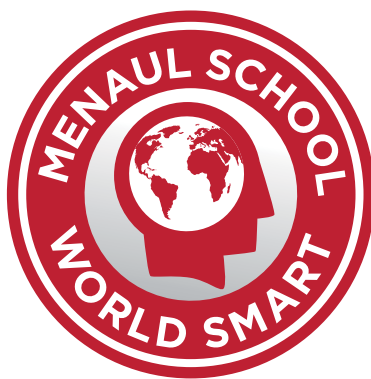


# MENAU SCHOOL

A young girl with dark hair and a blue t-shirt is smiling and holding a large, light-colored rock. She is looking towards the camera. In the background, other people are visible but out of focus.

Fall 2019



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# Mission Statement

In Mind, Body, and Spirit, our mission is to prepare students to succeed. Menaul School develops excellence, confidence and integrity and provides the foundation for life-long learning and ethical leadership.

Menaul School is an independent school affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA).







## From the Head of School

Lindsey R. Gilbert, Jr.

*Dear Friends,*

I'm excited to announce that this school year's theme is *Belong*. By definition, to belong means to be a part of something. Here, it means being part of a place that loves and respects folks from all creeds and backgrounds. Initially called by God to educate New Mexico's rural and urban communities, throughout our history we have always sought to adopt an open attitude towards all people.

At Menaul School, everyone is welcomed and accepted joyfully, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, or socioeconomic status. We are an inclusive community and want every student, employee, and family member to feel like they are a part of our Menaul School learning community.

Our world is made up of communities, large and small. The best ones are places where we feel safe, support one another, share our strengths, celebrate differences, and encourage creativity. Places that feel like home. Places like Menaul School.

By having healthy dialogues and an attitude of openness, we can learn to hold our cherished beliefs but still "agree to disagree." As we see in our current political environment, our leaders and the media seem to encourage us to not work together and to disrespect each other. The climate at Menaul School is boldly different.

At Menaul School, our objective is to learn to respect people who may pray differently, who may have different cultural standards, or who think about politics differently. We embrace, honor, and celebrate each other as diverse, unique, and worthy individuals.

Being part of a family means you belong, no matter what, no matter how different you are. Because of our diverse family, students learn compassion and empathy, they learn to think beyond themselves, and they learn to acknowledge the impact of their actions on others and on the world.

*You can't be human all by yourself... We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world. When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity.*

—Desmond Tutu

I think people, when they come in and are new, they may think that they don't really fit in. But, even after a couple of weeks, we get along and we're close. It's pretty much like a family. Menaul is just a huge family.

—Marianna Astorga '19

We are not alone in the world; we belong together, working together for the greater good. To have the greatest impact, we need to be open to learning about each other and building each other up.

By God's grace, this will be a year where our community shines as a beacon of love, acceptance, and a place to belong.

Lindsey R. Gilbert, Jr.  
President/Head of School



# Class of 2019











**First Row:** Jiaxin (Christine) Liu, Enhui (Grace) Wang, Ya Xin (Daisy) Wang, Paul-Jacob Liyanasuriya, Meilin (Linda) Zheng, Hao Thi Tu Tran, Marianna Astorga, Marcela Zavala  
**Second Row:** Marylin Pecos, Marcos Morales, Bonita Murara, Jonathan Chambers, Inas El Ouazguiti, Jaycob Tarin-Madrid, Andrew Hughes | **Third Row:** Larissa Senga, K'wani Cortes, Dingyue (Katherine) Zhang, Raphael Elvir, Xieyuan (Larry) Guo, Gilbert Benton, Marco Acabal  
**Fourth Row:** Mengen (Grace) Li, Kalea Ramsey, Samuel Calderon, Boyu (Bobby) Chen, Daniele Bacchin, Kritan Subedi, Lucianna Astorga | **Fifth Row:** Georgios Patitsas, Maria Arroyo Sanchez, Ivan Delgado, BingYang (Oliver) Li, Rehema Umutoni, Runlang (Ray) Hao  
**Sixth Row:** Dylan Lerch, Alec Villarreal, I-Kai (Leo) Su

The Class of 2019 will be attending  
24 different colleges and universities.

Adams State University  
 Amherst College  
 Arizona State University  
 Auburn University  
 California Institute of the Arts  
 Central American Technological University  
 Central New Mexico Community College  
 Community College of Philadelphia  
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
 Millikin University  
 New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology  
 New Mexico State University  
 Northwest University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Purdue University  
 Sam Houston State University  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of California, Davis  
 University of Colorado, Boulder  
 University of Connecticut  
 University of Michigan, Flint  
 University of New Mexico  
 University of South Florida  
 Western Michigan University



Dingyue (Katherine) Zhang, Valedictorian



Boyu (Bobby) Chen, Salutatorian



# Golden Graduates Return Home

## 50 Years Strong

CLASS OF 1969



**First Row:** Dennis Lucero, Linda Quezada, Georgia Fragua, Virginia Pena, Carol Atencio

**Second Row:** Tina Dyer, Presy Cardenas, Ernest Cordova, Monica Stewart

**Third Row:** Michael Rendon, Fred Gabriele, Creigh Gordon, Arthur Eichwald

The 2019 Golden Graduates enjoyed a wonderful reunion weekend. In addition to escorting in the Panther Class of 2019 for Commencement, classmates enjoyed a welcome reception on Thursday evening, a meet and greet with the Class of 2019 and a reception at the President's Cottage on Friday and a delicious breakfast and photo shoot on Saturday morning. Thank you, Class of 1969! We loved having you on campus and look forward to hosting the Class of 1970.





# Panther Spotlight

## Living World Smart Values



**Kritan Subedi '19**

### Sea La Luz Award

*Sea La Luz*—"Be the Light"—has been the motto of Menaul School for more than a century. The Sea La Luz Award recognizes students who exemplify community spirit, service, and leadership, making Menaul School a better place to learn and grow.

