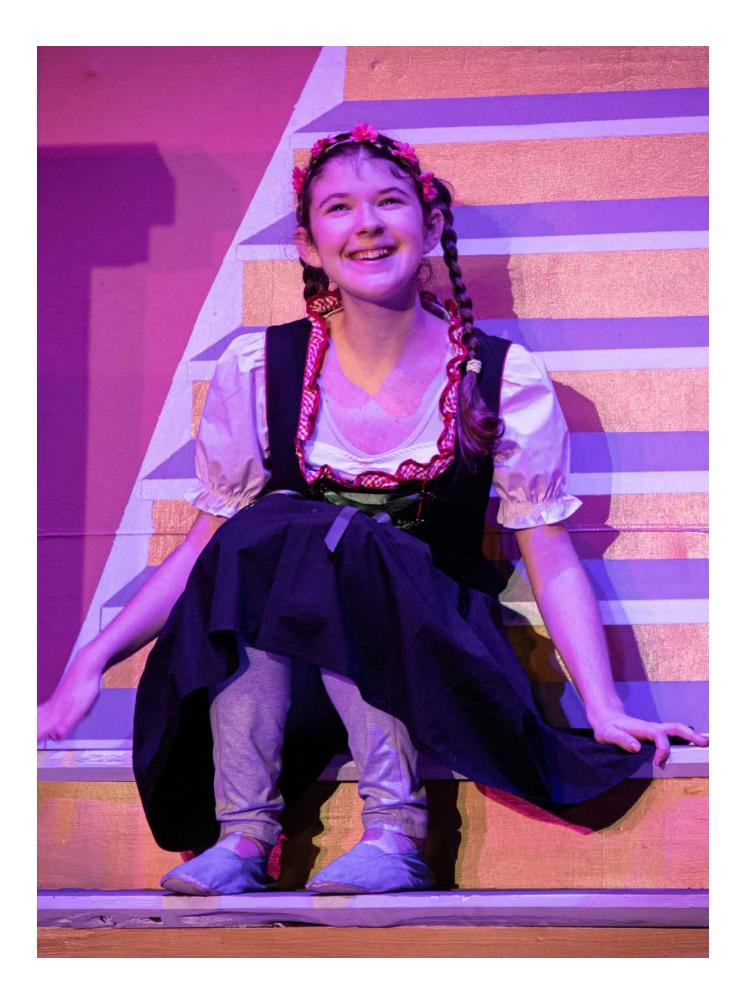
but where she truly shone was behind the loom. Sasha became a prolific and seasoned weaver with a laser focus and inspiring imagination when it came to tackling complex patterns. She created so many pieces of art in the past year that we can barely keep up with her. Sasha thrives in the community, and though we are not yet sure of her next steps, we hope that Sasha has the opportunity to share her many wonderful skills with others.



**Shannon** is a happy, fun-loving, hard-working young woman who is always eager to help. She was a member of the Estate crew in the mornings and the day unit in the afternoons. As a lover of animals, Shannon truly valued her time spent caring for the pigs and cows at Foxfield

Farm in the mornings. If Shannon wasn't working super hard, she was coming up with new dance moves, flipping through a horse magazine, or enjoying a long hike to the creek. She has a sparkly smile which she shared with her friends at school often, especially around a bonfire enjoying s'mores. She's also an avid horseback rider in her spare time! We wish Shannon the very best of luck as she departs from The Camphill School and explores opportunities for what comes next while continuing to live at home with her mom.

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## Heaven on Earth

By Debra Grindstaff, Meg's Mom

I prepare Meg's necessities and her décor choices for her new bedroom at her new on-campus home for the coming school year, her first year at the Transitional Program at Beaver Farm, I find myself reflecting. I am reflecting on the past eleven years since our arrival at The

reflecting on the past eleven years since our arrival at The Camphill School at the beginning of second grade and the beautiful path her life has taken since we "happened" upon learning of The Camphill School in 2012.

We knew as soon as we traveled up from Florida and attended an Open House in the spring of 2012 that this school would be the best place for Meg to learn and grow. And, from the moment she attended folk dancing in the Blue Room and visited the classroom and teacher Ginny, who she would be with in the coming school year until the eighth grade, we knew from Meg's response that this was the place for our angel. We knew she felt the same things we were noticing: the "feel" that no other school—despite having searched the country—had given us. Meg has a barometer that knows good vibes immediately and, though she was barely verbal at the time, we read her response and knew we had to make the move to Pennsylvania.

