

# THE SPOTLIGHT

*ASP News Magazine*

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AMERICAN SCHOOL  
OF PARIS

*Founded 1946*

## *Graduation Edition* **Class of 2016**





## Remarks from the President of the Board

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### Editors' Note

Dear Class of 2016,

What an honor it has been to get to know you through the words and photos which portray your amazing depth of knowledge and array of talents. You have added so much to the ASP community. You'll see some highlights on the pages of this special ASPECT magazine, dedicated to your class. We wish you all the best in the next chapter of your academic pursuits.

Renée Bélec | Janet Rubinstein

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*Take with you confidence that you are well-prepared global citizens, well-positioned personally and academically for the adventures ahead.*

Families, friends, faculty, staff, administration, honored guests and speakers, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the American School of Paris, welcome to the 70<sup>th</sup> graduation for our school. It is an honor to be here in this special setting and to share this day of recognition and affirmation of the accomplishments of the Class of 2016. And, to our most special attendees, the Class of 2016, I hope that after you leave ASP you appreciate how unique you are as a graduating class. I speak from my own similar educational experiences. You will attend universities where the majority of people will have lived in the same place their entire life. To them, you are profoundly unusual. You may look and talk like them, but feel quite different. While others may show initial curiosity about your experiences, that may fade. But know that the same set of experiences that at times set you apart will be your ally in forging your new path. At ASP, you have been immersed in a true melting pot, with no majority. Your acceptance of that diversity and willingness to explore that breadth of perspective and find common ground is a tremendous asset for life, both personally and professionally.

Next September, there may be moments when you feel that you relate better to your fellow ASP graduates, pursuing their studies all across the world, than to your new roommate. However, the adaptability that you've developed up until now will



serve you well. You will find meaningful connections, and you know how to make that happen better than most.

Academically you have accomplished a tremendous amount, at a school with a talented and dedicated faculty and administration who always challenged you to do your best.

Be as proud of what you have accomplished leading to this day as we are in you; take with you confidence that you are well-prepared global citizens, well-positioned personally and academically for the adventures ahead. And, please keep in touch with your alma mater and thrill us with your successes.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the American School of Paris, I wish you all the best. Congratulations to the Class of 2016!

Suzanne Obenshain  
President, Board of Trustees



## Class of 2016 Superlatives from the Head of School

**E**ach year at graduation ceremony, Head of School Mark E. Ulfers shares a few superlatives about the graduating class, providing insights into their character and distinct achievements.

### Class of 2016: True Grit

**W**ithout hesitation, we observe that the Class of 2016 is a remarkably resilient group – in the popular vernacular, they have “grit” or the ability to persevere with all measure of passion to meet long-term goals. In the midst of unprecedented events placing Paris in the center of world news – from terrorism to floods – the Class of 2016 has taken the initiative. They act on the notion that world citizenship is not a spectator sport. A fine example: Chloe Olsen and her legion of Paris Model United Nations leaders had planned for over a year the November 2015 PAMUN. It was cancelled because of the Paris attacks – then, against all odds – they set a new date, re-planned and brought to schools around the world a terrifically successful MUN conference in February – an effort that can only be described as “gritty” and at a time Paris was still so very tender after the November 13 attacks.

It was as the evening of the November 13 attacks unfolded, that our senior class journalists, led by Thibault Messeri took to social media to relay reports from *Le Figaro, France 24* and very personal local coverage. They reported out to students around the world through their own initiative called Global Student Square with the objective to globalize and democratize student journalism. In the same way, they reported on the agreements from the COP21 Global Climate Change Conference.

#### The Class of 2016: A Gritty Bunch

Fully 65% of our graduates are either seeking the IB diploma, the IB bilingual diploma, the Advanced Placement Scholar or the AP International Diploma. Over one-third of the class has been initiated into the National Honor Society.

21% of class members indicate they will pursue studies in the sciences or STEM fields including technology, engineering and mathematics, with 43% of this group women, thus defying statistics on gender and the world of work.

Over half of the class has declared the social sciences, humanities, journalism, and business administration as an academic destination with 20% of our graduates following the fine and performing arts.

In the United States many will be attending some of the most selective private and public institutions in the country – to name a few: Dartmouth, Stanford, Barnard, Georgetown, Tufts, UC Berkeley, UCLA, UVA and the US Military Academy.

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*The Class of 2016 has taken the initiative. They act on the notion that world citizenship is not a spectator sport.*

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In the United Kingdom, students are attending such colleges as the University College London, London School of Economics and Exeter. In Canada – McGill University, Queen’s University and the University of British Columbia. Yet other students are attending universities in India, Asia and Australia.

The success of this class is also a product of adopting habits of leadership, developing talent across the arts, service to others and the competitive spirit of athletics. 65% of our seniors participated in service clubs, 25% in performing arts and over half in one or more sports.

As of this year and with leadership from the Class of 2016, our National Honor Society is serving the local homeless community and refugees in Calais.

The Class of 2016 has been a team phenomenon through the years with high participation within service learning clubs for Romania, India, the Kalahari Desert and Habitat for Humanity.

Quite out of the ordinary for international schools, three ASP seniors have been recruited by university sports programs, two for division I soccer and one for rugby. Our rugby team earned an ISST silver medal this year with seniors in the middle of the scrum. And, our tennis team won the gold medal and our women’s softball team brought home the silver medal this spring.

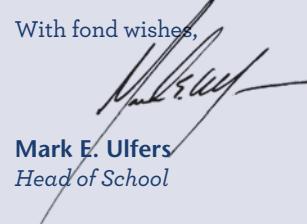
This class has a dancer who performed in the Rio de Janeiro favela of Santa Marta, a highly accomplished concert pianist who will attend the New England Conservatory of Music, and INK Literary Magazine, edited by seniors this year – won Best in Class for the third year running in world competition.

Graduates of ASP – you bring honor to your family, to your teachers, to our ASP community and to your fellow students at ASP. We have every reason to admire you and your achievements.

My heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of you – you have now become alumni members of the American School of Paris.

Now as the coming years unfold in front of you – be good to your word, your family, yourself and your friends.

