March 2026

GOW AT A GLANCE

A Monthly News Snapshot from The Gow School

Gow Students visit Morocco and Spain

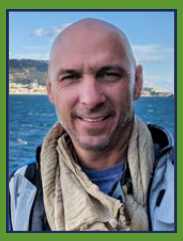







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Gow Alumni Spotlight: Christopher Chapman '91

From a homesick seventh grader to CEO and published author, Christopher Chapman's journey reflects resilience, creativity, and the lasting impact of a Gow School education. Discover how Gow helped spark the imagination that would shape his remarkable path.

Upcoming Events

March 21 - Apr 6	Spring Break
April 1-22	Centennial Registration Opens (Discounted Early Bird Gala Tickets, $175 from April 1-22)
April 23	Centennial Gala Tickets at Regular Price, $190
May 21	Athletic Awards and Honors Convocation
	Senior Dinner - The Columns
May 22	Commencement

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!



EARLY BIRD discounted tickets for the Centennial Weekend go on sale Wednesday, April 1!

GALA TICKETS:
$175 PER PERSON FROM APRIL 1 - APRIL 22 ($190 AFTER APRIL 22)
$100 FOR GOW ALUMNI FROM THE CLASSES OF 2016-2026

Stay tuned for more information and the link to buy your tickets!

Questions?
centennial@gow.org

100 Years
Honoring the past. Celebrating our future.
October 1 - 3, 2026 South Wales, NY
1926-2026

GOW CENTENNIAL GLASSWARE



Order your new Centennial glassware now at Crystal Imagery!

CRYSTAL IMAGERY

SCAN ME





Chris and his wife Sharon with their cat, Little Owl

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT CHRIS CHAPMAN '91

When Christopher Chapman arrived at The Gow School as a 12-year-old seventh grader from Tampa, he left behind a prestigious school and the comfort of home for something unknown. His mother, who holds a doctorate in special education, recognized that despite its reputation, his previous school was not the right fit. After careful research, she found Gow.

Chris remembers his first impression clearly: "scary and homesick." That first year was one of the hardest of his life. Yet within that challenge, he found compassion. He credits the steady support of Cameron Cudhea, the kindness of Mrs. Alice Gow, and especially Mrs. Kathy Rose "an angel."

Over time, Gow became a place of belonging. He remembers competing and winning in soccer and lacrosse, building both friendships and resilience. But his strongest memories were formed in the classroom. English classes with Mr. Mason Winfield and Mr. Cass Ray opened his imagination to the power of storytelling. Writing became more than an assignment—it became possibility. As well as study hall, where the walls were lined with Encyclopedias and Chris let his mind wander and fill with hours of random facts, curiosity and early architecture of stories.

After Gow, Chris attended the University of South Carolina in Columbia, pursuing his dream of becoming a naval pilot—a goal he had nurtured since he began flying at 15. When that path proved too competitive, he pivoted, earning a degree in Criminal Justice before completing law school.

The journey to becoming an attorney tested his perseverance. He sat for the South Carolina Bar Exam 4 times with little to no accommodation. He had almost given up till he started working for a blind attorney in Tampa, Fl who mentored him and challenged him to "figure out" complex cases independently along with the help of other firm attorneys. Nearly three years after graduating from law school, Chris sat for the Florida Bar. With one simple accommodation—the use of a keyboard—he passed with flying colors, scoring high enough to qualify for additional state clearances.

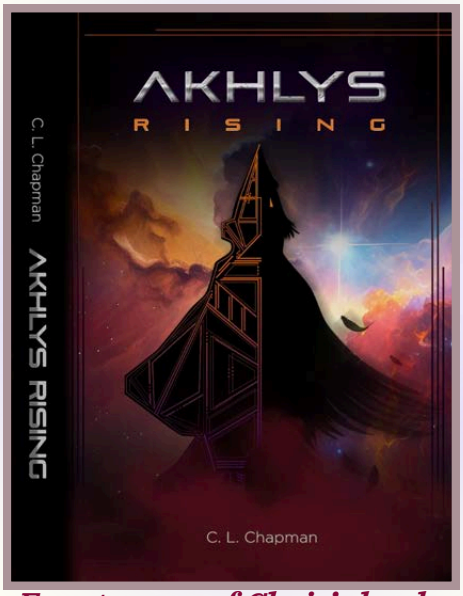
Chris practiced law briefly, then served as a Hillsborough County Sheriff. Eventually, with help of a past college job on a cattle farm and a family connection opened the door to a new opportunity in high-wealth private asset management. When the company began to fail, he was asked to step in. He successfully turned the business around and now serves as CEO of a thriving firm.

Still, the creative spark ignited at Gow never faded. In law school, a 64-page research paper on modern sea-based piracy included a fictional narrative about a captain and his family caught in a piracy crisis. The storytelling impressed his professor, who urged him to pursue fiction. That encouragement eventually led to his recent book, AKYHLS RISING, a futuristic novel centered on a heroine determined to reunite with her mother while discovering her own strength. Chris will be in London this month with Marina Sirtis of Star Trek: The Next Generation while she records his audiobook.

His interests extend beyond writing and business. Chris enjoys long-distance motorcycle riding, filmmaking, and is a member of the Producers Guild with an IMDb profile reflecting his film projects.

Today, Chris lives in Tampa with his wife, Sharon, and their son, Ian, who also attended Gow. Reflecting on his education, he shares that aside from law school, Gow was the only place he truly learned. To him, it represents education in its purest sense—where students are encouraged to understand how they learn, discover who they are, and feel they belong.

