

Randall Carlisle

Class of 1967

Randall Carlisle, who graduated from WHS in 1967, currently serves as the media and community relations director for Odyssey House in Utah. Prior to working at the Odyssey House, he spent 50 years in radio and television, serving as the main anchor in Colorado Springs, Dayton, Salt Lake City, Minneapolis and Dallas.



In sixth grade, Carlisle auditioned and got the role of Young Patrick in *Auntie Mame*, a play directed by a professional summer stock theater group called Arena Fair. Carlisle said this experience sparked his interest in acting.

In ninth grade, Carlisle got involved in dramatic readings and debate and state radio contests where he won the state radio announcing contest. He was offered a part time job at WWST, which then became his career.

As Carlisle professional career progressed, he started working in small markets where he honed his skills and said he gradually climbed up into larger markets in Minneapolis and Dallas.

WHS helped Carlisle to be on the path he is on today. “WHS had wonderfully dedicated and talented drama, speech, debate and music teachers who helped me improve my skills and encouraged me to continue, especially in debate,” Carlisle said. His success in the art of debate at WHS provided a full scholarship to Otterbein College, where he continued competing.

In looking at his advice to youth pursuing the arts, Carlisle encourages students to, “Follow your dreams wherever they take you. Pursuing the arts may not be the most lucrative way to go, but what matters most as you look back toward the end of your life, is that you were happy and enjoyed what you did.”

— Gina Van Lieu, *student interviewer*

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