We call The Camphill School Meg's "Heaven on Earth." It is a school where she is completely accepted, and she can comfortably be herself surrounded in nurturing love with a focus on her strengths. Camphill has allowed Meg to blossom into the young lady she is today. It is the perfect balance between home and school. She has a community of friends and lives a very enriched, full life at school and comes home for cherished family time on weekends, holidays, and school breaks.

In addition to Meg's experiences and watching her do so well and exhale in a place that supports emotional regulation, calming of her nervous system, and allowing for a pace of life that we all should live, it is the experience as a parent that also provides more than I could have ever dreamed. At Camphill you will find a community of parents that come together on our journeys. We are no longer isolated, and we have each other to share with one another and support one another at each step, each phase of life for our children. This is a gift for which I am eternally thankful.

Meg's programs in the classroom and therapies, nutritious meals in community, and prevocational crews are tailored to suit her needs and encourage growth and learning in an environment that gives her every opportunity to become the young lady she is meant to be! Meg's love of music, dancing, and smiling are contagious. She loves every moment of her Camphill life that appreciates her for who she is—whether she is in the classroom, at her on-campus house, on outings, in therapies such as music, art, and horseback riding, or crew where she learns life and vocational skills—she is at home and happy.

Throughout her high school years, Meg has had every opportunity to live the life she deserves, full of friends, dances, clubs, proms, performing in plays and concerts, going bowling, and out to eat with her "peeps."

Over the past year, with graduation from twelfth grade upon us, and preparing to move to the next phase of Meg's journey, it has been incredible to witness her and her classmates' continued growth and blossoming. The way their teacher Sally, homemaker Rachel, and coworkers carefully planned the milestones and the celebrations and equipped our students for this next step in their journey was amazing to witness and be part of. It has been a very special year and an incredible eleven years. We know there is so much more to come in the Transition Program, and Meg is ready and excited for her future!

We are so very grateful for our journey with Meg at The Camphill School. It is indeed a special place that words cannot capture—you must experience being there and feel the shift within you as soon as you step foot onto campus!





the evening of Friday, June 2, 175 guests gathered to support Camphill in maintaining our deep roots and enriching our new growth at the stunning Loch Aerie Mansion in Malvern. Guy Alma, Development Director, and Sue Rushing, Gala Chair, teamed up to co-host the event. In addition to being a parent, Sue has been a friend, a mentor to other parents, and a cheerleader for the school.

The Senior class earned a standing ovation with their performance of songs from their play, *Beyond Beaver Run*. Invictus was inducted as Corporate Partner of the Year. Jeff Beck and his team from Invictus are behind all of the beautiful

publications we receive throughout the year; the campaigns that support our kids and community; and even this year's Gala invitation. They understand and believe in the mission of Camphill, and each year Invictus brings a new vision that reflects the school's goals. We are truly grateful for their partnership over the years. Our 2023 recipients of the Lydia Schulze Volunteer of the Year award were Joe and Lucia Sun! Joe and Lucia have been exemplary parents since their son, Jaime, started at Camphill in 2012. They have served on multiple committees, including the Gala and chairing Parent CONNECT, cooked weekly meals for student homes, assisted with household chores, and volunteered for many other projects throughout the years. Their service to Beaver Run and Beaver Farm has not

gone unnoticed and we are eternally grateful.

With the renovation of the Craft House this year, our hosts appealed to the audience for a variety of new items —a workbench, fixtures, furniture, and more. Our donors eagerly contributed so the students can continue to create with their heads, hearts, and hands, all while learning life skills, and preparing for adulthood.

After enjoying a delicious dinner and dessert from John Serock Catering and the evening program ended, guests danced and played tambourines while singing along with Almost Minnesota.

We are so grateful for the outpouring of support; the Gala raised \$165,000 for our students. Thank you to our committee, our sponsors, and everyone who made it happen!



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### Year in Review 2022/2023



July 2022
Beaver Farm enjoys scenic hikes in nature during ESY.



Aug. 2022
Resident volunteers from nine countries arrive ahead of the students to attend trainings and settle into life at Camphill.



Sept. 2022 Eighth graders start their year with a main lesson block on the human skeleton, learning a lot from "Mister Bones."



Oct. 2022
Halloween sparks
fun and creativity
for everyone in the
school community.



Nov. 2022 Meadowsweet students host their families for a fall festival with a story, songs, and special snack.







