Mercy Alumnae
Brag Book

mhsmi.org/bragbook
Andrea Lubienski Alami '84 was married to an Arabic software engineer & had four children. She was a Wayne State/Ford Motor meeting planner for many years before her untimely death in 2020.

Submitted by: Rose Marie Lubienski
It is our pleasure to brag about Marie Pacini Arrington. After graduation, she went to University of Michigan and successfully completed her Bachelor's degree from the School of Education ('07). During her time at Michigan, Marie also skated internationally on the USFSA senior level synchronized team and the collegiate team. As such, she traveled to England, France, Italy, and the Czech Republic, in addition to many national competitions within the United States. Upon graduation, Marie moved to Charlotte, NC to begin her career as an elementary teacher in a school that met the needs of students who were impoverished and dealt with substantive personal needs. This experience motivated Marie to expand her knowledge and development in the realm of special education.

She received a Master's of Arts in Teaching degree focusing on special education from the University of North Carolina Charlotte (UNCC). Thereafter, she served as a self-contained teacher for middle school students with profound developmental disabilities. She then was recruited to serve as an Educational Specialist in a private multi-disciplinary private practice and provided all levels of contribution related to educational assessments, determination of plans of care, etc. As Marie was doing all of this, she also secured seven professional certifications from four different certifying bodies. Presently, Marie is the Assessment and Research Coordinator for the Fletcher School in Charlotte, NC. The Fletcher School serves students with learning differences by offering a multi-sensory college preparatory curriculum. Marie will be attending UNCC to secure her second Master's degree with a focus on leadership and curriculum development. She is happily married to Kiel Arrington, the proud owner of Vaulted Oak Brewery in Charlotte and the beloved mother of Gracelyn (4) and Jacob (1 ½).
Maria Lubienski Beachman was a New York state attorney before moving to Seattle where she continues her law practice. She is married to a certified race car driver/software engineer & has two children.

Submitted by: Rose Marie Lubienski
Alycia C. Bellino '14

So very proud of Dr. Alycia C. Bellino! All of her hard work and dedication has really paid off. After receiving her undergrad degree from the University of Michigan - Microbiology, her next step was Medical School. Alycia graduated from Michigan State University- College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2022. She will be completing her residency in Internal Medicine at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital - Ann Arbor. Wishing her much success in the future!

Submitted by: Rocco & Cheryl Bellino
Karen graduated in May 1977 from the University of Notre Dame, summa cum laude and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. She graduated from the School of Medicine at University of Michigan in May 1981. She then spent an internship and residency (3 years) at Northwestern University and was offered a staff position there, where she worked for 37 years. Karen succumbed to cancer on March 7, 2018 at the age of 62. She was truly gifted!

Submitted by: Theresa Breen
Our daughter, Clare, is an endless source of pride. After graduating from Mercy, Clare set off for Loyola University in Chicago. She is a 2021, cum laude, double major graduate with a BA in Political Science and Government, Advertising and Public Relations and a minor in Women and Gender Studies. As a sophomore, Clare joined the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. In the fall of 2019, she interned with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Subsequently she was employed by Loyola as a Creative Marketing Specialist and as a Student Activities and Greek Affairs Administrator. Additionally she was a Marketing Manager for Spotivity, an app based platform that helps teens find meaningful activities.

Wisely, Clare enrolled in Loyola’s five-year Masters program and in May 2022, graduated with a Master of Science (MS) in Global Strategic Communication. Currently, Clare is employed as a Marketing Account Executive in the automotive industry. Clare is a compassionate young woman with a brilliant and creative mind and a strong desire to make a positive impact in everything she does. We are incredibly proud of Clare’s passion, diligence and determination.

Submitted by: Joan Brees & Thomas Oswald
In a class at Mercy, Elyse concluded that to put herself in the position to accomplish her identified life goals, she had to become either an Episcopal priest or a lawyer. Today she is a lawyer - and has been practicing for 8 years! She currently lives in Royal Oak with her husband, Jake Nelson and their daughter, Zora.

