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# Alumni and Friends Newsletter June 2025 (Reunion edition!)



*Photo: The Sun Finally Came Out at Reunion*

Dear Putney Alumni and Friends,

Recently, at reunion, a former faculty member noted how much the trees have grown. It felt like a metaphor for so much of what we do. While the roots dig deeper into the ground and the trees grow stronger and taller, we also need to tend and care for things that seem solid and permanent, and not take them for granted.

As we close the books on our school year, the tending to what matters—the teaching of students and the building of community—remains as important as ever. We celebrate our faculty and their commitment to their work. And we thank you, the larger Putney family, for the many ways you stay in touch as well.

We look ahead to next year with a bit of wonder and excitement as Putney prepares to celebrate its 90th anniversary. Many events are in the works (save the date: Harvest Festival is Sunday, October 12) and we hope to see many of you throughout the year.

Best wishes,  
Alison

Alison Frye  
Alumni Relations Manager

# Putney Reunion Weekend



What fun we had at Reunion weekend 2025! Cheers to all of the alumni who attended, and special thanks for your indefatigable good spirits during a damp (but never dreary) weekend.

We welcome any feedback you have to share about the weekend. [Send us an email](#) if you have ideas for what we can do better or want to share things that worked especially well.

[Reunion photos are ready and can be found here.](#)

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## Kerry Kennedy '77 Delivers Putney Graduation Speech

Kerry Kennedy '77, president of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, has worked for decades to protect equal rights and human rights. Kerry delivered a moving, poignant graduation speech on June 1, 2025. Hear her talk about how the lessons of Elm Lea Farm endure and remain relevant even as one tackles some of the world's most complicated, important problems.

[Watch on YouTube.](#)



Kerry Kennedy '77 following her speech at Putney's graduation. Photo credit Justin Altman Photography.

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## Anne Sarcka '47 Art Exhibition

Anne Sarcka '47's exhibition, "Life Reflections: Adventures in Painting" has been on display in the Vermont Supreme Court Gallery since April, and runs through June 27. In a recent interview with *Seven Days Vermont*, Anne noted that her study of art started at the age of 77, in 2007. Eighteen years later, at the age of 95, Anne continues to create and find inspiration in the Vermont natural landscape around her.

If you're in the Montpelier area, we encourage you to visit the exhibition. You can read the *Seven Days Vermont* article [here](#).



*Mountain Melodies by Anne Sarcka '47*

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## Putney Post Alumni Notes Deadline

Send your notes for the Putney Post by August 15, 2025. Email [alumni@putneyschool.org](mailto:alumni@putneyschool.org), and as always, we welcome pictures of your latest life adventures.

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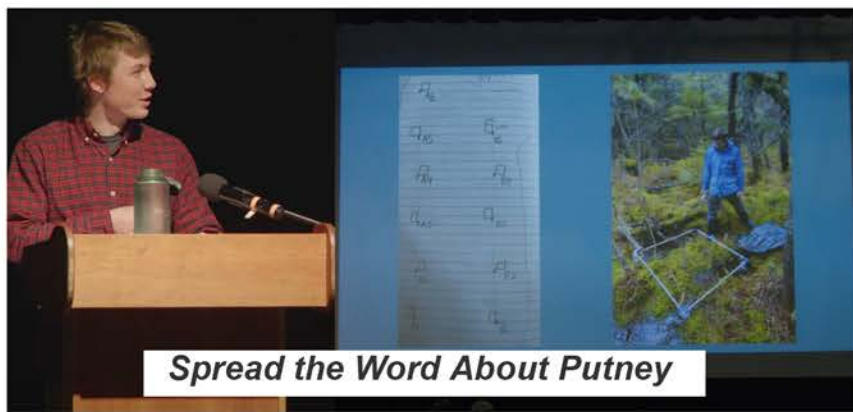
## Ways to Support Putney



### ***Libby Mills Fund for Fiber Arts Raffle***

For his final Project Week, Max Randall '25 wove a blanket honoring Libby Mills, and created a raffle to raise money for the Libby Mills Fiber Arts Fund. Tickets are \$10 each. The auction closes June 21. Says Max, "The blanket is all wool, with shades of red, orange, gray, and a striking white. Most of the wool is from our sheep ... and the white wool is from Libby's sheep, which was gifted to me by Cap Sease '65."

[Get your raffle tickets here.](#)



*"Here you can see me puzzling over mosses, with the field guide open, in the rain, with the quadrat at point B5," says Abe Newton*

"I couldn't help but wonder what else there was to know." Abe Newton '25 opens his senior exhibition presentation with this curiosity that drove his months-long study of a nearby upland sphagnum basin swamp. ([watch Abe's presentation](#))

Do you know young people who wonder what else there is to know? Who want more agency over their education, and are driven to discover ties between art and science, between math and machines? Our alumni and parents are the best publicity group the school could ask for, and we encourage you to talk about Putney. Share your stories, speak to the impact of a Putney education, and help send us the next generation of Putney students.

You can share a [recent Town & Country magazine article](#) about progressive education that features Putney (scroll scroll scroll past the paywall notice), [videos of this year's senior exhibitions](#), or the wealth of information available on the school's [website](#).

Abe discovered, in his research, what he believes is the highest-elevation black gum tree in the state of Vermont.



### ***The Annual Fund***

Putney's Annual Fund is surging to its June 30 finish line, with giving challenges having helped to motivate donors throughout our fiscal year. We are hoping to reach 75% participation from current parents, and to also exceed (with flying colors) our \$1.25 million Annual Fund goal. Your support matters. If you would like to be a part of our success, you can donate until midnight on June 30. Thank you to everyone who shows up for Putney this way.

[Donate today.](#)

# Online Store Launched



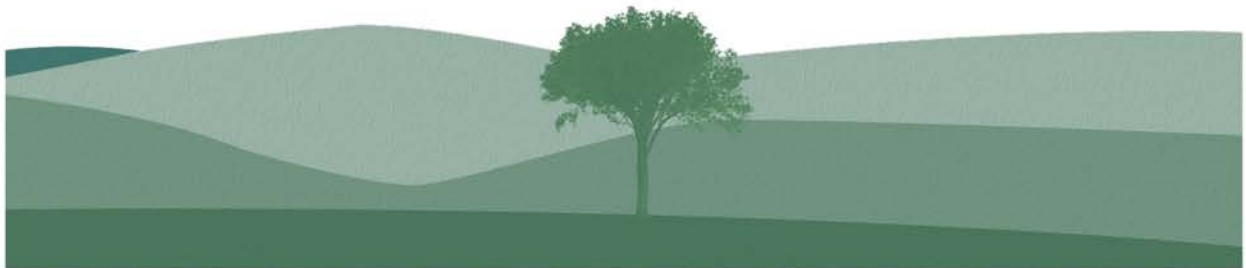
Huge shoutout to Lindsay Richard, school store manager, for creating and launching an online store for Putney gear. You can buy Elm Lea Farm and The Putney School gear, tshirts, sweatshirts, and more. Wear your Putney gear with the pride that comes from early mornings, barn chores, and dish crew.

[Online store link](#)



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The Putney School

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