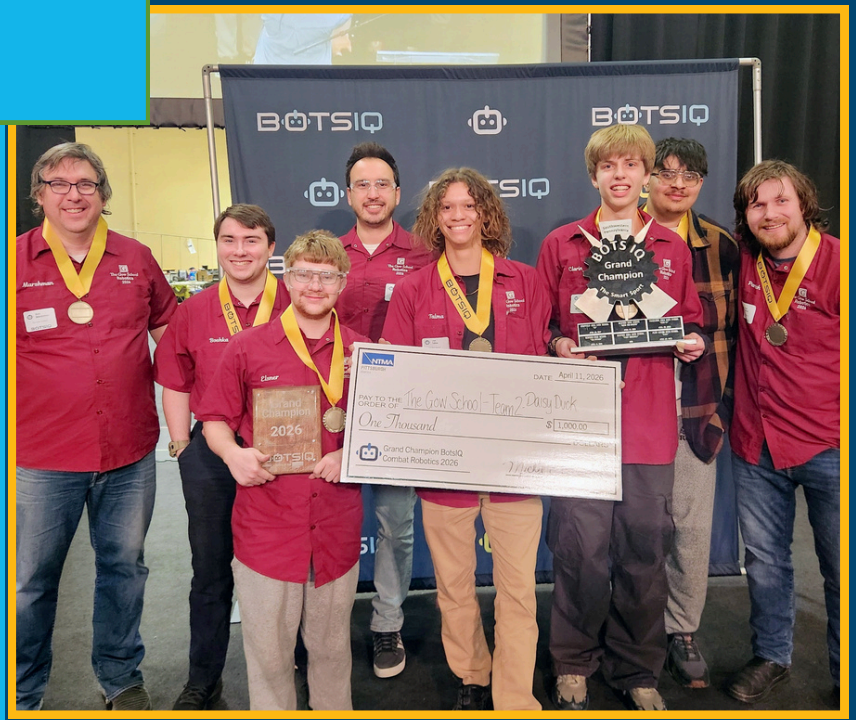
April 2026

GOW AT A GLANCE

A Monthly News Snapshot from The Gow School

GOW ROBOTICS TAKE CHAMPIONSHIP





Gow Robotics at the 2026 BotsIQ Finals

From Left: Team Daisy Duck, Grand Champions - Rob Marshman, Stephen '26, Silas '26, Jeff Poblocki, Lion '26, J.J. '26, Eshaan '26 and Ryan Parrish. Team Banshee, King of the Ring - Nathan '26, Shea '26, Aidan '26, Bryan '26, Anna '26



GOW ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: MATTHEW GREYARD '03

From a nervous seventh grader searching for belonging, to a world-traveling chef and entrepreneur, Matthew Greyard '03 turned structure into success.

Discover how Gow helped shape his journey—from the Gow art loft to Michelin kitchens to building his own business—and why he still believes, "Being a Govian means stepping up."



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Upcoming Events

April 22	Last day to buy Early-Bird Gala Tickets at $175
May 2	Spring Fest and Prom
May 21	Athletic Awards and Honors Convocation
	8th Grade Moving-Up Celebration
	Senior Dinner - The Columns 6pm (Registration Open)
May 22	Commencement



Gow in the Community

Hoppin' Hoopla

The Gow School's 3rd Annual Hoppin' Hoopla brought the community together for a joyful Easter celebration, continuing a tradition that grows stronger each year. This year's event welcomed more than 400 guests—an exciting increase from the year prior—with families traveling from surrounding towns, some from as far as 30 minutes away. Children enjoyed age-based Easter egg hunts, arts and crafts, festive treats, and a visit with the Easter Bunny, all organized and run by Gow students and faculty.

More than just a day of fun, Hoppin' Hoopla provides Gow students with a valuable opportunity to give back while developing leadership and service skills. The smiles and appreciation from attendees reflected the event's growing impact and the meaningful connections it fosters. We look forward to continuing this special tradition for years to come.



Gow Robotics Triumphs with Two Major Wins at BotsIQ Finals





The journey to the BotsIQ Championships, held April 9–11 at the PennWest California Convention Center, was a powerful example of resilience and determination by Gow Robotics. The season began at the BotsIQ Semifinals at Westmoreland County Community College, where two teams—Banshee and Daisy Duck—faced 23 competitors in a double-elimination format. The preliminaries were challenging: Banshee finished 29th, while Daisy Duck, after being split in half by the eventual top-seeded robot, secured 17th. Rather than viewing this as failure, the teams returned to Gow determined to rebuild, refine, and rethink their strategy for finals.

