

Flag Hall—the narrow hallway that ran down from the library, across the inner courtyard and up to the Upper School—was designed and built in 1967. In 1976 it was dedicated in honor of former parent and architect, **Conway Todd**, who worked on the School master plan that resulted in the basic concept for the library, Beckerman Center, and the Upper School wing. With banners proudly stretching along the passageway, Flag Hall was host to student flower and bake sales and served as a study and social area. Former Head of School, **Steve Hinrichs**, commented, “[Flag Hall is] more than a hallway, it is the artery that holds together Todd’s three principal buildings and conducts the lifeblood of the School, our students, in their passing. It is a focal point for a tradition of the school, the banners of the classes. Here they hang between ceremonies.”

The first class banners were designed and made by **Alice Fisher Barlow**, a kindergarten teacher from 1925–1928. They have been remade at least twice, the latest set in 2004.

The banners have assumed a role deep in Harley tradition. The act of passing the banner from a graduating senior to an incoming first grader is a touching part of commencement ceremonies. Banners are also carried in the Candlelight ceremony and, beginning in 1986, the banners are carried at the School’s opening day assembly. As Harley’s facility required expansion and the Sands Stern Academic Center was built in 2003, Flag Hall was torn down. The banners are now displayed in the Upper School library.

Through the generosity of **Phyllis Bentley ’45** (see story page 49) Flag Hall will be re-created in the Chesonis Commons building and once again, will provide a wonderful space to display the banners for all to see.



If you see yourself in this photo, please let us know by contacting Anne Townsend at atownsend@harleyschool.org