



E-News

February 3, 2017



Calendar at a Glance

2/3-2/4 Quaker Youth Leadership Conference at BFS and Mary McDowell Friends

2/6 6:00-9:00pm College Counseling Office **Junior Class Case Studies**

2/9 6pm: PAT Black History Month Film Screening and Panel on **Sembéne!**

2/10 5:30pm: PAT Black History Month Celebration

Details on all events are on the [BFS web calendar](#).

[See the 2017-18 major dates calendar.](#)

Top Stories



Kindling a Passion for Math and Science: This Is How We Do It

On Saturday morning, Jan. 28 the BFS cafeteria was abuzz with sounds of delight as experimentation and discovery permeated the room -- it was our 8th annual Family Math & Science morning. Third and fourth grade parents and children collaborated as they moved around 18 math and science stations set up by math specialist Kate Minear and science specialist Karina Miranda. The many hours they devoted to crafting activities, gathering materials, refining written directions, and ultimately staging the space was time well spent, as a record number of 100 parents and kids participated. While all of the activities were hands-on and interactive, and thus difficult to replicate, [two examples of the challenges are presented here](#). Give them a try! [View photos from the event.](#)

“Building Bridges” - BFS Welcomes 160 Teens to Quaker Conference

Brooklyn Friends School, along with Mary McDowell Friends School, is pleased and honored to host the 20th Annual Quaker Youth Leadership Conference (QYLC), for the next two days at our schools in Brooklyn. QYLC brings together more than 160 students from Friends high schools for an intensive retreat focusing on supporting, cultivating, and connecting leadership through service, integrity, and community. There will be student- and adult-led workshops, two keynote speakers, a Bridge Film Festival screening, cultural immersion trips, and service in the local community.

PAT Black History Month Focuses on Pre-Colonial Africa

Ancient African histories, cultures, and global achievements are the focus of the PAT's 2017 Black History Month Celebration on Feb. 9 and 10. Months of careful and thoughtful planning will result in an exceptional program of deep learning about Africa prior to the slave trade. This will be accomplished through film; workshops on math, music, dance, cooking and culture; group presentations, a community dinner and a culminating dance party. [Read more and sign up for workshops now.](#)



E-News Podcast | An “Historic” Black History Month Celebration

Get a first-hand preview of the PAT's exciting Black History Month Celebration coming up this Thursday and Friday from parents **Kay Wilson Stallings** and **Noah Isenberg**. Kay describes how and why the PAT chose to have this year's celebration focus on Africa prior to the slave trade, and she talks about the many workshops on African art, music, dance and culture that will be held on Friday. Noah gives a background on the film that will be screened and discussed on Thursday evening.

[Podcast 016](#)

[Podcast Archive](#)

Kudos and Gratitude

CONGRATULATIONS

- to the BFS **Model UN** team for their outstanding work in the University of Pennsylvania Model UN Conference last week. [\(See update\)](#)
- to **Olly Stewart**, champion of the Middle School Spelling Bee held on Tues, Jan. 30.
- to the Upper School cast and crew of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (and director Catherine Clark), who presented a spirited, high energy and genuine interpretation of Shakespeare's comedy last weekend.
- to **Orinthia Swindell and Russell Marsh**, Director and Associate Director of Equity and Inclusion, who founded and organized the first-ever NYSAIS workshop on Diversity Education and Justice in the Curriculum and hosted it at BFS this past Saturday, Jan. 28.
- to **Rachel Mazor**, who presented -- for the second consecutive year -- an NYSAIS teacher

workshop, "The Power of Questions: A DBQ Approach to Writing about History and Literature" along with faculty alum and BFS parent Molly Winter, at BFS on Jan. 25.

THANK YOU

- to BFS parents **Sarah Burns** and **David McMahon**, who generously gave of their time and expertise to bring their film, *Jackie Robinson*, to BFS. They spent time with Middle and Upper School students on Jan. 17 and with the greater BFS community on Jan. 31 to bring the amazing story of Jackie Robinson to life in the borough where he made such an impact.

DON'T MISS ...

