Mercy Girls for a Lifetime
Mercy’s $100 Dash

Dear Mount Mercy Alumnae and Friends,

As you surely know, South Buffalo is currently experiencing an exhilarating renaissance. The recent and ongoing revitalization of the Seneca Street corridor, the plans of the Olmsted Conservancy for Cazenovia and South Parks, the increased housing values in the neighborhood, along with new businesses opening along the major streets all add to the revivial of this beautiful part of the City of Buffalo, the place Mount Mercy Academy calls home. For well over one hundred years, the convent of the Sisters of Mercy, now recognized as Mercy Center, Mercy Hospital, and Mount Mercy Academy have anchored South Buffalo to its proud populous, providing education, healthcare, employment, and an active source of spiritual life.

We mention all this to you because it is imperative to understand that during this incredible neighborhood resurgence, Mount Mercy will also ride this wave of excitement as a vibrant and valuable part of our community, continuing to fulfill its mission of educating young women for excellence, compassion, and Christian leadership. As the only all-girls private school from downtown Buffalo through the Southtowns and beyond the southern borders of Erie County, now more than ever it is important to become a clear choice for parents and students seeking to acquire an education of the highest quality. We recognize that there are a great many young women who would love to attend Mount Mercy, but are held back due to a lack of means to make it a reality. Recently, a freshman parent shared how incredibly happy her daughter was at Mount Mercy. Due to the family’s financial constraints, they planned to have her attend a large district public school. Through the generosity of a wonderful benefactor over the summer, this young woman is now a thriving member of the freshman class. Her mother is amazed and thrilled for the joyful daughter who comes home from Mount Mercy every day. In order to ensure that our ambitions will flourish, and to make dreams come true for many more deserving students, we need your commitment to make a Mercy education possible for the next generation of young women.

The success of Mount Mercy is based on many factors, including academic excellence, an energetic extracurricular program, an outstanding faculty, strong enrollment, and outside support from donors and benefactors. Every not-for-profit organization or agency relies on fundraisers in order to continue to accomplish the important work stated in their mission. Mount Mercy Academy is no different. Private schools regularly hold major Capital Campaigns and massive appeals to strengthen their reserves and to make necessary improvements to their operations. Mount Mercy, aside from our Alumnae Annual Fundraiser, which does so much to contribute to student scholarship awards, has not held a large-scale fundraising drive in over a dozen years. To be absolutely frank, our dear friends and patrons, in order to remain a dynamic and influential high school for our young women, it is time for us to make an earnest request for your financial support. It truly is the time. Now. Today. Here is our plan.
With the backing of the Mount Mercy Board of Trustees and a variety of constituents, we are ready to launch an exciting drive to fortify our ability to offer the opportunity of a Mercy education to many more young women. Our goal is to raise $500,000.00 by July 1, 2019. Not five million, not even one million. A half of a million dollars. Exceeding this target of course, would be fantastic! All of the funds will go directly to much needed scholarships and tuition assistance for current and prospective qualified and deserving Mount Mercy students. Increasing enrollment is always an imperative objective of our strategic plan and vital to the long range success of Mount Mercy Academy. A half of a million dollars will allow us to advance with robust recruitment efforts and increase our enrollment. Throughout this upcoming campaign, as detailed below, we are asking for a $100.00 donation from 5000 friends and supporters. Just $100.00 from a broad base of our alumnae, parents, business partners, neighbors, and friends. Is it possible to reach our goal of a half of a million dollars? We believe so. Simply think of your own family, your Mount Mercy friends, your in-laws, your own neighbors. How many Mercy connections do you have? Imagine if each of them would make a $100.00 donation to your beloved Mount Mercy, to help ensure its longevity, fortitude, and resilience in these uncertain times. One hundred dollars understandably might be a considerable donation for many, however, if you really give it thought, $100 is dinner for two at a nice restaurant, or five large pizzas, or twenty pumpkin spice lattes.

We are often asked—“What can we do to support Mount Mercy?” The answer right now is this—please support our efforts to reach our $500,000 goal. To those who have past supported Mount Mercy in a larger sense, we are endlessly grateful to you and certainly hope you will continue your generous and much needed financial assistance towards our annual fund, scholarships, and endowment.

We believe that the women of Mercy, alums, friends, and our constant champions will unite to accomplish this absolutely achievable goal. It is well known that if you want something done and done well, ask a Mercy girl. Mount Mercy Academy Alumnae are bright, reliable, capable, talented, generous, and insightful. Together, we can help to raise the funds that the students and families of Mount Mercy require to ultimately continue the enduring legacy of Mercy education.

Please review “The Mercy $100 Dash” as detailed below. Your donation will be a life-changing gift for a deserving student and assure the essential continuance of the extraordinary tradition of Mercy education for years to come.

In Mercy,

Margaret M. Cronin    Margaret Staszak
Président        Principale

Receiving the Mount Mercy Academy Horizons indicates to us that you currently donate to our Annual Fund. The “Mercy $100.00 Dash” does not replace reaching the goal of our Annual Fund Drive. We appreciate your support of both of these important efforts this year. Your gifts do make a difference!

The Mercy $100 Dash -- Let’s Dash to $500,000!

Here is how to participate in The Mercy $100 Dash

1. Make a $100 donation using any of these means
   * Text 71777 with the words MERCYDASH
   * On the Mount Mercy Website – www.mtmercy.org/mercy100dash and make your donation via credit card or PAYPAL
   * Mail your Check to Mount Mercy in the enclosed envelope – be sure to note Mercy $100 Dash on the check memo line

2. Encourage your Mount Mercy connections to donate! Follow us as we track our success! We will announce families who have donated, groups of alums who went to the same elementary school, Mercy Girl birthday clubs, book clubs lunch or travel clubs who still meet to this day, challenges from classes, Mercy dads, brothers, husbands welcome, too!

3. Volunteer to help bring our drive to success! We are looking to staff our committees! Please contact Julie Schwab Marzolf ’92 at jmarzolf@mtmercy.org or 716.825.8796 x 324. Thank you!
Mount Mercy Academy held its 113th graduation ceremony on May 23rd. Sixty-three members of the Class of 2018 received their diplomas from Mount Mercy Academy Principal Margaret Cuthbert Staszak ’75. President Margaret M. Cronin ‘78, the Board of Trustees, Mount Mercy Faculty and Staff, and members of the Class of 1968 joined family and friends to celebrate the graduates.

