



## From the Development Office

I hope this latest newsletter finds you and your family well.

As we approach the end of another year, we say goodbye to Anne Hastings as she retires, and we welcome Andrew Watt who takes over the reins as our new School Principal in January. We wish Anne all the best for the next phase of her life as she and her husband John take the opportunity to travel the world even more than they have done previously, with time now to experience life beyond School!

We welcome the Class of 2017 as our youngest members of Emanuel School Alumni (ESA). We hope you stay in touch, just as we hope all our alumni do, and let us know what you are up to. Don't forget that even though you are no longer students here, there are so many ways for our alumni to help at School – homework club, Makerspace, debating, sport coaching, mentoring, careers advice and the list goes on. We would love to see you back here from time to time if you are able, but if not, we hope you remember your alma mater, stay in touch and come to your reunions!

If you did not receive the last newsletter which went out in early July, you can see it and all past alumni newsletters at: [www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/Gesher](http://www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/Gesher)

I hope you enjoy reading through the next 12 pages, jam-packed with alumni news. We look forward to having you continue to be part of the life of our amazing School.

If you haven't been back to the School for a while and would like a tour around the campus and/or have news to share, please let me know: [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu)

We would love to hear what you have been doing since leaving School, so please get in touch! Pages 8-10 feature just a few of our alumni and their journeys post-school.

We held the 2017 Senior Chamber Choir and Alumni Choir Concert on Sunday 27 August, and now hope to make this an annual event. If you would like to be part of next year's event, please let us know.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday break and look forward to an exciting 2018, as we celebrate 35 years since Emanuel School was established.

**Sonia Newell, Development Officer**



Alumni members of choral event

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# From the Principal's Desk



Dear Alumni of Emanuel School,

I'm very pleased to be able to welcome a new set of past students to the ever-expanding Emanuel alumni – the class of 2017. They have recently completed their last HSC examinations and are eagerly awaiting their results, due on 14 December. Many of them will head off overseas for a gap year next year, with the vast majority to undertake an extended

program in Israel. Some will take half the year to work and earn before setting out on their great travel adventure.

For the past 13 – 14 years each student has been on their learning journey, one they will continue all their lives. There has been so much to learn and their journey so far has been punctuated by growth, challenges and the inevitable disappointments. Many of our class of 2017 were together for a long time. For 3 of them this journey started 14 years ago in Pre-school in 2004. Fifteen then joined them in Kindergarten 13 years ago. We are very proud of our Year 12 students and the people they've become. They have developed a strong connection to each other and the School, and are keen to make a difference in the world beyond school.

Earlier this year we instigated our extensive survey to parents on our many programs. We had over half our families respond and, as usual, have been analysing the results to see where we can improve

what we do. In addition, we always survey Year 12 students as they leave the School, to get their views on their learning journeys here. The data are very positive, showing strong support and appreciation for the School, while also identifying for us some areas on which to work. The overall level of satisfaction is a pleasing 84%.

Some of the comments from the survey of the class of 2017 include:

"I think the inextricable connection to Emanuel that is felt by Emanuel alumni differentiates them from those of other schools."

"Emanuel is like its own community and family rather than just a school."

"It embraces difference and diversity, encourages the true self, and tailors to individual needs."

Many of you would know that I am retiring at the end of this year. Next year for me will be a 'gap' year of travel, just like so many of the class of 2017, and after that maybe a new challenge. I have been so privileged to spend time with many of you as you progressed through our School and I would like to wish you all the best for your fulfilling life journey. It is our hope that you will meet and work through the hurdles along your way with determination, persistence and resilience. Each of you has amazing potential within yourself to meet and conquer the challenges thrown in your way. Remember, the Emanuel way is to stand up and make a difference!

Best wishes

**Anne Hastings, Principal**



*Connecting the Emanuel School Community*

2017 has been another great year for connecting our wonderful Emanuel Community, and we thank you, our past students, for all the things so many of you have done to help our amazing School. For those of you who participated in E-Zone, you have allowed our senior students the opportunity to hear about your journey post-School and to get an understanding of what the world has on offer career-wise. Our graduates are an integral part of Emanuel School and we look forward to seeing many more graduates coming back. Whether it is to talk to our students or coach them in sport, debating or other activities, and/or enrolling your own children as students of the School, we truly welcome you all and appreciate your efforts to stay connected. It was so good to hear from Sonia Newell, our Development Officer, about the fabulous turn-out at the recent reunions. I hope you all have a well-deserved break over the New Year holiday period and we look forward to your continued involvement and connection with Emanuel School next year and beyond.