True Stories by senior Monet Massac. During Black History Month, Monet will be showing one short film every other day to highlight experiences of a range of self identified black people. See the trailer on [Youtube](#) and learn more at facebook.com/14truestoriesproject and [@truestoriesproject](#) on Instagram.

School News You Can Use

The First Day of Summer at BFS is February 3!

Today is the day when registration opens for Summer Camp and Summer Arts at Brooklyn Friends. For 2017, we have three sessions -- June 21-30; July 5-14, and July 17-28 -- for children currently in Preschool through Grade 6. There is a 5% sibling discount and a \$50 credit for registrations completed by March 1. Check out our online brochures with detailed course offerings for Summer Camp, Summer Arts, and the Summer Arts Internship. [Details](#)



Register Now for Spring Camp

The Afterschool program's Spring Camp offers fun, friendship and learning opportunities for Pre and Lower School students. Dates: March 20-24. Time: 8:30am-3:00pm with extended day to 6:00pm. Fee: \$485. Details: [HERE!](#)

Reenrollment Reminders

Parents, if you wish to make a change to the contract you submitted to BFS (for example, you want to add Tuition Insurance or change the Payment Plan option) you must send an e-mail message to businessoffice@brooklynfriends.org. Such changes cannot be made in person or by phone. *Thank you.*

Parent Conference Dates & Sign-up Dates

Conferences take place on **March 3** (half-day for Pre/Lower School); **March 9** (half day for Middle/Upper School) and **March 10** (no school for students; conferences in all divisions). Online sign-ups begin on Feb. 16 for Pre, Lower and Middle School and on Feb. 28 for Upper School. [Details here.](#)

Save the Date: Feb. 22 - Workshop for Pre and Lower School Parents

How do we have conversations about race or racism with our children?

How do we develop a positive racial identity in our children?

On Feb. 22 from 6 to 8pm at 375 Pearl Street, professionals from the organization Border Crossers will provide Pre and Lower school parents, guardians and caregivers with strategies to effectively address issues of race and racism with their children. [Details here.](#)



Your Weekly Health Tip - That Winter Cold!



Just why DO we get more colds in the winter? Scientists weigh in on this and other cold-care questions. Read more on the the [Health Services webpage](#) in the articles section at the bottom, and check out other articles by Nurse Betsy Peyton about sweets and sugars, flu season, lice advice, and more.

Spring Gala Announcements



Tickets for the Spring Gala Now on Sale

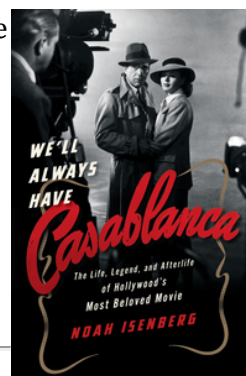
[Buy your tickets now at the Spring Gala website.](#)

Party Report

Take advantage of the Spring Gala earlybird discount! Purchase your Longhorn tickets by Thursday, Feb. 9 and receive a \$50 discount. Join us on the evening of Thursday, March 2nd at Hill Country Brooklyn as we celebrate our community with this fundraiser in support of our financial aid program. [Purchase tickets now.](#)

Auction Report

The Auction Committee is excited to report on several new items that were added to the catalog this week! February 14th is the publishing date for BFS parent Noah Isenberg's fascinating book, *We'll Always Have Casablanca: The Life, Legend and Afterlife of Hollywood's Most Beloved Movie*, and we have an advance copy signed by Noah! Bid on [this item](#) at the Gala and receive a DVD of the film. Also added this week are [two VIP passes to all three days of this June's Governors Ball Music Festival](#). Check out these items and so many more at the [Spring Gala site](#).



Advancement Report

HONOR THE CLASS OF 2017 AND ENSURE A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR BFS STUDENT-LED ACTIVITIES (SLAS)

**We need to raise \$55,000 and get 100%
senior parent participation to do it.**

Make your Senior Legacy Gift today!



The Class of 2017: Leaving a Lasting Legacy

Thank you to the 23 twelfth-grade parents who have made their Senior Legacy Gift. We're halfway to our goal of 100% parent participation!