Submitted by: Karol Sprague & James Carnagie
Our daughter, Olivia, is currently attending medical school at Michigan State University. She has a leadership position as the Community Outreach Director for SOMA and also volunteers at Spartan Street Medicine. We thank Mercy for giving her the foundation to succeed with her future in medicine.

Submitted by: Stephanie Collins
Tara Ellis '10

Upon graduating from Mercy in 2010, Tara obtained her Bachelor of Fine Arts (2014) from the University of Michigan and a Master of Fine Arts (2016) in Color and Materials Design from the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan.

From there she went on to work as a Color, Material, and Finish designer at Nike as well as General Motors. She now resides in San Francisco with her husband Joshua (married in 2018) and she works at Google as a Color, Material and Finish designer within their Devices and Services Department.

Submitted by: Celeste Ellis
Emily Fishwick '04

We are proud to brag about our daughter Emily Fishwick, a 2004 Mercy Alum and CPA who opened her own firm this year!

Emily established her firm as Sykes PLLC, named after her grandfather who had a successful one man show CPA firm in Dearborn for many years. Her logo denotes a dog's face giving a nod to her interest and work with dog rescue efforts.

Emily is well known for all her volunteer activities with rescue dogs. She has volunteered tirelessly over the years working with shelters and transports, saving dogs, and giving them another chance at a good home where they will be safe and secure. She has taken a shining to senior dogs as they are harder to place and some of them have made their furever homes at Emily’s place!

Emily earned her Undergrad (2008) and Master (2013) degrees from the University of Michigan. Her firm specializes in start-ups, small businesses, and tax accounting. She also volunteers at Mercy as she sits on the Finance Board.

Please reach out to her and feel free to share with others who may benefit. Mercy girls helping Mercy girls is always a win-win!!

Emily Fishwick - (313) 719-3069 - emily@sykespllc.com

Submitted by: Allison & John Fishwick
We are proud to brag about our daughter Jessica Fishwick Wallen, a 2002 Mercy Alum. She is a wife, a mom, a blogger, and an interior designer! Jessica is self-employed and enjoys the freedom it allows for her to raise her daughter Olivia (baby girl Wallen #2 coming January 2023) with her husband Jeff.

Jessica is an established interior designer and promotes her services via her firm Jessica Wallen Design. Explore her website at jessicawallendesign.com for information on the services she can provide as well as examples of her work.

Jessica is also an avid cook and has a library of cookbooks!! She has documented her food journey over the years in her food blog – jessahomecook.com – please enjoy the content and follow her.

Jessica is a graduate of Notre Dame (2006) and Harrington College of Design (2008). She has the greatest disposition and the ability to not let social media or even phones interrupt what is most important to her – the greatest balancing act I have ever seen!

Please reach out to her and feel free to share with others who may benefit. Jessica Wallen (248) 662-5607 jessica@jessicawallendesign.com
Olivia Fras '19

Olivia is a senior at the University of Michigan in Neuroscience, with an emphasis on Women's Health. She has participated in research and spends time with her friends from Delta Gamma Sorority. She still finds time to participate in theatre. She recently finished Animal Farm where she starred as Clover the "good-hearted cart horse." She spent the summer of 2022 studying abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark. Olivia hopes to start medical school in 2024. She continues to be close to her Mercy sisters.

Submitted by: Matt & Michelle Fras
How can I count all the ways that Emily has made a difference in the world? Emily is a Speech and Language Therapist in Dearborn Public Schools. She obtained her Bachelors Degree from Michigan State University and her Masters Degree in Speech and Language Therapy from Eastern Michigan University. She is a highly engaging therapist working on language skills of students with a wide range of difficulties.

