



Spotlight

East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation

February 2024

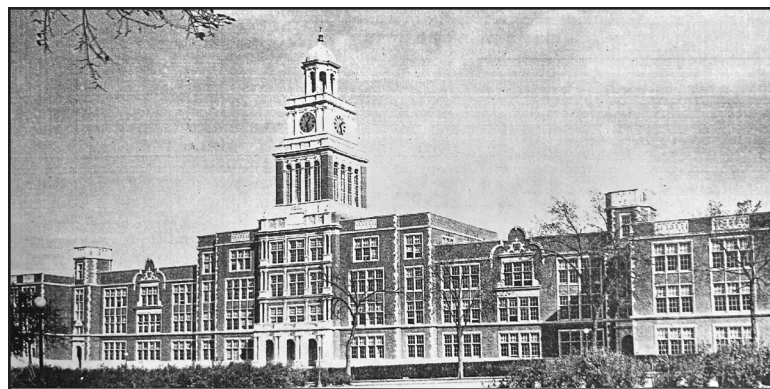
East To Commemorate Landmark Anniversaries In 2025



Arapahoe School • 1873-1881



Old East • 1881-1925



New East • 1925-present

by Matt Fulford (East Faculty) and Marcia Tremmel Goldstein (Class of 1969)

2025 will mark two important celebrations of East High School's remarkable history: the 100th anniversary of our historic building on the City Park Esplanade, and the 150th year of East High School as an institution. We have convened an official Planning Committee made up of alumni, faculty, staff, and students who are busy planning special events, exhibits, and other projects to commemorate these significant historical points in time. Our current sophomores will be the 100th class to graduate from our building. As much as possible, we want our celebration to involve our current students and connect them to the wider East community.

A Snapshot of East History:

The history of East as an institution is noteworthy. Denver's Arapahoe School (which opened in 1873), included high school students in its K-12 curriculum. It was not until 1875 that a separate high school was established on the top floor of that building, under its first principal, James Baker. This has historically been considered the start of Denver High School, which eventually came to be the official "ancestor" of East. For example, in 1950 East alumni, faculty, and students staged a grand celebration commemorating the school's 75th anniversary, including a detailed history publication, special events, and local newspaper coverage.

East High students and alumni have attended classes in three separate buildings over time. First was in the K-12 Arapahoe School which opened in 1873 at 17th and Arapahoe streets. With rapid population growth, Denver High School, a grand architectural monument designed by Robert Roeschlaub located at 19th and Stout Streets, was constructed and enlarged from 1881-1889. With the construction of North High and



Ezra Kauffman (Class of 2024), a talented East High art student, has designed our official logo for the 2025 celebrations.

Manual High in the 1890s, this downtown landmark building came to be called East Side High School, where students earned diplomas until the Spring of 1925. More growing pains led to the construction of three new high school buildings in the 1920s - South High, West High, and East

High. Although construction crews laid the cornerstone of the current East High building in 1924, the first students did not arrive until September 1925 to huge fanfare. It is noteworthy that the architect, George Williamson (Class of 1893), graduated from the "Old East High" prior to designing the present building, which has been designated a Denver Landmark by the City of Denver, as well as listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places.

For more detail, see this Denver Public Schools website explaining the fascinating history of Denver's oldest high school - East High: <https://east.dpsk12.org/about/history/>.

Plans for the 2025 Celebrations:

Although we are still in our early stages, here are some events and projects for which the planning is already underway:

- 1) A Native American land acknowledgment that will include a ceremony and a new plaque.
- 2) A large Homecoming festival and celebration in September 2025. This will be exactly one hundred years af-

ter the opening of the new building.

- 3) Museum upgrades and exhibits throughout the school that seek to introduce the community to lesser-known aspects of our school's history.
- 4) A film festival that celebrates our alumni of stage and screen.
- 5) A time capsule of East as it is today for students to open in another 100 years.

Other ideas for events and projects are still being discussed.

Please let us know if you would like to be involved in the planning or have ideas for other events and projects for our 2025 Commemoration. Don't hesitate to reach out to Planning Committee co-chairs, Matt Fulford (East history faculty) mfulfor@dpsk12.net, or Marcia Tremmel Goldstein (Class of 1969 and EAFAF Alumni History Committee) marciagold@msn.com. We would love to involve as many alumni, faculty, staff, and students as possible!

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East High Tower Museum Exhibits And Archives: 2025 Commemoration Of East High's 150/100 Anniversary Offers Opportunity To Share Our Historical Legacy

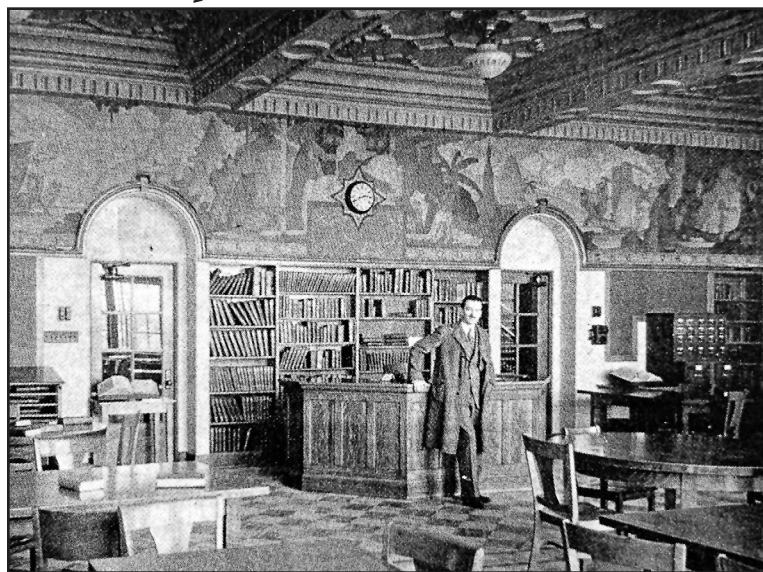
by Marcia Tremmel Goldstein (Class of 1969)

The East High Tower Museum was established in 1989 to house and protect the many historical treasures - artifacts, photographs, and archival materials that had been randomly stored throughout the building. Former Principal James Tracy and East teacher Beth Gower spearheaded the project by fundraising, hiring contractors, and recruiting volunteers. Over the past several decades, countless students, faculty, alumni, and community members have enjoyed the fruits of this remarkable project.