With fond wishes,



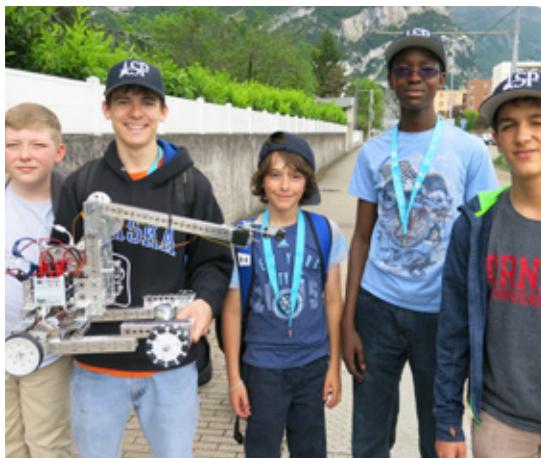
Mark E. Ulfers  
Head of School

# **Living Our Mission**

## **Sharing Our Beliefs**

The American School of Paris is a vibrant, international, family-oriented community.

Our mission is to inspire and prepare every student to achieve personal and academic excellence as an engaged global citizen by providing a challenging, innovative program within a compassionate environment.



**Every person has equal worth.**

**Individuals** are responsible for their **choices** and **actions**.

We best **meet the needs** of learners when we understand them as individuals.

Through **hard work** and **determination** individuals can achieve their potential.

Every member of a **community** has the responsibility to contribute to the greater good.

Seeking to understand **diverse cultures**, **ideas** and practices enriches a community.

A culture of **high expectations** and striving for excellence leads to higher achievement.

**Learning** is a continuous lifelong endeavor.

Great schools nurture **passion**, curiosity, **creativity**, self-expression and joy.

Going beyond the familiar and **taking risks** stimulate growth, **innovation** and self-discovery.

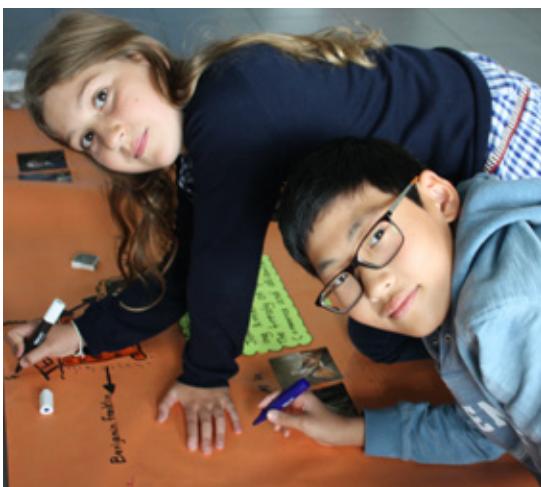
In a rapidly changing world, achieving **excellence** demands **commitment** to continuous improvement.

Everyone shares **responsibility** for our global community and environment.

**Honesty** and **integrity** are central to all we do.



# ASP Class of 2016 by the Numbers



**89**  
*graduating seniors*

**21**  
*countries from which  
graduates hail*

**16**  
*mother tongue  
languages*

**52%**  
*participated in  
JV/Varsity sports*

**25%**  
*participated in fine  
and performing arts  
activities*

**17**  
*GAPS  
peer mentors*

**43%**  
*female component  
of graduates pursuing  
STEM fields*

**33**  
*IB Diploma  
candidates*

**1/3**  
*initiated into  
the National Honor  
Society*

**24**  
*AP candidates  
including 11  
International Diploma  
recipients*

**4**  
*continents where  
graduates will attend  
university*

**9**  
*ISST senior class  
athlete recognition  
winners*

**831**  
*champagne bottles  
sold by senior parents  
in support of  
the Class of 2016  
activities*



## We asked graduating seniors for their first impressions upon arriving at ASP and the lasting impact of their time here.



**Zoe Storm**

**Will be attending University of Glasgow  
Studying product design in the School of Art**

### First impression of ASP?

Paris seemed quite big and incredibly different compared to the city in which I had always lived in Germany. And, I had never studied in English except in my foreign language class! There was a big adjustment, but everyone at ASP was very welcoming and supportive, making me feel at home quickly. In fact, on my orientation day I met one of my best friends.

### Most lasting impact?

I have diverse interests and was able to take classes at ASP that helped me explore

many of them. Through the IB Visual Arts HL class with Mr. Vescio and Ms. Enard, I became more interested in art and more confident about it being my main interest. I chose product design as my university major by working with my college counselor, Ms. Lowe.

She helped me by pouring over the UCAS course descriptions with me and helped me identify where my passions were the strongest. I really appreciate the respect for one's personal interests and choices at ASP as I believe that when one is happy and passionate about what they do, one will do well, no matter the career path. I was encouraged to be my true self, and to chart my own path for my future. I find this mindset empowering, and feel confident and enthused as I leave ASP on my created path and move on to the next step.



**Louis de Minveille**

**Will be attending École hôtelière de Lausanne  
Studying hospitality and event management**

### First impression of ASP?

Although I grew up in France I only arrived at ASP in Grade 10 and immediately there were adjustments for me to make – especially having to write in English – and the math which was very different in method from what I was used to. With the support from teachers it all worked out.

### Most lasting impact?

The teachers truly care about their students and want them to succeed. Mr. McEachern and Mr. Kopp, and actually all of my teachers, were very

available to help whenever I needed. And, their support and encouragement drove me to want to succeed even more.

My involvement in ASP's service clubs and extracurriculars enabled me to give back to others and learn about the world. Looking back, I realize it also helped me develop skills which will help me as I pursue my studies in hospitality and events management.

I gained confidence speaking in front of hundreds of people as the Deputy Secretary General at PAMUN, and I learned to lead a group and manage activities and events as President of the Habitat for Humanity club. These situations led me to take charge and to make things happen. It's wonderful to have these experiences. I am incredibly grateful to have been here at ASP and been able to take advantage of so many kinds of learning opportunities.

**S**ome of my best experiences of senior year were those which I spent working with other students.

And, as I know how challenging the assignments can be, I was always happy to offer my support and insights. This is especially true in the case of IB Film

class. Many people enrolling in this course assume it's easy, but I have learned that one can be quickly overwhelmed by the grand undertaking of making any short film, let alone a good one! I let students know that it's a lot of work, but really worth it!

One of the most incredible times I had on a set was when I acted in and provided advice for a comedy directed by a friend, Tobi, a senior in 1st year IB Film. He is a creative guy whose mind

works at a mile a minute, so I had no doubt in his vision and his ability to come up with a creative story. Working with him were two younger students who took on sound design and cinematography.