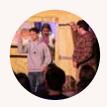
Jan. 2023
Over 200 members of
The Camphill School
community celebrate
Martin Luther King
Jr. Day with a walk at
Marsh Creek State Park.
In honor of Dr. King and
his service to the world,
a food drive took place
with over 300 pounds of
food donated to a local
shelter



Feb. 2023
Sixth grade hosts a bake sale to enrich their math studies.
Funds supplement their trip to the planetarium.



March 2023
Fifth grade visits the
Penn Museum as part of
their main lesson block
on Ancient Greece.



April 2023
The Class of 2023
performs their senior
play, Beyond Beaver
Run.



May 2023
The High School students Council hosts a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory themed Prom.



June 2023
The Transition Program celebrates its 21st
Birthday with festivities at Beaver Farm with current and alumni students, families, and friends.

# The Strength of Our Community

Tom Rosendale, Treasurer, & Claus Sproll, Director of Finance

We are happy to report that the school's financial position remains strong and that the finance committee, with the new addition of Audra Hoffman Kahr, is actively assessing a variety of internal and external developments that could impact the future financial condition of the school. The need to upgrade various aspects of the campus, as well as the need to ensure appropriate staffing and the longer-term stability of the school, do not have to be at odds with our future financial plans if we plan and align our finances with our mission. As always, the education and care of the students is the guiding principle that informs all of our activities - both financial and non-financial.

#### **Expenses**

- Administration/Marketing: \$785,726
- Development: \$220,131
- Insurance: \$1,744,518
- Occupancy Costs: \$1,054,277
- Educational Program: \$3,192,124
- Boarding Program: **\$4,558,045**
- Depreciation: \$1,073,030



#### **Support & Revenue**

- Tuition: **\$9,993,073**
- Contributions undesignated: \$421,082\*
- Contributions designated: \$203,103\*\*
- Program Services: \$1,877,187
- Other: \$666,585
- \* Contributions are net of special event expenses.
- \*\* Capital Campaign contributions, pledges, and expenses are not included.



Our auditors' report is available upon request.

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## Nourishing Our Growth: Our Donors

To grow properly, every living thing needs nutrients. You, our donors, provide the nourishment that enables our students to grow, bloom, and flourish. Thanks to your contributions this year, our school was able to award financial aid to families in need of assistance, fund trips during the extended school year program,

purchase much-needed materials and equipment for homes and classrooms, and ensure that our school community has the resources necessary to provide the rich educational and boarding programs that are the root of The Camphill School. We are truly grateful to you all!

#### **Giving Circles**

\$50,000+ \$25,000-49,999 \$20,000-24,999 \$10,000-19,999 \$5.000-9.999 \$2,500-4,999 \$1,000-2,499 \$500-999 \$250-499 \$100-249 \$1-99

Trillium Iris Sunflower Forget-me-not Bluebell Primrose Lavender Poppy Violet

Snowdrop

Daisy

#### **KEY**

Parent of a current student G Grandparent of a current student

Coworker or staff member В Member of the Board of Directors

In Memorium

Purple 20+ years of giving at least 15 years of giving Blue Green at least 10 years of giving Red at least 5 years of giving

While we make a huge effort to correctly list all those who give, we do occasionally make mistakes or inadvertent omissions. Please email Sarah in the Development Office at sdowns@camphillschool.org to alert us of any errors.

#### Trillium

Grant and Wendy Kvalheim The Page and Otto Marx .lr Foundation PECO.

Iris

#### Sunflower

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In Honor of Stephanie Baker

In Honor of Courtney Coffman **In Honor of Jack Connell** 

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The Pietzner Legacy Society was established to recognize those who have chosen to include the Beaver Run Foundation in their wills or other estate plans or those who made gifts to the school through their IRA's **Qualified Minimum Distribution** (QMD). Named for our founders Carlo and Ursel Pietzner whose legacy is being nurtured and maintained by our many donors and those below who have made a deep commitment to the longterm health and vitality of The Camphill School.

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"The broadest, and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: Doing more than you have to because you want to, in a cause you consider good."

—Ivan Scheier

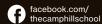


hank you to the parents, family members, and friends who cooked meals, assisted Foxfield Flowers, planned and executed the Gala, served on our Board, and helped with several special projects. We are grateful for the volunteers who share their time and talents with our students and community.

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The Camphill School's mission is to create wholeness for children and youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities through education, therapy, and extended family living so that they may be better understood, more fully unfold their potential, and more meaningfully participate in life.

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