



The Lenfest Connection

News and Happenings From the Lenfest Foundation

Spring 2011



We just accepted our tenth group of applications for our Lenfest College Scholarship Program. I am very proud of that accomplishment. I am equally proud of the many accomplishments of the Lenfest Scholars we have met this past decade. They are a tremendous group of young people that Marguerite and I know will go on to do even better things as they enter their professional careers.

We could not have reached our tenth anniversary without the help of some great people at schools in Adams, Chester, Franklin, Lancaster, Montgomery and York counties. The administrators, counselors and teachers are the driving force that connects our program with deserving students. To everyone in the schools we are fortunate to work with, we say thank you for all you have done for our program and all you have done for the students.

“Happy
10th
Anniversary”

Our tenth year brought us another large pool of applications. Nearly 300 talented students from all 14 school districts have applied. These are top students and will make judging very difficult. I have no doubt that we will find another stellar group of Scholars.

Speaking of stellar Scholars, we recently heard from Brennan Kelley, Calvin Woodring and Elizabeth Cox. I hope you will take a little time to read about their successes and their goals. We are pleased that they have let us play a part in their past and in their future.

Happy 10th Anniversary.

Gerry Lenfest

Octorara Graduate Sees Teaching In Kenya As Just The Beginning

People are people. That’s just part of what Calvin Woodring learned when he journeyed to Kenya.

Calvin made the 7500-mile trip to Kenya as part of the World Partners in Education program. He spent almost three months teaching primary school to students between the ages of 12 and 19. The rural lifestyle was similar to that near his home in Atglen, Chester County.

“You can go across the whole world and see people aren’t that different,” Calvin says.

The experience in Kenya was one of the doors Calvin says the Lenfest Foundation opened for him. A 2006 Lenfest College Scholarship Program recipient, he has also stud-

ied in Trinidad and Tobago through his experiences at Dartmouth College.

“One of the big things college has afforded me is the ability to travel and see other parts of the world,” says Calvin.

Calvin hopes Kenya won’t be the only place that he teaches. He is majoring in English in the teacher education program at Dartmouth. He has a strong interest in English literature and sees teaching, possibly in a public school, as a way to combine the interests.

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Teaching in Kenya

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“I think teaching would be a good way to give back what I have learned through my college experience,” he says.

Teaching is a strong theme in Calvin’s life. Jamie Bankert, an English teacher at Octorara High School, introduced Calvin to the Lenfest College Scholarship Program and assisted with the application process. Talent runs in the family. His younger sister, Mackenna, is a 2008 Lenfest College Scholarship Program recipient. She is now studying at Boston College.

“It’s been great for both of us,” Calvin says. “We never thought it would happen.”

Calvin credits the Foundation and Roger Lehecka from the Foundation with helping him successfully navigate the college selection process. Roger, a former dean at Columbia University, encouraged Calvin to expand his college search. Calling Roger and the Foundation a “wonderful resource,” Calvin said the encouragement led him to apply to more reach



Calvin Woodring and his students in Kenya.

schools and landed him at Dartmouth, one of the best colleges in the United States.

When not traveling and hitting the books, Calvin keeps busy in Hanover, New Hampshire, Dartmouth’s home. He tutors English as a Second Language in nearby West Lebanon, DJ’s on the college radio station and is a member of the boxing club. He admits he does question his college choice once in a while.

“When winter comes, I wonder why I picked New Hampshire,” he laughs.



Gerry Lenfest joins Lenfest Scholars for dinner at the Lenfest Community Weekend. Patrick F. Noonan, Chairman Emeritus of The Conservation Fund, and Gilbert M. Grosvenor, Chairman of the National Geographic Society, delivered keynote addresses at the dinner.

