

THE URBAN  
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

07|08 ANNUAL REPORT  
WINTER 08-09



THE URBAN SCHOOL OF SAN FRANCISCO

# Uniquely Urban: Educational Leadership at The Urban School

What has made Urban such a pioneering institution and what enables us to thrive as an educational innovator? I believe it is our uncompromising commitment to realizing our mission of putting students at the center of the learning process as active, engaged participants. Urban has been willing—and had the gumption—to explore and to try new approaches in the interest of achieving its larger educational objectives.



A timely topic of debate among educators across our country is how to best prepare American students so that they can thrive in the 21st century. Foremost in this conversation is a concern about how we instill qualities of creativity, innovation, initiative, agility and adaptability—the very qualities that many believe have given this country its competitive edge in the global economy.

While this debate rages, I would paradoxically—and perhaps ironically—observe that American schools are among the most conservative of institutions. Unlike almost all other professions, education has been resistant to innovation and change.

However, Urban continues to stand in stark contrast to the typical high school. Over our 42-year history, we have achieved a national reputation as an educational leader, pioneering such innovations as block scheduling, community service program, collaborative learning and a 1:1 student laptop program. More

recently, Urban has become a recognized world-class leader in integrating and using digital tools throughout the college preparatory curriculum. These programs have been widely emulated at both public and private high schools in the Bay Area and across the country. Rarely does a week go by when we are not hosting one or two delegations of educators from schools around the country or abroad.

What has made Urban such a pioneering institution and what enables us to thrive as an educational innovator? There is no easy answer to this question, but I believe it is our uncompromising commitment to realizing our mission of putting students at the center of the learning process as active, engaged participants. Urban has been willing—and had the gumption—to explore and to try new approaches in the interest of achieving its larger educational objectives.

Urban has never been interested in innovation for the sake of change itself; we are only interested if we believe we can improve teaching and learning.

A self-critical ethos and a habit of ongoing reflection and evaluation inform Urban's faculty and staff. Teachers and administrators regularly review what they have accomplished in light of their goals and expectations, and then set about revising and re-thinking their classes, syllabus, materials, curriculum and program. This process is repeated by individual teachers and by the school as a whole until it has become part of our genetic material.

It is what keeps Urban such a vital, intentional and forward-looking educational community.

In this issue of the *Urban Community* we highlight some of the unique elements of an Urban education that have remained fairly constant across our entire history and among all generations of graduates. These "uniquely" Urban fundamentals are what make an Urban education so special, even 42 years later!

This issue also includes our Annual Report for the 2007-08 school year. Urban continues to thrive, thanks to the hundreds of donors and volunteers whose dedication and generosity we recognize and celebrate in these pages. I want to acknowledge the many parent volunteers who have given their time to lead the Annual Fund, our Parents' Association and our Auction. In particular, I want to recognize and thank Glenn Shannon, Urban parent and chair of our Board of Trustees, for the commitment he has brought to our school community. Enjoy!

**Mark Salkind ('70)**  
**Head of School**

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## ABOUT THE URBAN COMMUNITY

The *Urban Community* magazine is published by The Urban School of San Francisco. We welcome article submissions from students, parents, alumni and friends of the school, and reserve the right to edit all articles for space and clarity. If you would like to submit an article or know an alumna/us we should feature, please contact us.

If you have not received an issue recently, or would like to be added to our mailing list, please let us know. Parents of Alumni: If your son or daughter no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please have them notify us. We can be reached at 415 593 9540 or [alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org).

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**ON THE COVER:** Samantha K ('11) and Daniel A ('11) collaborate on an English project. Strong student and teacher collaboration is one of the hallmarks of an Urban education. Photo by Mark Johann.



From our early and pioneering development of block scheduling to our evaluation policy, from our service learning requirements to our 1:1 laptop program, Urban has indeed been at the forefront of many innovative approaches to education. We have been educating students in our own unique ways for 42 years now, and by any measure—be it the satisfaction and accomplishments of our alumni, successful college matriculation, or the number of applications the school receives—we've been doing it exceptionally well.

But our most accurate gauge of success is to know that through our teaching and programs we are fulfilling our mission: igniting a passion for learning and graduating students who are confident, engaged, creative and capable learners. Urban nurtures those qualities of imagination, curiosity, creativity and innovation that are so visible in the design of the school and its programs.

## The Evaluation and Grading Policy

*Editor's note: this article was recently written to help explain our policy to incoming and prospective 8<sup>th</sup> grade families.*

"What did you get on your math test?"  
"How can I get an A in this class?"

Questions like these echo through the hallways of schools across the country, but a visitor to The Urban School will not overhear such conversations. Since its founding 1966, Urban has relied on an evaluation system in which students receive detailed written feedback on assignments, essays and projects, and in place of report cards with grades, they receive comprehensive written performance evaluations at the mid-point and conclusion of each term. Quizzes, tests and exams are also regularly used to evaluate student learning and receive numerical scores and comments. The written evaluations at the end of term provide specific feedback on all aspects of a student's performance in the course and

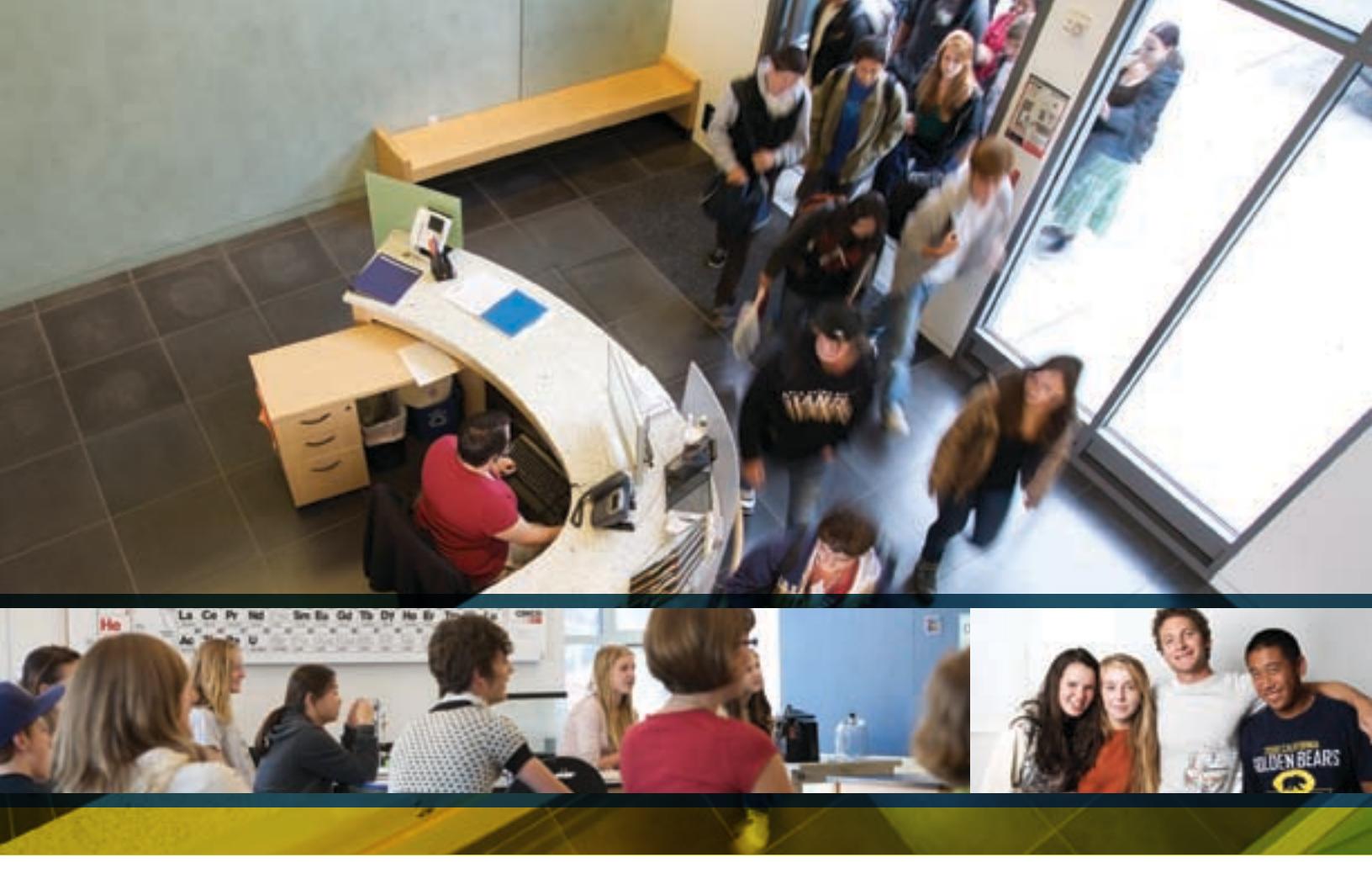
help the student understand in-depth their strengths and areas for improvement.

Along with the written evaluations, the teacher also completes a performance rubric, which indicates the level of achievement in the key habits, skills, content and understanding specific to that subject and further defines areas for needed improvement and growth. In addition to written evaluations and performance rubrics, grades are recorded on a transcript for the purpose of college admissions. A cumulative grade point average is available to students and parents at the end of freshman and sophomore years, and at the end of each term in the junior and senior years.

At the center of Urban is a commitment to meaningful learning for students. Detailed feedback on their performance across the term, combined with written evaluations and rubrics at the conclusion, support students in developing a powerful, lasting motivation for learning based on authentic

engagement with the subject itself. Students focus on what they are learning rather than on the grades they are getting, and as a consequence, learning rather than ranking becomes the highest priority. In this way, our policy directly supports the mission of the school—to ignite a passion for learning and to inspire students to become enthusiastic, self-motivated participants in their education.

Urban teachers are committed to the success of our students, writing two, thorough reports each term. These reports set specific goals and strategies for improvement, and challenge students to perform at their highest potential. Faculty advisors review the mid-term and final course reports with students, and the school meets regularly with parents to help them understand the evaluation process. Students are also asked to reflect on and formally evaluate their work, at both the mid-term and conclusion of the course, developing the habit and skill of self-



**"Students focus on what they are learning rather than on the grades they are getting, and as a consequence, learning rather than ranking becomes the highest priority."**

assessment that is critical to future success in higher education and the workplace.

A host of studies in social psychology have demonstrated that extrinsic motivators, such as grades, actually diminish intrinsic motivation. Summarizing these studies, educator Alfie Kohn states, "People who are promised rewards for doing something tend to lose interest in whatever they had to do to obtain the reward...These findings are consistent across a variety of subject populations, rewards and tasks, with the most destructive effects occurring in activities that require creativity or higher-order thinking." (*Educational Leadership*, October 1994.)