Having had recently completed my own short film, I knew the challenges involved in organizing and executing a production schedule, including the need for solid technical knowledge. As the days progressed, we all improved

## Senior Experience

Jack Campbell

And, as I know how challenging the assignments can be, I was always happy to offer my support and insights. This is especially true in the case of IB Film



## Brianna Arnold

**Will be attending**  
**Indiana University-**  
**Purdue University**  
**Indianapolis**  
**Studying pediatric nursing**

### First impression of ASP?

*I arrived at ASP from my hometown in America, and my first impression here was ‘wow!’ What an interesting and culturally diverse environment this school has; we can learn so much from each other.*

### Most lasting impact?

*Thanks to my ASP service club experiences, I have discovered my passion – caring for children. The Romanian Children’s Relief trips have had a huge impact on me. Sonata Sardinha had encouraged me to participate in my first year here and I ended up going four times! I have spoken with the nurses at*

*the hospital in Romania; I observed how they interacted with kids and what a difference they made in their development. I followed one particular girl over the years and tracked the progress she has made. I want to learn much more about pediatric nursing, so that I too will be able to truly impact those in need.*

*At ASP there is an amazing array of opportunities to learn about other cultures and to give back through exchanges and service clubs. I have participated in exchanges with students in China and Japan, and have worked with children in the Kalahari, India, and Romania.*

*Thanks to ASP, I have also become more confident in taking on academic challenges and opportunities. Several years ago, Mr. Green gave me the permission I sought to switch to a more difficult math class. I pushed myself and ended up getting an award in that class. I saw that with hard work I can succeed outside of my comfort zone and I will keep this in mind in the future.*



## Swapnil Bhardwaj

**Will be attending**  
**University of California,**  
**Los Angeles**  
**Studying business economics and finance**

### First impression of ASP?

*I started here in the middle of 8<sup>th</sup> grade and felt straight away that this is a very welcoming community. Also, although I had moved internationally several times, I found there were many others who had similar experiences and so it was even easier to connect.*

### Most lasting impact?

*I discovered economics in class with Dr. Wehrli; the way he presented it, with such enthusiasm and with examples which brought the subject to life, was really enlightening; it led me to want to know more. In fact, I am planning for economics to be one of my majors at university.*

*Another impactful experience was being Student Council president this year, representing the entire Upper School. It is a big responsibility, but one I was happy to take on. I learned a lot about managing groups of people and building consensus. I wanted to introduce some new events at school and realized that to increase their chances of success the student council had to understand the preferences of diverse student groups and ensure that our communication reached and resonated with everyone.*

*There were some challenges, but in the end it all worked well and was a fantastic experience.*

*ASP is a gold mine of opportunity; there are so many doors that each student can open for themselves. The variety of clubs and activities, the wide range of course offerings, the choices of diplomas offer amazing experiences, but it is really the people that complete the ASP experience: teachers and counselors, alumni and even other students are supportive and really want you to succeed. All together, it’s been an amazing high school experience.*

together. I was able to provide advice on situations I had already faced in making my films. A great sense of camaraderie developed; we laughed at the jokes we came up with on set for the script, and went home with a real sense of satisfaction from the work we had accomplished. There were still some technical issues, but nothing significant.

Despite the fun we had, I wasn’t sure if the final product would be good. I knew how hard everyone had worked and

hoped that the results reflected that. I was so happy to find that the film, the one we had spent so much time working on and had overcome so many challenges to make, was one of the best student films I have ever seen. It had charm, wit and everything my friend Tobi had talked about in his vision.

Now that I am graduating and reflecting on my experiences, I feel that I’ll never stop learning from others, regardless of their age – or mine.



## Jack Campbell

**Will be attending**  
**New York University**  
**studying film**

**Editor’s Note:** As we go to press it has been announced that Jack’s own film ‘Reboot’ won the ‘Audience Favorite’ award at the 2016 Paris Youth Film Festival. Bravo!

*Class of 2016*  
**Ground Breakers**

Unprecedented participation  
in Service Clubs



National Council of  
Teachers of English  
award for student  
magazine INK

*Third year running!*



Served homeless  
and refugees in  
France

*NHS students collected  
apparel and other  
essentials*

*Musical markers*  
**Student selected  
for prestigious music school**

*Tracy Tang to attend New England Conservatory of Music*



## Senior Class Athletes Recruited

*Olivier Larente, here with ASP coaches, signing his National Letter of Intent for Bryant University in Rhode Island where he was recruited for soccer. Classmate Junior Addai will play soccer at Purdue University, and Duncan McAlloon rugby at West Point Academy.*



