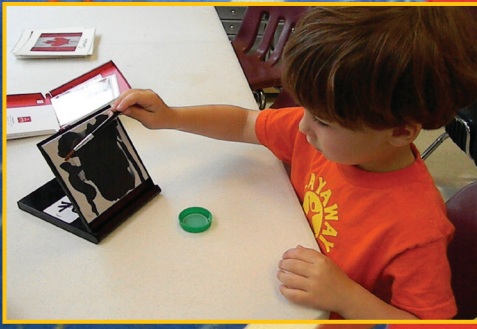




# JAPHET SCHOOL

AWARD-WINNING NATIONAL SCHOOL OF CHARACTER



**Peace Campers engage in activities such as reading, Zen painting, and crafts centered on peace.**

## Peace: within... with others... with the Earth

As the birds chirped in the trees surrounding Japhet's shady courtyard, Susan Ellithorpe and her flock of campers sat in a peace circle, reflecting on how they expressed peace that day.

The notes – which might have said, “Conor read a book to Genevieve” or “Luke and Peyton cleaned up outside” – were followed by the symbolic tying of ribbon on the campers’ collaborative Wreath of Peace. After sharing their notes, the children sang “Seeds of Peace” (words and music by Lazslo Slomovits) accompanied by acoustical guitar.

Peace Camp took place at Japhet for two weeks in June, led by camp creator and former Japhet teacher Susan Ellithorpe and assisted by Primary Class teacher Janet Andersen. Campers ranged in age from 4 to 12, all playing very peacefully together. Their

days included unique crafts like felting (the application of dyed wool onto felt to make colorful designs), playing, hearing special guests and presentations (about Greece and the Peace Corps), making and delivering random notes of kindness, going on field trips to the nature center, and more.

“Gandhi said, ‘If we are to teach real peace in this world, we shall have to begin with the children.’ These words are the core of the program,” says Susan Ellithorpe. “We need to provide children with social

skills to resolve conflicts harmoniously, accept and respect differences, and

*continued on page 3*



**A sixth-grader and Susan Ellithorpe show a popular camp craft: felting with dyed sheep's wool.**

**Upcoming Events**

See our full calendar online

**Admissions Tours**

August 4-20

**First Day of School**

September 3

**Back-to-School Night for Parents**

September 16

**Fall Open House**

October 12

**18 Reasons for Hope Luncheon**

October 30

# Courage Dictates and Love Leads

The 2013/2014 school year has been a year full of firsts ... from our first day of school in September to our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to our first Spring Sharing in our new home and concluding with Graduation. It has been an eventful year, and I am grateful for the support of the entire Japhet School community.

One such supporter to whom I'd like to pay special tribute is Ruth Joy Outland.

Joy became involved with Japhet in 1974, when she enrolled her youngest child and began volunteering in the library. The following year she worked in the business office, and from 1979-1996 she served as Head of School. She also served



Joy Outland in the early '90s with Beth Kistler Joels, XJ'97, and Christopher Morehead, XJ'97.

as president of the Board of Trustees. Under Joy's guidance, the school became a member of the Association of Independent Michigan Schools (AIMS) and was accredited by the Independent Schools

Association of Central States (ISACS). Joy died in May.

Joy is remembered for her motto: "Do it. Do it right. Do it right now."

She is remembered for her valor. When Joy learned that we were losing our lease and considering a purchase of our own

building, she said, "Courage dictates that we try."

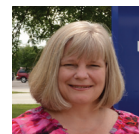
She is remembered – perhaps not quite as fondly, but quite indelibly – as the grammar teacher

who wheeled her grocery cart into classrooms; the cart brimming with grammar textbooks and dittos that tested students' abilities to diagram a sentence.

Beyond the days of her grocery cart driving, Joy and her family remained loyal friends of Japhet School. The *Ruth Joy Outland Citizenship Award*, for instance, is a scholarship her family provides annually; it recognizes personal excellence and exemplary citizenship. This scholarship will continue in her honor.

