November 2024

GOW AT A GLANCE

A Monthly News Snapshot from The Gow School



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Meet a Govian

SIMON '27

Meet Simon, a sophomore at Gow who has turned a summer job into a true passion. His commitment has not only shaped his future goals but also strengthened the connection between Gow students and the community.



Alumni Spotlight

CLAUDE STUART IV '90

Claude Stuart is a comedian, actor, writer and producer. From packing comedy venues across the globe to regular television appearances on shows like "The Tonight Show", and "Last Comic Standing," Claude Stuart has come a long way from his down home southern roots and days at Gow.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

November 11 - In person open house, 9:30 am

November 23- Dec 2 - Gow Thanksgiving Break

December 19-January 6 - Gow Holiday Break

February 15-23 - February Break

May 16-17 - Senior Dinner and Commencement

The Gow School Development Office 2491 Emery Road South Wales NY 14139 716.687.2075 development@gow.org

GOW'S FALL FAMILY WEEKEND

Families enjoyed an action-packed visit to campus with perfect autumn weather, a Parents' Assocation meeting with opportunities to get to know each other better, to hear from Head of School, Mr. Munro, and honor graduating senior athletes and cheer for the teams. On Saturday morning, families attended abbreviated classes and the College Fair. The weekend concluded with students and families departing for fall break, marking a perfect end to the October festivities. All photos can be viewed on Gow's Media Gallery.

Quotes from our parents

Why our families love Gow

Gow has this amazing way of taking kids who have been let down by our educational systems and making them into a success with a strong future.

Gow literally saved my son's life path and took us from the depth of failure to a raging success with a great college future. It's hard to believe. It's as if they are magic!

Gow came through on their promise to ensure my previously struggling child would succeed academically and thrive as a young adult.











Halloween Spooktacular

The weekend before Halloween, Student Council hosted their third annual Haunted House in the Gow Chapel. This highly anticipated tradition is a favorite for Gow students and our local community. More than 300 local guests came to campus to see scary goblins and have fun!





(From Left)Trevor '30, Eleni '31 and Scarlett '31 participating in haunted house



Alumni Spotlight:
CLAUDE STUART '90 Professional Comedian







As a member of the class of 1990, Gow alumnus, comedian, producer, and writer Claude Stuart IV '90 has been entertaining audiences on the stage, over the airwaves, and in the writers' room for nearly three decades. Speaking to us, he opened with a joke: "I live in 'Beverly Hills Adjacent.' 'I love telling people that, because it sounds so much nicer than 'Behind the Walgreens'."

A native of Greenville, Mississippi, Claude, who has dyslexia, attended Gow for high school. He says that at the time, study hall and Saturday classes were not his favorite activities but proved essential when he moved on to college at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas and, later, his storied comedy career.

"Gow taught me discipline and how to get my work done, and that's what I did in college. The result? I earned a 3.3 GPA in college – the ultimate score for a person with dyslexia," he said. "Gow taught me to plan what I need to do and achieve it." At SMU, Claude majored in communications with a focus on radio and TV and was named "The Funniest Person at SMU." He also worked at a local radio station, where he got his first real experience in the entertainment business. As a joke, he secretly called into the radio station and took on the different personas of "listeners." The bit took off, and upon discovery by management, instead of getting fired, he became a mainstay writing scripts and co-hosting the morning show.

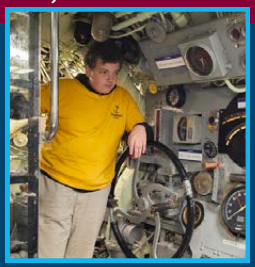
Claude's big break came after, in his words, "prematurely" moving to LA, where while doing odd jobs, he met Saturday Night Live alum Dennis Miller's writers who offered him an internship. "I learned the mechanics of joke writing and comedy production and made myself get up on stage at least three times a week," he said. Soon, Claude appeared at comedy clubs across the country, and his career springboarded.

Claude's list of credits is considerable. In 2017, he began writing for the show "Funny You Should Ask", a daily comedy panel show where he quickly became known for his sharp wit, writing more than 600 jokes for the show—more than anyone else on the staff. During the pandemic, he wrote movies and TV shows that are now being developed, including "Standby", a film featuring Sean Astin and John Cleese, and "Killer Book Club", a dark comedy-thriller starring Monica Potter, Vivica A. Fox, Craig Robinson and Jamie Kennedy. Claude has his own production company and lives with his wife, Heather De Sisto, and their 10-year-old son, Claude Stuart V. Beverly Hills Adjacent may be across the country from his Govian roots, but he credits the school with giving him discipline, a work ethic and true friendships for a lifetime.

GOW STUDENT FOCUS

Simon '28 - Volunteer and Naval Park Enthusiast







(From left) Jon Chafin and Simon '28, Simon '28 in Vessel, Buffalo Naval Park

A sophomore from Williamsville, NY, Simon is an enthusiaic promoter of the Buffalo Naval Park, the largest inland naval park in the US. Located on Buffalo's waterfront, the Naval Park is home to four decommissioned military ships. Each year, thousands of visitors explore these historic vessels to appreciate Naval history and the dedication and challenges faced by veterans and service members.

