

# THE VIKING VIEW

The Newsletter for North High School Alumni

**Volume 7**

Babs HansenWeinberg, '66~ Editor

**Spring 2015**

Cindy Fleming, NHS Faculty ~ Layout

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter”

*By Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Because of your continued support, I am very proud to be principal of Omaha North High Magnet School. During the month of October Omaha North High Magnet School celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of serving the community. Thank you to the Omaha North High School Foundation, the Vikings of Distinction and other community partners for making this event a huge success.

During the 2014-15 school year, our students demonstrated excellent leadership in the classroom.

- ◆ Madison Sutula was chosen as a member of the Believers/Achievers Award Program sponsored by the Nebraska School Activities Association. She has also been awarded a full-tuition scholarship to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- ◆ 2014 Class “A” State Football Championship - Record 13-0 Final Score: Omaha North 41; Creighton Prep 0
- ◆ Blue/Gold Academic Program –372 students with a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher were honored in grades 10-12.  
Guest speaker – Rebecca Brei, Class of 2002.
- ◆ Vinith Sharma – Received the Gates Millennium Scholarship and will attend Duke University this fall.
- ◆ In 2014 North High celebrated 41 AP’s scholars bringing a total of 256 since 2005.
- ◆ Joseph John – 2015 Nebraska Journalist of the year and a finalist for the National Journalist of the Year.
- ◆ Ty Jackson Class “A” State Wrestling Champion at 160 lbs.
- ◆ Grace Siy - selected as Outstanding Senior by the West Omaha Rotary Club.
- ◆ Derek Chew - selected as Outstanding Student by the Exchange Club.
- ◆ Class of 2015 was award \$12,674,533 in scholarships!

The following students received the 2015 Boys/Girls Club Scholarship: Tre’Vaun Ammons, Terry Henry, Marquise Lewis, Yakira McKay, Joseph Nash, Markell Vaughn.

The Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation awarded 46 North High seniors with the Buffett Scholarship.

The following students received the 2015 Urban League of Nebraska Scholarship: Imani Brown, Cheamera Gaines-Liwaru, Brandee Fisher, Terry Henry, Yakria McKay, Joseph Nash, Lyric Shivers, Emani Stingley, Aalyiah Turner, DeValon Whitcomb, Autumn Wimbush.

Competing at the 2015 National Academic Quiz Bowl are: Katilyn Andreessen, Timothy Bayne, Derek Chew, Keanu Hoang, Kyrie Kellogg, Shannon McCarty, Jontayvia Semans, Nicholas Tuma, Bradley Tuttle.



Omaha North High  
MAGNET SCHOOL

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## Staff Honors:

- ◆ Mr. Steven Steinbruck: Omaha Chapter of Brigham Young University Alumni “Golden Apple” Award for an Outstanding Teacher
- ◆ Mr. Jeremy Weimer: U.S. Open Robotics Teacher of the Year
- ◆ Ms. Liliame Jamal: Omaha North High Magnet School Willis and Janet Schaeffer Strauss Outstanding Teacher Award
- ◆ Mr. Corey Degner: Omaha North High Magnet Schools John and Sheila Morgan Outstanding Teacher Award.

As we come to the closure of another successful school year, we are very excited for the many joyful opportunities for our students and staff. All students and staff have lived up to Omaha North High Magnet School’s mission statement that states “The mission of Omaha North High Magnet School is to prepare all students for success in life-long studies and careers.”

### 2015-16 Upcoming Calendar of Events for Omaha North High Magnet School

Friday, October 16, 2015

Homecoming Parade – 1:30 P.M. The parade will start at Miller Park and end at Kelly’s North Bowl.

Varsity Football Game – 7:00 P.M., Omaha North vs. Westside

Kinnick Stadium at Northwest High School – 8403 Crown Point Ave.

Admission is free to all alumni and spouses

Come and join us for an evening filled with activities!!