Although the Tower Museum has stood the test of time, there are a number of improvements and projects that we believe will enhance the space and improve the accessibility of our unique historical collections. Over the past year, the Alumni/History Committee of EAFAF has determined that making improvements to our Tower History Museum and its contents should constitute a priority over the next period of time. In particular, the 2025 Commemoration of 150 Years of East High School as an institution offers a perfect opportunity to make these changes.

Based upon a report and list of recommendations we put together on the status of the museum and its collections, we have determined that our first priorities should consist of the following:

- 1) Form a team of alumni and student volunteers to schedule regular work sessions in the museum
- 2) Place all loose/unidentified materials in archival quality storage containers and/or filing cabinets



The mural on the wall of the East High library celebrates its 90th year. The artwork (The Travels of Marco Polo) was created by Hugh Weller, a WPA artist during the depression.

- 3) Set up a computerized cataloguing system
- 4) Sort, inventory, and catalogue all document collections, yearbooks, *Spotlight* newspapers, and artifacts
- 5) Complete a master set of *Spotlights* and scan the whole collection to be made available online
- 6) Identify other areas of the school where certain archival or artifact collections might be stored and/or exhibited (ex: trophies, extra yearbooks, etc.)
- 7) Compile an EAFAF budget request to include costs of archival storage materials, scanning, re-framing, furniture repair, and other expenses of the project.
- 8) Apply for grant to hire a museum specialist to assist in developing a

master plan for storage, display, and preservation of our collection.

We are already underway with some of these projects. For example, a team of Public History Graduate students from the University of Colorado at Denver teamed up with East students and alumni in October 2023, to set up a preliminary digital database to catalogue our collection. Volunteers can update this database as we work through identifying items and documents. The UCD students also worked with East student members of the Museum Club (sponsored by East history teacher Matt Fulford) to design several small, temporary exhibits in the front hall and library. These small exhibits depict specific historical

topics such as the "East High Women's Basketball Team," "School Spirit," and the "Musical Legacy of East High." In addition, the students created an innovative online exhibit interpreting East High's role in World War II, available at this link: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/829cbe8a1c9543c58eb4a6fc9ecae971>.

A full master set of East High *Spotlight* newspapers is ready to be scanned, once we determine the cost and budget required to complete the project. East's yearbook collection was digitized several years ago and can be accessed at this website link: <http://tinyurl.com/EastYearbooks2024>. Our goal is to get the *Spotlight* collection online by the end of the school year this Spring.

YOU CAN HELP! We need volunteers to help in the museum cataloguing, cleaning, sorting, hosting tours, and assisting alumni or students doing research projects. As part of the volunteer team, you would be assigned to a specific project(s) according to your availability, interests, and skills. We also could use funds to help with supplies, software, and other expenses that will ensure that the collection and exhibits will be properly displayed and stored for future generations to enjoy. Contact Marcia Tremmel Goldstein at marciagold@msn.com to find out more about volunteering. You may make donations through the EAFAF website at <https://www.coloradogives.org/donate/EastAngelFriendsandAlumni-Foundation>, designating your donation for "History/Tower Museum." Or send a check addressed to EAFAF, PO Box 6015, Denver, CO 80206.

East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation
P.O. Box 6015
Denver, CO 80206

From The Principal . . .

Denver East High School Alumni and Friends,

I am thrilled to share the incredible achievements and successes of our beloved East High School. Our students have run the gamut of excellence once again, and our staff have supported them through shining moments and unbelievable circumstances. The senior class of 2024 started their high school careers behind computer screens and are now on their way to conquer the world, in-person. We have a lot to celebrate. Next year, we will honor 150 years of East High School with centennial celebrations of our building, museum upgrades, and a plethora of moments to highlight our alums. Our reputation as the oldest high school in Denver exhibits our unshakeable stance in the community. We continue to uphold tradition, academic excellence, and activism through our longtime staff members and our dedicated student body.

This year, our achievements have been nothing short of remarkable. We are placed on the Platinum Honor Roll with the College Board for enabling 80% of the Class of 2024 to experience one AP course before graduating, assisting with college affordability, and creating opportunities for our students to take five AP courses across their high school years.

Our dedication to inclusion and collaboration has earned us the distinction of being named a Special Olympics Unified Champion School, a testament to our commitment to fostering an inclusive school climate.

Additionally, our ROTC program has excelled, bringing home numerous awards, including First Place Center Shot Individual Precision, and Second Place in Precision at the 2023 JROTC 3-Par State Championship.

Our DECA program continues to thrive, with 59 Angels qualifying for the DECA State Championship and many more competing in written events, all vying for a spot at Internationals (ICDC) in Anaheim, CA. In Constitutional Law, our students have clinched the 2023 State Championship and will represent us at the national competition in Washington, D.C.

On the athletic front, our students have showcased their talents during the Spring of 2023 and this school year. Boys Basketball and Boys Soccer won the 2023 State Championships, and Nigel James won the 110 and 300 meter hurdles during State. Continuing East's tradition of excellence, Rosie Mucharsky won the 5A Girls Cross Country Championship, and our Boys Soccer team emerged as State runners-up. Field Hockey made it to the Final Four, and our football team clinched the League Championship, advancing to the second round of playoffs. Girls Cross Country, Boys Golf, Cheer, and Poms were all 2023 League Champions.

