



Lamp Post



Spring 2012

a publication of The Lamplighter School | Dallas, Texas

Lamplighter Announces Museum Partnership
Cover story starts on page 10.

• SENIOR TRIBUTE: LAMPLIGHTER CLASS OF 2012 AND CLASS OF 2011 STARTS ON PAGE 6.

Lamplighter Events

First Day of School
August 22, 2012

Labor Day, School Holiday
September 3, 2012

Yom Kippur, School Holiday
September 26, 2012

Columbus Day, School Holiday
October 8, 2012

Carnival
October 12, 2012

Parent Conferences
October 18 – 19, 2012

Halloween Parade and Picnic
October 31, 2012

Thanksgiving Vacation
Week of November 19, 2012

All School Program
December 20, 2012
(*Note: School is dismissed following the program for winter recess)

School Resumes
January 7, 2013

Fiji Update You might remember the cover story in last fall's issue of LampPost. Mattingly award winner, Debbie Herskovitz, was the focus of an article about her trip to Fiji last summer to volunteer for Global Habitat for Humanity. In that issue, photos in LampPost showed progress on construction of the house Debbie helped build, but now Debbie reveals the finished product! (see photo above).



Debbie did not rest very long. She went on a youth build with Habitat for Humanity on February 12 – the same day as the auction. “I was tired!” Debbie and her group did not travel quite as far this time – Plano. The 11,000 square foot house was for a single mom with an 11-year-old child.

But the story does not end here. Debbie has agreed to join a one-week build in Guatemala this summer. “I plan on going!” she exclaimed.

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Mission Statement
Lamplighter is a nurturing, child-centered community built on academic and personal excellence, trust, and respect for diversity in each other and in our society. Lamplighter inspires lifelong learners who are self-confident, self-reliant, and creative, critical thinkers.

Diversity Statement
Diversity will strengthen the education of Lamplighter children and enrich the lives of all members of the Lamplighter community. Lamplighter will, therefore, strive for the lamps that we light to reflect the ever-changing community in which we reside. We value individuality and encourage all children to reach their potential, while respecting their similarities and differences. We are united in purpose and committed to working together to accomplish the mission of The Lamplighter School.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Lamplighter's Diversity Work Group, please contact Matt Brenner, Director of Admission and Community Services, at 214.369.9201. The group meets several times throughout the school year to support the school's diversity efforts.

Non-Discrimination Statement
In compliance with federal and state laws, The Lamplighter School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, financial aid program, athletic and other school-administered programs, or the employment of staff.

Contact Us
Send story ideas to Edward Ritenour (eritenour@thelamplighterschool.org). Deadline for articles, photographs, and news for the next issue (Fall 2012) is September 1, 2012.



Cover Story

Lamplighter and the Museum of Nature and Science formed a partnership last fall and are collaborating on lesson plans, integrating curriculum, implementing professional development programs, and planning events.



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Several fourth-grade members of the Lamplighter Layers Corporation prepare for another egg sale.

Dear Parents,

Lamplighter has begun the reaccreditation process simultaneous with strategic planning. The process of reaccrediting the school occurs every ten years and is designed to achieve the dual purpose of accountability and school improvement. We are in the self-study year throughout 2012, which affords Lamplighter an opportunity for reflection on its mission, the time to review our efforts to fulfill that mission, and the ability to review strengths and areas that call for improvement.

The self-study encompasses a range of topics from the academic program to school governance, finance, business management, and facilities. A cross section of the school's constituency is involved, including faculty, staff, administrators, parents, and alumnae. We started analyzing what we are doing in every aspect of the school in January. We want to be clear about our strengths and

weaknesses. Having the time and space to examine our work together on behalf of our students can only be described as a gift. It has been great for me to learn about the inner workings of the school as we make plans and establish priorities for the future.

Next fall and winter, committees will write their report of findings for the accreditation visit. In April of 2013, we will be visited by an accreditation team. At present, ISAS Standards Committee is putting together the team for a visit. Lamplighter will host faculty and staff members from ISAS schools. They will come to Lamplighter for several days to review our self-study report, visit classes, and make observations. The credibility of our work is validated by the visiting committee in a final report that will be shared.

This is an exciting time for our school! Both strategic planning and the ISAS reaccreditation process has been energizing and will allow us to make plans for the

future. It has been especially rewarding to have the involvement of our families. You have made an important contribution to this work. Whether you completed the survey, served on a committee, or gave your time and thoughts about the school informally in the lunches that we have had this year, your participation is appreciated. We look forward to continuing the process next fall.

Sincerely,

Joan Buchanan Hill, Ed.D.
Head of School

It is an exciting time to be working on a strategic plan for The Lamplighter School.



Dear Lamplighter Community,

This will be the first strategic plan to be realized since we completed the acquisition of our land. We are also conducting this planning process as Lamplighter concurrently undergoes a self-study, which is a part of the reaccreditation process. And, it will be the first plan for the school developed under the leadership of our new Head of School Joan Hill, who says it has been “professionally rewarding” to develop a strategic plan with the Lamplighter community.

Dr. Hill believes that as we construct our path forward, the action items will support our number one objective, which is to continue to offer the “premier educational experience.”

Assisting with the creation of our plan is Sam Frank, a consultant from Synthesis Partners. He is working closely with Joan Hill and the Strategic Initiatives Committee to ensure that the plan charts an aspirational and achievable vision for The Lamplighter School, one that is relevant to the school’s mission and measurable in terms of how we define success and progress against the plan’s goals.

Many of you have participated directly or indirectly in our planning process already, via the NAIS survey, a meeting with our consultant, or a lunch with Joan. The committee has also met several times this year and the Board of Trustees held an offsite strategic planning retreat in January with the senior leadership team and a number of faculty to come to a better understanding of common goals and opportunities. All of these steps have been critically important and will improve the final plan.

We are currently working on the plan’s goals and objectives and expect to finalize that work in May. This summer, while precious children play in swimming pools and summer camps, members of Joan’s team and the committee will work together to assign action steps to each objective to allow for the successful roll out of the completed strategic plan next fall.

We are grateful to all of you who have participated in the process so far and look forward to sharing the plan with our community next fall.