Mary Baker Eddy said, "Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way." With the deepest sense of gratitude we dedicate these words to Joy Outland – devoted wife and mother, gifted educator, Japhet supporter, mentor, and friend.

– Cathy Mohan



## Smiles of Success

Congratulations, Japhet School Class of 2014!

### Taryn Harrison

Taryn enrolled as a sixth-grade student. Her friends, family, and teachers describe her as upbeat, friendly, loving, loyal, a talented singer and musician, willing to try something new, funny, and a hard-working Honor Roll student. Taryn has been active in Girl Scouts for seven years and on the Lake Orion Swim Team for three years. Taryn's passion, to which she spoke at the 2014 Optimist Oratorical Contest, is *voice*. "It is clear that Taryn has made that first step speaking out for others and in her quest for justice," says homeroom teacher Susan Butler. "Keep her name in mind; one day there may just be another Harrison serving in the State House for Michigan." Taryn's goal for the future is to become a musician and travel the world. Taryn plans to attend Oakland Christian High School.



Brenda Gaunt, Taryn Harrison, Katya Korniewskaia, and Susan Butler

### Katya Korniewskaia

Katya has been a Japhet student since she was 4 years old. At the time, Katya spoke primarily in her first language of Russian. Nine years later, our Spring Sharing audience had the opportunity to observe Katya's bilingual fluency, as her character spoke both languages. Spring Sharing is one of Katya's favorite events, and art one of her favorite classes. Katya enjoys drawing, skiing, camping, singing, writing, and playing the piano. Others describe Katya as poised, intelligent, gentle, patient, and industrious. Katya is consistently on Japhet's Special Honor Roll with an A average. Mrs. Butler shared that Katya sets the same high standards of excellence for herself and she addresses those goals with joy, hard work, and dedication. Katya plans to attend Marion High School and has been awarded an art scholarship.

# SUMMERTIME CELEBRATIONS



We hosted two fun events in June that supported the financial sustainability of Japhet School: our Cruise for Character and Fore the Kids Golf Outing. The Cruise for Character brought together more than 100 Japhet friends in an evening of celebration on Lake St. Clair. Our golf outing, just two weeks later, had a full roster, and golfers enjoyed a beautiful day on the links. Please join us in thanking our sponsors: **PVS Chemicals Inc.**, **Cranbrook Art Museum**, **Straightline**, **Denso International**, and **Condotta LLC**.

## Welcome, New Trustees

**Don Button**, **Sheila Chaps**, **Bruce Kasl**, and **Dorothy O’Ryan** have been elected to serve on Japhet’s Board of Trustees.

**Don Button** is Partner and Creative Director of Elevator, Inc., a multimedia communications firm serving clients such as Mercedes-Benz Financial, PPG Refinish, and Google/YouTube. Don holds a BFA in graphic design from Detroit’s Center for Creative Studies. He is the captain of an adult hockey league and coaches his son’s hockey team. His son is a Japhet student.

**Sheila Chaps** has provided academic leadership for more than four decades. With advanced education degrees, her teaching assignments included work in New York, Boston, Texas, and Spain. She

was employed at Japhet for 18 years, initially as a classroom teacher and then as principal, served as Head of School at Daycroft Montessori, and most recently was the Lower School Head at University Liggett.

**Bruce Kasl** is a project manager in product development for Ford Motor Company, working specifically on truck powertrains. He has volunteered in civic and church organizations, serving as a board member or as a volunteer. Bruce is a graduate of Principia College and holds an MBA from Michigan State University.

**Dorothy O’Ryan’s** career in commercial lending and operations management changed upon first enrolling her youngest

*PEACE CAMP continued from page 1* cherish nature. We are planting seeds for peace, and after planting them we need to maintain and nurture them, so they will grow into peacebuilding habits that will be a part of who they are as world citizens.”

Peace Camp is in harmony with Japhet’s mission – to nurture and prepare each child for life by integrating character education with a strong academic program – by giving students practical solutions for peacemaking and introducing them to new ideas about the social and natural world around them.



