

OF LIFE
FOR ALL

VOTE

IS ETHICAL

WHY
WHY
WHY

EVEN ONE STEP
IS TOO MUCH

WE ARE NOT
ABSENTEE
CITIZENS

IT'S A MATTER
OF PRIDE

SILENCE IS
A SOCIAL
DISEASE

SAME ENTRANCE
AS
EVERYONE
ELSE

EQUAL
ACCESS
NOW

YOU ARE
DISABLED
BETTER
RICH

QUALITY
HEALTH
CARE

I NEED THE RAMP
TODAY
YOU MIGHT NEED IT
TOMORROW!!!

UNFAIR TO !\$/!
DISABLED
AND ABLE-BODIED
CUSTOMERS

GOOD HEALTH:
A RIGHT
NOT A PRIVILEGE

Lewis's inaccessibility Protest Posters
from the 1990s and 2000s

JESSIE JANE LEWIS '65: DEFYING CONVENTION AND IGNITING CHANGE

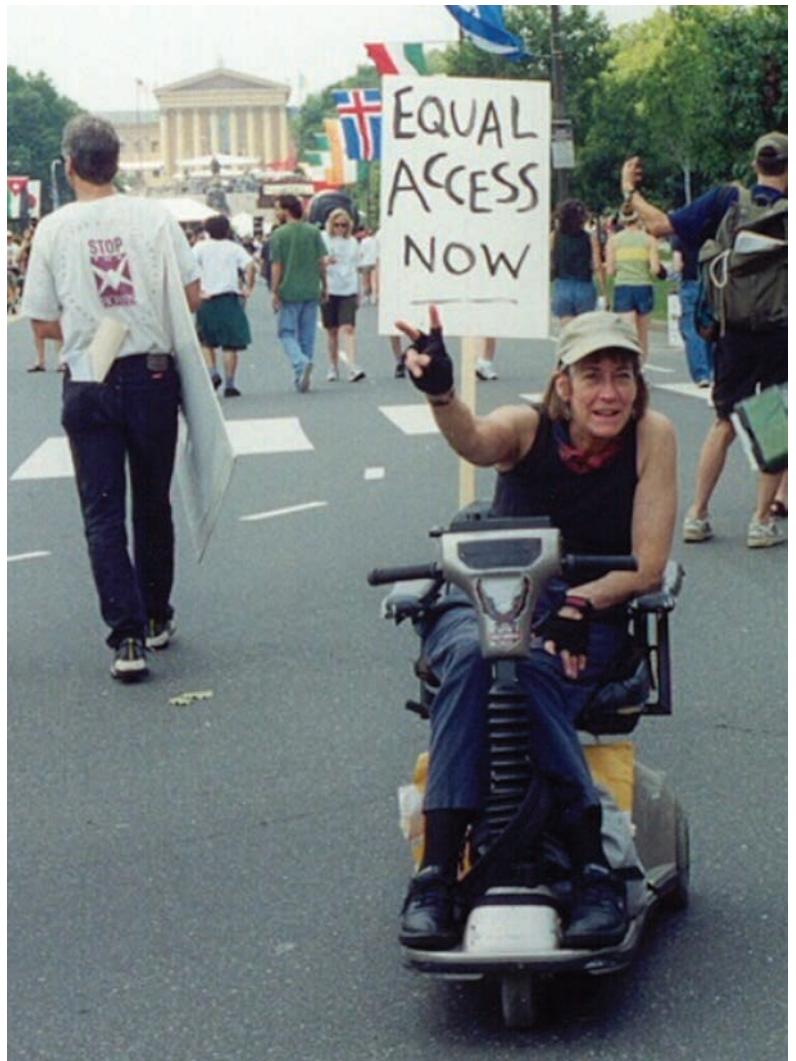
You'd think that effecting change in a city as large as Philadelphia would involve countless people and the slow-turning wheels of bureaucracy. But, as one alumna proved, igniting change can begin with one person. One woman. One artist. **One chance taker.**

“

IT'S NOT HOW YOU WALK,
IT'S WHERE YOU STAND

—Jessie Jane Lewis '65
(1947-2011)

”



Jessie Jane Lewis '65, artist and activist.



Lewis at Springside, first row, second from the left

The late Jessie Jane Lewis '65, whose life and work were the subject of this fall and winter's Barbara Crawford Gallery exhibition, *Chronic Creativity*, drove change in Philadelphia and beyond through her artwork, activism, and a unique ability to blend the two.

As a student at Springside School, she was a chance taker, albeit a low-profile one. She'd admit that she wasn't the best student, mostly flying under the radar at school, but she was a surfer and skateboarder who sought out adventure.

"She was bold. She was a risk-taker. She defied the conventions of our time," said classmate Karen Doman '65 who recalled a night in high school when she and "Jane," as they called her then, snuck out of their houses to attend a Bob Dylan and Joan Baez concert. "Jane persuaded me to live dangerously. It was the most wonderful of times."