*Initiated interactive PAC event*

## Intergrade Competition



**Reported  
Paris  
November  
events to  
the world  
via Global  
Student  
Square**



*Electronic music  
fundraiser*

**ASpecial Mix  
to benefit  
Room to Read**

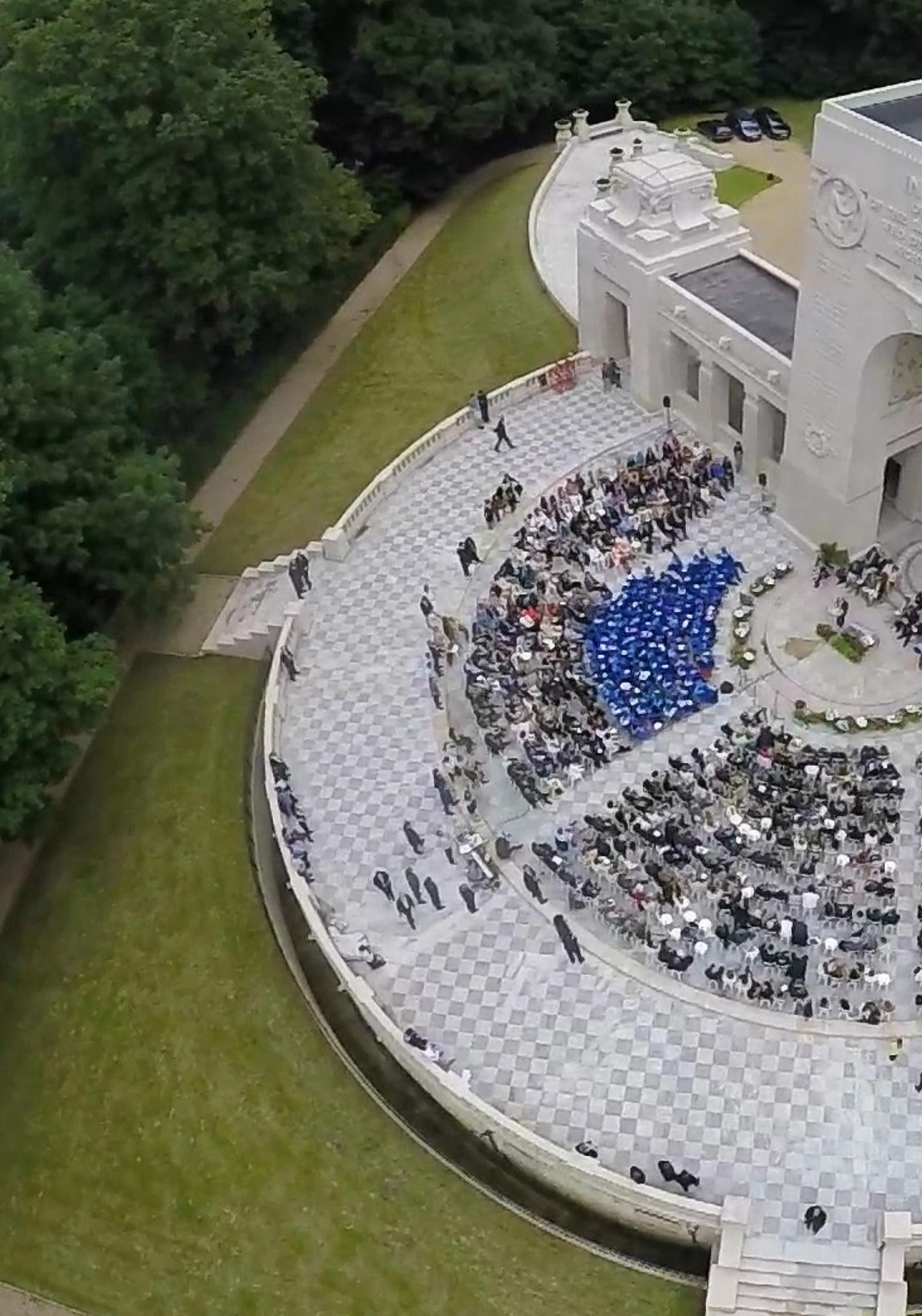
**Commendable resilience and caring  
in the face of unprecedented world events**





# Family Ties







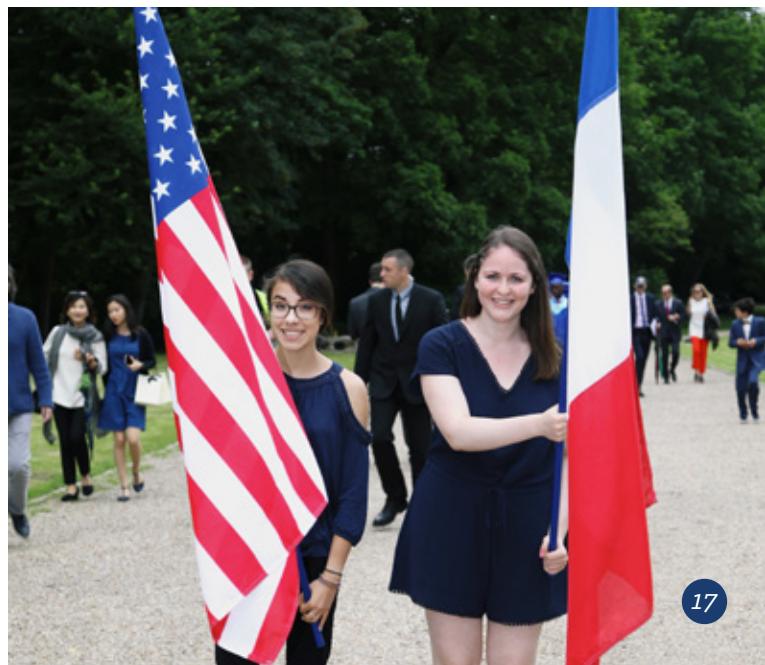


The memorial, built in 1928, features an Arc de Triomphe, flanked by columned wings centered on a reflecting pool and fountain, and is located in Marnes-la-Coquette in the Parc de Saint-Cloud.

## The Venue

The graduation ceremony for the American School of Paris Class of 2016 returns to the Lafayette Escadrille Memorial following a multi-year refurbishment. The memorial stands as tribute to the heroic efforts of America's first combat aviators, the Escadrille Lafayette (Lafayette Squadron) who flew with the French Air Service in battles preceding and during World War I. Many eventually helped develop the US Air Force.

The history of the actions of these aviators and their willingness to serve stands as testament to the longstanding friendship between France and the United States, as well as the nations' common objectives and collaboration in defending liberty and freedom. The American School of Paris is delighted that our students are being honored as graduates in this significant, meaningful and beautiful setting.





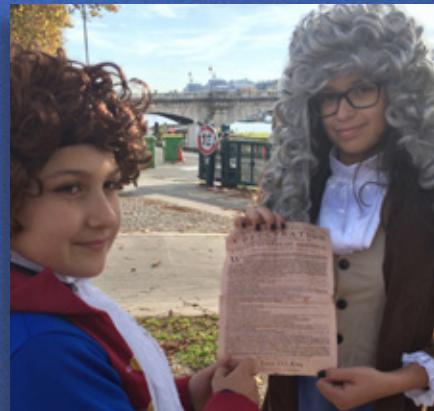
# Middle School



Moving up and ready for Upper School



MAP test results consistently outscoring international proficiency and growth averages in both science and math



Paris as a classroom: Recreating history where it happened



Winning an important honor from the local government for historical research and civic knowledge – and doing so in French



Welcoming 220 participants from 7 different countries to grapple with contemporary world issues at the largest-ever PACMUN conference



Creating the Caring Tree and sharing wishes for a better future, tolerance, freedom of speech, inclusion, and peace

# Becoming Alumni

## From the Office of Development and Alumni Relations

Congratulations to the Class of 2016! As an ASP graduate, you now share a special bond with thousands of alumni spanning the globe.

We are here to encourage life-long connections within the alumni community and with the school.

### To stay in touch:

#### Alumni CONNECTION

<https://asp-alumni-community.org> is the web address of our official alumni database. Please register to access ASP yearbooks online, provide connections, and much more!

