

“Yearbooks tell the story of classmates as they complete the magical journey of high school and prepare for the transition to adulthood. We hope this gift will support generations of Seattle Prep students as they capture the stories and memories of this exceptional school. We know what it means to have teachers make a profound impact on our lives, as you and others have done for our girls, and our family will be forever grateful.”

-Letter from Jen and Len Jordan to Seattle Prep yearbook advisor Michael Danielson



Jordan Family at the dedication of the Cynthia Karlburg Jordan Yearbook Room.

# Memory Keepers

This story was originally written for the spring *Panther Tracks* in gratitude for an endowment, established in 2018, by Jen and Len Jordan. The Cynthia Karlburg Jordan Endowment for Yearbook Support celebrates three generations of women (Cynthia, Jen, Tessa '14, Emily '17, and Grace '19) and one common high school experience.

Tragically, Jen passed away in May 2020. With the family's blessing, Prep is honored to share this story now. In a year when recording memories is more significant than ever, the spirits of Jen and Cynthia live on in the young people who follow in their footsteps on yearbook staff. The Jordan family plans to host a memorial service for Jen when health guidelines allow.

## WANTED

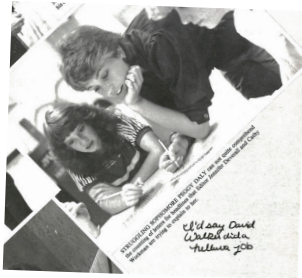
*Memory keeper. A tireless leader and project manager willing to make daily sacrifices. Staff is limited to two years of experience. Must be able to motivate and mentor peers, hold others accountable, re-produce weeks of work on a moment's notice and make difficult decisions. Impeccable design, writing, editing and collaboration skills are essential. Ability to predict the future is helpful.*

**Note:** In 2020 and 2021, expect frequent disruptions with the team and staff relocation to a virtual environment. Individual and large group photos will still be required while following public health recommendations for social distancing.

**Deliverable:** This one-year commitment produces a permanent, printed archive documenting the high school experience. Deadlines and subject matter are pre-determined and non-negotiable. Content must be creative, engaging, well-rounded, error-free and should not duplicate earlier productions.

**Time Commitment:** Role requires long hours, late nights, and numerous evenings and weekends.

**Compensation:** This is an unpaid position. The reward is a job well done, knowing the work captures the year in a way people will remember for the rest of their lives. Pizza is occasionally provided.



## MEET THE EDITORS

Three generations of the Jordan Family served as yearbook editors, responsible for creating this cherished tome of memories for their classmates.

### Cynthia Karlburg Jordan

**Location:** Lewiston, ID

**Publication:** 1952

Bengal "Circus"

**Historical Snapshot:**

Prime Minister of

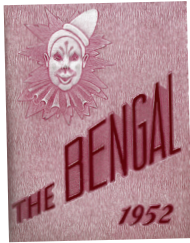
Iran Mohammad

Mossadegh named TIME Magazine's 1951 Person of the Year.

**Skills:** Quiet, hard-working, people-centered and community-minded. Loved music, the arts and public policy with almost equal passion. Dedicated to service, Cynthia later deployed these traits as a mother, music teacher and civic employee as her family moved all over the world.

**Made her Mark:** Inspiring future editors to leave their legacy through Prep's first journalism endowment.

**Reflection:** "Yearbook editor was a perfect project for my Mom; she was selfless and wanted to shine the spotlight on others. She made everyone better and they felt loved in the process." -Len Jordan



with positivity. Inclusive and values-driven people manager.

**Made her Mark:** Adding color to Capital High School's previously black-and-white publication. First woman business manager of Oregon State's yearbook.

**Reflection:** "Being the yearbook editor gave me some recognition at school. That honor allowed me to change direction. I received a college scholarship to Oregon State. It opened my mind to leaving Boise and trying something new."

### Tessa Jordan '14

**Location:** Seattle, WA

**Publication:** 2014

Echo "Dimensions"

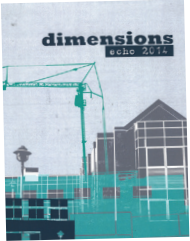
**Historical Snapshot:**

Pope Francis named TIME Magazine's 2013 Person of the Year.

**Skills:** Creative. Willing to take the bull by the horns. Teaches people how to prioritize. Good leadership and project management skills.

**Made her Mark:** Concerted focus on consistency, creating style guides and design criteria check lists for each page.

**Reflection:** "Mr. Danielson encouraged us to think of the yearbook as historical. It is not just a fun look back in June. In five or ten years, will we have told the whole story? Will everyone feel represented? We had to tell our legacy for future years and try to bring something new to the table."



### Emily Jordan '17

**Location:** Seattle, WA

**Publication:** 2017 Echo "Lasting Impressions"

**Historical Snapshot:** President Donald

Trump named TIME Magazine's 2016

Person of the Year.

**Skills:** Super organized.

Loves logic and design.

Things that line up make her happy. Strong communication skills.

**Made her Mark:**

Documenting Seattle

Prep's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in a photographic timeline and leading a five-woman editorial team (Prep's largest).

**Reflection:** "A yearbook captures who people are at the moment. It records a version of ourselves that we may not see."

Everyone only gets four yearbooks, but Prep has hundreds. Our history is part of a bigger story."

### Grace Jordan '19

**Location:** Seattle, WA

**Publication:**

2019 Echo "Untold"

**Historical Snapshot:**

The Guardians and the War on Truth

(representing journalists) named TIME Magazine's 2018 Person of the Year.

**Skills:** Intelligent, sincere, creative, and committed. Comfortable in many different groups. Patient and assertive leader. An energizer bunny who catalyzes people to take risks and stretch themselves.

**Made her Mark:** Including one candid of every student and featuring people and groups who were not usually highlighted.

**Reflection:** "Working in a group is not about counting time, it is about getting things done, together." ☀️