Lenfest Foundation Proudly Welcome 2011 Lenfest Scholars

*The Lenfest Foundation awarded 24 high school juniors Lenfest College Scholarships.
The students, who are now completing their senior year of high school,
will receive up to \$12,000 per year for four years of attendance
at an approved and accredited U.S. college or university.*



The 2011 Class of Lenfest Scholars are:

- John CodaGreencastle-Antrim Senior High School
- Carolyn Corbin.....Spring Grove Area High School
- John DavisChambersburg Area Senior High School
- Jacob Echoff.....Pequea Valley High School
- Steven FinleyChambersburg Area Senior High School
- Jordan ForryNew Oxford High School
- Hannah GajariOctorara Area High School
- Tori GilbertChambersburg Area Senior High School
- Hunter HarrellSpring Grove Area High School
- Kaitlyn HessChambersburg Area Senior High School
- Rachel HimesSpring Grove Area High School
- Joel HooverPequea Valley High School
- Christopher IvimeyBiglerville High School
- Sarah JohnsonWaynesboro Area Senior High School
- Mayra JuarezOctorara Area High School
- E. Charles (Chae) Jubb.....South Western High School
- Harry Keene Kelderman.....Fairfield Area High School
- Ryan MillerOctorara Area High School
- Nicholas Moran.....Spring Grove Area High School
- Hannah Morrissette.....Chambersburg Area Senior High School
- Gena RodriguezJames Buchanan High School
- Amanda SavidgeBermudian Springs High School
- Jerone (JT) StonerJames Buchanan High School
- Lucas WittmanUpper Perkiomen High School

Wyoming Seminary Graduate Makes Trip From North Broad Street to Mount Fuji

Lenfest College Preparatory Program graduate Elizabeth Cox recently spent time studying at Temple University's campus in Tokyo, Japan. She wrote an account of her time in Tokyo for the Foundation.

"On weekdays, I would wake up in the morning and head to my classes at Temple University Japan, which would take me about an hour to get to the school.

There was a heightened opportunity to learn Japanese while I was abroad. I learned things in the classroom, and was able to hear the vocabulary and grammar being used in the train announcements I heard on the way home or the store signs I saw in my neighborhood.

Teachers were also available if I had any questions about the course material. Before I knew it, I was recognizing things in Japanese and making connections between the languages without noticing. Tokyo's structure is very helpful from an English speaker's point of view, because most transportation signs are in both English and Japanese.

I was able to take a Japanese oral course, and there were several assignments where I had to go speak to native Japanese speakers. This made me a little nervous, but soon I was able to do things like ask for directions from a police officer. It would have been next to impossible for me to get that kind of hands-on learning experience back in the U.S.

After class, I would either head back to the dorm or go check out places around Tokyo. The train system in the city is amazingly good for getting within half a mile of wherever you want to go, and most places can be reached for less than 1000 yen (\$10).

Sometimes friends and I would go out to check out the major tourist sights, such as Tokyo Tower, Akihabara and Asakusa. The university's office of



Elizabeth Cox

student services also did a good job of creating trips. My friends and I often went out to try new foods, go to karaoke, and celebrate friends' birthdays, too. It was great getting to know the Japanese students and learning about each others' cultures.

In the evenings, I'd return to Ontakesan and stop at the local grocery store. There aren't any meal plans at TUJ, so we had to either eat out or cook at the dorm. The grocery store was pretty

easy to navigate, and the employees were friendly.

On weekends, I had more time to check out places that took longer to travel to, such as Odaiba, Yokohama and a weekend trip down to the Mt. Fuji area. Going to Lake Kawaguchiko down near Mt. Fuji was my favorite trip during the summer. It was great to see a rural vantage point of the country.

I headed there on a bus with a friend from the dorm and we stayed at a traditional Japanese inn for the first night. The next day, we rode around the lake area on the local public buses and checked out the little shops and attractions. There was a ropeway that partially went up Mt. Tenjo, and we spontaneously decided to climb the rest of the way to the summit.

On the last day I took pictures of Mt. Fuji. Later, my friend and I rode the local train to a nearby amusement park called Fuji-Q Highland. They had one of the tallest roller coasters in the world.

I definitely want to go back to Japan someday, and see more of the rural aspects of the country."

Filming For The Future

Brennan Kelley Wants To Make A Difference

Brennan Kelley is focused on change. A 2010 graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design, he wants to create social and environmental documentaries that foster change.

“Films can reach thousands, even millions,” Brennan says.

It was a change that started with Brennan being named a 2002 Lenfest College Preparatory Program scholarship recipient that pointed him toward his goal. Thanks to the scholarship, Brennan moved from Greencastle-Antrim Middle School to ninth grade at Wyoming Seminary. At first, the switch was a shock. The transition from being one of the smartest students at his middle school to one of many smart students was a “wake up call.”

