
JAMES FORD RHODES

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021 ISSUE



COVID-19 ERA—A NEW NORMAL

We would like to commend all of the students, staff and alumni of James Ford Rhodes for getting through the new normal of the COVID-19 era. We have seen so many miss out on many monumental milestones over the last year-and-a-half. From virtual studies, sports and extra curricular activities cancelled, to drive-by graduation ceremonies; the students of James Ford Rhodes have endured a lot.



Try to imagine what high school would have been like for you if COVID-19 had come along while you attended Rhodes. For all of the staff and attendees their world was turned upside-down, inside-out and all-around. Imagine all the things they missed out on: football games, passing notes in class, gathering in the lunchroom or in the breezeway. Meeting your best friend or finding their first love. Lifetime memories are made in these moments and all high school students should have the opportunity to make them without fear of spreading a virus. Masks, antibac and social distancing are all new realities we never had to live through. They deserve a lot of credit for pushing through and navigating this new normal.

We also would like to acknowledge all of the staff, family members and friends who have succumbed to the COVID-19 virus. There are no words to express our condolences and sympathy to everyone who lost a loved one.

Despite all of the losses and sacrifices, the students of James Ford Rhodes have been able to regroup and start the 2021/2022 school year with in-person learning. We hope to see sporting events, dances and gatherings of all sorts continue with fervor.

While we hope that the virus and variants do not lead to another shut-down, we hope everyone has learned how to navigate in this new day and age.

Rhodians, we support you and are proud the RAMS have survived and will live on another day.

2022 HALL OF FAME DINNER

The James Ford Rhodes Hall of Fame Dinner has been postponed due to Covid-19. The Hall of Fame committee and Association take the safety of all of the inductees and their family and friends seriously. We look forward to inducting the following esteemed members of the Rhodes alumni and staff. Please join us in congratulating and supporting the future inductees.

2020/2022 INDUCTEES:

The Honorable Judge Anita Laster Mays '82

Author, Peter Fedynsky '69

JFR Alumni Association President, Cynthia Anzalone-Fox '82

Band Director & Music Teacher, Michael Zand

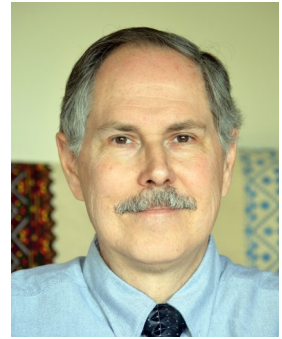
(Posthumously)

The Honorable Anita Laster Mays graduated from James Ford Rhodes High School in 1982. She continued her education at the Ohio State University, where she majored in Accounting and Management Information Systems. After graduating in 1986, she began working as a management trainee at State Savings Bank. Two years later, she moved back to Cleveland to attend Cleveland Marshall College of Law, while working full-time as a Financial Systems Analyst at Metro Health Medical Center and part-time as a mediator for the City of Cleveland.

In 1992, her goal of becoming a lawyer was achieved. Following two years of private practice, she became an Assistant Cleveland Prosecutor and soon joined the Municipal Court's Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and the DUI Committee to enhance her legal abilities. In 1996 she joined the Clerk of Courts Office as Director of Operations for the Criminal Division, a position that placed her in charge of day-to-day operations over eight departments with a total of 105 employees. She won a seat on the Cleveland Municipal Court in 2003 by over 2,000 votes and was unopposed for re-election. Mays served as judge of the Greater Cleveland Drug Court for 6 years. Anita Laster Mays served Cleveland Municipal Court from January 1, 2004 to January 31, 2015. She was elected to the 8th District Court of Appeals in 2014 and is currently serving in that office since 2015.



Author, Peter Fedynsky graduated from James Ford Rhodes in 1969. He then attended Bowling Green State University as a German major and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1973. Peter later attended Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government—Ukrainian National Security Program in 1998.



Peter is fluent in English and Ukrainian and can also read and converse in both Russian and German. He was known on Ukrainian Radio as the “Voice of America” from 1978–1988 and it is still aired throughout the Ukraine. Peter also worked in various other radio and television projects both locally and internationally.