Catherine Rose

Catherine Rose

Strategic Initiatives Committee Chair and parent of fourth-grader, Charlie, and third-grader, Jack



Senior Tribute 2012



Lamplighter Class of 2012



- Luke Adams
- Javier Arroyo
- Virginia Baker
- Lily Baughman
- Griffin Benners
- Elizabeth Borgmann
- Abby Brand
- Liberty Buckholt
- Preston Bulban
- Campbell Crates
- Ella Diotalevi
- Ezelle
- Sophia Ehring
- Varun Gande
- Daylyn Gilbert
- Claire Groves
- Jack Herz
- Emma Hunt
- Sophia Hurst
- Brigham Jones
- Lindsay Kaplan
- Kirsten Kirk
- William Lockhart
- Thomas Matta
- Evan McNeal
- Jessica Meniere
- Elizabeth Mondragon
- Christian Myers
- Kaitlin Ness
- John Noonan
- Cameron Peters
- Alessandro Piccagli
- Alexis Rabin
- Dante Renzulli
- Maro Reppas
- Charles Rose
- Alexandra Scherz
- Gus Solis
- Will Steinhart
- Emery Stobaugh
- Paul Sullivan
- Jackson Swango
- Kaethe Thomas
- Claire Jacqueline Trochu
- Elizabeth Walsh
- Keller Welton
- Wallace White
- Eli Yancey

Senior Tribute 2011



Lamplighter Class of 2011



Emily Bernstein	Levine Academy
Samuel Bovard	Greenhill
Shea Castleman	Hockaday
Douglas Cowman	Greenhill
Harry Crutcher	Cistercian
Rebecca Dorward	Parish
Nadia Elchami	Parish
Sophia Fernandes	Greenhill
Sophie Gilmour	Hockaday
Grace Grimes	Good Shepherd
Aylah Karim	Hockaday
Skylar Kaye	Parish
Patrick Kerrigan	ESD
Adam Klein	Levine Academy
Dane Kozelsky	ESD
Benjamin Lancashire	Good Shepherd
Jenna Levy	ESD
Sarah Lochridge	Good Shepherd
Grant Needleman	Shelton
Colin Neuhoff	St. Mark's
Quinn O'Brien	Good Shepherd
Victoria Pham	Parish
Penelope Piccagli	Hockaday
Matthew Pollock	St. Mark's
Ethan Rothstein	Greenhill
Isabella Shadle	Good Shepherd
Jacob Shepherd	Good Shepherd
Natalia Siddiqi	ESD
Audrey Smith	Unknown
Cormick Stockham	ESD
Hallet Thalheimer	Hockaday
Ella Varel	ESD
Kennedi Ware	Canterbury Episcopal
Chloe Weinman	Parish

CoverStory

Lamplighter Partners with Perot Museum of Nature & Science



Head of School Dr. Joan Hill and Former Interim Head of School Judy Gass of The Lamplighter School
with VP of Programs Steve Hinkley and CEO Nicole Small of the Perot Museum of Nature and Science

“Head, Thorax, Ab-do-men, Ab-do-men! Wow!”

exclaimed Lamplighter mom, Heather Balestri. “At Science Night, I was delighted to recall - or maybe learn - the three body parts of the insect!” She said that Lamplighter teachers and Jordi Miller, Lamplighter coordinator and educator from



the Museum of Nature and Science, made learning about bugs so interesting.

Lamplighter, in partnership with the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, held science night events in January, March, and May. At the

first joint event, more than 120 families participated in hands-on experiences about the stars highlighted by two state-of-the-art portable planetariums. Parents and their pre-K children were able to “explore star movement, color and brightness, and learn how to locate stars and constellations,” explained Miller.

In addition to the planetariums, students visited several other stations including a ‘Glow-in-the-Dark Constellation’ station where they stamped star shapes on paper plates. The configuration of the event encouraged parent-student interaction. “What a terrific evening!” exclaimed parent, Kent Kunkel. “My sons, in true Lamplighter style, had no idea they were learning as they had fun with their friends.”

At the second event, families participated in hands-on experiences about insects highlighted by an interactive presentation called “Insect Investigations.” They also were able to explore four exhibits about insects. About her son, Balestri said, “I know Quentin enjoyed the activities because they were really fun.”

Lamplighter and the Museum of Nature and Science formed a partnership last fall and have wasted little time collaborating on lesson plans, integrating curriculum, and implementing professional development programs for teachers, in addition to planning events such as family Science Nights.

“The inaugural Science Night showcased science education for our youngest learners in a unique way,” remarked Head of School Joan Hill. “We expected no less for this joint endeavor.” She explained that the partnership was instrumental to the success of these events, and that they provided students with “an opportunity to construct new knowledge.” The partnership provides the school with an on-site, dedicated educator from the museum, (Ms. Miller). This allows Lamplighter to “infuse science into the classroom experience in an authentic way,” Hill added.

Science Nights were designed so that parents and students could explore various exhibits together. Former Interim Head of School Judy Gass was instrumental in forging the partnership, along with Board of Trustees Chair Karen Pollock, Museum Vice President Steve Hinkley, and Museum CEO and Lamplighter alumna Nicole Small, who attended the March 27 school event with her daughter, a Lamplighter kindergartner.

“Launching the partnership has been one of the most exciting endeavors in my career as an educator,” Gass remarked. She reasons that the museum understands Lamplighter and its “passion for science,” and Lamplighter understands the museum’s desire “to influence the young children. Lamplighter is thrilled to be the beneficiary of the museum’s expertise, vision, and influence.”

CEO Small agrees that the opportunity to work together is valuable because of “our close mission alignment.” Small explained that the two organizations are creating an innovative approach to incorporating science into children’s everyday lives. “Being able to leverage Lamplighter’s visionary program with the museum’s resources will inspire many minds through nature and science.”

Museum VP Hinkley expanded, “With Lamplighter, we have a built-in audience for pioneering programs such as Leaders in Science, Science Nights, and curriculum-based activity kits.” He believes Lamplighter students and parents are a “groundbreaking group.” He believes their feedback will help the museum evaluate programs and exhibits. “They’re an invaluable partner and trusted friend helping us test ideas.” Science teacher Bill Burton provided perspective from Lamplighter faculty. He said it is impossible to create or imagine all the scientific lessons that could be shared in the classroom. “The museum’s resources allow our students experiences that might not be possible otherwise.”

