



RSHS Class of 2000: Where are they now?

October, 2017



They were among the first to join when the RSSAA High School started in fall of 1997. These five tenth-graders, along with their families, took a leap of faith that this program would give them what they needed.

They showed up every day to their classrooms in the rented basement at the Genesis building with their teachers, Mary Emery, Geoff Robb, Judie Erb and Elena Efimova . They helped plant the seed that grew into what is now a full high school with its own beautiful building and home to over 100 high school students!

Here they are, 20 years later and proud of the path they helped pave!



Siân Miller:

After graduation, Siân attended Earlham College and the University of Michigan, where she received a BA and MA in Japanese Studies. She later attended EMU for her teaching certification.

She is currently teaching kindergarten at Niji-Iro Japanese immersion elementary school, which is a part of Livonia public schools.

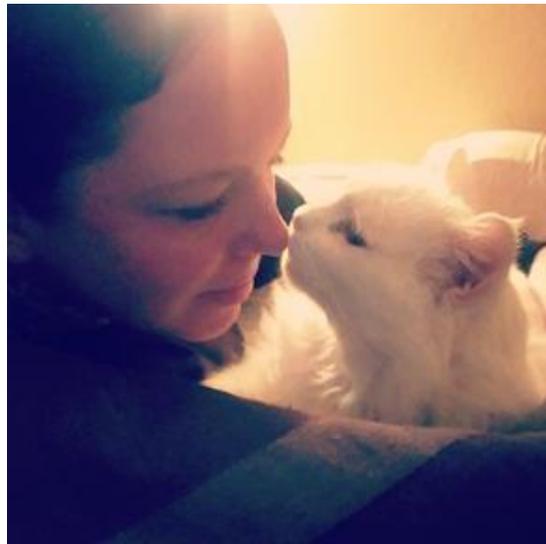
She lives in Ypsilanti with her husband, Jesse, and three year-old son, Idris.

One of her fondest memories of her time at RSHS is the performance of "The Fantastiks" they did for their senior play.

Hallie Yeager:

After high school, Hallie attended college at Earlham in Richmond, IN. where she studied English and Psychology. After that, she lived in California for 12 years and bounced between jobs before settling as an American Sign Language interpreter, and she loves it! She and her cat recently moved to Colorado and they are enjoying life among the mountains. She hopes in the future she can live on a farm being largely self-sustainable.

In her free time she draws, knits, hikes, volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, and thinks about future cosplay ideas.



Her fondest memories from her time at RSHS include her "junior" and "senior" proms, that actually involved the whole school, and making the giant mosaic tiles as a class gift. She also enjoys telling people that she graduated in the top five of her class!



Sara Purple Wilson:

After graduation, Sara attended the University of Michigan where she earned a BFA in Photography from the School of Art & Design and a minor in German Language. During that time, she spent a semester at Melbourne University in Australia.

After college, she worked for almost 10 years as an anthroposophical art therapist.

She is now living in Morrison, Colorado where she splits her time between working as a traveling Waldorf high school science teacher and a professional slackliner.

She recently married professional slackliner and physicist, Micky Wilson. The ceremony was in Moab, Utah, 400 feet above the canyon floor on a slackline.

Her fondest memories from high school are of the school trips and plays.

Harmony Van Eck:

After graduation, Harmony did a lot of traveling around the US. She moved to Portland to pursue singing for a brief time before returning to Ann Arbor, where she worked her way up the retail chain for 12 years at Whole Foods and Zingerman's. In her spare time she did a lot of crafting and handwork.



In 2012 she and her partner Mike welcomed a son, Bibin. At that point, she decided to stay home to care for her family. Three years later, they welcomed a daughter, Ella.

Though she is busy raising her children, she continues to craft. She makes beautiful fairies- you may have seen them at the Winter Festival!

Her fondest memories from high school include the singing! She says it is where she found her voice.



Nathan Vachon:

After his time at RSSAA, Nathan headed to Kalamazoo College where he graduated in 2004 with a BA in History and a minor in Chinese.

Since then he has lived in many places, including Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, Zhejiang Province China, and Shanghai China.

He was married in 2009 to Ling Ouyang, and in 2012 they welcomed son Jedidiah.

He is currently working for a company that organizes programs for Chinese exchange students in Troy, Michigan.

Some of his fondest memories from high school include: Art classes in Mrs. Efimova's basement, singing in the morning with Mrs. Erb, visiting the Fermi 2 nuclear power plant with Mr. Robb, and playing base drums in steel drumming class.

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