Gow AT A GLANCE

A Monthly News Snapshot from The Gow School

November 2026



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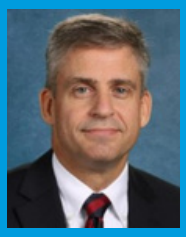
- Q&A with Interim Head of School - Luke Salerno
- Gow Students Community Haunted House
- Centennial Celebration Recap and Photos

100 Years 1926-2026

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

PHOTOS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!

SCAN OR CLICK QR CODE



Interim Head of School Luke Salerno shares his vision for Gow's future, focusing on innovation, growth, and long-term sustainability. Read our Q&A to learn what's ahead for Gow!

What a weekend to remember! Gow's Centennial Celebration brought generations of Govians together for three unforgettable days of memories, laughter, and celebration. Take a look back at the special moments that made Gow's 100th birthday one for the books!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

November 21-30: Thanksgiving Break

December 19-January 4: Winter Break

February 14-22: February Break

May 21-22: Senior Dinner and Commencement

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

Q&A

WITH LUKE SALERNO
INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL

What are some of your long-term goals and priorities for The Gow School?

My vision is to position Gow as a leader in innovative education for students with language-based learning differences as we enter our second century. I want to work with faculty to modernize our curriculum by integrating new teaching methods and technologies across humanities, fine arts, STEM, and other disciplines. I plan to establish partnerships with colleges to create a pipeline for recruiting talented educators and develop research collaborations that strengthen our teaching practices.

I also want to create a long-term plan to revitalize our campus, ensuring our facilities support evolving academic and student needs. Lastly, I would like to establish a Diagnostic Center that offers low-cost testing to prospective students and families in our community, while also helping raise awareness of Gow.

By turning these ideas into actionable plans, I hope to build a stronger, more innovative, and sustainable future for Gow.

What are your biggest priorties for the school over the next year?

My main priority is making sure Gow remains strong and sustainable for years to come. I want to continue growing our endowment, make smart financial decisions, and focus on improvements that will move Gow forward. This includes updating our curriculum, improving campus facilities, strengthening our marketing to attract new families, and finding ways to keep our current students engaged and successful.

My goal is to create a clear plan that supports Gow's growth while staying true to what makes our school special.

100 YEARS CHANGED THOUSANDS OF LIVES.

IMAGINE WHAT THE NEXT 100 WILL DO.

Please make your gift to Gow's Annual Fund and be part of what comes next. Thank you!

The Gow School

gow.org/donate

GOW COMMUNITY HAUNTED HOUSE

The Gow Chapel transformed into a spine-tingling haunted house at the end of October, welcoming an incredible 400 guests from Gow and the surrounding communities! We were thrilled to see both returning visitors and new families, including some brave guests experiencing their very first haunted house!

Entirely student-designed and run, the event was brought to life through weeks of creativity, planning, and hard work by our students, Student Council, and their advisors. With both family-friendly and more frightening experiences, there was something for everyone! Even Mr. Salerno admitted he wasn't quite prepared for just how scary the more intense version would be!

Gow's Student Activities Coordinator extended a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helped make this beloved community tradition such a tremendous success. The event was a wonderful showcase of our students' imagination, teamwork, and dedication to bringing our community together for some Halloween fun!