Sincerely,

Gene R. Haynes  
Principal



## Honors for Mr. Gene R. Haynes

As staff, students and North High alumni testified to on Friday, October 24, 2014, Gene Haynes is more than a principal. He is a relentless cheerleader for North High and its neighborhood, a leader who helped build a privately funded science and engineering wing, and he recently unveiled plans for a long-awaited football stadium. The City of Omaha declared a stretch of 36th Street between Ames Avenue and Sahler Street as “Gene R. Haynes St.” Congratulations!



The NEBRASKAland Foundation recognizes Nebraskans who have distinguished themselves and the state. Over the years the award designations have changed. The Pioneer, Wagonmaster, and Trailblazer awards became part of the NEBRASKAlander award in 2011. The list of awardees beginning in 1982 is impressive. Dr. Tom Osborne heads the list as the first Distinguished NEBRASKAlander. Previous honorees include artists, politicians, military generals, academicians, clergy, and others from all areas of the state. The 2015 NEBRASKAlander honorees are: Gene R. Haynes, Sen. Mike Johanns and Paul Younes.

Pictured at the banquet are Gene R. and Annie Haynes with students from Omaha North.



On Monday, June 22, 2015, the Omaha North High School Foundation is hosting a fund-raising golf tournament. The event will be held at the Players Club at Deer Creek, which is just north of Military Road on 120<sup>th</sup> Street.

The event, which is open to all alumni, friends, faculty, and former faculty of Omaha North, begins with lunch and registration at noon with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. Dinner will follow. All proceeds of the event in excess of the cost of golf and meals are tax deductible.

The entry fee is \$125 per golfer (\$500 per foursome). Hole, flag prize, and door prize sponsors are welcome. The cost of a “Hole Sponsorship” is \$1,000, while “flag” and “door” prize sponsorship can be any amount (\$50 minimum). All sponsors will receive recognition in the program and at the concluding ceremonies.

All wishing to participate should contact the Omaha North High School Foundation through Karen Robey at 402-399-8533. Checks can also be mailed to Karen Robey, 9745 Nottingham Drive, Omaha, NE 68114.

## The Omaha North High School Foundation

The Omaha North High School Foundation is a non-profit, tax exempt organization, incorporated in 1992, to provide scholarships to graduating seniors and improved educational opportunities for all students at Omaha North High Magnet School.

The Foundation concept is as ingenious as it is simple—a means by which a substantial amount of money can be built over time from contributions both large and small, the income from which is used to meet the goals of the Foundation.

Donations to the Foundation are placed in a permanent endowment. Only the interest earned on those gifts is used to make grants and scholarships. Contributions work forever producing income far more than their original value and supporting the needs of future generations of Vikings.

Unlike other charities, *all net income from the endowment is devoted to scholarships and educational grants*. The Omaha North High School Foundation is served by *volunteers with no paid staff or employees*.

Some of our endowed scholarships honor a teacher (Leonard Bond Scholarship; Frank Hobbs Scholarship), a retired principal (Thomas Harvey Memorial Scholarship), a class (Class of 1960 Scholarship), or an individual (Terrill White Memorial Scholarship). In 2015, 34 scholarships were given. In all over \$500,000 in scholarships and grants have been awarded since the Foundation began.

### Moving Into The 21st Century

As most of you are reading the *Viking View* on our website, you know that the Omaha North High School Foundation no longer sends out printed copies unless requested by individual alumni. That request must be in writing and sent to the Omaha North High School Foundation; c/o Omaha North High Magnet School; 4410 North 36<sup>th</sup> Street; Omaha, NE 68111. Due to the increased cost of printing and mailing some 17,000 copies of the alumni newsletter, we have joined with the many organizations that have determined the most economical way to disseminate the information happening at North. Please note that this allows us to use even more of the Foundation’s endowment fund for scholarships for North’s graduating seniors, the primary reason for the Foundation’s existence. Individuals who have previously written for mailed copies will remain on our mailing list. We ask that you please remind your friends about where to find the up-to-date news about Omaha North.



