



2024 Inaugural Ceremony

Inducting Distinguished Alumni

September 21, 2024
San Marino High School

Mission Statement

San Marino Alumni Hall of Fame recognizes alumni of character and integrity, whose accomplishments have distinguished their schools and community by achieving professional or community-recognized excellence across diverse fields of endeavor and experience.

By honoring these alumni life stories, the goal is to inspire students; to share honorees' life wisdom with our academic community; to elevate a broader recognition of the school district's reputation for launching productive, successful lives; and thereby to further encourage students, parents, and community to appreciatively support our schools.



Awards Presentation & Reception

Saturday, September 21, 2024
4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

History

The San Marino Alumni Hall of Fame was inspired by Burt Kanner, an SMHS math teacher and water polo/swimming coach from 1969 to 1992. Following his recent induction into the Los Angeles Unified School District's Hall of Fame, he became curious if San Marino recognized their own distinguished graduates. Finding that San Marino had no such honor, and personally knowing of many accomplished alumni, he planted the seed with some of his former students, and the Hall of Fame was born.

Welcome

Bill Ukropina '74 & Laurie Modean '78, Co-Chairs

Posting of the Colors

Scout Troop 359 — Tyler Young, Carter Chou, Ian Ycasas
Scout Troop 360 — Ashley Young, Elizabeth Ho

National Anthem

Michele Patzakis '81 & Tracy Van Fleet '80 in a Duet

San Marino High School Marching Band

“Alma Mater” & “San Marino Fight Song”

Special Guest Speakers

Dr. Linda de la Torre, Superintendent of San Marino Schools
Kathryn Oliveros '94, San Marino Schools Foundation

Induction of Distinguished Alumni

Presented by Bill Ukropina & Laurie Modean

The Burt Kanner Founder's Award

Presented by Burt Kanner, Founder Emeritus

The Award for Bravery & Heroism

Presented by John Incontro, Chief of San Marino Police Department

Closing Remarks

Bill Ukropina & Laurie Modean



Dann Angeloff Jr. '89[†]
Military Service

Dann V. Angeloff, Jr. graduated *cum laude* with a B.A. in Government from Dartmouth College. During his studies, he interned at the White House. Following graduation, he spent three years with J.P. Morgan's Investment Banking group.

After this tenure in finance, Dann chose country over self, joining the Marines. He completed Officer Candidates School, the Basic School (with honors), the Marine Infantry Officer Course, and the U.S. Army Ranger School, where he was awarded the Tex Turner Motivation Award.

From 1996-2000 Dann served on active duty as a Rifle, Weapons, and 81mm Mortar Platoon Commander with the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines. Following active service, Dann volunteered as a reservist. He was promoted to Major, and in 2008, deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as Company Commander of Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marines. His personal decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and he was twice awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Following active duty, he received his MBA from Harvard Business School, then returned to investment banking at Wachovia. Dann was an executive officer at Waggin' Train and Karsten Homes before founding Hawke Homes, a manufactured housing dealership. Dann passed away January 17, 2013.



Kathryn Barger '78
Public Service

Supervisor Kathryn Barger was elected in 2016 to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, representing the Fifth District. She was reelected in 2020 and in March, 2024 won her third term by gaining a majority of the vote in the primary election. She earned her bachelor's degree in communications and government from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1983. From early on her passion for public service was evident. While attending Ohio Wesleyan, she worked as a student intern for Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and eventually rose to become Supervisor Antonovich's Chief Deputy Supervisor in 2001.

As Chief Policy Advisor on Health, Mental Health, Social Service, and Children's issues. Kathryn championed services and programs to improve the lives of foster children, senior citizens, veterans, and those with disabilities or mental illness. This focus on healthcare prepared her to provide exemplary leadership during the COVID-19 global health emergency, which occurred while she served as Chair of the LA County Board of Supervisors.

She is also an advocate for the environment and has spearheaded efforts to preserve open spaces and to enhance parks, trails, and recreational programs and facilities, as well as libraries and after-school programs.

In her spare time Kathryn enjoys hiking, attending concerts at the Hollywood Bowl, and spending time with longtime friends. She shares her love of the outdoors by hosting trail rides and hikes to connect with the community throughout her district.



Jack Bradford '41[†]
Academics & Education

Ever the avid athlete, Coach Jack Bradford attended Pomona College where he lettered in track, cross country, tennis, and basketball, and in 1943 was the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champion in the mile.

During World War II, Jack served as a Captain in the 4th Marine Division. He was twice wounded in action — the second time at the Battle of Iwo Jima, and was awarded the Purple Heart. Jack also served as an instructor at Camp Pendleton during the Korean War.

In 1954, Jack returned to San Marino High School as a history teacher and coach. He led the tennis, golf, cross country, and track teams to 20 Rio Hondo League titles, and coached the boys tennis team to California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Championship titles in 1956, 1960, and 1962; and the boys cross country team to CIF Championship titles in 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1970, and 1974. Affectionately known by his students as “The General,” he stressed the development of each student’s character, mind, and work ethic in addition to the body. He also served as the first Chair of the SMHS Faculty Senate.

