



As we count down the weeks between today and the end of the fiscal year, we want to express our deep appreciation for donors of gifts both large and small to *The Campaign for Brooks*, which also ends on June 30, 2018. Successfully reaching the various milestones we set for the campaign is the product of a monumental effort by all constituents working together to support Brooks School. Thank you for enriching the experience of our students and talented teachers through your gifts to the campaign.

[Visit our photo gallery!](#)



### Center for the Arts

Progress on The Center for the Arts has been amazing to watch; each week bringing a new development. In the days before Alumni Weekend, crews added the first pieces of siding that mimics the old barn's long, white wooden slats. However, in a departure from the barn's architecture, the new center's glass panels, which wrap around the sides of the building, give its occupants matchless views of the campus.

Rachael Burke '10, our 2018 sixth-form induction speaker (read her story [here](#)), remarked on the building's significance to students interested in the arts: "I was not an athlete at Brooks and was into music, improv, theater and art. So seeing the amazing facility being built makes me incredibly excited for current and future students and all of their possibilities. My involvement in theater and improv at Brooks has been the springboard for my whole life after Brooks, including my current career."

Successfully reaching this milestone, watching the building rise from the void left by the barn, and the world of the possibilities that lie ahead for students and faculty in the arts are all the result of your commitment to Brooks School and the experience of our students. We want to extend our most sincere thanks to those who have helped us along the way and every gift that enabled us to bring our vision to life. Thank you!

[Read](#) more about the recent developments [here](#). You can also view [photos](#) and our [live feed](#).

### Endowment for Faculty Support

We are delighted to highlight an exciting development in the campaign for faculty support. In recognition of their 40th class reunion, the class of 1978 decided to augment the endowment for faculty support with gifts made in honor of their former teacher Mark Shovan.

Why faculty support? This endowment will enable Brooks to be better positioned to attract high quality, knowledgeable teachers who will help our students thrive in this environment. We will be able to compete better against similar schools and the compensation and benefits they can offer candidates. We will also be able to help teachers build a career here through continued learning opportunities and professional development - all made possible through the endowment for faculty support.

### Endowment for Financial Aid

Brooks sent out acceptance letters to 243 prospective students in March. For the 2018-2019 school year, we expect 110 new students to matriculate at Brooks, 35 of those will be receiving financial aid. Combined with returning students, next year, 31 percent of our student body will be supported through financial aid grants. Bini Egertson P'12, P'15,

director of admission and financial aid, stated, "We are so excited that we've been able to increase the percentage of our student body on financial aid. It enables us to enroll students who contribute to multiple areas of school life."

A parent recently shared the following in a letter to the donors supporting her daughter's Brooks education:

"She has found her voice at Brooks. My daughter has deep conversations about family, education, gender, race and class in and out the school community. Every time she comes home, I am a little more amazed of who she is and what she will contribute to the world. You could have decided to do numerous philanthropic things, but understand that none of my daughter's accomplishments would have happened without people like you who invest in kids. I wanted to take this time to say thank you. Because of her four years at Brooks School, my daughter will contribute something great to society and I am so proud of that shy kid from Brooklyn."

We are tremendously grateful, too, for donors who support students like this and their education at Brooks School.

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## **The Brooks Fund**

During the 2017-2018 school year, the Brooks Fund was strengthened through generous gifts made by parents, alumni, and friends. As of today we are within \$467,000 of our year end goal and the participation rate for alumni is 25 percent. Lisa Zopatti, Director of Annual Giving, explains why annual support is so crucial to Brooks School:

"Everything we do at Brooks, every opportunity we provide for our students, is made possible by the Brooks Fund. Gifts to the annual fund enable us to enhance our academic programs, invest in our talented faculty, improve our facilities, and, perhaps most importantly, expand the opportunities for students to enroll regardless of their families' ability to pay. The Brooks Fund is the lifeblood of the institution."

Thank you to our constituents who contribute to the Brooks Fund year after year. Your participation as a Brooks Fund donor not only provides critical financial resources but sends the message that you believe in Brooks School and its mission. As a source of funding that must be renewed each year, the school is deeply appreciative of the donors who so generously donate on an annual basis.

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[www.thecampaignforbrooks.org](http://www.thecampaignforbrooks.org)