**Kritan Subedi** is always present—always! Whether it's participating in athletic practice, helping others with homework, or planning the next big event, Kritan is involved. As a top student and a three-sport athlete, it would be understandable if Kritan missed an activity or two, but she rarely does.

Kritan served the Menaul School community as a Student Council Representative, National Honor Society Member, and organizer of prom her junior year. She is also a four-year participant in volleyball, basketball, and track, earning her an annual Iron Woman award. In spite of a heavy extracurricular schedule, Kritan is a three-year academic letter recipient and has been recognized for her excellent work with awards in English, science, religion, and history. In addition, she is this year's recipient of the MDR Scholarship.

When Kritan isn't participating in activities herself, you will find her in the stands cheering on her friends. Kritan's

bright smile, willingness to help others and tenacity have earned her this year's Sea La Luz Award.



**Lucianna Astorga '19,  
Marcos Morales '19**

### Renaissance Award

Every year, one male senior and one female senior receive the Renaissance Award, because they have represented and embodied the character of a well-rounded Menaul School student. Alumni and sponsor teachers select the students, who must be successful academically, involved in extracurricular activities, and most importantly, have good character, supporting and encouraging their classmates and peers. These students fully embody Menaul School's mission and represent the school in "Mind, Body and Spirit." The 2019 recipients were **Marcos Morales** and **Lucianna Astorga**.



**Global Ambassadors**

**Sophie Grace Starace '20  
Cody Leslie '20**

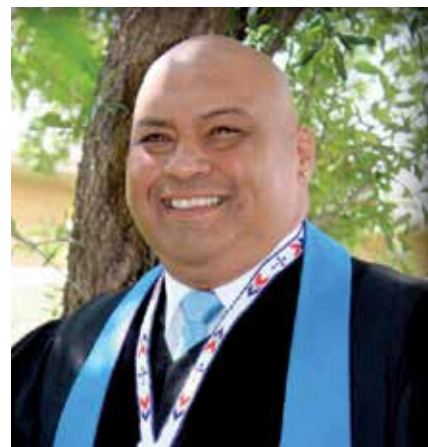


**Global Ambassadors**

**Natalie Hughes '21  
Jose Miguel Rios '21**

### Alumni Promising Global Ambassador Awards

The Menaul School Alumni Association presents this award to a sophomore boy and girl and a junior boy and girl who are promising leaders, as demonstrated by their enthusiastic service within our community. Each awardee is a positive role model, reaching out to others and making our community a better place because of their leadership and influence. The 2019 recipients were sophomores **Natalie Hughes** and **Jose Miguel Rios**. Junior recipients were **Sophie Grace Starace** and **Cody Leslie**.



**The Reverend Buddy Monahan**  
*December 3, 1965 to March 27, 2018*

### The Reverend Monahan Spirit and Service Award

The Reverend Buddy Monahan Spirit and Service Award honors the late Reverend, who served 17 years as chaplain at Menaul School. Recipients of this award are chosen because they reflect the



values that Buddy stood for:

**Respect** for the sacredness of all people and cultures

**Service** to others, especially the “least of these”

**Joy** for living a life of worship that affirms the goodness and Presence of God

**Commitment** to the creation of Spirit-led compassion for the community



### Luis Alvarado '20

**Luis Alvarado** is this year's recipient. Luis is a kind, caring, and respectful young man who has made an impression on the Menaul School community with his generous spirit. While he often prefers to take the role of a supportive listener, he isn't afraid to voice his own opinions and to model active learning for his peers. He is a capable individual who seems best and happiest when working as a team player. He is serious when needed, yet doesn't take himself too seriously, and he tends to see the good in every person and every idea rather than to worry over small details.

One thing that sets Luis apart is his willingness to reach out and be friends with everyone. On Mission Week trips, Luis has been genuinely moved by the difficult circumstances of others and then works to make things better. When one of our international students needed a place to stay for one of the longer breaks, Luis hosted him at his home and made every effort to make him feel welcome and comfortable.

Luis remains true to his core values and he doesn't change who he is based on crowds or cliques. Reverend Buddy would have appreciated this quiet and kind leader.



## German Exchange Student Program

In April, as part of Menaul School's inaugural exchange program with Löwenrot Gymnasium in Baden-Württemberg, Germany, fourteen German students came to Albuquerque, attended classes at Menaul School, stayed with outstanding host families, and visited important cultural sites in New Mexico, including Taos Pueblo and Santa Fe.

In July, nine Menaul School students had the opportunity to be a part of the outbound exchange. Löwenrot Gymnasium has beautiful, modern facilities, a wide selection of course offerings, and friendly teachers and students. Menaul School and its students are grateful that they had the opportunity to partner with this school.

The group from Menaul School traveled to St. Leon-Rot (near Heidelberg) and experienced German customs and culture firsthand through a combination of German 101 classes, time with wonderful host families, and excursions to Frankfurt, Speyer, Schwetzingen Palace, Heidelberg, Strasbourg (France), and Neuschwanstein Castle. How fortunate that within a short driving radius of the host school, students could experience the remarkable cultural heritage and history of this region. In each new city, the students enjoyed sampling local cuisine/specialties and taking in the sites and landscapes (so vastly different from New Mexico!).

As part of the exchange program, student groups from both countries gave presentations in front of school assemblies, which offered insights into their home city, school, and culture. A great learning experience for all!



World Smart



# Partners in Diversity

## Creating Future World Leaders

People to People International (PTPI), in partnership with Menaul School, hosted the 2019 Global Youth Forum (GYF) from Sunday, July 21, to Thursday, July 25, on the Menaul School campus. Fifty-one students from a dozen states and five countries participated in the program.

Founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, PTPI is an international world peace organization that strives to imbue in each person not only tolerance and acceptance, but also the desire to immerse themselves in other cultures and become global citizens.