#### Alma Matters

Our quarterly newsletter sent to all registered alumni

#### Alumni Gatherings

are organized in Paris, the US and throughout the world.

#### Social Media:

 **ASP LinkedIn Alumni Group**  
<http://bit.ly/ASPalumLI>

 **ASP Facebook Alumni Group**  
<http://bit.ly/ASPalumFB>

Always let us know of any personal and professional milestones, and if you are planning to return to campus for a visit. We look forward to keeping in contact in the months and years ahead!

With all best wishes,

**Chris Chater**  
Alumni Coordinator

**Caroline Baugh**  
Associate Director of Development and Alumni Relations

**Emily Robin**  
Director of Development and Alumni Relations

**ASP Alumni Office**  
[alumni@asparsis.fr](mailto:alumni@asparsis.fr)

**PS|** In honor of your graduation, please consider a donation to the ASP Excellence Fund, supporting extraordinary learning opportunities for ASP students and our entire community.



Paul Willems and Chloe Olsen

Rendez-vous at ASP in two years time! We would love to see the Class of 2016 back on campus at Homecoming 2018 to help celebrate the past, present & future of ASP! Come and reconnect in person with your teachers, classmates, and other fellow alumni and see the changes to the campus. You'll be receiving details in the months ahead. Please plan to join us!

## Class of 2016 Alumni Representatives

Friendships and classroom memories deepen our students' connection to ASP well after graduation; Alumni Representatives help reinforce this link by facilitating ongoing communication within the class and with the school.

The Alumni Representatives for the Class of 2016 are **Chloe Olsen** and **Paul Willems**. Added together, they have spent a total of 22 years at ASP and throughout this time have become well-versed in maintaining connections with former and current classmates. They look forward to helping ASP's Class of 2016 graduates stay in touch. Thank you, Chloe and Paul!

*See page 24 for excerpts of their graduation ceremony remarks.*

### In Memorium | Victoria McGrath | ASP Class of 2011



**V**ictoria McGrath was a vibrant, engaged and determined young woman who had an immense impact at ASP and around the world. Her tenacity and resolve were never more evident as when she took on a grueling rehabilitation program in order to resume her studies at Northeastern University after sustaining injuries in the 2013 Boston Marathon

bombings. Victoria rehabbed with veterans and spent the last year and a half advocating for them and raising funds for other bombing victims. She passed away this past March following a car accident while traveling abroad. In May she was graduated from Northeastern, posthumously, with honors.

By overcoming her own adversity and achieving success while demonstrating grace, humility, and empathy, Victoria leaves a powerful legacy. Her commitment to academic achievement and selfless community service will always be remembered. We are so honored to count her as an ASP alumna, and grateful for the time we had with her.

Two funds in Victoria's name have been set up to benefit causes important to her.

For more information please contact [alumni@asparsis.fr](mailto:alumni@asparsis.fr)



Adeline  
K1

Congratulations, I hope you get to see lots of new places and things.



Gavin  
Grade 2

Good luck – it's going to be cool and a new adventure.



Nunwayer, Je-Yun, Lucas Grade 3

We hope you get to learn a lot and make lots of friends.

We asked some of ASP's youngest students for their hopes and parting words for our graduating seniors leaving ASP for university.



Allison  
Grade 6

I hope you got into the school you wanted and are successful.



Catharina  
Grade 4

I hope you have a good time in college and that it's not too hard.



Camille  
Grade 5

You made it!  
*Bonne chance à tous et félicitations.*

# The ASP Student Journey



Experimenting and exploring the wonderful world of science in a new dedicated space



"Trunk or Treat" Halloween fun to share with friends and family at school

**L**ooking back at the past year of learning and achievement by ASP's younger students, and as they prepare to move up a year closer to their own graduation, it is clear that they are well "on their way"!

## Lower School



Learning strategy, practicing moves and keeping up with the big kids in the all-school chess club



MAP test results consistently outscoring international averages in both reading and math



Visiting senior citizens in a local nursing home and sharing songs, gentle conversation, and warm smiles



Holding forth in ASP's first student-led conferences, proudly presenting our learnings to parents

## Walking the Path A Message from the Guidance Counselors

High School years are ones of shared experiences, but also of individual growth and discovery. Sandy Karam has worked with the Class of 2016 as their school counselor, Justin Kearns as GAPS and National Honor Society advisor. Together, they reflect on the maturity and resiliency this class has developed over the past four years

Dear Class of 2016,

Do you recognize the photo of the ‘ninth-grade-you’ in your freshman yearbook? You were then a young teen and have now evolved into a young adult. How did that happen?

The time in between was marked by transitions, academic endeavors and challenges. Some observations from your school counselors:

In Grade 9, with Middle School in the rear view mirror you arrived in our Upper School world with the responsibility of managing so many new classes, clubs, and choices. Fast forward to the end of Grade 10, when suddenly we asked you to start looking ahead to your future. You worked with the counseling team, along with your parents, to define a path to best facilitate academic success. You did some self-reflection, identified your interests and strengths, and thought about long-term educational goals. Though perhaps hesitant at first, you stepped up to the plate and embraced this challenge.

### A growing self-confidence and a greater sense of global awareness

During those first two years in our Upper School, we observed a growing self-confidence and a greater sense of global awareness as seen in our GAPS classes, where we grappled with defining issues around four important pillars: **Global citizenship, Academic and Personal excellence and Service learning.**



Justin Kearns and Sandy Karam

*One sign of maturity,  
regardless of age,  
is recognizing the value  
of emotional health  
and wellness.*

In the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade many of you sought to give back and support younger students as they too tackled these issues, by serving as GAPS peer mentors.

The majority of you also took leadership roles in ASP’s service clubs, identifying opportunities to actively support others less fortunate and to make contributions to the greater world on a level not often seen in young people.

One sign of maturity, regardless of age, is recognizing the value of emotional

health and wellness. We have been here to counsel (hence our title!); listen and support. Your ‘ASP team’ (guidance, college counselors, teachers, learning support team, academic deans, administration) is always there for you.

### Senior year: demanding on many levels

Ask anyone, anywhere who has gone through it – senior year is known to be demanding on many levels: college applications, final exams, standardized testing, unchartered territory ahead – it is all part of the experience. And, events in Paris, the city we call home, added unique and unexpected adversity to your senior year. It has been heartening to see you connect and support each other. You have demonstrated adaptability, compassion, maturity and resilience, acting as role models for the younger students of our community.

