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### **THE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF TAYLOR ALLDERDICE HIGH SCHOOL'S HALL OF FAME**

*A constitutional law and education policy expert, education scholar and civic leader, geriatric medicine pioneer, award-winning military historian, and groundbreaking physician-scientist are the 2026 honorees who will be celebrated on April 30, 2026.*

Pittsburgh, PA, April 20, 2026 – On April 30, 2026, Allderdice High School will recognize distinguished alumni whose diverse accomplishments have enriched our world. This year, alumni Lia Epperson (1989), Gregory A. Morris (1955), Fred Rubin (1967), Ronald Spector (1960), and Mitchell Weiss (1975) will join the Allderdice Hall of Fame.

- **Lia Epperson, JD (1989)**, an internationally recognized constitutional law, civil rights, and education policy scholar and litigator, is Professor of Law at American University Washington College of Law. She serves on the Executive Committee of ACLU's National Board of Directors and the Project on Government Oversight Board of Directors.
- **Gregory A. Morris, PhD (1955)**, an expert in reading instruction and civic leader, is a retired Pittsburgh Public Schools and University of Pittsburgh School of Education faculty member. As executor of his uncle Billy Strayhorn's estate, he helped form Billy Strayhorn Songs, Inc., which manages and promotes the jazz musician's catalog.
- **Fred Rubin, MD (1967)**, a pioneer in geriatric medicine and local champion for improving the health of seniors, is Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He founded the geriatrics program at Shadyside Hospital and served as co-founder and president of the Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society-Western Division.
- **Ronald Spector, PhD (1960)**, an acclaimed author, scholar, and teacher of modern military history, was Professor Emeritus of History and International Relations at George Washington University. His books include the award-winning *Eagle Against the Sun: The American War with Japan* and groundbreaking accounts of the Vietnam War (*Advice and Support: The Early Years, 1941-1960; After Tet: The Bloodiest Year in Vietnam*).
- **Mitchell Weiss, MD, PhD (1975)**, a renowned physician-scientist who treats children with hematologic diseases, is the Arthur Nienhuis Endowed Chair in Hematology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. His research provides insights into red blood cell biology and inspires cutting-edge treatments for blood disorders, including gene therapy for sickle cell disease.

The Hall of Fame ceremony will take place on Thursday, April 30 at 6:30 pm in the Allderdice auditorium. The event is free and open to the public; no reservations are required.

Taylor Allderdice High School, also referred to as "Pittsburgh Allderdice," is a public high school located in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh, PA. The school opened in 1927 and is named for industrialist and Squirrel Hill resident Taylor Allderdice, who was a member of the city's first school board and president of the National Tube Company, which was a subsidiary of the U.S. Steel Corporation.

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