The GYF is one of PTPI's branded programs for high school students ages 13–18. Merrill Eisenhower Atwater, CEO of PTPI, describes it this way: "The Global Youth Forum gives students around the world an opportunity to come together in an international setting and experience other cultures, make new friends, and learn about ways that they can make a change in the world."

This year's theme was *Cultural Awareness*, so "we wanted students to experience how other cultures and people live and the kinds of things they value," states Josh Baca, on-campus Director of the program. A trip to Sky City exemplified this—a mesa 367 feet above the New Mexico desert and home to the Acoma Pueblo, the oldest continuously inhabited settlement in North America.

Other activities included a trip to the National Hispanic Cultural Center, mission work at the Storehouse (a community food pantry), a disaster simulation, Model UN, and a group presentation about disaster preparedness before a body of experts.

According to Atwater, "This year's Global Youth Forum had the greatest cultural diversity. From the visit to Sky City to our diverse population of students from other nations, other parts of the country, and all walks of life, there was no shortage of education, fun, and friends."

"I spoke to many students and they felt like they connected with folks from all over the world," states Menaul School's President and Head of School, Lindsey R. Gilbert, Jr. Student Benjamin Morales agrees. GYF changed his outlook on the world: "The world is big, but not so big that it prevents people from creating friendships and memories together."

Menaul School is honored to have been chosen as the 2019 host for PTPI's GYF. The program fits well with Menaul School's World Smart curriculum, which celebrates and embraces diversity on many levels: race, ethnicity, religion, culture, and socioeconomic status.

"People to People International and Menaul School were meant to be partners," states Atwater. "Our parallel missions and visions make the environment created by both organizations an ideal place for learning and cultural awareness."

Being on the Board of both organizations gives Patrick Westerfield a unique view on the partnership. Westerfield began working with Menaul School nearly five years ago. "I immediately saw the common grounds that could be developed and explored. During the last year as we developed the program, we began to learn how the two entities could work together and present an outstanding forum."

Atwater, Westerfield, and Gilbert agree: this summer's GYF at Menaul School was a huge success. "It was a natural fit all around," says Gilbert.

Going forward, Westerfield has dual goals. He would like to broaden GYF and increase enrollment, while continuing to expand Menaul School's World Smart curriculum and create new international programs to advance the school with the assistance of PTPI.

So, what's next? "People to People International and Menaul School were meant to be partners," states Atwater. "We are so excited to watch this partnership grow and see what it can accomplish."



Photo credits: Barbara Capozzi



# How to Be a Successful College Applicant

By Chris Schifani, College Guidance Counselor

As Menaul School's College Counselor for the past four years, I have been privileged to guide over 100 Menaul School graduates through the college application process. During this time, I have seen firsthand what makes for a successful Menaul School college applicant. The following tips provide information that I feel is essential for families to know as they begin the college application process in earnest.

- Colleges look most closely at grades in college prep classes (9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup>), how hard/strong the student's course selection is, and SAT/ACT scores.
- Extracurricular activities—what the student does when not in class or school—are also important. Doing one to two things over a long period is better than doing many for a short time. Commitment is key.
- Demonstrating interest to a college, interviews, and essays are all important pieces to most applications, since they can make otherwise “borderline” candidates stand out.
- There are more than 7,000 two-year and four-year colleges in the United States, and many more abroad. Make a list of schools that have features you care about, and don't just apply to the top 100 that everyone has heard of before.
- Most private scholarships cover between \$500 and \$2,000, and may not be renewable. The biggest scholarship awards come from schools themselves and go to well-rounded, outstanding students.
- Fill out the FAFSA—Free Application for Federal Student Aid—as soon as possible online after October 1. This is the key to government, institutional, and merit aid.
- Menaul School requires students to fill out the Common Application, which is one application that can be used to apply to hundreds of different schools. The Coalition Application is another, similar choice. Finally, students can use individual schools' own applications to apply if the other applications aren't available.
- The application window is typically November 1–January 15. Students can apply Early Action to get earlier decisions if they wish, but still have until May 1 to accept. Students who apply early decision get to choose ONE school to apply early to, but then MUST attend if admitted. This gives a slight admissions boost, but is not for everyone.
- Students can take either the SAT or the ACT—colleges accept both. I recommend taking both the first time, seeing which one you like and do best on, then taking that one again, if necessary. Don't take either test more than three times.
- Colleges understand that life sometimes affects grades. If it does, students need to communicate with me and with schools to explain any sudden drops in performance to avoid being penalized.
- Have someone look over any essays you write for schools. Take feedback seriously.
- Do mock interviews with me or a friend before the real thing.
- If you can't travel, ask to talk with an alumna in your area, or a current student at the school.
- Check email regularly—it's how colleges communicate.
- If you have questions or need advice, ask AHEAD of time. Stay ahead of deadlines.







# Boarding Life



## Crossing International Boundaries, Expanding World Views

*"Attending Menaul was truly a life-changing experience. I got to learn so much more than just schoolwork. I got to learn leadership, get a sense of truly living in a community and forming bonds that go beyond cultures, religions and differences. Menaul has helped prepare me fully for college and for life."*

*—INAS EL OUAZGUITI '19, Morocco*





# Middle School Learning Expeditions

## World Smart in Action

By Julie Shuler-Misra, Middle School Director

Four times each year, middle schoolers participate in **learning expeditions**—immersive, thematically focused opportunities designed to combine classroom instruction with service to the community by exposing them to experts and experiences that help them solve real-world problems.



The first learning expedition kicked off on Wednesday, August 21, and finished on Thursday, August 29. Using the theme *If I Ran the Zoo*, the expedition challenged students to find a way to make zoos better for the animals and the environment. Students used a solution-based approach to solving problems called “design thinking” to learn what makes a good zoo from the perspective of both animals and visitors.

Students learned about animals that need saving by studying their needs and behaviors, the threats they face, and their natural habitats. Using this knowledge, they designed part of a new zoo that could fit within the footprint of our local zoo, the Albuquerque BioPark, using scale-drawing techniques to ensure that the exhibits fit with those created by their peers.