Other educational research has focused on the differences between students who have a learning-orientation versus a grade-orientation, concluding that

students with a learning-orientation are more inclined to choose challenging tasks, take greater intellectual risks, persevere in the face of difficulties, and see their teachers and peers as resources rather than as potential obstacles. (*How People Learn: Brain, Mind, Experience, and School* National Academy Press, 1999.) Education loses when the classroom becomes a competitive struggle to succeed, with the implicit message for students that some of them are "winners" and other are "losers." Stress and competition do not make students smarter; great teachers who inspire a thirst for learning do.

Written evaluations reflect the progress and achievements that each student makes in a class, allowing teachers to set individual goals for improvement based on clear standards of performance without overt comparison to other students. Students are

challenged to compete against themselves, not against their classmates, to do their best work.

Our grading policy has served our graduates remarkably well for more than 40 years. Each year our alumni matriculate at the most competitive, selective colleges and universities across the country, and they are exceptionally well prepared for the challenges and demands they face. Additionally, our evaluation system mirrors the type of feedback that all adults receive in the workplace, further preparing our graduates for their professional lives.

Urban's approach to igniting a passion for learning helps transform our graduates into engaged, confident, resourceful learners who will thrive in today's knowledge-based society that demands that they actively engage learning. Urban graduates are individuals who see learning not just as a means to an end, but as a fulfilling, lifelong process. That truly is the Urban mission in action!

## Depth of Understanding: The Curriculum at Urban

Urban's curriculum is rich and broad, including core academic classes common to most high schools, as well as an unusually large number of specialized courses, advanced electives and creative arts courses usually found at the college level.

Since our founding 42 years ago, Urban courses have always shared a common pedagogical approach based on the following principles: the expectation that students be active participants in their education; a commitment to cooperative learning and collaboration among students; an understanding and respect for the achievements, experiences and perspectives of various peoples, cultures and races; and the use of the Bay Area's environmental, cultural and intellectual resources to extend learning beyond the classroom.

Our extraordinary teachers offer students an education tailored to the unique needs and attributes of young adults. Urban teachers take advantage of the block system and the organization of the curriculum to emphasize depth of learning. By studying an author, an historical period or mathematical concept in-depth, students learn to ask questions and challenge assumptions; to observe carefully and to draw logical, informed conclusions; to seek, evaluate and organize information from a variety of sources; and to communicate their ideas in clear and compelling forms. These academic skills and habits of mind prepare students for their future in higher education, as well as for continued intellectual growth and learning throughout their lives.

### Advance Placement Courses: An Urban Perspective

by Mark Salkind ('70), Head of School

"How many AP courses do you offer?" is a question I've been asked at many admission events over the years. AP classes have become a kind of shorthand for the academic excellence of a school and the degree to which it is truly college preparatory. But this shorthand is misleading. Advanced Placement courses are not synonymous with outstanding secondary school education, nor with outstanding college admissions results.

Urban offers rigorous, honors-level courses for our most capable, motivated students in every subject area. Only a few of these classes, however, carry the Advanced

Placement moniker. AP courses are offered in AB and BC calculus and chemistry, and AP exam preparation is offered in literature, physics, French, Spanish and studio art.

Why has Urban chosen to offer only a few AP courses? Perhaps the most compelling argument: we cherish the independence and flexibility we have in independent schools to develop our own curriculum and to establish measures and methods of assessment. The relentlessly single-minded goal of AP courses is passing a standardized test at the end of the course—a national test developed by the College Board, the same organization that administers the SAT college entrance exam.

The AP curriculum also is driven by a curious motivation: its purpose to get students into college rather than the





pursuit of knowledge for its own sake or engaging students deeply in a rich and meaningful learning experience. The intention has become so extrinsically focused, with a consequent reduction of the intrinsic excitement and joy in the learning process.

One of the guiding principles behind Urban's approach to curriculum is to teach for depth of understanding. We have a block schedule, with students taking only four classes at a time with the year divided into three, 12-week trimesters. There are serious concerns in many AP courses about the sheer volume of material to be covered and the consequent pace of the class. Covering so much content so quickly often comes at the expense of having students achieve deeper levels of understanding.

A teacher's ability to delve deeply into interesting themes, concepts or topics is limited, as is sometimes the ability to approach the material in a variety of creative ways that will truly engage students.

Many AP courses focus on test-preparation rather than offering enriched, in-depth learning experiences. Philosophically, we don't develop courses geared to standardized tests—tests that our own teachers have not created. When we hire teachers, we look for individuals who have passion for and expertise in their subjects. We don't want to take away their autonomy to design advanced courses that will fully challenge their upper-level students.

Our seniors are admitted to outstanding colleges and universities across the

country, including all of the campuses of the UC system, demonstrable evidence that college preparatory independent secondary schools can achieve excellent results in college admissions without offering AP courses. Colleges want to see that students have taken the most challenging program available to them, but they also respect the curricular approach you have chosen for your school, so long as it provides opportunities for advanced work in all subjects. A onetime director of admissions at Harvard has written: "We look at whether the applicant has taken the high school's most demanding courses... but whether the classes are designated as AP or not is irrelevant."

## History of Block Scheduling at Urban

The editor of the *Urban Community* recently sat down with Assistant Head for Academics and scheduling guru Suzanne Forrest to learn about the history of the block schedule at Urban. It is one of the most distinguishing attributes of the school, and each year, visitors from schools across the country come to see our unique scheduling system in action.

A little known fact is that the current block schedule, with its distinctive E-periods, was the result of our desire to create a more formal and accomplished music department, as well as to create opportunities for students to focus on fitness activities, the school newspaper and yearbook.

**Urban Community:** When did block scheduling first arrive at Urban?

**Suzanne Forrest:** Urban was one of the very first high schools in the United States to pioneer block scheduling back in 1972. Under a block schedule, students take only two to four classes at a time instead of juggling the six, seven or eight periods that is traditional for many high schools. Class periods are longer, allowing teachers and students to study subjects in greater depth and approach the material using a far wider—and more engaging—range of teaching methods and activities.

**UC:** So block scheduling was unusual even then?

**SF:** There was a movement in education in the late 1960s and early 70s toward creating

a different kind of education, mostly as a reaction to the strict conformity of the classroom in the preceding years. Many schools tried the famous “no walls classroom” and others tried varying their schedules. Urban was right there at the beginning of this movement. We can be very proud of our role as an educational leader in introducing block scheduling, as current estimates are that more than 50 percent of high schools in the United States, public and private, now operate with some form of block scheduling.

Dan Murphy (longtime history teacher and former head of college counseling at Urban) was a principal architect of Urban’s first block schedule. When first developed, Urban’s schedule divided the school year into six-week-long blocks. Students took only two courses at a time, with each period lasting two and a half hours (the entire morning or afternoon). Such a schedule emphasized depth of study over superficial coverage of material and provided significant opportunities for off-campus experiential learning. This is when California Studies was born, an all-day course that immerses seniors in an intensive study of a major environmental issue, and students spent a “project month” in real-world jobs and apprenticeships across the Bay Area.

**UC:** How did that early block schedule evolve into what we see today at Urban?

### Sample Freshman Year Schedule

Block I & II (Fall Term)	Block III & IV (Winter Term)	Block V & VI (Spring Term)
A 20th Century History 9A	20th Century History 9B	Math 1B
B Math 1A	Spanish 1A	Spanish 1B
C Science 1A	English 1A	English 1B
D Beginning Chorus	Science 1B	Freshman Group Project
E Urban Singers	Urban Singers	Urban Singers

**SF:** In 1985, Urban made a significant revision in its schedule, moving from what had been a two-period to a four-period school day. The standard class length became 70 minutes, with one 2½ hour class meeting per week. This change was largely driven by factors external to the school. By the mid-80s, the University of California had increased the number of classes it required for admission, and Urban needed to respond by giving students the opportunity to take more courses.

The 1985 schedule was fairly close to the one we have now, with A, B, C and D periods. We set our standard class length at 70-minutes, while preserving one 2+ hour class meeting weekly for labs, field work or other immersion activities. Although this schedule generally worked well, it still required a lot of management of part-time teachers and often required too much responsibility on the part of the students to manage their time in useful ways.

One of the biggest areas of impact in implementing our six-block schedule was our ability to keep and hire the best teachers, thus putting in place what is Urban's best quality, our extraordinary faculty. Having a tighter schedule helped us clarify what a standard class should be like and gave us the ability to create realistic learning expectations for students, teachers and for colleges, especially the UC system.

We built in enough flexibility to continue our best practices, while enabling Urban

to add more full-time teachers and other programs that made the most sense for our students.

**UC:** So how does music fit into the picture?  
**SF:** During the mid to latter 90s, we had some great music teachers here, including a new choral director named Brandon Adams. Yes, the same Brandon who is here today doing marvelous work with our choir and with the rest of the performing arts department.

We had a chorus and a jazz band at that time, but because of our schedule, they were forced to meet and practice over lunch or after school. This was very stressful for the music teachers and the students, and conflicts with clubs, athletics and homework were never-ending. So we created a 40-minute period twice a week called RAP's (Reading and Activity Period). These backed up against the lunch hour so that the various groups had longer time periods in which to meet.

**UC:** So the RAP's become E's?  
**SF:** Our music program continued to grow stronger, as did the number of students enrolled. We all felt strongly that the music department had come so far and deserved more time in the schedule. Additionally, as part of a major curriculum review process, the school had decided to include physical activity offerings in our program. As a result of both of these needs, we once more revised the schedule for the 1999-00 school year.

The day became slightly longer, and we inserted four periods throughout the week called E-periods. These gave our students much more time each week to pursue music and physical activity classes, and to do other important activities like the school newspaper, yearbook and Peer Resources. E-periods also created space in our schedule for student study halls, as well as giving faculty time to collaborate around teaching and course design. We solidified our 12-week trimesters, and locked in our class length to ensure that our curriculum met the semester time requirements necessary for college admission.

We've modified the schedule slightly over the last eight years, but it's essentially the same and continues to serve us well. Teachers now have a more predictable teaching schedule and student load, and students have the ability to manage their work over a week rather than being overwhelmed every single night with homework in each class. Admittedly, it's an intense 12 weeks, especially around midterms and finals, but the immersion experience and depth of learning have proved so successful for our students.