In 1966, Jack was named by Yale University as one of the top 5 high school teachers in the United States. Upon his retirement in 1979, San Marino’s Congressman, John H. Rousselot, honored him with a tribute in the House of Representatives.



Bo Caldwell '73
Arts & Literature

Bo Caldwell received a B.A. in English with a concentration in Fiction Writing from Stanford University, where she later held a Wallace Stegner Fellowship and a Jones Lectureship in Creative Writing.

She has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Arts Council of Santa Clara County, as well as the Georgia Shreve Prize in Fiction at Stanford University and the Joseph Henry Jackson Award from the San Francisco Foundation.

Her first novel, *The Distant Land of My Father*, published in 2001 by Chronicle Books, was a national bestseller, one of the *Los Angeles Times*’ Best Books of 2001, and a “Booksense 76” pick in both hardcover and paperback. Her second novel, *City of Tranquil Light*, published in 2010 by Henry Holt, was also a national bestseller, an October 2010 Indie Next Notable, and one of *O, The Oprah Magazine*’s Ten Must Reads for October 2010.

Her personal essays have appeared in *O, The Oprah Magazine*, the *Washington Post Magazine*, the *America Magazine*; and her short stories in *Story Ploughshares*, *Epoch*, and other literary journals.

Bo credits two SMHS teachers, Leona Schonfeld and Barbara Horrall, with opening the door to creative writing. “Miss Schonfeld,” she says, “taught me to love literature, but Mrs. Horrall helped me try my own hand at writing fiction...and gave me the amazing gift of encouragement.”



Andres Cantor '80
*Journalism &
Communications*

Legendary Telemundo and National Soccer Hall of Fame broadcaster Andrés Cantor was born in Argentina and moved to the U.S. as a teen. Following SMHS, he attended the University of Southern California, studying journalism while working as a correspondent for several Argentinean publications. At age 23, Andrés received a call from Spanish International Network to try out as a sportscaster. Despite having only print journalism experience, he aced his audition and began calling soccer games. The rest is history.

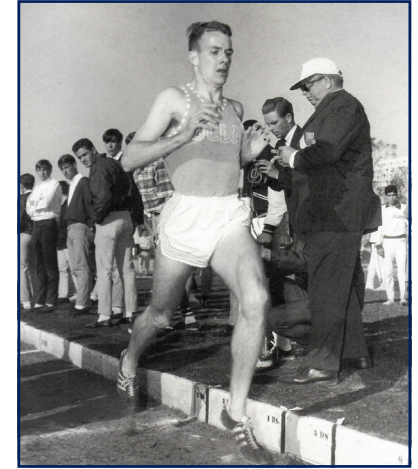
As the lead soccer announcer for Telemundo since 2000 and at Univision for over a decade prior, Andrés is perhaps best known for his fast-paced play-by-play calls and exuberant bellows of “GOOOOOOOALLLLLL!!!!” He made his English language debut as the announcer for NBC Sports during the 2000 Summer Olympics, and went viral all over the world for his goal call of Argentina’s championship-winning penalty kick at the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

Andrés’ awards include a regional Emmy, eight national Emmy Awards, as well as a Lifetime Achievement Emmy. In 1994 the American Sportscaster Association named him the “Sports Personality of the Year,” and he was also named “Most Legendary Broadcaster” by *FIFA* magazine. The National Soccer Hall of Fame, Colin Jose Media Award was bestowed on him in 2020.

Andrés has been featured in multiple internationally known publications, television shows, major motion pictures, and regularly makes guest appearances on popular late night talk shows.



Robert “Bob” Day '62†
Athletics

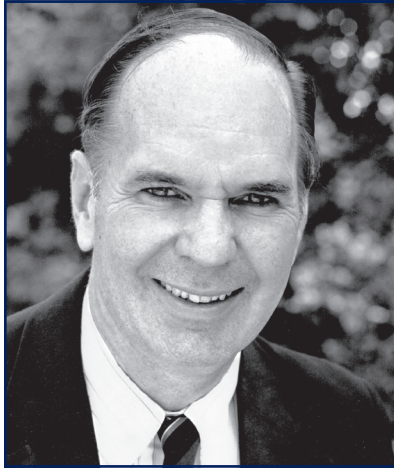


"Bob...why don't you try out for the track team?" Taking the hint, Bob Day, a new SMHS ninth grader, found his niche and ran with it. Coach Bradford saw his potential and in two years, Bob became the top runner in the Southern Section of the CIF.

Fall of 1962 saw Bob enter UCLA with a full-ride scholarship. As a Bruin, he lettered all four years and in 1964, he became the 12th American to break the four minute mile (3:56.4), setting a UCLA record which stood for four decades. That same season, he set the national record in the two-mile (8:33.0). Bob also won the 1965 Pac-8 and the individual NCAA mile championships, and led the UCLA Bruins as team captain to the 1966 NCAA men’s outdoor track and field championship title. He became All-American when his UCLA distance medley relay beat the world record.

In 1968, Bob won the U.S. track and field senior national title in the 5000-meter event while competing for the U.S. Army team and earned a spot representing the United States at the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games. He finished sixth in the 10,000-meter event with a personal best of 30:49.00.

