



eyes wide open

Springmont
CURIOSITY. MASTERY.
WISDOM. DISTINCTION.

THE SPRINGMONT NEWSLETTER - ALUMNI EDITION
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In Closing By Jerri King

As my 11th year as HOS comes to a close, so does my tenure at Springmont. As both the school and I turn the page, I am especially thankful for the many memories I've created with so many of you over our years together. I have memories of operas, cheering you as you ran the Montessori Mile, building Antonia's Fountain together and giving several of you long awaited lessons on the Bead Chains. I still have so much of the art and letters you wrote to me in your early cursive writing.

Thank you to so many of you who have come back to visit after going on to high school and college. It has been a joy to hear your stories, share your celebrations of college acceptances and work adventures and to watch you begin to give your time and attentions back to this school. The faculty and staff have joined me with a great sense of pride with every visit and update. I have enjoyed every opportunity to watch your presentations to current parents and then repeat all that I've heard to today's parents asking how their Primary or Elementary child will fare. I'm as bad as your parents at boasting of your accomplishments. I've shared our embrace of your initiatives in building models of tanks and telegraph systems and all the big plans for building a school store with a drive-thru window or a sustainable mud-brick playhouse. I've shared that the alum who had a difficult choice among several Ivy League Universities made a point to share his decision, in person, with us and that he once reported at an event that his mother was worried he would never master potty training. That story provides such context for families and usually makes them laugh at their worries.

Thanks to your work and adventures, I could tell parents of 5 and 6 year old little artists about our alumni leading rock bands, doing stand-up, working on Broadway, and making and appearing in movies. Because of your whole-hearted engagement in your work, parents have heard me say these words on any given day: Tesla, Microsoft, Howard, Harvard, Marines, PhD and aircraft carrier. Because of your embrace of compassion and stewardship, parents have heard stories with the words: Laos, Environmental Law, truck converted to run on restaurant oil, volunteer work for Jane Goodall.

It has been an honor to support you in your journeys of becoming. Because of you, I have great optimism in the future. Embrace your authentic selves. Continue to share your stories with Springmont. Work hard and leave things better than you find them.



"Whoever touches the life of the child touches the most sensitive point of a whole, which has roots in the distant past and climbs towards the infinite future."

- Maria Montessori

Congratulations to the 2018 Graduates!

Welcome to the alumni club, Class of 2018! On May 25th, Springmont graduated eight impressive students who will take their Springmont experiences out into the world. Here's a closer look at the graduates:

Laine Caiaccio looks forward to attending Marist School next year where she plans to continue to study Latin.

Edward Crawford will attend The Galloway School in the fall.

Molly DeVinney looks forward to attending Woodward Academy next year.

Delainey Foster will attend Mount Vernon Presbyterian School in the fall.

Aidan Bryan Hess plans to attend North Atlanta High School next year.

Jasper Hsieh will attend Chun-I Senior High School in Taiwan next year.

Samory Marshall will join the High Achievers Magnet program at Chamblee Charter High School in August.

Katherine "Rosie" Meizen will attend The Galloway School in the fall.



Save the date for the Springmont Festival & Montessori Mile on
Saturday, October 13th!

Springmont Alumni on Campus and Around Town



Springmont Alumnus Owen Rohm playing the Springmont's Play It Again Piano at Paideia's Graduation at Atlanta Symphony Hall.



Alumni gathered on campus January 11th for an Alumni Panel to share their experiences at Springmont and beyond.



Springmont Alumna Lola Leman is now a Primary Assistant!



Josie Fumo, Matt Fumo, Clementina Eterovic and Sarah Tolchin pose with Livia on a campus visit.



Springmont Alumna Lane Cannon with the Springmont Play It Again Piano at Cherokee High School's Prom.



Springmont Alumni Langston Morris, Clayton Sinclair, Christian Lubsey, Robert Gordon and Parker Hollosi with Livia at the Springmont Festival & Montessori Mile.



Mary Pleiss, Catherine Friedline and Nicole Walker at the Springmont Festival & Montessori Mile.



Alumna Jordan Dean visited Chris' Class with her rescue dog Casper.



Owen and Colin Matthews stopped by campus which they found much changed since they attended Springmont in the 80s!

Spotlight on the Class of 2014

In 2014 Springmont graduated 17 promising students who have just finished high school and are off on new adventures. Here's a brief update on their wherabouts:

Carlin Blake graduated from Walton High School and will attend Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Madison Boyce graduated from Lassiter High School and will start at SCAD in the fall.

