

MOSAIC

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED TWICE YEARLY FOR
ALUMNAE, PARENTS & FRIENDS

FALL 2015



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

70th Anniversary & Grand Reunion
New History Display
Teacher Retirements
Alumnae Class Notes & In Memory





Created by Mercy's founding Mother of Art Mary Ignatius Denay, RSM

A MOSAIC IS AN ARRAY OF DIVERSE ELEMENTS JOINED TOGETHER TO CREATE A GREATER WHOLE.



Mercy High School
29300 W. 11 Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48336-1409
Email: mhs@mhsmi.org
Tel: (248) 476-8020
Fax: (248) 476-3691

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MAGAZINE

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TWICE YEARLY
FOR ALUMNAE,
PARENTS & FRIENDS

Editors

Margaret Haapala Kurpiers '85
Director of Alumnae Relations

Julie Earle
Communications Coordinator

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Visit

MHSMI.ORG

Stay connected with what's happening at Mercy. Read and sign up to receive alumnae and parent monthly e-newsletters, browse the school year calendar, and check out Mercy event photos and news articles.

Mercy High School

MISSION STATEMENT

Mercy High School,
a Catholic college preparatory
school immersed in the tradition
of the Sisters of Mercy,
educates and inspires
young women of diverse
backgrounds to lead and
serve with compassion.

Administrative Team

Cheryl Delaney Kreger, Ed.D. '66 - *President*
Carolyn Behringer Witte '67 - *Principal*
Laurence Baker - *Associate Principal/Operations*
Colleen McMaster Rozman '81 -
Associate Principal/Academic Affairs
Eleasha Mercer Tarplin '94 -
Dean of Student Affairs

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Zena Samona '96
Maureen Carlson Sisco '82
Stephanie Dickow Surowiec '91
Eleasha Mercer Tarplin '94

We Are Mercy

A mosaic of many parts, many voices, many hands, many dreams, many prayers,
joined together to make a greater whole.



Mercy High School is proud to present our "We Are Mercy" history display honoring 70 years of educating women who make a difference. The new exhibit highlights the Sisters of Mercy and Founder Catherine McAuley, both the Outer Drive and current campuses, photos through the years, awards, trophies, and memorabilia from arts, athletics, alumnae and more. Located at the Reception Area entrance, it serves as a welcome to all visitors and a prominent passageway for students.

Mercy was honored to have Rev. Mark S. Brauer, Pastor at Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington, bestow a blessing on the history display Friday, September 25th as part of our 70th Anniversary President's Reception.



"Our history display was purposefully designed to reflect the spirit of Mercy that has endured throughout our 70 years. Rather than creating a timeline on a wall, we opted to arrange our display according to themes that speak to what Mercy means to alumnae of all ages: Portrait of the Community, Learning and Exploration, Performance and Achievement."

— Dr. Cheryl Delaney Kreger '66,
Mercy President



Then. Now. Forever.



70TH ANNIVERSARY 2015 GRAND REUNION

SEPTEMBER 24-28, 2015

It was a celebration on a grand scale! Thank you to everyone in the Mercy community who planned or participated in the Mercy High School 70th Anniversary & Grand Reunion Weekend September 24 - 28, 2015. The Dads Club bonfire Thursday evening was a roaring success and set an enthusiastic tone for the rest of the weekend. On Friday at the President's Reception, President Dr. Cheryl Delaney Kreger '66 and President Emerita Sr. Regina Marie Doelker, RSM '56 presented the prestigious President's Award for Transformational Leadership to William C. Young, President & CEO of Plastipak Packaging, Inc. Rev. Mark S. Brauer, Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows, blessed our history display, and accomplished harpist Christa Grix '74 gave us the gift of her beautiful music.

On Saturday, Mercy welcomed home more than 500 alumnae for an all-class reunion and open house. To the delight of the audience, former Choral Director Mr. Lawrence Teevens led current and alumnae Mercyaire in song. What a thrill to see so many faces back on the auditorium stage! Alumnae lunched in the gym and had the opportunity to tour the school, visit the history display, chat with past classmates and teachers, and meet in classrooms for individual class reunions. Some classes continued the party at off-site reunions Saturday evening.

Rev. Dennis P. Noelke, CSB, Principal of Detroit Catholic Central High School, celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sisters of Mercy on Sunday. Sr. Rachelle Harper, RSM '52 shared a reflection on Catherine McAuley, and alumnae and friends representing various "parts of the Mercy mosaic" placed flowers at the statue of our Blessed Mother.

To cap it all off on Monday, the Mercy community hit the fairways of Western Golf and Country Club in Redford for the Make a Difference for Mercy Golf Outing. What a wonderful weekend! How blessed we are!

The energy was amazing... what a feel-good weekend!

-KATHY HATTAM WISNE '71



The best parts about the reunion weekend were reconnecting with 70 accomplished classmates at our 40th Reunion and the chance to sing as a Mercyaire once again with Larry Teevens. There was a feeling of welcome and joy throughout the weekend. -CARLA BRISBOIS-GRIBBS '75



I'm glad I was able to attend the Grand Reunion and celebrate with Mercy sisters of all ages. It was great to reunite with other students and teachers, as well as meet more of the Mercy family. I definitely felt the Mercy spirit and could truly say that it was awesome to be at home again! -TONI ROSE ARCEÑO '09

Friendships that have spanned decades with women of true substance.

-KATHY KELLY '75



Then. Now. Forever.