As we reflect on our successes, we also bid farewell to esteemed retirees who have dedicated themselves to our school community for many years. Will Taylor (Vocal Music/Choir Director), Keith Oxman (Instrumental Music), Paul Kirschling (World Language), and Bill Baer (Rugby), have left an indelible mark on East High School, and we are grateful for their incomparable commitment and contributions.

My years at East have shaped me into an enthusiastic and courageous leader, and our school environment has affirmed my progressiveness. For that, I say thank you. Thank you for your unwavering support and continued contributions to our East High community.

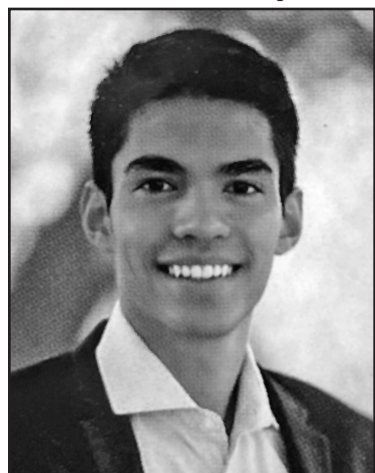
Sincerely,
Terita Walker
East Principal

EAFAF Awards 31 Scholarships In 2023

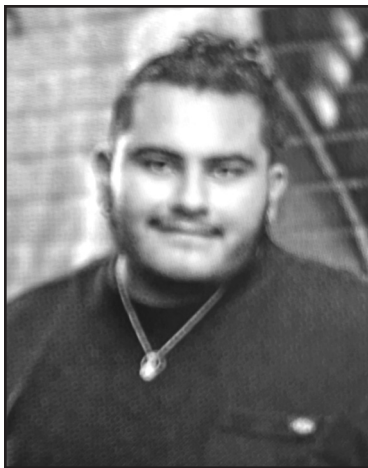
The East Scholarship Committee had a busy April in 2023. The committee read 80 applications and conducted almost that many student interviews. It's an intensive time for the committee, made up of alums, a former East teacher, and two former DPS principals. They report that it is both the hardest and the most rewarding volunteer opportunity they have. Students were awarded their scholarships at the May Senior Awards Ceremony. The LEAP \$100,000 Scholarship was awarded to **Sammy Dominguez**, and the \$100,000 Trammell Crow Scholarship was awarded to **Sanaia Hightower**. Renee Ferruffino chaired that committee.

The other "named scholarships" were three Thomas A. Bean scholarships awarded to Josua Kao, Aniya Leanne Beasley, and Eric Ramirez Naranjo; the newly established Classes of 1967, 1968, and 1969 Scholarship was awarded to Jade Crichlow; the East Alumni Scholarship was awarded to **Gabe Nagel**; and Lucian Frisby was awarded the Reece Scholarship. The EAFAF Scholarship Committee was chaired by Elizabeth Fisher Woodard, East '68.

The majority of scholarships were the EAFAF \$2,000 scholarships. We are now a partner with Prosperity Fund Denver. This non-profit re-



Gabe Nagel



Samuel Dominguez

turns 70% of the scholarships we award to East students who attend Colorado institutions for their post high school education. We are pleased to announce that the EAFAF Scholarship Committee will have an extra \$7,500 to award for 2024 because of Prosperity Fund Denver



Sanaia Hightower

and we are grateful that we can now help more students.

The scholarship recipients were all remarkable, juggling jobs, community service, volunteer opportunities, sports, academics, and East activities. And now they are all proud East Alums!

Charles Burrell Documentary Film Screening

The East community gathered in the East Auditorium on October 5, 2023, to watch "The Longest Walk," a documentary about the life of Charles Burrell. He was the first African-American to receive a contract from a major U.S. Symphony, the Denver Symphony in 1949. Burrell played with the Denver Symphony

until 1965, left to join the San Francisco Symphony for five years, and returned to the Denver Symphony (later the Colorado Symphony) until his retirement in 1999. Burrell also mastered the Jazz genre, as well, with his upright Bass.

Sponsored by East's Alumni/History Committee and EAFAF, the

film was preceded by a performance of the East Jazz Combo, directed by Keith Oxman. The talented Jazz Combo performed their own compositions to great acclaim. All proceeds were generously donated to Arts for East by the film's Director, Vohn Regensburger.

Burrell has lived in Denver for



East High School Jazz Combo

over 60 years and celebrated his 103 birthday on October 6, 2023. Purnell Steen, East '59, was a co-producer, and Philip Hart, '62, served as an Executive Producer of the film. Darrell Anderson, '68, created the artwork for the poster. The event showed what a collaboration of the arts can create.



Charles Burrell

East High Constitutional Scholars 'We the People . . . The Citizen And The Constitution'

The East constitutional Scholars program continues with its strong tradition of providing an in-depth study of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. East has participated in this national program since its inception, 1987-1988, as part of the National Bicentennial Celebration of the drafting of the Constitution. **Thirty seven years!** Team members, past and present, consider Con Scholars to be one of the most difficult and time-consuming undertakings of their high school experience — and **one of the most rewarding.**

The **2022-2023** East team was successful, once again, in the National Competition. **East placed 4th** in the nation. East has now placed in the top ten 26 times and won the National Championship five times since the program's beginning in 1987. The team was thrilled, as was their teacher Mandy Hostetter, to be able to travel to Washington, D.C., and compete in the National Finals in the "in person format" after three years of COVID inspired virtual finals.

The **2023-2024** East team continued the tradition, winning the Colorado State competition in December. **East's 34th state title!** The 377th Annual We the People National Finals will be held April 13-16 at the National Conference Center in Leesburg, Virginia.