Lane Cannon graduated from Cherokee High School and will attend Centre College on three scholarships - Faculty, Drama and Latin.

Clementina Eterovic attended Mount Vernon High School and will start at University of Colorado at Boulder this fall.

Samantha Fleming graduated from Lassiter High School and has enrolled in University of Georgia.

Jack Friedline completed high school at Blessed Trinity and will soon start at Kennesaw State University.

Josie Fumo graduated from the Galloway School and will attend Clemson University in the fall.

Alex Lubsey attended The Paideia School and will start at Wake Forest University next month.

Maxine Monroe completed high school through home schooling and plans to take time off next year.

Kat Orr graduated from Campbell High School's IB Program and will attend University of the Cumberlands in Kentucky on a full scholarship for academics and athletics.

Ryan Polk completed high school at St. Michael's Catholic Academy in Austin, Texas and will attend Texas A&M University where he will join the Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets.

Owen Rohm graduated from The Paideia School and begins at Georgia Tech in August.

River Ross, please let us know what this next chapter holds for you!

Christopher Sims graduated from Walton High School and we await an update on his plans for next year!

Rachel Strickland graduated from The Galloway School and will start at Mercer University next month.

Dakota Survance attended South Forsyth High School and we look forward to learning what is next for him.

Sarah Tolchin graduated from The Paideia School and looks forward to attending University of Michigan.



Congratulations Class of 2014!

No Regrets!

Article from Springmont Alumni Parent Julie Strickland

Springmont students do ~~great~~ great things. Why cross out great? Great things are, well, great, but let's also embrace the importance of actively doing things, in general. The things Springmont students explore and experience are age-appropriate, important and authentic, making each long-lasting and impactful. Student work is meaningful, independent, productive, inspiring, challenging and compassionate - true building blocks for their next steps. Moreover, one of the most compelling things about a Springmont education is the development of intrinsic motivation - the drive to perform a task or reach a goal for the sake of personal satisfaction rather than an external outcome or reward. Having two Springmont alums in college and one starting this fall, I've seen this develop and I've noted the distinction.

'Great' also causes a problem worth noting. What if we tell a Primary student that neatly copying the words from the sound booklets to a piece of paper is great work? Do we then tell Lower Elementary students who independently compose an interesting and grammatically correct sentence that their work is greater? What about the Upper Elementary student who completes a well-written six paragraph essay; is that the greatest? If so, is the Middle School research paper and PowerPoint about the properties of spider silk greatest-er? I'm aware other schools promise their students are pioneers or remarkable. They promise 'big' things. Springmont promises that students do things - lots of them - big things, small things, meaningful things, creative things, and authentic, self-directed things. That's better than great.

Recently, my son who attended Springmont Primary through Middle School was surprised to be invited to join the small team of undergraduates representing his university at an exclusive, business case-study competition. He told me that in addition to not really wanting to wear a suit, he was not convinced he was the most qualified of his classmates to serve. I encouraged him to talk with the professor who had nominated him. The professor listened to my son's concerns and replied, "Yes, but you actually think, you're curious, you ask good questions and communicate well, and most importantly, I have watched you lead a group. These are skills our team needs." These are skills my son developed at Springmont and was able to build upon in high school while his peers were just starting to develop these skills.

Springmont provides a carefully-designed launchpad that combines each child's innate curiosity with a powerful mastery of learning that results in wisdom and distinction. I work here but this is not just a tagline; it's a real outcome. Looking back, I have no regrets. I'm glad I chose Springmont's hand-crafted education for my children.



Stay up to date and enjoy old photos by following Springmont Alumni Association on Facebook or SpringmontAlumni on Instagram!

Spotlight on the Class of 2010

We want to highlight one more class - the Class of 2010. These five students left the Springmont “nest” eight years ago and have been leaving their mark on the world ever since.

Dan Colville attended The Galloway School for high school and went on to LeHigh Univerisy where he graduated in May with a degree in Computer Science and Business. He will return to LeHigh this fall for his masters degree in Analytical Finance.

Tyler Holmes graduated high school from Blessed Trinity Catholic School and just completed his degree in Sports Management at Georgia Southern University.

April House attended John McEachern High School and went on to University of Miami to earn her degree in Communications, Creative Advertising and Media Management. She is currently working as a Freelance Designer in Florida.

Eli King graduated from Riverwood Charter School and went on to Young Harris College. He’s been working, writing, and traveling and is currently on a cross country trip with high school friends.