Salutatorian Mary Bala welcomed and addressed the audience to open the ceremony. Valedictorian Emily Lewandowski delivered the valedictory address. She thanked the faculty, her parents, friends and classmates for an exceptional four years and told her classmates that “You are going to change the world and all of you are capable of doing just that.”

Sister Peggy Gorman RSM, a 1960 graduate of Mount Mercy, was the commencement speaker. She has been a teacher and a member of numerous boards and is currently the Vice Chairman of the Mount Mercy Academy Board of Trustees. She commended the graduates for their accomplishments and for representing the Portrait of a Mercy Graduate so well. She told the Class of 2018 that after the sacrifices their families had made that they should “pay love forward”. She also advised the class to take risks, enjoy life, be happy and realize that they have a limitless future.

Graduates Abigail Swiger and Kathryn Marabella were presented with the Frances Warde Leadership Award and Julia Maria Acosta was presented with the Catherine McAuley Service Award.

“Go forth and set the world on fire!”
– St. Ignatius of Loyola

Mount Mercy Academy has a beautiful tradition where the MMA alumna mothers can meet their daughters on stage as they receive their diploma. Pictured here is 2018 graduate Olivia Harrington and her mom, Jane Michalek Harrington ’92.

“I firmly believe you are more than ready to face the challenges awaiting you.”
– Sr. Peggy Gorman, RSM ’60, 2018 Commencement Speaker
The 2018 graduates of Mount Mercy attained $14,644,519 in academic scholarships and merit-based grants. That averages to OVER $232,450 per student! Of our 63 graduating seniors, 100% received Regents diplomas and 76% of the class earned Regents Diplomas with Advanced Designation or Advanced Designation with Honors. 100% of the Class of 2018 was accepted into colleges of their choice! Mount Mercy Academy is so PROUD of these amazing graduates… they are truly ready to conquer the world!

**Oh the places you’ll go!**
Here is a partial list of the colleges and universities our graduates will be attending and those they were accepted to.

- Alfred University
- Allegheny College
- Canisius College
- Chatham University
- Clarkson University
- Clarkson University
- Clemson University
- Daemen College
- Duquesne University
- D’Youville College
- Erie Community College
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- Gannon University
- Hilbert College
- John Carroll University
- King University
- La Salle University
- Le Moyne College
- Louisiana State University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Loyola University New Orleans
- Manhattan College
- Marymount Manhattan College
- Medaille College
- Mercyhurst University
- Miami University of Ohio
- Michigan State University
- New York Institute of Technology
- Niagara University
- Nova Southeastern University
- Ohio University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Pratt Institute
- Quinnipiac University
- Roberts Wesleyan College
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Rutgers University
- Seton Hall University
- Siena College
- St. Anselm College
- St. Bonaventure University
- St. John Fisher College
- St. John’s University
- St. Lawrence University
- Syracuse University
- The Ohio State University
- The State University of New York at Binghamton
- Buffalo State College, The State University of New York
- The State University of New York, The College at Brockport
- The State University of New York, Buffalo State College
- The State University of New York at Cortland
- The State University of New York at Fredonia
- The State University of New York at Geneseo
- The State University of New York at Oswego
- The State University of New York, Purchase College
- University of Connecticut
- University of Dayton
- University of Hartford
- University of Holy Cross
- University of Louisville
- University of Maine
- University of Miami
- University of Rochester
- University of Scranton
- University of Tampa
- University of Vermont
- University at Buffalo
- Villanova University
- Washington & Jefferson College
- Washington College
- Western New England University
- Xavier University

**Huge Thank You** to Chef’s Restaurant for their generous donation of a dinner for eight people in support of the annual McAuley Gala. We held a raffle for the Senior Class, with the winner to receive the Chef’s dinner, proceeds from the raffle went to support the 2018 McAuley Gala. Pictured here are Taylor Hoch ‘18 and her family before heading to dinner. In addition to Chef’s, the Hoch family also won a VIP seating row at the graduation ceremony and front row parking!
Mercy’s 2018 Legacy Families.

Hannah Bray ’18 and her mom, Sherri Duggan Bray ’91

Nora Galley ’18 and her mom, Laura Langdon Galley ’81

Future alum Grace Harrington ’20, Jane Michalek Harrington ’92, her daughter, graduate Olivia Harrington ’18 and her aunt, Mary Pat Michalek Bielecki ’97

Jeanette Martin Albright ’87 and her family, mom Betty Hogan Martin ’58, daughter Grace Ippolito ’18 and her sister, Kim Martin Weimer ’81

Denise Pettys Hillery ’81 and her daughters, graduate Abby Hillery ’18 and Brittany gallery Meyers ’93

Jeanette Martin Albright ’87 and her family, mom Betty Hogan Martin ’58, daughter Grace Ippolito ’18 and her sister, Kim Martin Weimer ’81

Sandy Schmelzinger McCarthy ’90 and her daughter Madalyn McCarthy ’18

Lori Nappo ’10 and her sister Hannah Nappo ’18

Jill Repman ’84 and her daughter Naomi Parisi ’18

Stephanie Khoury ’11 and her sister Julia Khoury ’18

Graduate Colleen Keane ’18 and her mom Madonna Whelan Keane ’83

Sandy Schmelzinger McCarthy ’90 and her daughter Madalyn McCarthy ’18

Hannah Bray ’18 and her mom, Sherri Duggan Bray ’91

Mercy’s 2018 Legacy Families.
E veryone remembers certain teachers that influenced them during their years of education. It could be that special teacher’s aide in your kindergarten classroom that helped you tie your shoes, or the brilliant professor that pushed you to continue toward that Master’s degree, and of course there’s the larger-than-life high school teacher who made you fall in love with learning. At Mount Mercy Academy, we are fortunate to have an outstanding faculty who dedicate their lives to the education and empowerment of young women. Not an easy task. Our graduates continue to excel beyond their dreams and standing quietly behind them for four years is the enthusiastic and devoted Mercy faculty. They truly believe in the school, its mission and its success. Here is a glimpse of some of our incredible educators.

Joanna Weld

Joanna is in her twelfth year of teaching, and sixth at Mount Mercy. This year, she is teaching English 12, AP English Literature and Composition, and the two English electives (Modern Creative Expression and Readers). Joanna is the English Department Chair, a New Teacher Mentor, and the moderator for the school newspaper, The Merciette. She also sits on the Academic Committee for the Board of Trustees of Mount Mercy. In addition to everything she does at MMA, Joanna is an Adjunct Education Professor at Niagara University.