**Daniel Knoll, Board member and Chair, Gesher Committee**

## Emanuel on Social Media



### LinkedIn

As we update our Emanuel School LinkedIn page, we encourage you to connect with us. Please add Emanuel School to your education experience and follow us.  
[www.linkedin.com/company/emanuel-school](http://www.linkedin.com/company/emanuel-school)



### Alumni Facebook Page

This page was created to foster a sense of community among our former students and to keep the ruach and spirit of the School alive long after your days at School have passed. We now have over 700 members. Please join if you are not a member as yet, and stay in touch. Check it out and feel free to post on this page if you want to connect with other alumni and/or just let us know what you are up to. This page is yours and we would love to hear from you. Here is the link to join:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/emanuel.oldscholars/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/emanuel.oldscholars/)

### Emanuel Shuk

This is the place to swap, sell, buy and advertise pre-loved and new items, holiday homes and cars... in fact anything that is of value (actual or perceived) can be advertised here. If you have a business, you are welcome to tell us what you do, but please make it interesting and a special offer for the Emanuel community is always a bonus! There are rules to posting – please check out the pinned post for these. Here is the link to join:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/Emanuelshuk/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/Emanuelshuk/)

# Alumni visitors in Terms 3 and 4



Elona and Talia with Year 1 students

**Elona Sofer** ('13) spent 4 weeks here at the start of Term 4 for her practicum as part of her Primary Teaching degree at Sydney University. Her classroom supervisor during this prac was Year 1 teacher **Talia Hynek**, herself an Emanuel Alumna! This is the first time we have had an alum supervising an alum – how very special was this!



Alex with Masada students

**Alex Symonds** ('99) came back to School recently for the Inter-Jewish School Debating Day, as supervisor of students from Masada College, where he is now an HSIE teacher.



Mia Charlupski

**Mia Charlupski** ('12) has done a few days recently as a casual teacher in Primary School.



Leigh Golombick at E-Zone

## E-ZONE 2017

On 14 August, 19 Emanuel alumni came together here at School for our annual E-Zone careers event for our Years 11 and 12 students. They were each asked to provide a short bio to help the students pre-select two of four Q&A-style sessions, based on a variety of careers, including STEM, business/finance, arts/humanities/law and media/health/TV.

Here now is a list of the presenters, along with their bio...

### STEM:



**Ari Shammay** ('02), Waste Water Engineer – I love solving engineering problems and reducing the impact we have on the environment. My work and studies have centred around ensuring water can be reused for different purposes, treated to the right level, with minimal negative impacts on its users. I love my job because I get to solve new and exciting engineering problems on a daily basis.



**Sonia Isaacs** ('11), PhD Science – I am a PhD student at the Virology Research Laboratory at Prince of Wales Hospital, looking at which viruses might cause childhood diabetes. I enjoy doing lab work, teaching at the university and going to conferences to present my research. I also enjoy singing and am in two choirs at UNSW and have volunteered with St John Ambulance doing first aid for the last 4 years. I always make sure I have something that I enjoy aside from work.



**Carla Frankel** ('10), Environmental Engineer – I'm currently working as an Environmental Engineer in the Water and Environment Team at an engineering consulting firm. I graduated at the end of last year from the UNSW after studying a combined degree of Environmental Engineering and Science (majoring in Ecology). In the past few months I have been working on a range of projects that deal with flooding and coastal management. It's a great job that combines my passion for the environment and appreciation of STEM. I'm also involved with the organisation Engineers Without Borders which has shown me how to effectively create social change through engineering.



**Cody Aaron** ('05), Engineer and Business Consultant – Following high school, I completed a Petroleum Engineering degree, and moved to Western Australia to work for Woodside Energy. While over there, my job was to work out how to get the most oil and gas out of the ground. This role gave me several opportunities to work on platforms and large production facilities over 100km off the coast of Australia. I left Woodside in 2015 to do a Masters of Business Administration, and I now work as a strategy consultant where I get to advise the leaders of Australia's biggest companies on their corporate strategies.



**Jerome Bowman** ('05), UX (User Experience) Designer – I've had 2 online startups which focused on solving customer problems. Now I do this for other businesses. I'm a UX (user experience) Designer. I make digital products (like websites and apps) easier and more enjoyable for everyday people to use.

### Arts/Humanities/Law/Education/Sociology-Psychology:



**Dr Eve Guerry** ('98), Archaeologist – I am an archaeologist with expertise in Ancient Egypt, Ancient Israel and the Near East. I lecture in Egyptian archaeology at Macquarie University, participate in archaeological excavations and I am the Roth Fellow for Ancient Israel community outreach. I love ancient languages and delving into how people from ancient cultures understood their world and the place of humankind within it.





**Michele Levine** ('01), Lawyer – I am a financial services professional with over 9 years' experience across legal, governance and risk and compliance.