The museum is currently housed in three structures in Fair Park. It includes an IMAX-style theater featuring science driven films, a fully functioning planetarium, an extensive exhibit hall, and its own on-site paleontology lab. Plans are under way to move to the new site under construction in Victory Park, near the American Airlines Center, by early 2013. The new facility will be renamed the “Perot Museum of Nature & Science” in honor of Ross and Margot Perot.



CoverStory

“Having dedicated educators from the museum to work with faculty, allows us to infuse science into the classroom experience in an authentic way.” – Joan Hill, Lamplighter Head of School



Students Dig Museum Archaeologist

Hannah Moots, an archaeologist, educator, and curriculum developer at the Museum of Nature and Science, visited Lamplighter third graders in February. Moots discussed archaeology, the “study of ancient people and their culture,” and shared actual artifacts from her recent trip to Africa. These included arrowheads made from stone and hippo ivory used to make jewelry. Moots studied anthropology at the University of Chicago and conducted research and excavation in Niger.

Working in the fossil preparation laboratory at the University of Chicago, she developed an interest in palaeontology and archaeological research, leading to a Master’s degree in archaeological science from Cambridge University. Beyond laboratory based research, Moots has worked

in museum settings as a collections manager at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

Later that week, teachers Maggie Holloway and Jody Stout led the students on their own archaeological dig in the school’s playground sandboxes. No word on what bones were found there...



Faculty Wetlands Visit for the Birds



Teachers on Lamplighter’s Faculty Science Curriculum Committee visited the John Bunker Sands Wetland Center with Jordi Miller of the Museum of Nature and Science to prepare for future lesson plans and field trips designed to bolster the school’s science curriculum. The center develops premier environmental education programs that focus on wetland and river ecosystems, bird migrations, and water conservation.

The Bunker Wetlands, which is one of the largest constructed wetlands in the United States at 1,840 acres, provides a natural form of waste water treatment. The visitor center provides educational opportunities to local schools and universities through research, classes and tours of the facility and wetlands.



Lamplighter Faculty Models Life-Long Learning



According to Joan Hill, Lamplighter teachers model life-long learning. Schools that are collaborative tend to embrace professional development as part of their teaching practices. Through the ISAS reaccreditation we are assessing our strengths and discussing plans to improve areas of challenge. This year faculty members have attended workshops, conferences, and symposia. As a result, every faculty member is engaged in some form of active professional development. Our teachers seek out educational opportunities that deepen knowledge of content as well as how to teach it to students. With this new knowledge, we are viewed as a learning laboratory where those ideas can be shared, reshaped when necessary, and applied to our work with students.

Linda Cauley attended the Texas Association of Environmental Educators meeting. These environmentalists teach children and work in adult education at various outdoor agencies. Their workshops focus on teaching young children, projects and ideas, and ways to encourage outdoor education. Cauley learned new concepts to add to her environmental science lessons and new information for her own growth as an educator.

Bill Burton spent a week at the Lego Robotics teacher workshop at Tufts University, one of the leading professional development programs for STEM education. Bill learned the newest programming and building techniques for Lego Mindstorms. He also had planning time to build the foundation of the robotics curriculum that is used in Lamplighter's third and fourth grades.

Second grade has been collaborating across subject areas to create a unit about insects, reported **Ana Casanova**. "Mr. Burton has been hatching praying mantis eggs and teaching the children about camouflage, environments, prey, and adaptations," she said. Casanova brought this curriculum into language arts with bug stories; into math by multiplying bugs by the number of legs they have in a word problem; and into art, where students created insects displayed at the DMA.

"Science and Literacy" by the museum was a great professional development opportunity, remarked **Sheryll Orbase**. During a science lesson called "Hear Your Heart," the children learned about the human heart, how to care for it, and listened to actual

heartbeats. After Science Night, Orbase's first graders have become "experts on insects!" Ms. Miller has been a great resource according to Orbase. "She delivered 3D glasses after she learned about our 3D Science books."

"Science is all a buzz with opportunities to engage and collaborate with other science teachers and the museum," according to **Liz Curlin**. Early Childhood and Jordi Miller have created new science modules to be used in addition to our Foss Science curriculum. Also, she attended the National Conference for Science and enjoyed sharing with other educators about our "up and coming" young scientists. Curlin returned ready to share ideas with the EC team. Plus she was so inspired by the Wetlands trip that she fashioned her Auction trip to White Rock Lake for two students and "can't wait to go exploring!"

Steve Gravseth also visited the Wetlands. He found it interesting how it was created to clean water; some from the Trinity River, and some of which is natural drainage. The water is pumped to Lake Lavon and becomes part of Dallas' water supply. He participated in testing the water for purity by counting the various types of organisms living in the water, which were indicators of the health of the ecosystem as well as the water purity.

According to **Nick Leggatt**, kindergarten science has really taken off this year, thanks to a renewed effort to adapt the Foss curriculum, plus the efforts of science teacher Bill Burton and the museum's Jordi Miller. Leggatt said Ms. Miller has been an untiring force; organizing inspiring professional development, providing supplies such as fossilized wood, organizing Science Night, and inviting a paleontologist to talk about "what it's like to dig for fossils" in the Texas desert.

Joan Hill received her doctoral degree in Educational Leadership on May 12 from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Hill's dissertation was entitled, "Questioning Techniques: A Study of Instructional Practice." Her research examined the teaching practices of fourth and sixth grade teachers at the Columbus School for Girls during language arts and reading instruction. Hill was interested to learn about the quality of questions teachers ask, how to train teachers to ask better questions, and whether students were given an opportunity to elaborate on their responses.



Seniors' Excellent Austin Adventure

Lamplighter fourth grade "seniors" enjoyed the school's annual two-day trip to Austin, Texas, in March. The adventure was an opportunity for fourth graders to see and explore some of the most historically significant sites in Texas. The group toured the Bob Bullock Museum, the Blanton Museum of Art, the Capitol, the Capitol Sculpture Garden, and the Inner Space Cavern where the students were fascinated with bats, "cave bacon," and "cave kisses!"

