

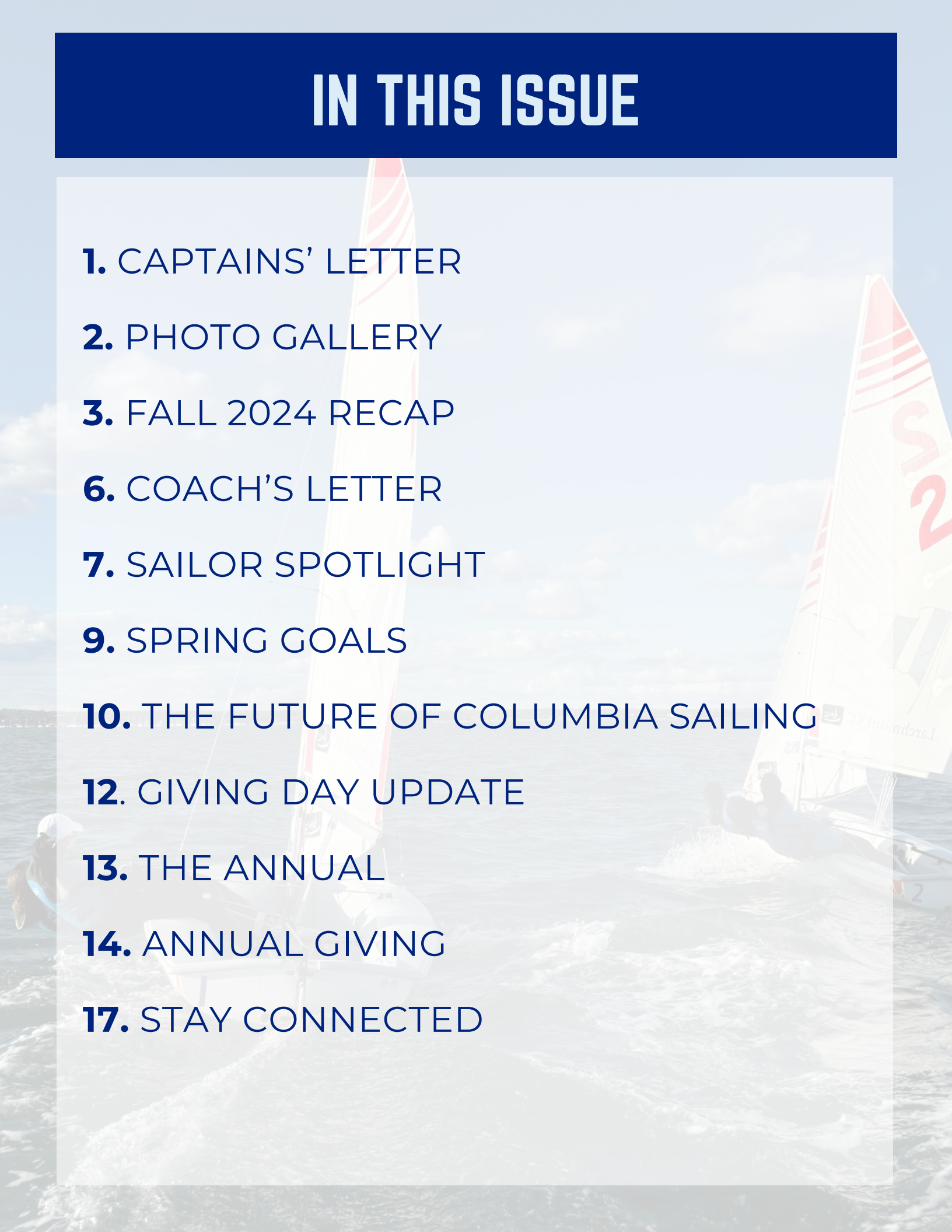
COLUMBIA SAILING

MAINSHEET



Fall 2024

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A LETTER FROM OUR CAPTAINS

Dear Columbia Sailing Community,

We have just concluded our fall 2024 season. Columbia Sailing had a thrilling season, which saw us competing at a number of regattas, including the Luce Regatta, the qualifier for the conference championship War Memorial Trophy. We hosted weekly practice and grew to over 80 active members, making us one of the largest club sports at Columbia!