Lewis went on to receive degrees from the former Philadelphia College of Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Her body of work encompassed painting, printmaking, and performance art. Diagnosed with

multiple sclerosis in her 30s, she began to alter her previous work, making minor—and then major—changes. She used her wheels as paintbrushes, rolling over old paintings. Taking risks—taking chances on ideas whose outcomes were uncertain—still did not scare her. In fact, it seemed to motivate her to do more. She created profound video work focusing on artists with disabilities and the challenges they endure, as well as how they persevere to maintain their practice.

unable to get into the Roxborough branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia in her wheelchair. She and a small group of friends made signs and protested. A ramp was installed.

"It was a small group of people, really," said her daughter, Anya Rose, now a Lower School science teacher at SCH, to a group of SCH students who visited the gallery. Rose loaned her mother's work for the exhibit and conducted talks with each division.

"When you look at the photo, it started with just a few people. You need just a few people to effect change."

In the late 1990s, Lewis created the Voter Accessibility Reform Initiative, and in 2002 she joined with others in a successful class action lawsuit against the City of Philadelphia Elections Board to fight for polling places to meet American Disability Act (ADA) standards. "Every issue of disability, from housing to health care to education, hinges on our power as a voting bloc," Lewis said, who lived to see more than 700 city polling places become accessible.

THE LATE JESSIE JANE LEWIS '65, DROVE CHANGE IN PHILADELPHIA AND BEYOND THROUGH HER ARTWORK, ACTIVISM, AND A UNIQUE ABILITY TO BLEND THE TWO.

An art therapist who specialized in treating the elderly for more than 20 years, Lewis is most well known for her work as an activist for people with disabilities. It all began when she was

After many years of difficult work, she convinced the city to honor the rights of disabled Philadelphians to vote at accessible polling places on machines that can accommodate those



Anya Rose unfurls her mother's wheelchair painting scroll, created in the 1980s, in her mother's studio in Manayunk.

BUCKING THE (VOTING) SYSTEM

It was Jessie Jane Lewis' story and SCH's robust arts curriculum that brought Philadelphia City Commissioners Lisa Deeley, chair, and Omar Sabir, vice chair, to SCH in November, before election day, to talk to Upper School AP U.S. Government & Politics students and their teacher Danielle Gross. The pair implored the students to use their vote and, like Lewis, their voices to bring about change.

"If we don't have free and fair elections, then we don't have a democracy. That's what our country was founded on," said Commissioner Sabir. "We're calling on younger Americans to stand up for democracy. It's your civic duty to stand up. Are you going to stand up?"

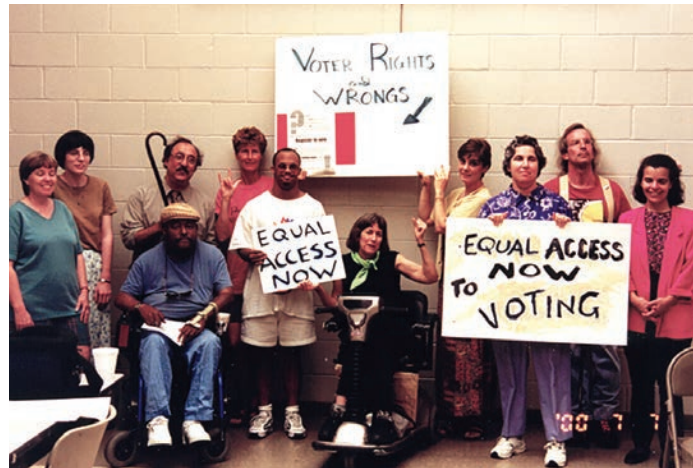
Vote in every election. Be poll workers. Run for office. These are all messages that the commissioners conveyed to students. And, after hearing Lewis' story, the students understood more clearly that some of those rights are also their duty.

"For the people, by the people. We are the people. The people are you. It's not other people. It's all of you," Commissioner Deeley told the students.

In Philadelphia, in part thanks to the work of Jessie Jane Lewis, people with disabilities can access any of the 1,703 divisions in the city, said Deeley, to vote "freely and fairly, like everyone else. It's a voting system that's the same for everyone."



Philadelphia City Commissioners Lisa Deeley and Omar Sabir



Lewis with a group of activists



"House on Fire" by Lewis

in wheelchairs, people who are blind or with low vision, and people who are deaf or hearing impaired. She didn't stop after the law was enacted: There was more work to do to ensure that polling places were complying. She continued her fight in the last years of her life. "It's not how you walk," said Lewis at the time, "it's where you stand."

STUDENTS IN ALL DIVISIONS AT SCH HAVE BEEN SHAPED BY JESSIE JANE LEWIS AND HER POWERFUL WORK

Lewis' personality was present in her work. "Every stroke of line, every choice of color, every facial expression in a performance, and every phrase on a protest sign is an expression of her emotion," said Rose. "She was someone who could make you laugh, and at the same time organize a class action lawsuit against the city of Philadelphia for not having accessible voting machines."

The curator of the SCH exhibit, Melissa Haims P'21, is a longtime poll worker in Chestnut Hill. She remembers when,

a decade ago, the polling location moved locations for ADA accessibility.

