

HACKLEY IN



T H E W O R L D

HACKLEY ALUMNI ACROSS THE GLOBE

Our alumni have spread far and wide since they departed the Hilltop. Over the years, they have reached out to let us know where they are and what they're doing. Below are the countries our Hackley alumni are living in.

- Virgin Islands
- Puerto Rico
- Jamaica
- Grand Cayman
- Honduras
- El Salvador
- Mexico
- Canada
- Brazil
- Venezuela
- Columbia

5,257 41

GRADUATES IN THE WORLD

COUNTRIES

Thank you to Director of Alumni Engagement Margie McNaughton Ford '85 for the work you do every day and for gathering these submissions for the *Hackley Review*.

Scan the QR Code to tell our Alumni Office where you are and what you're up to!

And Save the Date:

Alumni Day | October 19, 2024



HACKLEY ALUMNI ACROSS THE GLOBE

Our alumni are doing impactful work all around the world. We asked them what they're up to and the inspiration behind their work. Read what they shared in the following pages.

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Eduardo Cue '69

FRANCE

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT
AND FORMER JOURNALIST

After 40 years as a journalist, I am now an independent communications consultant living in Paris. My main topics include the art of the interview, public speaking, media relations, crisis communications, journalism ethics, and the relationship between the media and the military. I run seminars for African journalists and I also consult for international organizations, including the

World Food Program, UNICEF and numerous African governments. I have privately coached U.S. Ambassadors, African and Latin American government ministers, business executives, and heads of state. My consulting activities take me across Africa, Latin America and Europe.

I previously worked as a print and television journalist for some of the leading media houses in the world, including *The Washington Post*, *The Times* (London), United Press International, the Associated Press, CNN, Televisa of Mexico and France24. Journalism allows you to enter, even if only for a moment, the lives of profoundly different people, each one with a particular outlook on the world.

My interest in journalism and current events began before my arrival on the Hilltop at the age of 14, but Hackley was instrumental in developing my interests and skills and in helping me acquire the discipline necessary to pursue a career in journalism. My mentor, Walter Schneller, taught me how to analyze current events and the importance of history to put them in context. He taught me to make sure I knew what I was talking about before expressing my thoughts. Arthur Naething taught me discipline. More than anything, Hackley inculcated in me the true values of life — education, curiosity, empathy, the sheer joy of learning and the importance of making a positive contribution to society. For all this and more, I will be forever grateful to Hackley.



Chaja Pole '90

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

FIREFIGHTER

For the past five years, I have worked at the Bridgeport Fire Department in Bridgeport, Connecticut as a firefighter. This was obviously a very late-in-life career choice; however, it encompasses the things that I have always been passionate about — helping people, especially the most vulnerable, and

exerting myself physically with particular goals in mind. My background in sports and working as a personal trainer for 13 years is embedded into my soul. My job is multifaceted, and I work on the busiest company in Bridgeport. Most of my calls are medical, treating a huge number of people in a very deprived area. I administer Narcan almost every tour that I am working. My crew and I go to a number of car accidents to assess, extract and administer first aid to patients. We perform elevator rescues, respond to alarms, and install CO and smoke detectors. And, of course, we go to fires. This includes rescuing people and pets, putting out the fire, and overhauling the buildings. While the passion I have for my job didn't begin at Hackley, my passion for life and opening my eyes to all the possibilities the world has to offer was nurtured and fostered at Hackley School. I will forever be grateful for my experience there.

I am an educator, visual artist, poet, lyricist and singer. I perform my music in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and Europe. I'm recording a new album with my band, the Eleventh Planet, and CAN, a German band I played with from 1968-69, continues to keep me busy. My painting studio is in Calgary, Canada; my gallery is in New York City; and I recently exhibited my artwork at a gallery in Dusseldorf, Germany. I teach abstract painting at the Alberta University of the Arts. The painting and the music are ways to express myself. Teaching is a way to give back; it allows me to pass on what I know and to keep up with new perspectives of artmaking. I started writing poetry at Hackley as a way to find my voice, and it's been amplified over the years through my music. Mrs. Virginia Hawkins, my art teacher at Hackley, was an inspiration and influence. She and my father, a silk screen printer, were a one-two combination that led me on my journey.

