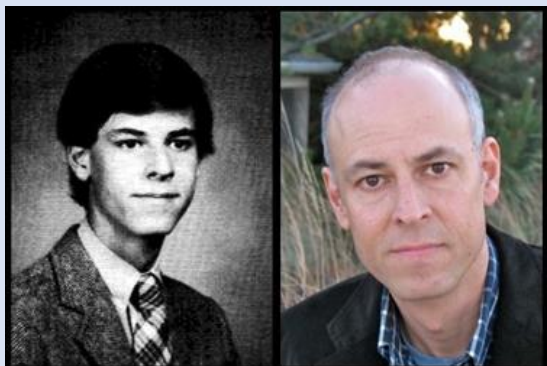


The Wyoming School Foundation is privileged to announce the

2018 WHS Distinguished Alumnus



David Shenk
WHS Class of 1984
Writer, Lecturer, Filmmaker

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes alumni who have made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments, affiliations, and careers have honored the legacy of excellence of Wyoming Schools.

David Shenk - 1984 WHS Yearbook & Today

David is the award-winning and national-best-selling author of six books, including *The Genius in All of Us* ("deeply interesting and important" - New York Times), *The Forgetting* ("remarkable" - Los Angeles Times), *Data Smog* ("indispensable" - New York Times), and *The Immortal Game* ("superb" - Wall Street Journal). He is a popular lecturer, a filmmaker, and a contributor to National Geographic, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, Harper's, The New Yorker, The Atlantic, the New Republic, The American Scholar, NPR and BBC. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Wyoming launched David on his journalism career in the third grade when he was appointed editor of the *Hilltop Frolic Gazette*. In the fifth grade, David fell in love with writing after reading Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*. In the eighth grade, he was brought into the weird, wide world of English teacher Bob Moses, who would later mentor him in his poetry writing. In high school, David served as co-editor (with Adam Berliant) of the *Horizon* and was one of the many pre-med acolytes of the great human anatomy teacher Marie King Johnson.

After graduating from Brown University in 1988, he moved to Washington, DC, where he wrote for the *Washington Post*, the *Washington Monthly*, and *Spy* magazine, and where he served as a producer for National Public Radio. In 1993, David moved to New York City and was granted a fellowship at the Freedom Forum Media Studies Center at Columbia University. In 1998, David and his family lived briefly in Tokyo, Japan on a United States-Japan Foundation Fellowship, where David explored the cultural ramifications of extreme technology-saturation. That same year, he co-founded "Technorealism," a movement encouraging balanced consideration of technology's effects on humanity.

David's writing appears in several collections and has been translated into many additional languages. In 2004, his original term "data smog" was added to the Oxford English Dictionary, and the PBS companion film of his book *The Forgetting* was awarded an Emmy. In 2006, *The Forgetting* was featured in Sarah Polley's Oscar-nominated film "Away From Her." In 2011, he was featured in the HBO film "Bobby Fischer Against the World." David has advised the President's Council on Bioethics on dementia-related issues, directed five animated "pocket films" about Alzheimer's, and is currently a Senior Advisor to the research consortium Cure Alzheimer's Fund and Executive Producer of the "Living with Alzheimer's" film project.

Most importantly, David is the eldest (and least-accomplished) of three brothers Shenk. Number two, Jon Shenk '87, is an award-winning documentary filmmaker. Joshua Wolf Shenk '89 is a powerful writer, performer, editor, and mentor.

More about David here: davidshenk.com

David, joined by family and friends, was welcomed at the Distinguished Alumni reception on Sunday, April 22, 2018. On Monday, April 23, David addressed the entire Wyoming High School student body with a presentation, followed by a Q&A panel discussion. Watch a [VIDEO](#) of presentation.