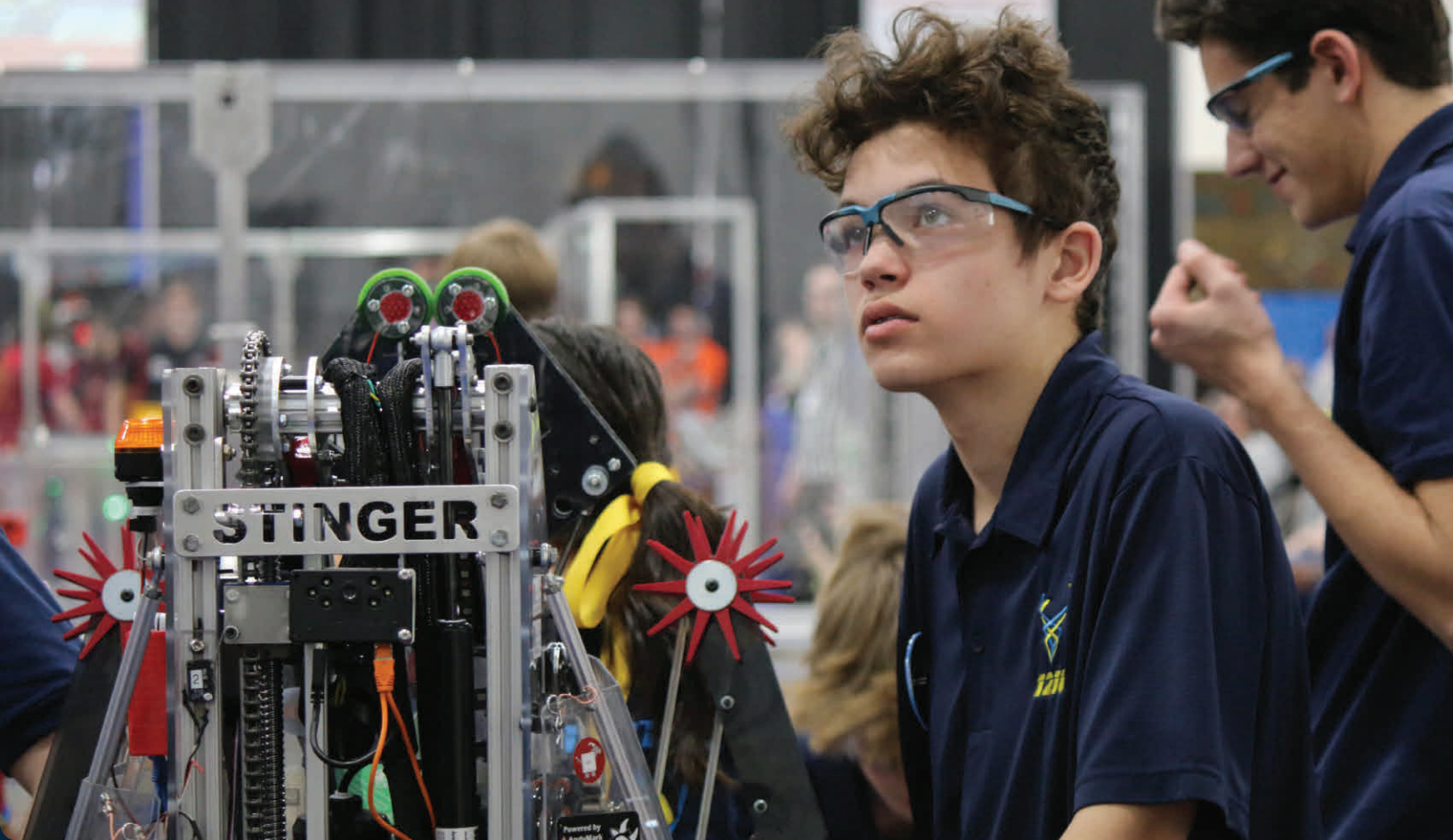
"A large percentage of Division 5's members are wheelchair bound, have low vision, or use other mobility aids," said Haims. "Every election since (Lewis' changes were made), I have been a witness to democracy in action. An artist made that happen. Jessie Jane Lewis made that happen."

Lewis, who passed away in 2011 from the effects of multiple sclerosis, modeled how to lead a productive life, inspiring her patients, family, friends, and even strangers.

"Through this powerful exhibit and extensive curricular activities, students in all divisions at SCH have been shaped by Jessie Jane Lewis and her powerful work," says Megan Monaghan, director of the Arts at SCH.

Several of her classmates from Springside visited the exhibit to learn more about her and honor her incredible life, full of color and wonder. The alumnae sat together in the gallery, remembering Jessie Jane Lewis, making art, and telling stories about their years together, and the ensuing years when they were apart.

"To know that she had such a rich life," said Sandra McLaughlin McFarland '65, a Springside classmate, "it's enriching for all of us."



EMPOWERED BY

ROBOTICS

Robotics Celebrates 20 Years at SCH

Building robots is hands-on, roll-up-your-sleeves, problem-solving kind of work. It's experiential learning at its best, and Springside Chestnut Hill Academy students have been "studying" engineering this way for 20 years with amazing success. Team 1218, the SCH Upper School robotics team, has qualified for 18 of 19 world championships during that time, won Worlds in 2019, and graduated about 15-20 percent of its students into top-notch university engineering programs over the past two decades, including MIT, Caltech, Princeton, Penn, Columbia, Brown, Carnegie Mellon, Johns Hopkins, RPI, WPI, Virginia Tech, Drexel, Temple, Rose-

Hulman, and all three military academies. Graduates have gone on to jobs at Google, Tesla, Boeing, and SpaceX, and they're also making strides as innovative entrepreneurs.

