

# TWS Alum Newsletter

The first ever TWS alum newsletter is here!



## Alum Task Group

Dear Alums,

I'm thrilled to be sending out the first ever TWS Alum Newsletter! This initiative has come out of the work of the Alum Task Group, which was formed earlier this year. A small but mighty group made up of alums, former faculty, and an executive group, including an alum board member, the TWSF Director of Advancement, and the TWS Alum Coordinator (yours truly), have been meeting behind the scenes to help inform the future direction of the TWS Alum Program. Meet two of the executive task group members below.

Our mandate is simple: *to explore and identify meaningful ways for alums to reconnect with one another and with the life of the school.* The group was tasked with creating a mission statement, defining foundational goals, and making recommendations for future programming and resource needs.

To date we have crafted an inclusive mission statement, reviewed the historical aspects of the alum program, proposed possible future elements that would appeal to our diverse alum community, and examined communications needs. While we are nearing the end of our mandate, we feel a strong need to include more alum voices into the mix. What kind of events are important to you? How do you wish to engage with TWS?



**“The TWS Alum Program mission is to invite alum involvement in meaningful ways that promote joyful engagement, centre shared experience, and create enriching connections between alum and TWS communities.”**

## **Your Perspective**

Your perspective is one of the final input points that will help shape this work and the direction for TWS alum programming going forward. We would be grateful if you took a *very brief moment* to share how you, as an alum, would like to engage with TWS. Open until Dec. 8th.

Click [here](#) to share your thoughts.

The first 5 alums who include their contact info for an opportunity to see the Grade 12 Play in late January will receive a complimentary ticket! 😊



## Meet Nadia Brown

Nadia Brown (née Barghout) is a graduate of the TWS class of 1987. She brings her passion for weaving together art and science, words and compassion, to her roles as mother, physician, writer, and now to the TWS Board of Trustees. Having been raised within the Waldorf community, she has a deep appreciation and respect for the impact of Waldorf education on the student, the family, and the community at large. Nadia is honoured to support the Toronto Waldorf School community in her latest role.



## Meet Jennifer Deathe

Jennifer Deathe serves as the Director of Advancement for TWSF, bringing more than 15 years of experience working in Waldorf schools. With a family deeply connected to Waldorf education, her children, siblings, niece, and nephew have all been students in the movement. Jennifer earned her CFRE to help strengthen the sustainability of Waldorf schools through purposeful, strategic fundraising.

## TWS Campus

Have you been back lately? If not, you'll want to visit the greenhouse and farm garden, lovingly tended by Ms. Spinney, as well as the new henhouse that was built earlier this year by Marta Cohen and Anna Siniak, Class of 2025. Isn't he a handsome fellow?





## **Alum News**

### **Seeking Alum Contributions**

This newsletter is for you! We invite your contributions on any topic. Please share your latest news and celebrations with us! We would love to post news about marriages, births, major milestones, awards, new jobs, amazing trips or experiences, and anything else you'd like to share with our alum community.

We also invite authors, translators, artists, musicians, creators, entrepreneurs, and scholars to share works, publications, and

links to your websites and socials. We can't wait to see what's you've been up to. The next edition will come in the spring, so please send in your news items by April 30. Email me at [s.anderson@torontowaldorfschool.com](mailto:s.anderson@torontowaldorfschool.com) to share and don't forget to include a great pic!



## **Celebrating Women in Science**

Class of 2025 graduate Naomi Lampkin-Zienius is a first year student at the University of Toronto, studying Forensic Science as part of a joint major with either Biology or Chemistry. Naomi's academic excellence landed her several scholarships, including a \$3000 entrance scholarship, the Helga & Frank Peroutka Scholarship worth \$5000, and a \$1000 bursary from the St.

Vincent and Grenadines Association of Toronto. Her current career goal is to serve justice as a forensic scientist and crime scene investigator, or forensic pathologist.



## **It's Another Boy!**

Congratulations to proud papa and TWS High School Teacher, Alexander Scalzi, Class of 2009, on the birth of his second child, Nebiyu Alessandro Scalzi, who was born on Nov. 2 at a healthy 8 lbs 12 oz! Mama Tsedey is doing well and big brother, Ruphael, has been a little angel. We can't wait to meet baby Nebiyu!



## **Oh, to Go Back to Kindergarten!**

TWS Class of 2013 alum Paige Dunk-Green has done just that - she is a Kindergarten teacher at Waldorf Academy! Paige obtained her B.A. in Early Childhood Studies from TMU and is currently taking Foundations in Anthroposophy at the RSCC. Paige is currently teacher to the child of another TWS alum, Julian Troiano, who was in Paige's brother Max's class back in the day! Isn't that just lovely?



## Governor General's Literary Award

Hearty congratulations to translator Jessica Moore, Class of 1996, for her poetic and sensitive translation of Joséphine Bacon's book *Uiesh / Somewhere*. "This is translation at its highest calling—an opening for a wider audience to discover a poet's life and work." - Peer assessment committee: Bilal Hashmi and Dimitri Nasrallah. You can find more of Jessica's work online at <http://www.jessicamoore.ca/>.



## Canadian Jewish Literary Award

A picture is worth a thousand words, as the saying goes. Congratulations to artist Alice Priestley, Class of 1980, for her evocative work in this award winning children's book, *The Light Keeper* by Sheila Baslaw & Karen Levine. "The atmospheric illustrations rendered in sepia and earth tones by Toronto artist Alice Priestley enrich a tale that touches the heart as it illuminates a chapter of our collective past." - Canadian Jewish Literary Awards. Discover more of Alice's work online at <https://alicepriestley.com/>.