70TH ANNIVERSARY
2015 GRAND REUNION
SEPTEMBER 24-28, 2015

DONATE \$70 FOR 70 YEARS
To donate \$70 to commemorate Mercy's 70th Anniversary, please visit mhsmi.org/70thanniversary



So glad my girls were there to witness the Circle of Mercy beyond what they see today.

-JOANIE DAVIDSON FORFINSKI '84

Mercy High School conferred the inaugural President's Award for Transformational Leadership to William C. Young, President and CEO of Plastipak Packaging, Inc.

William C. Young is recognized worldwide as a successful businessman and philanthropist. His passions include supporting his alma mater, the University of Detroit Mercy, as well as founding Dollars for Scholars, an organization that provides scholarship support for students in Michigan.

As an added benefit to the employees of Plastipak, he has made college scholarships available for their children.

"Bill" is the father of Brittany, a 2006 Mercy High School graduate, and husband of Vivienne. He is well known at Mercy High School as a quiet leader who expertly chaired Mercy's last Capital Campaign. He solicited support throughout the Mercy community to secure funds that resulted in renovated state-of-the-art science labs, an expanded counseling department, an additional athletic field and a new power substation.

Bill also spearheaded the building of eight new tennis courts and generously donated to make that project a reality.

The Young Family Tennis Complex would not have been possible without his personal dedication and investment.

Through his generosity, the Young Family Foundation has also provided scholarship assistance to Mercy students in need.

We are so very grateful for his personal investment in Mercy High School.



Join the Marlin Adult Chorus

The Performing Arts Department is pleased to offer a new opportunity to bring together alumnae, staff, and friends of Mercy in song. The Marlin Adult Chorus formed this fall as a performing group to be featured in the Christmas and Spring Concerts. The Chorus is open to alumnae, staff, spouses, and friends of Mercy regardless of musical background or experience. Men of Mercy are welcome! The Chorus is led by Vocal Music Director, Rebekah Ferguson and meets Monday evenings from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. For more information, please contact Rebekah Ferguson at rjferguson@mhsmi.org or (248) 893-3575.

THE ORIGINAL MERCY GIRL

By Paisley Sutton '16, Newsprint Photography Editor

She'd waited so long for this moment. Her father and brothers helped build the school, and her mother encouraged her to be the first to enroll. She was the first to pay the tuition of \$50. At last, the first day of high school at Our Lady of Mercy had arrived. The year was 1945. Although nervous, Sister Camille Kelley was ready for all that the brand new school had to offer.

"We were the first four-year class," Sr. Kelley said. *"The high school had taken some sophomores, juniors, and seniors, but our class was the largest with 104 students."*

Mercy's first years sound strikingly familiar to today's. During her four years at Mercy, Sr. Kelley took biology, chemistry, Latin and, like so many students, the dreaded geometry.

"The work was pretty balanced," Sr. Kelley said. *"I never felt negative about school. I do remember getting appendicitis one year and stressing out about geometry. A friend of mine tutored me and helped me through it."*

Although there weren't any sports, Sr. Kelley played the lead role in school productions and attended a few dances, including prom and A-ball. She remembers being the first to experience treasured traditions such as Moving-Up Day and wearing a white dress at graduation.

Sr. Kelley was inspired by her mother to attend Mercy College (known today as University of Detroit Mercy) and major in English. Her mother worked as a teacher while her father worked in a steel-manufacturing factory and later for a construction company that built many of the Mercy projects.

Becoming a Sister of Mercy simply seemed like the next step for Sr. Kelley. After watching her aunt serve as a sister, and with a strong sense of faith, Sr. Kelley decided to join the religious order.

After college, Sr. Kelley's love for literature and passion for helping others led her to teach at an elementary school, Muskegon Catholic Central High



Sr. Camille Kelley is a special member of Mercy's community, serving as principal and as a Sister of Mercy, and graduating from the first four-year class in 1949. Photo Credit: Paisley Sutton '16

School, and St. Andrews High School in Saginaw. Later, she was asked to come back and be the principal of Mercy.

"In a way, I left part of my heart [at Mercy]," Sr. Kelley said. *"I was more scared than thrilled [to teach], but my love for Mercy by comparison to the high schools I'd taught at showed me that this was a fine high school. [I have never] not felt attracted to the school."*

During her time at Mercy, Sr. Kelley worked with her staff to transition the school towards more progressive educational practices. With the help of the staff, she implemented mod scheduling, senior release time, student self-evaluation instead of report cards, and an energy-saving calendar that closed the building on certain Fridays to conserve power.

She is incredibly proud of all that the Mercy community represents and hopes that every student experiences these four short years to the fullest.

"Practice open-mindedness about all of life and be curious," Sr. Kelley advises. *"Be open to change- that was my theme as principal- build relationships, and develop a sense of awe."*

More Photos and More Fun!

Class photos, more event pictures, video of the "Ave Maria" performance led by Mr. Larry Teevens, and a video montage of Mercy through the years are all available on our web site at mhsmi.org/70thanniversary.

TAKE THE CATHERINE MCAULEY WALKING TOUR IN DUBLIN

and see the sites of Mercy associated with her life, including the first House of Mercy on Baggot Street. This trip will be a unique opportunity to take in some of Ireland's most important religious sites and attend mass in historic churches as well as learn about life, tradition and music with members of a small Irish village.