### Vikings of Distinction Present Scholarships

The Viking of Distinction Committee proudly awarded five scholarships to deserving graduates at the 2015 Senior Scholarship Night on May 14, 2015. In all, \$10,000 in scholarships were presented to graduating seniors.

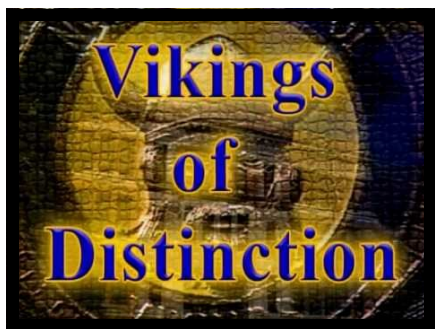
The VOD Scott Sisters Scholarship was awarded to Martha Jiel. This scholarship is supported by Antoinette Scott Jones, Geneva Scott Dourisseau, and Annette Scott Sayers. Other scholarships were presented by VOD chairman Jackie Fox. The four VOD scholarships were awarded to Rieley Burtzel, Jejuan Bowser, Kyiia Rolla, and Isaac Ward.

Photos from the  
2015  
Vikings of Distinction  
Banquet



## Celebrating the Vikings of Distinction

The 33rd annual Vikings of Distinction event was held on May 14-15, 2015, at Omaha North High Magnet School, culminating with an evening banquet. Six outstanding alumni were honored, and their portraits are now proudly displayed in a place of honor at North High with previous honorees dating from 1983.



**NOTE;** Any North High graduate and present or former faculty member may nominate candidates for future consideration as a Viking of Distinction. To be eligible for the award, alumni must have been graduated from North for at least 20 years and faculty members must be retired. A nomination form can be found on the North High website at [www.ops.org/high/north](http://www.ops.org/high/north). Once at the website, go to ALUMNI and then VIKINGS OF DISTINCTION to download the form. You may also acquire a form by writing and mailing a request to Omaha North High Magnet School; 4410 N. 36<sup>th</sup> Street; Omaha, NE 68111; c/o Vikings of Distinction Committee.

### The 2015 Vikings of Distinction honorees are:

**Ronald B. Cooley**, Class of 1967 (Omaha, NE)

An accomplished gold and platinum record award-winning guitarist, bassist, and lutist, Ron has been with the acclaimed Mannheim Steamroller for 35 years. He was an adjunct faculty member in the music departments at many universities, as well as an instructor for the Cathedral Arts Project Jazz Workshops. In the 1970's he was the guitarist for C. W. McCall.

**Micah Laaker**, Class of 1993 (Mountain View, CA)

Micah's journey from North High to his current post at Google has mirrored his passions. His career has involved everything from board games to technical manuals, from music videos to mobile apps. His career in technology has been highlighted with leadership roles at Def Jam Records, Yahoo!, and Graphicly prior to joining Google.

**Mike McGee**, Class of 1977 (Omaha, NE)

As the *Omaha World Herald* Athlete of the Year in 1977, Mike's basketball talents took him from North High to the University of Michigan. He then went on to play nine seasons in the NBA playing for the L.A. Lakers, Hawks, Kings, Nets and Suns and later for France and Italy in European leagues. He has also coached in China.

**Dwight L. and Marleen Morgan**, Class of 1962 (Milwaukee, WI)

**Friend of North High School Award** – Dwight and Marleen were high school sweethearts at North High. Now they are being honored for their commitment to North High and their exceptional support of the NHS Foundation and its scholarships to NHS students. They have been actively involved in their Milwaukee community. Dwight is the Senior Vice-President of Human Resources at Wisconsin's Aurora Health Care. Marlene has been a very successful educator.