Last summer, Simon worked as a volunteer junior docent and a paid overnight deckhand. As a docent, he leads daytime tours, sharing the history and operations of the ships. In the evenings, he assists overnight visitors, serving as a deckhand and helping by giving tours, preparing meals and runnng the ship. Learning from senior guides and vessel manuals, Simon has become an integral member of the park's operations team. On November 2, students from Gow visited the park and enjoyed having Simon serve as their guide.

In the future, Simon hopes to pursue a career as a defense contractor specializing in naval vessels, or to be a naval aviator.

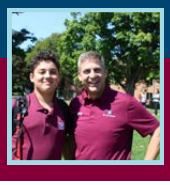
More about Operation Hope

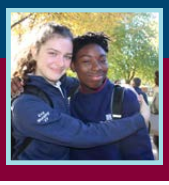
Operation Hope was founded by Gow students to honor and recognize our military. They initially sent letters and care packages to service members. They now participate in service projects, including collecting and donating gifts for needy families at the holidays, and participating in a recent tour and work day at the Buffalo Naval Park.

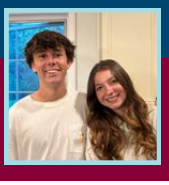
Your gift makes Gow's programs possible!

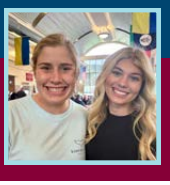
PLEASE MAKE YOUR ANNUAL FUND GIFT TODAY!

RETHINKING LEARNING, REIGNITING LIVES

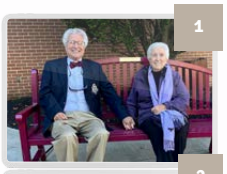







Alumni News


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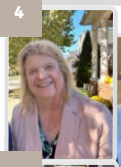
Alan Botto '57 and his wife, Ida, and family from Toronto and New York City visited Gow in October. They live in Alexandria, VA and made a gift to name a Gow bench in honor of Alan's mother and enjoyed seeing it.

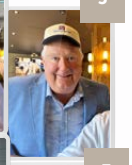

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David Woodside '64 lives in Cincinnati and is retired. He is pictured with his friend, Steve.


3

Roger Adams '71 and his wife, Ann, live in Ancaster, Ontario and enjoy spending time with their family, including four grandsons. Roger is pictured with Gayle Hutton.


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Jane Van Meter '74 is enjoying living in Louisville, KY.


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Rob Reid '82 and his wife, Susan, have two daughters and live in Oakville. Rob works in insurance in Toronto.

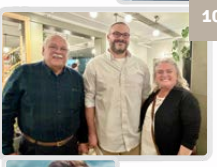
David Rausch '85 and his sister visited Gow. He lives and works in Jacksonville, FL.


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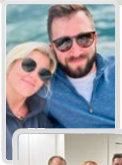
Ryan Doyle '01 lives in Lexington, KY and works for ADT in commercial sales.

Brian Benetiz '05 and his wife celebrated their son Gabriel's first birthday October 11th.


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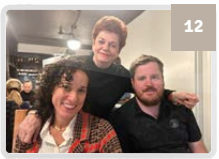
Price Combs '07 lives in Lexington, KY and works at the YMCA and as a soccer referee.

Patrick Maundrell '07 is a Treasury Management Senior Business Associate at Fifth Third Bank in Cincinnati. Pictured with his parents at a recent Gow dinner.


11



Jack Foley '08 and his wife, Tyler, got married in Tuscany September 19 and then had a reception at his parent's home. Trevor Devine '09, Brandon Devine '11, Jack Foley '08, Ben Cleveland '07, and Steven Greve '08 attended.


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Taylor Hall '09 lives in Toronto and works as a fleet manager for RedBull. Pictured with his mom, Carole, and Shelly Albers from Gow.

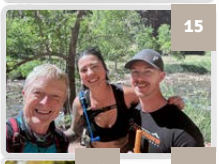

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Michael Mitsche '09 is living in Cincinnati with his girlfriend where he is a Senior Quantative Analyst for Fifth Third Bank.



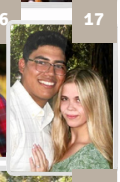
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William Lashbrook '10 and his wife, Staci, have a 14-month-old son, Matthew. Will is an Account Manager for American Express. Will writes, "I owe my success to Gow."


15

Jason Ganje '14 and his girlfriend recently hiked in National Parks out west. Amazingly, they ran into Gayle Hutton on the trail at Zion (pictured). He is a Product Engineer at Moog Space and Defense Group in Elma, NY.


16


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Jenna Rosser '18 plans to complete her Masters of Architecture at RIT in May.

Faith Adams graduated with a dual degree, passed the CA Real Estate Exam and is marrying her finacee, Enesto, in November.


18

Bridget (Dunn) Smith '21 attends the U of Northern FL and lives in St. Augustine.

FONDLY REMEMBERED

COLE ALBAN '15 passed away August 31 in Florida.

GEORGE WISLOCKI '54 passed away at the age of 89 on September 21 in Pittsfield, MA. George was the founding director of the Berkshire Natural Resources Council, a nonprofit dedicated to the conservation and public access of to wilderness areas in the Berkshires. He and his wife, Alice, loved being outdoors and hiked in many place around the world, including New Zealand where they visited many times. George is survived by his wife, Alice, daughter Anya, and son, Stash, a 1986 Gow graduate.



George Wislocki with wife, Alice