Bob was inducted into the UCLA Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002, and each spring, UCLA’s best distance runner is honored with the “Bob Day Award.”



Eugene Dryden '51†
Public Service

Gene Dryden '51, graduated from Caltech with both a Bachelor's and Master's in Electrical Engineering in 1956. Following two years in the Air Force, Gene began a lifelong tenure at Aerojet General/Northrop Grumman in Azusa, and became a manager of Advanced Programs, helping develop electro-optical sensor systems to deter nuclear proliferation. Following the signing of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), he represented U.S. interests at NATO. Upon his retirement from Northrop Grumman in 2005, Gene received a never-bestowed honor when Building 160 was dedicated the "Gene Dryden Engineering Building."

Away from work, his passion for San Marino was endless. He served on the Planning Commission for nine years, served as Mayor of San Marino, co-chaired the San Marino Centennial Celebration, chaired the renovation of the San Marino War Memorial in Lacy Park, and formed the Friends of the Michael White Adobe, which preserves one of only 39 remaining original adobe structures regionally. President of the Historical Society, a Scoutmaster of Troop 358, and President of the Board of Trustees of San Marino Community Church, Gene also served on the boards of the Old Mill, Rotary, and the City Club.

Amongst his lengthy list of honors, he received Rotary's Paul Harris Fellowship, the City of San Marino's Distinguished Citizen Award, and was recognized by the Boy Scouts for his leadership.



Sara Edwards '70
*Journalism &
Communications*

Sara Edwards is a multi-nominee and three-time Emmy Award-winning journalist, whose television broadcasting career spanned over three decades and broke glass ceilings along the way.

Following graduation from SMHS she studied drama at Southern Methodist University and later transferred to UCLA where she majored in TV / Film. She launched her television career in 1975 as the first female reporter on KLAS-TV in Las Vegas.

After four years of covering hard news stories such as mobsters in the gaming industry and the Howard Hughes Mormon Will case, Sara changed gears. WBZ-TV, Boston came calling, looking for a lifestyle reporter, and she jumped at the chance to do human interest stories. Thus began a 27-year tenure in Beantown as an entertainment reporter, a theatre and film critic, and a local host. She interviewed stars like "local boys" Ben Affleck and Matt Damon, along with worldwide stars such as Julia Roberts, Denzel Washington, and Kevin Costner. Through her entertainment beat she attended film premieres along with "The Oscars," "Emmys" and "Grammys." For the Comcast program "Backstage," Sara was both Executive Producer as well as a co-host.

Through NBC News distribution, her film reviews also aired on 200 affiliates around the country, which gained her national recognition. Inducted into the Massachusetts Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2018, Sara has also won three Telly Awards.

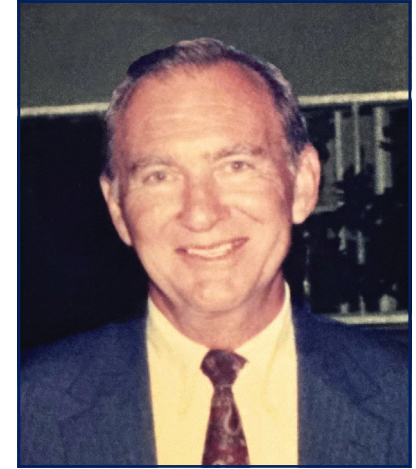


Mike Elleman '76[†]
Public Service

Michael Elleman was an all-American swimmer at UC Berkeley following a similarly illustrious athletic career at SMHS. Mike studied science, accomplishing both bachelor and master of arts degrees in physics. He then applied his expertise at the Lockheed Martin Research and Development Laboratories in Palo Alto, where he worked for two decades. Meanwhile, he also joined Stanford University's Center for International Security and Arms Control, digging deep into missile issues and honing research and writing skills that would become the hallmark of his ensuing scholarship.

After a brief tenure at Booz Allen Hamilton working on a government-funded study of threat-reduction cooperative projects to reduce nuclear proliferation dangers after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, he was recruited by the International Institute for Strategic Studies, where he remained until his passing in 2021. He rose to the position of Director of Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Policy. Mike was also the principal author of the *IISS Strategic Dossier Iran's Ballistic Missile Capabilities: A net assessment*, as well as numerous articles on missile proliferation and U.S.–NATO–Russian cooperation on missile defense. He led the Institute's efforts to further assess Iran's asymmetric military capabilities and explored mechanisms to promote regional security cooperation in the Gulf, and conducted research on the missile and space programs of North Korea and Iran.

Mike is remembered for treating all with respect from interns to world leaders and for his unswerving integrity.



Bob Garrett '50[†]
Athletics

Bob Garrett studied Russian History at Stanford while dazzling on the football field. In 1953, Bob started as quarterback while also playing defensive back, punter, and kicker, throwing with his right arm, but kicking with his left foot. Completing 118 passes for 1,637 yards with a 57.6% completion rate and 17 touchdowns, Bob set a single-season Pacific Coast Conference record. He also rushed for two touchdowns, kicked 26 PATs, and intercepted nine passes, setting national records. During one memorable game, Bob played every minute of offense and defense, throwing three touchdowns, kicking three extra points, recovering a fumble, and intercepting a pass; UCLA's coach mused, "I have never seen a game so dominated by one man."