**Lance G. Morgan**, Class of 1986 (Winnebago, NE)

After earning his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1993, Lance launched Ho-Chunk, Inc., an economic development corporation for the Winnebago Tribe. In July, 2014, he received the Advocate of the Year Award by the Minority Business Development Agency of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

**Judith A. Wells**, Class of 1968 (Omaha, NE)

A graduate of Creighton School of Law, Judith has her own practice and is also an Independent Attorney Contractor with Omaha's Housing Authority. She is involved with the EEO Network as a GSA Contractor and as a Final Agency Decision Writer for the US Post Office. Active in her community, she is committed to civil rights and to equal opportunity for all.

## Alumni Booster Club

As another school year draws to a close, the Alumni Booster Club looks back with pride at the great accomplishments of Omaha North High Magnet School in both education and athletics. The Booster Club now looks forward to the upcoming school year.

The Annual Alumni/Homecoming game will be October 16<sup>th</sup> at Kinnick Stadium at Northwest High School with Omaha North playing Westside.

As in the past those of you planning a class reunion are encouraged to be sure to place a tour of North High on the top of the list. Reunions taking the tour are astonished to see and learn of the accomplishments of the school and the achievements of its students. As alumni of Omaha North, the Booster Club continues to be supportive and proud of our high school, its dedicated principal, Gene R. Haynes, its faculty, its students, and its goals.

Continue to keep the school informed of address changes. Alumni can contact Omaha North High Magnet School through the web page at [www.ops.org/high/north](http://www.ops.org/high/north).

## PTSO Supports North

The Omaha North High Magnet School Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) grew in parent interest and increased teacher membership this year in support of many schools activities and events. PTSO's mission is to support the teachers, staff, and students of north High and to encourage all parents to become involved in their student's school. The group continues to see the list of student accomplishments grow through the dedicated efforts of our parents, teachers, and staff.

Coming together to meet once per month in the Haddix Center addition, PTSO meeting are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The PTSO directly supports activities such as Post Prom, varsity football and basketball concessions, athletic banquets, and teacher/staff appreciation days. The PTSO also awards an annual scholarship to qualified students at North. To further support the teachers, the organization accepts requests for funding of special projects, once per semester, and offers \$250+ per applicant to support student achievement and extra-curricular activities.

By working in collaboration with parents, students, and staff, the PTSO helps maintain Omaha North High Magnet School's reputation for excellence and academic achievement.

For more information or to inquire about membership and upcoming events, please contact the PTSO President Nickie Landis at [snlandis@cox.net](mailto:snlandis@cox.net).

## The Omaha North High School Foundation

### Thanks The Following For Their Gifts

Listed below by categories, are those alumni and friends of Omaha North High Magnet School, who have donated during 2014. In October, at the Alumni Homecoming Celebration at the Player's Club at Deer Creek, it was announced that the year and a half, VIKING VOYAGE campaign, was a HUGE success! Almost \$232,000.00 was contributed, helping us not only reach our goal of \$900,000 for NORTH'S 90th, but surpassing that goal to now have over \$1,000,000 in the Foundation! THANK YOU ALL for your generosity and continuing support so that we can provide scholarships for deserving students as well as educational opportunities for them in our building, community, state and beyond!

You can continue supporting the Foundation by sending your checks, made out to the ONHS Foundation to North High, 4410 No. 36th Street, Omaha, NE 68111, or give online with a credit card at our website: [OmahaNorthHighSchoolFoundation.com](http://OmahaNorthHighSchoolFoundation.com) All contributions are tax deductible.

#### GOLDEN VIKINGS

(\$10,000 or more)

Richard Brown  
Keith Edquist  
Class of 1964  
Adam & Kathryn Koslosky  
Dwight & Marleen Morgan  
John Morgan  
Frank and OK Tierney

#### NORTH STAR

(\$5000 or more)

Class of 1962

#### NORSEMAN

(\$1000 or more)

Susan Hansen Bahle  
Friends & Family of  
Robert Berghel  
Craig & Mary Bircher  
Dr. Richard Collins  
Geneva Scott Dourisseau  
John Gale  
Gene Haynes, Principal  
Ken & Kathy Sampson Hurt  
LOZIER Foundation  
Dennis Morrison  
Shirley Johnson Siebler  
Scott Springer  
Ted & Linda Stouffer  
Janet Strauss  
Vikings of Distinction Committee  
Dr. Timothy Wahl  
Mike & Babs Hansen Weinberg