### Best wishes to the Class of 2016

You have indeed left behind the ‘ninth-grade-you’ in the yearbook; your senior portrait reflects an empowered and confident young adult. Your profile jumps off the page to display academic prowess, self-assurance and global awareness which will guide you forward on your chosen path. You embody the key components of an ASP education and the manifestation of the school’s mission of preparing students for personal and academic excellence. As you move on from ASP, we wish you much success in the future.

We will always be cheering for you!

**Sandy Karam      Justin Kearns**

*The ASP Upper School Guidance Office focuses on the educational, emotional, and behavioral needs of our students and offers a range of services to address these needs.*

*Counselors provide both academic and emotional support and seek to help students take advantage of the wealth of curricular and extracurricular opportunities available to them.*

# 2016 Senior Awards

## European Council of International Schools' Award for International Understanding



Louis  
de Minvielle

This award is given to a student who is a good representative of his own country with a positive attitude towards the life and cultures of others, able to converse in at least two languages, a contributing force in the life of the school, with the ability to bring differing people together into a sense of community, thus furthering the cause of international understanding.



Cecilia  
Cavelier

Chloe  
Olsen

highest grade point average over the course of the senior year. It is presented to the top two students in the class.



Emma  
Albright

Chloe  
Olsen

citizenship the core values of respect, responsibility and honesty that are central to the mission of the American School of Paris.

## Service to the School



Swapnil  
Bhardwaj

Ana  
Madero

to two students who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the school.

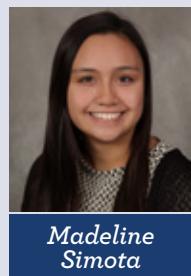
**The Lyle-Nicoll Merit Award** This scholarship is granted by the PFA to a student for good citizenship, strong academic commitment and desire for advanced education. Awarded to **Madeline Simota**

**The Diane Flaum/Bev Price Arts Scholarship** This scholarship is granted by FOTA to a student for his or her commitment to and achievements in the fields of performing or visual arts.

A scholarship for Excellence in Visual Arts is granted to **Heewon Yun**.

A scholarship for Excellence in and Service to Music is granted to **Delaney Lowry**.

**J. B. Chapman Award** Awarded in memory of John Chapman, former Headmaster of American School of Paris; annual awards are given to two students who have contributed with great modesty to the life of the school.



Madeline  
Simota



Kelly  
Hunter

**International Award** This award is given to two students who, in their own way, have fostered better understanding among the diverse nationalities comprising the community of the American School of Paris.



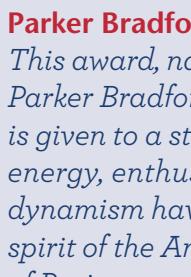
Paul  
Willems



Hector Mauro-  
Nguemah



Delaney  
Lowry



Cecilia  
Cavelier



Ga Rim  
Kim

**Renaissance Award** This award is given to two students who have distinguished themselves in at least three of the following areas: the Arts, the Humanities, the Sciences, Athletics.

## *A Word from the Upper School Director*

### *Farewell to the Class of 2016*



H eartfelt congratulations to each and every one you in the Class of 2016! This is a moment when our community stands proud knowing that we are sending out into the world a generation of young people full of intellect, energy, talent, passion and character. Know that the strong academic and personal foundations you have carved out over your ASP years will serve you well as you tackle the challenges that lie ahead. You've accomplished much here and now is your time to follow the rich tradition of ASP graduates who have found their place beyond these walls. I look forward to the years ahead when you are sure to return to ASP to tell your exciting stories, the first chapter of which you have just so beautifully written.

As you go forth, remember the values and lessons you've learned from having had the incredible opportunity to learn alongside so many people from around the world. At ASP you came to understand that there is a core goodness that joins people of all cultures – that differences need not be a source of division, but can and should be a source of great strength. Now, more than ever, you need to be bold and loud in what you've learned. You need to be the spokespeople of the future.

In whatever you do, be passionate and committed and do what is right. Having had the great privilege of working with you over the last several years gives me confidence that, despite the difficult times we face, the future is very, very bright indeed.

**In whatever  
you do,  
be passionate  
and  
committed  
and do what  
is right.**







# Where in the World Are They Going?

## 2016 College Acceptances

### USA

American University (5)  
Babson College  
Ball State University  
Bard College  
Barnard College (2)  
Bates College  
Baylor University  
Bentley College  
Boston College  
Boston University (6)  
Bowdoin College  
Bryant University  
Carleton University  
Carroll College  
Central Washington University  
Chapman University  
Clark University (2)  
Clemson University  
College of William & Mary  
College of Wooster  
Columbia College, Chicago  
Dartmouth University  
Dowling College  
Drew University  
Drexel University  
Eastman School of Music  
Elon University  
Emmanuel College  
Emory University (2)  
Endicott College  
Evergreen State University  
Florida Institute of Technology (2)  
Fordham University (2)  
George Washington University (2)  
Georgetown University  
Georgia State University  
Gonzaga University  
Hamilton College  
Indiana State University  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
Indiana University, Purdue University (2)  
James Madison University (2)  
Loyola Marymount University  
Manhattan School of Music  
Marist College  
Maryland Institute College of Art  
U. S. Military Academy, West Point  
Mount Holyoke College  
New England Conservatory

New York University (4)  
Northeastern University (9)  
Northern Illinois University  
Pace University (2)  
Parsons School of Design,  
The New School (2)  
Pennsylvania State University (2)  
Pepperdine University  
Pratt Institute (2)  
Purdue University, Indiana (2)  
Rhode Island School of Design  
Ringling College of Art and Design  
Saint John's Military Prep School  
Santa Clara University  
Savannah College of Art and Design (4)  
Sewanee University of the South  
Simmons College (2)  
Smith College (2)  
Springhill College  
Stanford University  
Suffolk University (5)  
Temple University  
The New School (2)  
Trinity College (2)  
Tufts University  
University of Alabama  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Davis (2)  
University of California, San Diego (2)  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles (4)  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado, Boulder (2)  
University of Delaware  
University of Eastern Washington  
University of Evansville  
University of Illinois, Chicago  
University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign (2)  
University of Mary Washington  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst (3)  
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth  
University of Memphis  
University of Miami (2)  
University of Michigan  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of San Diego  
University of San Francisco