Peter has translated and interpreted many works with his most popular translation being the works of 19th century poet, Taras Shevchenko's poetry collection. His is the first ever complete translation of his entire collection, known as the “Kobzar.” Peter retired In 2013.



Band Director & Music Teacher, Michael Zand left this world at the age of 81. He lived in Independence, Ohio and was the beloved husband of 52 years to Irene. He was the loving father of Robert and David and grandfather of Oliver, Lucy and Leo. Mr. Zand was a US Navy Veteran.

He served as an instrumental music teacher and band director and retired from James Ford Rhodes High School after 31 years serving the Cleveland Public Schools. Mr Zand loved playing his marimba with community bands and sought out music on family travels. He was a proud and active Beta Theta Pi brother and an avid builder and flyer of rubber-powered model airplanes. Mr. Zand started teaching a Rhodes in September 1967 and retired in June, 1994. He is remembered fondly by many of the students he taught and led and his legacy lives on through them.

JFR Alumni Association President & former JFR Librarian, Cynthia

Anzalone-Fox graduated from James Ford Rhodes in 1982 as the class valedictorian. Cindy was a state champion in the 800 meters and was the first female student in the history of the Cleveland Public Schools to qualify for the Cross Country State Championship in 1980. Cindy was awarded a full athletic scholarship to the University of Houston where she double majored in French and Spanish. (1982-86)



During her college career she was the Track All-American and became the Southwest Conference Champion and District Champion in cross country.

Cindy earned her teaching license in 1988 (CSU) and her master's degree at Kent State University in Library and Information Science in 2003. Cindy has been an educator in the Cleveland Municipal School District where she was the librarian at JFR from 2013–2019. During her tenure at Rhodes she became the Head Coach of the Championship Girls Cross Country and Track team where she currently still coaches. She has earned the four-time honor of being CMSD's Senate Coach of the Year. She was inducted into the Ohio Association of Track and Cross Country Coaches Hall of Fame in 2010. She is the current President of the JFR Alumni Association.

CHANGES IN THE SCHOOL

During the past few years, Rhodes has once again undergone dramatic changes. The Library Media Center was permanently closed. The Rhodes Comprehensive School was closed at the end of the 2020 school year and the loyal teachers were moved to other buildings in the district. The building is now the host to two schools, Rhodes College & Career Academy (RCCA) and Rhodes School of Environmental Studies (RSES).

Rhodes College & Career Academy (RCCA), works with each student to create a personalized career plan by building on his or her strengths and inspirations.



**RHODES
COLLEGE & CAREER
ACADEMY**

Student experiences include a technology rich learning environment, investigating career options, new experiences connected to applied learning, internships, and opportunity for credentialing in high-demand career pathways.

In addition to rigorous teaching and learning, Rhodes College & Career Academy educators are committed to providing students with the practical skills, knowledge and confidence to prepare them for a full range of postgraduation options including high-demand career fields and two- to four-year colleges and universities.

While maintaining the Rhodes identity for sports and other activities, RCCA students work toward academic success with a personalized career plan and real-world experiences.



**Rhodes School of
Environmental
Studies**

Rhodes School of Environmental Studies (RSES), is an innovative school with a focus on life sciences, social sciences, and business with the strong support of local companies and institutions like the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

The school reflects the unique aspects of the Old Brooklyn community and promotes four core principles: advocacy, stewardship, curiosity, and innovation.

Students can earn industry certification in business and take rigorous courses that prepare them for college classes. All students have access to a computer in this technology-based education and advance at their own pace as they master content. The school follows a year round schedule.

Flexible scheduling will allow juniors and seniors to take on internships and enroll in courses at a community college. Students come together with others at the James Ford Rhodes campus to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities.

2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

We congratulate the James Ford Rhodes Alumni Association Scholarship Award Recipients. Job well done in the face of great challenges and change. May you soar in your future endeavors. We will be keeping an eye on you!