Like many Govians, Chris describes Gow as a tight-knit family. It was the place where he could be himself—and in that freedom, he found both his resilience and his voice.



Front cover of Chris's book, AKHLYS RISING

STUDENT FUN IN MOROCCO AND SPAIN

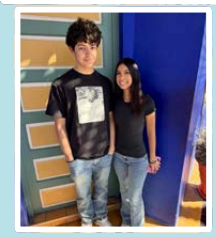
During February break, Gow students stepped beyond the classroom and into the world on an unforgettable journey through Spain and Morocco with Travel For Teens. What they experienced was far more than sightseeing—it was global learning in action.

In Spain, students wandered the cobblestone streets of Seville and Granada, viewed turtles at the Crystal Palace, and explored the stunning gardens of the Alhambra. In Madrid, they experienced the energy and royal history of Spain's capital city.

A short flight brought them to Morocco, where ancient cities, mountain landscapes, and vibrant marketplaces offered a completely new cultural perspective. Along the way, students discovered how Spain and Morocco have influenced one another for more than 1,300 years through art, architecture, and tradition.

By the time they returned home, our students carried more than souvenirs—they brought back broadened perspectives, deeper cultural understanding, and memories that will last a lifetime.







Student Participants: Charlotte '28, Scarlett '31, Shea '26, Vanessa '28 , Andrea '29; Chaperones: Lelaina Sullivan, Jen Cannon



Girls at Gow

Growth, Innovation, Respect, Leadership, Success



Launched last year through the generosity of a dedicated donor, the Girls at Gow program was created to provide intentional opportunities that support and empower the girls in our community. The initiative focuses on building connection, encouraging new experiences, and broadening horizons.

Over the past year, students have attended motivational speaker events, enjoyed performances at Shea's Performing Arts Center, participated in Sushi Sundays on campus, and taken part in girls' health classes led by Nurse Practitioner Tiffany Bray. Off-campus activities have included art outings, seasonal festivals, and most recently, an afternoon painting pottery followed by a visit to a local coffee shop.

Girls at Gow continues to create meaningful spaces where students can grow in confidence, strengthen friendships, and try something new together.





Thank You



Attendees at Gow's gathering in Ft. Myers, FL hosted by Trustee Karen Kopp

Warm thanks to Gow Trustee Karen Kopp and her husband, Dr. Christopher Kopp, for graciously hosting a wonderful evening at their home in Fort Myers, Florida. It was a pleasure to gather with members of the Gow community, reconnect with alumni and friends, and share conversation about all that is happening at Gow. The Kopps' warm hospitality made the night truly special, and we are grateful to everyone who attended. We look forward to more opportunities like this to bring together alumni and friends of the Gow community in the future.

Giving Day

Challenges & Incentives

GOW GIVING DAY · MARCH 18, 2026

Your gift will be doubled during certain hours of Giving Day or help Gow unlock additional gifts! Your generosity could also come with a little extra swag. Support Gow. Thank you!

Make an early donation that counts for Giving Day by scanning the code above!

$2,000 Power Hour (7:00 - 10:00am ET)
Start the day strong! During Morning Power Hour, all gifts will be doubled up to $2,000. Early gifts set the pace and build momentum for the day. Whether it's $5 or $500, your gift goes twice as far this hour, and participation is what matters most.

First-Time Donor Match (12:00 -1:00pm ET)
Make your first gift to Gow during this special hour and have it matched up to $1,000. Your new or renewed participation makes an immediate, positive impact and helps grow our community of supporters.

Afternoon Community Challenge (2:00 -5:00pm ET)
If15 donors make a gift during this three-hour time period, $1,500 will be unlocked. This challenge is all about participation. Every single gift moves us closer. Yours could be the one that unlocks it!

All donors of $100+ get a Gow car magnet

All donors of $500+ get a Gow keychain

All donors of $1,000+ get a Gow tumbler

Alumni News



1. Nick Scolaro '18 visited Gow to take a look at campus and catch up with Mr. Rothfuss.

2.Seth Fisch '23 is at Tulane where he is majoring in Finance.



3.Kieran Foggon '21 and Megan Young '21 visited Gow this past month. Kieran is a dispatcher in MA for 20+ counties, and Megan is a Pre-K teacher and will be returning to school this year in special education.



4.Graeme Hepburn '84 and Liam Devine '84 meet up in London for much needed R&R.

5.Walt Silver '67 spends his winters in Florida with wife, Pat. They recently had lunch with Director of Development Kim Ruppel and Head of School John Munro. Walt and Pat spend summers in Ohio.



6.Larry Acheson '83 met with Director of Development Kim Ruppel in Florida. He recently returned from a fishing trip to Panama.

8.Peter Knudsen '59 met with Director of Development Kim Ruppel in Florida. He reports he is looking forward to coming back to Gow for the 100th Celebration in October.

9.Elle Hill '25 is attending University of the Ozarks. She is doing great in her first year.

Submit your alumni news, updates, and photos to development@gow.org

Farewell to our fellow Govians



Jeffery Swann '85
1963 - 2026

Jeff Swann '85 died in London, Ontario on February 4, 2026. He leaves behind is wife, Vivianne, and two sons, Matthew and James.

A gathering in gratitude for Jeff's life will be held for family and friends at a later date.

Donations in Jeff's memory may be made to St Joseph's Hospice in London, Ontario or The Gow School.