"We do very little in the way of classroom instruction in robotics at SCH," says the chair of the Robotics and Engineering Department, Peter Randall '69, who co-founded the program and Team 1218. He can almost always be found in the school's 1,600-square-foot state-of-the-art lab amongst the computers, fabrication machines (CNC mill, CNC router table, laser cutter, and 3D printers) and, of course, tons of robots and other student projects. "During the build season, students are

here at night and on weekends, engaged and excited to be working on projects. And, boy, are they learning.”

While the robotics program has grown exponentially in 20 years, this hands-on approach hasn't changed since it began in 2002 with a single robot. Despite almost no budget, that first team—powered by just eight students and approximately the 1,218th team (hence the name Team 1218) to join the league—was a success, winning Rookie All-Star and Regional awards in 2003. Five years in, Chestnut Hill Academy built the Rorer Center for Science and Technology and the Robotics Department filled it, floor to ceiling, with innovative projects (including an in-progress aircraft!) and awards aplenty.

There are now 15 SCH robotics teams, engaging over 150 students across campus and divisions (grades 1-12), who are learning how to approach and solve complex problems through perseverance and teamwork and gaining important skills along the way for whatever path they choose. Lower School students tinker with sensors and motors using LEGO kits, Middle School students begin to understand mechanical design and procedural programming by building LEGO and custom-fabricated robots programmed

in Scratch and Java, and Upper School students delve into microprocessing, fabrication, and programming.

THE BUILD SEASON

The robotics build season runs from January through May and requires each team to design and build an industrial-size robot that completes various challenges according to an annual theme. FIRST, a “global robotics community,” runs competitions that combine “the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology.” There’s loud music, cheering fans, and an emcee hyping up the crowd. SCH hosts a qualifying event each spring with more than 30 teams from the tri-state area. From the very start of each build season, students are working fairly independently, making choices (and mistakes!) alongside their teammates and relying on faculty members and mentors for gentle guidance and advice. And they’re not just learning mechanics, circuitry, and programming, they’re developing resilience and leadership skills which come in handy during competitions.

The 2012 robotics teams, from the youngest to the oldest, gather in the lab.





WHY TINKER EARLY?

Early interest in engineering can lead to a career in it; more than 80 percent of FIRST alumni declare a STEM major by their fourth year in college. Our youngest learners start with LEGOs and K'NEX to imagine, design, and build their latest creations.

This past spring, 27 students traveled to the FIRST Robotics World Championship in Houston, TX, for the season's culminating event. Of the high school programs around the world that field a robotics team, only 10 percent actually qualify to advance and compete at "Champs." The team didn't place in 2023, but they did rank in the top 50 percent of their division. And they returned to campus with extraordinary perspective and experience, which makes visits to the Middle and Lower Schools to mentor the younger students in school and through summer programs even more affecting. They're passing on the power of creativity, innovation, and passion for STEM.

MENTORING YOUNG MINDS

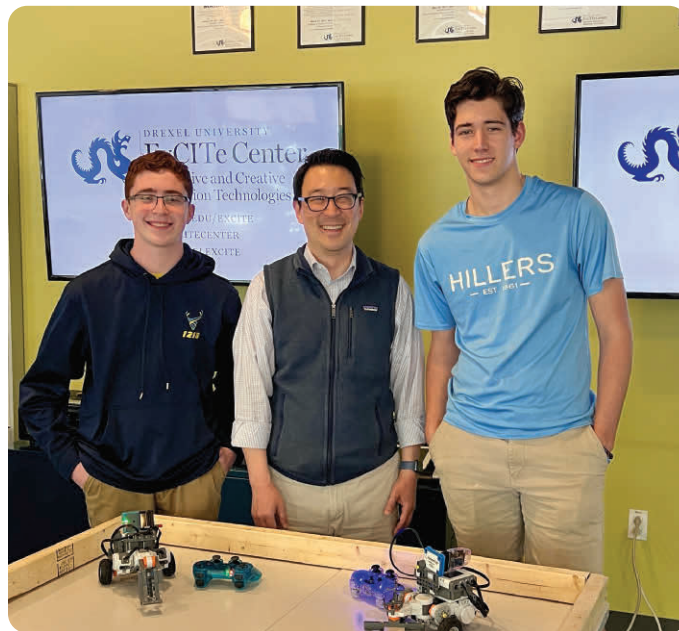
"You really don't know something until you're able to teach it to somebody else," says Ryan Comisky '22, now an integrative engineering student with a robotics concentration at Lafayette College, who says this was one of the most important lessons he learned at SCH while mentoring younger students in the Lower School's Physics and Engineering and Imagineering Labs.

Faculty members and Upper School students aren't just teaching SCHers, they're spreading the gospel of hands-on robotics at other schools. SCHers are the "boots on the ground," says Randall, visiting schools throughout the

region, including, in years past: The Philadelphia School for the Deaf, Ligouri Academy, LaSalle College High School, Abington Friends, Archbishop Wood High School, and more recently, Friends Central, Academy in Manayunk (AIM), and The Philadelphia School. They're there as the experts, talking about how to build not just robots and camaraderie but also successful programs for all ages and experiences.