For multiple years, our team has faced numerous obstacles in the wake of the pandemic. This year, however, Columbia Sailing excelled! With our transition to Larchmont Yacht Club, we've begun a new chapter for the team. Already, we've seen the team's efforts paying off, with one of our most successful seasons in recent years. This would not have been possible without the continued support of our alumni, parents, LYC, our hardworking board, and all of the sailors in our community. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank everyone for helping us rebuild this team, setting us on a path for success for years to come.

We are excited to announce that we have been elected Co-Captains of Columbia Sailing for a second term in 2025! We have a great year ahead of us on the horizon, and we cannot wait to bring you along on our journey.

In this edition of The Mainsheet we will provide you with an inside look at our season, introduce you to some of our amazing sailors, and post information for upcoming events. We hope you enjoy this Fall 2024 Edition of the Mainsheet, and we cannot wait to see you on the water with us, or at one of our upcoming events soon!

Sincerely,

Alexander Vincenti & Chase O'Malley

Co-Captains of Columbia Sailing

PHOTO GALLERY



Alex Vincenti and Ashley Garcia lead the lineup on a downwind practice drill in Larchmont Yacht Club waters

Connor Song, Maria Lujan, Hsien Jie Loke, and Ashley Garcia go out for a sail with coach Loghlen.



Mark Festa, Chase O'Malley, Ross Claytor, Eva DeCastro, and Elizabeth Frost line up next to boat one after winning the COHO Memorial Regatta.



FALL 2024 RECAP

Columbia Sailing has had one of its most successful seasons in the past decade! We organized a consistent practice schedule for over eighty club members and attended five regattas throughout the MAISA region. These accomplishments have both established CUST as a strong club sport at Columbia and put us on the map within our conference, attracting attention from other competitive teams in MAISA.

Starting off the season, we moved our fleet of twelve FJs and one 420 from Huguenot Yacht Club with the help of a large group of club members and the support of coach Loghlen and other staff at Larchmont Yacht Club. In our new facilities, we had the option of practicing in LYC's fleet of E420s or our FJs to gain experience in both types of dinghies and prepare for regattas.

With newfound confidence, we won the first regatta of our season, the COHO Memorial, and it was CUST's first win since 2019! Then we competed at the New York Maritime Academy against teams from all over the country, and at Stony Brook to secure our place at the MAISA championship qualifier, the Luce Regatta. While we did not qualify for the MAISA Championship because the Luce was canceled due to light winds all weekend, we flew to Norfolk, VA, to compete at the MAISA Women's Championship against some of the nation's top women's teams. The sailors did a phenomenal job at their first women's event and look forward to competing at many more!

This season was a huge win for Columbia Sailing and we are excited to keep this trend and represent Columbia at a national level. The fall season is a promising sign for Columbia Sailing's bright future, and we're excited to see what lies ahead!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Frost

Vice Captain of Columbia Sailing

FALL 2024 RECAP



CUST moved to Larchmont Yacht Club at the start of the season, gaining access to world class facilities and Coach Loghlen!

Coco Davis, Alexander Vincenti, Ross Claytor, Giulio Basilico, and Chase O'Malley representing CUST at the club fair.



Eva DeCastro and Mark Festa completing a roll tack in light wind during practice.



Karma Williams, Eva DeCastro, Elizabeth Frost, Alex Yuen, and Giulio Basilico at the NYM Open. Karma and Eva finished the day with their first bullet in College Sailing!

Karma Williams, Amelia Thomas, Chase O'Malley, Alexander Vincenti, Alexander Yuen, Elizabeth Frost, Giulio Basilico, Eva DeCastro and Coach Loghlen take on Stony Brook with shifty and light conditions, finishing the regatta in second!



A beautiful sunset during our last week of practice with Kings Point Maritime Academy at Larchmont Yacht Club as sailors return to the docks.