This year's Senior Legacy Gift will reflect the diverse interests of the Class of 2017 by creating an endowment for the ongoing financial support of the Upper School Student-Led Activities (SLAs) including Model UN, Exercise & Fitness, Art Club, Gay-Straight Alliance, WordFlirt, Youth Action Project, El Club Latino and many others.

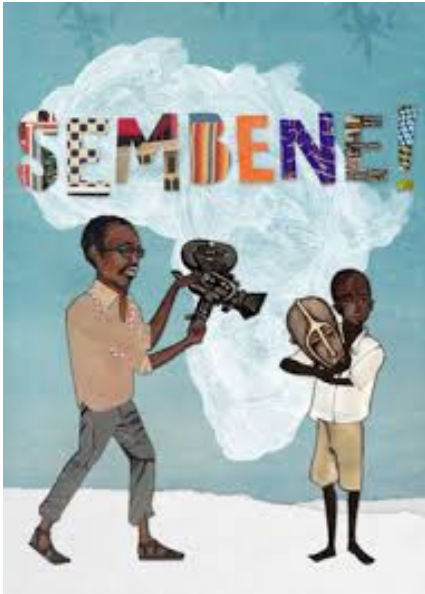
Thank you to Hildi Gabel '17, a member of the Environmental/Earth Day SLA, for [creating our poster!](#)

[Donate](#)

PAT Update

PAT Black History Month Celebration -- Family Fun and Learning for All

Families from preschool through upper school are encouraged to take part in the Black History Celebration, which focuses on pre-colonial Africa. We hope to see many of you on **Thurs, Feb. 9** for a screening of the award winning documentary film, **Sembéne!** -- a chronicle of the life of self-taught Senegalese filmmaker, poet, and novelist Ousmane Sembéne (1923-2007), known to the world as the father of African cinema. Admission is free. A



reception begins at 6pm, with the screening at 6:30pm, followed by a panel moderated by film historian (and BFS parent) Noah Isenberg.

On **Friday, Feb. 10**, there will be the traditional schoolwide celebration in the evening, with a family dinner, group presentations in the school meetinghouse, and music and dancing for all. [Learn more and sign up for student and parent workshops.](#)

Get Your BFS Gear On!

Have you checked out the new [BFS online spiritwear store?](#) Fieldhouse sells merchandise like sweatshirts, t-shirts, duffel bags, baseball caps and much more! Customers can shop any time, choose from logo options and hundreds of brand-name products, and personalize their gear. Fieldhouse makes each order on-demand, and ships the order straight to the customer so there is no minimum order.



BFS Student Babysitter List

If you missed the announcement earlier in the school year, here's a repeat: the PAT has compiled its annual list of BFS students who babysit; you may pick up a copy from Cheryl at the front desk at Pearl Street.

Sports Section



Congrats to Brendan Greenberg '17!

He's got 1,000 basketball points and a 1,000 watt smile in the photo above with Head Coach Will Modeste (right) and Assistant Coach George Turner. Brendan scored his 1,000th point in Wednesday's Boys Varsity Boys Varsity Basketball victory at home. Way to go Brendan! Blue Pride!!

Closing in on a Fine Finish to Winter Sports

Read [weekly game highlights here](#) and check out the daily score report on [Twitter](#). In the last weeks of the regular season, there will be a home basketball game at BFS almost every day. **Links to all** the winter sports teams (indoor track, squash, swimming, and basketball) [are here](#), with team schedules prominently featured at the top.

Very Important: Please bookmark this new link for team schedules: bfsathletics.org

Guided by the Quaker belief that there is a Divine Light in everyone, Brooklyn Friends School cultivates an intellectually ambitious and diverse community that celebrates each individual's gifts. We challenge our students to value and embrace difference as they develop critical thinking skills and apply their knowledge and intelligence both in and out of the classroom. In this rich learning environment, we inspire all members of our community to voice their convictions, to discover and pursue their passions, and to seek truth. Our graduates are compassionate, curious, and confident global citizens who let their lives speak in the spirit of leadership and service.

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