CHERYL DELANEY KREGER, MERCY HIGH SCHOOL PRESIDENT INVITES
MERCY FAMILIES, FRIENDS AND ALUMNAE TO
IRELAND
IN CELEBRATION OF
Mercy High School's 70th Anniversary
GALWAY | SNEEM | DUBLIN

May 9 – 18, 2016

ONLINE BOOKING AVAILABLE

Your 10 Day Tour Includes

- Eight (8) nights accommodations at 3 or 4 star Hotels: 2 nights in Galway, 3 nights in Sneem, 3 nights in Dublin
- Continental Breakfast daily
- Five (5) dinners, including a Welcome & Farewell Dinner
- Luxury motor coach for airport transfers in Ireland and specified sightseeing
- Tour Escort while in Ireland
- Local Guides according to the itinerary
- Sightseeing and entrance fees according to itinerary

- Featuring a visit to Baggot Street where Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy
- Hotel taxes and portorage for 1 piece of luggage
- City Taxes
- Round trip scheduled commercial air from Detroit, MI to Dublin, Ireland including fuel surcharges and government imposed fees of \$575 as of 11/05/14; final amount subject to change

The inclusive travel package is offered through Corporate Travel Service. Visit mhsmi.org/alumnae/anniversary for itinerary and more information. Book your trip online today at ctscentral.net/booking/?tripcode=10978&groupcode=6739



For more information and registration please contact Corporate Travel
Elizabeth: 313-565-8888 ext. 150 | emarkey@ctscentral.net
or Suzanne: ext. 121 | sparran@ctscentral.net

PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND

By Alana Sullivan '16

"Would you mind not shaking my seat?" Junior Maria Pizzo and I looked up from her iPhone with wide eyes and quickly mumbled an apology to the woman in the airline seat in front of us-who was glaring at us with pursed lips-before quietly giggling to ourselves. Evidently our in-seat dancing and laughter was getting a little too boisterous, though we had hardly noticed. It's crazy to think the first time we had met had been less than two weeks earlier. International travel and a life-changing Mercy experience will do that to you, I guess.

This past summer I had the incredible privilege of traveling to Ireland for the Youth Mercy Leaders Conference along with Pastoral Minister Mrs. Judi Griggs-Dennis, a parent chaperone, 14 other Mercy girls, and three girls from Mount St. Mary Academy in Little Rock, AR, who we soon realized were as much Mercy girls as the rest of us. Going into the trip, all I knew was that our group would be visiting famous sites in Ireland like Blarney Castle for the first part of the week and would finish the trip with the conference, which would be held in Dublin at Mercy International Centre. The prospect of touring Ireland was enough to convince me to go, and I figured the conference would be a nice addition, if not my initial reason to go.

Departure day was a flurry of excitement and stress. Corraling 18 teenage girls and getting them from one part of the world to another is no easy task, but we managed to without a hitch. Upon arrival at Dublin Airport, we were met by our tour guide, famed seanachai (Irish storyteller) Mr. Batt Burns who would travel with us for the duration of our trip. Over the next week a group of mostly strangers became confidants and friends, as we climbed ancient castle staircases, hiked up and down cobblestone streets, and sang and danced to Irish music. In Batt's hometown of Sneem we were welcomed by the town's senior center to stop by for a "bit of tea" and some lively chat, before being asked to participate in Mass at the local church that evening. I had never felt more welcomed and accepted in my life.

It is easy to see, then, why most of us could not imagine the conference topping our week of adventure and bonding. We were soon proved wrong. From the opening ceremony, in which we recognized all the schools from the five countries (the United Kingdom, Ireland, Belize, Australia, and the United States) present, a sense of oneness and purpose could be felt. Over the next four days, we attended workshops led by Sisters of Mercy and associates from around the world and learned how our founder Catherine McAuley was a revolutionary crusader for women and the poor in her day. We discussed current global issues affecting women the Sisters of Mercy are involved in, as well as how these issues came about in the first place. I found a workshop on the Sisters' work to abolish human trafficking to be particularly inspirational.

There is nothing that compares to sitting in a group with girls your age from five different countries and sharing your experience as a woman of Mercy, discussing your hopes and dreams, and deciphering what it means to be Mercy to the world. Trying to imitate each other's accents, trading slang words, and learning the Australian equivalent of the "Cupid Shuffle" was enormous fun as well. Each school left the conference with a plan of how to better implement Mercy in their communities.

I will remember the people, places, and experiences from my trip to Ireland for the rest of my life. I hope to always be Mercy to the world, in whatever profession I choose and any interactions I have with others. I urge any student or parent who yearns to grow in their knowledge of Mercy's international community, to experience exciting and beautiful places and people, and to get to know their own Mercy sisters on a closer, more personal level to attend the next Youth Mercy Leaders Conference in Ireland in July 2017. My only regret? That it had to end.

8

9

A FOND FAREWELL TO TEACHERS WHO HAVE CHANGED LIVES

It is impossible to summarize all that Mrs. Judy Ewald (40 years), Mrs. Jan Mordenski (37 years) and Mrs. Kathy Duross Sill (39 years) have seen and accomplished in all their dedicated years at Mercy. They are family. They have educated generations of Mercy women and touched more lives than we can count. We thank you immensely for your strong commitment to the Mercy community and we wish you many blessings in the years ahead.



Mrs. Ewald with granddaughters Josephine Wenson '17, Francesca Bellisario '18, Margaret Ewald '18, and Sophia Bellisario '19

Judy Ewald

Mrs. Ewald, your lessons and wisdom have been an asset to my relationships. I'm so grateful to have had the pleasure of being your student. Thank you for your many years of service to so many generations of Mercy Girls. You have surely left your mark of love on our lives.

You made not only an impression, but an impact on who I am today and I am forever grateful. My own "female empowerment" is very much a reflection of the Mercy teachers, including you, who inspired the strength and confidence I have today.