To prepare, students researched the history of zoos to understand recent innovations that reduce the stress of confinement on animals. They also collected data about animals’ behavior with the ethogram format that animal behaviorists use. They researched enrichment methods used by zoos and wildlife parks, and practiced a few on their classmates and pets at home!

This particular expedition charged the students not only to consider the value of zoos in preserving many species that would otherwise go extinct, but also to acknowledge that many people feel zoos might not be giving animals enough space to live.

Because learning expeditions rely on students’ interactions with others in the school community and in our wider world, they also help students boost their social and emotional learning—namely, the skills and habits that allow people to manage emotions, reach goals, cultivate empathy, build relationships, and make good decisions. These skills are central to young adolescents’ development.

In the academic realm, Menaul School middle school students synthesize the knowledge that they’ve already developed in elementary school, at the same time that they are expanding their horizons with new challenges and experiences. Our middle school structure affords students and teachers both the time and structure needed to examine



subjects in a multidisciplinary and holistic way, helping students to examine questions and find solutions with context. Our goal is for the strong foundation that our students build here to support them well into Upper School and beyond, pairing a sense of wonder about the world with the strong study skills and habits of mind needed for success. While learning expeditions are not the only way that middle school teachers help students build curiosity about the world and the skills to act in it, these expeditions are a central part of our approach.





# Panther Tracks

Fostering Growth in Mind, Spirit, and Body

*Mind*





# Panther Tracks

## *Spirit*





# Panther Tracks

## *Body*







Maria Arroyo-Sanchez '19

*"It's not just about sports. The events we experience throughout the year test our boundaries and make us grow, coaches and athletes alike. I'm looking forward to the kids really working hard this year and enjoying this competitive aspect of life, which will serve them well, whatever they do."*

—Gary Boatman,  
Athletic Director

## Best in the Field

Unlike other schools, at Menaul School, motivated students can play on sports teams regardless of previous experience, skill level, or size. Our mission is to help students succeed in mind, body, and spirit, and that means giving *everyone* a chance to learn and grow. Here, success means doing your best.

No one is turned away. All students receive the same instruction and have the same opportunity to be part of a team. Every athlete gets time to play, whether it's on the field or on the court.

Menaul School offers many opportunities for students to participate in sports: volleyball, basketball, football, cross-country, and track and field. In the 2019-2020 school year, Menaul School will be starting a soccer team as well.

"I am excited about soccer, yes, but all of our teams too. With ample opportunity to play, our students really excel," states Athletic Director Gary Boatman. "Last year, our football team made it into the second round of the state tournament; our track and field teams had many state qualifiers. And, Maria Arroyo-Sanchez received a full college scholarship to play basketball at Northwest University in Kirkland, Washington. These are just amazing kids."

At Menaul School, athletes practice and play in a World Smart environment, where students come from a variety of backgrounds, ethnicities, religions, and cultures. Because of Menaul School's diversity, athletes learn to accept and embrace differences in their teammates, creating an inclusive and welcoming community all around.





# Making a World Smart Education Affordable for All



## Flex Tuition

The reality of today’s world is that tuition at private schools is expensive, growing at a faster pace than inflation and shutting out many promising students. At Menaul School, things are different. Here, everyone belongs.

Our mission is to prepare all students to succeed in mind, body, and spirit, regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, religion, or socioeconomic status, making us the most diverse private school in the region.

With our optional Flex Tuition program, we provide access to a World Smart education for students who would not ordinarily be able to attend a private school. Families pay on a sliding scale based on their income. Flex tuition is provided through a combination of scholarships and financial assistance. We thank the philanthropic organizations and individuals who, through their generous contributions, make this financial aid possible. Without such support, Flex Tuition would not exist.



In order left to right: Lucianna, Esperanza, and Marianna Astorga.

• • • • •  
**For more information about admissions, tuition, or how you can make a gift,  
please visit [www.MenaulSchool.org](http://www.MenaulSchool.org) or call us at 505-345-7727.**  
• • • • •





## Charitable Giving

### From the Director of Institutional Advancement

Melanie G. Davis

#### *"Thank You" is Not Enough.*

As the hallway bustles with students flowing towards the chapel, one can hear the laughter, see the smiles and feel the positive energy that moves with them. It is another new academic year at Menaul School, the 124<sup>th</sup> to be precise.

Although much has changed over the decades, there are still many things that have remained constant and at the core of identity for this learning community. Students from diverse backgrounds—this year representing six Pueblos and 19 countries—continue to experience a deep sense of belonging that has been known by generations of classes past. Students experience an education grounded in Christian faith that strengthens the whole person—body, mind and spirit. Exceptional teachers are passionate about what they teach and are dedicated to providing challenging academics, supporting and holding students accountable for their progress and their behaviors. And, as in years past, Menaul School provides a rigorous curriculum that dares students to stretch and grow, equipping them with the tools, knowledge and self-discipline they need to succeed in college and in life.

The mission of Menaul School remains strong, but that mission would not exist if it were not for a larger community providing vital support. That community

of supporters originated over 100 years ago with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and continues today with a new generation of individuals, organizations and businesses. Each and every gift given, whether it is \$10, \$1,000 or \$100,000, plays an important role in creating this amazing educational environment.

When asked recently what she would say to those who have donated, parent Dolores Lovato, said, *"Thank you is not enough...You have provided an avenue for my girls that would not have been possible...because I would not have been able to give them that option."* As the mother of daughters Esperanza (2018), and twins, Marianna and Lucianna (2019), pictured on the opposite page, Dolores has experienced firsthand the transformative power that a Menaul School education makes in the lives of young people. And lest you think students don't realize the role that philanthropists and their gifts play in their education, daughter Marianna says it well: *"Giving to someone you don't know—it is so amazing to me...They've given us so much. They've given us an education, they've given us friends, they've given us so many opportunities for the future that we're also able to use now."*

If you are a supporter, saying "thank you" is not enough! May you feel the

incredible joy of knowing that you have helped shape the lives of students like the Astorga sisters and so many others. If you would like to discuss additional ways to make an impact, please contact me. And, if you have not yet become a supporter of this amazing mission, I invite you to wait no longer—make a gift today, sharing whatever you can. By adding your support, you help to create a world of possibilities for the next generation of students who walk the halls of Menaul School—laughing, smiling and experiencing a great community and education that will propel them into the future with success.