**Leo Kohn** ('10), Lawyer – In 2010 I graduated from Emanuel. In 2013 I started studying law at UNSW, and since then have had a range of amazing opportunities through these studies. These have included volunteering at a community legal centre in Kings Cross, working for a boutique law firm, working at a corporate firm in Shanghai and most recently working at a corporate firm in Sydney. I have also had the opportunity to study both in Zurich and San Francisco.



**Dr Diana Borinski** ('96), Bachelor and PhD in Psychology/Sociology – I completed the HSC in 1996 with a TER (ATAR) 99.9. I started a combined degree of Law and Arts at UNSW but dropped the Law after 2 years. I completed my Arts Degree and subsequently Honours and PhD in Sociology with a University Medal. I have been working in the non-profit sector for 15 years in a variety of Federally-funded family relationships programs including family dispute resolution, men's behaviour change program, and couple and parent education. I am currently the Manager of the Marriage and Relationship Education program with CatholicCare Sydney. I also do group and individual couple psychoeducation.

#### Business/Finance/Real Estate/Postgraduate Law:



**Craig Fine** ('14), Real Estate – Craig has negotiated with Australia's most high net-worth individuals and achieved record prices with the highest level of confidentiality, discretion and protection of his clients. The knowledge and skills he has learnt in the financial industry, combined with his property knowledge, a flair for negotiation, great people skills and a passion for new opportunities, enable Craig to ensure his clients are provided with an incredibly professional real estate experience every time.



**Darren Fine** ('14), Real Estate – Driven by a desire to turn potential into results, I work alongside the Goldman brothers at Sydney Sotheby's International Realty, and focus on selling luxury property across Sydney's prestigious Eastern Suburbs. My work ethic, previous banking experience, communication skills and approach to business deliver optimum value for my clients.



**Shaun Katz** ('10), Analyst and Asset Management – I graduated from Emanuel in 2010 and started a Bachelor of Commerce degree at UNSW in 2012 after a gap year in 2011. I finished my Commerce degree in 2014 and started Law in 2015 also at UNSW. I currently work at Aberdeen Asset Management in a Risk and Compliance role and am a sessional tutor at the UNSW Business School.



**Justin Doobov** ('90), Finance – Washing cars, being a bouncer at nightclubs, and building gas cooking equipment gave me the grounding and skills to become the #1 Mortgage Broker in Australia. Last year I wrote over \$680,000,000 of business. I built Intelligent Finance by processing loans, the complete opposite way to how everyone else in the industry was doing it.



**Leigh Golombick** ('01), Banking and Corporate Advisory – After school I studied a B. Commerce at UNSW and am a Chartered Accountant. I have lived and worked in Sydney, New York and Canada, working for Ernst & Young, Citibank and KPMG. Most recently I moved into Mergers and Acquisitions as a Corporate Advisor working at a boutique M&A house called Oasis M&A. I absolutely love the work I do as no day goes by when I don't learn something fascinating and new.



**Marc Jocum** ('10), Business – Working in the financial services industry has given me an insight into just how important investing your money is, along with being engaged with your superannuation so that you can retire well. I love helping clients and advisers achieve their long-term investment objectives and getting exposure to fund managers and investment gurus is a bonus.

#### Music/TV/Media/Health/Photographer/Artist:



**Alan Harca** ('03), Film Director – I am a multi-disciplinary Director, with a background in editing, producing and sound. I was born in Sydney but have recently moved back from living in New York City for 4 years. After completing film production studies I furthered my passion for sound and picture editing by working at various post-production companies. This led to picture editing on independent feature films, documentaries, commercials and music videos.



**Guy Fenton** ('09), Media/TV/Health – Combining my background as a biological research scientist, experience in teaching, passion for health and interest in natural history, my work in media and communication aims to educate and inform across science, health, nature and travel.



**Sam Weiss** ('12), Composer and Musician – Sam Weiss is a young, energetic, passionate and highly professional film composer and musician, with extensive performance, compositional, directorial and managerial experience well beyond his years. Sam graduated from Emanuel in 2012 and has since scored numerous films, shorts and commercial projects, at the same time as completing his Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Commerce at UNSW. He absolutely loves what he does and can offer advice to anyone seeking to balance university studies with building a successful self-managed career.



## E-ZONE 2017 (continued)



Rachel Buch ('11), budding artist – Rachel Buch graduated from the National Art School in 2014. Since then she has developed projects as artist and curator for public spaces such as the Bondi Pavilion, Glebe Markets and Gaffa, all of which focus on experience as a methodology of appreciating art.

If you would like to be part of our 2018 E-Zone event, to be held on 23 May, please get in touch.