Malcolm Mooney '62

CANADA

EDUCATOR AND ARTIST



I graduated from Hackley in 1991 and today, I am an infectious disease physician and professor of medicine working at the University Hospital of Geneva in Switzerland, where I've lived since 2007. I work with a team of medical students and early-career physicians to take care of patients at our infectious disease clinic. I teach pre-clinical medical students on the wards and in the classroom, and I conduct clinical trials to help build the infectious diseases evidence base. I am also editor-in-chief of an infectious disease medical journal; the associate editors and I decide whether studies submitted by colleagues around the world are well-designed and well-reported. I take this responsibility seriously and hope it will help move our field forward.

Angela C. Huttner '91

SWITZERLAND

INFECTIOUS DISEASE PHYSICIAN



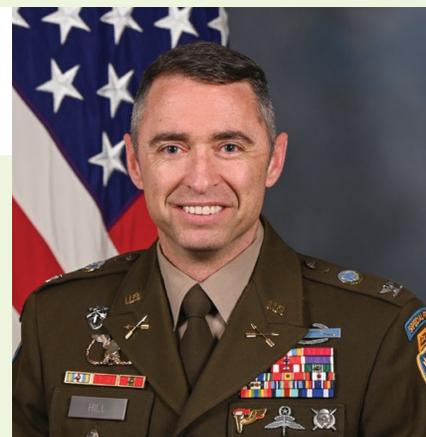
When I was at Hackley, I thought I would study literature and become a teacher. I knew I could be good at the humanities, but I did not have confidence in the sciences. The humanities-heavy foundation I received from Hackley is what drives me today and allows me to be an effective doctor and professor. It is also what built my character and allowed me to stay on an uphill road as a foreign medical graduate learning to navigate both new hospital environments and cultures. As I get older, I remember more frequently the injunction of Arthur Naething, sometimes even daring to say it out loud to my students, though it never sounds as beautiful nor as urgent as when he said it. I certainly tell it to myself (with varying results); I do try to *go forth and spread beauty and light*.

I lead a team advising the civilian leadership in the Pentagon who oversee the organization, training, equipment and billion-dollar budget for the most highly classified programs in the U.S. Special Operations Command (Army Green Berets, Navy SEALs, etc.). I get to work with extremely talented and dedicated people doing hard work that matters. I've been an eyewitness to history, experienced the cutting-edge of scientific research, traveled to obscure locations, and even testified before a closed session of Congress. My time at Hackley exposed me to the intersection between science and humanities. The curiosity, critical thinking, creative writing and interpersonal dynamics I learned at Hackley have influenced every aspect of my 31 years in the U.S. Army. I got to learn from legendary teachers at Hackley, and I experienced it all alongside classmates who have gone on to extraordinary success in every pursuit of life.

Trevor Hill '93

WASHINGTON, D.C.

U.S. ARMY





Alexandra "Sandy" Mattei '10

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

CELL AND GENE THERAPY
RESEARCH SCIENTIST

My interest in research began as a young child accompanying my mother at her research sites around Long Island Sound where she studied the biology and ecology of horseshoe crabs. Then at Hackley, I learned how to design well-controlled experiments in Mrs. Johnson's

AP Biology class to both ask and answer fundamental questions about biology, a skill that has served me well in my career. I now work as a gene editing research scientist at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, a company that focuses on developing transformative medicines for people with serious diseases. I work in Vertex's relatively new Cell and Gene Therapy division in the early research stage of the drug discovery pipeline, where we develop cutting-edge technology to treat the underlying causal biology of such diseases as sickle cell disease, Type 1 diabetes and Duchenne muscular dystrophy. I have a lifelong love and appreciation for academic research, however, in my current role, I enjoy the practical application of new ideas and technologies to decades-old unsolved biological problems.

As a team, we can quickly chip away at the toughest problems from multiple angles instead of breaking off bite-sized pieces to work on one dissertation at a time. The potential impact of our work is inspiring day to day, knowing how many patients are out there waiting for cures to each of these diseases.



Sabrina Grandolfo '84

HONG KONG

HEALTH AND WELLNESS COACH

I have been living in Hong Kong for the past 24 years. After several career changes, I am now working as a self-employed National Board-Certified Health and Wellness Coach at Wellness Through Coaching. I partner with individual clients to identify their core values,

passions and goals, and work with them to develop a personalized plan to achieve those goals. Clients learn to overcome obstacles and create positive change in their lives. I also run small group health and wellness courses for an NGO that works with refugee women, which has been profoundly gratifying. The opportunity to empower individuals facing health disparities with the knowledge and tools to make sustainable lifestyle changes is incredibly rewarding. Witnessing the positive impact on their lives, both physically and mentally, fosters a deep sense of fulfillment and purpose for me.