She is dedicated to serving children in the Mild and Moderately Impaired Classrooms. Many of the children use English as their second language so she collects and uses many resources to make her sessions incredibly beneficial to her students. She enjoys working with the parents of the children. She has guided many interns to become highly effective therapists.

I am especially proud of her advocacy for children by insisting on the best placement and outcomes for her students. She is a key person in her school, helping in many capacities. For example, she is often called upon to help children with special needs especially when they appear to be out of control. Her calm demeanor and firm directives in addition to her warm smile have a great impact in these situations. She will be one of those educators who will always be remembered by the students she has helped. Emily enjoys a wide range of activities, always willing to learn a new craft, engage in a new sport and meet new challenges. Emily is a wonderful wife and mother of two beautiful children. Each child is incredibly interesting and engaging, they expect each day to be an adventure.

Submitted by: Carole Ann & Gary Beaman
Megan A. Gegesky '09

- 2 time high school swimming All American (2008-2009)
- Graduated BSME Ohio University (2014)
- Graduated MSME University of Missouri Science & Technology (2016)
- Master’s Thesis: Hybrid Manufacturing Processes for Fusion Welding and Friction Stir Welding of Aerospace Grade Aluminum Alloys
- Married Jacob Roberson in June 2016
- Hired into Ford College Graduate Program (2016)
- Promoted Supervisor Program Management–Ford F150 Lightning Launch (2021)
- Honored as Fifth Generation Ford Employee Detroit Free Press Starting from 1913
- Introduced Mr. William Clay Ford at the F-150 Lightning Media Launch

Submitted by: Scott & Pam Gegesky
Brianna Hines is a third-year law student at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. In 2019 she received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in Spanish from Western Michigan University. Following her first year of law school, in the summer of 2021, Brianna worked as an intern at the U.S District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and as a law clerk at The Miller Law Firm. In the fall of 2021, she completed an externship with the Neighborhood Defender Service of Detroit. Currently she is an appellate intern at the Washtenaw County Prosecutors Office. Additionally, during her time in law school, Brianna has served as a Class Representative for the Student Bar Association, Treasurer for the Black Law Students Association, and will serve as the Vice President of the Black Law Students Association for the 2022-2023 academic school year.

In 2021 she was awarded the annual Judge Denise Langford Morris Scholarship through the Black Law Students Association and is the 2022 recipient of the Hon. Victoria A. Roberts Scholarship through the Wolverine Bar Association. While she is not entirely sure what type of law she wants to practice, one of Brianna's goals is to become a leader in the Detroit community and to inspire more Black and minority students to pursue a career within the legal profession. She will graduate and obtain her Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in May 2023.

Submitted by: Loretta Hines
Rosanna Lubienski Kelly '82 was a WJR radio producer for more than 25 years. Now retired, she tends to her magnificent garden & her three children.

Submitted by: Rose Marie Lubienski
Jaclyn Lewandowski '20

When Jackie’s father passed away suddenly in fall of her Sophomore year at Mercy it turned her world upside down. Instead of enjoying things a fifteen-year-old should be experiencing, her world became filled with sadness, uncertainty and isolation. In all of her grief, one thing that did seem to help was the CHAT group organized at Mercy. CHAT gave girls who had experienced a loss a safe place to go and meet in a group with other teens that understood what they were going through. I will forever be grateful to Mercy for this group and for their support!

In spring of 2020 Jackie became involved in New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville, Michigan. The mission of New Hope is to offer hope, healing and new beginnings to those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Based on what she had learned and experienced at Mercy, Jackie helped develop content and form a Teen Peer Support group at New Hope. Jackie has been the Teen Group Facilitator for 2 years and provided many teens a safe place to express themselves. She has also lead groups of young children at the annual Kid’s camp for 4 years, and has met one on one with teens and families to offer grief support.

Jackie can just sit in the horrible space of grief, be there, understand and listen. Jackie has turned loss and sadness into hope and love for others. This is truly God working through Jackie to make a difference in the lives of others.