#### ERIKS UNITED

(\$250 or more)

Ole Anderson  
Randy Andersen  
Roger Baumgart

Bellevue Toyota  
Randy Boldt  
James H. Brown  
Jeff Churchich  
Madeline Jorgenson Churchich  
Robert Churchich  
John DeBoer  
Jim Duffack  
Patricia Stemm Erman  
Paul Fischer  
Linda & Carl Gallagher  
Christie Jensen Gehringer  
Frank Gehringer  
John Gordon  
Gary Hanum  
Antoinette Scott Jones  
Rod Liable  
Bob & Linda Lovgren  
Suzanne Churchich Mariucci  
Lyle Paul  
Shante Paul  
Annette Scott Sayers  
Robert Schropp  
Mike Sesemann, DDS  
Vikings of Distinction Committee  
Linda Jensen Wade  
Aileen Warren  
Ernest White

#### TEAM BLUE AND GOLD

(up to \$249)

Victoria Alapo  
Randy Andersen  
Barbara Bangham  
Barbara Barley  
Cheri Bailey  
Douglas Bahle  
Stan Bauman  
Dorothy Gillespie Bockman  
James Bond  
Nancy Bond  
Richard Bond  
Tim Bond  
Ed Brizzi  
Robert Christensen  
Byron Church  
William Chvala  
Andrew Cockle  
Cynthia Cockle  
Jane Corey  
John DeBoer  
Dave Decker  
Melvin Decker  
Dr. Ralph Duff  
Karen Easton  
Jeanette Robisheau Fischer  
Mike Fitzsimons  
Kathleen Fox  
Doug Gaeth  
John Gamble  
Jerry Giles  
Martha Kleburg Graff  
Warren Griffin  
Roger Harder  
Nancy Burrell Herrod  
Ron Hoham  
Don Hotz  
Mary Alice Hurlburt  
Danisha Hurst  
Mary Ann Hutchison  
Bruce Jensen  
Rod Johnson  
Elvera Englund Johnson  
Claire Kelly  
Karen Linnell  
Michael Mench  
Walter Miles  
Robert Murray  
Joyce McArthur  
David McGill

Bernard Nelson  
Judith Newman  
Greg Ongert  
Jonie Owen  
Mary Ellen Peters  
Edward Reed  
Scott Reed  
Neil Runyon  
Pearl Sames  
Annie Pelton Schmidt  
Kathleen Schnecken  
David & Sharon Schroeder  
Mark Schulze  
Mary Simpson  
Daniel Sitzman  
Harvey Siy  
Margery Sorenson  
Dan Stokes  
Rook & Tommie Taylor  
Marilou Thibault  
Alfred Thomsen  
Teresa Tieslink  
Kristen Trenholm  
Nicole Turgeon  
Ray Uhlhorn  
Carolyn Weber  
Diane Langarin Welch  
Jay Whinnery  
Betty White  
Lloyd Willis  
Benjamin Vankat  
Susan Kessinger Verburg

*Thank  
you*

Omaha North High School Foundation  
Omaha North High Magnet School  
4410 North 36 Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Make a Donation to the Omaha North High School Foundation!

I'd like to come aboard by making a tax-deductible donation!



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Make a One Time Gift:** Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Individual \_\_\_\_ Corporate \_\_\_\_ Honor a Teacher  
(Name of Honoree) \_\_\_\_\_

**Make a Pledge:** Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Each installment payment will be \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Paid: (Circle One) Monthly Quarterly Semi-Annually

**Matching gift?** Enclose a matching gift form from your company with your donation.

Make checks payable to: **Omaha North High School Foundation**  
**4410 North 36<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Omaha, NE 68111**

To pay by credit card, go to the Foundation's Website:  
**OmahaNorthHighSchoolFoundation.com**

