

# **PROFESSIONAL CHILDREN'S SCHOOL**

## ALUMNI NEWS March 2024

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Tickets on sale for the 110th Anniversary Gala!



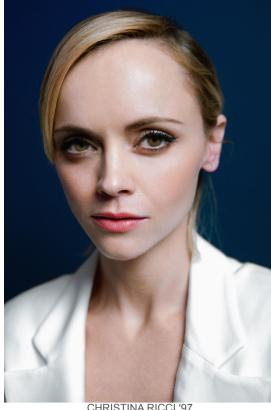
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024 at Edison Ballroom

6:30 PM - Festive Cocktail Reception
7:30 PM - Seated Dinner & Reverse Auction
8:30 PM - Presentation of Legacy Award to Christina Ricci '97 and powerful student performances

Learn more about the 110th Gala

\*\* A limited supply of discounted tickets are available for Young Alumni (Class of 2014 and up). These tickets are \$200 off the original price. <u>Claim yours here.</u>

#### Christina Ricci '97 is the 2024 Legacy Award Honoree



CHRISTINA RICCI '97 [Photo: Jenna Greene] Ricci's film career began when she was just nine years old, acting alongside Cher and Winona Ryder in *Mermaids*. In 1995, shortly after the success of her film, *Casper*, Ricci enrolled in PCS. Her career has spanned decades, appearing in such films as *The Addams Family*, *The Addams Family Values, Now and Then, The Ice Storm, The Opposite of Sex, Buffalo 66, Sleepy Hollow, Monster,* and others. Most recently, her television credits include *Wednesday* and her Emmy and Golden-Globe nominated performance in *Yellowjackets*. Ricci also starred in the Amazon original series *Z: The Beginning of Everything*, for which she also served as a producer and *The Lizzie Borden Chronicles*, for which earned her a 2016 SAG Award® nomination. Ricci has also appeared in multiple Broadway and Off-Broadway productions.

Ricci boasts an impressive array of accolades, having been nominated for prestigious awards at the Golden Globe, Emmy, Screen Actors Guild, Satellite, and Critic's Choice Award ceremonies. <u>See her full bio here.</u>

As the 2024 <u>Legacy Award</u> recipient, Ricci joins the list of past alumni honorees which includes Jack Antonoff, Jason Fuchs, Barrett Doss, Anthony Roth Costanzo, and many others.

#### **ALUMNI NEWS**

Do you have news to share? Email alumni@pcs-nyc.org to be included in the next edition of Alumni News.

**Charlotte Budzinsky '23** started her first quarter at UCSB. She is continuing her dance training with the UCSB faculty who are former NYCB principals, and she is also training at the highly ranked Southland Ballet. Charlotte also had the opportunity to fulfill her dream of entering the Youth America Grand Prix Competition in Las Vegas where she placed in the Top 24 and received great scores and feedback. You can watch her performances <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

**Will Mossek '23** will appear in the upcoming indie drama "The Gymnast", alongside Ethan Embry and other stars. Learn more here!

**Gregory Gropper** '17 was recently in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Manhattan School of Music. He has been cast as the lead, Kaiser, in Viktor Ullman's *Der Kaiser von* 

*Atlantis* for a production at MSM on April 9 and 10. This summer, Gregory will be singing the lead role of Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* at the Berlin Opera Academy.

**Elizabeth Peck '16** was recently accepted to the MD program at SUNY Downstate Medical School in Brooklyn as a member of the Class of 2028. She completed her premedical studies at Brown University after dancing with School of American Ballet and Canada's National Ballet School while attending PCS.

**Emily Sotirov '14** is currently a dual real estate agent with The Corcoran Group and American Fine Homes & Estates in Long Island.

Nat Wolff '13 and Alex Wolff '16 discussed their music career with PEOPLE Magazine. <u>Read the conversation here.</u>

**Alex** also can be seen in the Academy Award winning film, *Oppenheimer*, which recently won the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture.