We asked Joanna about teaching at an all girls private high school.

“As soon as I started teaching at Holy Angels Academy, and then at Mercy, I fell in love with teaching young women. It is truly a privilege to come to work every day and talk about books. The literature we study lends itself to the discussion of historical, social, and political issues and the young women in my classroom inspire me every day with their insight and perspective about the world. They give me hope that our future is in good hands.”

Our Mount Mercy faculty truly embraces the concept of a Mercy education and its benefits. Teachers like Joanna bring the Mercy values into their classroom daily. She is continually inspired by the activism of the Sisters of Mercy. Their work on the front lines, fighting for real change in our world, provides a powerful example for the faculty, staff, and students. Joanna hopes that the work she does in the classroom reinforces the Critical Concerns and values of Catherine McAuley and helps her students to understand their personal value and potential. Her main focus is to provide students with the opportunity to read and write about the lives of real and fictional women across cultures and time periods to help them better understand the privileges and challenges associated with being a woman in our world.

Joanna has no shortage of appreciation for Mount Mercy, she expressed: “My favorite thing about teaching at Mercy is the small-school feel. I enjoy getting to know all of my students and feeling personally invested in their success. Attending graduation is very meaningful for me because I have been a part of the educational experience of each and every student that walks across the stage. I feel a sense of pride knowing that our students are well-positioned to make a difference in the world as a result of their Mercy education.”

Mercy is extremely blessed to have an educator like Joanna. She consistently brings engaging and thoughtful lessons and projects into her classroom. In her time at Mercy, Joanna has initiated two school-wide projects. Each year, students take part in a school-wide Summer Reading project where all students, faculty, and staff enjoy a common read. The school-wide novel is selected with the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy in mind and encourages a sense of community among all grade levels. In late September, Joanna’s AP English Literature students lead an assembly that provides an opportunity for the school community to engage in an activity and discussion about the book. This year, after reading Audacity by Melanie Crowder, students participated in a poetry slam where several students from all grade levels read their original poetry written in response to one of the poems in the novel. Afterward, students worked in groups to create a response poem centered on women’s activism in 2018.

Another project, executed to celebrate William Shakespeare’s birthday in April, Joanna’s AP English Literature classes developed performances based on the life and literature of the famous playwright. In groups, students staged and performed scenes from Shakespeare’s most famous plays and write their own modernized versions. Last year’s assembly featured a talk show with Shakespeare’s most famous heroines, a fashion show, and a rap battle between Rosaline and Juliet Capulet. For the second half of the assembly, the entire student body participated in activities related to the performances including trivia, crafts, and a birthday treat.

In honor of Women’s History month in March, Joanna’s English 12 classes participate in a unit that specifically focuses on poetry, essays, and short fiction written by women. The classes complete a research project that requires them to identify the accomplishments of women in the areas of politics, the arts, STEAM, and business. Students also read about iconic women and write poems describing their definition of what it means to be a woman.

“Joanna is a teacher who influences me, who motivates me, who pushes me to be better. She is an incredible role model for all of us.”
Dr. Whalen is the Science Department Chairperson and the Title I Science Instructional Consultant, tutoring students in the sciences. She currently teaches Regents Living Environment and AP Biology and taught Human Anatomy & Physiology last year. Jill coaches the tennis team and has also been a part of the science session of Camp Mercy for the last two summers.

Jill has been teaching since 2001 and her first full-time teaching job was here at Mount Mercy as a Regents Living Environment and AP Biology teacher. In her second year she developed a Forensic Science course which was offered to seniors and was quite popular since CSI was just making its mark on television. Jill left MMA and became an Assistant Professor at both the State University of New York, The College at Brockport and Canisius College. She remained at Canisius as an adjunct professor, shifted her career to Associate Director at Campus Labs, and then came back to Mount Mercy.

Jill said, “In the end I missed teaching high school students. Mount Mercy has always been in my heart and when I decided to go back into the field I came directly back to Mount Mercy and Mrs. Staszak.”

It seems that teaching at Mount Mercy was destiny for Dr. Whalen. Her Master’s Thesis focused solely on the importance of single-sex schools in the academic achievement of girls. Given Jill’s passion for single-sex education, Mercy was a perfect fit.

Jill finds herself constantly reflecting on her own education when considering her students and the approach she takes in the classroom. Being the target of bullying in middle school resulted in a “heads down” approach to her education from then on. Jill was quite shy and soft spoken. As a result and in direct contrast her classroom is alive with energy. She uses humor constantly and is purposeful in developing a safe space. Students are comfortable asking questions and making mistakes in Dr. Whalen’s class; it’s the best way to learn!

Dr. Whalen believes a Mercy education is a strong education. She has teachers that are always willing to go above and beyond for the students so that they may reach success. As a former college professor, Jill has seen both sides of the coin; prepared and under prepared. She is extremely confident saying our girls are prepared well. What’s Jill’s favorite thing about teaching at Mount Mercy?

“We watched the documentary Fat, Sick, and Nearly Dead” which focuses on the benefits of eating healthy and how a lifestyle change in food intake can improve your health while also in some cases decreasing or eliminating your need for certain medications. The narrator goes on a 60-day juice cleanse. Many of the girls wanted to try juicing after we finished so I brought in my machine and we made two of the popular juices showcased in the documentary.”

As an educator, Dr. Whalen prides herself on not being a “file cabinet teacher.” You will never find her pulling out her unit folder from last year and repeating each lesson step by step. She always makes notes for herself throughout the year on what worked best and what didn’t. Jill always wants her students to be engaged and in order for that to happen she needs to be engaged herself. Doing the same thing over and over again, year after year, is not the way to achieve this goal.

Kathleen Collins
Mount Mercy Class of 1968

Kathleen has been an educator for 47 years! She previously spent 14 years teaching at Mount Mercy, left and has been back now for two years, always teaching math or science. This year Kathleen is teaching Regents Physics, Conceptual Physics and Human Anatomy and Physiology. She is also on the Academic Committee for the Mount Mercy Board of Trustees.