According to Vicki Raney, Lamplighter's Assistant Head for Academics, the trip was an example of how the school fulfills its mission. "Lamplighter strives to promote a high degree of excellence in teaching and learning, and believes that learning is a lifelong endeavor," she said. "Students can participate in field trips that extend the curriculum beyond the classroom, helping them to appreciate the relevance and importance of what they learn in school." To reflect on their experiences, students kept a journal provided by the school.

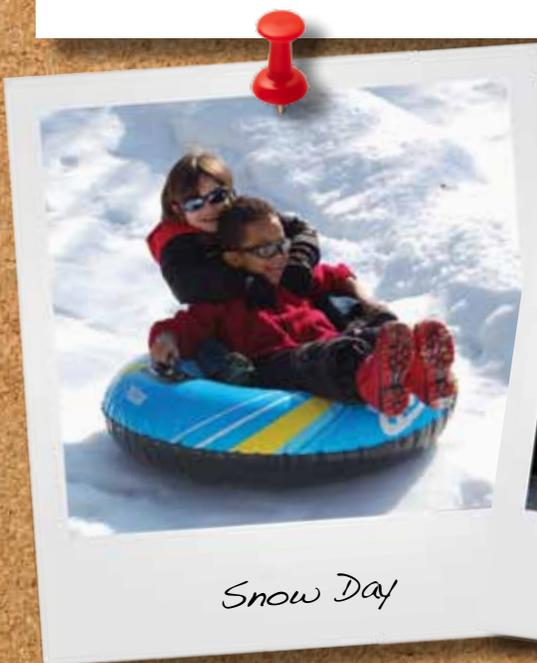
Upon arrival, the group enjoyed dinner at a Cantina Laredo Mexican restaurant where they ordered and conversed in "well-rehearsed" Spanish - though the waitress didn't speak the language," laughed Jill Wiedman,

First stop on the tour of Austin was the Bob Bullock Museum. According to Raney, the Museum tells the "Story of Texas" with three floors of interactive exhibits and Austin's only IMAX Theater. Later, the Lamplighter group toured the Blanton Museum of Art. Next, the group visited the Capitol Visitor Center and the tour of the Capitol was the highpoint. Knowledgeable guides led the tours and the Lamplighter students "wowed" them with their knowledge of Texas State History. Then it was on to the Capitol Sculpture Garden where students got a peek at a live hawk atop the star on Lady Liberty. On day two, the group stopped at Inner Space Cavern in Georgetown. Ms. Wiedman said the students were also fascinated with the bats' cave bacon and cave kisses. They earned "much good luck and lots of kisses." She described how cave kisses are little drops of water that drip off the cave wall and if you get hit with one, you are said to be lucky.

"The child who bumps heads with a stalactite will remember more about the delicate ecology of a cave than the child who is limited to reading about cave formations in a book." The anonymous quote was cited by Raney, who explained that the trips are designed to "enhance, motivate, and support" the instructional program, and provide firsthand experiences that can make learning "more meaningful and memorable." Mission accomplished!



Lamplighter's Student Services Coordinator.



Snow Day



Chinese New Year



Pioneer Days



Lamplighter Celebrates It's 42nd Annual Carnival

The Annual Lamplighter Carnival has been a "can't-miss" event since 1969. It is "truly a wonderful memory" that children and their families keep for a lifetime, remarked 2011 Carnival Co-Chair, Courtney Plumlee.

This year's event, the Lamplighter Country Fair, was a "fun-filled affair that nearly every Lamplighter family attended," she added. The afternoon was filled with games and attractions including a photo booth, bounce house and climbing rock, plus face painting, food, dancing, and a bake sale.

The Food Pavilion was the "place to eat" with "mouth-watering hamburgers" from Village Burger Bar, "yummy hot dogs" from Jason's Deli, "tasty sandwiches" from Which Wich, and "scrumptious pizza rolls" from Pizza Hut, according to Molly Sealy, Plumlee's Co-Chair partner. McDonald's apple pies and Hail Merry Macarons also were featured along with snow cones, popcorn, and cotton candy.

Next year's Co-Chairs, Jackie Katz and Lindi Light, suggested the Lamplighter community "Save the Date!" The 2012 event, scheduled for Friday, October 12, will feature a country-western "Round-Up" theme.



Mindset Author Dr. Carol Dweck Draws Capacity Crowd

The Lamplighter School hosted Dr. Carol Dweck in January before a sold-out audience. Dweck, a world-renown Stanford psychologist, has researched the effect of praise on students and how it can impact their achievement and success. Dweck's speech, based on her book, *Mindset*, drew a record attendance of 450 people for the school's Dolores Evans Speaker Series. Lamplighter invited the community to learn about the power that a growth mindset can have on one's life. Dweck explained why it is not just our abilities and talent that bring us success, but whether we approach our goals with a "fixed" or "growth" mindset.

"You don't see unmotivated babies!" pointed out Dweck. Introducing a complex issue with humor, she proceeded to advocate for the "growth mindset" - the

conviction that "intelligence is a malleable quality: a potential that can be developed." Lamplighter third grade teacher Jody Stout believes Dweck's research and mission are "a powerfully persuasive argument for supporting learning and growth through 'process praise,' focusing on effort over outcome." Hockaday Headmistress Kim Wargo, said "Dr. Dweck's message about creating a growth mindset in our



children is one which resonates for parents and educators." Wargo suggested that "one of our most important tasks is helping our children build resilience and perseverance." She believes that if we can encourage our children to embrace the moment of "I don't know," then we will "equip them to lead lives of purpose and meaning."

According to Joan Hill, "Dr. Dweck's research is very compelling and is a clear paradigm shift from the either/or way of thinking about one's mindset." Hill reasoned that Dweck's talk "provided concrete ways for parents, teachers, and students to improve, grow, and change by developing a growth mindset." The evening concluded with Dr. Dweck suggesting we get into the habit of asking our children, "who had a fabulous struggle today?!"