Thank you for pouring your heart and soul into the hearts and souls of our girls at Mercy!



Jan Mordenski

Thank you for your years of service and your many, many contributions of talent, creativity and passion for the written word. Thank you also for the many ways in which you contributed your skills for Masses.

The love of poetry you instilled in me and countless other Mercy girls will never fade!

Myths, Tales, and Legends course was one of my favorites! Ms. Mordenski was so very kind and approachable.



Kathy Duross Sill

Mrs. Sill not only encouraged us to be better speakers, writers, and performers, but to be better women. Her dedication to the Performing Arts Department inspired us to work hard and work passionately.

When I write or deliver a speech, I can still remember the lessons I learned from her. I will be forever grateful for her contribution to my learning, development, and professional success.

Thank you for giving me the gift of your presence in my life and teaching me throughout the years, more than speech, acting, and forensics, how to be a part of a community and collaborate with others to create something memorable and magical.



MERCY HIGH SCHOOL NAMED APPLE DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

“With the daily use of powerful technological tools, our students are deeply engaged in the access, use and evaluation of information and are therefore better learners.” -CAROLYN BEHRINGER WITTE '67, PRINCIPAL

Mercy High School is pleased to announce that we have been recognized as an Apple Distinguished School for 2015 to 2017 for our integration of technology across the curriculum and school life. The Apple Distinguished School designation is reserved for programs that meet criteria for innovation, leadership, and educational excellence, and demonstrate a clear and consistent vision of exemplary learning environments.

The selection of Mercy High School as an Apple Distinguished School highlights our success as an innovative and compelling learning environment that engages students and provides tangible evidence of academic accomplishment. (Mercy was previously recognized as an Apple Distinguished School for 2013 to 2015.)

All students utilize an iPad. Teachers have both iPads and MacBooks and all classrooms are equipped with Apple TVs. In their freshman year, all students are taught multimedia skills in digital photography, video, animation, web design and slide presentations.

Paperless workflow and grading prevails at Mercy. Most instructional resources are available through the learning management system Schoology which also provides seamless integration with applications like DropBox, Powerschool, and Google Drive. Students also collaborate and edit each other’s work using text, video, and audio applications.

At Mercy, young women have the opportunity to be technology teachers and program innovators through the iPad student team called the iWizards. The iWizards conduct iPad orientation for all new students and host an iCreate workshop for middle school students. This unique group of enthusiasts even created an iTunes U Course of iPad Tips & Tricks to provide training and resources to the Mercy school community, and at Apple’s request, made a presentation last March at MACUL (The Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning).

Mercy also hosts an annual Tech Talk Conference for Educators, has a Mobile APP, iMercy Multi-Touch book and various courses available on iTunes U.

“I am proud of how seamlessly technology has become woven into Mercy’s learning culture. Mercy is always positioned for change because it has developed the capacity to learn and lead in the field of technology.” -DR. CHERYL DELANEY KREGER '66, PRESIDENT



Welcome New Mercy Staff!



Pictured left to right: Isabelle Moore '10 (English/Performing Arts); Andrea Thibodeau Kowalyk '92 (Pastoral Ministry); Michelle Gambino (Athletic Trainer); Brandi Lavelly (Physical Education).

Alumnae Regional Events

Over the past several months, Mercy alumnae receptions were held in Petoskey, MI; New York, NY; and Rochester Hills, MI. At each of these special events, alumnae from a wide range of classes mixed and mingled, shared Mercy spirit, and heard exciting school updates from Mercy’s president, Dr. Cheryl Delaney Kreger '66. Special thanks to our New York hostess Linda Holliday '75, CEO of CITIA, and our Rochester Hills hostess Dr. Margaret Dimond '76, President of Karmanos Hospital at Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Don’t miss a gathering in your area! Update your email address at mhsmi.org/alumnae/update-info and stay tuned to mhsmi.org/alumnae for notices of upcoming events.



Petoskey, MI. June 18, 2015

Sisters Linda Holliday '75 and Nancy Holliday '79
New York, NY. August 12, 2015



New York, NY. August 12, 2015



Margaret Haapala Kurpiers '85, Dr. Margaret Dimond '76, Dr. Cheryl Delaney Kreger '66, Hon. Megan Maher Brennan '79 - Rochester Hills, MI. November 4, 2015



Sarah Cahill '99, Lindsay O'Neill Corneille '02, Laura Merritt Everett '98 - Rochester Hills, MI. November 4, 2015 See more event photos at facebook.com/MercyHighAlumnaeMI.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Friday, January 8, 2016

Alumnae Basketball
“Welcome Home”
Honoring state championship teams of 1977 and 1982
All alumnae are invited to the home game against Regina.

Friday, January 22, 2016

7:00 - 9:30 pm
Bunco Ladies Night Out

April 17, 2016

2:00 - 4:30 pm
Tea for Tuition
Distinguished Alumna Presentation

For schedule details, including monthly book club meetings, visit mhsmi.org/alumnae.

ALUMNAE CLASS NOTES

1950s

Mary Anne McDonough Helveston '58 has been a trial attorney for 30 years and is a vice president of the Metro Detroit ACLU. She and her husband Ronald have two sons, Tobey and Jason. Tobey passed away in 1996, and Jason has given them two granddaughters, Chloe (11) and Sophia (6). Mary Anne resides in historic Palmer Woods, where she edits and writes for *The Palmer Woods Post*. mhelveston@helveston.com

Margaret Maierle Huang '59 retired from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, celebrating 50 years as a nurse, the last several in NICU with premature infants.