Melanie G. Davis, MBA, M.Div.

• • • • •  
**For more information on  
planned giving and how  
you can leave a legacy gift,  
contact Melanie Davis,  
Director of Institutional  
Advancement at MDavis@  
MenaulSchool.org or (505)  
341-7230.**  
• • • • •



## Class of 2019 by the Numbers

121<sup>st</sup>  
year of graduates

100%  
graduation rate

39  
graduates

10  
different countries

2  
Native American tribes

Attending schools in  
15  
different states and  
1  
other country

97%  
college enrollment rate

Offered  
\$80,000  
four-year average  
scholarship dollars per  
senior

Offered  
\$2.9 million  
total scholarship dollars  
for the senior class  
over four years

# Scholarships

## Create a Lasting Impact

More than 50% of Menaul School students rely on some form of financial assistance. These scholarships have been created to ensure that every student has access to the one-of-a-kind World Smart education that Menaul School provides.

### American Indian Scholarship Fund

*Supporting American Indian Heritage, History, and Culture*

This fund was created for Native American students to prepare them for success in college and equip them with the confidence and skills needed to make a difference in the world.

### African American Gary D. Dewitt Memorial Scholarship Fund

*Working Together to Make a Positive Impact on African American Youth*

Gary D. Dewitt served with distinction in the armed services and received multiple awards throughout his military career. In 2009, his family established this scholarship, intended to help African American students thrive in college, in the workplace and in life.

### The Alumni/MCA Legacy Scholarship

*Alumni Supporting Native Populations*

This scholarship benefits the Native American Pueblo and tribal people of New Mexico and Arizona, the Hispanic populations of Northern New Mexico, Southern Colorado, California, Eastern Texas, and other populations native to New Mexico.

### MDR Scholarship

*Supporting Excellence in Education*

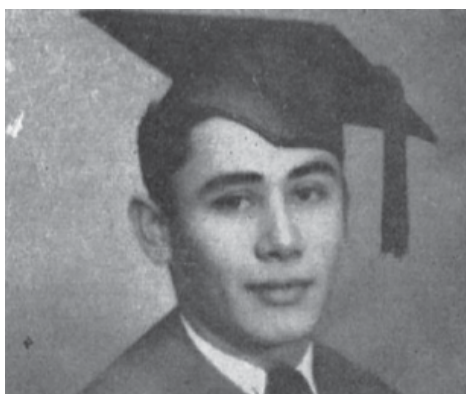
Sharon Rhutasel-Jones established this scholarship in memory of her late husband and daughter. Each year \$1,000 is given to an exemplary student, who excels academically, participates in extracurricular activities, supports the community, and exhibits strong values.





# Making a Difference

## Changing Young Lives Forever



Chris Luna, Class of 1947

Through a planned gift, Alumnus Cris Luna established an endowment with Menaul School in October 2019. Beginning in 2020, from interest generated by the endowment, the Cris Luna Scholarship will be given annually in memory of Ruth K. Barber and Harper C. Donaldson. The assistance will benefit a Hispanic student demonstrating financial need.

• • • • •  
**If you are interested in learning more about the impact you can make on young lives, please contact Melanie Davis at (505) 341-7230.**  
• • • • •



I was born in Veracruz, Mexico, in 1925. At the age of 19, I started working to support myself. I wanted to attend school, but there were no evening classes in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, where I was working. I soon moved to the United States to work for the Southern Pacific Railroad. During this time, I attended several different Presbyterian churches, including one whose pastor was from Veracruz, my home state. Soon after, I met a gentleman who told me about Menaul School, asking if I wanted to attend. Of course I said Yes!

Mr. Donaldson, who was Head of School at that time, sent me a letter telling me to report for the new school year, fall of 1945. He showed me that he cared about all the students. For example, he transported me from the bus station in Albuquerque to Menaul School upon my arrival at 5 am in early September 1945. He told me that I could go to him whenever I needed advice or had any problems. He was like a second father to me.

Ms. Barber, Dean of the School, knew I needed help in all aspects of the English language, so she made a schedule to tutor me whenever I was not in class and in the evenings. I received tutoring from her throughout my first year at Menaul School. She also connected me with Millikin University in Illinois and was instrumental in getting me a scholarship to attend. After graduating, I worked in various research laboratories before becoming a mathematics teacher (it was my favorite subject in school) and bilingual educator. I taught for almost 30 years, retiring in 1990.

Menaul School helped me when I needed it most—as a young man from Mexico with hopes and dreams but no way to achieve them. Menaul School helped me achieve those hopes and dreams. It provided me with the foundation for my success in life: a well-balanced and exceptional academic and spiritual education.

Establishing this gift brings me great joy. Mr. Donaldson and Ms. Barber were very influential during my stay at Menaul School. I have created this planned gift in their memory, to honor two special people who cared for me, inspired me, and set me on the path to success. This scholarship is to help Menaul School continue to educate youth in need. My hope is that it will not only provide funds for students, but also inspire others to give back to the school that set them on the path to success too.





## “Menaul School is Home to Me”

An Interview with Mary Jo Lees  
Outgoing Alumni Association President

*Mary Jo Lees '87 has been the Alumni Association President for the past six years. As per the bylaws, this year is her last. Under her leadership, the Association has thrived. She has been an enthusiastic, dedicated, and unwavering voice for Menaul School alumni.*

### **How has the Association changed**

**under your tenure?** My first goal was to reach out to alumni and reengage them. I became their “voice on campus,” making the school aware of what alumni were thinking and feeling and, at the same time, encouraging alumni to come back and reconnect with the school.