University of South Carolina (2)  
University of Tampa  
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Utah  
University of Virginia  
University of Western Washington  
Vanderbilt University  
Vassar College (2)  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington State University  
Washington University, Saint Louis  
Wesleyan University (3)  
Western Washington University  
Wheaton College

### CANADA

Bishop's University (4)  
Carleton University (2)  
Concordia University (7)  
McGill University (5)  
McMaster University  
Queen's University (4)  
Ryerson University (3)  
Simon Fraser University  
University of Alberta  
University of British Columbia (6)  
University of Calgary  
University of Toronto (2)  
University of Western Ontario

### GERMANY

Jacob's University, Bremen

### HOLLAND

Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences  
Rotterdam Business School  
University of Maastricht

### ITALY

Università Luigi Bocconi (2)

### SPAIN

ESADE (2)  
IE University (3)

### SWITZERLAND

Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne (3)

### UNITED KINGDOM

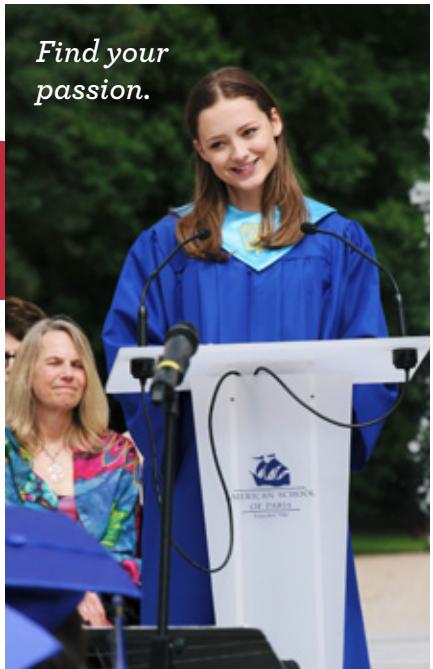
Aberystwyth University  
Bangor University  
Brunel University (4)  
City University (4)  
Glasgow School of Art  
Goldsmiths, University of London (2)  
Heriot-Watt University  
Hull University  
King's College, University of London (5)  
London School of Economics  
Oxford Brookes University  
Queen Mary, University of London (3)  
Royal Holloway, University of London (4)  
SOAS, University of London  
University of Aberdeen (2)  
University of Bath  
University of Birmingham (2)  
University of Brighton (5)  
University of Bristol (3)  
University College London (3)  
University of Dundee  
University of Durham  
University of East Anglia  
University of Edinburgh (3)  
University of Essex (2)  
University of Exeter (4)  
University of Kent (3)  
University of Leeds  
University of Liverpool, John Moore  
University of Loughborough (2)  
University of Reading (2)  
University of Roehampton  
University of Southampton  
University of Surrey (2)  
University of Sussex  
University of the Arts London, Central  
Saint Martins  
University of Warwick (2)  
University of Westminster

Class of 2016 students will also attend universities in **Australia** and **Asia**, the names of which have not yet been confirmed due to different timing of the admissions cycles in those areas.

The numbers in parentheses represent the number of 2016 ASP graduates accepted into each institution.

# 2016 Graduation Speakers

## Excerpts from Student Speakers remarks:



*Find your passion.*

**Chloe Olsen** is a Canadian-French-American who has attended ASP for 9 years. She will attend Tufts University in the fall.

Though we are each unique, I seek to share with you advice that would pertain to everyone graduating today. Perhaps it won't change your life. But if it does, don't forget to credit me in any memoir you may write!

First, be selective in how you remember your experience here. Choose what will help you make the world a better place, most of which are lessons learned outside of the classroom. I will remember the compassion of students operating at times with little sleep, high stress, and constant demands, who still smiled and said good morning. I'll never forget the perseverance I learned, especially from writing an essay on Toni Morrison's use of repetition. And lastly, I'll remember how the open mindedness of others inspired and encouraged me to become so as well.

My second life tip: find your passion. While I don't think everyone's passion needs to be something particularly deep, charitable, or productive, I do believe finding something is necessary. Butterfly collecting tickles your fancy? Great! I hope you collect monarchs with gusto. If your passion happens to help those around you, or inspire greatness in others, all the better.

And finally, periods of life, such as the start of college, don't exist in a vacuum; each is and should be influenced by the other. If you're always waiting for the next and better thing to begin, you won't ever be living in the present. A little anticipation never hurt anyone, but don't postpone your own happiness; don't forget to live for now.



*Education is not a chore, but a gift.*

**Paul Willems** is a Latvian-American who has attended ASP for 13 years. He will be attending Wesleyan University in the fall.

What does it mean to be an ASPer? We do not have a 'type', nor some sort of chip that brands us with the 'rebel' name. There is nothing specific that turns us into 'Lafayettes', but instead it is the unique experience ASP brings to us.

First of all, we have learned to value our education and its place in the greater world. Just one example: in eighth grade, we visited Verdun to help us understand what the soldiers of the first world war whom we had learned about had endured.

Secondly, ASP has taught us to appreciate the cultures around us. A Latvian, a Korean, an American, a Belgian, a Swiss and a Brazilian student always sat around a table in Mr. McEachern's IB SL English class where we were known as the 'popcorn group'- popping with a variety of perspectives, opinions and ideas coming from our diverse backgrounds.

Finally, ASP has helped us discover and nurture our passions. And now, we are graduating and off to schools where we can pursue those passions, whether they be in music, math or 'other'. The ASP experience helps us appreciate that education is not a chore, but a gift.

As a group, ASPers resonate loudly, we are unavoidable, we get the job done, and we allow people to have the time of their lives.

**Marie Stoess Schwartz**, '76 is our inaugural Alumni Graduation Speaker. An ASP student from fifth grade through her graduation forty years ago, Marie is the founder and CEO of TeenLife Media, a leading resource for helping teens to discover their passions through summer programs, community service opportunities, academic experiences, and gap year programs.



### Alumni Speaker

The genesis of her award-winning company links directly back to the unique brand of international education that Marie experienced at ASP. Returning to her alma mater, she advised the new graduates to continue to be adaptable to change, and to embrace the 'being different' that an international experience brings and the doors it can open. In doing so, Marie inspired the Class of 2016 with her reflections on how their time at ASP will continue to influence their lives, as it has hers, and she charged the school's newest alumni with an obligation "to share your experiences with those around you in the years ahead so that they, too, can be inspired to have a broader world view."



