

# SHORTRIDGE H.S. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Organizational Description

The **Shortridge High School Alumni Association (SHSAA)** reorganized in 2007 after the successful efforts of a grassroots alumni group, Shortridge High School All Ways (SHSAW) planning committee, began its efforts to reunite alumni in 2002. Through all-classes reunion activities, SHSAW recognized their efforts paralleled the structure of an alumni association. Consequently, the members of SHSAW voted to convert their efforts and financial resources, including the endowment fund, Shortridge Legacy Scholarship Fund, to rekindle the SHSAA that had lain dormant over 40+ years.

The SHSAA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Its mission is to promote and celebrate public education as represented by achievements of Shortridge High School alumni, present and future Shortridge Magnet High School for Law and Public Policy\* (SMHS) students and alumni.

The Association members recognize the excellent academic skills and life skills preparation Shortridge High School imparted to them. It believes that the school's commitment to providing the best experiences for its students has created an alumni base that appreciates the opportunities the school presented them as students and will offer future graduates. This alumni base remains interested in the continued success of the school. The SHSAA maintains that a continuation of excellent preparation through providing the best experiences for the current student body is vital to the success of future alumni of Shortridge, the community and the school.

The board of directors, who serve without compensation, governs this all-volunteer organization. As a support arm of SMHS, the board works closely with the school administration as it seeks to affect positive change in the school and Indianapolis Public School community.

The board must fund raise to meet its expenses. One hundred percent (100%) of the board members make annual monetary contributions to the Association. Funding for the Association budgets comes through the following avenues:

- Association membership contributions, as determined by the Board of Directors
- Special events
- Annual fund campaign that targets graduating seniors and alumni
- Private foundations

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## The SHS Alumni Association Overview

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### **SERVICES PROVIDED:**

- Update and maintain alumni database
- Maintain our Web site ([www.shorridgealumni.com](http://www.shorridgealumni.com))
- Fund raise
- Produce and e-mail newsletters; post on the Web site
- Assist with reunions; e.g. provide electronic database of classmates
- Plan and execute the following:

### **SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT:**

#### **Academic Scholarship**

One of the Alumni Association's primary goals is the enhancement of educational opportunities for the students and graduates of SMHS. In pursuit of these goals, we created the education endowment, **Shortridge Legacy Scholarship Fund** in 2002. A Scholarship Committee, members of the SHSAA Board of Directors, will administer the criteria and amount of the scholarship awards.

#### **Founding Members Legacy Guild**

The purpose of the **Founding Members Legacy Guild** is to strengthen the scholarship endowment, as the principal source of funding for the Shortridge Legacy Scholarship Fund, which began in 2002. Although donations for the Shortridge Legacy Scholarship Fund are welcome in any amount at any time, the Alumni Association is proud to announce a new initiative to provide scholarship to deserving Shortridge Magnet H.S. graduates, increase

association membership, and enhance our goals to recognize students toward their future academic success. Our alma mater returned to high school status as Shortridge Magnet High School for Law and Public Policy in fall 2009; the Alumni Association Board of Directors wish to provide meaningful scholarship to one or more graduating seniors from the Class of 2013 and annually thereafter.

The **Founding Members Legacy Guild** endowment fund drive will commence **July 1, 2010 and conclude on December 31, 2012**. "Founding Members" membership requires a minimum \$500.00 or greater tax-deductible donation. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the donation will go to the Shortridge Legacy Scholarship Fund and twenty-five percent (25%) will go to alumni association administrative expenses. The initial "Founding Members" will have their names memorialized on a bronze plaque placed on permanent display at Shortridge. **This donation will entitle alumni to a five-year membership in the Alumni Association.** Please make your check payable to Shortridge Legacy Scholarship Fund (Founding Members Guild in the notes area); mail c/o 5030 Guion Road, Indianapolis, IN 46254. With your permission, your donation permanently acknowledged on our website and future newsletters.

### [RECOGNITION PROGRAM:](#)

#### **Shortridge Alumni Association's Hall of Fame**

The Alumni Hall of Fame approved by the Board of Directors in 2010 to recognize graduates of Shortridge High School for their professional achievements and personal contributions to improve the lives of others and society. Our inaugural induction ceremony and reception will commence in spring 2011. Deadline for nominations is December 1 and the nominations remain active for three years. A committee of alumni, students, and faculty select the inductees for each year. The Alumni Association at the spring end-of-semester program hosts an induction ceremony and reception. The Alumni Association HOF committee can select up to four inductees for this annual recognition program. The inductees are encouraged to share their successes in the hopes their stories will inspire the students to excel in their academic pursuits.

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### **Strategic Targets 2010-2013**

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- **MAXIMIZE EFFICIENCY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
  - Board member contracts
  - Description of officer responsibilities
  - Description of committee responsibilities
  - Standing Rules & By-laws
- **PURSUE A SELF-SUSTAINING SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT**
  - Fundraising
    - Amount to be determined by the Board each year
  - Other endeavors agreed upon by the Board
- **PROMOTE BETTER COMMUNICATION AMONG THE FACULTY, STUDENTS, AND GRADUATES**
  - Promote the Web site ([www.shortridgealumni.com](http://www.shortridgealumni.com)) and newsletter
  - Devise effective communication through database
  - Facilitate planning class reunions
- **INCREASE VISIBILITY OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION THROUGH SPECIAL EVENTS**
  - Scholarship recognition program
  - Hall of Fame Reception

*\*Shortridge High School existed from 1864 – 1981. The school reopened in 1984 as Shortridge Middle School until the Indianapolis Public School board voted to reopen the school as Shortridge Magnet High School for Law and Public Policy in fall 2009. The high school will graduate its first class in spring 2013. The middle school years are excluded for membership in the alumni association.*