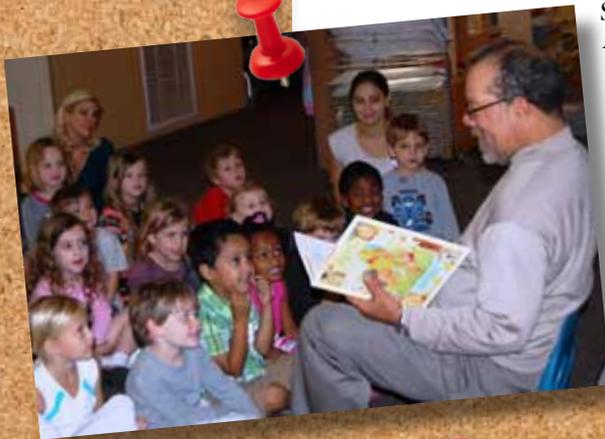
Jerry Pinkney Visits Lamplighter

The Lamplighter Dooley Author Series sponsored award-winning illustrator Jerry Pinkney as the 2011-12 author of the year. An illustrator of over 100 children's books, Mr. Pinkney engaged students with his drawings, storytelling and a narrative of his life as an illustrator. Pinkney has won five Caldecott Honors, including the 2010 Caldecott Medal for *"The Lion and the Mouse."*

they need to revise, revise, revise! This is something we have modeled for them but to hear it out of the mouth of a true artist was very powerful."

Pinkney captivated pre-K students when sketching a giraffe and asked them to suggest items the giraffe might need to attend a birthday party. The students were actively involved in the process, helping to create the story as Mr. Pinkney illustrated before them.

Pinkney enjoyed lunch with former Head of School Pat Mattingly, Joan Hill, and Marilyn Halpin, who with her daughter, Elizabeth McLamb, created the Dooley Fund in memory of Elizabeth's father in 1996. The fund is used to support the author series. "Mr. Pinkney explores the possibilities with children and encourages their creativity. His visit was magical," Hill marveled.



Second grade teacher Ana Casanova said her students were "star struck!" He encouraged the children to use the word "challenging instead of this is hard," she continued. He also reminded them that when they write or create something

Teacher's Mission Helps Haiti Orphans

Kindergarten teacher Nick Leggatt traveled to Haiti with a church mission group in January. In addition to medical and school supplies, Mr. Leggatt delivered notes from Lamplighter students "to help foster global connections." Last December, Leggatt spearheaded a drive at Lamplighter to collect, among other items, paper, crayons, markers, and glue. "If just a few kids from each class brought in a small notebook, a couple bottles of Elmer's, a small pack of markers, or a 32-pack of crayons, we would collect a substantial amount," Leggatt said at the time.

Joan Hill explained why the school encourages faculty to become involved in the community. "Through Nick's efforts with the Haiti mission, we are hoping to ease difficult situations for young children." She explained that Lamplighter is committed to working to improve the lives of children in small ways each day, "wherever they may live."

Because he and his fellow volunteers provided medicine at the free clinic, they hoped that they "made a difference for some individuals." Despite the overwhelming harsh realities of life there, Leggatt was "exhilarated" and glad to help. He said he felt



"fulfilled" to pass out books and stickers that Lamplighter parents donated. "Their eyes just lit up; they loved reading the English books." That was the moment he realized he was glad that he journeyed there and felt he helped in "at least some small way."

When asked whether he was glad he went, he answered, "Absolutely; if asked, I'd go again." He went on to thank the parents of Lamplighter for being so supportive, along with the school's administrators. But in the long term he expressed hope. Leggatt felt with help from more mission groups, such as his, "more help is on the way."

Community Outreach Efforts Benefit Disadvantaged Students, the Homeless and Neglected Children

It was an incredibly successful year for the LPA's Community Outreach Team. Among several others, the committee, including members Shonn Brown, Jen Ratan, and Monica Purdy, took on three major projects including those that benefitted the students at Peak Preparatory, Community Partners of Dallas, and the Austin Street Shelter.



The first was the Angel Tree project that resulted in the delivery of a "sleigh full" of gifts to Peak Preparatory School. Monica Purdy commented on how she was "struck by the happiness" of the Peak students despite their circumstances. "Because of the generosity of Lamplighter families, 75 students at Peak will have a brighter Christmas. It was truly inspiring to see how touched both schools were with the efforts of each other," said Yasmin Bhatia, CEO of Uplift Education, and a Lamplighter mom. Peak is part of Uplift's family of charter schools.

According to Jen Ratan, "This was one of my proudest days as a Lamplighter parent. I loved knowing that the gifts my daughters purchased would be appreciated by those kind Peak scholars. I was delighted to represent Lamplighter by providing those children with gifts that will make their holiday season more special."

Brown was also impressed with Uplift. "What struck me most was learning about the commitment to their scholars. The support they offer to the 100% who attend college and to help keep them enrolled in college is amazing." Lamplighter Head Joan Hill also helped deliver presents. "Peak is doing phenomenal work and it just did my heart good to witness their enthusiasm."

The team's second major initiative aided Community Partners of Dallas, an organization dedicated to ensuring safety and restoring dignity to abused and neglected children. They provide resources and support to the caseworkers of Child Protective Services so they, in turn, can offer help to families in need. Lamplighter students donated, assembled, and delivered hygiene kits for children who are removed from homes deemed no longer safe for them. The kits included shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. The kits also contained handmade artwork and notes from the Lamplighter pre-K and kindergarten students. "It's fun helping other people. When you help other people it feels good," according to first grader Azal, a student in teacher Nicole Rivers' class who captured the feeling of students involved in this initiative.

Joan Hill explained why the school is interested in being so involved in the community. "Through our efforts with Community Partners, we are hoping to ease a difficult situation for a young child. Lamplighter is committed to working to improve the lives of children in small ways each day."

According to Paige McDaniel, President & CEO of Community Partners, "Hygiene products are critical for kids coming into protective care. It is hard to feel good about yourself when you lack tools as basic as a toothbrush or soap. Lamplighter's collection of items will ensure that many children can feel confident as they move forward. We are grateful to the students for their fantastic efforts to help others!" One of the students, Jake, another first grader in Rivers' class, summed the venture up this way, "I liked it because it's an activity where both kids are happy. It was fun gathering materials but more importantly, the kids were happy to get new stuff."