I believe that the block schedule has brought out the best in Urban. It causes us to be ever vigilant in achieving the highest quality of instruction, and to ensure that we keep our eye on the best ways to motivate our students to learn.

## Block Schedule — A Primer

Urban organizes the school year using a block system rather than a conventional semester system. While specifically designed for the challenges teenagers face, Urban's schedule exposes students to the independence, depth of understanding and academic challenge they will face in college and beyond.

The block schedule divides the academic year into three, 12-week terms: fall, winter

and spring. Students take four intensive classes every term and most classes last for one or two terms. These classes meet for 70-minute periods with one 2-hour period per week. Due to longer class periods, a one-term class is equivalent to a semester course and a two-term class is equivalent to a year-long course.

In addition, students may take elective classes such as Jazz Band, Chamber

Orchestra, Urban Singers, Yearbook or Newspaper, which meet during a shorter E period that spans all three terms. Students also have the option of participating in physical activity classes or study halls during this shorter elective period. The weekly schedule includes advising, a grade-level meeting, an all-school meeting and consultation periods for students to meet individually with teachers.

## 2007-08 Board of Trustees



## REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Glenn Shannon, **Chair**

Kathy Bole, **Vice Chair**

Stephen Melikian, **Vice Chair**

Joe Kwong ('71), **Secretary**

Sara Hendrickson, **Treasurer**

Mark Salkind ('70), **Head of School**

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Lauren Friend ('09)  
(student representative)

Bing Gordon

Devin Hexner ('08)  
(student representative)

Chuck Isen  
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Anna Lee

Gary Lucas

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Bob Powell

Mark Smith

Steve Speier  
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Jamienne Studley

Aisha Toney ('95)

Leslie Winick

Douglas Wolf

Alex Wong

Eric Yopes

Momentum is a great thing. It causes success to compound and accelerate, it builds confidence that the future will be bright, and it just plain feels good. I am pleased to report that during the 2007-08 school year Urban sustained the strong momentum of recent years across the full range of our endeavors.

The breadth and strength of this momentum was manifest throughout the school year:

- Urban's reputation in the greater community is stronger than ever, as exemplified by an increase in admissions inquiries, open house attendance, campus visits and applications. This year Urban received 600 applications for the incoming class of 2012.
- Our Annual Fund and Auction raised nearly \$1.2 million toward our operating budget and financial aid program, setting a new record for Urban.
- Urban was selected as an Apple Distinguished School in recognition of our leadership in implementing a 21st century vision of education, one of only 18 schools in the country to receive this recognition and the only independent school so honored.
- Sixteen of our 17 Blues varsity sports teams qualified for their playoffs—the strongest record ever for Urban's athletic program.
- Our recently formed Alumni Council hosted five well-attended alumni receptions and reunions, and helped increase alumni participation in the Annual Fund by over 100 percent.
- The extraordinary range of our students' creative and artistic talents was on display in a rich array of programs and performances, including *Oh What a Lovely War*, *Iphigenia 2.0*, and student written and directed One Acts in the Gumption, winter and spring concerts at Herbst Theater, and the Winter Art Show in February.

These successes were built on the commitment and hard work of many in our community. Special recognition and thanks are due to Mark Salkind for his dedicated leadership; to Rob Wallace and Amelia Kaymen, Co-Chairs of the Annual Fund, for their tireless efforts to achieve record contributions (\$885,000) and 95 percent current parent participation; to Simone Echeguren for chairing our wonderfully fun and successful (\$233,000) BIG NIGHT at Bimbo's; and to our Parent Board Co-Presidents, Chuck Isen and Nancy Bush O'Callaghan, for organizing and energizing our legion of volunteers.

During the year, the principal focus of the Board of Trustees was the finalization of a new strategic plan for Urban. This was the culmination of a process that extended over two years and involved substantial research, analysis and deliberation. The result was a set of six strategic commitments, with associated rationales and implementation initiatives, which were adopted by the Board in April. We will be publishing this strategic plan and presenting it to the Urban community during the coming school year. It is an ambitious plan that commits Urban to continuing our innovative educational leadership, increasing diversity and access, developing our curriculum to ensure our students will be prepared for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century, supporting our excellent faculty, and building an endowment sufficient to support these initiatives and ensure Urban's long-term success and financial sustainability.

Let me close by thanking all members of the Urban community—students, current and past parents, administrators, faculty, alumni, Trustees and other supporters—for your contributions to our many accomplishments this year. Urban is all of us collectively, and we should take great pride in the richness, vitality and excellence of our wonderful school.

Glenn Shannon

Father of Brett ('07) and Adrienne ('10) Shannon



## REPORT FROM THE PARENT'S ASSOCIATION

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as Co-President of the Parent Board for the last two years. While I was initially surprised by my selection as Co-President, I saw it as an opportunity to bring my skills as a facilitator and actor to the sessions.

It seems like a brief moment ago that I was sitting in a classroom during Back to School Night, wishing that I could attend Urban myself. During that evening, I vowed to get involved somehow. I'm sure I'm not the only parent to have felt that way. I think that evening is the catalyst for many parents to get involved at Urban.

So I looked for where I could contribute. The Diversity Committee called to me. It seemed to embody the fundamental nature of The Urban School and an aspect of the school that makes it unique. When I was asked to be Co-President of the Parent Board, I was committed to bringing the inspiration and sense of connectedness I felt on the Diversity Committee to that position. During my first year as Co-President, Claire Chow gave me a lot of permission to do just that.

This past year, I was fortunate to have Nancy Bush O'Callaghan as my Co-President. Before the year began, we would frequently meet at Zazie's. We wanted the Parent Board meetings to be more than information-sharing sessions. We wanted them to be inspiring, experiential, fun and valuable. We redesigned the physical setup of the meetings to support all of this happening. Nancy has been more than just a Co-President. She has been a wonderful thinking partner and collaborator.

On a very personal note, my son Zachary ('08) has thrived at Urban. It has been a joy to see him mature into a responsible, creative, loving young man. An enormous part of what nurtured that development was his relationships with his teachers and other students at Urban, and the environment that supports a love of learning.

Nancy and I have been blessed to have a wonderful partnership with Alison Brand and Brisen Brady on the Urban staff that enabled us to fulfill our vision for the meetings. With the many dedicated and active parent volunteers, and their tireless efforts on numerous committees (Auction, Diversity and Inclusion, Admissions, Athletics, Parents Coalition of Bay Area High Schools, Faculty-Staff Appreciation, Class Reps and more) it's been a banner year in fundraising, sports, music, drama and the arts.

I am thankful for the opportunity I have had these last two years to contribute to an institution that plays such a profound role in shaping the future of our young people. My family and I leave Urban with an enormous sense of gratitude and appreciation for the community of parents, students and teachers that contributed so much to our lives.

**Chuck Isen**  
Outgoing Co-President, Parent Board  
Father of Zachary Isen ('08)

## 2007-08 Parent Board Roster

### Co-Presidents

Chuck Isen  
Nancy Bush  
O'Callaghan

### Nominating Committee

Steve Patrick  
O'Callaghan

### Special Events Co-Chairs

Louis Doggett  
Jane Merschen  
Anne Steele

### Sports Committee

George Eddy  
Carol Lieberman  
Luke Lucas

### Freshman Class Representatives

Ana Gonzalez-Lane  
Chris Marver  
Renata Miller  
Sherry Morse  
Lael Robertson

### Sophomore Class Representatives

Frish Brandt  
Peter Logan  
Marsha Maytum  
Cynthia Scott  
Lori Shannon

### Junior Class Representatives

Ann Coppe  
Betsy Dodd  
Joe Kwong ('71)  
Cathryn Thurow  
Sally Zelikovsky

### Senior Class Representatives

Ailene Coffino  
Marjie Graham  
Gail Isen  
Ashley Wolff

### Diversity Committee

Adelina Arcelona  
Nina Berg  
Elsa Ceballos  
Mira Kopell

### eScrip Co-Chairs

Nina Berg  
Tess Goldman

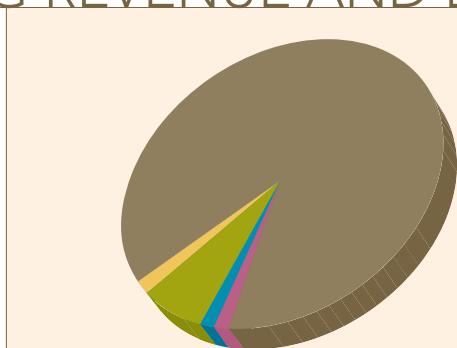
### Faculty/Staff Appreciation Co-Chairs

Martha Hudson  
Linda Martin  
Julia Trilling  
Julia Weaver

## 2007-08 OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSE

**Revenue**      \$11,533,000

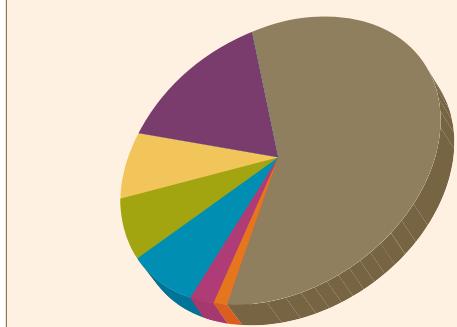
Tuition and Fees	9,981,000
Auction	233,000
Annual Giving	901,000
Interest Income	197,000
Other Fees and Income	221,000



87% Tuition and Fees  
8% Annual Giving  
2% Auction  
2% Interest Income  
2% Other Fees and Income

**Expense**      \$11,533,000

Salaries and Benefits	6,424,000
Financial Aid	1,567,000
Program Expense	891,000
Operations	861,000
Plant and Transportation	859,000
Transfer to Reserves	550,000
Debt Service	381,000



56% Salaries and Benefits  
14% Financial Aid  
8% Program Expense  
7% Operations  
7% Plant and Transportation  
5% Transfer to Reserves  
3% Debt Service



# ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Over the years Urban has concentrated fundraising efforts on its immediate needs, such as school facilities, expanding its building and strengthening operational support. The result is that Urban has a relatively small endowment in comparison to our peers schools, at \$4 million. Looking forward, Urban recognizes the need to grow its endowment significantly to ensure long-term financial stability.

## Urban Faculty Professional Growth Fund

Alumni parents Virginia Coe and Michael Garland established the Urban Faculty Professional Growth Fund in 2007. This endowed fund is in recognition of Urban's extraordinary teachers and underwrites faculty training and professional growth.

