



Falk

Laboratory School

Quarterly Newsletter: Issue 3

SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR FALK 🥰

Whether you are an alumnus or a past parent, faculty member or student teacher, embrace your nostalgia with Falk-branded T-shirts, sweatshirts, joggers and more. For a limited time, we've [opened a Falk apparel store just for you.](#) ❤️

Items will ship directly to you after Jan. 1. Shipping and handling fees apply. Don't forget to send pictures to enavant@pitt.edu when your gear arrives! 📸

[The sale begins on Nov. 18 and closes at midnight on Dec. 2.](#)



FALK NEWS



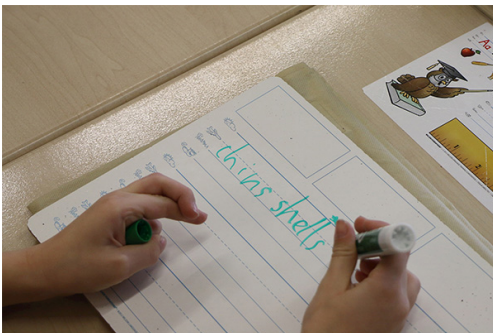
21 Wishes Art Installation

Falk faculty and staff engaged in [a collaborative art project](#) to make Falk's [21 wishes](#) interactive for students of all ages. The project was installed over the summer and consists of a hand-crafted dandelion and an assortment of dandelion seeds scattered throughout the building.



Universal Design for Learning and Differentiation

Falk works diligently to provide all students with an equal opportunity to grow and thrive in the classroom. With a focus on [Universal Design for Learning \(UDL\)](#) and [Differentiated Instruction](#) this school year, our faculty will engage in professional development, professional reading, small and large group learning, inquiry and practitioner-based research.



Structured Literacy

Falk uses the [Foundations curriculum](#) for [structured literacy](#) in kindergarten through fifth grade. Foundations has had an incredible impact in its first year and offers teachers both a shared language for instruction and a framework within which they can innovate and engage to build literacy skills. [Listen to a structured literacy interview](#) with Falk research coordinator Katrina Bartow Jacobs or

ALUMNI FEATURE



David Greene

David Greene grew up in Pittsburgh and attended Falk Laboratory School until fifth grade. He has since become a widely successful American journalist, covering everything from public school education to the Trans-Siberian Railway in Russia. Alongside honors such as the Daniel Schorr Journalism Prize, Greene says his commitment to authentic and compassionate journalism also allows him to sleep each night knowing he has done something special and done so without compromising the [“Wonder, Care, Act”](#) values he picked up decades ago at Falk.

Since retiring from “Morning Edition” in 2020, Greene has been busy hosting and producing podcasts, including [“Left, Right, & Center,”](#) a weekly broadcast aimed at finding common ground between politically divided guests. Greene says the podcast is at the heart of his personal mission to bring people together—a mission that can be traced all the way back to his 2016 work on [“Divided States,”](#) which he calls “one of the most of challenging but rewarding projects he’s ever done.”

Today, Greene is working with the [Steinman Institute for Civic Engagement](#) in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to reimagine the role of media and journalism in the community. Emphasizing the importance of young people and their perspectives, Greene says the goal is to “figure out what content the next generation wants, to bring people in from all political sides and to rebuild trust in the community. Journalism doesn’t survive, if we don’t do that.”

Last spring, Greene visited Falk and sat down with middle school students for [a Q&A about his life in journalism](#). Reflecting on the visit, Greene shares, “I can’t say enough how much I enjoy coming back. It’s amazing to see the Falk spirit and approach to teaching and learning still alive and thriving. It’s a truly special place, and it’s just really great to be connected.”

ALUMNI UPDATES



Alex Stanton is a Falk alumnus and founder of the Sunburst School of Music in Pittsburgh. As a student intern and faculty member alumnus, Stanton’s wife, Danielle Fox, is also a Falkie. [The two are now Falk parents](#).

“It’s really cool that I have kids that are at Falk,” Stanton says. “One of them is at Falk now, and the other one is going to start next year. I couldn’t be happier about that.”

“This institution shaped people who I admire so much,” Fox adds, “and I really hope my kids end up having the same experience.”

FOCUS ON GIVING



Judy Robinson

The Sanford "Sandy" Robinson, Jr. Memorial Endowed Fund was created in January 2014 to [celebrate the life of a Falk alumnus and beloved son, brother and friend](#). Administered by a Falk committee chaired by the school’s director, the endowment provides Falk students with tuition support to lessen the financial burden on their families.

For Sandy's mother, Judy Robinson, the fund has also been a way to keep her son's memory alive in a place that

Sanford "Sandy" Robinson, Jr.

means so much to her family. "I have nothing but love and respect for Falk," she says. "Being there always makes me feel close to him."



YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A FALK EDUCATION POSSIBLE

However you give, whenever you give and regardless of how much you give to Falk Laboratory School, your support makes a world of difference.

[Support Falk](#)

STAY IN TOUCH

Next Issue of En Avant Coming Soon!

Stay tuned for Falk's annual En Avant magazine! This must-read second issue delves deep into teaching at Falk, highlighting inspiring teachers from all fields.

Want to be featured in a future newsletter or En Avant magazine issue? We welcome your updates at enavant@pitt.edu.

Help with Alumni Events and Communications

Falk is always thrilled to help alumni reconnect with one another and with the school. If you are interested in supporting future alumni events and communications, please contact Laurie Hess, manager of constituent relations, at ldh31@pitt.edu or +1-412-624-7301.

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