### **What have you enjoyed most about**

**being president?** The blessing of friendship, of meeting people I never would have met, expanding my Menaul School family, making amazing friends that I know will be with me for the rest of my life.

### **How can the Alumni Association**

**continue to grow?** We need to remain committed to engaging alumni, educating them, and making them feel like a part of the Menaul School family. The new Alumni Association president must be enthusiastic, ready to learn, and approachable—open to embracing and meeting new people, trying new things.

### **What are the short- and long-term goals**

**of the Association?** The goal is to keep moving forward. We'd like to have more volunteers and create opportunities for alumni to serve both on campus and off. Not huge commitments, but perhaps an email to their class about an upcoming

event or creating a Facebook page for their class. We also want to make connections between alumni and students; for example, hosting a student for a holiday, taking them out to dinner, being a mentor for a capstone project.

### **Anything new that we should expect**

**from the Association?** One way we have opened those lines of communication is through social media. We have a very active Facebook community (visit *Menaul School Alumni*). It's the place to go to share stories and accomplishments and learn what's happening at the school and with your classmates. The social media connection is so vital that this year we created a new officer position: Social Media and Alumni Relations. I'm very excited about this.

### **Will you stay involved with Menaul School now that your tenure has ended?**

I will work alongside the association, helping the new Alumni Association president transition to the role, and do whatever it takes to maintain alumni involvement. My presence on campus, at school events, and off-campus gatherings will not change. I'm not just going to disappear. There's no way that can happen or that I'd allow it to happen. Menaul School is home to me. It's the place I can always go back to and feel connected.

The Menaul School community thanks all the officers and volunteers for their continued service and dedication.



World Smart



# Class Notes

## 1952

**Sigfredo Martinez** graduated from San Diego State University in 1961. He retired after 35 years with the Social Security Administration. He also served in the US Marine Corps. His passion is mountain biking. He purchased his first bike in 1991 and was instantly hooked. Over the years, he has biked thousands of miles. In 1994, he realized his "Arctic Circle Dream," to bicycle from Denver to the Arctic Circle. To get there, he bicycled for 62 days with round-trip mileage of 7,263.2 miles. He still bicycles today, at age 87!

## 1954

**Virginia Montoya Zoll** spent seven years at Menaul School, for which she feels immense gratitude: it played an important role in her future education. She has lived for 50 years in London, Ontario, Canada, although she visits Albuquerque often to visit family and friends. She retired after 46 years as a social worker and now is an active volunteer in several community service agencies. In fact, she received a "Distinguished Service Award" in recognition of 10 years of providing services to refugees and other newcomers to Canada. You can reach her at [vzoll.519@gmail.com](mailto:vzoll.519@gmail.com).



**Pedro Marcial Cerrato Sandoval:** After a long career in marketing, advertising, and public relations, and social promotion, Pedro turned his attention towards writing books. His first book, *Jeronimo el Viejo...* was published in 2009, a historical novel about his ancestors and the town they helped to found: Minas de Oro, Honduras. In 2011, he received an invitation from the Spanish Division of the Library of Congress (coordinated by the Hondurian Embassy) to present the book at the Mary Pickford Theater of the Madison Building in Washington, D.C.

He also wrote *Viajando Por Europa* and *Cinco Minutos con Juan Ramon Molina*. All are available on Amazon.



## 1960

**Marilyn Eunice Vigil:** After attending Menaul School, Marilyn graduated from Macalester College in St. Paul with a B.A. in Sociology, and then received her Masters in Social Work from the University of Chicago. As a social worker, she has been employed in a variety of settings. One highlight: she served as Minnesota's Commissioner of Human Rights for four years under Governor Al Quie. Marilyn also worked at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, where she and a colleague started a Bachelor's level social work program focused on increasing the number of social workers of color in the Twin Cities. Although she retired in 2005, Marilyn continues to teach an online course every academic term. Her two siblings also attended Menaul School: her brother, **Eloy Wilbert Vigil '48** and sister **Olivia Evalyn Vigil McCoy '55**. Both of them are now deceased.

## 1962

Although **Phyllis (Evaul) Mills** was only at Menaul School for 1½ years, they were the happiest times of her schooling. She received a degree in Elementary Education and married Stan Mills, a surgeon. She has three children and eight grandchildren. In 2018, she and Stan celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. She and Stan have lived all over the world: North Carolina, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Afghanistan, and Haiti. They currently reside in North Carolina, where Phyllis keeps busy with the Sweet Adelines, a choral group that competes regularly with choruses from around the world. Phyllis can be reached at [stitchers803@gmail.com](mailto:stitchers803@gmail.com).

## 1964

After graduating from Menaul School, Will (Bill) Johnstone attended the University of New Mexico, where he majored in University Studies and received his Master of Arts. Will now lives in Santa Fe, NM and is an artist, abstract and surrealist painter, silversmith, and poet. His interpretative art includes paintings of the Southwest, natural and cultural abstracts, science fiction and space, and pieces relevant to present-day issues and concerns. You may view Will's art at [www.willjohnstone.com](http://www.willjohnstone.com).

## 1969

**Linda Quezada** is delighted that she could attend this year's Golden Graduate celebration at Menaul School graduation in May. She was able to spend time with good friends and family while in Albuquerque. She now resides in Riverside, California and has nine grandchildren. She finished her Masters in Education in June 2019 from California State University, San Bernardino. She works at Bloomington High School as a Special Ed RSP teacher. You may email Linda at [lyquez@yahoo.com](mailto:lyquez@yahoo.com).