E-Zone STEM presenters



Class of 1993



Class of 1998



Class of 2003



Class of 2008



Class of 2013

## Is 2018 the year for your School Reunion?

Yes it is if you finished Year 12 in 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 or 2013.

We are looking for one or two volunteers from each of these year groups to help get your reunion organised. Please let me know if you would like to help: [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)



# School Reunions

I hope you managed to get to your reunion this year. If not, there will be another one in five years' time, so start planning!

The **Class of 1992** held their 25-year reunion on Wednesday 1 November at The Golden Sheaf in Double Bay. Thank you to **Jonathon Feller** for getting in touch with everyone and organising this event. Some who attended hadn't seen each other for 25 years, but everyone had a great night, reminiscing about their school-days and talking about what they've been up to since then! By the end of the evening, friendships were re-established and the idea of catching up more often was certainly a common thread of their conversations!

The **Class of 1997** celebrated part 1 of their 20-year reunion on 2 December. Thank you to **Nicole Vasin Unger** for her help in getting this event organised. Part 2 of this reunion will be held in January, so please check the Facebook page for further details.

Thank you to **Aiden Levy** and **Gena Been (Rosenberg)** for organising the **Class of 2002** 15-year reunion at the Royal Oak Hotel, Double Bay on Sunday 10 December. A copy of their Year 12 graduation yearbook generated much laughter and discussion about their school days.

**Polina Madorsky** and **Jonathan Salgo** organised the **Class of 2007** ten year reunion held on November 5 at The Local Taphouse, Darlinghurst. It was wonderful to see so many of their year-group there.

Thank you to **Mia Charlupski** from the **Class of 2012** for her help to get their five-year reunion organised on Sunday 19 November at The Royal Oak Hotel, Double Bay.



Class of 1992



Class of 1992



Class of 1992



Class of 1992 Formal



Jonathan Salgo and Polina Madorsky



Class of 2012



Class of 2007



Class of 2012



Class of 2012



Class of 2007



# School Reunions continued



## Staying in Touch

### Engagements

- Dimitry Grigorov ('03) and Louisa Gentles (1)
- Michael Weiss ('04) and Aaron Hughes, in London (2)
- Katrina Silvers ('07) and Dave Siegel (3)
- Amanda Krulis ('08) and Douglas McMahon (4)
- Sarah Herman ('09) and Mike Joffe (5)
- Jess Weiss ('09) and Kristie McChesney (6)
- Jordan Kahn ('10) and Michael Hofstein ('10) (7)
- Rebecca Roitman ('11) and Max Illingworth (8)



### Weddings

- Tal Barhom ('08) and Shylee Dagani, 18 August 2017 in Israel (9)
- Floria Broneva ('08) and Brandon Wax Polishuk, 1 October 2017 (10)
- Jamie Hilton ('97) and Jessie Cearn, 14 October 2017 (11)
- Ellie Schneider ('07) and Kobi Bloom, 22 October 2017, in Melbourne (12)
- Sivan Feigen ('08) and Michael Stern, 22 October 2017 (13)
- David Mizrahi ('05) and Carla Wainer, 19 November 2017 (14)

**HAVE SOME NEWS TO SHARE?**

Send us the details and share it  
with your fellow Alumni



## Births

- **Dina (Madorsky)** '04 and Gennadi Gofman – Hannah, born 1 June 2017 (15)
- **Jade and Mark Rosenberg** ('00) – Gabriella Mala, born 3 June 2017, in Melbourne (16)
- **Aliza Werner-Seidler** ('02) and Carl Rakusin – Joseph Solomon Rakusin, born 21 July 2017 (17)
- **Paula and Dan Shakenovsky** ('00) – Eli Cole, born 8 August 2017 (18)
- **Gabi (Rein)** '04 and Jared Keen – Mila Kati, born 13 August 2017 (19)
- **Jess (Holloway)** '01 and Adam Fischer – Harley Mark, born 18 August 2017, brother to Koby (20)
- **Keren and Roman Meck** ('02) – Liat, born 23 August 2017 (21)
- **Georgia (Snow)** '04 and Danny Stern ('04) – Lily Frankie, born 5 September 2017 (22)
- **Lexi (Feitelson)** '01 and Daryn Teperson – Summer, born 7 September 2017, sister to Halle (23)
- **Sharonne and Daniel Neumann** ('02) – Ezekiel (Zeke) Harry, born 19 September 2017 (24)
- **Keren and Daniel Malki** ('02) – Sofia, born 12 November 2017 (25)
- **Michelle and Leon Elski** ('02) – Olivia Charlotte, born 13 November 2017, sister to Madeleine (26)



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## Staying In Touch

There are so many ways to stay involved with School.