“Everything I did from writing papers to studying for exams was pushing me to the limit of what I had ever tried to achieve academically,” he recalls. “But that’s what really needed to happen.”

Brennan credits many adults at “Sem” for helping him through the tough times. His time at the school also opened his eyes to the arts. After graduating in 2006, he looked at several film schools throughout the U.S. but settled on the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia.

“The facilities are incredible,” Brennan says. “When I took the tour, I was blown away.” It also didn’t hurt

that Savannah, Brennan says, is one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Brennan graduated in 2010 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film and Television. He initially thought about being a teacher but realized the potential of film to touch so many. He is currently working as a video producer for the Meritus Health System in Hagerstown, Maryland. He develops programs on medical treatments and surgical procedures.

He also thinks about his documentaries. Looking ahead, Brennan says he wants to connect with talented filmmakers and turn out independent films and programs that appear on National Geographic or PBS.

Brennan was one of the original 12 participants in the Lenfest College Preparatory Program in 2002. His mother had heard about the program, which he admits sounded almost “too good to be true.” Applying meant the possibility of leaving home for one of the prep schools.

“At the time, I was really adventurous so I was going to do it but my mom was in tears,” he recalls.

Brennan, who stays in touch with friends from middle school, says the opportunity changed his life.

“I’ve often thought about how much different my life would be,” he says. “I am completely indebted to the Foundation.”

Brennan Kelley



Scenes From Community Weekend 2010



(above) Jocelyn Elias and Lucas Wittman walk to a discussion with Gerry and Marguerite Lenfest at Wilson College, which hosted Lenfest Community Weekend 2010.



(right) Gerry and Marguerite catch up with Ryan Gayman before talking with all the Scholars about their lives and careers. They shared thoughts on business, helping others and even how they met.



(left) Scholars talk during a break at Community Weekend. An important part of the event is the opportunity for Scholars to share experiences and learn from each other.

Scenes From Community Weekend 2010



(above) Keynote speaker Gilbert M. Grosvenor, Chairman of the National Geographic Society, told Scholars geography was not just about place and location and encouraged them to learn the broader aspects of geography. He said the Scholars will make the country a better place to live.



(above) Keynote speaker Patrick F. Noonan, Chairman Emeritus of The Conservation Fund, challenged Scholars to “find their passion” and to give back. He told them their recognition from the Lenfest Foundation will carry with them for the rest of their life.



(above) Mr. Grosvenor and Mr. Noonan field questions from Scholars after their addresses.

View excerpts from the
Community Weekend 2010

keynote addresses at

www.LenfestScholars.org



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Community Weekend Energizes Record Number of Scholars

A record number of scholars from the Lenfest College Preparatory Program and the Lenfest College Scholarship Program attended our most recent Community Weekend at Wilson College in June 2010.

Among our traditional smaller meetings on subjects useful to scholars were an orientation to college for those entering in fall 2010; advice about applying for admission and financial aid for those about to begin the senior year of high school; financial planning; graduate school; and study abroad.

Three plenary gatherings added luster to the Weekend. Mr. and Mrs. Lenfest talked with the scholars about their lives and careers and answered some probing questions from the scholars. Many of the scholars talked afterwards about the inspiration this gave them to live up to the Lenfest example of using what you've earned in life to help others.

At our banquet we heard from two other inspiring individuals, Gil Grosvenor of National Geographic and Pat Noonan of The Conservation Fund, about the difference they've tried to make in the world and their hope that

Lenfest scholars would have comparable achievements in the future. Last, we had a very instructive talk by Eileen Kohan, who runs the Career Services office at the University of Southern California, about planning for future work and how best to present yourself when you apply for a position. She challenged the scholars to think hard about how they define success and how they picture their dream job.

The specifics, of course, don't do justice to the good times of the Weekend, the friendships made and renewed, and the community feeling strengthened by being together. A manifestation of the evolution of Community Weekend was the book drive, contributed to by dozens of those attending, and benefiting schools in Franklin County.

Community Weekend 2011 will be June 17-19 at Gettysburg College and will feature a keynote address by Pennsylvania's senior United States Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. Scholars will receive information about this over the coming months.



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COMMUNITY WEEKEND