The third major initiative benefitted the Austin Street Shelter. In February, fourth-graders prepared 160 sandwiches for the shelter, a Lamplighter tradition for the third and fourth graders. In November, the third graders made the sandwiches, which were donated by Lamplighter families. The committee organized the effort with Austin Street, an emergency shelter that provides a multitude of services to the homeless.



Lamplighter Travels Back to 1960s New York for Auction

The Lamplighter School was built in the 1960s at the corner of Inwood and Forest Lane. The Lamplighter Parents' Association successfully transported the school community back to that decade to raise money to buy the land. With the theme of 1960s New York City, proceeds from the "Mad About Lamplighter" Auction, held at the Belo Mansion on Saturday, February 25, will help to provide a permanent home for the school. To carry out the theme, the Belo Mansion was transformed into the 1960s heyday of Madison Avenue, New York's advertising hub. Auction guests, dressed in pill box hats, white gloves, and fedoras were greeted by a replica Statue of Liberty, vintage advertisements, yellow cabs, and entertained by local crooner, Ricky Derek.



Headed by Lamplighter moms, Gretchen Pollom and Laura Lear, the auction committee consisted of "an impressive list of volunteers" according to Lamplighter Parents' Association President Kelli Chabria. "They led by example, which is why so many people enthusiastically agreed to assist them in this enormous endeavor." After the bidding stopped, the guests, dressed in taffeta and skinny black ties, danced the twist and other favorites of the era to music by DJ Colby Logan. They cherished the last minutes of their trip back to 1960s New York City before waking up the next morning with their newfound treasures in 2012 Dallas that will take them one step closer to owning the land the school calls home.



The school's annual auction is not only a fundraiser, but serves as a community-building event for Lamplighter families and friends. "Saturday night was fantastic!" exclaimed Head of School Joan Hill, whose first Auction as head of school was a "glamorous trip" back to 1960s New York and a "wonderful celebration for the Lamplighter community." Dr. Hill said she appreciated the generosity of the volunteers for their time, as well as the entire Lamplighter community for their support. She described it as "yet another example of how Lamplighter embodies the definition of community - one of thoughtful parents, inquisitive children, and a dedicated faculty and staff."

Many lucky bidders were ready to pack their bags to take advantage of the live auction vacation trips to Aspen, Boston, Maui, and perhaps most appropriately, New York City. As in the past, the highest bidding was not for Rolex watches or gold earrings, but for a Lamplighter student sleepover. Eighteen Lamplighter children will get to "roam the halls for a night and visit top secret" places in the school. Other priceless items included class projects made by the students including face plates and a specially designed chicken coop by Lamplighter parent and artist, Pene Meniere, that handsomely characterized the school's barnyard heritage. While many guests returned home with new treasures, the real winner was the school; the proceeds go directly to the purchase of the 12 acres of land the school occupies.



Year in Review from the Parents' Association President



It has been an honor serving as this year's LPA President. This position has given me a real insider's look at the school we all love, and as a parent-volunteer, I repeatedly see confirmation of how blessed we are to have our children attend such a special school. As a part of the LPA, what jumps out for me is our incredibly dedicated faculty and staff and the depth of

their commitment to our children. I would also like to extend my sincerest appreciation to the talented and tireless 2011-2012 LPA Board who have been exemplary in their energy and direction over the past year.

I'm proud to say that the LPA is responsible for numerous programs that benefit our children, faculty, staff, and school. One of Lamplighter's most eagerly anticipated events is our annual Carnival. This year's Lamplighter Country Fair was a huge success and a wonderful opportunity for alumni to be reunited. The Lamplighter Auction, which took place on February 25 at the Belo Mansion, not only raised over \$200,000 for the Lamplighter annual fund, but was the perfect chance for community building among the Lamplighter parents.

This year's Community Outreach Chairs, Shonn Brown, Monica Purdy, and Jen Ratan, thoughtfully integrated a remarkably hands-on approach with our children, which served to build their understanding of their personal roles as part of a larger community beyond Lamplighter. The first event was helping Community Partners of Dallas which serves our local community by assisting children in need. The children in the Lower School heard a presentation about how they could help and participated in a hygiene kit drive. The children assisted with the collection, assembly, and decoration of these kits, which are given to children at Community Partners of Dallas, which is the first stop when a child has been relocated by the CPS. The new chairs are already looking to continue this approach in the upcoming year.

I would also like to take a moment to applaud the efforts and contributions made by our dynamic group of volunteers from Lamplighter families. I am confident that next year's board, under the leadership of President Stephanie Bassman, will carry on the spirit of giving, caring, sharing, and making Lamplighter one of the finest schools in the world!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelli S. Chabria".

Kelli S. Chabria

Board Members of the 2011-2012 Lamplighter Parents' Association



Alum Kate Mosle and Architect Frank Welch Honored at Spirit Award Luncheon

The Spirit Award Luncheon was held in February to honor Lamplighter alumna Kate Mosle, and renowned Dallas architect Frank Welch. The pair was selected because of their contributions



to the community that embody the “spirit of Lamplighter.” The Award was established in 2003 by the school’s Alumni Council during its 50th anniversary and is given to an individual or group that has the “qualities of a lifelong learner, is willing to take risks, and displays creativity in their work.”

Ms. Mosle, a 2004 graduate of Lamplighter and a senior at the Hockaday School, has been an outspoken advocate of Lamplighter. Last year, she organized the school’s first Young Alumni fundraiser, a carwash that raised \$7,000 with the help of fifty young alumni. Frank Welch, the second award recipient, designed the school’s fine arts wing, including the Jonsson Media Center and the Cook Gymnasium, from 1986-1988. He was an associate of O’Neil Ford, who designed Lamplighter’s original school building, completed in 1969.

Ms. Mosle spoke to the group regarding the award, but credited many alums. “I asked a lot from my committee members in putting together the first Young Alumni car wash last May, and they went above and beyond.” She said the exciting thing was “getting fifty young alumni back on campus!” Mosle explained that because “we have such fond memories of Lamplighter, alums share a unique bond and know we were given the best possible foundation for success - it’s only natural to try to give back.” Ms. Mosle started advocating in the fifth grade when she wrote a letter encouraging the

Hockaday board to “rethink their position” and allow Lamplighter to purchase the 12 acres of land the school campus occupies. Kate, a National Merit Semifinalist, was accepted to Stanford University.