For their senior project this past spring, two Class of 2023 students created a LEGO battle bots curriculum for a weeklong summer camp for underserved students in Philadelphia in mentor Youngmoo Kim's lab. Kim is an

Jonathan Berkson '23, trustee and parent Youngmoo Kim, and Daniel O'Connor '23 in Drexel's ExCITe Center this past summer. The students helped create a LEGO battlebots curriculum for underserved middle schoolers in Philadelphia.





Siblings at FIRST event: Tony '22 and Dominique '20 Regli

BUILDING BETTER STUDENTS, ONE ROBOT AT A TIME

In 20 years, thousands of students have found their way in the world of STEM thanks to this program. Flair and fun are all part of the robotics experience. Team 1218 has worn yellow bows at FIRST events for several years to show, according to former captain Dominique Regli '20, "you can wear a dress and a bow—traditionally feminine attire—and still be taken seriously in STEM industries."

organization's longitudinal study). Alumna Dominique Regli '20, who was one of the three female captains during the World Championship 2019-2020 year, is one such student. She is majoring in engineering mechanics with minors in robotics, computer science, and philosophy at Johns Hopkins University.

"Having women role models has been so important to me, I want to help show that you can wear a dress and a bow—traditionally feminine attire—and still be taken seriously in STEM industries," she says. Responsible for the yellow hair bows that Team 1218 participants still wear during competitions, she eagerly seeks to mentor those who might follow in her footsteps. She has made it a mission to represent women in STEM at local and national FIRST Robotics events by working as a volunteer emcee and game announcer during her free time. In these roles, she does everything from providing game commentary to shedding light on team strategy to helping bring on the high energy that is a feature of any FIRST Robotics tournament. In her year as an SCH captain, the team was 50 percent female, a big uptick from the 5 percent just a few years earlier.

One thing that hasn't changed in 20 years? The excitement at the beginning of a new build season. "You just can't stop that kind of enthusiasm," says Team 1218 mentor and recently retired teacher Rob Ervin H'08 who helped found the program in 2002 and also founded AIM team 5407. "That enthusiasm for learning, that's been there since the very beginning."

"THE WORLD OF ENGINEERING IS ALLOWING YOU TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO SOLVE PROBLEMS. IT TRANSLATES TO SO MANY DIFFERENT FIELDS."

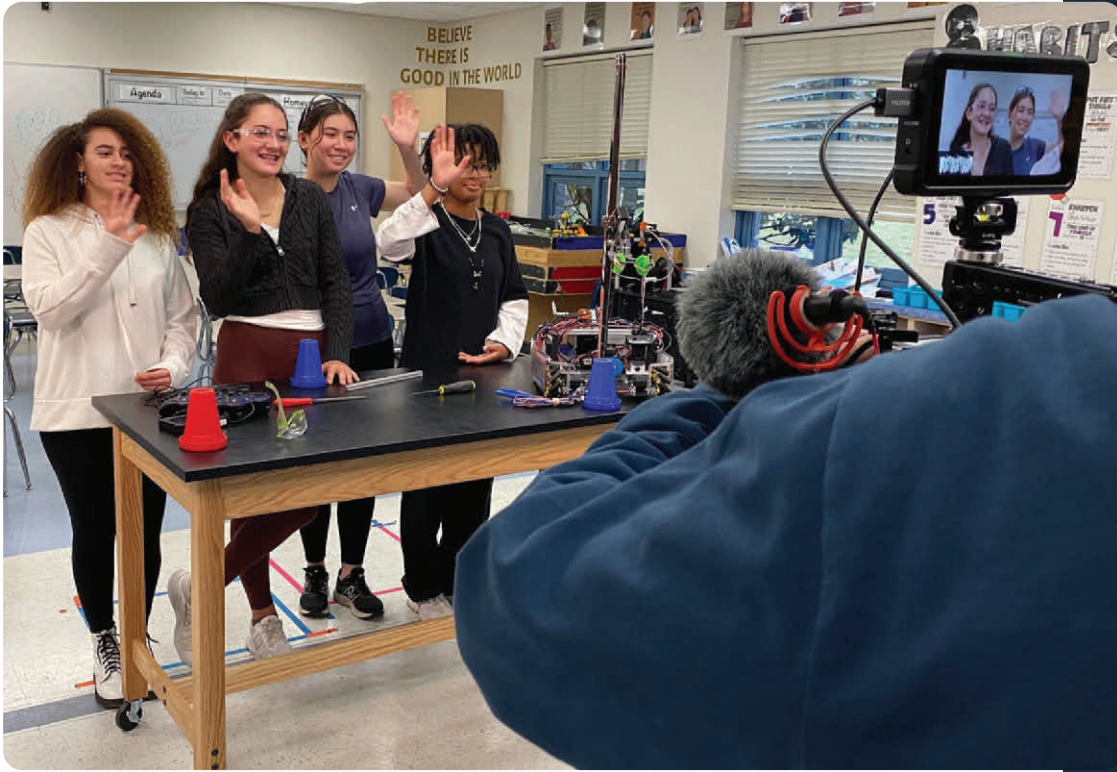
– Ellie Weinstein '15

SCH parent, trustee, and the director of the Expressive & Creative Interaction Technologies (ExCiTe) Center and professor of electrical and computer engineering at Drexel University. He helps students understand the complex software that robots require, a big change from when the program began in 2002 and a big job in this era of AI.