A consensus All-American, Bob was MVP of the East-West Shrine Game, the Hula Bowl, and received the Pop Warner Award and the W.J. Voit Memorial Trophy.

The first pick of the 1954 NFL draft for a then-record \$15,000 per year plus \$5,000 signing bonus with the Cleveland Browns, Bob was traded to the Green Bay Packers, playing one season before serving two years in the Air Force. He was reacquired by the Browns in 1957 but left to become an executive at Sears for 30 years.

Bob was previously inducted into the South Pasadena High School and Stanford University Halls of Fame.



Laurie Garrett '69
*Journalism &
Communications*

Following a B.S. in Biology from UC Santa Cruz, Laurie Garrett began graduate studies in bacteriology and immunology at UC Berkeley, while also working in the Herzenberg Lab at Stanford University.

A senior fellow for global health at the Council on Foreign Relations from 2004-2017, Laurie provided on-air analysis for NBC News throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and is the only writer to have been recognized with the Peabody, the Polk, and the Pulitzer awards.

While attending the Harvard School of Public Health, Laurie wrote her first bestselling book, *The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance*. Her second bestseller, *Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health*, was published in 2000, followed by her third, *I Heard the Sirens Scream: How Americans Responded to the 9/11 and Anthrax Attacks*, in 2001.

Awarded the 2014 NYU School of Medicine's "Outstanding Contributions to Global Health," the 2015 American Women for International Understanding's Internationalism Award, Laurie was named one of 10 "Remarkable Women of UC," by the Board of Regents of the University of California in 2017, and in 2024 was named by the George C. Polk Awards one of the 16 "Greatest Investigative Journalists of the Last Half Century." She holds five honorary PhDs.

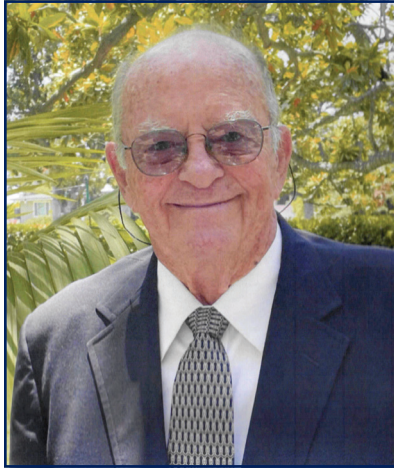


Jim Gott '77
Athletics

Jim Gott is both an accomplished athlete and a dedicated humanitarian. Besides the physical gifts he was born with, he also developed the maturity and discipline to master and expand his abilities, as well as to share his remarkable positive spirit with young people in every community in which he played.

He was selected right out of high school by the St. Louis Cardinals in the fourth round of the 1977 Major League Baseball (MLB) draft. During his career, he was a pitcher for the Toronto Blue Jays, San Francisco Giants, Pittsburgh Pirates, and his beloved L.A. Dodgers. Jim then went on to become a pitching coach and later, co-host on Dodger Talk. His lifetime ERA is 3.87, strikeouts 837, and saves 91. In 1983 he was fifth in the American League for strikeouts with 6.164 for nine innings pitched, and on May 12, 1985 he hit two home runs in the same game.

As the parents of six, two of whom have autism, Jim and his wife Cathy established Danny's Farm, a not-for-profit which offers a special environment for learning and recreation for children with autism. Together, they have focused their energies in supporting the needs of parents of children on the spectrum. It is a passion to which Jim brings his positive outlook, energies, and compassion.

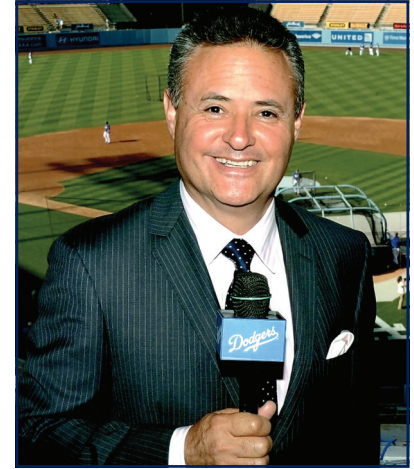


Bob Horgan '58
Community Service

Bob is beloved as a revered member of the San Marino High School Grad Night “Old Guard.” Since 1974, Bob has worked tirelessly to give each graduating class of SMHS a magical celebration they will never forget. He has led thousands of volunteers in this labor of love to bring each year’s theme to spectacular fruition, and continuously trains new volunteers—including alumni for whom he has built Grad Night sets—to ensure the tradition continues.

A pillar in the community, Bob generously offers his time and lends his expertise to many worthy causes. In addition to his work with Grad Night, Bob has also served on two facility advisory committees for the San Marino Unified School District, helped build floats for a multitude of SMHS homecoming parades, provided wisdom and institutional knowledge at community meetings, and most recently, helped reconstruct the City of San Marino’s Holiday House, transforming it into a wonderful gingerbread house delighting young and old alike.