## The Bernice Ach Endowment Fund

Included in our endowment is The Bernice Ach Endowment Fund, begun in 1993 by members of the Ach family in honor of Bernice Ach, one of Urban's founders. Each year the fund supports activities and programs that promote intellectual curiosity among students and teachers' efforts in this regard.

## Senior Class Endowment

The parents of the Class of 2000 created a Senior Endowment Fund as a special thank you to Urban's faculty and administration. Subsequent classes have carried on this meaningful tradition, contributing a combined total of \$194,000 toward Urban's general endowment. Their gifts are a lasting expression of appreciation for the unparalleled education their children received at Urban.

The funds raised from the Class of 2008 and previous senior classes will help the school in perpetuity. With contributions from parents, grandparents and alumni, the Senior Endowment Fund will help Urban's endowment continue to grow and strengthen our school's financial foundation.

## Endowment Gifts

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following donors who generously supported Urban's endowment this year:

The Ayrshire Foundation  
Suzy Kellems Dominik  
Electronic Arts  
Debra & Bing Gordon  
Liz Wiebe

## Planned Gifts: The Urban Legacy

Designating Urban as a beneficiary in your estate or financial plans is another way to support Urban's endowment. Urban is grateful to the following members of The Urban Legacy who have included Urban in their estate plans:

Anonymous (1)  
Ann Faye Berry  
Thomas Gorman ('00)  
Susan & Thomas Munn  
Mark Salkind ('70)  
John F. Sampson

Their thoughtful foresight will leave a legacy for generations to come. If you are interested in joining this special circle of friends and helping to ensure Urban's long-term financial strength, please contact Brisen Brady, Director of Development, at 415 593 9538.

Many thanks to the following generous donors for their thoughtful gifts to the Senior Class Endowment:

### Class of 2008

Stephanie Abramovich & Ian Epstein  
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# THE ANNUAL FUND AT WORK!

## 2007-08 ANNUAL FUND VOLUNTEERS

We would like to extend our deep appreciation to all the parent volunteers who worked on the Annual Fund, and especially to our fantastic co-chairs, Amelia Kaymen and Rob Wallace, as well as our wonderful Class Captains. Their dedication and leadership made a tremendous difference to the success of the campaign.

### Co-Chairs

Amelia Kaymen  
Rob Wallace

### Class of 2010

Gordon Atkinson  
Robert Gamble

### Class of 2008

Jody Heyman  
Rob Klapper  
Cynthia Koster  
Jim Parton  
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Michiko Tamate  
Leslie Tyler

**URBAN'S ANNUAL FUND HAS A PRONOUNCED IMPACT** on the growth and success of our program. From supporting teachers' salaries and ensuring accessibility to deserving students, to maintaining classroom supplies and sports equipment, the Annual Fund provides the financial underpinning of all aspects of the school.

Our theme for the 2007-08 Annual Fund was *Sustaining Excellence in Teaching, Leadership, Innovation, the Environment and Community*. Below, we spotlight just a few of the ways your support directly impacted these pillars of The Urban School of San Francisco.

**Teaching:** Faculty, who are at the heart of an Urban education, were afforded more professional development opportunities, enabling teachers to pursue advanced studies in their disciplines and attend conferences that directly benefit their classroom teaching. New classes also were added this year to reflect education in the 21st century, including *The (Un)-Reliable Narrator*, a senior seminar in creative writing taught by English Chair Tilda Kapuya; *The Modern City*, taught by Clarke Weatherspoon, about immigration, the arts and socio-economic changes in San Francisco, Chicago and New York; and *Media Literacy*, taught by Chris McCall, our photography teacher and a practicing artist.

**Student Leadership:** Students in *Applied Electronics* won first place at the regional High School Robotics Contest at San Francisco State, the second time Urban has entered the competition. In Urban's Service Learning Program, one senior single-handedly organized a run in Golden Gate Park to raise money for The Greenbelt Movement, a grassroots NGO in Kenya that leverages environmentalism to combat poverty. She procured sponsors like



Naked Juice and Clif Bar, and raised over \$11,000 for the group. In the arts, two seniors won opportunities to have their artwork displayed in bus shelters throughout San Francisco through the *Gimme Shelter Art!* competition, and another student launched Urban's inaugural film festival, screening several films by Urban students from different classes.

**Innovation:** This year Urban was named an Apple Distinguished School, the only independent school in the country to be recognized for implementing a 21st century vision of education. In the classroom, language teachers now link sound files to iTunes for students to replay phrases and words to improve vocabulary and pronunciation. The music department utilizes Garage Band software for Jazz Band performance tests and auditions, which music teacher Kirk Hamilton says saves valuable classroom time, introduces students to home audio recording, and "revolutionizes how we give feedback as teachers."

**Environment:** Urban continues to strengthen its environmental stewardship, adding *Advanced Environmental Science* and *Urban Ecology* classes to the curriculum. Faculty member Richard Lautze worked with students to build a solar "car" this spring, funded by proceeds from a previous Auction item. In addition, Urban now offers SpudWare biodegradable cutlery (instead of plastic) in the student center.

**Community:** A very symbolic representation of the Urban community is exemplified in our 95 percent current parent participation in the 2007-08 Annual Fund—one of the highest participation rates for a Bay Area independent high school. More than ever, our community of supporters is critical to Urban's success, and we can't thank you enough for being such an important part of our school.

# 2007-08 ANNUAL FUND

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# 2007-08 ANNUAL FUND

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## Matching Gifts

Thank you to the following donors who doubled or tripled their dollars for Urban by participating in their companies' matching gifts programs.

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Donors may choose to designate special gifts to particular programs or for specific purchases such as books, sports equipment, athletics field usage or scholarships. These generous gifts allow Urban to make purchases outside of the current operating budget.

Steven Abrahams ('87) & Heidi Unruh  
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Ellen Hammerle & Michael Newman  
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Ellen Simons & Robert Powell  
Fiona Thomas ('95)  
Linda & Daniel Wald

## Gifts In Kind

In addition to monetary gifts, Urban receives many contributions of goods and services that enhance our school and program. Our sincerest thanks to the following donors.

Linda & Andrew Ach  
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Mark Salkind ('70)  
Suzanne ('73) & Will Schutte  
Ellen Simons & Robert Powell  
Tia Stoller, Stoller Design Group

## Honor & Memorial Gifts

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the following donors for remembering their friends and loved ones with a gift to Urban.

Danielle Chavanon Beebe &  
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in Memory of Judy Hart  
Kathy Chaikin-Bernstein &  
Gerald Bernstein  
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Graduation  
Nancy & David Coolidge  
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in Honor of Jane B. Perry  
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in Honor of Jonathan & Noah Howland  
Mr. Anthony Harris  
in Honor of Carl Vondrick  
Claudette Heisler & Michael Scott  
in Memory of Tibor Heisler  
Kathryn Jessup ('95)  
in Memory of Joana Bryar-Matons  
Ellen & Robert Jones  
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in Honor of Haley Pacheco ('10)  
Moira & Robert Kimball  
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Rachel ('76) & Michael Meyer  
in Honor of Allan Ridley  
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Alma Robinson Moses & Toye Moses  
in Honor of Akintoye ('00) &  
Willieford Moses ('02)  
Doreen Provost & Laci Belcsak  
in Appreciation of the Parents'  
Association Meetings  
Maya Ramos ('99)  
in Memory of Joana Bryar-Matons  
Jan Schreiber & David Hudson  
in Honor of Urban's Amazing Teachers  
TOUCH INC., Jack Lapidos  
in Honor of Robyn Mandel ('10)

# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

## Senior Class Gift 2008 Report

For the third year in a row, seniors led a very special campaign in honor of their faculty. This year, 43 percent of the students in the class of 2008 raised a meaningful \$780.

In keeping with Urban's values on inclusion, philanthropy and community service, all the money is designated toward financial aid, which will benefit talented students who otherwise would not have the financial means to attend Urban.

Kwesi Acquaah  
Michael Bernstein  
Aaron Chew  
Carolyn Cohen  
Michael Duarte  
Claire Dube  
Anders Eddy  
Justine Gordon  
Jordan Graham  
Devin Hexner  
Mollie Hudson  
Zachary Isen  
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Lucy Klingenstein  
Emily Lesem  
Maria Jose Livingstone  
Armen Melikian  
Sophia Miller  
Molly Miranker  
Olivia Molineaux  
Zachary Newman  
Eric Niehaus  
Ariel Pepper  
W. Todd Powell  
Rowan Russell  
Hallie Sekoff  
Max Strebler  
Angelica Sullam  
Emily Tow  
Eva Valenti  
Carl Vondrick  
Eli Wald  
Justin Wolf

Each year, Urban relies on an energetic community of volunteers to run its many programs. We are immensely grateful to all of those who give so readily of their time and talents, and especially those whose service is "above and beyond."

This year's Volunteer Appreciation Day was held on May 2, 2008, in the Herbst Library. It was an opportunity for Urban to treat our wonderful volunteers to breakfast and personally thank everyone who attended for helping the school in so many ways.

Listed below are some of the school's major events and fundraisers that could not have happened without the efforts of our dedicated volunteers. There are countless other occasions when we rely on volunteers that are not listed below. Urban thanks each of you who gave your time during the 2007-08 school year. You are invaluable.

### Admissions

Alumni Events and Reunions  
Annual Fund Campaign and Phonathon  
Athletics and Annual Sports Banquet  
Commencement  
eScrip  
Faculty and Staff Appreciation Days  
Graduation Night Party  
Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day  
Herbst Library  
Parents' Association and Parent Board  
Parents Coalition of Bay Area High Schools

### Parents' Diversity Committee

Photography and Design  
School Office Support  
Senior Class Endowment  
Senior Class Gift  
Senior Luncheon  
Student Activities  
Theater Productions  
Urban's BIG NIGHT at Bimbo's Auction  
Winter Festival – Detour Day  
Youth Issues Forum



*Clockwise from top left:* Stephen Melikian and Eric Starr; Ann Coppe and Kathy Judkins; Head of School Mark Salkind ('70) and Carolyn Samiere; and Joe Yick and Pauline Javier.

# URBAN'S BIG NIGHT AT BIMBO'S

ON MARCH 29, 2008, the Urban community returned to North Beach for a night of excitement and festivities at the annual auction and celebration, Urban's BIG NIGHT at Bimbo's. The atmosphere was a throwback to a 1950s Italian supper club scene, complete with retro décor, swanky cocktails, delicious cuisine and fabulous entertainment by some of Urban's talented student musicians. After lively bidding during the Super Silent and Live Auctions, the Unauthorized Rolling Stones capped off the evening with a memorable performance that had everyone on the dance floor. It was truly a very BIG NIGHT for Urban!

