



# Falk

Laboratory School

Quarterly Newsletter: Issue 5

## STUDENTS SERVE THEIR COMMUNITY



From classroom service projects to donation drives to the [Day of Service on April 15](#), we're leaning into Falk's Wonder, Care, Act philosophy [to elevate service this school year](#).

## FALK NEWS



### State of the School Address

On Feb. 12, the Falk community gathered for a [State of the School](#) address highlighting recent successes, challenges and opportunities at Falk. The evening included a closer look at extracurriculars, [faculty research projects](#) and a new student mentorship program.



## Universal Design for Learning

This school year, Falk faculty have taken a [deep dive into Universal Design for Learning](#), an educational framework that aims to make learning accessible and empowering for all students.



## Falk Graduates Return as Student Workers

Seven alumni from the Classes of 2016 through 2020 worked in Falk's Extended Day Program this year, and one was an intern for the middle school counseling office. [Reflecting on their time as students](#), the thing they miss most is the close-knit Falk community.

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## ALUMNI FEATURE

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### Heather Wishik

After attending Falk in the 1950s, Heather Wishik moved around the world and back again, [pursuing everything from teaching children and practicing law to creating poetry and art](#). "I credit Falk, I really do," Heather shares, "in giving me the confidence to try things and experiment and not be afraid."

## ALUMNI UPDATES



Ferne Mosley, a newly appointed director-at-large for the Pitt Alumni Association, says Falk [played an important role in shaping her personality.](#)



Ralou Benos and Vasilis Benos, now living in Gainesville, Florida, [stopped by for a spring break visit.](#)



Katie Dealy, former director of engagement for U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, [remembers Falk as a magical place](#) where learning was fun, and opportunities were limitless.

## FOCUS ON GIVING



We did it! Thanks to your incredible generosity on Feb. 25, Falk crushed Pitt Day of Giving (PDoG) and ended the day with:

👉 **363 unique donors**—a 36% increase from PDoG 2024,

👉 **\$44,259** raised for Falk scholarships, hands-on programming, renovations and more, and

👉 **\$6,500** secured from PDoG-exclusive challenges, including first place in the Places, Experiences and More Power Hour and third place on the PEM Leaderboard.

Your gifts have a unique and lasting impact on each of Falk's students, and [we are so grateful for your support.](#) Thank you!

# STAY IN TOUCH

## Calling all Class of 2021 Graduates

Falk is pleased to invite Class of 2021 graduates to a reunion on Sunday, June 1 from 3 to 5 p.m. We look forward to welcoming you back and celebrating your accomplishments! [RSVP by May 19.](#)

Please contact Laurie Hess, manager of constituent relations, at +1-412-624-7301 or [ldh31@pitt.edu](mailto:ldh31@pitt.edu) with questions.

## Submit a Recipe for Falk's Community Cookbook

Falk is collecting recipes of personal and/or cultural significance to share in a Falk cookbook, and we'd love to hear from you! Whether it's an original family recipe or just one you love, please [submit your favorite recipe.](#)

## Share an Update

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

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