1960s

Sybil Kuczynski Sweeny '60 has been a district sales rep and a teacher, has raised two boys, Quinn and Adam, and is a cancer survivor of 15 years. She is “grateful to Mercy for allowing me to be empowered as a woman. Today I have a great sense of well-being and am happy and healthy, living in Southern California.”

Carole Watson Troy '60 moved to Wyoming in 1979 and taught third grade. After retirement, she and her husband Michael became full time “RV-ers” and eventually settled down in Loveland, CO, where they are active in their church. The couple has 8 children, 25 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.



Sharon Haug Mack '63 and John Mack celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in September. They were married at Precious Blood Church in Detroit and now live in the Grand Rapids area.

Karen Brown Zajdek '63 retired after 48 years of nursing. “*Since I live in Maryland, I don't often return to Michigan, but the memories of my high school days – my classmates, my teachers, and my activities – will remain forever in my heart.*”

Mariel Woolley de Soleil '65 has retired, having been a teacher and a paralegal. Mariel raised four children and is having fun with 12 grandchildren. With her husband Ken LaFleur, she welcomes guests at her Ann Arbor area bed and breakfast and gives discounts to Mercy alumnae. mdesoleil1@att.net



After raising a family in Salt Lake City, UT, **Sandra Wasowicz Varley '66** and her husband Steve retired to a solar home in Arizona. They travel several months per year in a motor home with their two dogs.



Barb Taylor Carpender '68 received a Lifetime Achievement Award from *Colorado Meetings +*

Events magazine. Barb is owner of Taylored Alliances and managing director of Global Marketing Services. She specializes in consulting and professional services for the hospitality and tourism industries. Barb co-founded the Ski Travel Symposium and is a past recipient of the Meetings Industry Council of Colorado's prestigious Leadership Award.

Kathleen McElroy Schultz '69 is the proud grandmother of twins Olivia and Grayson, born February 26, 2015.



1970s

Patricia Thull '70 has recently been awarded the Theurekorn Award from the Detroit Yacht Club. The award is bestowed upon a member who gives unselfishly of their time and effort to further the image and traditions of the club. pthull@msn.com

Peggy Cullen Stinnet '71 has published a book entitled *A Call to Deliver: Tom Monaghan, Founder of Domino's Pizza and the Miracles and Pilgrimage of Ave Maria University*.

Nancy Bawol Wright '71 has been a professional chef and has taught at the college and high school levels. Nancy resides in Colorado and Houston. She is a widow, a breast cancer survivor, and a photographer.

Suzanne Young '71 has created a life-size sculpture to be cast in bronze for the library in Orion Township, MI. The theme is *Literacy*, with a grandmother and grandchild reading together. artreligious@gmail.com

Judy Cowan Jones '72 is the new owner of CCR Brand, a custom fashion fitness wear line made in the USA. judy@ccrbrand.com

Kathleen Campbell Ruiz '72 retired in 2012 and moved to San Antonio, TX. Kathleen has three children and eight grandchildren ranging in age from 3-18. She spends time in Arcadia, MI every summer. kathleencruiz@gmail.com

ALUMNAE CLASS NOTES

The artwork of **Stephanie Thompson Henderson '77** is in an exhibition titled *Phantastische Venus* in a museum in Viechtach, Germany, featuring women artists from around the world. hendersonart@comcast.net



Sallie Hinz Atsalis '79 has joined General Motors as a systems architect supporting Infotainment and GM OnStar. sallie_atsalis@sbcglobal.net

Terry Habib '79 received certification as a Brain Injury Specialist. Terry has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for Michigan Association of Professional Psychologists. She has been awarded the President's Volunteer Service Award and was elected as a distinguished member of the American Psychological Association for 2015. Terry remains as President/CEO of Transitional Counseling Services. tarroozz@sbcglobal.net

1980s

Along with her parents Jim and Mary Lark, **Adrian Lark '81** announces that they will be closing their fine dining restaurant, The Lark, after 35 years in business. Adrian looks forward to finding a new career.



Yvonne Regan Langan '82 owns Bottom of the 5th Sports Bar in Farmington Hills, MI. Yvonne and her husband Robert have four children and three grandchildren. yml64@aol.com



Susan Moran '82 relocated to Clarkston, MI and works as a clinical team manager for PRA Health Sciences. Pictured are Susan (left) and her sister **Julie Moran '85** (right).

Lucy Johnson Mangan '85 lives in Tampa, FL. She and her husband Richard have three children.



Cara Mia Massey '85 left her job with the state of New York to move back to Michigan. Cara is a consultant at Ford for Ford SYNC and is completing her graduate studies.



Trish Forfinski McAulay '87 and her husband Ricky moved back to Michigan three years ago. *"I love that I'm here in my home state. I get to see the transformation of a great city's rebirth and enjoy time with friends and family. I am blessed to have two nieces at Mercy, so I also see the family tradition of participation in many musical and theatrical productions!"*

Susanne McMaster '87 is Director of the Academic Learning Center at Loyola Academy, a Jesuit high school in the Evanston, IL area. She and her husband Dan have a son, Ethan, in fourth grade.

Erin McDermott '88 has been employed with AT&T for 18 years and was recently transferred to AT&T corporate headquarters in Dallas, TX.



Gigette Ilagan Bejin '89 celebrated her 20th wedding anniversary with her college sweetheart, Peter. They have

two boys, ages 13 and 17, and live in Northville, MI. Outside of taking care of her family, Gigette runs her law practice as a patent attorney. She graduated from the University of Michigan in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and earned a law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1997. bejin@icloud.com

1990s

Jill Jenkins Kara '90 is the reading specialist and drama director at St. Catherine of Siena Academy in Wixom, MI.