In addition to being a wonderful community celebration, this year's auction was a very important fundraiser in support of Urban's Financial Aid Program and Herbst Library. Through the generosity of our underwriters, in-kind contributors, donors, raffle ticket purchasers and auction bidders, this year's event raised more than \$230,000, making it Urban's most successful auction to date. These funds play a critical role in Urban's ability to provide tuition assistance during a time when an independent high school education is out of reach for a growing number of families, and helps further our commitment to building and sustaining socio-economic diversity at our school.

The success of Urban's BIG NIGHT at Bimbo's would not have been possible without the support of our community, and we extend our deepest appreciation to everyone who participated in this year's event. We would like to give special recognition to this year's auction chair, Simone Echeguren, our student interns, current parent Ian Epstein for his role as our auctioneer extraordinaire, and the entire Auction Planning Committee for their leadership and commitment, as well as more than 115 volunteers who enthusiastically dedicated their time and talent to planning and executing this wonderful event. Thanks for making it a resounding success!

## Planning Committee

Simone Echeguren, Chair

Robin Bloch

Kathy Bole

Betsy Cordes

Mark Lauden Crosley

Ian Epstein

Donna Ficarrotta

Tess Goldman

Annie Gordon

Stuart Hanlon

Bonnie Hayes

Mark Hydeman

Pauline Javier

Denise Wang Kline

Diane Larrabee

Anna Lee

Linda Martin

Stephen Melikian

Vida Moattar

Maureen Poxon

Alice Semler

Leisa Snyder

Dinah Stroe

Diane Welch

Joe Yick

## Student Auction Interns

Rachel Der ('09)

Jeanne McPhee ('09)

Sara Watson ('08)

## Our Generous Donors

The Urban School of San Francisco  
gratefully acknowledges the  
following donors who supported  
Urban's important Financial Aid  
Program through Urban's BIG  
NIGHT at Bimbo's.

## Big Night Believers

Anonymous

Ann Faye Barry

The Elfenworks Foundation

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Lori & Glenn Shannon

Jane & Doug Wolf

## Auction All-Stars

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Susanne & Gary Lucas

The Marver Family

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Patricia Perry & Stephen McPhee

Jan Schreiber & David Hudson

Ginny Stearns & Bob Isaacson

Diane & Ken Welch

*Below:* Auction Chair Simone Echeguren and Head of School Mark Salkind ('70).  
*Below right:* Auction attendees Allison Williams, William Leddy and Marsha Maytum.



## Financial Aid Donations

Betsy Dodd & Jim Boddy  
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Eileen & Jude Laspa  
Nancy Marks & Steven Mitchel  
Deborah Mintz & Michael Gorman  
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Diane & Robert Winokur  
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## Bar for the Bar

The bar tab was kindly underwritten by members of Urban's legal community.

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## In-Kind Donations

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Gerry Gropp Photography  
The Unauthorized Rolling Stones  
Jane & Douglas Wolf

## Fund Need

Thank you to the following donors who raised their paddle in support of Urban's Herbst Library during this year's Fund Need. The amazing generosity from the Urban community helped raise an unprecedented \$78,000 toward building a dynamic library collection and research commons, and enhancing the academic resources available to all students and faculty.

Stephanie Abramovich  
& Ian Epstein  
Karin Ashley & Dan Roth  
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Kathy Bole & Paul Klingenstein  
Bill Bondy  
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Kathy Klausner & Beni Strelbel  
Denise Wang Kline & Robert Kline  
Christine & Joseph ('71) Kwong  
Meri ('75) & Jeffrey Lane  
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Carol & Lenny Lieberman  
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Marsha Maytum & William Leddy  
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Susan & Christopher Molineaux  
Sandra Monteko-Sherman  
& Joseph Sherman

# URBAN'S BIG NIGHT AT BIMBO'S



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Ashley Wolff & Sabin Russell  
Jane Wong

## Urban's BIG NIGHT at Bimbo's Auction Item Donors

Many thanks to the following  
businesses, individuals and families  
for their donations of goods and  
services to the Live, Super Silent  
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Jane Fitzsimmons, Napa Valley  
Opera House  
Flax Art & Design  
Fleur de Lys  
Foreign Cinema  
Suzanne Forrest  
Scott Foster  
Four Seasons Hotel, New York  
Véronique Fourment & Bob Buehl  
Funky Door Yoga  
Garden Visions



George Pet Shop  
The Gina Khan Salon  
the girl and the fig  
Goat Hill Pizza  
Debra & Bing Gordon  
Holly Gordon & David Pearce  
Green Apple Books and Music  
Mario Gutierrez ('08)  
Habit  
Laura Holmes Haddad  
Harry Denton's Starlight Room  
Hattie's Fine Pins  
Bonnie Hayes, Bontone Productions  
Barbara & Bill Hazen  
Lori Hébert  
Honeybee Acupuncture  
Lily Horowitz  
House of Prime Rib  
Jeri Howland  
Martha & Eliot Hudson  
Zachary Isen ('08)  
Thomas Jacquez  
Jardinière  
Joshua Ets-Hokin Photography  
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Amelia Kaymen & Eric Yopes  
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The Donum Estate

Laura & Rob Klapper  
Kathy Klausner & Beni Strebel  
Miriam Khoshnevisan  
Jonathan Kleid ('75)  
Denise Wang Kline & Robert Kline  
Viktoria & Aleksandr Kolesnikov  
Kookez Café  
Mira Kopell & Paul Holzman,  
Eureka Studios  
Kuleto's Italian Restaurant  
La Boulange  
La Rosa Vintage  
Landmark Theatres  
Alice & Ron Lando  
Meri ('75) & Jeffrey Lane  
Diane & Matt Larrabee  
Elinor Lauden ('08)  
Laurel Designs  
Le Colonial Restaurant  
Anne Marie Lebas  
Bob Leff ('75)  
Leland Fly Fishing Outfitters  
Jefferson Mack  
Magnolia Pub and Brewery  
Mamacita  
Marin Theatre Company  
The Marsh Theater  
The Marver Family  
Laura & Jim Maser, Café Fanny  
Jill McCoy, Ramblin' Rose Gardens  
Meadowood Resort  
Melon's Catering  
Sylvia & Stephen Melikian

Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi  
Olivia Molineaux ('08)  
Susan & Christopher Molineaux,  
Proteolix  
Kate & Wes Moore  
Mountain Play Association  
Mozzarella di Bufala Pizzeria  
MRB Productions  
Mike O'Callaghan, Matson Navigation  
Omni Orlando Resort  
at ChampionsGate  
Osento Bathhouse for Women  
The Painters Place  
Jeanine Payer  
Perbacco  
Peter Olivetti Photography  
Henri Picciotto  
Pamela Pierce  
Pinkies Nail Salon  
Piperade  
Plouf  
Presidio Community YMCA  
R & G Lounge  
Bobby Ramos  
Kate Randall  
Valerie Raskin, Bill Blass New York  
Rehem Research & Consulting  
Restaurant LuLu  
Ringolevio Salon and Spa  
Judith Ripka  
Roadtrips, Inc.  
Robert Stemmler Winery  
Roberts Hardware  
Lael Robertson & Peter Walbridge,  
Big Think Studio  
Derek Rohlfss  
Susan Rosen  
Darcy Rosenblatt ('74),  
ESA Biological Services  
David Rothman, DDS  
Rubicon  
Sabin Russell,  
San Francisco Chronicle  
Tammy Ryan  
Mark Salkind ('70)  
Salt House Restaurant  
Samantha Howe Photography  
San Francisco 49ers  
San Francisco Giants  
San Francisco Museum  
of Modern Art  
San Francisco Symphony  
Rubina & Joe Satriani  
Scala's Bistro  
See's Candies

David Shamszad ('00),  
Connexion Tutoring, LLC  
Shoe Biz  
Shorenstein Hays Nederlander Theaters  
Shorenstein Properties, LLC  
The Sir Francis Drake Hotel  
The Slanted Door  
Smuin Ballet  
Leisa & Michael Snyder  
Claire Solot & Sinjin Bain  
Sonoma Jazz  
Southwest Airlines  
Standard 5 + 10 Ace  
Jennifer Starkweather  
Gayle & Eric Starr  
Abrasha Staszewski  
Ronna Stone & Tim Smith  
Dinah & Noah Stroe  
Dr. Noah Stroe, Animal Farm  
Pet Hospital  
Jamienne Studley & Gary Smith  
Stussy S.F.  
Susan M. Barnes Catering  
Stephen Thomas, Oxbow School  
Tiffany & Co.  
Kim & Andrew Todd,  
diPietro Todd Salon  
Tommy Toy's Cuisine Chinoise Restaurant  
Emily Tow ('08)  
Lois & Bruce Tow  
Trattoria Contadina  
Julia Trilling & Stephen Cohen  
Suren Tummala, Urban Boys' Golf Team  
Tutorpedia  
Jules Tygiel  
The Urban School of San Francisco  
USF Koret Health & Rec Center  
Victoria Pastry Co.  
Villa Florence Hotel  
Beatrice von Schulthess & Susan Scheer  
LeRoy Votto  
Walter Adams Framing  
Renee Wang  
Diane & Ken Welch  
The Westin St. Francis  
Leslie Winick, Stanford University  
Alumni Association  
Sally & Steven Winn  
With Style Boutique  
Ashley Wolff  
Charlotte Worsley  
Yank Sing  
Yoga Garden of San Francisco  
Yuzu Restaurant  
Zuni Café

**Above left:** 9th/10th Grade Dean Greg Monfils (second from left) and wife Tina Bruderer, along with Urban staffers Susan Munn and Dan Matz, prepared a Cajun supper for eight at an Urban parent's home as part of a live auction event. **Center:** Student helpers Isabelle S. ('11), Andrew E. ('11) and Abby D. ('11). **Right:** Urban parent Ian Epstein auctioneered once again at Urban's BIG NIGHT at Bimbo's.

# COMMENCEMENT 2008

THE CLASS OF 2008 CELEBRATED ITS COMMENCEMENT at Stern Grove with friends and family on a gorgeous, sunny morning, June 7. Graduating members of The Urban Singers serenaded their classmates and the audience, and history teacher Rebecca Shapiro spoke about how the question she was asked while buying cherries at the Farmer's Market, "How are you?" can be more than a cursory hello—it can be an invitation to building connections and community. The ceremony also included three inspiring and heartfelt speeches by seniors Sammy Go, Eva Valenti and Eli Wald.