Mr. Welch, 84, is a Dallas-based architect whose roots go back to 1959, when he opened his first office in West Texas. His firm’s work includes a broad range of architecture throughout the Southwest and has been recognized with more than 50 awards for design excellence. With Lamplighter’s addition, Mr. Welch’s goal was to “expand the vision of the school; a design that has never been duplicated.” Reminiscing about the school’s original home, a farmhouse on Churchill Way, he said, “Lamplighter still has a barn with animals!”

Connie Harkins, guest of Lamplighter parent Ann Noonan, enjoyed seeing Frank Welch accept the Spirit Award because “this will bring greater awareness of the amazing architecture of Lamplighter and make people aware of Frank Welch’s affection for the School.”



Before lunch was served, Joan Hill welcomed the recipients and their families and friends, as well as more than 100 Lamplighter alumni, parents, faculty, and staff. “We have many generations of alums here today making this occasion extra special.” She then introduced third-graders Jack Genender and Zoë Purdy, who talked about “Pickin’ Chickens” for Lamplighter Layers, the school’s “chicken and egg” business. An actual incorporated enterprise, Lamplighter Layers is run by the “senior” class, who raises chickens and sells eggs. The profits are then donated to a local charity chosen by the class.



Lamplighter Spirit Award Recipients

The Lamplighter Spirit Award was established in 2003 during the 50th Anniversary of the school to recognize individuals who embody the spirit of Lamplighter.

2011-2012

Kate Mosle '04
Frank Welch

2010 – 2011

Lamplighter Parents' Association

2009 – 2010

David Corrigan '68
David Fields '71
Jennifer Mosle

2008 – 2009

Teel Gray
Dr. Carmen Michael
Dr. Ludwig Michael

2007 – 2008

Steven Davidoff '85
David Miller
Kevin Miller '76
Barbara Nichols

2006 – 2007

Marilyn Corrigan
Jeff Mankoff '71
Michael Wallace '76

2005 – 2006

Daniel W. Cook, III
B.G. Porter '75

2004 – 2005

Rolf R. Haberecht
H. Scurry Jonson '73
Pat Mattingly

2003 – 2004

Sara Albert
Jennifer A. Bryan '80
Judge Robert Porter (posthumously)
Eric M. Reeves '74
Margaret Jonsson Rogers

1966

Lisa Maxwell Steible lives in Dallas with her husband and two children. Lisa graduated from Texas A&M with a BBA in accounting, and worked as an internal auditor. Recently, she has enjoyed teaching craft courses as a part of Hockaday's Summer Program.



1967

Risa Weinberger graduated from Vanderbilt with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering. In 2003, Risa launched Risa Weinberger & Associates, Inc., and works as an environmental engineer designing, building, and operating solid waste facilities.

1969

Carolyn Bettis Berry and her husband raise exotic hoofed stock animals for zoos and exhibits around the world. She recently published a children's book, *Buster Tells All*, recalling true-life stories of her experiences raising exotic animals.

Kalita Blessing graduated from Dartmouth College and began her career working in retail. After seven years, she made a career change and joined Quest Capital Management where she is currently a Principal of the firm.

Jon Gross graduated from the University of Chicago as a geophysicist. Currently he works in the oil and gas industry as manager, corporate officer, and consultant.

Mindi Kahn graduated from UT Austin with a degree in elementary education and later returned to earn a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology. Currently, she owns Rich Hippie, a women's clothing boutique on Lovers Lane.

1970

Brad Campbell graduated from St. Marks and Texas A&M University. Currently, he is a commercial real estate broker primarily focused on land and investment sales and acquisitions. Brad and his wife have two girls, Hannah, 17; and Claire, 15.

George Lee earned a law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. He served as general counsel with Greenway Capital in Dallas and, in 2009, formed a law firm representing private investment funds. George and his wife Robyn have a daughter, Scarlett, a Yale senior.

1971

Julie Hyland Ambler graduated from Hockaday and UT Austin. She now serves as Woodlands Christian Academy Head of School. Julie and her husband have two children in college.

1974

Michael Dittmar lives in Menlo Park, California near Stanford University, where he earned his degree. Michael works in management consulting and travels the world. Michael and his wife, Diane, have three children, Kinsey, 17; Susannah, 14, and Caleb, 10.

Amy Sheinberg graduated from Hockaday and Dickinson College. Amy is a licensed Clinical Psychologist and has a private practice that focuses on life transition and identity issues; relationship difficulties; stress management; eating, mood, and anxiety disorders; and ADHD.



1977

George Seay founded and directs Annandale Capital, a global money management firm. He is actively engaged with many Texas and Dallas charities. He and his wife, Sarah, have three children, Margaret, George, and Elizabeth.

1978

Doug Macari graduated from ESD and USC. Currently, he is a commercial energy advisor with Tradition Energy. Doug has two girls, Blakely, 11; and Savannah, 9; and they live in Frisco, Texas.

1979

John Harrell graduated from Highland Park and attended Alabama, earning a BA in Advertising and Sales Management. He also has degrees from Samford University and LSU. John is married to Kristine Carter Harrell and has four boys, John and Charles, 12; Sam, 10; and Ward, 7.

1980

Gary Cohen worked as a tax lawyer in Dallas for nine years and left to form a start-up company, Pegasus News, with a friend. Gary sold the company and became involved in other entrepreneurial ventures, all involving the internet.

Edward Dittmar graduated from ESD and attended college in Virginia. He and his wife Millicent have two daughters, Wellesley and Amelia. He is a VP with Wells Fargo Advisors in Baton Rouge.

1982

Krystin Crain Johnson graduated from Georgetown. Recently, she has been writing lyrics with Broadway composer, Steven Jamail, and was mentioned in *Playbill* for her work as a lyricist.



Alan Pita graduated from Texas A&M and Stanford University. He worked on complex digital integrated circuits with IBM for ten years. Recently, he worked for Logic Refinery, Inc., a software company. Alan and his wife have two daughters, Allyson, 7; and Riley, 2.