What’s it like coming home to your alma mater…

“My Mercy education allowed me to become a confident teen who went out of town for college and experienced a semester abroad in Dublin, Ireland. I was well prepared for my course load and knew that I could research and write term papers. I experienced teachers who enjoyed the subjects they were teaching. They brought their passion into class each day. They guided me, pushed me, inspired me. This is what I hope to do at Mercy, staying true to Catherine McAuley’s mission of elevating each student as far as she can go. Open up their eyes to see what they can become.”

Our faculty at Mount Mercy is undoubtedly exceptional. It’s one of the many reasons our teachers love to be here. Kathleen sees her colleagues labor each and every day for the young women in their care. She is inspired by their generosity of spirit and willingness to go the extra mile for their students. Kathleen is grateful, once again, to be a member of this Mercy community. She also truly enjoys working side by side with former students: Social Studies teacher Bridget Hanzly Feyes ’99 and Mercy staff members Tina Scarpello Webster ’91, Julie Schweb Marzolf ’92 and Beth Cosgrove Feeney ’96

Like our entire faculty, Kathleen believes in the benefit of a strong Mercy education. She continually brings those values into her classroom. The seniors that she taught last year had a strong sense of who they were and where they wanted to go. These young women showed compassion and concern for others. These are traits Kathleen feels are needed in today’s world. She asks her students to set high goals, work diligently and be active lifelong learners.

Physics is a challenging course but definitely achievable for Mercy students. Kathleen works diligently to ensure the success of her students, not just in Physics, but in all areas of their lives. Students, as they move on to college and careers, need to be able to communicate. Kathleen, like
many of her Mercy colleagues, has her students present oral reports and then defend their ideas as questions are asked by other students.

What are some ways Kathleen engages her students?

“Science students need to know that there are heroes in the present day as well as the past. There are people who had new ideas or saw old ideas in new ways. This year my classes will have student-presented oral reports on women in science or medicine. We will view their struggles to be recognized for their true value to others. We will look at what it takes to have the grit to move forward as others are saying no.

Physics offers many hands-on activities. This fall, in the study of motion the young women will have battery-run Dune Buggies running up and down the hall. Science is very much an active subject.”

Kathleen is a proud educator who continues to grow every year. She began teaching with chalk, blackboards and no calculators. When you write a college recommendation and then see how far they go in science and math fields it gives you a moment of reflection. Kathleen has had the privilege of teaching the children of former students. It reminds her of how long she’s been around but it also gives her a chance to reconnect.

Kathleen has seen the learning strategies and standards come and go and come back again. The process of science has stayed steady regardless of the new tools. New careers are coming into play – genetic engineering, bioinformatic, and new technology. Students need a strong set of core subjects along with skills to collaborate, ask questions, and be self-motivated.

Reflecting on Mount Mercy, Kathleen added: “This past May I celebrated my 50 Year Reunion with my 1968 classmates. They were energetic, accomplished, fun-loving and loyal to their roots and Mercy. We all had changed in many ways as we gained wisdom but what brought us together that evening was the strong feelings that we had developed in our teens.”

Emily Kaufman

Emily has been teaching for four years. She previously taught college-level writing at Syracuse University. This year is Emily’s second year at Mercy and she’s teaching English 9 Regents and Honors, English 10, and our new technology course for freshmen. Emily is a co-moderator for the Calendar Club, which creates the annual literary and art calendar, the moderator for our new Drama Club, and the English teacher for the high school entrance exam review course.

An all-girl high school provides a unique environment for both students and educators. There are many reasons why members of Mount Mercy’s faculty love to be a part of this atmosphere. Emily is no exception.

“I’m really inspired and motivated by the students here. I’m especially in awe of the close-knit community that they create and shape each year. There’s something really special and empowering being around a group of young women who encourage and support each other. Mercy allows students to be themselves and to grow in an environment that is helpful, nurturing, and challenging but rewarding. When I was in high school, I longed for a better sense of community. Here at Mercy, the teachers and the students help everyone to genuinely feel like they belong.”

One of the things that Emily loves most about teaching at Mercy is the willingness of the students to learn. They truly care about their academics and making change outside of their formal schooling. Emily shared that she learned never to be surprised when a student tells her about the club that she has started in her community, the leadership award she was granted by a national organization, or the service trip she helped to organize.

Introducing and communicating the benefits of the Mercy values and a Mercy education is something that Emily brings into her classroom. She feels the Critical Concerns of the Sisters of Mercy are not only a helpful framework for service and reflection but they afford Mercy educators a unique opportunity to build a meaningful curriculum around ideas that matter in society today. Lessons, projects, and service opportunities surrounding these concerns ask students to truly grapple with societal issues and start to become agents of change. This is a unique experience at Mercy and one that helps to deepen the learning of our students.

We asked Emily about compelling projects or activities that she uses to engage and educate her students.

“My students will tell you that their favorite activity is “agree/disagree.” This is a debate-style activity that challenges students to take a stance on an issue and defend their thinking orally with evidence. I ask them to stand on either side of the classroom (one side is marked “agree,” the other, “disagree”). They confer with those who share their stance first and then engage in a debate with those who have different opinions. Students always report that they love hearing their classmates’ perspectives, especially when they are different from their own. I love facilitating a debate like this because students learn to recognize and defend their own positions and confront the fact that there is always going to be a different point of view that challenges their own. We also act out scenes from Romeo and Juliet, read and analyze graphic novels and films, and perform original poetry, among other student-centered activities.”

Emily truly loves being an educator at Mount Mercy. Her enthusiasm for her students, the school and its mission is reflected every day. Emily feels a Mercy education really shapes students into becoming tomorrow’s leaders. Here, students have a voice, they have a community, and they have other students like them who want to see the world around them changed for the better. Emily believes whole heartedly that the atmosphere here at Mercy is truly infectious!
Mount Mercy Academy Junior Olivia Larson, daughter of Donald and MMA Alumna Rebecca Long Larson ’87, had the educational experience of a lifetime this past summer. Olivia was accepted into the 2018 Yale Young Global Scholars (YYGS) program. This accomplishment is outstanding on its own merit but when considering that 5500 high school sophomores and juniors from all 50 states and 126 different countries applied for the Yale Young Global Scholars Program and less than 900 students were accepted from the United States, the feat becomes even more impressive.

We asked Olivia to tell us, in her own words about her amazing experience.