Another 1218 mentor, Ellie Weinstein '15, was still in Middle School when Randall challenged her to simply "create something that doesn't exist." She recently graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a mechanical engineering degree and is working toward patenting the 3D chocolate printer, aka the Cocoa Press, that she conceived of at SCH. "The world of engineering is allowing you to figure out how to solve problems. It translates to so many different fields," she says.

All that problem-solving has paid off for Weinstein: She's now selling commercial-sized machines that "print" chocolates the same day and even launching a line of smaller machines for at-home, DIY chocolate printers.

Fifty percent of female FIRST alumni declare a major in engineering or computer science by their fourth year of college (compared to 14 percent of peers), according to the



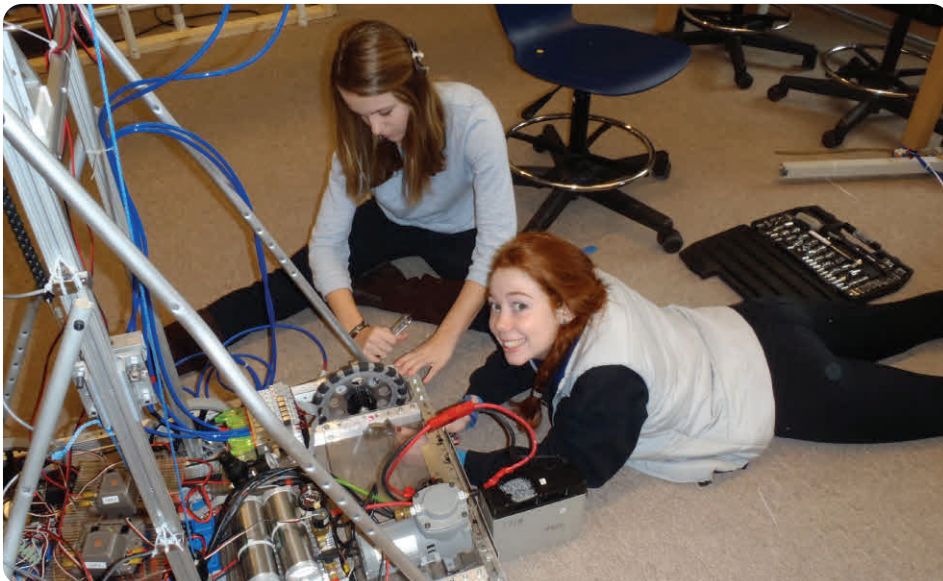
MIDDLE SCHOOL ROBOTICS FEATURED ON NEW WHY? PROGRAM

In search of students who do “hard things with adult tools,” a crew from WHY? PBS TV landed in the Middle School robotics lab earlier this year to film an episode of Albie’s Elevator, the newest addition to the station’s preschool programming. The episode, “Puzzle Picture Perfect,” aired on June 19 and can be found on the WHY? Kids YouTube channel.

The series features a puppet named Albie who operates the elevator in her building and explores a variety of problems she’s facing by meeting up with the very people that can help solve Albie’s challenge. In the episode filmed at SCH, Albie is struggling to complete a puzzle and needs some help. Who better than SCH’s robotics team students to jump in and share their tips? Mia Buffert, Sky Matta, Ariana Chan-van der Helm, and Devon Donato worked with the team from WHY? to demonstrate their can-do spirit and problem-solving skills.

THE FIRST IMPACT AWARD

Previously known as the Chairman’s Award, this is the most prestigious award at FIRST. It “honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the mission of FIRST.”



Melanie Rankin '14 and Rose Donahue '11 work on the robot.

2002-03

Robotics program begins with two teachers and eight students working in a hallway

Rookie All-Star and Regional Winners



2006

Team moves into a classroom and out of a closet

SCH Robotics becomes stop on Admissions tours



2009

Archimedes Division Winner (3rd in world)



Finalist, World Championship (2nd in world)

2004

CHA builds LEED Gold-certified Rorer Center for Science and Technology; becomes the team's new home in 2009

2008

Peter Randall '69 wins the **Woodie Flowers Award**, (for top FRC mentor) at New Jersey Regional Championship

2011



ROBOTS AND DRONES AND BALLOONS

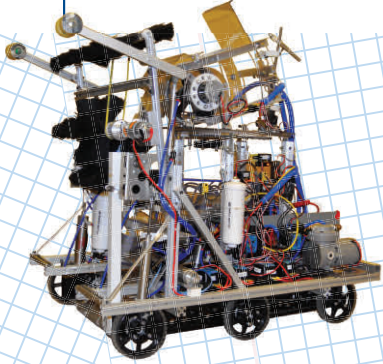


The robotics program's success begets further success, as drone and ballooning teams are formed.