The **2023-2024 team members** are: Kublai Alla, Sadie Broda-Bahm, Joseph Blaine, Merritt Brown, Holland Burkett, Alexander Cisneros, Phoebe Davis, Jackson Decker, Gaby Densen, Taylor Finnegan, Avery Fishman, Charlotte Goldstein, Anna Hay, Addi Kirkland, Maisie Koenig, Harrison Kundahl, Fiona MacDonald, Jacob Malek, Maren Massie, Andres Ramirez, Colton Sorce, Grace Taub, Grace Turner, Sam Wallace, Quincy Wolf, Harper Young. Teach-



er/coach: **Mandy Hostetter!**

East continues to appreciate and benefit from the invaluable community members, and former East parents who each year contribute hours of their time and expertise to help prepare the new team. It does take the East village! Special thanks to panel coaches: **Scott Barker and Caley Carlson, Justice Melissa Hart, Jeff Pearson and Judy Schulman, Julia Strzeszkowski and Laura Gottesfeld, Mark Grueskin and John Walsh, and Richard Wedgle.** An additional acknowledgment and thank you must go to **Les Volpe** for

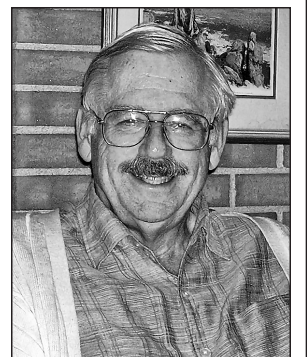
his decades of dedication and assistance with the East program as a judge and researcher, and for all his time and support for the "We the People . . ." program at the state and national levels. East is truly fortunate to have such generous participating experts!!

If you wish to help the 2023-2024 Constitutional Scholars team travel to D.C., please make a **tax-deductible donation** payable to: **East High/Con Scholars; Mail to: Mandy Hostetter, East High School, 1600 City Park Esplanade, Denver, CO 80206.**

Remembering Bill Cook

May 1938 - September 2023
Howard Lorton Furniture & Design

William Lorton Cook Sr., East alum, class of 1956. His journey through life was marked by extraordinary dedication, resilience, and a passion for excellence. As a graduate of Stanford's architecture school, Bill Cook returned to Denver at the request of his grandfather to join the family business. Just one year later his grandfather passed away leaving his storied establishment in Bill's hands.



Bill Cook became an icon in the furniture business, and a good friend to East, known nationally for his honesty, ethics, and leadership. His business reflected his personality. His warm heart and quick smile were equally accessible to all, and his kindness seemed only to enhance his business acumen. He was one of those "beloved" bosses.

In 2011-2012, when the East Social Room, (historically used only for special guests and meetings), was in desperate need of updating, East was fortunate enough to have former principal John Youngquist initiate the "social room project." He recruited Beth Gower and Flo Wagner to make the artistic decisions and stretch the dollars.

Mark Hoskins, former East parent, brokered an introductory meeting between Beth Gower and his friend Bill Cook, East alum and owner of Howard Lorton Furniture. And what a gift Bill was for East. With a specific and limited budget, the knowledgeable and generous Bill Cook worked with Beth and Flo selecting sofas, informal chairs to go with the sofas, and conference table chairs. Allowing all items to be purchased at cost!! Bill also donated the refinished long narrow side table in the social room and the rug between the sofas. The stunning and artistic social room valances are a result of Bill's highly talented and skilled staff he so willingly shared with East.

East is forever grateful to William Cook, East golf team and *Spotlight* staffer, for his care and interest in East, for his generosity and support of so many East projects. He was truly a remarkable human being — a role model for all Angels!

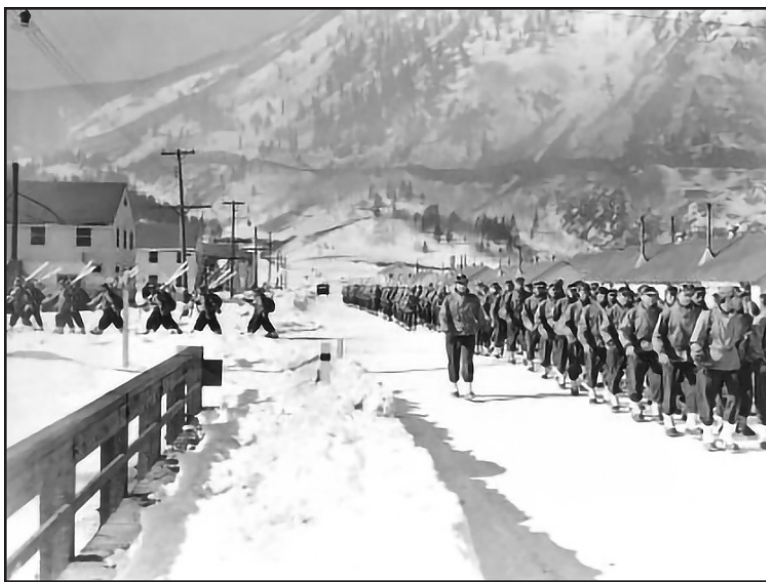
Camp Hale: 10th Mountain Division Memorial

East High Connection To World War II Remembered

On October 12, 2022, President Joe Biden signed a proclamation to create a memorial to the 10th Mountain Division at Camp Hale. Located 30 miles south of Vail on Highway 24 between Red Cliff and Leadville, the Camp opened in 1942. It became critical in the Allied forces in World War II to battle German forces in the Italian Mountains.

East High had a role to play in that the camp was named after Brigadier General Irving Hale, a leading military figure in the Spanish American War. Hale was East High's first valedictorian in the first graduating class of East High history (1877). Among the 24 East graduates to train at Camp Hale was Robert Carlson, class of 1943. Thanks to his efforts, he sent in a list of those East boys to serve at Hale. "No other high school in the country had as many graduates at Hale than East High. Not a surprising note, given that so many East students were avid skiers in a state known for its Alpine slopes."

The location of Camp Hale was a perfect site to train infantrymen for mountain fighting. The camp sits at an elevation of 9,200 feet and is ringed by some of Colorado's fam-



ous 14,000-ft. peaks. At its peak, over 15,000 men and women trained there. Over a thousand would be pay the ultimate sacrifice.