That determination paid off at Championships, where they entered a field of 68 teams with confidence and purpose. Daisy Duck delivered a stunning performance, eliminating the top-seeded robot from prelims and helping take down the 3rd- and 7th-seeded teams. Banshee, after being knocked out of bracket play, fought back in the Royal Rumble—emerging victorious and earning the King of the Ring award. Meanwhile, Daisy Duck advanced deep into the brackets and ultimately captured Grand Champion honors, bolstered by a first-place finish in technical interviews and an extensive 200-page engineering write-up—proving excellence in both design and performance.

Supported by faculty mentors Mr. Jeff Poblocki, Mr. Ryan Parrish, and Mr. Rob Marshman, Gow students demonstrated what defines the program at its core: perseverance, innovation, and grit. Their journey is a testament to the belief that Gow students never give up—and always rise stronger.





Alumni Spotlight

MATTHEW GREYARD '03

Matthew Greyard's journey to The Gow School began in West Virginia at an after-school program at Marshall University. Gow was suggested to his mother by the support staff and not long after, Matthew arrived on campus as a seventh grader. Matthew remembers being scared but soon formed a lasting impression. His first thought? "Homey, I belong here."

That sense of home and belonging took hold almost immediately. Some of Matthew's earliest memories include sitting in front of the fireplace in Main Building and working through RL cards - moments that blended comfort with connection. That same feeling carried into dorm life, where living alongside his peers was, in his words, simply "cool." There may not have been toys at Gow, but as Matthew puts it, they were replaced with "120 brothers." It wasn't long before Gow became more than just a school. It became his community.

Among the many spaces on campus, the art room stood out as Matthew's favorite. It was there that he connected deeply with one of his most influential mentors, Mr. Bill Parsons. Some of his most cherished memories are of sitting in the loft painting alongside Mr. Parsons, Doug Alexander '03, and Brian Lee '03 , while listening to stories from Mr. Parsons' life as a painter in New York. These moments went beyond art instruction; they were lessons in creativity, perspective, and learning through the experiences of others. Matthew also credits teachers like Mr. Jeff Sweet for helping shape his journey.

During his years at Gow, Matthew developed more than academic skills. He gained structure, independence, and a strong work ethic. He learned that success required effort - that to achieve what he wanted, he had to put in the work. By the time he graduated, Matthew had a clear vision: he wanted to live a creative life and ultimately be self-employed.

He began that journey in Santa Barbara, California, studying fine art before realizing he needed a different environment to thrive. He transferred to Bridgewater College in Virginia, where he earned a degree in fine arts, graphic design, and web development. Continuing his education, he pursued graduate studies in software development. But along the way, another passion began to take hold: fine dining. Matthew immersed himself in the culinary world, working as a line cook in Michelin-starred restaurants in Chicago and later in Park City, Utah. Over the next 12 years, he honed his craft in high-pressure, high-performance kitchens, embracing the discipline and creativity that first took shape during his time at Gow.



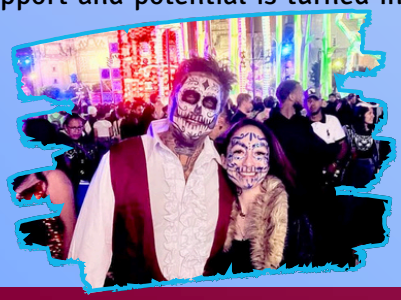
Yet, like many Govians, Matthew's ambition didn't stop there. Driven by a desire to create and carve his own path, he expanded his pursuits, helping to start music foundations and eventually launching his own business. Today, he lives in Washington, D.C., where he runs Ripley Hospitality, a wedding and private events catering company that he founded three years ago. While he still dreams of opening his own restaurant, his focus remains on growing his company and continuing to build something of his own. As he puts it, he is "married to his career."

Outside of his professional life, Matthew continues to channel his creativity in deeply personal ways. He has backpacked around the world, painting in acrylic and drawing inspiration from the places he's visited on his bike such as Patagonia. Along the way, he's also built a collection of tattoos, he designed himself, each one a reflection of his experiences and identity. For Matthew, creativity isn't confined to a studio or work; it's a way of life.

That relentless drive is something Matthew traces back to Gow. He sees it not only in himself, but in his fellow alumni. "Being a Govian means stepping up," he says. "We want to achieve what everyone said we couldn't, and more." That mindset even shows up in his friendly rivalry with fellow alumni Lee Nelson '03. The two constantly push each other in a "one-up competition," each striving to outdo the other, fueling their mutual success.
Reflecting on his journey, Matthew is clear about the role Gow played in his life. "I had all the potential," he says, "but Gow gave me the structure and discipline to be the best version of myself." He believes Gow is a place where students who may have once felt like outcasts come to succeed. A place where challenges are met with support and potential is turned into achievement.