- **Send your news and photos for publication:** We love to read what our old school friends have been up to, so please send in your news and photos for the next issue of our Emanuel School Alumni newsletter.
- **Help to organise and/or attend your reunion:** Class reunions are held every five years, and get-togethers can be arranged at any time. Organising social events can be great fun and if you cannot organise one, make sure you attend.
- **Speak at a School event:** Past students are invited back as guest speakers at events, assemblies and in classes. If you have a topic of interest, please let us know.
- **Contribute to our School Archives:** Have you been wondering what to do with your school photos, uniform, publications, programs? Please do not throw them away. They may be important to us.
- **Visit us:** If you would like to visit the School and see how it has changed since you left as a student, please let us know and we can organise a tour of the campus.



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# Where are some of our Alumni now?

## Lara Pitt (Kemeny)

Class of 1998

Journalist,  
FOX Sport TV  
presenter

"After finishing school in 1998, I went straight to University and studied at UNSW a Bachelor of Commerce – Marketing, Tourism and Hospitality management. It was a 4-year degree which I completed in 2002.



Nicole McKay (nee Lewis) and I had always planned to travel once we got through our Uni degrees, and so we both worked and saved before heading off for Europe in late May 2003 and returned in September. Along the way, we met up with a number of friends and saw as much as we could on as little money as possible. We covered Hungary, the Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, Greece, France, Spain and Portugal – we saw a lot, on a shoe-string budget! It was a trip of a lifetime – I can't believe it was some 15 years ago now.

**Did I follow my field of study at the time you ask?** Initially, yes. When I returned to Australia I applied for a number of jobs and landed on a role in the Marketing team of a law firm in the city. After 18 months in this role, I found myself searching for more. Whilst I really enjoyed the role, I wasn't hugely passionate about it. Spending most of my spare time watching, following or going to sporting events with family and friends, I realised this was something I'd love to sink my teeth into. I enrolled in a post-graduate journalism degree via correspondence, whilst trying to land a job in sports journalism. In hindsight, I should've studied Journalism in the first place, but sadly I was probably too distracted by just getting the HSC over and done with, I didn't put enough thought into what was next. Anyway, it didn't really matter because I got there in the end!

Many months were spent doing work experience at various news desks – Channel 7, SBS, Channel 9, and eventually Fox Sports. I worked as a production assistant for a year, unpaid and part-time, trying to learn the business from the ground up. I also worked freelance in the "Logging" department at Fox Sports (which is basically watching all sport, at all hours, day and night, and keeping a log sheet of every moment). Eventually I got some freelance work in the Fox Sports News room which had only just been launched. A full-time role as a Junior News Active Reporter came up later that year and the rest is history. I've been there 11 years now and it's been a wonderful journey so far.

**What are your fondest memories of Emanuel School?** There are MANY wonderful memories I have of school. I loved it. The Tuck-shop, which then was at the top end of the school, and the famous Macaroni and Cheese; my beautiful school-bus driver Mr Fried, who picked me up from home every morning until I was a teenager and

dropped us all to school; the crazy/embarrassing musicals we were a part of (The Wiz in particular...); our amazing teachers from Ms Lovely in Primary School to Ms Brown (Business Studies), Mr Morley (Drama), Ms Hetherington (English), Ms Sanders (Economics), and Mr Palmer and Mr Angelo (even if I forever struggled in Maths!); my cheeky

friends Nicole & Aviva and my better-behaved friends Yasmin and Sam; sports carnivals & representing the 'Green house' proudly; playing against Moriah in Netball/Basketball and trying our hardest to beat them!

Overall, it was the family feeling that I really enjoyed the most. Our class was small – I think we only had about 34 people in Year 12, so we all knew each other really well. Going from that into University was quite a culture shock.

**Are you still in touch with your group of friends from School?** Absolutely – Yasmin Goldberg (Moddel), Sam Butt (Finger), Nicole McKay (Lewis) and I had dinner with our husbands recently. We've been bridesmaids at each other's weddings, been there for the birth of 8 children between us, and shared many of life's special milestones together. They are my longest standing friendships and the ones I cherish the most.

**What is your current occupation?** In 2012, I shifted my focus to work solely on Rugby League but prior to that my role in the news room meant I covered a variety of sports. I worked on our Football (soccer) coverage and particularly enjoyed following the Socceroos on their Asian Cup campaign in Qatar in 2011. I also spent time reporting from the sidelines on A-League games for many years.

My Rugby League role involves presenting on our pre-game NRL coverage, co-hosting our all-female panel show League Life, and dissecting all the big issues out of the weekend on the Matty Johns Show each and every Monday night of the season.