CELEBRATING 100 Years

1926-2026



Time Capsule





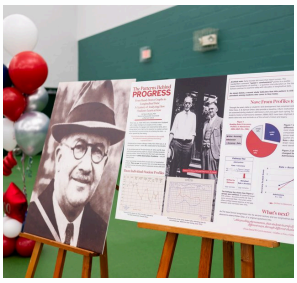


Robotics Demonstration



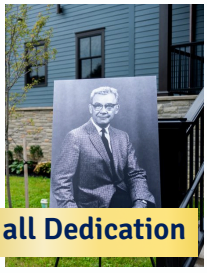


Dyslexia Panel



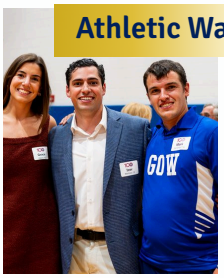






Howard Hall Dedication

Athletic Wall of Fame

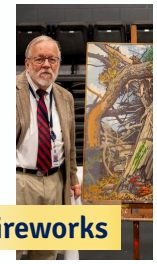








Art Show and Fireworks





Gow's Centennial Celebration: A Weekend to Remember! October 1–2 marked an unforgettable celebration as The Gow School welcomed alumni, families, former and current faculty and staff, and friends back to campus to celebrate 100 years of Gow! The two days were filled with special events, cherished memories, and opportunities to reconnect with the school and one another.

Thursday's festivities included campus tours, a special Time Capsule Ceremony, student athletic events, and a Welcome BBQ that brought the Gow community together to kick off this historic celebration.

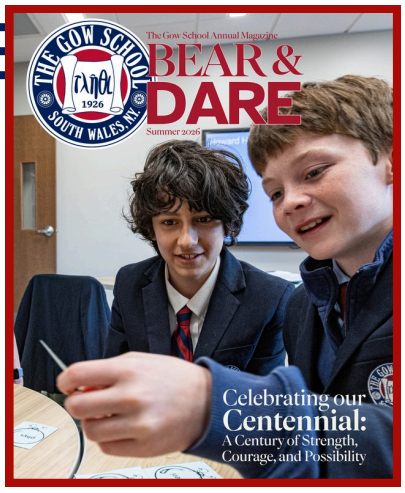
Friday continued with a full day of activities, including a Dyslexia Panel, Robotics Demonstration, the dedication of Howard Hall, recognition of Gow's athletic history at the Athletic Wall of Fame, and an Art Showcase highlighting the talents of Gow artists. The day concluded with a community dinner, a meaningful Remembrance Ceremony honoring those who have been part of Gow's history, and a spectacular fireworks display.

While the events were memorable, it was the people who made the celebration truly special. Throughout the two days, old friendships were rekindled, new relationships were formed, and generations of Gowians came together to share stories, laughter, and memories. The Centennial Celebration was not only an opportunity to honor Gow's remarkable past but also a reminder of the strong sense of community that continues to define the school today.

BEAR & DARE

Did you receive your Centennial magazine?

The new Gow magazine is now available! Email development@gow.org if you didn't get a copy in the mail!



The Centennial Gala

What an unforgettable evening! On Saturday, October 3, the Gow community gathered at The Powerhouse in Buffalo for a spectacular finale to our Centennial Celebration Weekend.

With Board of Trustees member Steve Higgins serving as the evening's emcee, the celebration began with welcome remarks from Interim Head of School Luke Salerno and a blessing from Rev. John Cole ’84. Guests enjoyed dinner and heartfelt reflections from faculty member Charlie Brown, former Director of Development Gayle Hutton, and former Trustee Bob Vail ’68. A special highlight of the evening was the presentation of the inaugural Raven Awards, presented by Director of Development Kim Ruppel and Centennial Chair Andrew Thompson ’85, recognizing ten outstanding honorees. The celebration concluded with a joyful rendition of "Happy Birthday" and cake in honor of Gow's 100th birthday.

Filled with laughter, cherished memories, and renewed friendships, the Gala was a wonderful tribute to Gow's remarkable past and the incredible community that continues to shape its future.

Here's to the next 100 years and beyond!

Thank you!

A heartfelt thank you to our Centennial Sponsors, Centennial Birthday Donors, Board of Trustees, Faculty, and Staff for helping make this historic celebration possible.

Most of all, thank you to our Alumni, Current Students, Current and Former Parents, Former Faculty and Staff, Former Board Members, and Friends of Gow who joined us to celebrate this monumental milestone.

You made Gow's Centennial unforgettable! Thank you!