Michelle Power '91 accepted a new role with CSIG Holding as their Learning and Development Leader. Michelle will build the company's culture and lead the learning and development function. CSIG Holding operates senior living communities. michellepower06@yahoo.com

Andrea Styrna-Hagelstein '91, husband Brad, and children Elizabeth (13), John (11) and Luke (7) live in Traverse City, MI, where Andrea teaches fifth grade. They have a small farm, are active 4-H members, and are involved in their parish. *"I thank my Mercy education for my strong faith and giving me the empowerment to be a successful woman."* shagelsteins@gmail.com



ALUMNAE CLASS NOTES

CONGRATULATIONS TO WOMEN OF COLOR STEM AWARD RECIPIENTS!

Sonya Howcott Moore '80, Mercy Alumnae Board Member, and **Suman Palakodeti Desaraju '96** were each honored with a Rising Star Award for exemplary technical and leadership skills at the Women of Color STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) Conference in Detroit, MI on October 16, 2015. Sonya is Integration Program Manager for Meritor, and Suman is the Supervisor of Central Labs for DTE Energy.

Alicia Moten Roberts '92, **Gladys Ayala-Prempeh '92**, and **Leticia Thweatt Sampson '92** had the pleasure of having their daughters celebrate their First Communion together on April 25, 2015 at Gesu Catholic Church in Detroit, MI.



Marjon Parham '93 graduated from the University of Southern California with her master's degree in Communication. She launched her public relations firm, PR by a Mastermind, LLC. Marjon received a Gold Award from the Hermes Creative Awards, an international competition. Marjon (right) is pictured with Debra Lee, CEO of BET Networks. majon@prbyamastermind.com

Amy Markiewicz Ward '93 and husband Brian welcomed daughter Mackenzie Grace, who joins big sister, Madelyn Ann (2). Amy left her job as a teacher to stay home with her girls. The family lives in Orlando, FL.



Marnie Bragg '95 and DeSean Whipple exchanged vows on September 19, 2015 in Las Vegas, NV. The couple resides in Westland, MI. marni_21@hotmail.com



Sharon Agacinski Payton '96 and husband Wes announce the birth of daughter Chloe Catherine on March 15, 2015.



Michelle Longo Knierim '97, husband Kevin and daughter Mackenzie welcomed Michael Curtis on September 16, 2015.



Christine Hammer '99 married Jason Lufkin in March 2015. Christine currently works in the Office of General Counsel at the U.S.

Department of Commerce and recently accepted a position as an attorney in the Executive Office of the President at the White House. The couple resides in Washington, DC.

Madonna Emond Ladoucuer '99 and husband JP live in White Lake, MI and have three children, Eve (8), Jack (5), and Brady (4 months). Madonna is a certified advanced practice nurse. She holds positions as a clinical nurse specialist, labor and delivery nurse, and clinical faculty instructor for Michigan State University's School of Nursing.



HAVE News TO SHARE?

Mercy wants to hear from you! Submit all updates and photos of family, career, travel, etc.

mhsmi.org/alumnae/
update_information or
alumnaeoffice@mhsmi.org

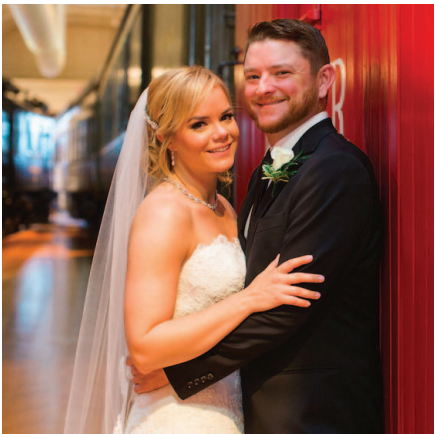
ALUMNAE CLASS NOTES

2000s

Katie Mason Summers '00 and husband Daniel welcomed their second child, Michael Finnegan, on August 1, 2015. Katie is Visiting Professor of Microbiology at Miami University in Oxford, OH.

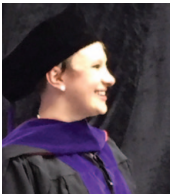


Sara Downey '01 married Steve Mills on June 21, 2015. Sara accepted a job at Organovo in July. saralou.mills@gmail.com



Jessica Thomas '01 married Joseph Martin Hines in December 2014. Jessica is pursuing her doctorate in Education Administration from the University of Michigan.

Emily Bitzarakis '02 graduated from Walsh College with a master's in Accounting. Emily is an auditor at Plante Moran, is studying for the CPA exam, and lives in Royal Oak, MI. emily.bitzarakis@gmail.com



Elyse Carnagie '03 graduated from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, passed the bar exam and opened her own law firm practicing criminal and family law. carnagielaw@gmail.com

Meghan McFarlane '03 married Bradley Winslow on July 16, 2015. Pictured with the bride and groom from left to right are **Allison Vigi Winslow '94**, **Sharon Witek McFarlane '69**, **Alyssa Nudi '03**, **Lauren Sarkisian Nelson '03**, **Lynda Winslow Andersen '99**, and **Kelly O'Neill '03**. m3mcfar1@gmail.com



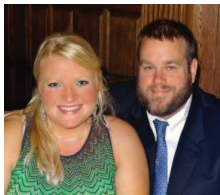
Lisa N. Rodriguez '03 is a contributor to the new book *A Woman's Perspective on Leading*, an anthology of essays by pioneering women in the automotive care industry by Dr. John A. Passante. Lisa is Marketing Manager, CTA Acoustics, Inc. missgolf131@aol.com



Maria Stella Jewett '04 and husband Tristan welcomed Ava Chiara on April 22, 2015. Ava joins her older sister Adelina. The family lives in Atlanta, GA.