**Interests and hobbies?** Who has time for hobbies?! When I'm not working, I am Mum to our two boys. Like most parents out there, it's a juggling act but I try to keep fit by going to the gym and have started running again after many years of injury. I've set the goal of running the City2Surf (Yes, in August 2018... plenty of time to make it happen!!), after running it several times during my school years with my good friend Nicole.

**Future Plans?** When you've got two kiddies under 3 years old, it's very much a week-to-week, month-to-month kind of thing! It goes without saying we'd like to provide our boys with a happy, healthy and fulfilling upbringing, just as our parents gave us. I guess that's what we are working so hard towards. In the future we'd like to travel, show our boys the world and spend more time with friends and family. I'm always looking to challenge myself career-wise so hopefully there are new and exciting chapters ahead in this area too."

## Where are some of our Alumni now? continued

### Aviva Reed

Class of 1998

artist, environmentalist, author



After finishing Year 12, I moved to the bush. I lived in the middle of rainforests and learnt about bush revegetation and gardening. I then studied science intensely for two years, moved to Tasmania and worked at protecting old growth forests (since then, these forests have been allocated to World Heritage).

**Did I follow my field of study at the time you ask?** Ironically, I did art and drama at School, but went on to do a degree in Environmental Science after a gap year of living in the bush and gardening. Admittedly, I have now combined my passions of art and science and teach science through the arts.

I haven't done a lot of overseas travel, but rather have moved and travelled extensively throughout Australia. I have lived in the Blue Mountains, Northern Rivers and Tasmania. I am now based in Melbourne.

**My fondest memories of Emanuel School?**

I loved my intimate classes of enthusiastic thinkers. I also loved the library with the stained-glass windows and huge roof. It felt like a magical space for knowledge. Note: this building, known as The PAC (Performing Arts Centre) was originally the Chapel for Sisters of the Poor.

**Am I still in touch with my friends from School?**

Only a little bit as I have moved interstate, but as I raise my teenager I think more and more of all my teenage friends and our adventures together.

I am a visual ecologist, meaning I visualise ecology. I work as an academic, educator, artist, scientist and illustrator. You can find my work at:

[www.avivareed.com](http://www.avivareed.com)

[www.bioticpotential.com](http://www.bioticpotential.com)

[www.smallfriends.com](http://www.smallfriends.com)

As for future plans, I am working towards putting together a production house for interactive animation of science and commercial art/ science prints. This will be found at [www.oekologiestudio.com](http://www.oekologiestudio.com)

### Alex Weltlinger

Class of 2002

photographer, director



"After finishing Year 12, I went straight into studying Architecture at Sydney University. My original, vague plan was to eventually become a Production Designer in the film business, designing and building sets and worlds. Like many at the time, I was immensely inspired by the documentaries on the extended editions of the *Lord of the Rings*, which came out in my last years of school, and that's what got the bug of filmmaking into me. (In fact, I'm part of an entire generation of filmmakers who learnt what it meant to be a filmmaker long before we ever stepped on a set because of those DVDs – they're incredibly influential.)

However, as is usual, my dreams and plans hit the hard wall of reality. I wasn't any good as a designer. My brain just didn't work like that, so I left my degree after only one year, as a result of being encouraged by the head of my course to go to film school instead.

I took a year off and worked, building up my income (this is in 2004). I also started doing odd jobs here and there in film, in theatre, whatever I could get my hands on around my work hours – typical kid, I was working retail in the day and bars at night, then going out afterwards.

The next year, I went to film school – a now defunct but once highly regarded 6-month intensive Cert IV at MetroScreen. After that, I started working in the film business, freelance, usually as a junior producer or the associated roles around that.

At some point in the next few years, I picked up a stills camera and started shooting photographs. That was never part of any plan I had, it just happened. And, over time, I built my skills-base and my portfolio and turned pro.

Nowadays, I'm both a director/producer and a photographer – freelance, as that's pretty much the only business model around for this kind of thing. I shoot things like advertising campaigns and portraiture, the odd fashion campaign, commercials, music videos (I've done something like 40 of them over the years) and many other odds and ends, depending on where the tides take me.

I've travelled here and there overseas, but the truth be told I haven't been able to afford any sustained travel, either monetarily or in the time commitment. There's always been something else to do, or another job on the horizon, which makes it tricky to plan holidays.

As for fondest memories of School, – what I do remember being awesome was Year 8 or 9 – we went on a camping excursion and had to do a 20km or so kayak trip to the next campsite. I think that's where my love of kayaking comes from, something unfortunately I rarely get a chance to do these days.

I was never really part of any particular group at school and most of my friends then were from other things in my life outside of school. These days I occasionally bump into someone from school, but I haven't made the effort to be part of the community. That's on me, and something I will hopefully rectify at some point. Thank goodness though, for Facebook!