An engineering power team comprised of four Team 1218 juniors earned first place this past spring at Philadelphia's first Aerospace Robotics Challenge (ARC)—sponsored by Boeing, Lockheed Martin, and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics—in the drone cage at the Pennovation Center at the University of Pennsylvania.

2012

Robot introduces a coveted mechanism that differentiates between hard and soft balls in 1/400 of a second, called the "Charminator"



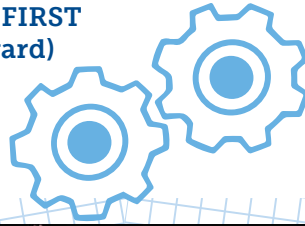
Team builds two robots to upgrade the bot between matches, and the swerve drive is introduced

Finalist, World Championship (4th in world)

2015

2016

Chairman's Award (now called The FIRST Impact Award)



Three female captains lead the team to the **World Championship (1st in world)**.

2019

2020

Peter Randall '69 is named a **Phillies All Star Teacher of the Year**, chosen among 400+ entries



Team goes to Worlds, receives several awards earlier in the season, including:

Quality Award

Industrial Design Award

2023

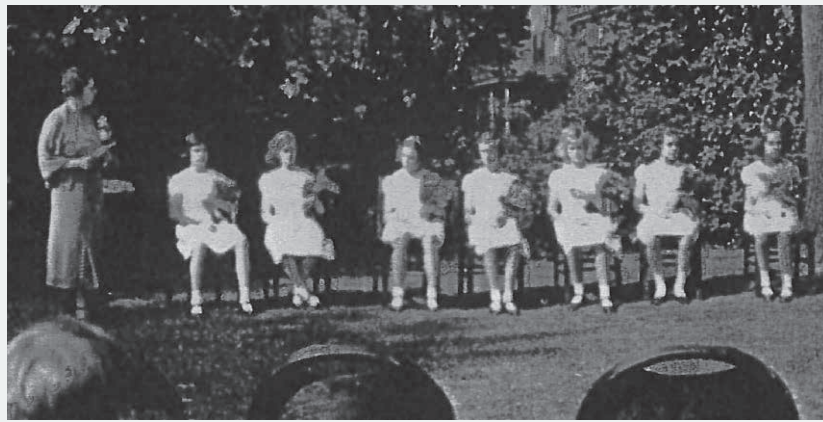
The robotics foursome—Karina Chan-van der Helm, Cameron Lyon, Devin Gibson (who won the prestigious FIRST Dean's List award this year), and Shaun Gupte—worked throughout the year to build and train a drone to follow remote commands as well as a pre-programmed route that would simulate the rapid delivery of medical supplies or other essential items necessary for disaster response. The team took first place in each of the event's three competitions.

"We are four high school students who, in seven months, designed and built a drone that—if continually improved upon—could be used in those types of settings," says Lyon.

Next up for these four seniors? A ballooning project through NASA. They were selected by NASA, alongside a handful of Drexel students, as one of 80 teams—and one of just a handful

of teams that included high school students—from across the country who are preparing small experiments to accomplish big science during two upcoming eclipses. Through the Nationwide Eclipse Ballooning Project, students contribute valuable scientific and engineering data through their projects. Experiments will be carried by weather balloons (about the size of a small car!) into the upper reaches of Earth's atmosphere during the next two solar eclipses North America will experience—an annular solar eclipse on October 14, 2023, and a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. Stay tuned to see what these budding engineers can do.

The Lasting Legacy of
MISS ZARA'S SCHOOL





From left: Ellen Goodwin '63, Gerda Paumgarten '61, and Selby Fleming McPhee '61 gather at the Miss Zara's School Tea during the 2023 Alumni Weekend.

Picture this: A group of women in their 70s and 80s gather around photos and artifacts from their school days. One breaks into song and the others quickly join in. Together they sing something beautiful, a tune they learned more than six-plus decades prior. This is the enduring power of memory sparked by the life's work of one Miss Zara, an Italian immigrant and educator in Chestnut Hill.

The alumnae of Miss Zara's School, which eventually merged with Springside School, reunited for tea at this year's SCH Alumni Weekend. The reunion was in part thanks to Phoebe Wetzel Griswold '58, who took an interest in her old school and Miss Zara in recent years after finding her teacher's grave in the cemetery of Saint Luke's Church in Germantown. Griswold made it a mission to rediscover the meaningful life and

lessons of Miss Zara. "Legacies are not decided by the people who go before us," says Griswold. "Legacies are named by the people who come after them. That is what we are doing for Miss Zara."

Caterina Cameron Zara, headmistress and founder of Miss Zara's School, educated boys and girls in and around Chestnut Hill for nearly 40 years from 1917-1955 before her school merged

MISS ZARA'S SCHOOL

516 W. Moreland Avenue
Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia 18, Pa.

CALENDAR 1949 - 1950

Wednesday, September 14th
School opens 9:00 A.M.
for Grades I, II, III, IV, V, VI

Thursday, September 15th
Nursery School and Pre-Primary open
9:00 A.M.

Thursday and Friday, November 24th, 25th
Thanksgiving Holidays

Wednesday, December 21st
Christmas Holiday begins
1950

Wednesday, January 4th
School reopens 8:50 A.M.

Monday, February 13th
Lincoln Birthday Holiday

Friday, March 17th
Spring Holiday begins 1:00 P.M.