Tom Dickson (31), Frank Bulkley (32), Fred Nagel (36), Max Raabe (36), Jim Fetzer (37), Pat Fitzgerald (37), Eaton Smith (40), Sam Bulkley (41), Martin Brusse (42), Bob Jacobs (42), Jack Smolensky (42), Bill Spoor (42), Jack Swanson (42), Bill

Walter (42), Ed Wirth (42), Lloyd Yorkel (42), Jay Alders (43), Bob Carlson (43), Donn Hendee (43), Jimm Judd (43), Bill Murry (43), George Wilfley (43), Clark Wingate (43), Jack Witaschek (43).

"I was with Bill Walter, a medic, when he died. I am extremely proud of our service to our country and what we accomplished in Italy," Bob Carlson stated.

The History Of ROTC At East

East has always offered plentiful and varied opportunities to help students connect in a school as big as East. The oldest continual program has been military classes. When East opened as a high school in 1873 at the Arapahoe School, it was without uniforms and was using muzzle-loading rifles. Company A was organized in 1884 at the new East High School downtown at California and 20th. East High's first valedictorian, Irving Hale, was a member and went on to a distinguished career in the Army. The Cadets would be the forerunners of Junior ROTC established in 1916.

East has a large number of students in the Junior Army ROTC. The program stresses leadership qualities, academic achievement and physical fitness. Originally offered only to boys, the passage of Title IX opened up opportunities for girls as well.

The program focuses on the following values: citizenship, service, personal responsibility, and a sense of achievement. Many students have



Denver East High School cadets (1897) Charles Patrick, Walter Burlingame, and Charles McGee Burpee.

taken advantage of acquiring college scholarships. There has often been a short-sighted view that military courses such as these are primarily interested only in instilling patriotism and being a vehicle to recruit students to enlist in various mili-



tary branches. Actually, according to statistics, only 30 percent of high school students join the armed forces. Originally the program was run by a teacher in the school, but in 1916 the federal government started funding the programs they began hiring retired military instructors.

In the 1970s the ROTC program was under stress as "anti-war" sentiments ran high. East has always been a place where programs flourish. Certainly one organization (Junior ROTC) is one such program and has been active for over 150 years.

Music Creates Community

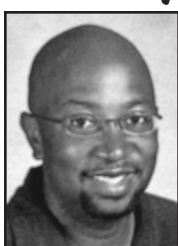
East Says Goodbye To Two Legends

In the 150 years of its existence, East High School has fashioned a historic record of academic and athletic success. What is often not remembered is that East has also been a place for the arts to provide a well rounded high school experience. Over the years East's music program, choral and instrumental, has been one of the strongest in the state.

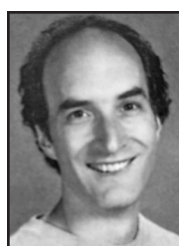
At the end of this school year two East musicians are retiring. Will Taylor began his vocal music career at East in 1995, and Keith Oxman came on board in 2000, as the instrumental music instructor. Finding the same quality replacements will be difficult, but the survival of the music program is vital to the survival of East as a quality school.

Keith will retire having spent 24 years as East's instrumental music teacher. This makes Keith the longest tenured instrumental teacher, overtaking Wilbur Whiteman's 21-year career. Will will finish with 29 years, second only to Fareeda Moorehead's 31 years as the choral director.

Both men were vital components in East High being inducted into the Colorado Music Hall of Fame, along with *Earth, Wind and Fire*. On stage that night was Philip Bailey (EWF), Ron Miles, and Bill Frisell, just three of East's illustrious musical stars. Other East music alums who helped in this achievement: Judy Collins, Paul Whiteman, Larry Dunn (EWF), Andrew Woolfolk (EWF), Kenny Pasarelle, Ed Lenicheck, Liz Master-



Will Taylor



Keith Oxman

ton, Rebecca Eichenberger, Stan Koshi, Purnell Steen, and international opera singer Alan Titus.

Keith was not only a superb motivator and mentor to young musicians, but a skilled musician in his own right. This tenor sax player is highly respected in the music community. He also became a composer and a master chess player. He plans to continue to be active in both the music and chess worlds upon retirement.

In a recent interview, Keith was quick to divert the attention away from himself and onto his students. "I came to high school thinking that young people were just routine teenagers, but their devotion to the craft of music and the milestones they reached in such a young age, blew me away. I quickly learned that I would be the best teacher if I offered a program where their interests and talents could flourish. I tried to get out of their way. East High School changed my life and I am grateful to the students, fellow colleagues, and parents who made my life at East a rewarding experience."

Will Taylor would create a com-

munity with his choral students. The pandemic period was a trying time for students and schools. Like all teachers, Will had to find a way to bring his students to a sense of community. All student groups, whether academic classrooms, bands and orchestras, athletic teams, or drama, players thrive on the sense of community. During the epidemic, Will was able to create a virtual community, but he knew that face-to-face opportunities were what was needed most.

It has been said that music is a universal language. It transcends cultures and generations, bringing people together in moments of joy and unending connection. It boosts our mood, refreshes our souls, and dancing takes our worries away. Music has the ability to unlock the potential in every student. As East's choral director, Will has been a master of fostering these attributes in the classroom.

Will created strong programs in the coveted Angelaires, Honors program, and SOAR acapella. One of his students said that "Mr. Taylor dedicates class time to make sure his students' social and emotional well being are addressed. He creates a safe place. He is a knowledgeable music teacher who is committed to challenge us to be the best we can be."

One way to inspire students is to provide opportunities for them to meet professional musicians. In 2015, Will brought in professional actor Lynn Andrews, an East alum, who

(Continued on Page 4)

President's Message

Dear East Alumni,

As East looks forward to celebrating 150 years in 2025, the East Angel Friends and Alumni Foundation (EAFAP) continues our mission to promote and preserve East High School's past, present and future.

The primary focus of EAFAP is to raise funds to support the academic, artistic, and cultural opportunities for our students, preparing them for life post high school whether that is for college or career. The East community continues to come together to bridge the gap between school funding and providing our students access to opportunities that further enrich their education.