Shawdon Zadeh attended Walton High School and then went on to Washington University in St. Louis where he recently graduated with a major in Finance. After graduation he started a job at a consulting firm in Washington, D.C. called Avascent where he works on strategy projects with government contractors in Aerospace, Defense, and National Security.



Come visit Springmont! Simply email Director of Development & Alumni Relations Lauren Stevenson at l Stevenson@springmont.com to schedule your tour and visit!

Alumni Panel a Success

On January 11th we were so proud to have 15 alumni back to campus to speak with Upper Elementary and Middle School students and parents of children at all levels. They offered thoughtful insight and helpful feedback to all in attendance. Their former teachers looked on with pride and reminisced about their former students. Here's a closer look at who joined us!

High School-Aged Alumni

Lane Cannon – Cherokee High School Class of 2018
Catherine Friedline – Blessed Trinity Class of 2021
Sophie Tinley – Atlanta Girls' School Class of 2020
Adem Wijewickrema – Atlanta International School Class of 2021

College-Aged Alumni

Summer King – The Galloway School Class of 2017, Georgia State University Class of 2021
Julius Long – Atlanta International School Class of 2016, Bowdoin College Class of 2020
Amy Soba – The Galloway School Class of 2017, Dickinson College Class of 2021
Sara Soba – The Galloway School Class of 2017, Dickinson College Class of 2021



Post Graduate-Aged Alumni

Danny Carpenter – The Galloway School Class of 2007, Virginia Tech Class of 2012 with a major in Mechanical Engineering – After college Danny worked for two years at McKinsey and Co. and two years at Tesla. He graduated from Harvard Business School in May and has returned to Atlanta to work in private equity at Primus Capital.
Kate Coleville— Riverwood International Charter School Class of 2012, Colgate University Class of 2016 with a major in Biochemistry – Kate is currently working at ScribeAmerica as a Medical Scribe and plans to apply to medical school this year.
Clarissa Espina - Holy Spirit Prep Class of 2008, University of Georgia Class of 2013 with a major in Psychology – Clarissa worked at Wellstar while earning her Master's degree in Healthcare Administration at Georgia State in 2016. Clarissa is currently working at Wellstar as an Office Supervisor.
Lola Leman – Marietta High School 2012, University of Mississippi Class of 2016 with a major in Psychology – Lola works at Springmont as a Primary Teaching Assistant.
Trevor Love – Georgia State 2011-2013, Kennesaw State 2014-2016 with a major in Computer Game Design and Development – Trevor is currently working as a Software Engineer at Manhattan Associates and started at Georgia Tech this spring earning his Masters of Science in Analytics.
CJ Turner – Paideia School Class of 2012, Stanford University Class of 2016 with a major in International Relations and Management Science & Engineering – CJ currently lives in Dallas, Texas and works as a Consultant at Oliver Wyman. (CJ was not present but sent along answers to questions submitted in advance.)
Andrew Winkelmann – The Galloway School Class of 2012, Georgia State University Class of 2017 with a major in Business Administration – Andrew is currently in Business Development for La Cena Foods.



What's New at Springmont?

We're so glad you asked! Here's a photo review of some exciting developments!



Springmont had its first basketball team this year!



Students and parents enjoyed two campouts on campus - one in the fall and one in the spring!



Our vegetable and herb garden has grown quite large.



The new giant slide continues to be a student favorite!



Middle Schoolers are enjoying their new standing desks and dynamic learning space.



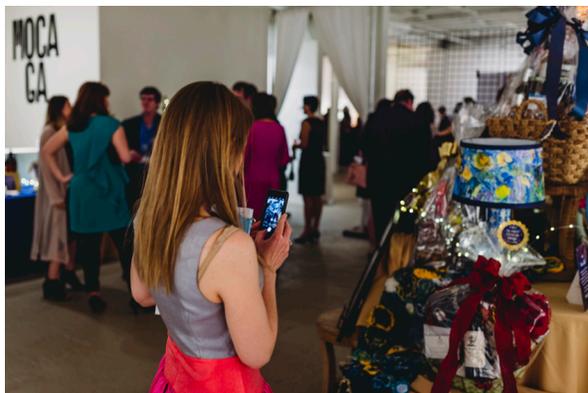
Jerri King gifted two baby lambs to Springmont - King and Duke. They are very sweet and our students love them!



Lower Elementary students, Amelia, Gabe and Emma (not pictured), were honored at the River of Words Awards Ceremony.



Faculty and Staff chipped in for a new greenhouse in honor of Jerri's commitment to outdoor education. This is a great new feature for our students!



The Auction was a huge success grossing approximately \$93,000!