Often the “glue” in many community events and traditions, Bob’s passion and commitment are always evident. This past summer he was overwhelmingly selected by the community to serve as the Grand Marshal in the city’s Fourth of July parade. And, in 2019, he was named a Paul Harris Fellow, by the Rotary Club of San Marino.



Jorge L. Jarrin '73
*Journalism &
Communications*

In 2015, Jorge Jarrin joined his father, Hall of Famer Jaime Jarrin, to become the only father-son broadcasting team in baseball history.

The path to this pairing began in 1979 when Jorge started at NBC as a page following graduation from Pepperdine. Next, he joined the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee in Public Relations. There, KABC President George Green heard Jorge during an Olympic radio interview and hired him.

In September 1985, “Captain Jorge,” aloft in Jet Copter 790, debuted on KABC Talk Radio. Airborne 30 hours a week, he guided listeners through traffic jams and covered fires, earthquakes, and breaking news stories. KABC also arranged for Jorge to report in Spanish on two other stations, making him the only daily broadcaster working simultaneously in English and Spanish.

Awards followed: in 1993, he received a “Golden Mike” for breaking news coverage and the Associated Press honored him with four awards for coverage of the riots following the verdict in the Rodney King trial.

Baseball became Jorge’s next act in 2001. First paired with Jose’ Mota and later, Dodger legend Manny Mota, Jarrin covered baseball in Spanish both locally and broadcast to all of Latin America. In 2004, the Dodgers also hired Jorge as Director of Spanish Radio Broadcast Sales. In 2014 and 2016 he was recognized by the Southern California Sports Broadcasters Association as the top Spanish sports analyst in L.A.



Derek T. Kan '96
Public Service

After undergraduate studies at USC, Derek continued to the London School of Economics for his Master's before attending the Stanford Graduate School of Business, earning an MBA as an Arjay Miller Scholar. Currently Vice President of Operations at Shopify, he is also a Governor with the U.S. Postal Service, a Board Member of Toll Brothers, Inc., a Senior Advisor at Oaktree Capital, and a Board Observer for Rand Logistics.

Derek is “a firm believer [that] when the President calls you and asks you to serve, you need to serve,” which explains his being one of only a handful of Americans nominated by the last three Presidents and confirmed by the U.S. Senate for four separate appointments.

Serving as Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, he managed policy development and grant programs totaling over \$3 billion and created the Safety Data Initiative to improve transportation safety. He has also served as Deputy Director of the White House Office of Management & Budget, managing over \$4 trillion, helping launch the White House Covid Task Force and Operation Warp Speed, and visiting “a lot of cool, underground bunkers.”

Derek was also Chief Economist/Policy Advisor for the U.S. Senate Republican Leader's Office; Chief Business Officer at Deliverr; Regional General Manager for Lyft, Southern California; and Board Member for Amtrak and the FAA Management Advisory Council.

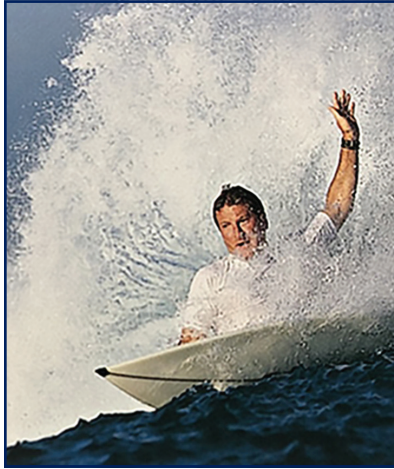


Frank M. Longo '73
Medicine

Frank attended UC San Diego majoring in biology, then completed his MD and a PhD in Neuroscience. Following an internship at New York University, he trained as a resident in neurology at UC San Francisco. Joining the UCSF faculty, he rose to professor and vice chair of UCSF's Department of Neurology, launching a number of key research and clinical programs.

In 2001, Frank was appointed the H. Houston Merritt Professor and Chair of Neurology at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. In 2006, he returned to California, serving as the George E. and Lucy Becker Professor of Neurology and Chair of the Department of Neurology and Neurological Sciences at Stanford University. Together with his Stanford colleagues, he led the development of programs in stroke, epilepsy, neuromuscular disorders, neurodegenerative disorders, and neuro-oncology treatments. His duties also included patient care and teaching undergraduate students, medical students, and neurology residents. Since 2023, Frank has focused on research in Alzheimer's and related diseases. He also founded Pharmatrophix to develop therapeutics for Alzheimer's disease, with encouraging results in a recent trial.

In 2015, Frank received the inaugural Melvin R. Goodes Prize for Excellence in Alzheimer's Drug Discovery, and in 2016, his team's work appeared in a *Time* magazine cover story. Currently, he serves on the National Advisory Council on Aging for the National Institutes of Health.



