



THE SPARTAN HALL OF FAME

*Honoring creative talent,
athleticism, and dedication*

For almost a century, the hard work and talents of Milton Hershey School students and staff have brought honor to our School, our community and our home. To ensure that these contributions receive recognition – and to serve as an inspiration to MHS students and staff of today and tomorrow – Milton Hershey School established the Spartan Hall of Fame in 2003.

Candidates for membership in the Spartan Hall of Fame are graduates of Milton Hershey School, or current or retired staff members who meet a set of specified requirements in athletics or the visual and performing arts. Alumni and staff members may be nominated and honored posthumously.

The School's Alumni Relations and Programs Office, which administers The Spartan Hall of Fame program, seeks nominations throughout the School year. A Committee of MHS staff reviews the nominations and selects and announces inductees in the fall of each year.

2008 SPARTAN HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

— *Visual and Performing Arts* —



Jocelyn Bioh 2001

Vocal Performance & Dance

- Cheerleader, Fall 1998
- Varsity Choir soprano, 1998–2001
- Competition Dance, 1998–99 (Team won three first-place prizes and one second-place in National Association of Dancers and Affiliated Artists New Jersey Competition. Team also taught a master workshop at NADAA.)
- Dance Company, 2001
- International Thespian Society, 2000 and 2001
- New Horizons, 1999–2001



William Grove

Music Instructor

- Instrumental Music Instructor, 1966-1991
- Memorial Hall & Catherine Hall Instrumental Music, 1966-1981
- Senior Hall Instrumental Music, 1970-1991
- Worked with MHS students to teach them the skills required to play a musical instrument and to perform in the instrumental music ensembles at the School and beyond; encouraged students to pursue excellence and develop an appreciation for the important role music plays in our lives
- Spartan Orchestra/Jazz Band regularly performed at local jazz band festivals in central Pennsylvania, and were in demand to play for special functions at the Hotel Hershey and Hershey Lodge.
- Varsity Marching Band was a regular participant in Miss America Pageant Parade in Atlantic City. The band also traveled to Winchester, Va., to play in the annual Apple Blossom Parade.
- Varsity Marching Band participated in adjudication festivals in Wildwood, N.J., Washington, D.C., as well as "Music in the Park" at Hershey, and at Jackson, N.J.



Jehan Whittaker 2001

Theater & Vocal Performance

- "Noises Off" role, 1998-99
- "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," Assistant Director
- Passion Play, Satan, 2001
- Passion Play, Assistant Director/Actor, 1997-2001
- Kaleidoscope, 1999-2001, 2003
- Varsity Choir, 1998
- Christmas Program
- "Pretty Fire"
- Spartan Mascot/Cheerleader, Fall 2000
- International Thespian Society, 1998-2001
 - "Sojourner Truth Monologue": *Ain't I a Woman* EdTa College Scholarship Award Winner
 - "Lion King" performance number

— Athletics —



Gina M. Alessie 1990

Field Hockey & Softball

- Played on Mid-Penn Field Hockey Championship Team, 1987-88
- Mid-Penn All Star in Field Hockey, 1989-90
- Played for the State Qualifying Field Hockey Team, 1989-90
- Mid-Penn Conference Softball All Star, 1988-90
- Selected to the Pennsylvania Big-11 Softball Team as a designated hitter, 1989-90
- Captain of the Field Hockey, Basketball, Gymnastics and Softball Teams



Terry D. Henry 1963

Baseball, Football & Basketball

- Four-year letter winner in baseball
- Captain last two years
- Starting pitcher for four years
- 1963 baseball team was last team to have a winning record, 9-5-1
- Selected to the All Central Penn League
- Selected to the All Opponent Team by Lancaster High School
- Pitching record in senior year was 9-2-1
- Pitched all 10 innings in 2-2 tie vs. John Harris
- Senior year pitched eight complete games; two were shut-outs
- Picked off 14 base runners in 12 games pitched in 1963
- Selected to the East All Star Legion Team
- Three-year starter in football
- Football team captain, 1961
- All State Honorable Mention in football, 1962
- Offensive Player of the Year, 1962
- Varsity letter winner two years in basketball



John A. Hoerner

Coach – Football & Track

- Varsity Football Coach, Record: 33-22-1 (Five years as head coach)
- Track Team was undefeated five years in a row; 100+ wins in Track; CAC Championships
- Instrumental in starting Winter Track Program at MHS
- Won Shippensburg Invitational



James P. Wells 1974

Basketball

- Prep All-American, 1973-74
- Big 15, Junior & Senior Years
- All State, Senior year
- Central Pennsylvania Old Timers Association Selection: Top AAA Basketball Player, 1973-74
- Capital Area Conference scoring champion; 1,518 career points; state scoring leader as a senior; 25.7 points/game; 21.6 rebounds/game



1954-55 Varsity Wrestling Team

Including: James Ayres '55, the late Wayne Balliet '56, Ronald Bender '55, the late Andrew Kovach, coach, Joseph Matisak '57, Richard Norrie '57, Robert Patton '56, Kenneth Roberts '56, Edward Sweitzer '55, Kenneth Thompson '55 and Junior Via '55

- Won five individual championships at the National Prep School Championships at Lehigh University
- Three consecutive district titles
- Went 12-0 in 1955, keeping the win streak alive with 44 wins



James Ayres



Wayne Balliet



Ronald Bender



Andrew Kovach



Joseph Matisak



Richard Norrie



Robert Patton



Kenneth Roberts



Edward Sweitzer



Kenneth Thompson



Junior Via

W. Purnell Payne Lifetime Achievement Award for Musical & Vocal Performing Arts

Clair "Biff" Adam



Merle Haggard and his Strangers opened for the Rolling Stones in Summer 2006, and Adam can be seen next to Keith Richards in this group photo of both bands.

This award is to be presented to a graduate who has distinguished himself or herself in the field of music through individual or group collaboration in the area of musicianship, instrumental expertise, vocal performance or other recognized contribution to the field of instrumental or vocal music. Drummer for Merle Haggard for 40 years, Clair "Biff" Adam '54 is the first recipient of this award. Adam learned to play the drums while a student at Milton Hershey School.

Adam has appeared on more than 70 albums with Merle Haggard and various other musicians, including Willie Nelson. In addition, Merle Haggard and his *Strangers* have been honored eight times with the *Touring Band of the Year* award from the Academy of Country Music, and the CMT (Country Music Television) Network recognized them as one of the top country bands of all time.

During Merle Haggard and the *Strangers* 2006 swing through Lancaster, Pa., several MHS students and alumni went to see the show. Adam had everyone back stage before and after the show and spoke to the students about making music your life's work.