COACH'S LETTER

Dear Columbia Sailing Community,

As the new Head Coach of Columbia Sailing, I'm thrilled to reflect on what has been a truly memorable Fall 2024 season. This semester, we have seen hard work and dedication translate into real results, marking an exciting step forward for our team.

It has been amazing to see how much this team has grown and transformed over the course of the fall. From our first practice to our last regatta, the progress has been incredible—not just in skill and performance but in the way everyone has come together as a team. The move to Larchmont Yacht Club was a big shift, but the entire team embraced it and used the opportunity to take things to the next level. The energy, resilience, and teamwork I've seen this season have been inspiring, and it's clear that Columbia Sailing is heading into an exciting new chapter.

One of the biggest highlights this fall was our victory at the COHO Memorial—the team's first event win since Fall 2019. We were also in second place in the standings at the Luce Regatta, the War Memorial Trophy qualifier for our conference championship, before the event was unfortunately canceled due to a lack of wind. Additionally, we traveled to Virginia for the MAISA Women's Fall Dinghy Championship, where our team qualified for the Spring Championships, putting us on track to compete for a berth at Nationals.

I want to take a moment to thank the entire team for an incredible Fall 2024 season. Your hard work, commitment, and enthusiasm have been the driving force behind everything we've accomplished this semester. Whether it was on the water at regattas, during practice at Larchmont, or in the countless hours of preparation and teamwork behind the scenes, every one of you contributed to making this season a success. None of this would have been possible without the commitment of our sailors, the leadership of our Co-Captains, and the support of alumni, parents, and the LYC community.

It's been a privilege to coach such a passionate and dedicated group, and I can't wait to see what we can achieve together in the seasons ahead. Here's to building on this momentum and continuing to push toward even bigger goals in 2025!

Here's to the next chapter of Columbia Sailing!

Coach Loghlen

SAILOR SPOTLIGHTS

Tara Sangal

Tara Sangal (BC '25) joined CUST this season and in her short time with the club, made a lasting impact on our community. Her bubbly and inquisitive personality allowed her to quickly connect with all members, and her dedication and commitment landed her a spot on our women's team that competed at MAISA Women's champs! Like a pro, she sailed every race and endured the high winds in a nationally competitive fleet, despite it being her first regatta! At the end of the season, she was chosen for our Most Improved Sailor Award because of her charisma and dedication to the team.



Why did you join Columbia sailing?

"I joined Columbia sailing because I was looking for something to do that got me off campus and had me working with my hands, on my feet, and thinking... I knew if I wanted to try something new that I wanted to put my best effort into it and be as dedicated as possible."

What are some valuable lessons you learned on and off the water?

"One really big thing is no matter how experienced you are, there is always more to learn in sailing ... It is nice to see my teammates doing their best to improve along with me because it really made me feel like a part of the team."

What were some of your favorite moments from Columbia sailing this season?

"I feel like the boat move was really fun ... it was my first time meeting everyone and there was such a welcoming energy. During the first few rides to practice, chit-chatting with everyone in the van was so fun to experience as a new kind of social life. Also, it was super fun going to Women's champs! ... It was so wholesome and my first time at a regatta. Despite some of the struggles we had, it was a really good experience with lots of laughs and a ton of memories!"



SAILOR SPOTLIGHTS

Yuang “Connor” Song

Connor Song (TC and GSAS '26), a doctoral student in mathematics and education, who also serves as an adjunct lecturer at Hunter College and NYU, joined Columbia Sailing in the fall of 2023 and has since been an active member and made a lasting impact to our community. From the beginning of his time with CUST, his enthusiasm to hype up our club members brought needed energy to our general body meetings and practices. He is always quick to crack a joke, and befriend whoever he is traveling or sailing with that day. This season he was one of our most attending members to practice and made a lasting connection with coach Loghlen, eager to learn while keeping practice fun for everyone.



Why did you join Columbia sailing?