Submitted by: Maryellen Lewandowski
Casey is a Ph.D student in Psychology at Princeton University. She graduated Summa cum laude from Boston University in 2019, receiving a B.A. degree in Psychology with Honors and Philosophy with Honors. Her exchange semester was at the National University of Singapore. Casey was just awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. She has also been Published. Casey was the President of Omega Phi Alpha at BU. This is a National community service sorority. She has been very active in outreach for many years.

Submitted by: Rita Dilworth Lewry '77
Carolyn Lusch earned a master’s degree in urban and regional planning from U of M in 2015 and recently returned to Michigan with her husband and son (and has since welcomed a second child) after a five-year sojourn in New Haven, Connecticut. Her work and volunteer activities in New Haven were greatly centered on advocacy for safe and sustainable transportation and urban design. Carolyn continues to pursue this passion in her current position as a planner for an architecture and design firm in Ann Arbor.

Submitted by: Ann Lusch
Dr. Leann Arcori Madion ’08

Dr. Leann Arcori Madion is a Pediatrician.

Submitted by: Lamia Arcori
Lauren graduated from Hope College in 2014 (Magna Cum Laude) with a BA in History and shortly thereafter set off to walk the Appalachian Trail, which she completed in November 2014. Next, she participated in the AmeriCorps VISTA Program, working for the Chicago Lawyers Committee for Better Housing. She then accepted a full scholarship to Wayne State University's Law School where she was on the Board of the Law Review, graduating Cum Laude in June 2019. She subsequently passed the Indiana Bar and is now a Public Defender for Marion County (Indianapolis), IN.

Submitted by: Michael and Susan Madison
Danielle began her undergraduate journey at the University of Central Arkansas, Conway Arkansas in 2017. She obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science with minors in French and Global Security & Diplomacy in June 2021 with a 4.0 GPA from Montclair State University in Montclair, New Jersey.

She continued on and finished in June 2022 with her Master’s Degree in Law and Governance. Danielle was selected to give the commencement speech on behalf of the Graduate School during the commencement ceremony on May 20, 2022. She graduated with a 3.98 GPA and received recognition from the Faculty of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and was presented with a Certificate of Academic Excellence.

Danielle is currently working with a private bank in New York City.

As parents, we are not placing this update to “brag” but to give thanks and recognize first and foremost Almighty God. We also want to recognize and thank all those persons who have been instrumental in helping her to reach this point; her grandparents, her siblings, aunts, uncles, track & field and dance coaches, Church family, friends and fellow students, and those special parents of Mercy High School who took her in and made her feel welcomed!

The best is yet to be. To God Be All The Glory Honor and Praise.

Submitted by: Tonia & Vincent McDonald
Annelyse Beaman Miller '91

How can I count all the ways that Annelyse has made a difference in the world? She is the penultimate educator and has used many platforms to engage learners. Drama was important to Annelyse while at Mercy. She was part of the initial Mime Group and was in plays at Mercy and U of D Jesuit. She has taught drama to her current middle school students as well as to various church and community groups. She is especially interested in the benefits of Improv and has led workshops for a variety of students, young and old. Recently she virtually taught Chinese educators how to teach drama to their students. In the course of the interaction she was able to write thirty-nine plays based up popular Chinese children's stories to be used by these teachers.

Annelyse spent a year in the Dominican Republic teaching young children and working with other volunteer groups in meeting the needs of a very poor community. Annelyse has made a significant difference at the Detroit Public Schools Community District middle school where she teaches. Many of the children use English as their second language so their reading levels tend to be low. She has consistently increased their reading levels by encouraging reading for pleasure. An important tool is the classroom library she has created with wide range of reading levels and interests. This has been accomplished with support from Donors Choose followers. Annelyse is an amazing wife and mother. Her three children are incredible examples of her strong dedication to making the world an interesting place to explore and learn. Each of her children are dedicated readers. Her latest personal accomplishment is to earn her Golden Gloves at her Kick Boxing Gym.