Monday, March 27th
School reopens 8:50 A.M.

Friday, April 7th
Good Friday Holiday

Wednesday, April 19th
French Play—6th Grade

Tuesday, May 16th
Field Day

Friday, May 19th
Poetry Contest
Grades V and VI

Thursday, June 1st
Nursery School closing exercises

Friday, June 2nd
Pre-Primary closing exercises

Thursday, June 8th
Commencement 4:30 P.M.

Wednesday, September 13th
School reopens

A school schedule from the 1949-1950 academic year.

Above left: Miss Zara (at left) speaks to the first graduating class of 1936. Below left: Miss Zara's School, 1953, 2nd grade



The final graduating Miss Zara's School class.

with Springside. According to Miss Zara's graduates, she not only held students to the highest academic standards but she and her faculty—most notably the French language teacher, Mlle. Lambert, and Miss Zara's sister, Mrs. Randall—also modeled and demanded respect, helpfulness, integrity, courtesy, service, and kindness. While others may not remember details of their early school years, these women can recite a French poem they learned at age six and most recall lines from their favorite plays and outdoor pageants.

"I remember and sing the songs Mrs. Randall wrote to this day," says Ernesta Ballard '63. "There was a large beech tree that we played under. I see it still."

The school opened in the fall of 1917 at the Maple Lawn Inn located at the corner of Germantown Avenue and Bethlehem Pike (now a childcare center), and it would move several times over the years, from the Parish Hall of Saint Paul's on East Chestnut Hill Avenue to the corner of Germantown Avenue and Laughlin Lane to, finally, a house called Grey Arches at 432 West Moreland Avenue on five acres of land. It was here that the school's enrollment peaked at 165 students.

In the school's first year, 12 boys were admitted. Subsequently, girls and boys were admitted through 2nd grade; they would then head to CHA or Springside. But in 1934, Zara expanded the school to 3rd grade and added a grade each year until the school finished at 6th. However, because of space constraints, boys could only attend up to 2nd grade; therefore, the school "graduated" mostly girls.

Traditions were established early on: Field Day (with a sack race with



Gerda Paumgarten '61 as Master Bummel (left) in the final Miss Zara's pageant, Rip Van Winkle, 1955.

A student reads her essay out loud on the grounds of Miss Zara's School.



Miss Zara graduates gather for a 2007 reunion.

parents!), poetry contests, and original plays. In and out of the classroom, there was an emphasis on good citizenship, courtesy, and sportsmanship which, alumnae say, bonded them more closely. One of their favorite traditions was when they were allowed to use the main stairs in the school during 6th grade, their final year at Miss Zara's.

The school, alumnae say, was not a finishing school but a fairly progressive institution with a strong educational philosophy, sense of community, and mission led by a headmistress who treated the students fairly and with kindness.

Margaret Merryweather wrote a note to the school in 1973 and claims to have been the first girl admitted to the school. "Miss Zara was an angel, an unsung one," she wrote. "People never knew what she did in her quiet way to show her love to her many children. She gave me so much in my tender years that I never forgot."

And another alumna remembers arriving on a snow day. Instead of sending the girl home, they played cards in her office. At the end of the term, Miss Zara even met with each student to go over their report cards. "Miss Zara had infinite patience with me," says Virginia Pepper Purviance '52. "She had to tutor me in arithmetic, even resorting to an abacus! I still need an abacus."

In 1932 Miss Zara hired the beloved French teacher, Marie Lambert, who introduced the fine details of French sewing and plays. Many Zara graduates say that taking part in these activities not only improved their language skills but also were some of their most vivid memories from those years.



Nancy "Nanny" Carrel '50 calls her years at Miss Zara's "an outstanding classical education" and says she remembers more than just the traditions. "French sewing was compulsory, and it was pretty exasperating and difficult, but the results were very rewarding. Mlle. Lambert had very high expectations and, for the most part, we met them."

When Miss Zara's School merged with Springside, Lambert became head of the French Language Department, bringing with her a belief in the importance of the arts, a gift that was appreciated well beyond her departure.

When the Springside-Zara merger was announced in 1953, *The Chestnut Hill Local* hailed it as a "bright banner in the forward march of independent education in a progressive community." Virtually every graduate went on to attend Springside School. In 1950, Springside's admissions grew substantially; in response,

admissions for Miss Zara's students could no longer be guaranteed. After consulting with the University of Pennsylvania, the schools agreed to merge with the goal of continuing the "excellent educational opportunities to the community and greater strength to our own most vigorous institution."

"The school was distinct in its emphasis on education and student support," says Mary Oakes Smith '59. "I value my years at Miss Zara's School and will forever."

Longtime CHA history teacher Paul Hines H'03 dug into the history of Miss Zara's School this past year—through extensive research and interviews, he learned about the woman behind the school. This article is based on his research. If you are interested, a full account of Miss Zara's School can be provided. If you would like to read more, or if you have information to share, email alumni@sch.org.

Caterina Cameron Zara Memorial Scholarship Fund

This memorial fund was established at Springside in 1974. Income from the fund provides tuition assistance for the daughters and granddaughters of Springside alumnae to attend Springside's Lower School (now SCH Academy).