Whether it's our teacher grant program, student assistance and angel packs, or scholarship opportunities for graduating seniors, we want to recognize that the efforts of our donors, alumni, and parents who continue to believe in the future of our students. Thank you for your generosity and your continued commitment to East High School.

Sheila MacDonald (Class of 1983)
East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation

FLIGHTS OF ANGELS

EAST HIGH OBITUARIES

- 1940 ANTHONY ROMERO 2/23/22 – 2/22/2023
- 1945 MARJI DANIELSON KOWALSKI 1/29/28 – 7/9/2023
- 1947 PATRICIA BEELEY LEBACK 4/24/29 – 7/23/2023
- 1947 JOANNE HEALEY SESSON 12/22/1929 – 10/28/2023
- 1950 JONI (LITVAK) ISKOW 10/25/1932 – 12/17/2023
- 1950 HARRY PETERS 12/9/32 – 4/17/2023
- 1951 DR. THOMAS CAREY 2/26/33 – 10/4/2023
- 1951 RONALD EPSTEIN 4/8/33 – 12/3/2023
- 1953 DONALD HUTTNER 2/21/1935 – 2/21/2023
- 1954 YVONNE LASKEY 2/10/36 – 7/12/2023
- 1956 WILLIAM LORTON COOK, SR. 5/8/38 – 9/10/2023
- 1957 THOMAS MEIER 5/23/39 – 3/17/2023
- 1959 RALPH "ED" JOHNSON 11/24/1941 – 12/19/2023
- 1959 RIBERT MYRE 1/11/2023
- 1960 DAVID KERR 1/6/1942 – 1/13/2024
- 1962 STEVE SIDWELL
- 1966 JOHN HEDRYSON 12/10/48 – 4/23/2023
- 1969 KATHERINE KUNZA NANDA 8/28/2023
- 1971 THEODORE BRIN 11/1/53 – 6/11/2023
- 1975 DEBRA HINERMAN-DEXTER 1/1/57 – 3/28/2023
- 1979 CLARENCE THATCH 10/08/61 – 5/15/2023
- 1985 KINSLEY HYLAND (ALEXANDER) 4/22/67 – 5/2/2023

RICHARD KOEPPE • April 27, 1931 – March 3, 2023

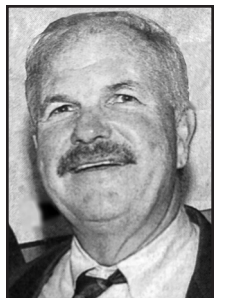
Richard Koeppe, highly respected Colorado educator, passed away on March 3, 2023. Born in La Crosse, Wisconsin, he later moved to Denver and became a leading educational leader in the Denver Public Schools and Cherry Creek Schools.

He served as superintendent of both Denver and Cherry Creek school districts. He became widely respected for his insightful, yet down-to earth approach on educational issues. He was recognized as a man you could trust.

He is survived by his wife Lucretia and his children: Julie, Erik and John, all who graduated from East High School.

STEVE SIDWELL

Steve Sidwell spent a lifetime playing and coaching football. He began his career at East High School and played for legendary coach — Adolph "Pat" Panek. He was All-City, All-State, All-Metropolitan, and High School All American as a defensive linebacker. His 1961 team was undefeated in league play. He was inducted into the **East High Athletic Hall of Fame** and graduated from East in 1962. He earned a football scholarship to play at the University of Colorado where he played linebacker and was named to the All American team and was eventually inducted into the **University of Colorado Athletic Hall of Fame**.



He coached at the college level for 35 years, starting at CU as a linebacker coach from 1966-1973. He also coached at UNLV and SMU before being signed as a linebacker coach for the New England Patriots. He moved on to coach with the Baltimore Colts and as a defensive coordinator with the New Orleans Saints. He finished his 21-year NFL career with the Houston Oilers and finally, with the Seattle Seahawks. Saints coach Dennis Allen praised Sidwell's contribution to the NFL: "He had a ton of success and led the "Dome Patrol" defense, which became the teams standard for defense." He coached seven Saints defensive players who eventually made the NFL Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the **New Orleans Saints Hall of Fame in 2004**.

East Faculty/Staff Appreciation Breakfast

Sponsored by EAFAP Alumni/History Committee

On Monday, January 2, 2024, the gracious East lobby was the scene of a gathering of 200 — teachers, staff, former principals, (Kathy Callum '68), Andy Mendelsberg, and John Youngquist), alumni, and friends of East. **The Alumni/History Committee** of the East Angel Friends & Alumni Foundation organized the breakfast. The biennial breakfast recognizes, rewards, and celebrates the teachers and staff for their standard of excellence.

The breakfast tradition started in 2006 as a thank you to the outstanding East faculty and staff, and as a reminder of the long and significant history of East. The breakfast provides an opportunity for the current keepers of the East legacy to converse with alums who have shared the traditions of East, benefited from them, and continue to enrich East.

EAFAP President Sheila MacDonald (class of 1983) was the official Master of Ceremonies.

In addition to the catered breakfast, by Toque Blanche, there was a **spirited drawing for 86 prizes!** Committee members Beth Gower, Dick Nelson, Cary Lyford Self ('83), and Sheila MacDonald, created fun and excitement giving out a total of **\$2,600 in various gift cards** to restaurants, coffee shops, bookstores, department stores, and three one hundred dollar bills!! The prizes were **compliments of EAFAP, the East parent community, and alumni committee members**. A real tribute to the faculty and staff.

East students continue to be enriched and benefit from our generous friends and alumni — and East High's dedication to excellence! **We thank you all!**

East High Athletic Hall of Fame



East High Athletic Hall Of Fame Is Undergoing Renovation

East Athletic Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremony Set For October 5

The 2023-2024 school year has special meaning for the history of sports at East High School. Beginning in 1898 at Old East at Stout Street in downtown Denver, this marks the 125th year of athletic competition. In the beginning only four sports were offered: football, basketball, baseball, and track. Today there are 28 sports offered, 14 for boys and 14 for girls.