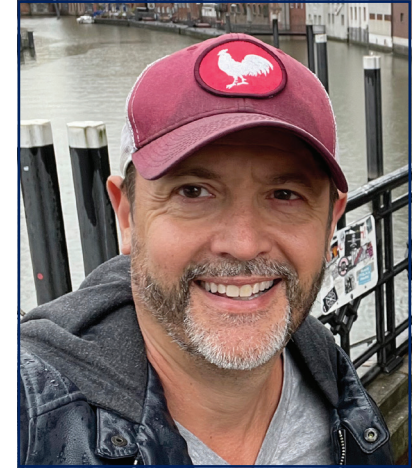
Robert “Bob” McKnight ’71

Business & Innovation

When Robert “Bob” McKnight rode his first wave at age twelve, he discovered a passion which would shape his life — surfing. In 1976, on a surf trip to Indonesia, following graduation from the University of Southern California, he met professional surfer Jeff Hakman, who showed Bob an Australian Quiksilver boardshort, a new brand he was passionate about. Together, Bob and Jeff acquired the U.S. rights and established Quiksilver USA. In the beginning Bob sold boardshorts out of his Volkswagen van. However, serving as the President, CEO & Chairman, Bob grew the surf-inspired apparel and accessories brand into a worldwide corporation with revenues of \$2.5 billion.

In 2016, Quiksilver, Inc. merged with the Billabong Group to become Boardriders Inc. It now employs over 5,000 employees in more than 100 countries. In addition to Quiksilver, the brands include Roxy, DC. Billabong, RVCA, Element, and Von Zipper. Bob serves as a consultant and brand ambassador while managing the Boardriders Foundation, a non-profit supporting community and environmental projects globally.

In 2002, *Surfer* magazine named Bob a “Most Powerful Figure” and he was inducted into the Surfing Walk of Fame in 2018. Bob serves on the boards of Jones Trading and Associates, The Ocean Institute in Dana Point Harbor, and The Wrigley Institute. He also teaches at UC Irvine, USC, and Stanford.



Stephan Pastis ’86

Arts & Literature

Stephan is a lawyer-turned-cartoonist, best known for *Pearls Before Swine*, which is currently syndicated in more than 900 newspapers worldwide. He also created the *New York Times* bestselling book series *Timmy Failure*, which chronicles the crime-solving adventures of the “defective” detective and his polar bear friend; the *Trubble Town* graphic novel series; and the middle grade book, *Looking Up*. He is also the co-writer of the Disney movie, *Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made*. In 2011, Stephan co-wrote the *Peanuts* special, “Happiness is a Warm Blanket, Charlie Brown,” and in 2014 he collaborated on a weeklong storyline with Bill Watterson, the creator of *Calvin and Hobbes*.

Stephan has had a lifelong love of drawing. His earliest inspirations were Charles Schulz’s *Peanuts* and Scott Adams’ *Dilbert*. Stephan earned a BS in political science at UC Berkeley, followed by a law degree from UCLA. During law school, he created the first *Pearls Before Swine* character, Rat. For the next nine years he practiced insurance defense litigation, while developing characters for his strips.

He won the National Cartoonists Society Newspaper Comic Strip Award in 2003, 2006, and 2014. And in 2018 he won the profession’s highest honor, the Rueben Award for Cartoonist of the Year, from the National Cartoonists Society. Stephan also serves as a board member of the Charles Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, CA.

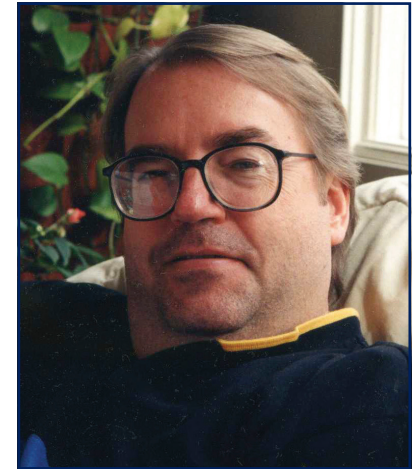


Bill Redell '59
Athletics

Bill Redell's storied career began at San Marino High School, where he played quarterback, was named a High School Football All-American, All CIF Football in 1957, CIF Football Player of the Year in 1958, and played in the Shrine Game in 1959. A two-sport athlete, Bill was also named All CIF Baseball for three years.

Bill began his collegiate career with a scholarship to the University of Southern California (USC), but transferred to play at Occidental College for the 1962 and 1963 seasons. At Occidental, he passed for 1,567 yards and rushed for 1,583, completing 11 touchdowns and rushing for another eight. He completed 68 percent of pass attempts and averaged 6.3 yards rushing. He also played cornerback on defense, making seven interceptions. The epitome of versatility, Bill also punted and placekicked, making 36 of 43 PAT attempts. Bill led Occidental to two championships in the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and was named to the NAIA All-America team in 1963. A six-year pro career in Canada followed, where he was named All-Pro Western Conference in 1966.

Coaching high school football for 25 years, Bill's teams won a total of eight CIF Championships. With a coaching record of 238-70-3, he was twice named National High School Football Coach of the Year. Bill coached nine postseason all-star games, and his name appears in nine halls of fame. His incredible list of accomplishments encapsulates his record of success.



