



A GIFT to HONOR PRIDE and RESPONSIBILITY

For the past four years the ER Alumni Foundation has awarded funds for the purchase of t-shirts for the Sixth-Grade Door Monitors. These 30 student leaders help children in kindergarten and first and second grades. The monitors are nominated by staff for this special program, and undergo training during the summer to prepare for their responsibilities with our young children. Working with a particular class, the monitors greet the children on their arrival at school and get them ready for the day. They also lend a hand in their assigned classrooms at dismissal time, and assist the children at special events.

Through their work the monitors provide a positive influence for the children, while learning a lot about themselves. Part of our Foundation's mission is to "help build a stronger school system, a stronger community, and a stronger future for all ER students." The door monitors, in developing their leadership skills and helping others, represent a fine example of this mission. And we think their brown and white t-shirts are awesome!

– Anita M. Mance, Grants Chairperson

Help Us Plan Upcoming Little Brown Jug Reunion!

Plans are underway to hold an event later this year to commemorate the Little Brown Jug football rivalry between East Rochester and Fairport. This storied football rivalry began 75 years ago and continued until the mid-1980s. A date or venue has not been determined yet, but people willing to join a planning committee or sub-committee are urgently needed. For more information or to participate in planning this nostalgic event, please contact Sam Morgante at sdm1@rochester.rr.com or Jean Kelly at jm751@rochester.rr.com.

~ NEW FUNDRAISING PROGRAM ~

Last year the East Rochester Alumni Foundation decided to reach out to all alumni, from all classes, and ask for their support.

ERAF will be eight years old this year, and it's been a wonderful eight years. The Foundation has grown every year and has been able to fund more and more grants, made necessary by ongoing pressures on our school districts to cut back on educational enrichment programs.

For seven years, our summer golf tournament, the Sam Urzetta Classic, has been our chief fundraiser. We plan to continue that event, but suspect its potential as our only major source of revenue is becoming somewhat limited. We simply can't fit many more golfers on the course, and we're reluctant to raise the entry fee each year. We need to raise more funds for the future.

Last year, two classes were the first to participate in the Foundation's new fundraising program. ERAF owes special thanks to the class of 1951 (and class agents **Sue and Dick Devereaux**) and the class of '58 (class agents **Mike Quenell and John Quenell**) for raising more than \$2,000 on behalf of the Foundation.

This year, the classes of 1959 (agents **Peter Obourn and Carl Tobin**), '61 (**Sam Morabito**), and '63 (**Marilyn Tuttle and Patty Pullano**) will continue the program.

We'd like to encourage more class leaders to join the program. ERAF will provide to class agents a complete fundraising packet (including suggested letters to classmates, the ERAF brochure, and forms and instructions for raising money for the Foundation) and cover any expenses, such as printing and postage. Additional class agents are being sought for classes in other years.

To allow donations to be made more easily, the Foundation also now accepts contributions by credit card or PayPal, through the ERAF Website – www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm. In addition, the foundation accepts memorial gifts and bequests.

Anyone interested in serving as a class agent is encouraged to contact me at pobourn@aol.com or 585-223-0675. The Foundation is proud of, and thankful for, the alumni and community support which has made such an important and positive impact on the educational program in ER. All the Foundation's good work is funded by friends and alumni of East Rochester Schools; 100 percent of donated funds are used to underwrite Alumni Foundation grants and projects.

– Peter Obourn, Development Fundraising Program Coordinator

~ ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT ~

Cristina Ballatori, ERHS '95

As we began to look at ER alumni to spotlight, we were amazed at the number who have been extremely successful in the field of music. With this in mind, we decided to focus on those talented graduates who have gone on to careers in music. Please feel free to write to eralumnispotlight@gmail.com if you have any suggestions! While we know we'll never be able to highlight all of them, we'd like to feature Cristina Ballatori in this edition, and continue in the issues to follow.

Dr. Cristina Ballatori serves as Assistant Professor of Flute at the University of Texas at Brownsville, where she enjoys an active career as a recitalist, soloist, chamber musician, clinician, and teacher. She has been a prizewinner in several competitions, including the Flute Society of Washington, D.C.'s Young Artist Competition, the Bruce Ekstrand Competition, and the George Mason University Concerto Competition. Her doctoral thesis, "Suite Paysanne Hongroise for Flute and Piano by Béla Bartók/Arr. Paul Arma: A Performer's Guide," was named a winner of the National Flute Association's Dissertation Competition for its outstanding contribution to flute research.



An energetic performer, Cristina has appeared throughout the United States and Latin America as a member of the Semplice Duo with pianist Dr. Kevin Chance, and as flutist with the Frontera Chamber Players. As winners of the 2004 Emerging Artist Series Competition, the Semplice Duo has been described by critics as "delightful performers" whose "music making was effortless and sparkling."

Recent performance highlights include concerts on the "Live from Hochstein" Series on public radio WXXI 91.5 FM, and at the Colorado Music Festival and Hampton Sydney Festival. Other recent and upcoming engagements include performances in Mexico, France, and China. Cristina has been a featured performer, clinician, and adjudicator at festivals and conferences throughout the United States. Her orchestral experience includes a position as piccoloist of the Acadiana Symphony in Lafayette, La.