During the fall semester, Ms. Colby and Dr. Whalen have supported my development as a young woman of Mercy and serve as strong role models for my personal life. I hope to attend Yale University or Princeton University in the future to study international affairs. I would love to run for public office as a senator or work for the United Nations in the Office on Drugs and Crime focusing on corruption. In the short term, I plan to apply to this year’s United States Youth Senate Program in hopes of being able to participate in this amazing opportunity held in Washington, D.C. I also hope to further develop the nonprofit I am in the process of establishing to help combat childhood poverty in Buffalo and Western New York. I am so grateful to Mount Mercy Academy for providing me with the opportunities that helped me get accepted into the Yale Young Global Scholars program and could not have accomplished this without the help of my amazing teachers and supportive administration. Mount Mercy has strengthened my commitment to service and my desire to be an informed global citizen which has greatly impacted me and my future. Mrs. Stasack and Ms. Cronin have been instrumental in exposing me to numerous opportunities in the community such as the WNY Women’s Foundation events, National Philanthropy Day, and the Catholic Diocese Gala 22:6. The Mercy International Leadership Conference helped me to prepare for my experience at Yale. Ms. Colby and Dr. Whalen have supported my development as a young woman of Mercy and serve as strong role models for me. I am so appreciative of the guidance they have given me thus far and their continuous support of my dreams and aspirations. Personally, this experience was life changing because of all the different cultures and worldviews I was exposed to while at Yale.
When people remember Sister Sally Walz, they often reflect on her compassionate commitment to the Mercy mission. They comment on her ability to connect with the students at Mount Mercy Academy regardless of her role. During her years at Mount Mercy, Sister Sally had many roles from Math Teacher to Principal to Director of Development. She could find ways to make things happen whether that meant connecting with alumnae to help a current student, engage donors to support our school or assist in establishing many of the scholarships we have today. It is only fitting then that her family, Mary Alice Walz ’51 and Bill and Anne (Moran ’61) Walz, have established a new scholarship in her memory.

The Sister Sally Walz Memorial Scholarship provides an opportunity for a student who would otherwise not be able to afford tuition. As a tireless advocate for our students, Sister Sally worked hard to eliminate obstacles which prevented a student from reaching her highest potential. She was fair in her treatment of her students, who always knew the rules as well as her expectations in following them. Her family remembers how incredibly bright she was and her strong organizational skills.

One of her fellow Sisters of Mercy once said that Sister Sally could keep eight plates spinning in the air at once, referring to her ability to keep things going and organized. She understood how to connect with students using innovative teaching techniques, providing sage advice and connecting us all in the Circle of Mercy. To keep her students engaged she would throw a bean bag at them when she wanted them to answer a question. One student remembers a time when Sister Sally threw the bean bag at her, she ducked and the bean bag flew out onto Red Jacket Parkway. Her fun techniques made her approachable while her commitment to excellence earned her the respect of her students, fellow colleagues and the Mercy Community.

For many years Sister Sally Walz was the, “face of Mercy” recognized by students, faculty, staff and community members. This tremendous gift from the Walz family is a blessing which honors the work of Sister Sally as a living legacy of her love for our students. Thank you to Mary Alice Walz ’51 and Bill and Anne (Moran ’61) Walz for your gift as it is truly a blessing for our school and our students. The gift continues the Circle of Mercy.

Marie Jackson Women’s Golf Tournament

What began as an event to benefit the St. Thomas Aquinas Athletic Program, the Marie Jackson Women’s Golf Tournament is an annual celebration of the legacy left behind by Marie Jackson. When St. Thomas Aquinas school closed, the tournament committee refocused their efforts to providing resources to benefit students entering Catholic High School. Each year funds raised by this event are given as scholarships to lessen the burden of tuition for a select number of deserving students.

Marie was an avid golfer and bowler until she was 80 years old. Patty Jackson-Doctor honors her mother’s legacy through these scholarships and leads the tournament planning committee. “I really enjoy seeing all the women every year and watching them have fun and reconnecting with old friends. It is so rewarding to help the students as they continue their Catholic education,” Patty Jackson-Doctor commented. “I would like to thank all of my friends and everyone who contributes to this tournament. Without your help and support, we would not be able to run this tournament and help these deserving students,” Jackson-Doctor concluded.

Over $24,000 has been awarded to Mount Mercy Academy students since 2007. Mount Mercy Academy President Peggy Cronin, alum of St. Thomas Aquinas grammar school who grew up with the Jackson Family said, “I know Mrs. Jackson would love that donations made in her memory are making such a significant impact in the lives of our students. The families, as well as Mount Mercy, are so grateful to be the recipients of this committee’s generosity.”

Thank you to Patty Jackson-Doctor, her family and the Golf Committee members who dedicate their time and talents to this event each year. The blessings you have shared with many Mount Mercy girls over the years provided the gift of a lifetime, the gift of a Mercy education.
As we welcome the change of seasons, a new school year and the start of our Annual Fund Appeal, it is a time to reflect and thank all of those who have supported this initiative. It is thanks to our donors, dedication of our alumnae, commitment of our faculty, staff and Board of Trustees that our combined efforts continue to empower our Mercy Girls. It is through gifts made to the Annual Fund Appeal that young women in Western New York are given the gift of an education focused on academic excellence while engaging their minds and spirits in the mission of Catherine McAuley. It is a gift which can be life-changing, providing a new path for a young woman whose family could not otherwise afford her this opportunity.

Contributions made to the Annual Fund Appeal provide much needed financial support for tuition assistance which offsets the cost of a Mercy education. It is the generosity of our Annual Fund donors which enables families to provide the life-long benefits of a Mercy education for their daughter.

Your gift directly impacts each Mercy Girl as she faces new academic challenges, builds confidence through leadership opportunities or empowers the means by which she can give back to the community.

Please share your Mercy memories with friends, family and colleagues to demonstrate for them the value of a Mercy education and the profound impact it had on you and the woman you have become. Our Circle of Mercy continues through you, as you live it, share it and support it.

To make a gift to the Mount Mercy Annual Fund please use the enclosed envelope or visit our website to donate online- www.mtmercy.org/annualfund. If you would like more information on the Annual Fund Appeal or wish to contribute in another way, please contact the Director of Institutional Advancement, Julie Schwab Marzolf’92 at jmarzolf@mtmercy.org.
The 19th Annual Mercy Honors Awards Dinner

The 2018 Mercy Honors Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Mount Mercy Academy is excited to announce that the 2018 Mercy Honors Awards Dinner is coming home. The dinner will be held at Mount Mercy Academy, 88 Red Jacket Parkway. We are thrilled to honor alumnae and friends of Mount Mercy right here at our beautiful school. The dinner will be catered by the popular and delicious Frontier Catering. We hope you join us for this wonderful event!