## 1970

**Sandra Duran Poole** lives in Albuquerque with her husband **Orlando Duran '74**. She received a scholarship to attend New Mexico Highlands University, where she completed a B.A. in Political Science, Education, and Spanish, and later an MBA. Sandra worked in jobs in the private sector and in government. During her career, she encountered many notable people: Ralph Nader, Cesar Chavez, and (then) Congressman Bill Richardson, who awarded her the Lyndon Baines Johnson Congressional Internship in Washington, D.C. After many positions with federal agencies, she ended her career at the US Small Business Administration. As for **Orlando**, after his college years, he decided to follow his passion for the outdoors by becoming a licensed general contractor. Both are active at the Second Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque. Their two children attended Menaul School, and they have two granddaughters who are currently enrolled.





Storrie Lake Reunion

## 1987

On Sunday, July 21, 2019, the Alumni Association hosted a cookout and picnic at Storrie Lake State Park in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Thirty-five alumni attended, playing volleyball, horseshoes, and other fun activities. Attendees included **Rudy Laumbach '49**, **David Gatewood '73**, **Rosalie Jaramillo '84**, **Jodi Bustos '84**, **Chris Kitts '03** and **Martha Leyba '75**. Alumni president and vice president **Mary Jo Lees '87** and **Veronica Baca '85** hosted the event.

On Sunday, July 15, 2019, Reverend Takako Terino, Menaul School Chaplain, was invited to be the guest pastor at Embudo Presbyterian Church in Dixon, New Mexico. **Mary Jo Lees '87** also spoke, "Minute for a Mission." The service was followed by an outdoor reception at the church.

## 1989

**Tatyn Kiraly** says hi to all his classmates. He works in Albuquerque at the VA.



## 1995

From **Max F. Kaplan**: I will be starting my 17th year of teaching with Albuquerque

Public Schools (APS). I have been married for 12 years to my beautiful wife Lori, who also works for APS. We adopted a sibling group of five over four years ago.

## 2019

This upcoming year, **Inas El Ouazguiti** plans on attending the University of South Florida and majoring in Electrical Engineering.

From **Marilyn Pecos**: Menaul School has changed the way I think and see the world. I'm very thankful to have attended a place that has prepared me for college and other things to come in the future. My plan for this coming year is to attend Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in hopes of earning my Masters degree in Counseling Psychology.

**We want to hear from you!**

*Send us news of your accomplishments and awards, significant life events, and milestones (births, weddings, anniversaries), along with photographs to magazine@menaulschool.org.*

# In Loving Memory

### Class of 1931

Benjamin L. Vasquez  
(Dec. 19, 2018)

### Class of 1939

Elvira J. (Vigil) Crouse (Mar. 17, 2019)

### Class of 1941

Cristina (Ortiz) Montoya  
(Oct. 20, 2018)

### Class of 1942

Jane (Sandoval) Archuleta  
(Feb. 14, 2018)  
Dulcinia (Valdez) Roybal  
(Mar. 31, 2017)

### Class of 1944

Bernarda Elvira (Garcia) Cobos  
(Apr. 9, 2019)

### Class of 1946

Betty L. (Lopez) Arrant  
(Sept. 26, 2018)  
Lillian R. (Ortiz) Sumabat (June 9, 2019)

### Class of 1947

Estella M. (Maestas) Sanchez  
(Oct. 17, 2018)

### Class of 1948

Omega S. Gonzales (Aug. 26, 2018)  
Matias Maestas Jr. (Feb. 4, 2019)

### Class of 1950

Aaron Griego (Jul. 10, 2019)

### Class of 1951

Gilbert J. Gallegos, Sr. (Mar. 8, 2019)

### Class of 1953

Arsenio "Archie" Romero (Sept. 18, 2019)

### Class of 1954

Tomas E. Salazar (Oct. 25, 2018)

### Class of 1956

Albert O. Rodriguez (Jan. 4, 2019)

### Class of 1958

Linda L. (Perez) Gonzales  
(Aug. 3, 2019)

### Class of 1960

Felix Jerry Rodriguez, Jr. (Aug. 16, 2019)

### Class of 1961

Roy E. Banks, Jr. (Oct. 28, 2018)

### Class of 1962

Jose Naim Cruz (Oct. 15, 2018)

### Class of 1963

Loretta A. (Sanchez) Armenta  
(Mar. 6, 2019)  
Alice (Romero) Martinez (Apr. 13, 2018)

### Class of 1964

Antonio E. Martinez (Feb. 16, 2019)

### Class of 1965

Francis L. Ortega Rose (Aug. 9, 2019)

### Class of 1966

David Romero (Jul. 14, 2019)

### Class of 1979

Dawna B. Jennison (Jul. 18, 2019)

### Class of 1988

Omar Villareal (Oct. 9, 2019)

### Class of 1993

Rachel (Terrell) Daughtrey (2018)



# 2019 Alumni Awards

## Called to Service



**Jesus "Jesse" Castañeda '59**

### James Menaul Service to Education Award

This award honors Menaul School's founder Reverend James Menaul, who founded several Presbyterian Churches in New Mexico as well as Menaul School. It recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to education and

has been an active supporter of Menaul School. This year's recipient was **Jesus "Jesse" Castañeda '59**.

By the time that Jesus "Jesse" Castañeda arrived at Menaul School in 1956 from northern Mexico, he had already overcome a sizeable difficulty—being told that he would never walk again after being struck by a car and paralyzed as an eight-year-old. Jesse overcame that challenge through hard work and perseverance and relearned to walk in three months.

By 1959, Jesse was a graduate of Menaul School and had matriculated at the University of New Mexico. After receiving his bachelor's degree, Jesse received two master's degrees—in Sports Administration and Latin American Affairs and Mexican History.

Jesse's determined walking has led him to break three Guinness World Records—Nonstop Walking (Spring 1973), 24-Hour Walk (September 1976), and 24-Hour Basketball Dribble (September 1996). He walked across the country from New York City to Venice Beach California in 1982, a full 3,192 miles. He was also an Olympic Torchbearer in 1996. In 1994 he dribbled a soccer ball from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Los Angeles, California, in celebration of World Cup 1994 USA. In 1998, he dribbled a soccer ball from Costilla, New Mexico to Chihuahua City, Mexico in celebration of the 1998 World Cup in France.

