



ITINERA

Spring 2016

TRINITY SCHOOL AT RIVER RIDGE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



This issue features:

Filmmakers Joe Gleason ('05) and Elizabeth Grams ('01)

Plus:

Class Notes

Class of 2005 Reunion

Christian Arts Festival

Stay Connected



tsrr.org/alumni

alumni.rr@trinityschools.org

God on Film

Founded in 2009 and based in South Bend, IN, Greenlawn Films just released its latest video—a promo piece featuring Trinity School at River Ridge students. *Itinera* interviewed River Ridge alumni Joe Gleason and Elizabeth Grams. Together with Sean Connolly (Greenlawn alumnus) they make up the Greenlawn Films company.



Joe: I believe people are moved more by beauty than by logical argument, so I work hard to create beautiful videos that attract people and move their hearts toward God.



Elizabeth: For me, it's all about making God and his children shine more brightly into the world. I believe our films do that.



Sean: We're always looking to find Christ in the people and places where we are filming. He is often hidden but he can be found if we are willing to look long and hard enough.

How did Greenlawn Films come about?

Elizabeth: In 2007, the People of Praise community asked Sean to start a video department in our Communications office. He hired me to get it going, and Joe came on when he finished his film studies. Since Day One, we've taken our cameras onto the streets, into people's homes, and (in Joe's case) on zip lines, dance floors, and underwater.

Joe: I've wanted to make movies my whole life. As a kid, that meant becoming an actor, but in college I realized that my real interest was in working behind the camera. In December 2009, Sean and Elizabeth invited me to join them in producing films for the People of Praise. I was eager to help, and we soon began to get more requests for our services. In 2013 we adopted our name, Greenlawn Films, in order to serve more clients across the country.

What is your role with Greenlawn Films?

Joe: I am the director of films, and I head up the art direction, cinematography and editing of our projects. Sean is our head writer and project manager. He's a clear thinker who helps us articulate the underlying goals for each project before I even pick up the camera. Elizabeth

helps people shine. She's a skilled interviewer who sets people free to be themselves, tapping into their natural goodness. Her role requires an unusual set of skills including patience, persistence and a great sense of play.

What is your main objective as a film company?

Joe: Our objective, first and foremost, is to see the Lord and to make him known. So far, it's looked like producing videos for Christian schools, for businesses, for summer camps, for conferences, for missionary outreaches, for a national marriage seminar, and sometimes just for beauty's sake.

Which project(s) are you most proud of?

Joe: Well, I love Trinity and I love *Les Miserables*, so you can guess how I felt when Trinity at Greenlawn took us up on our proposal to produce a *Les Mis*-inspired music video. We took the song *One Day More*, changed the title to *What's in Store*, and created a video that's creative, beautiful and unabashedly Trinity. (Click on cover image to view *What's in Store*.)

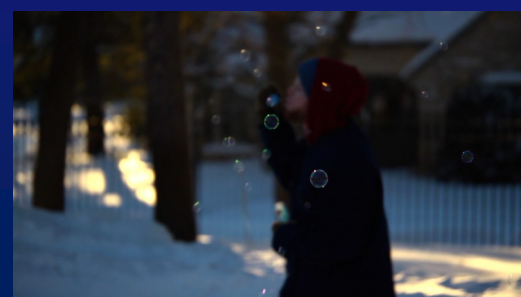
Elizabeth: We created a set of two short films about the work of a group of missionaries living and working in poor neighborhoods across the country. If you could just go to those neighborhoods and see these people, who are so poor yet have so much faith and love, you could hardly help but be changed by it. I think our films captured some of what it's like to be there, some of what's unseen but very real, so that we could, in effect, bring more people to these forgotten places.

What would you like to share about your time filming River Ridge students this past Fall?

Joe: I knew that a lot had changed at Trinity in the decade since I graduated—a new building, a new gym, new faculty members, new students...even a younger Joe Gleason had come and gone ('14)! I was a little worried that with all the changes, something special would be lost. But when I came back and saw Dr. O'Hanley sprinting across the lawn testing bottle rockets with the seniors, my fears were put to rest. This was the same Trinity I knew and loved. Heading inside, I heard the familiar strains of tortured recorders. Walking through the hallways—there's more than one hallway now—I caught glimpses of Miss Arndt, Mr. Murphy, and Mr. Balsbaugh leading discussions with a whole new generation of students sitting around our old Humane Letters tables. I even did a double take thinking I saw the 10th grade version of Beka Cunningham ('02) but it turned out to be her niece Maddie.

Click the images to watch these videos made by Greenlawn Films.

Find more at greenlawnfilms.com.

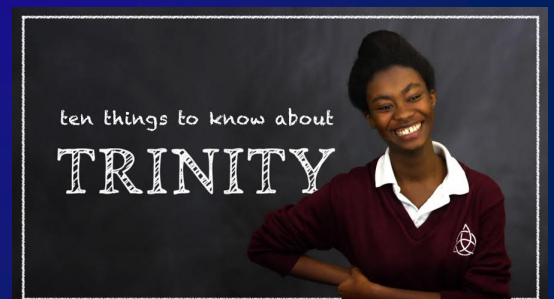


I also saw a lot of faces I didn't recognize, and that was exciting too—the Trinity community is growing. The students we filmed were terrific—smart and funny and refreshingly candid. The new video is called *10 Things to Know about Trinity*, but someday I'd love to make the Director's cut extended edition, *100 Things to Know about Trinity*. There is so much to know and love about this school.

Elizabeth: Wow, are these students ever thriving! And they're really into the learning. And the teachers are just as incredible as I remember them being when I was a student. It was awesome to see my old classmate Nick Fox leading a boys' life science class out to the pond, his easy command of the squirrely seventh graders, and yet the way they all seemed to be playing with one another the whole time in the dedicated pursuit of knowledge.

What are your hopes for Greenlawn Films?

Elizabeth: There is good news to tell—God is right here with us—and it begs to be told, told in a way that reaches hearts. My hope is that, in creating films that are good and true and beautiful, we will accomplish precisely what our Trinity teachers trained us to do: to be of use to God in the building of his Kingdom.



Class Notes

Collin Anderson ('05) and Margaret DeCelles (Greenlawn '04) were married January 16, 2016, at St. Joseph Church in South Bend, IN.

Tara Krezowski ('06) married Ryan Miller on August 8, 2015.

Brothers **Michael ('08)** and **Scott ('10) Coughlin** were a part of the LIGO team that published findings that appear to confirm Albert Einstein's monumental theory of general relativity! [Read more here.](#)

Share your updates at alumni.rr@trinityschools.org

Reunion News

Over 20 members of the class of 2005 attended their 10 year reunion at Casper's in December, 2015!



Send your reunion news and photos to alumni.rr@trinityschools.org

Announcement

6th grade added to Trinity!

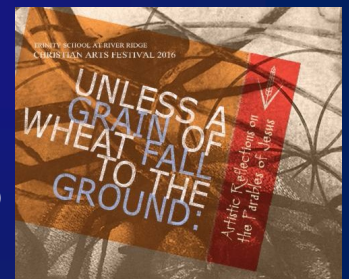
The 2016-2017 academic year will include a 6th grade at Trinity. Application information may be found at tsrr.org/admissions.

Save the date

2nd annual Christian Arts Festival

April 14-16, 2016

The festival events and workshops are **FREE** and open to the public.



[Click here](#) for event information.