*I'm so optimistic  
that today we  
are releasing  
89 carriers of  
the message  
'different is good'  
into the world.*

## On a Fantastic Trajectory

NASA Astronaut  
Dan Tani

2016 Graduation  
Keynote Speaker

**Dan Tani** has had a distinguished career as a NASA astronaut. A mechanical engineer and graduate of MIT, he was selected as a NASA astronaut candidate in 1996 and for 16 years gained extensive spaceflight experience. He flew as a crew member aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavor, and also served as an International Space Station (ISS) crew member on a separate mission. Between his space flights, Astronaut Tani served as an aquanaut on NEEMO 2 (NASA Extreme Environment Mission Operations), where he lived underwater in the Aquarius habitat for a week in mission analog for space. On his second space flight, as Expedition 16 Flight Engineer, he spent 120 days aboard the ISS, during which time he totaled 34 hours and 59 minutes on five space walks.

It has been an honor to welcome Astronaut Dan Tani to the American School of Paris as the graduation keynote speaker for the Class of 2016. Excerpts of his remarks:

**G**raduating Class of 2016, what an exciting time this is in your lives, as you mark the end of your years at ASP and get set to embark on the next chapter. You'll meet new people, have new experiences, gain new perspectives. And, coming from an institution that celebrates diversity and facilitates the development of global perspectives, you're bound to be role models for your future friends, colleagues and neighbors. I'm so optimistic that today we are releasing 89 carriers of the message 'different is good' into the world. Speaking of global perspectives, how many of you have launched in a Space Shuttle? When the Shuttle leaves the launch pad you are mainly seeing the Solid Rocket Boosters attached to the fuel tank. The SRBs are designed to get the entire shuttle system off the ground and give it velocity to leave the Earth's atmosphere. After they finish, they separate and the Space Shuttle's engine must add to that velocity so that the shuttle can orbit around Earth.

In your life's trajectory, you are now at that moment of SRB separation. Through education, experiences and the love of your family, you are being rocketed into the unknown! The American School of

Paris, like the SRBs, has given you the big push, pointed you in the right direction and accelerated you to a huge velocity. But ASP's job is done, and it's time to continue your trip on your own, to focus your energy and guide yourselves.

**Take a few minutes to appreciate and really thank the people who have made this day a possibility.**

achievements are great, your hard work commendable, but you probably would not be graduating from ASP today without those folks.

They have dreams for your life – about how limitless and wonderful your future could be. They have expectations of you – that you would learn and grow and perhaps discover things no other human being has. They provided the environment that allowed you to succeed – and to fail

Graduates, I want to remind you of one thing. You are graduating from the prestigious ASP because your parents, grandparents and all the people that love you are right behind you. Your

– and grow into the wonderful people that you have become. They chose to enroll you in this world-class school – and hopefully, they will be able to watch you accept the Nobel prize, publish your first novel, cure a disease, or even blast off into space.

So I implore you, on this special day, to take a few minutes while you are celebrating to appreciate and really thank the people who have made this day a possibility. And on every special day from now on, let the people who love you and support you know how much you appreciate them.

Congratulations, American School of Paris Class of 2016. You are on a fantastic trajectory – you are being propelled into the future, and by focusing your energies, making smart decisions and guiding your future onto the right flight path, you will do incredible things.

Read more about Astronaut Dan Tani:  
[www.astronautdantani.com](http://www.astronautdantani.com)





# Congratulations to the Class of 2016



## A Kwame Boahen Addai

Guillermo Arturo Águila Peñaloza

Daniela Aguilar Villa

Moneerah Al Saud

Emma Madeleine Michel Albright

Abdulaziz S A I Alkharraz

Brianna Marie Arnold

Geneva Arystanova

## B Innbum Baek

Stefano Battiatto

Jean-Paul Berthelon

Swapnil Bhardwaj

Elizabeth Grace Brewer\*

Lindsey Kristine Burd

## C Sean Patrick Cabansag

John James Campbell

Cecilia Cavelier Riccardi\*

Sung Ho Choi

Jacob Soon Young Chong

Jungmin Chun

## D Louis Arnaud de Minvielle

Félix Marie-Joseph de Saint Vincent

Bailee Michelle Deis

Tara Eleanor Vivienne Ruthy

Disken-Aygün

Arya Dowlatshahi

Hannah Katherine duMont

Vincent Stéphane Dyen

Ibragim Dzhafarov Shamilyevich

## E Henrik Elster

Patrick Jérôme Erath\*

## F Brenna Uluwehi Nicole Ferden

Léa Francine Madeleine Fischer

Andrane Sandrine Ingrid

Virginie Forterre

Héloïse Marine Marguerite Fourt

## G Nishit Garg

Kevin Aymeric Gauthier

Hana Rae Goldroot

Kevin Austin Gray

Louis Grelot

## H David Jérémie Haddad

Ryan Joseph Hays

Jenneke Marry Hoegen

Kelly Victoria Hunter

## K Kadambari

Mori Kagami

Ana Julia Barreto Kaschny

Sharifah M M A Khalfan

Tatyana Khashoggi

Ga Rim Kim\*

Vivian Keiko Kirkham

Ashwin Kodur Veedu

Maya Marie Kotto

## L Olivier Joseph Étienne Larente

Louis Lechanteur

Yeoun-ho Lee\*

Delaney Elizabeth Lowry

## M Ana Lucia Madero\*

Amélie Aura Matisse

Hector Adrien Kenny Mauro-Nguémah

Duncan Gentry Boyd McAloon

Galvin Foster McCall

Connor Ian McKeel

Danlyn Jayzheh Bayan Medou

Thibault Alessandro Messeri

Lorenzo Giovanni Micali

Aloïs Christian Genseric Michel

Daniel Joseph Mingey

Tobías Agustín Musante

## O Chloe Muriel Olsen\*

## P Woo Hyung Park

Gabin Wolfe Pellé

Aina Planas Carbonell

## R Fiona Carla Renucci

Emma Josiane Julie Richardson\*

## S Hamza Badshah Sait

Sejuti Sarkar

Hakyoung Elizabeth Shin

Madeline Simota\*

Shin Ah Song

Zoe Cara Tabitha Storm

Sabrina Nathalie Swindells

## T Tracy Tianly Tang

## V Mathys Wisse Vlas

## W Hilary Wang

Tingyang Wei

Daniel John Wensel

Grace Caroline Wessels

Paul Sisk Willems

## Y Heewon Yun\*

\* cum laude



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