My future plans are pretty simple. I want to keep doing what I'm doing, and hopefully make a more reliable income as time goes on. When I'm not working, I'm busy making sure my kids don't jump on anything too sensitive – this is a full-time job in itself!"



## Igor Kreyman

Class of 2004  
actor and founder,  
The Human  
Connection Movement

When I finished Year 12, I first went to TAFE, and then I went on to La Trobe University where I graduated with a Bachelor of Business in Marketing and Management. In my last semester of university I began working at Amnesia Razorfish, a digital marketing agency in Account services.

I have travelled extensively through the United States, South East Asia and South America, and I also lived in Los Angeles for a year to study acting.

### What are your fondest memories of Emanuel School?

I remember when I was being interviewed to get into Emanuel School in Year 5, the Principal at the time asked me what my favourite subject was – I recall I said “lunch time”. I still hold to that – I actually remember at one point in Year 5-6 that there was this amazing batch of pasta that I was obsessed with, so I was always all about getting my lunch orders in on time!

Mrs Krebs in Year 5 was a great support to me – she was an amazing teacher and helped me become a more confident person. You never forget the teachers who actually made a real impact. I also thought Mr Alvarado, my English teacher in high school, was a great guy and I thoroughly enjoyed his classes. I'd say Year 10 was my favourite year as I started coming into myself more, and making more friends.

There are still a few friends from my school-days that I'm quite close with to this day, which is amazing!

I am the Founder of a social enterprise called “The Human Connection Movement” (THCM) [www.thehumanconnectionmovement.org.au](http://www.thehumanconnectionmovement.org.au) We host global events that promote interconnectedness, empathy, compassion, and leadership. We also run team-building workshops within organisations to help lower disengagement rates and increase connectivity.

Over the next 10 years due to rapid technological advancement we



are going to see cataclysmic changes in relation to how we interact with our world and each other. We are already seeing it in the infancy stages of virtual reality, augmented reality and artificial intelligence (AI). My plan is to scale the movement through technology, science and mindfulness to bring awareness on how we can stay connected to each other by seeing each other for who we truly are, rather than hiding behind the masks that we wear.

I'm also a working actor. I have a strong supporting role in an independent feature film released in cinemas world-wide this month, titled “One Less God”. It is a psychological thriller based on the 2008 terrorist attacks in Mumbai. It's a humanist piece with a very powerful message.

I want to add that I personally felt quite misunderstood in most of my schooling years. I found it difficult to make authentic connections because I didn't feel like I fitted in. I know this is not something that is talked about often but it's very important to bring awareness to this, as these years are formative to the rest of our lives. If by any chance any primary school kids or even high school students are reading this right now, this is for you...

If you're feeling like things aren't making sense, or you don't have a purpose, or you're unsure of your identity or what you're here to do, please know that your deepest voids will become your great gifts to the world. The reason why we go through these challenges is to become more aware of the part of ourselves that needs to be healed and through this realisation we develop the strength, courage and resilience to help others.

I am comfortable to talk about this now – I repeated Year 2 (not at Emanuel School) because I struggled with English, which was not my native tongue. When I was 12-13 years of age I was seeing a Speech Pathologist because I struggled with expressing myself, and my grades were horrible most of my schooling life, but now one of my greatest strengths is my ability to communicate effectively and I run a global movement out of it.

Tens of thousands of people have experienced our events globally, and millions of people know about our movement. I never once imagined this was what I'd be doing now.

My message now is “don't sweat it, be real with yourself and surround yourself with people who reflect that. Don't let anyone tell you who you are, you must discover that for yourself!”

## Recording our history and seeking donations of School memorabilia

We are fortunate to have employed Enid O'Carroll as our part-time archivist. She is busy cataloguing photographs and other items that are an integral part of our history. Please let us know if you have some old School-related items you wish to donate.



Anita Silver & the last great 2 cent race



HSC Art 1989



We not only love to hear from our “older” alumni – it is great to also hear from some of our more recent graduates too...

## Young Jewish leadership – Alpha Epsilon Pi

### Daniel Brockwell

Class of 2015 and UNSW Commerce/Computer Science student

“My first semester of university was filled with the usual challenges of adjusting to campus life and working out my subjects. That was until I received a call from Grant Bigman in Indianapolis...he was calling as a representative of Alpha Epsilon Pi, an organisation I had never heard of. It was, Grant said, the only Jewish or intercontinental fraternity, with over 100,000 members from Canada to Israel. Unwittingly, through involvement in the Jewish learning program ‘Sinai Scholars’, I had been asked to help found Australia’s first fraternity chapter.