Damon Ploumis '84

GERMANY

OPERA SINGER

I have been an opera singer since 1993 and since 2001, I have been living in Weimar, Germany, the city of Goethe, Schiller, Listz and the Bauhaus architectural movement. I joined the ensemble of the German National Theater of Weimar with my debut role as Papageno in Mozart's "Magic Flute," and I have since

sung throughout Europe, South America and Asia. I began directing operas in 2008, and this past season, I directed and sang in Belgium the leading role of Puccini's hilarious opera "Gianni Schicchi." In 2008, I founded the Lyric Opera Studio Weimar, which has had 1,260 students from 76 different countries. I love to sing, but I must admit that the teaching aspect of my career has often given me more fulfillment.

When I was a pupil at Hackley in the '80s, my passion for opera was fostered by the great Mr. Schneller, with whom I often went to concerts and the Metropolitan Opera. He planted the seed that developed, and Hackley helped that seed sprout. While I was beginning my career as an opera singer, I went back to Hackley in the early '90s to teach history and ESL part-time. Once again, Hackley offered me enormous support to pursue opera by providing me with a livelihood and understanding of my goal. Dr. Gibbon was the headmaster

then, and he not only encouraged my path but showed great flexibility to my schedule when it was crucial to my development as a singer. Without a doubt, had I not had Hackley, I would never have made it as an opera singer.

Almost exactly 20 years ago, my wife and I decided to give our two tiny Manhattan-born sons (we have since had another) the opportunity to experience their childhood in Goa, India, with its unique cultural history as one of the crucibles of what we now call globalization. We arrived “back” in a country undergoing epochal

transformation, and I quickly found myself writing about those changes for a slew of new publications, including the Conde Nast stable of magazines, *Mint* (the financial newspaper set up in partnership with the *Wall Street Journal*), the dynamic website Scroll.in, and many other newspapers and magazines. The feeling of making an important impact at just the right time was super exciting, and — somewhat to my surprise — I still remain highly motivated to keep on writing for what has become a loyal and appreciative audience.

The world in which I graduated from Hackley in 1986 was very different, but it’s fair to say the School was an essential stepping stone to “finding my voice.” Looking back, Mr. Schneller and headmasters Barr and Gibbon were early sources of validation for my independent ways of thinking and scholarship, and there is a certain wherewithal that grows from being taken seriously by people you respect (of course my friends were also crucial in this regard) that did happen for me “on the Hilltop.”

Vivek L. Menezes '86

INDIA

PHOTOGRAPHER, WRITER, AND
CO-FOUNDER AND CO-CURATOR OF
THE GOA ARTS + LITERATURE FESTIVAL



I am the founder and CEO of Too Easy AS — an AI startup simplifying mobility for everyday life — and I am a global professional speaker with expertise in AI and robotics. I love both jobs, but public speaking is my favorite because I have a chance to impact people’s lives on a large scale immediately. Sometimes, I receive requests to give motivational speeches on my life story.

That story begins with Hackley. Hackley’s faculty and students took me in, a poor Puerto Rican kid from the Lower East Side of New York City, and enveloped me in love. Since I graduated from Hackley, I have been on a mission to pay it forward. Life advice: Risk everything in what you believe — it’s worth it!

Thomas Anglero '84

NORWAY

PUBLIC SPEAKER, AI AND
ROBOTICS EXPERT



I am a foreign service officer in the Immigrant Visa Unit in the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan. I’ve also worked for the State Department in Shanghai, China and Hanoi, Vietnam. My next assignment will be in Washington, D.C. Every day, I get to welcome new Americans to the path to citizenship, while the special nature of Islamabad means that I also help to reunite families broken by terrorism and fulfill the promises we made to our Afghan allies. It’s not every workplace that gives you views of the big picture and the little details like the State Department — I solve real problems that impact real people every day, all while supporting U.S. policies overseas. My passion for global affairs started at Hackley when I studied Mandarin Chinese and went on a summer language trip to Beijing. I knew I wanted to continue to work and live overseas, so I looked for jobs that would let me do that in a way that embodied service to society. The State Department gave me that opportunity — I get paid to learn new languages, help Americans overseas, and represent the American ideals and values I learned at Hackley.

Clara Engle '11

PAKISTAN

FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER

