

The JANUS JOURNAL



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to empower students who learn differently to become creative lifelong learners by giving them the skills, strategies, and confidence to achieve academic and personal success.

**THE
JANUS
SCHOOL**

TheJanusSchool.org
717.653.0025

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Message from Head of School



Dear Friends of Janus,

The school year at The Janus School is off to an incredible start. Our enrollment is currently at 80 students! Just as our students' lives have been transformed at Janus for the past 30 years, we're excited to see what the future holds for our students today. Every day I see Janus as a place where children find faculty and friends who understand them, encouragement to be their own best advocates, and teachers dedicated to their unique learning profiles.

Janus's individualized education empowers our students to achieve academic and personal success, and our donors' generous support is what makes this life-changing experience possible for students and families in our communities. As we launch this year's Annual Fund, please consider a gift to Janus to help us transform lives for the *next 30 years*.

Sincerely,

Janet Gillespie



Orrstown Bank has been a generous EITC donor since 2015

The Annual Fund Campaign Has Begun!

The 2022-2023 Annual Fund Campaign has begun and we've set the goal again of \$100,000. We surpassed that last year and hope to do so again with your support.

Your gift to the annual fund supports education programs, need-based scholarships, technology upgrades, hands-on experiences, faculty and staff development, and more!

“The teachers at Janus challenged him to take charge of his own learning and supported him through every challenge and triumph. Today, he is a different child - confident and happy.” - AJ’s Mom

To donate online, click here: TheJanusSchool.org/giving.

If you'd like to learn more or have any questions about gifting to Janus, contact Tim Steffen, Director of Development, at tsteffen@TheJanusSchool.org.

NEW! SUBSCRIPTION GIVING



For the first time, you can now set up a recurring monthly gift for the year and be part of The Sentinel Society. The Sentinel is our school's "mascot". It's someone who stands watch for others, which is what your gifts do for our students! Here are some benefits:

- Convenience for you and your budget planning
- Support Janus's annual budget planning
- Experience the impact your monthly gift makes through special, personalized, subscriber-only communications from students, faculty, and staff

To learn more or to join the the The Sentinel Society, click here: TheJanusSchool.org/giving.

*Every Gift
Makes an Impact*

Meet Parker Chadwick (Class of 2015)



Parker and Jan

Parker Chadwick visited Janus last May before moving to Greensboro, North Carolina. Parker is excited to start his work as a Geophysical Technician at the archaeological firm New South Associates. This new career came soon after he graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a double major in Anthropology and Religious Studies.

For Parker, the faculty and staff at Janus helped him find his voice. They also fostered his self-confidence and perseverance, which resulted in his choice to attend college.

“Before Janus, I had no intention to go to college at all. Janus gave me the hope for the future I wished to create.”

When asked to give advice to current Janus students, Parker said, “Be patient with yourself. We learn differently than most, and so we are likely going to be called “nontraditional”, but there is no shame in that. You can get it done, and that’s all the world cares about. You can do it. Just remember to be patient with yourself and allow yourself some grace.”

Best wishes for your new endeavors, Parker!

Are you an alumnus who has news to share? Do you need to update your contact information? We would love to hear from you. Please contact Tim Steffen at tsteffen@TheJanusSchool.org.

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



James Dempsey

James hails from Vermont, and before teaching at Janus, he researched our school and realized it was similar to previous schools he worked at, but also had a “Vermonty” feel that was appealing to him. He also liked seeing the term “lifelong learners” on our website, which he feels is crucial: “It’s a driving force in what I do. I want to make sure that children are lifelong learners.” James’s approach to every class, whether it’s Geography, Regions, or Public Speaking/Debate is three-fold – humor, a connection with students, and critical thinking must be fostered. For our new teachers, he offers this advice: “You need patience and good communication. You’ve got lots of support here. You’re part of a team.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

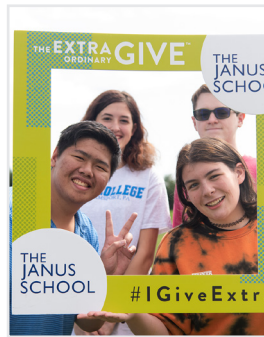
The Extraordinary Give

November 18th, 6-9pm

The Freiman Stoltzfus Gallery

149 North Prince Street,
Lancaster

Join us to celebrate and make your gift go the extra mile. Enjoy drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and live music during Lancaster County's biggest day of giving! We will have computers available for anyone wishing to make their donation at the gallery during the party. Last year we raised \$44K in one day. Let's go even farther this year! And please know that all gifts made on November 18th are amplified with matching community funds from the ExtraGive "stretch pool."



October 19: EITC Webinar (see p. 8)

November 3: Open House - Virtual - 7pm

November 23-25: Thanksgiving Break - No School

November 28: School Resumes

December 1: Open House - In-Person - 9am

December 19 - January 2: Winter Break

January 3: School Resumes

Welcome New Teachers!



Sandra Aloquin



Debbie Hoffman



Will Eichorst



Beth Weaver-Kreider



Dyane Stillman

We're thrilled to introduce you to five new Janus teachers. Learn more about them through upcoming social media posts in which we'll spotlight each one to find out the answer to the question: *Out of all the schools you could have chosen, why teach at Janus?*

Meet the Class of 2023!



Seniors: (Back Row) Tristan, Shannyn, Sebastian, Tyler, Michael, Carter, Dylan, Tina, (Front Row) Val, Caleb, Aidan

We're happy to present this year's eleven Janus seniors. Their futures are bright and our school is better because they've been a part of it. Join us in wishing them an incredible senior year and stay tuned on social media to hear how their journeys are going as the year progresses.



Jonathan Back's Government Class on a September trip to Philadelphia

FACILITIES UPDATE

We're excited to share two new updates to our campus - solar panels on our outdoor classroom and a new kitchen in the cafeteria.

Thanks to a grant from The Stabler Foundation, we now have solar panels on our outdoor classroom to provide electricity that will enhance students' learning experiences even more. Many thanks to Ben Zook and his team at Belmont Solar for their impeccable customer service and installation.

We're also thankful to Clark Associates Charitable Foundation for providing a \$60K grant for new cabinets, counters, and commercial grade appliances for our cafeteria kitchen. Our cafeteria isn't just for lunch - it's a classroom for science experiments, making zucchini bread, and many more valuable learning experiences for our students.



The First Week of School



Please enjoy photos from the first week of school. It was a time for teachers, students, and staff to reconnect, and also to welcome new students and faculty members into our wonderful community.



LIFE LESSON FROM THE SPIRIT OF MASSACHUSETTS

by Wendy Hershey, Trustee and former Janus parent

There are times when we experience something foreign, unique, or challenging that leaves us positively changed. Such was the Janus School's adventure trips "Before the Mast" on the Spirit of Massachusetts and camping at Echo Hills in 1994 and 1995.

Many of you who attended the Janus School in its early years will remember this "whole school" adventure. The students, teachers, faculty, and many parents travelled to Chestertown Maryland on the Chesapeake Bay to Echo Hills. Echo Hills served as a base for the sailing experience and provided educational and team building programs as groups of students alternated class experience with sailing time.

Everyone was divided into groups for their turn on the tall ship, a two masted 125' schooner dedicated to educational expeditions. We were assigned berths, directed on how to manage the bilge pumps and "heads," and learned how to put up and take down the sails. Everyone was assigned to a "watch" - an hour-long assignment throughout the night. Many were given "middle of the night" watches and found it difficult to fall asleep, anticipating the need to check the "heads" and bilges so the ship wouldn't sink. Chores on the ship included reading charts, tying knots, bosun duties, and, of course, galley clean up. (One young man reminded us that they had a dishwasher at home so he never had to wash dishes.)

The Chesapeake is renowned for churning up afternoon storms. Of course, we were not disappointed. Huddling in the below deck cabins, one child insisted, "We are all going to die," the other children broke into tears and needed reassurance, but as storms do, this too would pass, which it did. We all felt better with fresh air on the deck later.

We returned to Echo Hill and eventually our homes with life changing memories. The experience completed the analogy of navigating educational waters. We learned to set a course and achieve objectives. We learned vigilance and responsibility. We faced a real storm, survived, and were stronger for it.

For those of you who would like to see the Spirit of Massachusetts again you'll find her moored in Kennebunk, Maine. She was restored and retired from service in 2014 and is now a restaurant serving cocktails and small plates. I'm sure you won't have to wash dishes this time in the galley.



The Spirit of Massachusetts

Do you have a Janus memory you'd like to share in our next newsletter? We'd love to read it! If so, email your story to Tim Steffen: tsteffen@TheJanusSchool.org



EITC GIVING Zoom Webinar

Oct. 19, 7-7:30pm



PA makes it easy for you to support K-12 education for our underserved students through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program.

Did you know that if you pay \$3,500 or more in PA State Taxes, you can redirect up to 90% of that to fund scholarships for students at The Janus School? Individuals with an adjusted gross income of more than \$115,000 annually qualify for the EITC program, but how does it work?

Tami Clark, Executive Director at Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund, will guide you through the process and answer any questions to help interested participants get started with their support for Janus.

[Click here to register.](#)

If you miss the webinar, a recording will be posted on our website on Oct. 24.

[Click here to view the video.](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



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UPMC HEALTH PLAN



YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE. THANK YOU!

The Fulton Family Foundation

The Stabler Foundation

Clark Associates Charitable Foundation



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