(L-R) Nat and Alex Wolff. PHOTO: INDIE JANSONS

**Margaret Qualley '13** stars in *Drive-Away Dolls*, which was released in cinemas on February 23rd. <u>Watch the trailer here.</u> She also appeared in the Oscar-nominated film, *Poor Things.* Additionally, it was announced that she will also star in *Honey Don't* alongside Chris Evans and Aubrey Plaza. <u>Learn more here</u>.



**Darius Davie '10** recently presented his work as the Founder of <u>Groom Guy</u> at The White House.

**Ashley Everett '07** was a Model Presenter at this year's Grammy Awards. You may have seen her passing off the coveted awards to the lucky winners.

**Cameron Dieck '06** was recently promoted to Vice President Investment Banking at J.P. Morgan.

Darius Davie '10 at the White House

**Tiler Peck '06** launched her choreographic debut at New York City Ballet with *Concerto for Two Pianos,* which premiered on February 1st. This article from <u>Vogue</u> provides more insights.

Jack Antonoff '02 won the 2024 Grammy Award for "Producer of the Year, Non-Classical" for the third consecutive year. Additionally, Antonoff won the Award for Album of the Year with Taylor Swift's "Midnights".

**Miriam Rowan '02** and her husband, Stephen, welcomed baby Isaac Rowan Vanreuselin in August. Please join us in expressing our most sincere congratulations on their new addition!



Miriam Rowan '02 and her family

**Kieran Culkin '00** has received many accolades this year for his role in *Succession*. This year, Culkin won the Emmy, Golden Globe, and Critic's Choice Awards for leading actor in a drama series. His *Succession* cast also won the Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series.

**Christina Ricci '97** is the 2024 recipient of the PCS Legacy Award. She is to be honored at the 110th Anniversary Gala on April 17th. Learn more here.



**David Krumholtz '96** can be seen in the Academy Award winning film, *Oppenheimer*, which recently won the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. Krumholtz also recently discussed his decades-long career in this <u>Vanity Fair</u> article. Krumholtz also recently guest starred in an episode of *Law & Order: SVU*.

**Sarah Michelle Gellar '94** was recently a guest judge on Season 16 of *Rupaul's Drag Race*.

Sarah Michelle Gellar '94 on Rupaul's Drag Race (MTV)

**Diane Lane '83** stars in Ryan Murphy's latest FX series, *Feud: Capote vs. The Swans*. Lane stars alongside Naomi Watts, Demi Moore, Calista Flockhart, Chloë Sevigny, Molly Ringwald, Treat Williams, and Tom Hollander. <u>Watch the trailer here.</u>

**Emanuel Ax '66** and **Yo-Yo Ma '71** performed with violinist Leonidas Kavakos to a sold-out audience at Cleveland's Severance Music Center in the Mandel Concert Hall this February. <u>Learn more here.</u>

**Christopher Walken '61** appears in the highly anticipated *Dune: Part Two.* 



manuel Ax '66 and Yo-Yo Ma '71 PHOTO: Cleveland Orchestra

**Leslie Uggams '60** appears in the Oscar-nominated film, *American Fiction*. She was nominated alongside her cast for the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture.

Did we miss your news? Share it with us at alumni@pcs-nyc.org!

### **IN MEMORIAM**



**Thomas Orefice** Beloved Teacher and Friend to PCS

We are saddened to report the loss of Thomas Orefice, a beloved English teacher who taught at PCS for 34 years from 1986 until his retirement in 2020. Tom's impact on PCS students will remain in our memories, and we are sending thoughts and well wishes to his husband, John.

Read the obituary here.

### **SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT PCS**

#### Fall 2024 enrollment is open!

PCS has a rolling admissions model that allows for young artists, athletes, and dreamers to apply for PCS when it matters most. If you know of a family that would benefit from a PCS education, please encourage them to join us at a virtual information session, offered monthly.