Amy Kolis '04 and Mike Wood announce their engagement. A May 2016 wedding is planned. kolisamy@gmail.com



Krystin Kohls '05 received her bachelor's of science degree from Michigan State University and her associate's degree in Sign Language from Oakland University, and is working toward her master's degree in Deaf Education from Saint Joseph's University. Krystin joined the Michigan Army National Guard in 2009 and is a 74D CBRNe (chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive) NCO. kohlskry@me.com



Nicole Rotondo Battista '06 and husband John (OLSM '03) are pleased to announce the September 4, 2015 birth of their daughter and future Mercy girl, Sabrina Nicole. She joins big brother Vincent. The Battistas reside in West Bloomfield, MI.



ALUMNAE CLASS NOTES

Emily Dubosh '06 received a doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Indianapolis. She completed an internship in college counseling at the University of Oregon in August 2015 and relocated to Richmond, VA for a post-doctoral fellowship at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Victoria Johnson '08 lives in the Dallas, TX area and is Product Line Manager for Chemsearch, a manufacturer of specialty chemicals.

Kristin Kelly '08 graduated from the University of Detroit Mercy with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She is pursuing her MBA at Walsh College. kellykr@udmercy.edu



Courtney Moore '08 married Jason King in January 2014. **Kelsey Moore '15** was maid of honor and bridesmaids included **Diana Karvelis '08**, **Caley Shimskey '08**, and **Kayleigh Kavanagh '10**. Courtney graduated from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law and was sworn in as an attorney by Judge Sean P. Kavanagh, father of Kayleigh Kavanagh '10.



Karen Malloure '09 teaches seventh grade math in the Grand Rapids, MI school district.

Alysa Miller '09 received her bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Michigan. Alysa is working toward her master's of Public Health and is employed as a research coordinator at NYU Langon Medical Center and NYU School of Medicine. alymill@umich.edu



2010s

Meredith Barnett '11 graduated summa cum laude from Hampton University with a BA in Public Relations. Meredith is a Juris Doctor candidate at Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, GA. "I am thankful for the educational foundation that Mercy High School provided, which has allowed me to be successful in my pursuit of higher education."

Bridget Johnson '11 married Matthew Benoit on July 18, 2015. Bridget is working toward her master's degree in Occupational Therapy at Eastern Michigan University. The couple resides in Sylvania, OH. bridgdoy@umich.edu



Clarissa LeVasseur '12 and **Emma Bowen '11** were inducted into the Jesuit Honor Society, Sigma Alpha Nu, at St. Louis University on February 8, 2015.



Elaina Weber '12 spent the summer in Kathmandu, Nepal, learning about the country's healthcare and working with Dr. Ram Kumar Adhikari. She is listed as co-author on his paper, "Genetic variability of the human filarial parasite, *Wuchereria bancrofti*, in Southern parts of Nepal," published in the *Journal of the Institute of Medicine (JIOM)*.

Mary Fredendall '13 is majoring in International Business and Supply Chain Management at Michigan State University's Eli Broad School of Business and is a special events intern with MSU's Alumni Association.



She was named Queen, Court of St. Brigid 2015 and winner of the Daniel O'Connell Scholarship. This summer she studied the Arabic language and culture at the Jordan Language Academy (JLA) in Amman, Jordan. Mary is a member of the Motor City Collegiate Synchronized Skating Team.

In Memory
Mercy Alumnae

Jane Donaher Haessly '48, October 2015
mother of Catherine Haessly Peterson '82
and Nancy Haessly Williams '87

Joan Carroll Watts '49, September 2015

Beverly Palombo Hyndman '51, June 2015

Jacqueline Fasbinder '52, August 2015

Jacqueline Malone Brennan '60,
September 2015
sister of Patricia Malone McKinley '61 and
the late Ann Malone Roeder '58

Margaret Klotz McDonald '72, May 2015
sister of Barbara Klotz Zaguroli '70; aunt of
Jaime Zaguroli '95

Mary Frances Singelyn Zeppelin '76,
June 2015

Sharon O'Reilly '77, July 2015

Vivian J. Price '78, September 2015
sister of Patricia Price Okerstrom '75 and
the late Margine Price '73

Karen Brown-Hepp '80, September 2015
sister of Maryanne Brown Wherley '73 and
Jean Marie Brown '74

Rosann Marie DiCicco '81, July 2015
sister of Brenda DiCicco '77 and
Doreen DiCicco '78

Sharon Paler Streng '84, September 2015

Shawntika Farr '97, May 2015

Mercy Family

Bernard Bigos, October 2014
husband of Suzanne Bigos '53

Shirley Bowman, July 2015
mother of Lisa Bodin, Mercy Math Teacher

Angelo Ciaramitaro, September 2015
father of Sandra Mals, Mercy Religious
Studies teacher

Grace Mae Cyrol, October 2015
mother of Sherry Cyrol Buczek '62,
Regena Cyrol Purdon '65, and Tina
Cyrol Russette '76

Helen Donahue, January 2015
mother of Mary Jo Donahue Balcer '65
and Therese Donahue Cousins '75;
grandmother of Kathryn Balcer '94