Submitted by: Carole Ann & Gary Beaman
Awarded the Chancellor’s and Curb Scholarships to attend Vanderbilt University where she graduated Cum Laude in 2014 as a triple major in Cellular and Molecular Biology, Spanish, and Piano Performance.

Attended Emory University School of Medicine where she served as Student National Medical Association President and Christian Medical & Dental Association Vice President before graduating with her Doctor of Medicine in 2018.

Commissioned into the United States Air Force (USAF) as a Captain after training at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama in 2018.

Began training as a General Surgery intern physician at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX in 2018.

Currently in her fourth year training as an Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery (Ear, Nose, and Throat) Resident at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD since 2019.

Looking forward to promoting to Major in 2023, completing her surgical residency 2024, and continuing training as a laryngology fellow.

Submitted by: Wanda Morrison & William Hazel
Jess Mruzik '20

Jess is a Junior at the University of Michigan. She was named one of the Captains for the University of Michigan Women's Volleyball team for the Fall 2022 season! In the Fall 2021 season, Jess was selected by the American Volleyball Coaches Association as an Honorable Mention-All-American as well as selected to the AVCA All-Region Team. In the Spring 2021 season, Jess was selected to the Big Ten All-Freshman Team. She is currently studying applied exercise science with a concentration in management. Jess is also earning a Minor in Business from the Ross School of Business.

Submitted by: Jackie Mruzik
Marshele Parker graduated from North Carolina A&T (NCA&T) in May 2022 with her Bachelor of Science in Political Science and a Minor in Public Relations with honors. Marshele received multiple scholarships and honors during her time at NCA&T. Marshele also participated in internships supported by The Fund for American Studies, American Trucking Association, Michigan AFL-CIO, Un-PAC, T. Howard Foundation and Warner Music Group. Marshele recently received an invitation to participate in Digital Advertising Alliance Summit in Los Angeles, CA with all expenses covered by sponsor.

Submitted by: Dr. Marsha Parker
Kristin Remus '93

Our daughter, Kristin Remus class of '93, remains grateful for her Mercy years! She is a physician at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Mercy not only provided her with an excellent education, but gave her a sure, moral Catholic responsibility.

Submitted by: Chris and Ruth Remus
In her 20 years since graduating from Mercy, Jessica has become the strong, independent, passionate, and compassionate woman I am proud to brag about. With her IOE degree from Michigan and her MS from George Washington University, Jessica worked 10 years with Lockheed Martin and is presently working for a pharmaceutical start-up based in San Francisco.

Her passion for outdoor adventure has led her to pursue mountain biking, hiking, backpacking, backcountry snowboarding and camping, and traveling around the world. She cares deeply for dogs without homes, and she volunteers her time at animal rescues and fostering rescue dogs. Through this work, she found and adopted her canine soulmate, who now helps teach the fosters how to be happy, confident, and social dogs. These days, one might find Jessica, her boyfriend Brad, and Frida in Bend, OR, or else traveling the country in her converted van, exploring and embarking on new adventures and working remotely.
Chloe graduated from Mercy as Student Body President in 2013 after also serving as Class President her first 3 years. She went on to attend the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and was, ultimately, selected as the 2018 College of Engineering Commencement Student Speaker. While on campus, Chloe was honored for her involvement in numerous organizations including the Michigan Community Scholars Program, National Society of Black Engineers, Residential Staff, Program on Intergroup Relations, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She even served as President of AKA's Beta Eta Chapter on campus and received the AKA International Undergraduate Member of the Year Award in 2018.

She graduated with a B.S.E. in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in Community Action & Social Change. Chloe was also accepted into Harvard Business School's 2+2 Program in 2018. After graduation, Chloe relocated to Boston to work at Procter & Gamble as a Gillette Product Supply Engineer. She has received many awards during her time at P&G including their CEO Award. Chloe married Sterling Sharp (North Farmington '13) on December 11, 2021 at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament followed by a reception at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Chloe and Sterling are high school sweethearts and attended Mercy Prom together in 2013. Chloe currently attends Harvard Business School and is an MBA Candidate in the Class of 2024.