**REBECCA SHAPIRO /** "How are you?" should be such a lovely encounter. Why do we throw away a chance to answer one of the few questions that we can always get right? This is the kind of question where no parent or friend can disagree. No teacher can ask you for textual evidence. No logic can contradict you. There's no way to be wrong! Why squander this rare chance? Why be bland? Who wants to be fine, okay, all right? I'd rather be terrific! Stupendous! Amazing! Or, if I'm not feeling so great, I'd rather know it and say it and have other people know it. I'm sad, lonesome, angry. But on that Saturday morning buying cherries, I didn't throw out any of those possibilities.



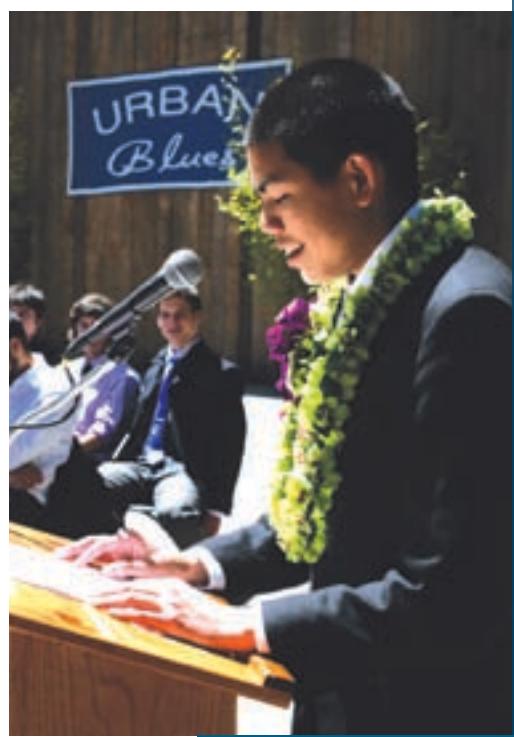
**SAMMY GO /** I'll remember my foundations and how I got here. I'll remember those foundations and how they were built—from the bricks and mortar given to me in the Multipurpose, Gumption, Skylight and Lotus rooms. From the minds of Pythagoras, Toni Morrison and Gabriel Garcia Marquez. And how our teachers have guided us in assembling those foundations. I'll remember how Urban became my dowser...how she dug me a well of freshwater-knowledge and let me drink it in. And as I leave Urban, I'll remember to thank her for sending me on my way with a canteen...filled with that sweet water. So I'll remember. Because what I remember will carry me through.



**EVA VALENTI /** So, here we are, emerging from our glorious cocoons only to find ourselves in other, larger cocoons. As children of the Internet, we are, in a sense, more free than any other generation has been to create an identity from scratch. Urban has offered suggestions. Ultimately, we are ourselves: healthy, somewhat normal, smart young adults and old children. We are undecided, or we are decided with our fingers crossed. As a result, the future will be a sort of Nestlé Wonder Ball. There is no way to know what will be inside, but that's not such a big deal. So long as we maintain our appetites for life, we can savor anything.



**ELI WALD /** This is what I came to Urban for: where else but in high school will I be willing to examine this much about myself, before losing myself in the sea of bodies and bureaucracy that is college? Where else but Urban will I be willing to fall into anything but some random clique of punks or nerds or jocks that I'd have to impress with my extensive knowledge of Nintendo or Monta Ellis? Where else but Urban will people be willing to tell me when I'm out of line? Where else but Urban will I feel safe enough in crossing lines that I can trust my friends to still be there after they've taken me to school, so to speak? Where else but Urban is the best damn school in San Francisco?



## Congratulations Class of 2008!

Kwesi Acquaah      Devin Hexner      Cecily Ng  
Erin Berg      Abraham Heyman      Eric Niehaus  
Michael Bernstein      Mollie Hudson      Jane Parton  
Katherine Bondy      Zachary Isen      Jeremy Pearce  
Judith Butterfield      Frank Kaner      Ariel Pepper  
Zoe Canin      Natalie Klapper      William Todd Powell  
Christopher Cereske      Lillian Klein      Samuel Quintana  
Aaron Chew      Lucy Klingenstein      Benjamin Rayikanti  
Aidan Coffino      Andrey Kolesnikov      Max Raynor  
Carolyn Cohen      Allen Koster      Galen Rogers  
Christopher Colletta      Jackson Lane      Anya Rome  
Jody DeAraujo      Andrew Larrabee      Rowan Russell  
Kaley Diamond      Elinor Lauden      Hallie Sekoff  
Miles Ditzler      Logan Ledger      Ashley Smith  
Alexandra Doty      Emily Lesem      Max Strebler  
Michael Duarte      Edward Levine      Angelica Sullam  
Claire Dube      Alexander Lew      Emily Tow  
Michael Dwyer      Maria Jose Livingstone      Eva Valenti  
Anders Eddy      Jennifer Marquez      Carl Vondrick  
Isadora Epstein      Armen Melikian      Eli Wald  
Natalie Ganem      David Merschen-Perez      Sara Watson  
Samuel Go      Sophia Miller      Alexander Weaver-Skull  
Justine Gordon      Molly Miranker      Nicholas Williams  
Jordan Graham      Olivia Molineaux      Justin Wolf  
Samson Grisman      Caroline Nattinger  
Mario Gutierrez      Zachary Newman

## Matriculations 2008

American University  
Arizona State University  
Bard College (4)  
Barnard College (3)  
Bennington College  
Berklee College of Music  
Brown University  
Bryn Mawr College  
California College of the Arts  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Columbia University (3)  
Cornell University  
Hampshire College (2)  
Johns Hopkins University (2)  
Kenyon College  
Lewis & Clark College (2)  
Loyola University Chicago  
Macalester College

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Mount Holyoke College (2)  
New York University  
Oberlin College (3)  
Occidental College  
Oregon State University  
Saint Mary's College of California  
Santa Clara University  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Scripps College (2)  
Skidmore College (3)  
Sonoma State University  
Southern Oregon University  
Stanford University  
Syracuse University  
Trinity College Dublin

University of British Columbia (2)  
University of California at Berkeley (3)  
University of California at Davis (3)  
University of California at Irvine  
University of California at Santa Cruz (6)  
University of Oregon  
University of Puget Sound  
University of San Francisco  
University of Southern California (3)  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Wesleyan University  
Wheaton College (2)  
Willamette University



**At left:** From left to right - Kate Jessup ('95), Aiyana Al-Bakari ('95) and son Jamir, Aisha (Lowe) Toney ('95) and Elena Engle ('94). **Below left:** Janine Elliot ('00), Daniel Winetsky ('00), Charlotte Worsley. **Below right:** Lauren Scott ('01) and Aisha (Lowe) Toney ('95).

# ALUMNI PROGRAM NEWS

## 10 and 30-Year Reunions — Calling all Urban grads from the classes of 1999 and 1979!

In honor of your milestone graduation anniversary, we would love to help you plan a reunion for your class to celebrate this momentous occasion and reconnect with Urban friends and faculty members. If you're interested in organizing a gathering — whether it's meeting up for dinner and drinks, a cocktail reception at a local bar or a BBQ at Urban — please contact Alison Brand at [abrand@urbanschool.org](mailto:abrand@urbanschool.org) or 415 593 9540.

## 20-Year Reunion

The Classes of 1988 and 1989 are invited to a 20-year graduation anniversary celebration at the Catharine Clark Gallery in San Francisco on Saturday, December 20, 2008. For more information or to RSVP, please visit Urban's website at [www.urbanschool.org/alumni](http://www.urbanschool.org/alumni) or contact Carter Bolick ('88) at [carter@indiarose.com](mailto:carter@indiarose.com) or Molly Dunn ('88) at [medunn3@gmail.com](mailto:medunn3@gmail.com).

## 40-Year Reunion

The class of 1969, Urban's first class of graduates, is celebrating its 40-year graduation anniversary this year! Plans are in the works for a get-together to reconnect with old friends and celebrate this momentous occasion. Further information is forthcoming. Any class of 1969 alums interested in attending or helping plan this event should contact Holly Badgley ('69) at [hbdesign1@mindspring.com](mailto:hbdesign1@mindspring.com).

## Recent Grad Reunion

Save the date! Alums from the graduating classes of '04 through '08 are invited to join

Urban's faculty, staff and the class of '09 for the Recent Grad Reunion on Tuesday, January 6, 2009, starting at 3 p.m. An invitation and further details will be forthcoming.

## Join the Online Alumni Community

More than 420 alums have joined the Online Alumni Community! Urban's alumni website includes information on upcoming events and activities, an online alumni directory, photo galleries, and more news and announcements from Urban graduates. We encourage alumni to update their online profile (including user-name and password) and post Class Notes and announcements to stay in touch with classmates and teachers.

To ensure you receive further information about the growing alumni relations program, as well as alumni publications and event invitations, please provide us with your current contact information by emailing [alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org) or calling 415 593 9540.

## Facebook and LinkedIn

Alums are invited to become a "fan" of Urban on Facebook and join our group on LinkedIn! Visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) or [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) to stay in touch and build your alumni connections.

## Alumni Council

If you would like to get involved on the Alumni Council, please email [alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org) or call Alison Brand at 415 593 9540 for information.

## 2007-08 Alumni Council

Steven Dinkelspiel ('74), President  
Lock Bingham ('98)  
Will Hammond ('87)  
Jim Henderson ('78)  
Annik Hirshen ('88)  
Jordan Kivelstadt ('00)  
Erika Lenkert ('85)  
Leah Meakin ('87)  
Amy Hethcoat Pearson ('92)  
David Shamszad ('00)  
R. Durelle Rosen Schacter ('81)  
Lauren Scott ('01)  
Justin Schwartz ('81)  
Anne Chapin Shepler ('74)  
Andrea Greenberg Shippy ('86)  
Tirien Steinbach ('88)  
Egon Terplan ('92)  
Michael Sean Tierney ('81)  
Aisha Lowe Toney ('95)  
Tara Wilson ('95)



# THE U IN URBAN



Below left: From left to right - Lock Bingham ('98), Alex Krassner ('98), Lacey Miller ('01), Adam Fenn ('01). Below: Head of School Mark Salkind ('70), Holly Kaufman ('75) and daughter Amara Mien Rose, Steven Dinkelspiel ('74). Below: Shannon Latta ('88) with twins West and Oscar.