"The resemblance between aircraft and modern-day sailboats has always fascinated me and drawn me to sailing. I learned the basics in South Norwalk but never felt fully confident in my abilities. I wanted to refine my skills, and after meeting the incredible people on the team, I knew CUST was the perfect place to do so. My dedicated teammates and our coach are my biggest keel, keeping me from capsizing."

What are some valuable lessons you learned on and off the water?

"Be patient and stay calm—both on and off the water. Sailing makes me appreciate my surroundings more, from the wind and tide cycles to the currents. It also reminds me that you won't always have steady control, but that's okay. Stay calm and tack on."

What were some of your favorite moments from Columbia sailing this season?

"The rides to and from the sailing clubs along are some memorable moments. You don't get to see Vincenti and Yuen singing along with the radio every day, and with Ben driving, it feels like a Formula 1 experience. Coach Loghlen is extremely patient and excellent at instructing—when he's not rocking the boat to try and get you in the water. I also really appreciate the effort that goes into every general meeting. From the peer teachers like Guilio and Chase to the fun games prepared by Elizabeth, it's clear how much thought and energy everyone contributes. I hope to attend a regatta someday to cheer for the team!"



SPRING GOALS

After a successful season on the water, we plan to reach for greater heights and continue to build our race team and club member experience. Our goals for the spring season reflect our members' commitment, excitement, and competitive spirit to the sport of sailing.

Race team sailors hope to build off the momentum from the fall season and qualify for the America's Cup regatta, placing them against the best competition in the mid-Atlantic region. We also plan to attend a greater number of events to get the attention of other teams and make an even greater name for Columbia Sailing. Additionally, the spring season is unique in that there are both fleet and team racing regattas, so the team aims to increase their knowledge of team racing in order to succeed in both fields.

We are also excited to develop a strong Learn To Sail program to build a greater understanding of sailing skills and improve their confidence levels on the water. By the end of the season, our program will allow them to independently navigate the water and skipper or crew in a multitude of wind conditions, and even dabble in fleet racing. We will incorporate race team sailors into the Learn To Sail program to pass on skills, and in turn foster a strong sense of teamwork and community within the club. By pursuing these goals, CUST is in a great position to show our mix of competitiveness, passion, and excitement to learn, developing a lasting impact within the university and beyond.

Sincerely,

Eva DeCastro

Merchandise Chair of Columbia Sailing



Eva (BC '28) joined the team this fall and has already proven herself to be an invaluable member to the team this season. She attended all five regattas as a skipper and crew, and completed the semester with impressive results including her performance skippering at MAISA Women's Champs. We are excited to have her for the next three and a half years and look forward to what she will achieve for Columbia Sailing.

THE FUTURE OF COLUMBIA SAILING



Chase O'Malley
Co-Captain

Hometown: Kent Island, MD
Major: Chemical Engineering
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Alexander Vincenti
Co-Captain

Hometown: Glen Rock, NJ
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Elizabeth Frost
Vice Captain

Hometown: Chicago, IL
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School: CC '27
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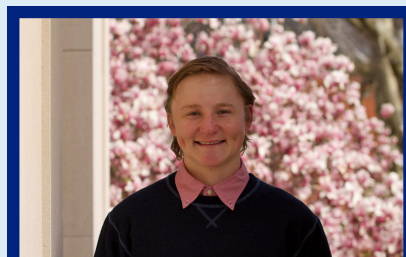
Amelia Thomas
Secretary

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Giulio Basilico
Treasurer

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Jake Miller
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THE FUTURE OF COLUMBIA SAILING



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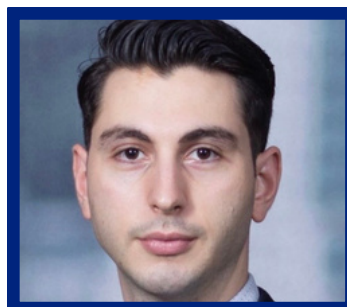


Ross Claytor
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Eva DeCastro
Merchandise Chair

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Mark Festa
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Drew Doyle
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Reid Hu
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Major: Financial Econ (Pre-Med)
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Ezh2104@columbia.edu

GIVING DAY UPDATE

Thanks to your incredible generosity, we are thrilled to share that this year we raised **\$11,015 on Giving Day!** Your support has surpassed our expectations and will make a lasting impact on our community. Every gift, no matter the size, has contributed to this amazing success and will help us reach our goal of **\$50,000 this year.** We are deeply grateful for each and every one of you who participated, shared our message, and gave so selflessly. Your contributions will support our mission of making sailing accessible to all Columbians and give our sailors the opportunity to perform at their best. I would specifically like to thank J. C. Zucconi, as his generous donation has completely paid for all the travel costs we incurred this season.