Submitted by: Yolande Herbert Henderson
Jaclyn Shinney Selby '02

Jaclyn founded Sous Chef to build community through culinary experiences with the notion that immersive, shared events unite us in meaningful ways and enjoying a meal together is an authentic opportunity to foster lasting connections. Prior to Sous Chef, Jaclyn gained 13 years of professional experience in media, advertising technology, sales and management in NYC. Jaclyn is the founding host of MIT's Sloan Alumni Online Speaker Series. She earned an MBA from MIT Sloan School of Management, and a Bachelor's Degree from Northwestern University.

Submitted by: Ray & Karen Shinney
Davia A. Smith '18

Davia graduated on May 14, 2022 Cum Laude from Xavier University with a BSBA in Marketing. She is currently at Ford Motor Company in the Marketing, Sales, and Service division as a Zone Manager.

Submitted by: Mae Smitherman-Smith
Angela Arcori Thomas '01

Angela Arcori Thomas is in Commercial Real Estate.

Submitted by: Lamia Arcori
Marisa Arcori Thomas '04

Marisa Arcori Thomas is in Residential Real Estate. She started a new company with her brother in law Simon Thomas Dobi Realty.

Submitted by: Lamia Arcori
After relocating to Detroit, Michigan during elementary school, she attended Christ the King School and graduated with honors, and was accepted into Mercy High School. There, she had the opportunity to make new (lifelong) friends and learn everything she could via a rigorous college prep program. Our daughter continued on her path as a smart, friendly, and honest person, extremely enjoying classes such as French, choral, and literature, constantly collecting and reading book after book.

After graduating from Mercy, Rejane went on to attend Michigan State University, graduating from the College of Communications in Journalism and shortly after, completed Broadcast and Film Studies at Specs Howard. She then lived all over the US, wanting to experience all that life had to offer: back to NYC, onto Florida, California, Washington, DC, and Chicago, where she now lives happily with her husband. We couldn't be more proud or thrilled for our daughter and the life she has built!

Submitted by: Dr. & Mrs. Raynald Pierre
After graduating from Saint Louis University in 2017 with a B.S. in Public Health, Maria worked in health policy in Washington, DC and public health consulting in Bow, New Hampshire before attending graduate school at Emory University where she was a merit scholar. In May 2022, she earned a Master of Science in Public Health (with concentrations in Epidemiology and Environmental Health) and a Climate and Health Certificate.

Maria was recognized as a finalist for several awards: Outstanding Applied Practicum Experience, Gangarosa Department of Environmental Health Award for Excellence in Environmental Health Research, and the Charles C. Shepard Award for outstanding thesis research. She has also been published in several academic journals. We are especially proud of these accomplishments considering Maria's two-year graduate school experience took place during a truly unprecedented time to study public health. Maria is continuing to pursue her passion for climate change and health as a Research Fellow at the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change in London.
Sierra Wangler '15

2019 Graduate at University of Michigan B.A. Communications and Media Studies Ross School of Business Cappo Sales Track 2015-2019 Product Line Manager - Run & Competitive Train UnderArmour, Baltimore, Maryland

Submitted by: John & Lorraine Wangler
Josephine is attending Pittsburgh School of Law on a full-ride scholarship. She is in her third and final year and has already been offered a position at Fox Rothschild to begin Fall 2023.

Submitted by: Jennifer Ewald Wenson '85
Samantha is a Physical Therapist that has started her own company called Movement Specialist of Michigan, LLC. She has been married to Michael (Mechanical Engineer) since September 2018 and they have an adorable son named Emmett Paul (2 years old).

Submitted by: Jennifer Ewald Wenson '85