The Alumni Events and Engagement Committee, an arm of the Urban Alumni Council, is pleased to announce its new program, The You in Urban. Organized by your fellow alums, The You in Urban program offers social, networking and volunteer opportunities to Urban alums from all years. Whether you want to share your experiences with current Urban students, network with fellow alums, reconnect with old friends or just enjoy a casual happy hour, The You in Urban alumni program has something just for you!

The You in Urban program was conceived and developed by Alumni Council members Aisha Toney ('95), Lock Bingham ('98), Lauren Scott ('01) and Jordan Kivelstadt ('00) as a way to get Urban alums involved with each other and the school, as well as to give back some life lessons learned. "We now have 40 years of Urban alums who have done some pretty amazing things since leaving this great school," says Aisha. "We thought a program like The You in Urban would be a logical extension of our commitment to service and to the sustainability of Urban."

The You in Urban program features several active components:

## Alumni and Student Networking

Connect with current Urban students and recent alums interested in your college educational experiences, hobbies or career. Contact Lock Bingham ([wrbingham@gmail.com](mailto:wrbingham@gmail.com)) to get more information or sign up.

## Urban College Night

You can share your college experience to help guide Urban juniors and seniors as they decide which colleges to apply to and attend. We're currently working with Urban's College Counseling office to learn how best to integrate this into its regular program. Contact Lauren Scott ([laurenrcscott@gmail.com](mailto:laurenrcscott@gmail.com)) to get more information or sign up.

## Alumni Happy Hour

Gather with Urban classmates and friends to enjoy a little after work relaxation and fun! Quarterly happy hours will be held at various Bay Area locations. Stay tuned for details on the first quarterly happy hour in January 2009. Contact Jordan Kivelstadt ([thestadt@gmail.com](mailto:thestadt@gmail.com)) for more information.

**It's time to reconnect and put You back in Urban!**





# CLASS NOTES

## Winter 2008-09

### WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!

Submitting class notes is a great way to stay connected to Urban and to your classmates. Photographs are always welcome. Email notes to your class rep, to [alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org) or post them online at [www.urbanschool.org/alumni](http://www.urbanschool.org/alumni). If you need a registration ID for the Urban alumni site, please email us and we'll send that right out. Some class notes may be edited for brevity.

#### 1969

**Seeking Class Correspondent:**  
volunteers please contact  
[alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org)

#### JANICE (RODGERS) BRACKEN:

"I am currently up in Portland working at Providence Portland as an acute care manager in the ICU/CCU. Dillon (25) is in Hawaii working and bought a condo in Waikiki, and Aleigh (28) is married to Sage, and they are both studying at Cal Arts in Valencia. He will graduate with a masters' in composing this year and she will graduate next year in video arts. I think of the Urban print shop, as I still have a print shop. Hard dragging those presses around, but it is still a lot of fun."

#### 1970

Class Correspondents:  
Jane Burns, J. Mitchell Lowe

#### 1971

Class Correspondent:  
Phyllis Goldsmith

**PETER KASIN:** "I'm still loving my job as a national park ranger at the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, and I'm a part-time singer/fiddler. I credit Urban's music teacher, Laura Weber (RIP), with encouraging me in music. I keep up with faculty members

who have become lifelong friends: Ray Raphael, Allan Ridley and LeRoy Votto. Alumni would remember me by my high school nickname, "Aaron." I also keep up with some alumni: Michele DeLatre ('70) and her husband Don and I occasionally play music together; Holly Badgley ('69), her husband Peter and son Nate; and I run into Tony Phillips ('73) at music events. My sister Miriam ('69) lives in Southern California. We talk often of our mutual love of blues music and visit whenever we can."

#### 1972

Class Correspondent:  
Cody T. Gillette

#### 1973

Class Correspondent:  
Suzanne Schutte

#### 1974

**Seeking Class Correspondent:**  
volunteers please contact  
[alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org)

**SARAH J. FISK:** "Sadly, our house burned to the ground last year. Paul and I lost everything inside the house, but no one was hurt. Paul built this house with wood he milled off the property himself 25 years ago, so he—we—are devastated. Before that, we were

noticing what a great year it had been, and what a wonderful life we had. And yes, this is still true."

#### 1975

Class Correspondent:  
Jonathan Kleid

#### 1976

Class Correspondent:  
Nancy Chirinos

#### 1977

**Seeking Class Correspondent:**  
volunteers please contact  
[alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org)

**EIZABETH WEISS:** "I am now a librarian, living and working in El Sobrante, CA. Jenny Houston ('77) and I have recently reconnected, and enjoy walking our dogs together in Albany."

#### 1978

Class Correspondent:  
James Henderson

**JOHN THOMPSON:** "I'm living in Petaluma (20 years!), with my wife Julia and twin 17-year-old daughters, Kira and Teagan. I've been working in television and video production since graduating UCSC. Spent 11 years as the Production Manager at PBS affiliate, KRCB, in



Rohnert Park. After trying to freelance for a few years, the dotcom bust drove me to Wells Fargo in San Francisco where I manage its video production facility."

**KAREN HEISLER:** "I continue to dedicate my life to the food and farm revolution through pie. Pie Ranch hosts youth (including Urban students) at its educational farm to learn where food comes from, and how to work together to make positive change—in their own healthy choices, in their school cafeterias, in their larger communities. Mission Pie is a supportive business partner to the non-profit educational farm Pie Ranch, and was just honored by Jewish Vocational Services with their annual Business Leadership Award for our vocational programming for underserved youth. EAT PIE!"

## 1979

Seeking Class Correspondent:  
volunteers please contact  
[alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org)

**CALVIN JEONG:** "Walking through life without stepping on toes. Being here on the (Hawaiian) islands was always home away from home for me and where I felt most comfortable. Now living here with my wife of 15 years and (we) also have my father here to enjoy the laid back lifestyle. It's truly 'ohana'—family living. Dreams do come true!"

**DAVID WALKER:** "It took 28 years to finally say that my oldest son Emmett is going to start at Urban. My wife Sandra and I could not be more excited for Emmett, and now I have four years to be highly nostalgic, and continually surprised, at how far Urban has evolved."

## 1980

Class Correspondent:  
Laura Fracchia-Riviello

**PETER POSERT:** "Two years ago I sold the house, the wine distributorship and everything after 14 years in Oregon. My wife and I packed up what was left and, with our two boys, moved back to Northern California. We settled in the town of Sonoma and I opened a new winery, which is doing great. I'm still involved in community projects, started taking guitar classes (thanks Ray S.!) and am just generally keeping myself busy with the kids, family and the winery. I keep in touch with many Urban alumni and friends and always welcome more. The Urban School and the life lessons I learned there are still a source of inspiration to me, 28 years after graduation.

## 1981

Class Correspondent:  
Justin Schwartz

## 1982

Class Correspondents:  
Dana Merin Gill, Pia J. Hinckle

**LAWRENCE BROWNE:** "I'm in Paris so look me up if you ever come here. Meanwhile, you might have fun on my website, [www.larrybrowne.com](http://www.larrybrowne.com). Yes, that's my kid!"

**PIA HINCKLE:** "I just co-authored a book on the history of the federal district court for northern California, a two-year project I am happily (mostly) through with. My husband Chris runs The Fruit Guys, a business that delivers fresh fruit to offices. We have three kids in elementary school and still live in the

city. My sister Hilary Hinckle ('85) moved back to California with her family last year and is living in Tiburon."

## 1983

Class Correspondents:  
Maria Freebairn-Smith, Joseph Joffee

## 1984

Class Correspondents:  
Jacqueline Babin Fox, Nina Bull Fishman, Ellen Taussig-Conaty

## 1985

Class Correspondents:  
Paula Lasky, Mary Ellen Petrich

**MARY ELLEN PETRICH:** "I'm now working on a graduate degree in Library and Information Science at San Jose State University. Still living in San Jose, with my husband and his cat."

## 1986

Class Correspondents:  
Sara Martin Breindel

## 1987

Class Correspondents:  
Jennifer Hodgson, Elizabeth Rynecki

**JUSTINE UNDERHILL:** "I recently earned my license as a clinical social worker, and accepted a position in the department of psychiatry at UCSF as a therapist in an intensive family therapy program, working mostly with adolescents and their families. We have also added to our own family, by way of becoming licensed foster parents. Ramona (4 1/2) is the proud big sister of a baby girl who we are fostering and hope to adopt."

# CLASS NOTES

Join your classmates from 1998 and 1989 for the 20-year reunion celebration!

Saturday, December 20, 2008  
The Catherine Clark Gallery  
150 Minna Street  
San Francisco, CA  
6:30 p.m.

An invitation with further details is forthcoming. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Suzi Carter Bolick ('88) at carter@indiarose.com or Molly Dunn ('88) at medunn3@gmail.com.

## 1988

Class Correspondent:  
Shannon Latta

**CHRISTOPHER THEISEN:** "Hello to everyone! I continue living in Providence, RI. My wife still works at the BBC and I still work at New York Life. I just recently passed my series 6 and 63 licensing tests, which means that my ability to help people and businesses with their retirement, education and estate planning is getting more sophisticated. My daughter, Nerissa (born in December 2007), is healthy and lots of fun. Life is good for the little family of three. Don't be a stranger if you ever wander through Rhode Island."

## 1989

Class Correspondents:  
Julie Miller King

## 1990

Class Correspondent:  
Sarah Wilkinson

**HEATHER BOOTHE:** "I've come back to California, again, this time as the volunteer program manager for Yosemite National Park. My office features a view of Yosemite Falls—wow! Come out to the park and volunteer with me!"

## 1991

*Seeking Class Correspondent:*  
volunteers please contact  
[alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org)

## 1992

*Seeking Class Correspondent:*  
volunteers please contact  
[alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org)

## 1993

Class Correspondent:  
Elizabeth Thompson

**NEIL FRED PICCIOTTO:** "I'm working for Google in Silicon Valley—for a software engineer, by far the best possible company to work for. I tend to go to Urban once or twice a year to substitute-teach Henri's Infinity and Space classes, and I still marvel at how the school has both changed and stayed the same."



## 1994

Class Correspondents:  
Merritt Schader

## 1995

Class Correspondent:  
Kira Zadow-Colley

**CYNTHIA CLARE:** "I now live in the Bay Area with little Felix (18 months) and husband Mark. My little sister Morgen ('10) is now an 11th grader at Urban—hard to believe! Mark and I have just launched our new website for homeowners looking for contractor referrals. Check us out at [www.pinboardit.com!](http://www.pinboardit.com/)"

**AISHA (LOWE) TONEY:** "I have had the pleasure of reconnecting with Urban as a board member and member of the Alumni Council. Urban has expanded in so many amazing ways and yet remains the school we all loved. If you haven't been back in a while, make time to visit. This fall we will be launching a new Urban Alumni Events and Engagement program that will offer us alums more social and networking events as well as opportunities to give back to Urban through mentoring, career talks, etc. It is a very exciting program that I hope many alums will participate in."