## Upcoming Events

**Giving Tuesday - Dec 2nd**



**TWSF**



**Will you help us write  
the next chapter?**

GIVINGTUESDAY

December 2, 2025

Donate to the Toronto Waldorf School Foundation

**Children's Winter Fair - Sat Dec 6th**

**Saturday December 6th, 2025**

**10:00am-1:00pm**

Activities:

- ❖ The Enchanted Forest
- ❖ Puppet Show: The Tomten and the Fox  
(recommended for age 3 and above)
- ❖ Children's Market
- ❖ Elves' Workshop
- ❖ Sing-a-long
- ❖ Silent Auction and Raffle **TWSF**
- ❖ Food and Drinks by Grade 7 students

**Advanced Ticket sales:**

When: **November 24th**

**Monday - Friday** 8:30am - 9:30am

Where: **School Lobby**

And at **Paper Pipit, November 24th to  
December 5th.**

**TWSF**

Toronto Waldorf School  
A deeper perspective

## Winter Fair

*A magical experience for the young  
children of our community*



*Families and friends are welcome*

Bring the little ones in your life to experience the magic and wonder of the winter fair and take a walk down memory lane. Visit the Enchanted Forest, watch a puppet show, make something in the Elves' Workshop, and raise your voice in song with Elisabeth Chomko. Come early! Tickets will be on sale in the lobby at drop-off and pick up times as of Nov. 24.

## Candle Dipping - Wed Dec 17th



Wednesday, December 17th , **10:15 - 10:45am**

A **very special opportunity** for alums to make a candle will be offered by the parents hosting this year's candle dipping. Come dip into a cherished memory and breathe in that wonderful smell of beeswax! Space is limited to 25 participants in this half-hour window, as all the grades will each have their turn on this day. The parents are excited to welcome you! Email me at [s.anderson@torontowaldorfschool.com](mailto:s.anderson@torontowaldorfschool.com) to reserve your spot!

Stop by the [Paper Pipit](#) shop and pick up a few Waldorf gifts while you're here. You will find toys, yarns, wool clothing, books, TWS swag, and gorgeous beeswax candles! Located in the Bathurst St. parking lot.

**Gr. 12 Play - Fri & Sat, Jan 23rd & 24th**



### **The Government Inspector - Fri & Sat, Jan 23rd & 24th, 7:30pm**

You know you'll be in for a great show with the Gr. 12 Play! Tickets go on sale in the lobby starting in January, but you can always reach out to [reception@torontowaldorfschool.com](mailto:reception@torontowaldorfschool.com) to put in a reservation, and bring cash at the door. You could also catch the dress rehearsal for free, and we would be happy to accept a donation to the Drama Department. Mark your calendars!

### **March Mentoring - Mar 25th**



**Wednesday, March 25th, 7:30 - 8:30pm on Zoom**

An opportunity to mentor Waldorf high school students who are graduating this year is coming up in March. AWSNA hosts this

annual event for all North American Waldorf high school seniors where a panel of alums, either currently attending or recently graduated from college or university, or taking a gap year, are invited to share their experience, wisdom, and advice to help support the transition to post-secondary life. If you would like to be a panelist, reach out to [alumrelations@awsna.org](mailto:alumrelations@awsna.org).

# AWSNA Alum News

## Invitation to Join



Check out the one and only networking platform for Waldorf alums!

- Find members from your Class Year, Waldorf alums living in your city and all over the world.
- Be a **mentor** or find a mentor.
- List your company in the **Business Directory** and reach an audience of over 3700 members.
- View the **Grad Gallery**, featuring a collection of photos of the Class of 2025 from all over North America.
- Explore the **Gap Year Gallery**, showcasing Waldorf alum owned and Waldorf-inspired gap year opportunities.
- Shop the **Holiday Gift Guide** to find Waldorf alum-owned products and services created by artists, authors, entrepreneurs, and more.

Visit <https://alums.waldorfeducation.org> to join.

## Attention Alum Entrepreneurs!



# HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Calling alum authors, artists, creators, crafters, and entrepreneurs! Sell your wares in the Holiday Gift Guide!

Do you have a product or service that would make a great holiday gift? You're invited to sell your wares in the [Holiday Gift Guide](#), a special feature of the Waldorf Alum Connect platform. The North American Waldorf community is ready to support you!

Submit your listing [here](#).

## Calling Alum Visual Artists!

# SCHOOL RENEWAL

AWSNA's School Renewal magazine is looking for article submissions on topics related to the importance of visual arts, including **articles or spotlights that highlight alum visual artists of all kinds**: painters, sculptors, graffiti or installation artists, animators, cinematographers, art directors, production, set, or lighting designers, and more!

Articles must be submitted via [this link](#) and should be **no longer than 1200 words**, in **Microsoft Word, double spaced, 12pt font, Times New Roman**. Spotlights can be much shorter. Submissions are **due by Dec. 2, 2025**.

All submissions must also include the suggested article title, the author's name(s) and AWSNA membership affiliation (i.e. TWS) , a high resolution author headshot, a roughly 2-3 sentence bio, and high resolution images to accompany your article. You can reach out to Beverly Amico at [bamico@awsna.org](mailto:bamico@awsna.org) if you have any questions.

If you are interested in interviewing a fellow alum and writing up the article, please also reach out to Beverly! Published articles receive from \$150-\$500 depending on placement and length.

## **What's Important to You?**

What kind of TWS and alum events are important to you? How do you wish to engage with the school community?

Tell us [what's important to you](#) by Dec. 8th.

Be one of the first 5 to respond and you will receive a complimentary ticket to the Grade 12 Play in late January! 😊