Each year we recognize deserving honorees with awards for achievements in their careers, community involvement and dedication to Mount Mercy Academy. The evening is nothing short of inspiring as we recognize the amazing accomplishments of our respected honorees. We hope that you join us to celebrate our deserving awardees.

Alumnae, family and friends are invited to attend the Mercy Honors Dinner to learn more about, and honor our alumnae and community members. You can also choose to honor a recipient by placing an ad or an individual patron in our event program book. You can view the 2017 event program on the Mercy Honors page on the Mount Mercy Academy website. All proceeds benefit the Alumnae Scholarship Fund at Mount Mercy Academy.

This year, Mount Mercy Academy will be honoring our recipients with two different awards, the Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award and the Spirit of Mercy Award.

The Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award honors alumnae of Mount Mercy Academy who have distinguished themselves as women of faith, knowledge, integrity and compassion. A woman whose accomplishments in all areas of her life – family, community, career – reflect the legacy and mission of Catherine McAuley, the Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy.

The Spirit of Mercy Award honors persons who exhibit the Spirit of Mercy in their professional and personal lives, most notably for their commitment and dedication to their community. They are truly ministers of Mercy who “live justly, act in tenderness and with humility journey with their God” (Micah 6).

A special thank you to our 2018 Mercy Honors Chairperson Mary Waters McDonald ’81, whose efforts ensure the success of this very special event. For further information, to make reservations, or to be a patron sponsor, please contact Tina Scarpello Webster ’91 at twebster@mtmercy.org. Online reservations as well as patron and business ads can be submitted through our website at www.mtmercy.org by looking under the Alumnae tab and clicking on Mercy Honors.

Karen Connors Erickson ’63
Spirit of Mercy Award
Karen has dedicated her life to volunteering, mentoring and serving the community, both for Mount Mercy Academy and Angola, NY, the area in which she lives and work. Karen has graciously volunteered at and donated to our MMA 5K race for the past 20 years, providing, cooking and serving hot dogs to our runners and guests. Karen is currently the Board Secretary on the Business and Finance Academy at Lake Shore Central High School, the Vice President of the Evans Democratic Club and founder and member of the Evans Economic Development Committee. For the past five years, Karen along with her nephew, Jeff Connors, has organized the Connors’ 5K Wiener Run to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Lake Shore. Karen was the Deputy Supervisor in the Town of Evans for 12 years. In 2016, she was the recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award from the Evans Brant Chamber of Commerce. All of this, and Karen still has time to be actively involved in her family business, Connors Hot Dogs.

Catie Burke Gavin ’93
Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award
Catie is currently the First Deputy Commissioner of Family Wellness for the Erie County Department of Social Services. In this role, Catie oversees all Child Welfare and Adult Protective Services. She has dedicated her life to serving our most vulnerable members of society, including working as a Child Protective Service Investigator; as a home finder at a local non-profit where she was responsible for the recruitment and training of foster and adoptive parents; and working for the NYS Office of Children and Family Services. There Catie investigated allegations of maltreatment in residential centers, conducted child fatality investigations, and assisted in the oversight of child welfare across an eight county region. Catie is a dedicated community servant and volunteer. She has chaired various fundraising events for her sons’ schools and sports teams, as well as served as a youth hockey manager. Catie has been the Event Chairperson for the SMART Fundraiser for the past ten years, the Bishop Timon-St. Jude Parent Guild President for the past two years and a member of the Board of Trustees at Bishop Timon as the parent representative.
Stephanie Hnatiw ’66
Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award
Stephanie is the Executive Director at the YWCA Bethlehem in Pennsylvania. She has devoted her life to community and nonprofit work and organizations that strive for women’s rights and equality. Stephanie saw that women in executive roles needed each other’s support, so she created the Chamber of Commerce’s Executive Women’s Task Force in Allentown, PA. Stephanie currently serves on the Board of Directors of Quilts for Kids and the DaVinci Science Center’s WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) Executive Council. Stephanie was the youngest person ever to serve on the Board of Directors of the United Way in Lehigh County. She also served on committees at Mercy School for Special Learning and United Cerebral Palsy. In addition, Stephanie was on the Advisory Board of Montgomery County Child Care Resource Developers and served on the Nursing Advisory Council of Cedar Crest College. Stephanie has also been featured in the AAUW’s (American Association of University Women) national campaign advocating for the passage of the Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act (FAMILY Act).

Bob Hughes
Spirit of Mercy Award
Bob is the consummate volunteer and supporter of Mount Mercy and his community. He was one of the founding members of the MMA Athletic Boosters and is currently the President of this organization which works tirelessly to raise funds to enhance Mount Mercy’s athletics. In addition to this, Bob and the Booster Committee volunteer at every Mercy event, doing whatever is needed. Bob serves on the Mount Mercy Board of Trustees subcommittee for athletics; he is on the MMA golf tournament committee and with his wife Meg, was a co-chair of the 2016 McAuley Gala. In addition to all he does for Mercy, Bob is also a long-time volunteer at his parish, Nativity of Our Lord in Orchard Park. He served as a softball coach, a basketball coach and as their Athletic Director. Bob also volunteered as a softball coach and as a member of the Board of Directors for Orchard Park Little League. Bob is currently on the committee for The Connolly Cup, an organization that recognizes high school football players.

Dr. Colleen Mattimore MD FAAP ’77
Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award
Dr. Mattimore has been a physician and partner at Western New York Pediatrics for over 25 years. She is also the current President of Medical Health Associates of Western New York, which is a collaboration of seven local pediatric practices whose mission is to be recognized as the preeminent provider of pediatric medical and wellness services in Western New York. For many years Dr. Mattimore has played an active role in vaccine advocacy in Western New York. Ten years ago she established the Vaccine Safety Coalition and successfully launched a vaccine safety public health multi-media campaign. Dr. Mattimore has been recognized by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) New York Chapter 1, by the Western New York Pediatric, Adolescent and Adult Immunization Coalition and by the Erie County Department of Health for her work to protect the children of Western New York. In 2016 Colleen was selected as New York’s CDC Childhood Immunization Champion Award Winner for making a significant contribution to public health in New York State.