A passionate advocate for music education and a dedicated teacher, Cristina has presented workshops for the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation's "Live! Music Now" program, and given master classes at universities and public schools across the country. In recognition of her teaching, she received the 2013 University of Texas System's Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award for her work at UT Brownsville, where she maintains a studio of accomplished and enthusiastic students. She is a founding member and co-director of the Frontera Chamber Music Society, and serves as director of the Brownsville Flute Festival and coordinator of the National Flute Association's High School Soloist Competition.

Cristina earned a Bachelor of Music degree from George Mason University, a Master of Music degree from Louisiana State University, and a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Flute Performance, Pedagogy, and Literature from the University of Colorado at Boulder. The recipient of a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Fellowship, she also earned a postgraduate diploma from the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, England, where she studied with Peter Lloyd, retired principal flutist of the London Symphony Orchestra. Her major teachers include Alexa Still, Katherine Kemler, Judith Lapple, and Diane Smith, with additional studies under Bonita Boyd.

Cristina is an outstanding teacher and accomplished musician, and we are pleased to spotlight her as an ER alumna.

– Helen Tortorici

~ ALUMNI MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE ~

Show your East Rochester alumni pride with an ERAF mug! Available for \$5, they've been presented to all graduates the past several years. Also available for sale are Sam Urzetta Golf umbrellas (\$20) and ERAF stickers (\$1). Please contact Katie Connors DeVito at katie_devito@er.monroe.edu if you'd like to place an order.



more ERAF information on next page...

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East Rochester Alumni Foundation

Welcome to the East Rochester Alumni Foundation

The ERAF website is a work in progress which is supported by the efforts of the East Rochester School District. The East Rochester Alumni Foundation was founded in 2005. In March 2007 we were certified by the IRS to operate as a 501(C)(3) Public Charity. The reasons for the foundation's existence are best defined by its Mission and Goals.

Mission: To help make the East Rochester Schools the best they can be

Goals

- To bring alumni together
- To unite the school district, the community, and the students of today

[Register Yourself](#) | [View the Directory](#)

Technology is everywhere, and the ER Alumni Foundation is no exception. We've been working to improve our Website (www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm) and make it easy for people to learn about us.

Among the new features is 'ERAF Newsletters,' where you can read the current ERAF newsletter articles and catch up on newsletters dating back to 2011. Email the direct link to friends and family so they can keep up on Foundation news: www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm?subpage=1130839.

Looking for upcoming reunions? Click on 'News and Class Reunions,' where you'll find any reunion information we know about. Also on that page is a link to the ER Local History Website, where you'll find more than 8,500 photos of ERHS graduates. You can search by graduation year (1910-2013) or by name. You'll love looking up friends and classmates!

As a non-profit organization, the ER Alumni Foundation depends on donations to fund its programs. However, it's now easier than ever to donate. Click on 'Donate to the ERAF,' where you can use a credit card or PayPal to contribute any amount to the Foundation. And remember, all donations are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated.

We are eager for any and all alumni news! Send information about reunions or upcoming events you'd like included on the ERAF site to me at eralumni@outlook.com. We also welcome any suggestions for improving our Website – and if you're a graduate, don't forget to register with our directory!

– Pam Narsisian, ERAF Webmaster

Distinguished Alumni Award Nominations Due Friday, April 4

If you'd like to nominate an East Rochester alumni to receive this prestigious award, please visit the ERAF Website – www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm. A printable nomination form can be found by choosing the 'Distinguished Alumni Award' tab on the left side of the homepage. Former award recipients include Nick Verzella, Sam Urzetta, Adm. Donald Quinn, Gen. Richard McPhee, and Larry Weise.

ERAF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board members: Chris Argento, Hon. Victoria Argento, Denise Ash, John Baynes, Jerry Cilento, Mary Hopkins Cooney, Katie Conners DeVito, Mary Burton Estey, Linda Forbes, John Griffith, Marilyn Tuttle Lopez, Anita Mance, Dina Marcoccia, Sam Morabito, Pam Narsisian, Peter Obourn, Patty Pullano, Tom Quinzi, Carl Tobin, Helen Tortorici, and Richard Stutzman, Jr. (ex-officio)

Former board members: Terry Brown-Steiner, Jim Burlingame, Tim Henry, Dr. Howard Maffucci, David Morabito, Peter Nicolucci, Fred Ricci, Barb Pierce Stoner, Patrick Tobin, Sam Urzetta, and Nick Verzella

A FEW SCENES FROM THE E.R. CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL....



The ERAF was a proud sponsor of the third-annual East Rochester Christmas Festival, held at several locations around the town/village Saturday, Dec. 14. Clockwise from top left are Anita Mance (ERHS '65) reading a holiday story between student choral performances; a young visitor enjoying some of the activities; Tom Connors ('44) and Peter Obourn ('59); third-graders Chloe F. (left) and Hailey K. with the 3-4 chorus; and another young guest. More photos from the day are at www.tinyurl.com/kerct6x.