Outstanding Student - \$2,500

- Tiffany Valdez – Rhodes School of Environmental Studies – The Ohio State University
- Derrick Hanning – Rhodes College and Career Academy – Central State University



Rhodes (Review) Scholarship - \$500

- Aniyah Vega - Rhodes School of Environmental Studies - - Cleveland State University

Outstanding Effort Scholarship - \$500

- Emmalee Hillman - Rhodes College and Career Academy – Kent State University

Wrestling (Sport) Scholarship - \$500

- Hakizimana Millan - Rhodes College and Career Academy – Ohio University

Preparation Scholarship - \$500

- Nneka-Cayla Ezeagwu - Rhodes College and Career Academy – John Carroll University
- Bernard Fwamba - Rhodes College and Career Academy – Ohio University
- Ronald Zambo - Rhodes School of Environmental Studies – Cuyahoga Community College



SPORTS UPDATE

In spite of COVID-19, the James Ford Rhodes athletics Spring sports season was a success!

Let's get behind all of our Rhodes Rams fall sports of 2021!

- Boys Baseball – Runner-up in the Senate Championship
- Girls Softball – Runner-up in the Senate Championship
- Boys Track - Runner- up in the Senate Championship
- Girls Track- Runner-up in the Senate Championship with only eight girls!

Not too shabby with such a short season and only a few weeks to prepare!
The coaches and athletes are looking forward to the Fall sports season.

2021 FALL VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Fri, 9/17 4:00pm



John F. Kennedy Cleveland

Away • Conference

Fri, 9/24 4:00pm



Glenville Cleveland

Away • Conference

Fri, 10/1 3:00pm



Lutheran East Cleveland Heights

Away • Non-Conference

Fri, 10/8 3:00pm



John Marshall Cleveland

Home • Conference

Fri, 10/15 3:00pm



Lincoln West Cleveland

Home • Conference

Fri, 10/22 3:00pm



East Tech Cleveland

Home • Conference

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN FOR THE 2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dear fellow Rhodian—by joining the Alumni Association or renewing your membership you will be providing a small (\$10.00 per year) but important contribution toward the fulfillment of the purpose of the Association. Our organization provides:



- Scholarship money for graduates
- Rewards for outstanding effort/success in school activities
- Improvement of equipment to aid students in academic and other school activities

As a member, you will be notified of the progress of the Association via newsletter.

Please make an effort to become a member and sustain it annually. We would appreciate you helping to keep Rhodes the best high school in the Cleveland District. Please make a commitment now to become a yearly member. Thank you! —**Your Membership Committee**

_____ \$10.00 yearly membership dues

_____ Donation for scholarship endowment fund

_____ Donation for academic & extra curricular activities

_____ Total

Please return this form with your check or money order—**No cash please.**

Make checks payable to: RHODES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

First Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____
House number and street city state zip

Class (year) _____ January _____ June _____

Email address _____

In order for us to estimate funds available for disbursements for the student programs **please respond as soon as possible!!!!** Thank you!

Remember all donations are tax deductible!! Your Alumni Association is a 501c3 organization recognized by the IRS!

**Make check payable to RHODES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION and mail to
P.O. Box 41463, Brecksville, Ohio 44141**

2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance as of December 31, 2019 **\$ 63,123.28**

Receipts for 2020

Membership	\$ 1,120.00
Scholarship	\$ 3,862.00
Academic	\$ 1,162.00
Scholarship Reimbursed	\$ 500.00

Total Receipts **\$ 17,239.00**

Disbursements for 2020

Operating	\$ 3,183.00
Hall of Fame	\$ 100.00
Golf Outing	\$ 6,450.00
Track Donation	\$ 502.20
Historical Society Donation	\$ 500.00
Sports Legend Project Donation	\$ 600.00
Vanguard Scholarship Reimbursement	\$ 500.00

Total Receipts **\$ 11,835.23**

Balance as of December 31, 2020 **\$ 68,527.05**

JAMES FORD RHODES ALUMNI ENDOWMENT AND ORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Receipts for 2020

Mike Kraynak Donation	\$20,000.00
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Disbursements for 2020

Scholarships	\$11,000.00
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Market Value (Endowment) as of December 31, 2020 **\$171,242.98**

Market Value (Money Market) as of December 31, 2020 **\$ 21,643.40**