Your Giving Day donations will fund an active spring regatta schedule and provide our new club members with dry suits and other winter gear. Your support provides the backbone for our long-term success and guarantees the longevity of our club. While we do not have an endowment like other club sports, or receive anywhere near the level of financial support that we should as one of the largest teams at this school, **we know that we can always rely on our CUST family.** Thank you for helping us reach new heights—this wouldn't have been possible without you!

With gratitude,

Giulio Basilico

Treasurer of Columbia Sailing

Thank you to our donors!

Grand Admiral:

- J.C. Zucconi

Captain:

- Eric Frost
- Jeffrey Stracka
- Ellen Werb
- Kathryn Walker
- Jane Piercy
- Kristine Frost
- Ginny Flower Marvin
- Richard Leonard
- Steven Davis
- Hong Zeng

Commodore:

- John V. Vincenti

Deckhand:

- Michelle Edelstein
- Conor Cashel
- Kelsey Burns
- Alison Rosenfeld
- Isaac Bauer
- Ethan Xiao
- Paul Stegmann
- Mary Claytor
- Connor Song
- Rachel Adler
- Hollis DeLeonardo Vandamme
- Gayathri Gunasekaran
- Richard Leonard
- Alison Keenan
- Alexander Vincenti
- Christopher Jackson
- Arthur Ensroth
- George Miller
- Rick de los Reyes

THE ANNUAL



SAVE THE DATE

Sailing Annual

Saturday, February 22nd
Chelsea Piers



ANNUAL GIVING

As we reflect on the past semester, we are filled gratitude for the continued support of our alumni, friends, and families. Thanks to you, Columbia Sailing has not only been able to continue to succeed on the water, but we've also made sailing a more accessible sport for our student body. This year marks an exciting milestone — our move to Larchmont Yacht Club, which opens a new chapter in our journey. We are excited about the opportunities this new home offers for growth and success.

Our recent transition from Huguenot Yacht Club to Larchmont Yacht Club has already proven to be a significant step forward. With access to world-class facilities and the leadership of our new Head Coach, Loghlen Rickard, we are in a stronger position than ever to develop and support Columbia Sailing. Under Coach Rickard's guidance, we are focused on building a team that is not only competitive, but one that will become a recognized contender at regattas. Your continued support has made all of this possible, and we are incredibly grateful.

However, there is still much to be done. To ensure the long-term sustainability of Columbia Sailing and build on the momentum we've gained thus far, we must continue to invest in key areas, such as upgrading equipment, maintaining our new facilities, and providing opportunities for our team to grow and compete at the highest level. Whether it's travel costs for regattas, new gear, or ensuring our facilities remain in top condition, there is an ongoing need for financial support to ensure we can continue to build on our success.

As we enter this new chapter, we humbly ask for your continued support. Your contributions directly impact the success of Columbia Sailing, helping us not only maintain our current momentum but also expand our reach, strengthen our racing team, and elevate the program as a whole. With your help, we can provide our sailors with the best possible experience and set them up for continued success on the water for years to come.

Thank you once again for your generosity, your commitment, and your belief in Columbia Sailing. We are excited to share even greater success with you in the future.