## 1996

Class Correspondents:  
Perry R. Garvin, Alexandra Rothenberg Johnson

## 1997

Class Correspondents:  
Yunji de Nies, Alvaro Galvis,  
Ilya A. Podobedov, Emily Wallace

**CHRISTINE KOTCHER:** "I married Bill Kish in May. Some of you might have met him at last year's Urban reunion. We are living in Placerville and doing a lot of skiing and hiking, and I'm working in Sacramento as an Occupational Therapy Assistant."

## 1998

Class Correspondents:  
Ezra Berman, Abby G. Topolsky

## 1999

Class Correspondents:  
Kadeidra Honey, Alexander Volberding

## 2000

Class Correspondent:  
Akin Moses

**AKINTOYE MOSES:** Akin was selected to give a welcoming speech at Lincoln Center in New York City to the incoming class in the New York City Teaching Fellows Program, where he recently completed his first year. He is earning a Masters in

Education at Long Island University while teaching at the Urban Assembly Academy of Arts and Letters in Brooklyn.

## 2001

Class Correspondent:  
Lauren Scott

**MICHAEL COLVES:** "I have recently started a job in San Francisco at the California Public Utilities Commission as a regulatory analyst in the policy and planning division. I will be doing climate change and energy work."

**JESSICA DICAMILLO:** "I'm engaged to be married to James Hollinger, a software engineer from Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. We will celebrate our marriage on June 27, 2009, in Guerneville. We will soon be moving to our first house in Mill Valley."

**ELIOT HARITON:** Eliot moved to Matik, MA, in May 2007. He's living with friends from WPI and hopes to begin a start-up tech company. Currently he is still working full-time for Entwistle in Hudson, MA.

**PAMELA LEVINE:** "I just completed two years with the U.S. Peace Corps in Tanzania. While I was there, I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro twice with Tanzanian students and teachers from the village in which I lived and taught. After completing my service I returned to the Bay Area and am currently pursuing a Master's in Educational Administration at Stanford."

**JESSICA WEICHERT:** "I am currently living in downtown Chicago in a beautiful old flat, nannying for two sweet little boys, and aspiring to enter a Master's program next year to obtain teacher certification. It has been fun geeking out on the architectural and civic history of the city, biking along the lake, and continuing to pursue different artistic avenues. My latest projects are launching a clothing line and teaching

myself how to quilt! I miss my time at Urban and would love to keep in touch with any old friends and teachers. Write anytime (jessica.weichert@gmail.com) or stop by and visit when you're in my neck of the woods!"

## 2002

Class Correspondents:  
Katie Innes, Sam Klein

**KATIE INNES:** "I'm singing with Emily Wynbrandt ('02) in a wonderful group called musae. Check us out at [www.musae.org](http://www.musae.org). I'm also working on my teaching credential."

**WILLIE MOSES:** Willie completed his first year of medical school at UCSF. He spent the summer with a research project in Entebbe, Uganda.

## 2003

Class Correspondents: Munaf Aamir, Nick Kiest, Mindy Lym, Olivia Rogers

**Join us for the Recent Grad Reunion on Tuesday, January 6, 2009!**

Urban alums from 2004-2008 are cordially invited to join members of the Class of 2009 and Urban faculty for a get-together in the Old Library at 3 p.m.

## 2004

Class Correspondent:  
Elaine Maloney

**LUCCI LAUTZE:** Lucci recently graduated from UC Davis with a degree in math. She played sports all four years (basketball and crew) and is currently tutoring, assisting with Urban's girls' varsity basketball team and training for a marathon.

**EMILY MIRANKER:** "I've just graduated from Oberlin College, which was

thrilling. I'm working at The Juilliard School in New York City!"

## 2005

Class Correspondents:  
Eve Myers, Emily Volberding

## 2006

Class Correspondents:  
Kate Harrison, Langston Smith

**SYDNEY ANGEL:** "I'm taking the year off in Manhattan training in voice, acting and dance. I'm currently a Production Assistant at the New York Musical Theatre Festival show Idaho!, which opened at the end of September, and working as a "merchmaid" for The Little Mermaid on Broadway. I also have the first of many pictures of me (hopefully!) up on broadwayworld.com! I'm having an amazing time and learning an absurd amount."

**CATHERINE COLE:** "I have had wonderful professors and stimulating classes (at Vassar), and last year I declared my major in History with a minor in Hispanic studies. This current semester, I am fortunate enough to have been accepted into a study abroad program in Spain and am writing to you now from my apartment in Madrid. While at Vassar freshman and sophomore year, I had the chance to get some invaluable experience in some areas that I'm interested in, such as teaching and social work. I worked as an assistant at the on-campus nursery school and joined a group that does volunteer work at a prison that is not too far from campus. Another great opportunity...is being a part of the Vassar College Swim and Dive team, which has kept me fit and healthy and also provided a really supportive community. My mom has visited me on campus on three separate occasions, traveling from San Francisco to Poughkeepsie, NY, despite the hassle of traveling in a wheelchair with luggage. While I am still exploring my interests, Vassar has

# CLASS NOTES

helped guide me in the direction of my true passions."

**CARLOS GUTIERREZ:** "Isaac Ramos ('04) and I launched a music production company, Slap Factory Productions, and are working in the San Francisco, Boston and New York areas in the hip hop genre, focusing on socially conscious music worldwide. We just released our first major album, Sellassie's *Tryin to Make a Livin' Not A Killin'* on Defend Music Distribution. Isaac recently graduated from Emerson College, and I currently attend NYU."

**LIZ ROBERTSON:** "I'm in my junior year at San Jose State University, majoring in Environmental Studies with a focus on environmental restoration and resource

conservation, and a minor in Biology. I have been doing work-study at the Center for the Development of Recycling on campus, and am looking forward to my third season on the softball team next spring."

## 2007

Class Correspondents:  
Anna Waldman Brown, Isabel Chirinos,  
Dylan Hamilton, Daniel Stewart,  
Claire Turner

**CORA LAUTZE:** A sophomore at Wesleyan, Cora is playing soccer for eighth ranked New England Division III Cardinals. To see photos of Cora in action go to [www.wesleyan.edu/athletics/wsoccer](http://www.wesleyan.edu/athletics/wsoccer).

## 2008

Class Correspondents:  
Erin Berg, Michael Duarte, Michael Dwyer,  
Andrey Kolesnikov, Eli Wald, Sara Watson

*Below left: Paul Gustafson ('89) and Carter Bolick ('88). Right: Jessica DiCamillo ('01), Lauren Scott ('01), Lacey Miller ('01), Michael Colvin ('01) and Adam Fenn ('01).*



### JOIN THE ON-LINE COMMUNITY

Please register at [www.urbanschool.org/alumni](http://www.urbanschool.org/alumni) and find your classmates, teachers, email addresses, alumni news and upcoming events. If you've lost your user ID and password, please email [alumni@urbanschool.org](mailto:alumni@urbanschool.org).

## CURRENT FACULTY/ STAFF NEWS

This summer and fall, **CATHLEEN SHEEHAN** worked as the production dramaturg on *Twelfth Night* for the California Shakespeare Theater. As dramaturg, she worked with director Mark Rucker to come up with a working script before rehearsals started. Once in the rehearsal hall, the actors, director and Cathleen did tabletop—translating and deciphering the lines and pondering cuts and revisions. She then consulted with the actors and director throughout the rehearsal process to help support the clarity of the language and overall flow of the story.

**PIYA KASHYAP**, Urban's English Teaching Fellow, is developing her not-for-profit media literacy project, The Modern Story, which introduces youth around the world to 21st century tools of communication, enabling them to tell stories of personal, social and environmental importance. The Modern Story Fellowship recruits top college graduates from the U.S. to implement a digital storytelling curriculum at schools for undeserved youth. Check out their latest stories from India at [thunderstorm.wordpress.com](http://thunderstorm.wordpress.com).



Quinn Eye Blakeley, born February 11, 2008, to Director of Athletics **BRENDAN BLAKELEY** and his wife Jennifer, is taking advantage of all that the world has to offer her. According to Dad,

she's inquisitive, loves to try new foods (peaches are a recent favorite, pureed of course), finds squirrels particularly enthralling, and hasn't found a head of hair she hasn't wanted to tug on (not an issue for her father...). She is looking forward to mastering this whole walking thing, and promises to do a better job of sleeping through the night!



Kyle Dade Speta was born May 18, 2008. Says Dad and Urban science teacher **GEOFF RUTH**, "She's amazingly curious about everything around her, and like kids her

age, has taken to stuffing everything into her mouth!"

Urban health instructor **JENNIFER EPSTEIN** welcomed her son John Wayne Faucett III on September 3, 2008. According to Jennifer, he is doing wonderfully and she is looking forward to being back at Urban soon.

## PAST FACULTY/ STAFF NEWS

**JAY FRAZIER**, English teacher at Urban from 2006-08, is currently a consultant with The Decision Education Foundation in Palo Alto, CA.

## IN MEMORIAM

**JULES TYGIEL**, father of Sam ('09) and Charlie, husband of Luise Custer, Tuesday, July 1, 2008.



Urban Spanish teacher and boys' and girls' head soccer coach **ANTONY REYES** (above, back row center) spent time over spring break last year in Nicaragua. In addition to his well-deserved leisure

time, Antony and friend Chad Chilibeck (far right) spent time with the South End Soccer team of Corn Island teaching some soccer basics.



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## MISSION

The Urban School of San Francisco seeks to ignite a passion for learning, inspiring its students to become self-motivated, enthusiastic participants in their education — both in high school and beyond.



## URBAN: THE DIRECTOR'S CUT LIGHTS, CAMERA, AUCTION!

Supporting Urban through the lens of celebrated  
San Francisco films

Saturday, March 21, 2009  
Bimbo's 365 Club, San Francisco

Online Silent Auction Goes Live March 5!

Please join us for this year's auction and celebration,  
**Urban: The Director's Cut**. We're rolling out the red  
carpet for an unforgettable evening of entertainment  
and great company as we celebrate the school's single  
fundraising event to support financial aid.

For more information, please visit  
[www.urbanschool.org/auction](http://www.urbanschool.org/auction)

\*Must be 21 or older to attend.