LIST OF SPORTS OFFERED AT EAST

BOYS

Football
Soccer
Cross Country
Tennis
Golf
Basketball
Wrestling
Boys Volleyball
Swimming
Track
Lacrosse
Rugby
Baseball
Ice Hockey

GIRLS

Field Hockey
Volleyball
Cross Country
Tennis
Golf
Basketball

Wrestling
Gymnastics
Swimming
Track
Lacrosse
Rugby
Softball
Flag Football
Soccer

In order to honor this long history of sports, the Athletic Hall of Fame was established in 2009. The hall honors male and female athletes who have excelled in a sporting event. In the Fall of 2024, another set of athletes will be inducted into the hall which is located in the lobby of the Panek Gym. With the new editions, the hall will have 291 inductees: 195 male athletes, 64 female athletes and 32 coaches. The girls have fewer names because there were no competitive sports offered to women initially. Title 19, made it possible for girls to compete.

The ceremony will be held at East High School on October 5, 2024, at 3 p.m. in the old gym. To attend the ceremony contact Carolyn Wiese at carolynwiese@gmail.com.

2024 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES MALE ATHLETES

1950 Jack Bennett – Gymnastics

1963 Tom Halvorsen – Track
1965 Jim Ellis – Basketball
1968 Gary Stern – Tennis
1971 Chuck Flowers – Basketball
1986 Jim Dadiotis – Football
1990 Jason Bailow – Baseball
1990 Wakeen Ponds – Track
1994 Brian Howard – Basketball
1996 Greg Davis – Football
2006 Collen Warner – Soccer
2009 Davaughn Thornton – Football
2009 Grant Simon – Soccer
2013 Ashi Geberkidane – Soccer/CX
2014 Cerake Geberkidane – Track/CX
2014 Ronnie Harrell – Basketball
2015 Wesley Ogsbury – Football
2015 Brian Carey – Basketball
2017 Sam Golla – Rugby
2019 August “Mustang Sally” – Lacrosse

FEMALE ATHLETES

1995 Alexis Vean – Basketball/Soccer
2011 Katie Wiese – Volleyball
2011 Deidre Smith – Basketball
2015 Fionna Sullivan – Field Hockey
2015 Maya Nelson – Wrestling
2017 Julia Baroth – Golf
2017 Kate Burney – Lacrosse
2019 Qario Bentley – Volleyball
2019 Arria Minor – Track

COACHES

Bill Baer – Rugby
Randy Gallegos – Wrestling
Alice “Junior” Weed Ziegler – Volleyball/Track

East Boys Rugby Transition

Editor’s Note: No Rugby team in the state of Colorado can match the consistency of success than the East High Rugby Club coached by coach Bill Baer. Rugby came as a club sport in 1988 and was originally coached by East High alum Paul Hoskins. Baer came to East in 1993 and in his 30 year tenure, his teams have been finalists in state playoffs 23 of his 30 years. More impressively, his teams have won eight state championships (1997, 2002, 2004, 2009, 2015, 2018, 2021, 2022). Bill has been named coach of the year twice. He has coached many all-state athletes and several All-American. He recalls several players who helped him be successful including: Link Wilfley (1998), John Falkenberg Jr. (2002), Sam Golla (2017), John Wilson (2022), and Quaid Hunt (2022). Both coach Baer and Sam Golla will be inducted into the East High Athletic Hall of Fame this fall.

“East HS Boys Rugby Community, It has been my honor to serve as coach and general manager of East

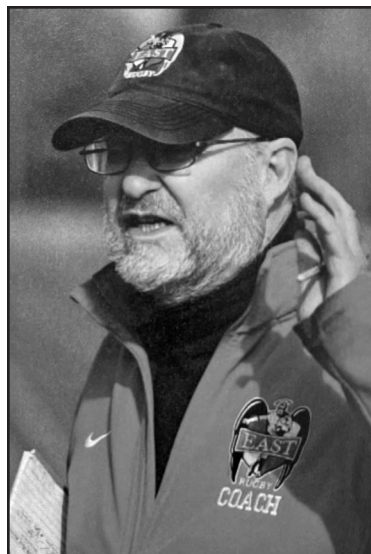
HS Boys Rugby for 30 years.

In that time I have had the privilege of getting to know hundreds of great students, many wonderful parents and scores of fellow coaches, many of whom I coached when they were in high school.

We have arrived at the best time for me to step back, welcome new leadership, and to support the program as it moves forward.

Now that we are preparing for the 2024 Spring 15’s season, Zach Levek will be the Head Coach, and Steve Gore will be the General Manager. The three of us have been meeting over the last year to plan a smooth transition. I coached Zach and Steve as East captains when they were in high school. They both left Denver to play major college rugby and have returned to coach with us. With two such successful, accomplished men in the lead, I am confident the program is in good hands.

I will not be going away. I will serve as Senior Director of East Rugby and continue with support activities.



Bill Baer

I wish to thank you all for the amazing support you have offered me and the players over the years. I am confident that your vital support of the program will continue as we move into a bright future for East Boys Rugby.

Yours in rugby,
Bill Baer”

New East High And Its Builders

Editor’s Note: A great city is marked by its grand public structures. One such structure was opened in September of 1925. East High school will celebrate its 100th year on East Colfax and Esplanade. It was built on the grand esplanade which became part of Mayor Speer’s “Beautiful City” project. The two tall statues flank the sides of the esplanade and the Dolphin Fountain were built in 1917. For a hundred years East has been the architectural gem of East Colfax. Dorus Hatch, veteran teacher, wrote a memorial that captures the true spirit of East High.

“East is on high ground. From the building we can see the Laramie,

Wyoming sand well nigh to the Spanish Peaks — a hundred miles of the unbroken front mountain range. To the East — the arc of this mountain chord — is the graceful curve of the horizon — following the streams of bands of fertile fields.