Sharon M. Porcellio ’75
Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award
Sharon is a prominent attorney and member of the firm, Bond, Schoeneck and King. Sharon has appeared in State and Federal Courts across the country and has a well-earned reputation for zealous and successful representation. She serves as Co-Chair of the Advisory Group for the New York State Federal Judicial Council and is also on the Commercial Division Advisory Council to New York State Chief Judge. Sharon has been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America for Litigation - Labor and Employment, acknowledged by both Legal Elite of Western New York and Buffalo Business First Legal Elite. Sharon was named a New York Super Lawyer in 2018. She still finds time to be active in the community, Sharon is on The National Deans Council for Arts, Sciences and Engineering at the University of Rochester, is on the Board of Directors of The Buffalo Club, and the Board of Directors for Hope Chest Wellness and Dragon Boat Programs. Sharon is a past Vice President and Member of the Board of Trustees of Mount Mercy Academy.
Thank You

mma 5k SPONSORS!


Thank You

McAuley Gala 2018 Sponsors

Several ladies of the Class of 1957 still get together for lunch, laughs and reminiscing. These ladies recently had lunch at Alton’s and a great time was had by all!

The Class of 1968 Celebrates Their Golden Anniversary!

This past May Mount Mercy’s Class of 1968 celebrated their 50th year reunion. The celebration was in conjunction with the Class of 2018 graduation ceremony. The golden anniversary girls reunited in the halls of MMA and immediately started catching up on the last 50 years. The ladies walked next door to Mercy Center where the class of ’68 posed for a class picture and then took on the role of honor guard for the 2018 graduating class. As the procession of new Mount Mercy alumnae passed through on their way into the auditorium there was clapping, compliments, laughing and even tears as the women remembered their own graduation day. The members of the Class of 1968 then proceeded to march into the auditorium where they stood in front of the crowd and were recognized and celebrated.

The class had a fantastic party at J’s White Elephant Restaurant in Lackawanna. The ladies had a wonderful time, they enjoyed dinner and drinks and received their 50 year class pins. The night was very special, everyone had a wonderful time, and in true Mercy girl fashion, lots and lots of laughs were shared! Congratulations Class of 1968! Mount Mercy Academy thanks you for your generosity… because of your support of the 50 year reunion, a sizable contribution was made to the Mount Mercy Academy Alumnae Scholarship Fund.

Welcome Home Beth!

Mount Mercy Academy is pleased to announce our new Marketing and Communications Coordinator, Beth Cosgrove Feeney, from the MMA Class of 1996. Beth comes to us with a background in non profit work, event coordination and marketing. She currently handles all of Mount Mercy’s marketing and advertising, social media presence, and recruitment initiatives. We are extremely lucky to add Beth to our staff and look forward to seeing her build on her already successful endeavors at Mount Mercy. Welcome back to Mercy, Beth!
RECENT HAPPENINGS AT MERCY

Mercy girls at the Junior/Senior Prom last May.

Our 2018 McAuley Gala Co-Chairs at the event, Brian and Wendy Lewandowski and Rosanne (Donovan ’69) and Tom Dee.

Rosanne Simoncelli Wilson ’25, Mary Waters McDonald ’81 and Laura Ortiz ’83 at the McAuley Gala.

Mercy Alums Mara McCormick ’15 and Sara Riso ’15, with their dads playing in the MMA Golf Tournament.

The winning men’s group at the MMA Golf Tournament.

The winning women’s team at the MMA Golf Tournament.

MMA Junior Olivia Larson sang the National Anthem before "Timon and Mercy Night" at the Buffalo Bisons Game. Timon Senior Sean Hayes threw out the first pitch.

MMA Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Our MMA 5k Honorees - Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

Our MMA 5K Honorees – Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

Bonnie Kane Lockwood ’73, Sr. Peggy Gorman ’60 and Peggy Flanagan Barrett ’73 at our Annual Alumnae Memorial Mass and Reception.

Sr. Mary Ellen Twist ’60, Mary Solomon Gogan ’54, Dr. Catherine Gogan, ’77 and Sr. Margaret O’Donnell ’43 at our Annual Alumnae Memorial Mass and Reception.

Mercy Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Mercy Alums Mara McCormick ’15 and Sara Riso ’15, with their dads playing in the MMA Golf Tournament.

Our MMA 5k Honorees - Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

The friends and family of MMA 5k Honoree Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76.

Mercy Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Mercy Alums Mara McCormick ’15 and Sara Riso ’15, with their dads playing in the MMA Golf Tournament.

Our 2018 McAuley Gala Co-Chairs at the event, Brian and Wendy Lewandowski and Rosanne (Donovan ’69) and Tom Dee.

Rosanne Simoncelli Wilson ’25, Mary Waters McDonald ’81 and Laura Ortiz ’83 at the McAuley Gala.

Mercy Alums Mara McCormick ’15 and Sara Riso ’15, with their dads playing in the MMA Golf Tournament.

The winning men’s group at the MMA Golf Tournament.

The winning women’s team at the MMA Golf Tournament.

MMA Junior Olivia Larson sang the National Anthem before "Timon and Mercy Night" at the Buffalo Bisons Game. Timon Senior Sean Hayes threw out the first pitch.

MMA Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Our MMA 5k Honorees - Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

Our MMA 5k Honorees – Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

Bonnie Kane Lockwood ’73, Sr. Peggy Gorman ’60 and Peggy Flanagan Barrett ’73 at our Annual Alumnae Memorial Mass and Reception.

Sr. Mary Ellen Twist ’60, Mary Solomon Gogan ’54, Dr. Catherine Gogan, ’77 and Sr. Margaret O’Donnell ’43 at our Annual Alumnae Memorial Mass and Reception.

Mercy Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Mercy Alums Mara McCormick ’15 and Sara Riso ’15, with their dads playing in the MMA Golf Tournament.

Our MMA 5k Honorees - Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

The friends and family of MMA 5k Honoree Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76.

Mercy Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Our 2018 McAuley Gala Co-Chairs at the event, Brian and Wendy Lewandowski and Rosanne (Donovan ’69) and Tom Dee.

Rosanne Simoncelli Wilson ’25, Mary Waters McDonald ’81 and Laura Ortiz ’83 at the McAuley Gala.

Mercy Alums Mara McCormick ’15 and Sara Riso ’15, with their dads playing in the MMA Golf Tournament.