Dr. Wayne Dyer, August 2015
former Mercy counselor

Joseph "Jerry" Golinske, June 2015
father of Etta Golinske West '78 and

Trish Golinske Fry '81; grandfather of
Alison Fry '11 and Maura Fry '11

Abdelmasih Georgis Issso, October 2015
father of Olivia Hanna, Mercy
Advancement

Leonard J. Kaminski, May 2015
father of Mary Beth Kaminski Harris '76
and Colleen Kaminski Czank '80

Sharon C. Kelly, June 2015
mother of Maureen Kelly '85 and
Lisa Kelly Smith '88

Genevieve Rose Kokoszka, July 2015
mother of Linda Kokoszka Emerson '72

Dolores Kosmalski, April 2015
mother of Bonnie Kosmalski Palmeri '66

Gary LaGuire, June 2015
husband of Margot Carroll LaGuire '63

John E. Lobbia, July 2015
father of Lisa Lobbia Baird '85; grandfather
of Katie Baird '14, Allison Lobbia '17, and
Marissa Lobbia '17

Frances DePodesta McKee,
September 2015
mother of Kathleen McKee McCann
'76 and Mary McKee DiStefano '78;
grandmother of Erin Elizabeth McCann '03
and Laura Kathleen McCann '05

Shirley McLaughlin, October 2015
mother of Kathleen McLaughlin '77,
Patricia McLaughlin McCalmont '79 and
Sharon McLaughlin Kausler '87

Giuseppe Petrella, June 2015
father of Marisa Petrella '77 and Patricia
Petrella Nouhan '81; grandfather of
Cristina Petrella '13

Doris M. Proppe, June 2015
mother of Laurel Proppe Ostin '68,
Carol Proppe Shattock '74,
Ellen Proppe Chestnutt '77,
Gail Proppe Gandini '79, and
Kathleen Proppe Sullivan '83

Norma Regan, June 2015
mother of Yvonne Regan Langan '82;
grandmother of Meghan Langan '03,
Kathleen Langan '04 and Shannon
Langan '08

Theda Rucker, September 2015
former Mercy counselor

Derek John Sarafa, November 2015
brother of Suzanne Sarafa Nelson '92

Raymond Schaffart, June 2015
father of Cynthia Schaffart Rothman '96

Rosemary Schenden, August 2015
mother of Mary Beth Schenden '77 and
Anne Schenden Pape '80

Jerry Weismiller, June 2015
father-in-law of Lindsay Weismiller,
Mercy Advancement

Roy A. Williams, June 2015
father of Julia Williams '10

David Winston, August 2015
father of Kimberly Winston Christensen '74

Contributions by Emily Fishwick Rahman '04

TO SUBMIT A NOTICE
REGARDING A LOVED ONE

To submit a death notice, email
alumnaeoffice@mhsmi.org or call
248.476.3270.

Please include:
First name,
maiden name, last name
Graduation year
Date of death (month, day, year)
Mercy alumna-relatives of the deceased

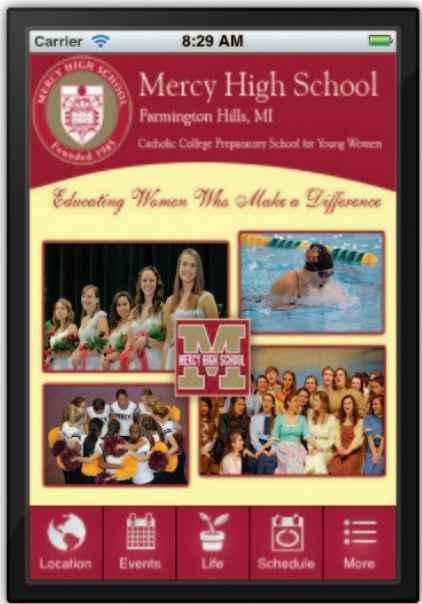
Stay in Touch

Please fill out the form below if you have any changes in name or
address. Be sure to include your e-mail to receive our e-newsletter!

Form with fields: First Name, Maiden Name, Last Name, Class of, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone, Email, News.

Please return to the Alumnae Office, Mercy High School, 29300 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.
You can also provide updates at mhsmi.org and learn of exciting things happening at Mercy High School.
Mercy does not share information with third parties.

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37TH ANNUAL AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2016

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For more information contact the Special Events Office
at 248.893.3535 or lmweismiller@mhsmi.org

mhsmi.org/advancement/auction

2015-16 School Year Calendar of Events

We welcome your participation in Mercy events. Visit mhsmi.org for more information.
Check out Marlins athletics schedules and spotlights at mhsmi.org/athletics.

November 23 Thanksgiving Prayer Service	February 9 Black History Month Assembly
December 3 Ethnic Bazaar	February 10 Ash Wednesday Mass
December 6 Mother Daughter Evening of Reflection	February 20 37th Annual AUCTION
December 8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day Mass	February 26 Tech Talk Educators Conference
December 13 Christmas Concert	March 11-13 Spring Musical "The Sound of Music" 8pm Friday & Saturday, 2pm Sunday
January 4 Second Semester Begins	April 7 Heart of Mercy Mass
January 9 Mothers Club Fashion Show	April 17 Alumnae Tea for Tuition
January 10 Dads Club Liturgy & Breakfast	April 21 Talent Show
January 22 Bunco hosted by Alumnae Association	May 26 Honors Convocation & Moving Up
February 1 – 6 Catholic Schools Week	June 1 Baccalaureate Mass & Senior Farewell
February 3 Catholic Schools Week Mass	June 5 Graduation
February 4 Alumnae Legacy Tour 6:00pm-6:30pm Winter Open House 6:30pm-8:00pm	