Curious about the idea, I gave him the names of several other Emanuel alumni, including Jonathan Moallem, Raphael Sebban and Zachary Lazarus. We collectively tossed and turned, unsure of whether such a seemingly surreal concept could work in a continent that had no ‘Greek’ presence, let alone one that catered exclusively to the Jewish community.

If the story stopped there, it wouldn’t be worth telling.

We took a chance to form that vision from a meagre 17 and, with strong leadership and perseverance, we have grown to triple that size. Today, as Vice President, I now help support the academic, professional, communal and religious development of nearly 50 brothers (including 12 from Emanuel School) across 6 different tertiary institutions in Sydney, with a dedicated fraternity house at Shalom College at UNSW.

Telling people you’re part of a fraternity in Australia always elicits bemused smirks, possibly even a “Wait, what’s a fraternity?” It’s an exciting challenge to create and cultivate something not just for the Jewish community, but for a country in which this sort of organisation is unprecedented. More than that, trying to create an inclusive space for Jews on campus has been its own challenge – one that, with more than 1200 visitors in the last few months, I believe we’ve risen to.

This July, Raphael and I had the phenomenal opportunity to learn from Jewish leaders in government, business, charity and religion



for a week and a half at the 2018 AEPi International Convention in Las Vegas. It was announced there, that we were being officially chartered as a Chapter, having been a colony for a mere 12 months. As a deafening applause of over 1000 people greeted the small Australian contingent that stood up, it really clicked for me just how strong the Jewish community was, regardless of location or language.

With a chapter in Melbourne in progress, and a sorority showing interest, we’re excited to be developing a sense of brotherhood among young Jewish men at university regardless of religiosity, faculty or schooling background. Our vision is to support Jewish men at university in developing the skills and experience to become leaders in whatever field their passion lies.

Anyone interested in learning more about upcoming recruitment for 2018, please contact [aepisydney@gmail.com](mailto:aepisydney@gmail.com) or feel free to reach out to me personally.”

## Our Youngest Alumni

Congratulations  
& welcome to our  
youngest members  
of the Emanuel  
School Alumni:  
Class of 2017.





# The Emanuel School Family 1983

We are now only missing five names..... hope you can help complete this list of our first ever official Emanuel School photograph. How good is your memory? **Can you help us identify them?**



- Front Row (L-R): Bianca Gehl, Naomi Tarsis, Mela Medvedovsky, Zoe Spiegel, Kate Ratner, Jasmin Streimer, Alanah Zitzerman, Christina Lemkin, Simone Havin, \_\_\_\_\_, Talia Deutsch, Susan \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Georgia Teiperman, Janine Israel.
- Second Row (L-R): Alla Nock, Miriam Fox, Jenny Spinak, Jessica Bures, Ondine Sherman, Mandi Smith, Eli Haski, Daphny Ravy, Natasha Cherny, Khara Weisz, Svetlana Goltsman, Rachel Spiegel.
- Third Row (L-R): Benny Sharon, Daniel Vasin, Russel Bergman, Rueben Newhouse, Danny Sharon, David Jeffries, Julian Bures, Perlita Benhayon, Kolya Miller, Ben Fox, David Ratner, Jacob Kaplan, Alex Strizhevsky, Jonathan Hirst, Simon Glasser, Eric \_\_\_\_\_.
- Fourth Row (L-R): David Koteck, David Sorauer, Guy Ravy, David Hirst, Greg Weisz, Anton Boski, Lindi Smith, Felicia Meric, Nadine Weinberger, Marina Goldshmid, Solonge Boski, Sarona Pilcer, Denis Zilberman, Maxim Bolkovsky, \_\_\_\_\_, Ryo Hino, Adin Pilcer.
- Back Row (L-R): Hezie Lazarous, Nick Deutsch, Daniel Sorauer, Michael Fooks, Leonid Goltsman, Harry Derunovsky, Alan Jeffries, Eugene Freeney, Ronnie Aron, Ari Marks, Christian Charnas, Yonaton Miller, Ben Donally, Ronen Stoler.
- Staff:  
 LHS left to right: Sandi Einstein, Shirley Holt, Linda Zurnamer.  
 Middle of photo left to right: Lou-Anne Folder, Tom Wiedenman (Principal), Sarah Friend.  
 RHS left to right: Debbie Levy, Jeanette Streimer, Carol Perry.

We hope you enjoyed reading this newsletter and we look forward to your contributions in the future.  
 Please email your contact details to [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au) so we can add you to our mailing list.

Thank you to our staff and other members of our Emanuel School community for  
 your invaluable contributions to this newsletter.

We believe the information included is correct at the time of printing. Any errors are regretted.



Emanuel School is a member of the JCA family of Organisations



**EMANUEL SCHOOL**

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