Thus sit the temples man has built; many to the god of his business activities— some in the invisible God and for the betterment of man. Thus set ’bout with the wonders of God’s handiwork and encircled by the fruits of man’s toil, stands the new East, an enduring monument to the civic aspirations of this community.

What is it that it is now so nobly housed? A spiritual edifice, a struc-

ture of ideas and ideals; ideals of conduct, of scholarship, of beauty, of culture, of sacrifice, of service: and institution which beats back the blight of ignorance and one that pushes far into the frontiers of knowledge.

Whence come the elements of this spiritual structure? Of an institution it is sometimes said to be the lengthened shadow of one man. Not so of East. Among the units of this complex, we needs must count the community urge, which has sought for itself better things; and the efforts of hundreds of teachers who have given unstinted service. Four Principals contributed most — Baker, Smiley, Barrett, and Hill are names that should be graven in stone. Denver has not stinted the measure with which she built the material structure — neither did they stint in expenditure of learning, of love, of sympathy, of energy, of character, or of service.

Of truth — East stands on high ground.”

Dorus Hatch – September 25, 1925

East Basketball Coach Earns The Ultimate Award

As Rudy Carey, East High basketball coach, enters his 46 year of coaching, the records and awards keep piling up. On April 17, 2024, at the Hilton Denver City Center, Rudy will join the ranks of Colorado’s most famous and productive sports figures. Rudy will join four others to be inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame.

Rudy joins NFL all pro tackle for the Jacksonville Jaguars Tony Boselli, Barney Chavous of the Denver Broncos Orange Crush defense, renowned sports columnist Woody Paige, and sports reporter Scott Stocker as the 59th class to be inducted.

Last year was a banner year for coach Carey. He surpassed a long standing coach by notching his 877th win eclipsing Dick Katte (Denver Christian High School) whose 876 wins seemed impossible to pass. Rudy’s team went on to win 26 straight games on his way to capture his 10th state basketball title. His East teams won state titles in 1996, 1999, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2014, and 2023. By the end of the 2023 season he had amassed 897 wins. As he enters his 31st year who knows what new records await.

Rudy was an All City and All State basketball player at East, graduating in 1970. He played four years for the Rams of Colorado State University, earning All Conference honors there. After two years as an assistant at George Washington, he was



Rudy Carey with D’Aundre Samuels.

named head coach at Manual High School in 1979. His Manual teams won three state championships. In 1992 he came back to his alma mater and proceeded to earn seven more state titles. This makes him the top Colorado coach in wins and championships. He has coached 21 All State players and has had 6 Colorado Players of the Year. He has been named Colorado Coach of the Year seven times.

What is often overlooked because of the gaudy records and numbers in the impact Rudy has had in the lives of the countless players he has coached. Not only should he be honored because of the way he impacted the game of high school basketball in Colorado, but for the untold stories of the mentorship he provided for young men.

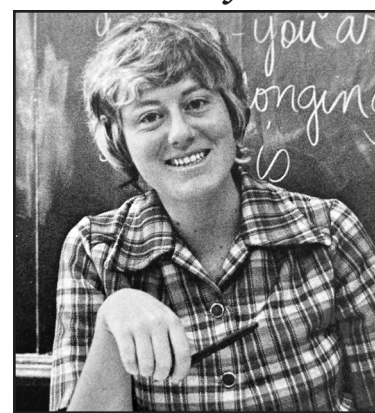
Anyone interested in attending the ceremony on April 17, can call 720-258-3536.

CHSAA Athletic Hall Of Fame East Teacher Honored For Years Of Service

Jan Anderson, retired East High educator, was inducted into the Colorado High School Hall of Fame for seeking excellence in academics, extra-curricular activities, and athletics. The formal ceremony was held on January 30, 2024, at DCSD Legacy Campus, 10035 S. Peoria Street, Parker, Colorado.

Jan spent most of her career at East teacher serving as an educator, a coach, and a sponsor of many extracurricular activities at the school. She has been a DPS person all of her life. She attended University Park Elementary and then six years at Thomas Jefferson Junior/Senior High School. After graduating from Colorado State University she returned to Denver where she spent one year at Kepner and then on to East High for the rest of her 30+ years. She joined the high school where her father, Bill Weimar, taught and coached from 1948-1960.

Jan was an English teacher and had a brief stint as a swim coach at East before she took on the task as



Jan Anderson

Yearbook sponsor, student council sponsor, and cheer sponsor. She spent over 35 years as a CHSAA swim official and also 25 years as a statistician for boys and girls state basketball tournaments, as well as football, baseball, and softball games in the DPS.

The East High School community, congratulates Jan for her well deserved honor and for her service to the students at East High School.

East’s Mucharsky Claims Cross Country/Track State Titles

East junior Rosie Mucharsky blew away the competition at the 2023 State Cross Country meet, taking first place in a winning time of 17:28.8. This was a full 17 seconds ahead of her nearest competitor. If this were not enough, in her sophomore year, she won the 800 yard run in the state finals of the Colorado High School Track Meet.



Rosie Mucharsky captures two All-State titles.

Air Academy High School placed five of the top eight spots in the final, but no one could catch the young Angel runner. Rose was surprised at her final mile which came in at a blazing pace. “The last mile is when I usually start getting into my head. I just kind of shifted into a ‘beast mode’ and surprised myself. When I entered the arena and turned the corner, it all sank in. It was the most unreal feeling.”

EAST SAYS GOODBYE TO TWO LEGENDS (Continued from Page 3) had returned to Denver to perform in the touring production of “Annie.”

When one looks at the long list of successful East alums who have made it in the world of performance: art, music, dance, acting, and writing, it remains to be said that all of these alums were mentored by a teacher or two at East who helped them find their voice, their talent, and their passion. Keith Oxman and Will Taylor were two such mentors and the East community thanks them for their tireless service to East High and the community.