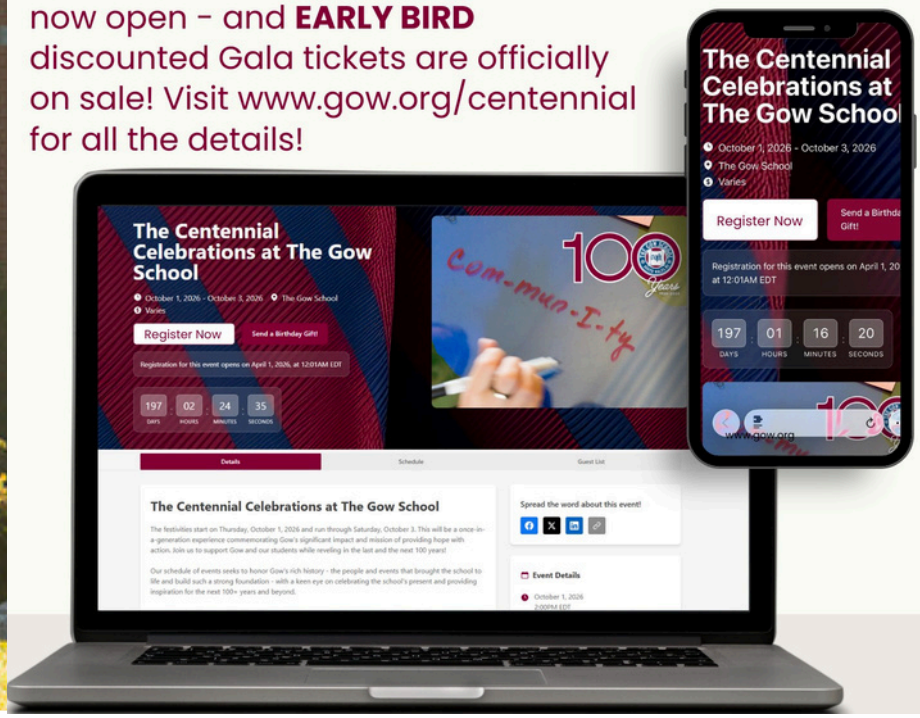
His message to current Gow students is simple, but powerful:
"Push through the hard times. Always find the light in the darkness."

ripley
hospitality
CHEF MATTHEW GREYARD



JOIN US!

Centennial Weekend registration is now open - and **EARLY BIRD** discounted Gala tickets are officially on sale! Visit www.gow.org/centennial for all the details!



CENTENNIAL TICKETS now on SALE

Registration & Ticket Sales

April 1-22
Early Bird Gala Ticket : $175
After April 22
Gala Tickets: $190

SCAN ME!

Howard Hall
Now Open



Student Artwork



Howard Hall Foyer



Classroom

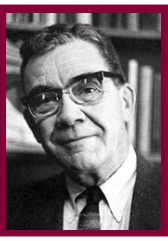


Office

After years of anticipation, Howard Hall is now open! This remarkable new space marks an exciting milestone for The Gow School, providing a purpose-built environment to continue the transformative work Gow has carried out for the past 100 years.

Honoring a Lasting Legacy

Named in honor of Norman Howard, Gow's second Headmaster and a teacher for over forty years, the building celebrates a legacy of dedication and compassion. Alongside his wife, Vesta, he guided generations of Govians, leaving an enduring impact on the Gow community.



"Norm Howard's passion influenced my life. His love of teaching was inspiring, and his determination to understand how we learned was unwavering. His belief in each student helped us believe in ourselves."

~ Robert Manice '71, Howard Hall Campaign Donor

Howard Hall: Designing a Space Where Language Comes to Life

Howard Hall was designed to reflect how Gow students learn best and how teachers collaborate most effectively. As the home for Reconstructive Language, English, and History, it brings together disciplines centered on reading, writing, and language development—allowing students to build skills across subjects in an integrated, reinforcing way.

Collaboration at the Core

By uniting these departments, Howard Hall strengthens collaboration among faculty, encouraging shared strategies, aligned curriculum, and consistent, multisensory instruction.

Spaces Built for the Way Gow Students Learn

Flexible classrooms support small-group work, movement, and hands-on learning, creating an environment that is responsive to each student's needs.

A Building That Reflects Gow's Mission

Howard Hall represents Gow's commitment to innovation in teaching students with dyslexia and other language-based learning differences.