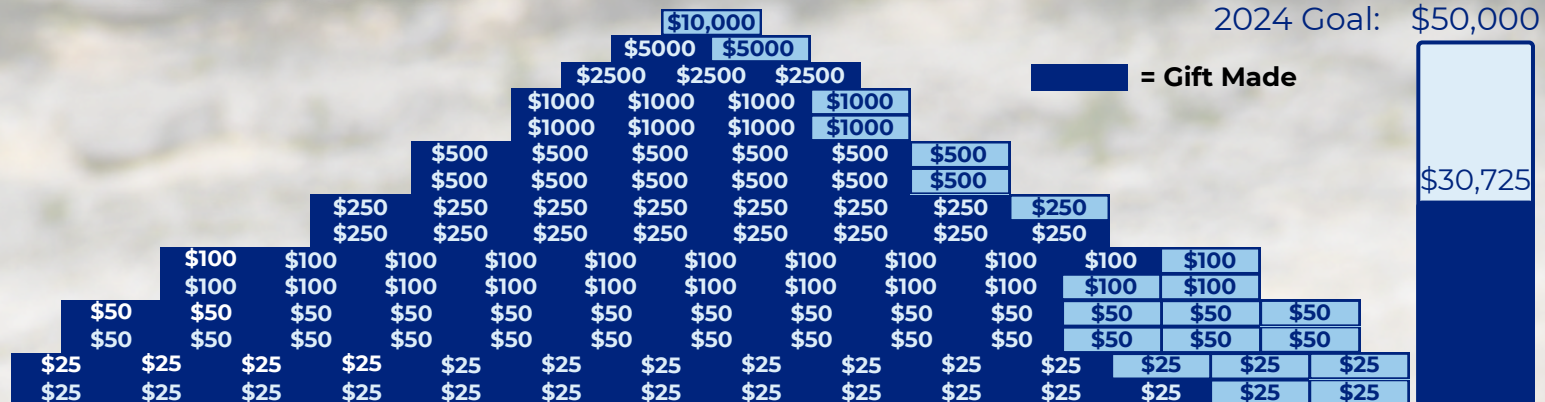
Warm regards,
Mark Anthony Festa
Alumni Chair

ANNUAL GIVING

SUPPORT OUR SAILORS

One main function of our alumni network is to drive the financial support of our sailing team! Currently, we are relying on alumni donations to be able to hire a full-time coach and provide reliable transportation to practice. Every single gift helps us achieve our goals. If you would like to support the team, refer to the instructions on the following page or email maf2331@columbia.edu

2024 Goal: \$50,000



Potential Impact:

Deckhand

Up to \$250

Provides transportation for one sailor to attend a week of practices and regattas.

Captain Sponsor

\$250+

Repairs and outfits our boats and helps purchase expensive gear such as drysuits and spray gear for new sailors to borrow while first learning the sport.

Commodore Sponsor

\$1000+

Repairs and outfits our boats and helps purchase expensive gear such as drysuits and spray gear for new sailors to borrow while first learning the sport.

Grand Admiral Sponsor

\$5000+

Provides the team with new sails for the boats, hotels for weekend regattas, and flights to and from national level regattas.

Ordo Leonis

\$10,000+

Supports our most ambitious initiatives, such as purchasing a new fleet of boats and hiring a full-time coaching staff; ensuring the longevity of the team for years to come.
You will be commemorated on our website in perpetuity.

ANNUAL GIVING

Make A Donation

[DONATE HERE](#)

For Online donations:

1. Go to the Columbia University Home Page and click on "Giving" on the right hand side
2. Click on ["Make A Gift"](#)
3. Under Search Columbia Funds: enter "Sailing Club Gift"
4. Enter a gift amount then click "Add Gift"
5. Answer "Would you like to make this a recurring gift?"
6. Enter contact information
7. Enter payment information

For Check Donations:

1. Checks need to be made payable to "Columbia University"
2. In the memo section of the check ask them to write in "donation to" - Sailing Club Gift
3. Make sure a name and address is on the check
4. Mail the checks to **Dodge Fitness Center c/o Brian Jines 3030 Broadway, MC 1923 New York, NY 10027**
5. If the club is collecting checks at an event, fill out a Gift Account deposit sheet and submit it with the checks to the Club Sports Office.

STAY CONNECTED

Email

Website

Instagram

Facebook

Linktree