#### **Upcoming Virtual Info Sessions**

Middle School (Grades 6-8): April 9, May 6 Upper School (Grades 9-12): April 10, May 7

All Virtual Info Sessions take place online at 12PM EST.

Upcoming Admissions Events

### **A NOTE FROM THE ALUMNI LIAISON**

Have you ever run into a teacher, or a friend from your past after having lost touch for several years? You're out somewhere and someone walks up to you and says "Hi, I know you! Remember me?" I've been pleasantly surprised to cross paths and reconnect with a wonderful group of alumni this year and, on occasion, in some pretty strange places. In each exchange and conversation, I was reminded about the wonderful experiences our Alumni have had at PCS through the years and I felt affirmed that the work we do here makes a difference in the lives of so many talented and creative individuals.

Last September during NYC Fashion Week, I attended a fashion show to support a friend and unexpectedly ran into Peter Cirolia '01, twenty two years after he had graduated from PCS. It was great catching up and when he mentioned that he had a desire to return to visit, I invited him to join us for Health and Wellness Day to share his expertise and teach two fitness classes. Peter had not been back to the School since graduation and he jumped at the chance to meet with students in a place that he had called home so many years ago. Early in his career, Peter was a member of New York City Ballet and later opened up his own Health and Fitness Studio and Ballet School where he currently teaches. He has his own Youtube channel, *Ballet Muscle*, where he teaches how to build ballet muscles for balance and tone. He was welcomed back to PCS with thunderous applause.





Lindsay Nazelli '85 reconnected with the School a few years back when, during the Pandemic, she joined students for a Zoom cooking class. Later, when we returned to in-person learning, she ran a class during our Activities period. When I approached Lindsey to share her knowledge of plant-based cooking and to lead a cooking class for Health and Wellness Day, she gladly agreed she has great memories of her time at PCS and loves to meet and mentor our students. Lindsay is a plant-based cook, professional actress and cooking teacher who is lending her talents to the movement of bringing healthsupportive, plant-based cuisine into the mainstream. We were grateful that she shared her nutrition knowledge and showed our students that plant-based cooking can be fun and delicious. Check out her <u>website</u> or her <u>Youtube channel</u> to see her work.

Jill Perin '81 also joined us for Health and Wellness Day and offered her expertise in wellness. She spent the last twenty five years teaching and guiding meditation. After a successful dance career with NYC Ballet, she became a certified selfcare coach, a yoga teacher, as well as a life coach. She walked the students through guided meditation and visualization and provided some coaching related to their professional interests. The students left her session calm and grounded and with a better understanding of how they can accomplish anything. Jill was grateful for her time at PCS. She felt supported by her teachers and her classmates. She spoke fondly of her academic experience so much so that she decided to send her daughter, Sedona Perin '22 to PCS.





Recently, on an Art field trip with our 6th and 7th grade students, I crossed paths with Laura Bell Bundy '99 in Central Park. What a welcome surprise to see her again after several years. She was at the Park with her son who I had the pleasure of meeting. Laura was an accomplished child actor when she attended PCS. She continues to have a successful career in television, movies and musical theatre as both a performer and a director.

Meeting up with our Alumni and having them return for visits to meet with our students is a rewarding experience for everyone. I encourage you to come back and get reacquainted with the place that you remember fondly particularly as we celebrate our 110 year anniversary. Thank you to all of our Alumni who gave of their time this school year or have donated to our Campaign because you are the light of this school and we are forever grateful.

Dania Nauholnyk Alumni Liaison

Donate to Professional Children's School

Do you have news to share with the Alumni community?

Click here!

**Planning a visit to PCS?** Make sure to schedule an appointment so that we can plan accordingly! Email alumni@pcs-nyc.org to schedule a time to stop by, tour the building, and walk down memory lane. We cannot wait to see you!



**Our Contact Information** \*{{Organization Name}}\* \*{{Organization Address}}\* \*{{Organization Phone}}\* \*{{Organization Website}}\*

\*{{Unsubscribe}}\*

