



Guardian  
Guild

August 6, 2021

Dear LCA Families:

The Board of Trustees of the Guardian Guild is proud to share with our members some very exciting news!

Our newly elected Officers are:

President: Megan Smith  
Vice President: Douglas Pedersen  
Secretary: Sarah Hunt  
Treasurer: Kathryn Henry  
Director of Communications: Cindi Hartmann  
Teacher Liaison: Sarah Biggs  
Principal: Lisa Gillon

Over the course of the last week or so the board has met to review and amend the GG by-laws, mission statement and logo.

The new logo is at the top of this letter. A colorized version will be used on our social media and marketing materials.

The new mission statement is:

*To strengthen, enhance, and raise funds for the classical education  
and community at LCA by working hand in hand with the school  
leadership and staff.*

**The 2021-2022 GG Board Meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month at 3:30pm in the school auditorium.**

A Special Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 3:30pm to allow the board to complete unfinished business.

If you plan to attend any of the meetings, we respectfully ask that parents gather their students from the dismissal process outside and then make their way to a table in the auditorium. Students will sit at the back of the auditorium and should be provided with homework, reading,

or other quiet activities. Children are not to leave the auditorium without their parent(s). Parents should sit on the stage side of the auditorium and keep watch over their children.

Trash receptacles and table cleaning supplies will be available for us to straighten up after we are finished with our meeting. This will allow for light snacks and drinks to be brought in.

The Guardian Guild is looking forward to meeting and bringing together new parents and teachers.

## **PARENT / FAMILY WORK DAY**

We are in need of parent / family volunteers! As you know, August 25th is the school Supply Drop Off Day from noon - 2pm. The Guardian Guild has offered our assistance in taking care of some odd jobs that are needed to be ready for the first day of school.

Some jobs will require adults only and some will be perfect for families.

After you have dropped off your supplies and walked the school you can start working on the assignment you choose from the [SighUp.com list](#).

### **FAMILY PROJECTS:**

Gardening / weeding: please bring work gloves, water bottle and a little muscle

Cleaning / Sprucing-Up: we will have rags and spray cleaner (earth friendly/non-toxic) ready for small and large hands to shine and dust throughout the building. Assignments will be given when you arrive.

Assemble / inflate Welcome Signs: a few families can each take on [assembly of one of these](#) 3 signs. Balloon style "welcome" needs lots of air! Foot or hand pump can be used; automatic pumps are not recommended.

### **ADULT PROJECTS:**

Furniture building: work in teams of two to make light work of our heavy furniture. See the instructions for a list of needed tools We do have a drill and screw drivers here but feel free to bring your own. [Ikea shelf instructions](#)

Removing locks from lockers: bring your 1/4" drive ratchet a 3/8 drive socket to make easy work of this project. A few 2-person teams will be needed

Hang new basketball nets on outside court: no fear of heights required

If we have any signmakers in our midst we are interested in adding a few quotes to our student bathrooms. We have the quotes, just need a talented individual with the ability to print & hang the lettering (Cricket-style).

## Introducing the Guardian Guild Board of Trustees

### Megan Smith, President



I come from the science industry with professional experience in medical and biological physics. I worked as a clinical physicist at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Radiation Oncology and as a researcher for Henry Ford Hospital. I attended the University of Toledo where I obtained a doctorate in physics. Prior to that, I worked at Owens Corning World Headquarters on the Canadian/Cross Border Team. I also have a B.A. in Communications and French.

I have served on several non-profit Boards. I was a Trustee for The Southern Great Lakes Symphony in 2010. I joined The Chelsea Education Foundation as a Trustee in 2016 and was Vice President from 2018-2020. Currently, I am also serving on the Board for SRSLY, a community coalition striving to prevent youth substance abuse.

We came to Livingston Classical Academy during the pandemic. My husband and I loved our children's questions and curiosity inspired by LCA educators. I am delighted and honored to support and serve the mission of LCA as President of the Guardian Guild.

I am looking forward to this year and getting to know other families who are equally passionate about their children's education.

### Douglas Pedersen, Vice President



I am a product of public schools in Ridgewood, New Jersey, I earned a BA in Medieval History from the University of Chicago and an MBA from the University of St Gallen, Switzerland. I reside in Detroit with my wife, Chinni and our daughter Victoria (rising 3<sup>rd</sup> grader).

In my private life I work in automotive IT and consulting, helping franchised car dealer networks improve performance of their complex operations through deployment of software and analytics solutions and management development. Many of the global auto firms are clients. I started my career at Mercedes-Benz USA in New Jersey.

Among my qualifications for this role are my prior experiences working with non-profits and serving on non-profit boards. Responsible for the finance function of a community orchestra in New Jersey, I led a financial turnaround that took an institution in crisis and returned it to surplus and established the foundation for its long-term financial health. It has just celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> year. I was also the inaugural finance head for the Uni St Gallen MBA

Alumni, where we quickly established an annual fund to provide scholarships that would further enhance the international character of the program. We exceeded our fundraising targets by 30%.

### **Sarah Hunt, Secretary**



I am a proud mom of four LCA students, Thomas (10th), Piper (8th), Calvin (4th), Annie (3rd) and was previously the music teacher at LCA. We have been with LCA since its very first day! I am excited for the opportunity to continue serving our school as Secretary of the Guardian Guild.

I received my BME from Calvin College and since has had experience in and out of the classroom. I currently hold positions as the Director of the Livingston County Women's Chorus, the Co-Founding Director of Resonance (LCCM), a non-profit organization that helps to engage threefold: Faith, the Arts and Community and the Director of the Berean Baptist Church choir in Livonia.

I have a passion for education and particularly how the Fine Arts can impact school flourishing. I believe that a classical education is best for students as it teaches them to be lovers of what is true and beautiful!

### **Kathryn Henry, Treasurer**



My name is Kate Henry. My husband, Jim, and I live in Whitmore Lake with our three children, Sean (10th), Kylie (8th), and Braden (5th). I graduated from the University of Michigan Business School in 2000 with an emphasis in Accounting and Finance. My work experience includes 15 years of combined public and corporate accounting, and I am currently an Enrolled Agent and Tax Staff Accountant at Jonlyn & Associates, Inc. It is truly an honor to have this opportunity to support our great school by serving as the Guardian Guild Treasurer!

### **Cindi Hartmann, Director of Communications**



I have most likely interacted with each one of our stakeholders at one point or another. As the Office Manager/Enrollment Coordinator for LCA, I thoroughly enjoy getting to know each person who walks through the door (or via Zoom or phone).

I have worked in education for almost 20 years and have a passion for helping families navigate the path for their child(ren)'s success in joining LCA!

I look forward to assisting with the success of The Guardian Guild and the great things we will accomplish!

**Sarah Biggs, Teacher Liaison**



As an educator and parent of students here at Livingston Classical Academy, I have a dual interest in contributing to the growth and mission of The Guardian Guild. I'm excited to continue my role as the Teacher Liaison, and look forward to a productive and successful future ahead!

**Lisa Gillon, Principal**



From my first days working in education as a preschool teacher to my current position as Principal of LCA, I have loved partnering with parents and families to foster a safe, nurturing and robust education for their children.

I look forward to continuing this partnership with the LCA Guardian Guild as they navigate new ways to improve and support our community!