1983

Chris Gannett is chief marketing officer of CKX, Inc., a leader in the ownership, development, and growth of globally recognized entertainment content. Chris and his wife Lisa have eight-month-old twins, Paul and William.

1984

John Paul Yabraian graduated from St. Mark's and Rice University. He works in Mission Control at NASA and is responsible for the thermal and life support systems on the International Space Station. John Paul and his wife Claire have two children, Oliver, 4; and Eleanor, 2.

1986

Josh Music graduated from St. Mark's and UT Austin. Currently, he works as a lawyer focusing on patent commercial litigation. He is also the assistant coach for the Greenhill varsity girls' basketball team and he enjoys volunteering at Legal Services of North Dallas.

1987

Daniel Baham graduated from ESD and TCU. Daniel worked at Texas Cable News as an audio operator, commercial producer, and live newscast director. Currently, he works for Richardson ISD as a Multimedia Specialist. Daniel recently married Joanne Noller, and they live in Dallas.

Christian Charnaux graduated from St. Mark's, UNC, and Harvard where he obtained his MBS. Currently, Christian leads the brand and strategy team at Hilton Worldwide. He and his wife Susan live in Alexandria, Virginia and have 18-month-old Catherine and a new baby on the way.

Drew Dawson taught and coached at Cistercian before entering Harvard Law School. Currently, Drew is a professor at the University of Miami School of Law. Drew and his wife have three children, Mac, 2; and twin daughters Adare and Kinsale, 8 months.



Sarah Stockton attended Hockaday and UNC. She received a Master's Degree in journalism from Emerson College in Boston. Currently, she is working for a global research marketing company in Plano, serving as Senior Internal Communications Manager.

1988

Steven Clark graduated from Greenhill and Morehouse College. After completing his degree from UT Southwestern Medical School, Steven was accepted as a general surgery program at Methodist Dallas Medical Center and will begin a hand surgery fellowship in July of 2012. Presently, he resides in New Orleans with his wife, daughter, and twin sons.

Joe Tauscher graduated from St. Mark's and Emory University. In 2009, Joe sold his Employment Screening Services business in Orlando. Currently he is focusing on a new concept in International Telephony. In 2006, Joe was chosen as one of the "Top 40 Businessmen in Dallas Under 40" by the *Dallas Business Journal*.

1989

Margaret Johansen Hirsch is currently living in Durham, North Carolina, with her husband, Brad. She is working with the National Math and Science Initiative, a Dallas based non-profit that encourages education reform in science and mathematics.

1990

Sarah Cross O'Brien graduated magna cum laude from Princeton with a degree in Operations Research and Financial Engineering. Sarah lives in Seattle, Washington, with her husband and seven-month-old son, Conor. She is currently a manager at Bain and Company.

Emily Luxen graduated from the Greenhill School. She graduated from the University of Missouri with a major in broadcast journalism. She currently works as a reporter at FOX6 WBRC-TV in Birmingham, Alabama.

Evan Randall attended St. Mark's and the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied computer and telecommunications engineering. Evan resides in Bethesda, Maryland, with his wife Audrey and son, Finneas.

Lindsay Rubin graduated from Stanford and earned a second degree from Kellogg. She lives in Chicago, Illinois, and does marketing for Quaker.

Marc Wallenstein graduated cum laude from Harvard in 2002. He received the James Peabody Gardner Memorial Traveling Fellowship in 2003, allowing him to spend a year in Australia living among the aborigines. In 2006, he received his JD from Yale Law School. Marc is presently an associate in the firm of Kellogg, Huber, Hansen, Todd, Evans & Figel, P.L.L.C. in Washington.

1993

Stacylyn Dewey graduated from Georgetown and Harvard Law School. She will be working at the Attorney General's office for a year as a public interest fellow before joining the law firm of Ropes and Gray.

T.J. Frank graduated from ESD and SMU. After graduating, he opened Southpaw's Organic Café. T.J. is currently opening his second location on McKinney Avenue. His Preston Center location will celebrate its four year anniversary in October of 2012.

Brittany Hendricks is a doctoral candidate at the University of Alabama where she is working on her third degree in trumpet performance. She gives solo recitals and teaches trumpet lessons and a course in music appreciation at the university. Currently, she is working on a mystery novel.

Kate Holbrook has lived in San Francisco for six years. She has recently completed her Master's Degree in nursing and is working as a nurse and research assistant at UCSF Medical Center.

Kelly Smith graduated from high school in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and went to the University of Arizona. Kelly currently lives in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, where she is a Corporate Sales Agent for General Steel Corporation.

1996

Gray Malin graduated from ESD and Emerson College. Currently, he owns Gray Malin Photography and sells his fine-art series to collectors. He currently lives in West Hollywood.

1997

Peter Koutsogeorgas and Basil Koutsogeorgas (99) recently completed their first feature film, *Inventors and Vendors*. Basil has just returned from his semester abroad through Northeastern University, exploring the architecture and history of Berlin, and will continue his studies in Boston. Peter is working on his next screenplay and pursuing opportunities in the film industry.

1999

Jordy Feldman graduated from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, with a major in biology and a minor in Spanish. She plans to return to Dallas and apply to medical school.

Blake Fisher graduated from the University of Montana and will teach high school in Providence, Rhode Island, with Teach For America, an AmeriCorps program that works in low income schools.

Jacqueline Giroir graduated from Texas A&M. As a solo singer, she performed at national venues including the Grammy's after-party. During the 111th Congress, Jacqueline accompanied performing artists to Washington to lobby for passage of the Performance Rights Act. After touring Japan with Sam Moore, she plans to attend Belmont University to pursue an MBA.

Meredith Klein graduated from Tufts University after spending a year studying in France. She currently lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is working with an international NGO as a Program Coordinator.

Kostadena Mantas lived and studied abroad in Australia and traveled throughout China, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, and Bali. She graduated in May from SMU with Honors and a BBA in Finance and a minor in Sociology.

John Stevenson graduated from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, with a BS with Honors in Mechanical Engineering. At Bucknell he helped design the Combustion Research Laboratory (CRL), and designed and validated a new type of liquid-fuel injector for use at the CRL and Penn State's Propulsion Engineering Research Center.



The **Lamplighter** School

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Dream in *Color*



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