Leroy Sievers '73†
*Journalism &
Communications*

Leroy Sievers was an accomplished broadcast journalist and news producer. Following studies at Princeton and receiving his B.A. in journalism at UC Berkeley, he spent a decade at CBS News, followed by 14 years as a producer on "Nightline," the ABC News program anchored by Ted Koppel. His last four years, he served as executive producer. He also produced special projects for the Discovery Channel.

Sievers covered conflicts in Iraq, Rwanda, Somalia, Kosovo, El Salvador and Nicaragua, among other countries. During the 2003 invasion of Iraq, he and Ted Koppel were embedded with the 3rd Infantry Division. Sievers was responsible for "The Fallen," Nightline's 2004 tribute to those who died in the ongoing Iraq war. For the Discovery Channel, again working with Koppel, he produced *Our Children's Children's War*, a special report on the long-term implications of the war on terrorism.

At the end of his life, he became the subject of his own story as he reported on humanity's universally shared travails with cancer in the multimedia project, "My Cancer." His candor and clear command of language gave voice to what so many experienced with the disease or shared with loved ones. At his passing, he was remembered fondly by listeners across the country.

Over his career, Sievers won 12 national news Emmys, two George Foster Peabody Awards, and two Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia University Awards.



Steve Talt '76
Public Service

If you've been to a San Marino High School football game in the last two decades, you have heard Steve Talt and Mitch Lehman announcing play-by-plays. This is but a small glimpse of Steve's hometown commitment. A 1981 UC Berkeley graduate, Steve next studied at McGeorge School of Law, graduating with distinction as a member of the Traynor Honor Society in 1984. Practicing law for eight years in Sacramento, Steve lived on a ranch and spent weekends horseback riding in the foothills. In 1999, however, the call of his hometown beckoned Steve to return and open his own law office in San Marino, where he has practiced since.

Dedicated to the community, Steve is currently in his ninth year on the City Council and has served two terms as mayor. He has been Rotary Club President, a member of the San Marino City Club, a San Marino Schools Foundation Trustee, and served on the boards of the Council of Boy Scouts, the San Marino Little League, and the San Marino Athletic Association. Steve received the Golden Apple Award from the Valentine School PTA and was named the *San Marino Tribune* Man of the Year in 2014. He's also a member of the "Old Guard," guiding and supporting parents each year to create a memorable Grad Night for their seniors.



**Cindy Whitehead-
Buccowich '79**
Athletics

Cindy is a mountain biking legend. A remarkable athlete, her journey to mountain biking greatness is inspiring. From earning the tongue-in-cheek "Gutter Hugger Award" in high school swimming to becoming a dominant force in cycling, Cindy's evolution as an athlete is a testament to her unwavering passion and perseverance.

Beginning at UC Santa Barbara, Cindy's cycling prowess achieved an extraordinary career capped by National and World Championship titles and her induction into the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame in 1990.

Yet, it was her legendary performance in the grueling "Sierra 7500" that truly cemented her place in mountain biking lore. In this iconic 50-mile race, which ascends 7,500 feet from 4,000 to 11,500 feet in the Sierra Mountains, Cindy faced an incredible challenge. Just one mile into the race, her seat post binding bolt sheared off, leaving her without a seat for the remaining 49 miles. Undeterred, Cindy conquered the rugged terrain with grit and determination, clinching victory.

This extraordinary feat captured the imagination of the cycling media, earning her memorable headlines like "Seatless in the Sierras," "Woman Against the Mountain," and "Saddleless Cindy." Today, her bike from this historic race is displayed at the Marin Museum of Bicycling and the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame in Fairfax, CA. Her motto, "Never give up!" frames a career highlighted by a long list of victories, championships, and honors.



Greg Penner '88
Business & Innovation
(Burt Kanner Founder's Award)

Greg Penner, Class of 1988, earned a B.S. in International Economics from Georgetown University, graduating *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, and earned an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

He is the CEO and owner of the Denver Broncos, leading a partnership which includes former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and seven time Formula 1 champion Sir Lewis Hamilton. Greg is chairman of the Walmart board of directors, and is also founder and general partner of Madrone Capital Partners, a private investment management firm. He has also served on the boards of: Baidu, eHarmony, Hyatt Hotels Corporation, and Teach for America, and currently serves as a Trustee for Brown University.

Prior to being elected chairman of the board in 2015, Greg worked in several capacities at Walmart over a 20-year period, including as senior vice president and chief financial officer for the business in Japan, and as senior vice president of finance and strategy for Walmart.com. He was first elected as a Walmart board member in 2008.

Greg's interests include training and participating in triathlon races and has competed in the Hawaiian Ironman World Championship four times. He is also an avid mountain climber, having climbed five of the seven summits, including Kilimanjaro, Aconcagua, Mt. Vinson, Denali, and Mount Everest.



Brandon Tsay '16
Heroism & Bravery



Brandon Tsay demonstrated exceptional courage on January 21, 2023, when he heroically fought off a mass shooter armed with a semi-automatic assault pistol. Working that night at the Lai Lai Ballroom & Studio in Alhambra, California, a family business started by his grandparents three decades earlier, Brandon was preparing to close for the evening when he heard the front doors swing shut, followed by a strange, metallic clang. He turned around to find himself facing the barrel of a semi-automatic assault weapon.