**Peace Campers play cooperatively!**

child at Japhet. A passion for character education ensued which she pursued at Japhet in our Early Childhood program, and at Our Lady of the Lakes where she teaches science. Her goal is to help children find awe in the world around them.

Moving forward, **Martha Moyer** has been elected as the new board president, **Kent Commer** is the new vice-president, **Jay Schmitt** will continue as treasurer, and **Janet Rathburg** has been appointed secretary. **Frank Edwards**, **Erik Golbiw**, **Julie Knaffla**, and **Libby Palackdharry** complete the full Board of Trustees for 2014/2015. A brief biography of each trustee is on our website.

The Japhet community joins the board in extending sincere gratitude to **Mike Hedge**, **Ann Nicholson**, and **Terry Helgesen** who have completed their terms.



## Alumni News

Reilly Ankers – J'10



Congratulations to Reilly who just graduated from Ferndale High School. Reilly stayed busy throughout his high school career by playing league hockey for Royal Oak and volunteering as a member of the National Honor Society. He graduated with special honors and commendations in math, science, and social studies. Reilly will be attending the University of Michigan in fall. He has many interests and has not yet chosen a major. U of M awarded Reilly the Jean Fairfax Scholarship which recognizes scholarly potential and leadership, particularly community service. Ms. Fairfax was a 1941 U of M graduate and civil rights champion. Congratulations, Reilly!

## High School Graduations to Celebrate

**Liam Acton, XJ'10** – Clarkston HS (Competitive Archery). U.S. Marine Corps, Engineering.

**Caris Bing, J'10** – Marian HS (First Honors, NHS, Phi Beta Kappa, Spanish Honors Society, Presidential Excellence Award, History Award, Theater, Daemen Merit Scholarship, Rambler Award). Loyola University – International Studies.

**Madeleine Danaher, XJ'10** – Berkley HS. Grand Valley State University.

**Alexa Fisher, XJ'10** – Greenhill HS, Addison, TX (Honors student, Varsity Volleyball, Business Club, Union and Onyx, Presidential Service Award). Brown University – Business Entrepreneur Org.

**Camille Primeau, XJ'10** – Royal Oak HS (Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, NHS, U of M-PACT Scholarship, U of M Music Scholarship, R.O. Arts Council Scholarship, R.O. Musicale Scholarship,

and seven other music and academic awards). University of Michigan – Vocal Performance and English.

**Steve Rosen, XJ'10** – The Principia Upper School, St. Louis, MO (Music Award, Founder's Scholarship). Principia College.

**Emily Strub, J'10** – Waterford Mott HS (Summa Cum Laude, NHS, drama productions). Butler University – Jordan College of the Arts – Theater.

**Joey White, J'10** – Royal Oak HS (Robotics, Varsity Lacrosse). Soon choosing preferred college for engineering.

**Olivia Wood, XJ'10** – Berkley HS, (Summa Cum Laude, Honors Diploma, NHS – Pres., Environmental Club – Pres., Science and Music NHS, Crossfire Debate Club, Symphonic Band, Tennis, Community Service Award). University of Michigan Residential College, Pre-Med.

## College Graduations to Celebrate

**Corey Gipperich, XJ'06** – Grand Valley State University (BA Film and Video); working as a counselor for Northwest Passage in Wisconsin.

**Douglas Hufnagel, XJ'06** – Oakland University (BA).

**Sarah Poche, XJ'06** – University of Detroit Mercy (BS – Biology); next attending Wayne State University – Master in Secondary Ed.

**Andrew Pospisil, J'06** – Oakland University (BA Political Science); applying to graduate and law programs.

**Cooper Stock, XJ'06** – Principia College (BA Education).

**Megan Vivian, XJ'06** – Principia College (BA Education); teaching in St. Louis.

**Share  
with us!**

**Do You Have Alumni News to Share?**

**Please send news and photographs to Robin Pospisil at [robin.pospisil@japhetschool.org](mailto:robin.pospisil@japhetschool.org).**