Professionally, Jesse has shared his love of physical activity with children in New Mexico. He founded New Mexico Youth Soccer in 1972, the first program of its kind in the state. He serves as Manager of Education and Recreation for YDI Head Start in Albuquerque and regularly brings his Little Ninjas to his beloved Menaul School campus for activities.

Jesse credits Menaul School with giving him a strong foundation for success. His teachers gave him the tools to earn a college degree. His friends inspired him to live for others. His Menaul School experience gave him the foundation of greater faith to follow his dreams and goals in life. Jesse has been a faithful supporter of Menaul School, making contributions to help more students attend. In gratitude to the school, Jesse invites his peers to contribute to Menaul School through the **Destiny Scholarship Project**, which he founded in September 2018.



**Harriet E. Brandstetter '61**

### Harper C. Donaldson Outstanding Alumni Award

This award was established in 1999 to

honor the memory of Harper C. Donaldson. Each year, the award is presented to an alumnus of outstanding achievement and commitment to the values of Menaul School. This year, the award was presented to **Harriet E. Brandstetter '61**.

Harriet has devoted her life to helping the citizens of New Mexico—particularly the underserved—receive affordable, quality healthcare. It was at Menaul School that Harriet acquired a belief system that called her to a life of public service. In fact, her first such act was bringing a dental clinic to Menaul School when she was only a junior.

Upon graduation, Harriet worked for Embudo Presbyterian Hospital, where she was deeply and profoundly impacted by the lack of quality healthcare for the needy. This impact would drive every decision of her professional career for the next forty years. Harriet put herself through college, receiving a Bachelor of Business Administration, with an emphasis on Public Healthcare, from New Mexico State University. Her dogged determination, integrity, and willingness to champion for the underserved led her to a two-decade tenure at La Clinica de Familia. During that time, the clinic was recognized as a national model. For her unwavering commitment to service, Harriet was recognized as Business Woman of the Year in Las Cruces and received the New Mexico Primary Care Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

She is an active participant at Second Presbyterian Church, the same church she attended fifty years ago as a Menaul School student. Harriet exemplifies Menaul School's values in everything she has done and still does today, including helping rural areas receive much-needed healthcare. Her unwavering dedication to public service, her selflessness and compassion, make Harriet the ideal recipient of the Harper C. Donaldson Award.

# New Faculty

## Calendar

November 14, 2019 • Theater Performance

November 22, 2019 • Grandpanther Day

November 25–29, 2019 • Thanksgiving Break

December 12, 2019 • Christmas at Menaul School

December 23–January 6 • Winter Break

March 16–20, 2020 • Upper School Mission Week

March 30–April 3, 2020 • Spring Break

April 10–13, 2020 • Easter Break

April 24, 2020 • Menaul School Spring Soirée

April 30, 2020 • Choral Concert

May 6, 2020 • Honors Awards

May 15, 2020 • Baccalaureate

May 16, 2020 • Commencement

May 21, 2020 • 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Rite of Passage

May 21, 2020 • Last Day of School



Lauren LaMonica  
*Middle School Volleyball Coach*



Nicholia A. Patitsas  
*Teachers' Hall Coordinator*



Sara F. Mazzie  
*Middle School Mathematics*



Kate Roesler  
*Middle School Spanish*



Rajmah H. Mooty  
*Upper School Mathematics*



John Yuan  
*Band/Orchestra Director*

# New Board Members



Bryan Brock, Chief Counsel  
*NM Office of Superintendent of Insurance*



Abel McBride  
*Historic Library Representative*



Carly Gomez  
*Owner, Forever Green, Inc.*



World Smart



# From the Chaplain



Reverend Takako Terino

## Welcome One Another

Menaul School began its new academic year with a renewed commitment to live as God's beloved community, and a World Smart one at that! Our scriptural guide this year is Romans 15:7, "welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

With these words, Apostle Paul appeals to the church in Rome—made up of people with different backgrounds—to become one in Christ, so as to manifest the presence of God. When a community rich in diversity lives in harmony, it bears witness to the presence of God in the world. The Menaul School community strives to be such a witness, as we seek unity amidst our diversity of cultures, spiritual traditions, and personal experiences, to shine the light of God in the world.

Jesus walked the talk of God's radical welcome, defying the human construct of boundaries that disrupt the unity in the wholeness of God's holy creation. In his time, those barriers included religious heritage, gender, socioeconomic status, language, physical and mental abilities, and ethnicity (where you came from)... not so different from what we allow to keep us separated in our world today.

Jesus, who walked among the people of God centuries ago, lives among us today as the risen Christ. Christ's call to us remains the same: welcome one

another. What does this look like in our own community? Simply having people of different backgrounds in one place is not enough, for we continue to recreate barriers in the subtlest of ways, even when we think we are being welcoming. There is an emphasis on one another, i.e., the mutual opening up of ourselves towards one another.

When I first arrived in this country as an international student, I experienced a deep welcome. My American host family and the school were gracious, and I was most grateful. Over time, however, something even more beautiful emerged. As the initial divide of one side being a "gracious host" and the other a "grateful guest" gave way to the mutual sharing of our lives together, we found ourselves belonging to one another, appreciating our differences, and honoring the uniqueness of who we were, just as we were.

At Menaul School, we strive to truly welcome one another—local students with generations of Menaul School graduates in their families as well as students who come across state and national borders. We all come from the heart of God. There are no more "gracious hosts" and "grateful guests," but we all belong to one another, because all of us, without exception, bear the image of God at the deepest core of our being. So, welcome. You belong here.

Sincerely,

Reverend Takako Terino  
*Chaplain, Menaul School*





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505.345.7727

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SAVE THE DATE

# Spring Sairée

FRIDAY, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

To donate or become a sponsor, please contact  
Maggie Beck at [mbeck@menaulschool.org](mailto:mbeck@menaulschool.org) or  
505-341-7220.