"My first thought was I was gonna die," Brandon recalls. In the next moment, Brandon realized the shooter was looking for targets. So, in an effort to protect the dancers celebrating the Lunar New Year, he grabbed the weapon. Surveillance footage captured Brandon wrestling the gun away. Disarmed, the shooter fled and later took his own life.

Brandon's actions saved countless lives and averted further tragedy, as just twenty minutes prior, the gunman had opened fire at another ballroom in neighboring Monterey Park, killing 11 people and wounding nine others.

Brandon has been honored by President Joe Biden, Governor Gavin Newsom, and Congress. He was also recognized during the 2023 State of the Union address. In the last year, he has been widely recognized and honored and now leads the *Brandon Tsay Hero Fund* in partnership with the Asian Pacific Community Fund.

The Burt Kanner Founder's Award

Named in honor of our founder, "The Burt Kanner Founder's Award" is bestowed annually to someone whose dedication and excellence in academics, athletics, arts or activities while a student, foreshadowed accomplishments and/or professional peer recognition achieved later in life. It considers excellence both as a student and in professional life, and is selected by Mr. Kanner.



San Marino Alumni Hall of Fame Nomination & Selection Process

Those who graduated from either San Marino High School or South Pasadena-San Marino High School or attended a public school serving San Marino students before the founding of the unified school district, or those who have completed at least five years in the San Marino Schools are eligible for consideration for the San Marino Alumni Hall of Fame.

Nominees are those whose lives embody the mission statement of the San Marino Alumni Hall of Fame, to recognize alumni of character and integrity, whose accomplishments have distinguished their schools and community through the achievement of professional or community-recognized excellence across diverse fields of endeavor and experience.

Categories of consideration are: Academics & Education, Arts & Literature, Athletics, Business & Innovation, Community Service, Faith & Religion, Heroism & Bravery, Journalism & Communications, Medicine, Military Service, Public Service, and Science.

First eligibility is ten years post-high school. Exceptions are for acts of heroism, courage or bravery resulting in the saving of human life. Deceased alumni are eligible in the Legacy category. Recognition is for post-high school life and professional experiences and accomplishments.

Nominations for the San Marino Alumni Hall of Fame are made by fellow alumni or members of the San Marino community and submitted during the annually announced request for nominations. Those received before the stated deadline will be reviewed by the San Marino Alumni Hall of Fame nomination committee and those selected will be reviewed and approved by the entire board.

To make nominations please go to: sanmarinoalumnihalloffame.org

Acknowledgements

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Alex Kim '92	
Founder Emeritus & Advisor, Burt Kanner	

National Anthem Duet Singers

Michele Patzakis '81

Michele Patzakis is an award-winning performer who earned acclaim as a leading soprano with companies that include the New York City Opera and the Théâtre de la Monnaie where she was in the world-premiere performance and recording of Dusapin's *Medéamaterial*, broadcasts of Puccini's *Il Trittico*, and on the DVD of Offenbach's *Orphée aux Enfers*. She recently created roles in the world premiere opera *Polymnia* by Theodosia Roussos. As a Teaching Artist with LA Opera, she is the Program Coordinator for the L.A. County Arts and Health Week. She co-created a COVID-19 rehabilitation program with UCLA Health — featured on CNN. She is the director of the San Francisco District of the Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition and a faculty member at Azusa Pacific University and Pasadena City College. She earned a DMA from the USC Thornton School of Music, conducting research in Music Education and Vocal Arts Medicine and directing productions for the Chamber Opera of USC.

Tracy Van Fleet '80

Tracy Van Fleet is a 2-time Grammy winner, singing with the LA Philharmonic. She has performed as a soloist with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Lüneburg Symphony in Germany, Orquesta Filarmónica in Mexico, Pasadena Symphony, Naples Philharmonic, Los Angeles Bach Festival, San Diego Chamber Orchestra, and others. She has had many appearances with the Los Angeles Opera, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Pacific Symphony, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Opera Pacific, San Diego Opera, and Opera Colorado. In 2017 Tracy was the alto soloist for 6 different productions of Beethoven's *9th Symphony* including performances in Germany, Mexico, and the U.S. Before that, she was the featured alto soloist on a tour of Italy singing the Mozart *Requiem* at many UNESCO sites. She has toured with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in Europe and the U.S. singing works by John Adams. Tracy earned a Master's and Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Southern California, where she graduated *cum laude*. Tracy is proud to continue building her online voice academy: The Ageless Singer for women over 50. www.agelessinger.com

San Marino High School Alma Mater

Music by Oscar Rasbach & Words by Cheryl Foote '57

'Neath the blue majestic mountains,

Fine and strong she proudly stands.

San Marino Alma Mater,

We pledge our hearts and hands.

Symbol of a higher purpose,

Blue and white her banners fly.

Long may voices praise her glory,

Hail, Hail, Hail.

Long may voices praise her glory,

San Marino High



Make a Meaningful Donation!

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San Marino Alumni Association/Hall of Fame
2275 Huntington Drive
Box 323
San Marino, CA 91108

Donations through Zelle can be sent to:

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