



Dear Putney Alumni and Friends,

Salamanders are moving toward their vernal pools, peepers are peeping, seeds have been planted, and the emergence of spring offers the opportunity for greater community connection.

Libby Mills, Long-time Faculty

Elizabeth "Libby" Mills P'71,'72, (1928-2023)

Libby was a beloved fiber artist and teacher at Putney for 30 years. She started the school's thriving fiber arts program in the 1960s, and taught and inspired generations of Putney students. "With her decades at Putney there are thousands of alumni who benefitted from their time with Libby. She was generous and kind and always willing to listen with an open heart" said Carlotta Brelsford Cuerdon '80.



A Celebration of Life service was held on March 18 at The Putney School. If you are moved to honor Libby, and the remarkable Fiber Arts Program she founded, now under Melissa Johnson's '77 care, the [Libby Mills Fiber Arts Fund](#) exists as a way to do so.

[Read Libby's obituary here](#)

Community Building and Participation!



It is a joy to be able to welcome alumni back to campus, and welcome families in more meaningful ways than the quick drop-offs of our past pandemic protocols. We hope to welcome our international 12th-grade families to campus for commencement, many of whom have never had the chance to visit the hill. Further strengthening our community is essential as we emerge from the pandemic. If you haven't yet, please join [The Putney School LinkedIn Network](#).

Family-to-Family

Last summer, a group of seasoned Putney parents helped inaugurate what was then the Parent-to-Parent Initiative, (now the Family-to-Family Program). This

initiative was born out of the desire to ensure parents, guardians, grandparents, and other family members feel warmly welcomed and have their own opportunity to build a sense of connection to the Putney community beyond their children's experience. We are grateful to the parents who helped launch this initiative, making themselves available to serve as mentors to new Putney families. If you'd like to ensure grandparents receive Putney news, please share their contact information with us [here](#).

The Joy of Giving

We seek to strengthen the culture of giving at Putney. Gifts, donations of (m)any kinds, and volunteer hours are all ways of giving that have a profoundly positive impact on Putney and its ability to thrive and evolve. To those who invest in Putney, thank you for your support, which ensures our students are nurtured and inspired as they grow into the future changemakers and caretakers of the world.

To those who haven't yet joined us, we invite you to participate—at any level—as [a volunteer](#), an [Annual Fund supporter](#), and/or a campaign donor. Your participation is a powerful and meaningful message of belief in Putney. Thank you for stepping up!

Seeking Class Agents and Class Secretaries

If you are interested in stepping up for Putney in this way, we'd be delighted and grateful. Agents contact [Carlotta Cuerdon](#); Secretaries contact [Alison Frye](#).

ArtLords at Putney: Exhibit and Collaboration



Putney students are collaborating on murals with the ArtLords, a grassroots art movement that began in Afghanistan in 2014. The work of the ArtLords will also be on display in the Currier Center Gallery from March 20 - May 13.

Negina, a local Afghan refugee and member of the collective, spoke to Putney students about her country, its customs and beauty, and the work of the ArtLords, who painted over 2,000 murals on so-called "blast walls" that were erected to keep affluent neighborhoods safe from explosives (these murals have all been whitewashed by the Taliban). After assembly, Negina and Putney students immediately began brainstorming ideas for what to create together, and the murals are now underway.



[Learn more about ArtLords](#)

Campaign Update



Many thanks to everyone who has generously participated in helping to Sing Putney *Forward* as the campaign for Putney's future continues. We have raised just over 67% of the \$35 million overall campaign goal, and we still have a distance to go. If you haven't yet joined us, please consider reaching out to [Kalya Yannatos](#) or 802-387-6261 to discuss how you may wish to have an impact. For more information about what this campaign includes, [click here](#).

Students and faculty families will be moving into the new dorms in November. If recognizing that losing Old Boys (a gas-guzzler of a building) and moving closer to Putney's net-zero aspirations inspires you, consider a gift to help ensure the dorms are fully funded before they are inhabited.

The Annual Fund remains foundational to the campaign, and ensures Putney's ability to thrive on an annual basis. In case you missed it, here's [the link](#) to the recently released "Showing Up" video. Thank you for showing up with a contribution to the Annual Fund. Your participation matters!

Parents—don't forget your gift will be doubled thanks to a generous challenge from four families.

Make a gift



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The Putney School

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