

Academy Notes

The Newsletter of Bay Cove Academy

Celebrations: Bay Cove Academy at 25

The following graduation speech was delivered by Principal Judy Gelfand on June 15, 2006.

This being our 25th graduation and my having been here for all 25 years, I thought I'd offer some personal reflections.

During the summer of 1980, now almost 26 years ago, I found a small ad in the Boston Globe for a head teacher in a school that hadn't opened yet. That school was just an idea then. An idea to create a small school com-

munity for students whose local schools weren't working for them. A school where students could learn how to cope with the obstacles and adult-like challenges that life had placed in their path. A school that was to become known as Bay Cove Academy. That school opened its doors in the summer of 1981, 25 years ago.

As I was thinking over the enormity of a 25 year span of

time,

I was also thinking again, as I have many times, why have I stayed here for 25 years, now the bulk of my career, and nearly half of my life? What is it that has kept me from taking another position somewhere else? As much as I dislike change, that has not been the reason at all.

The truth is I have come to understand that it is the inspira-

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Bay Cove Academy's Class of 2006

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Principal Judy Gelfand and Alex, a member of Bay Cove's Class of 2006, relish the moment.

tion I receive from witnessing the incredible strength of spirit and character of the Bay Cove student.

I know that many students arrive here after years of feeling like failures and they start here thinking this must be a school for kids who are failures. Of course, this couldn't be further from the truth and it takes the staff a long time and a lot of hard work to convince students otherwise.

There are two things that set our students apart from other kids. The first is that life has not been gentle with our students. Through no fault of their own each carries a

life history filled with difficulty and sadness. The second is their courage and their determination to deal with, to push through, and to turn obstacles into opportunities.

This is how each of these graduates has gotten here today, sheer courage and determination. . . . And that, ladies and gentlemen, is inspiration.

And so I have discovered that it is the honor and privilege of being a part of each student's day-to-day struggles, and their years long journey that is what has kept me here for 25 years.

In this life and during these times in the world, inspira-

tion is hard to find. I find mine by coming to work every day. I am truly a lucky person.

And so it is with this in mind that I present the class of 2006.

I hope your experience at Bay Cove Academy has been an inspiration to you and made you feel stronger and more confident in your strengths and talents as you go out into the world.

Best of luck and congratulations. ^{AW}

ACADEMY NOTES

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Thanks to partnerships with local business and organizations, Bay Cove students enjoyed a variety of work experiences this summer.

A Very Special Thanks To Our Recent Business Partners:

American Red Cross
 Bay Cove Property Department
 Beaverbrook STEP, Inc.
 Boomerangs
 Brigham and Womens Hospital
 Community Servings
 Coolidge House
 Hadassah Bargain Spot
 Jewish Vocational Services
 Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center
 Putterham Golf Course
 More Than Words Bookstore
 Russell J. Call Children's Center
 Small World Child Care Center
 SMILES Day Care and Preschool
 Youth Opportunity Boston

**Please Remember
 Bay Cove Academy
 With a Charitable Gift!**

Bay Cove Academy is a chapter 766 approved day treatment school for troubled teens from the Boston area. Gifts to the school are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Your gift will directly help enhance our program.

Please mail your contribution today.

Amount Enclosed:

\$500 \$250

\$100 _____ Other

*An original poem by
Hygor, read at Bay
Cove Academy's first
student talent show:*

Dance

Foreboding static lingers
And then a wave of beat and
rhythm

Unnoticeable at first glance
Your senses then enhance
You move as if in a trance
And slowly start to dance

The moving, exotic
The feeling, psychotic
The motion, melodic
The moment, chaotic

Lights burn left and right

Energy combusts inside
All nerves scorched
The steps blazed
The twists and turns enflamed
The flared moves stern
Explosive, Implosive
Quickly then corrosive

Lightning strikes your indecision
Blinding fireworks fill your vision
Inside the disorder you find
precision
Within the stillness you make
division

Then
Suddenly less dynamic
Surprisingly not kinetic
Obviously not magnetic

It stops

You bear the static again 

**Upcoming
Events**

September

5 School Begins

October

9 Columbus Day

24 Parent's Night

November

8 Parental Advisory Group
Meeting

10 Veteran's Day

14 College Fair

21 Staff/Student Basketball
Game and Thanksgiv-
ing Dinner

23-24 Thanksgiving Break

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