The winning men’s group at the MMA Golf Tournament.

The winning women’s team at the MMA Golf Tournament.

MMA Junior Olivia Larson sang the National Anthem before "Timon and Mercy Night" at the Buffalo Bisons Game. Timon Senior Sean Hayes threw out the first pitch.

MMA Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Our MMA 5k Honorees - Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

Our MMA 5k Honorees – Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

Bonnie Kane Lockwood ’73, Sr. Peggy Gorman ’60 and Peggy Flanagan Barrett ’73 at our Annual Alumnae Memorial Mass and Reception.

Sr. Mary Ellen Twist ’60, Mary Solomon Gogan ’54, Dr. Catherine Gogan, ’77 and Sr. Margaret O’Donnell ’43 at our Annual Alumnae Memorial Mass and Reception.

Mercy Alumna Marie Smith Voorhees ’98 and her family at the MMA 5K race.

Mercy Alums Mara McCormick ’15 and Sara Riso ’15, with their dads playing in the MMA Golf Tournament.

Our MMA 5k Honorees - Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76, Jack Reid, Jillian Scarcello Cannan ’03, Colleen Coyle Pandy ’99 and Don "Doc" Doctor.

The friends and family of MMA 5k Honoree Kate Coughlin Lynch ’76.
Our campers during a Camp Mercy field trip to the KeyBank Center.

Mercy Alumnae enjoying the McAuley Gala.

Mercy Girls on their Foreign Language trip to Spain, France and Italy.

Some of the many girls who took part in Mercy's Basketball Camp over the summer. They are pictured here with MMA junior Tierney Ashe.

Mercy Girls have a great time at the "Back to School Mixer" in September.

Members of Mercy's Class of 1998 enjoying a summer get together.

Proud Mercy Alums! Jennifer Letina ’96, Kathy Linkhardt ’88, Michelle Letina Goodspeed ’90 and Mary Lou Letina Land ’99 at "Timon and Mercy Night" at the Buffalo Bisons Game.

Mount Mercy's Varsity Volleyball team and their coach, MMA teacher Brittany Sanscrainte.

Members of Mercy’s Class of 2019 were honored with scholarships and awards from colleges and national organizations.

Mercy Students appeared on WKBW Channel 7 to promote our Open House.

Mercy Girls have a great time at the "Back to School Mixer" in September.

Mercy Alumnae enjoying the McAuley Gala.
Congratulations to **Meghan Ebert '09**, she was the subject of a recent article published by the Knights of Equity/Daughters of Erin. In 2009, Meghan was a scholarship recipient awarded by the Daughters of Erin. The organization caught up with Meghan to find out all she has been achieving since college. Since earning her Bachelor of Arts degree, Meghan has been an architectural representative at Daltile for six years, the largest ceramic tile company in the U.S. She also volunteers through her company for Habitat for Humanity, providing design expertise, textiles and muscle to create beautiful spaces. Meghan is currently pursuing her MBA at Medaille College as her future goal is to move up into management at Daltile. Congrats Meghan, we look forward to hearing about your future success!

The **Class of 1966** came together to help their classmate, **Dorrie Roma Lewis** with a project close to her heart. Dorrie's daughter Christina was a patient at Buffalo Children’s Hospital for many years as a child and teenager. Dorrie is forever grateful for the compassionate care and attention her daughter received. When she saw a poster advertising a blanket drive for the new John R. Oishei Children’s Hospital, Dorrie sprung into action. She approached her 1966 classmates with requests for donations of blankets and stuffed animals, all to be donated to the hospital in loving memory of her daughter who passed away in 2016. The ’66 Mercy women came through and Dorrie is forever thankful for their generosity. We are so proud of Dorrie for her commitment to helping those in need and proud of the classmates who supported her in this endeavor. The Circle of Mercy is truly like no other!

Dorrie is pictured here with the donations and Dr. John Pastore, Medical Director, Pediatric Hospitalist Service at the Children’s Hospital. Also pictured is Dorrie with her Class of ’66 classmates at a get-together luncheon they had in May. Great job to everyone involved!

2018 is a year of celebration for two Mount Mercy alumnae! Huge congratulations to **Sr. Sharon Erickson** and **Sr. Marie André Main**, both from the **Class of 1958** on commemorating their Jubilee Celebration as Sisters of Mercy. Both women entered the Community after their Mount Mercy graduation and are celebrating 60 years as Sisters of Mercy. Sr. Sharon and Sr. Marie André have had many achievements in their time of service. We are grateful for their commitment to the mission of Catherine McAuley. Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Joanne Loomis Ryan '76**! It was announced in September that Joanne is a national award finalist for the Teacher of the Year presented by The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). This award recognizes teacher educators who have demonstrated innovation in teacher education, leadership in improving career and technical education, and commitment to preparing teachers to deliver high quality career and technical education programs. Joanne has over 35 years of teaching experience in career and technical education (CTE) in the areas of business and work-based learning. A teacher at SUNY Buffalo State College, Joanne is trained in cooperative learning, differentiated instruction and lesson-plan development, and has implemented these teaching practices into her classrooms. She is one of five finalists for the 2019 national title. The national winner will be announced at the ACTE Awards Banquet, a dinner and award presentation recognizing the best CTE educators in the country. The event will take place on November 28th in San Antonio, TX. Congratulations Joanne on this well deserved honor and best of luck! Mount Mercy is proud to have you as an alumna!

Congratulations **Kerry Tedesco LaPlante ’92**! Kerry is a tenured Associate Professor of Pharmacy and Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Rhode Island and the Alpert Medical School of Brown University, respectively. She is an infectious diseases pharmacotherapy specialist at the Providence Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and the Senior Director of the Rhode Island Infectious Diseases (RIID) research program.

Earlier this year, Dr. LaPlante was honored by two the nation’s leading infectious disease organizations for her expertise in disease treatment and prevention. Kerry was named a fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. In addition to this honor, she was elected president of the Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists. Kerry is an expert and nationally recognized for her work in the treatment, virulence inhibition, control and prevention of MRSA, device-related infections and multiple drug-resistant bacteria. She has also written more than 100 peer reviewed articles, abstracts and textbook chapters and has earned funding from the National Institutes of Health, Veterans Health Agency and the pharmaceutical industry.

Mount Mercy Academy could not be more proud of Dr. LaPlante and the amazing work she is doing! We cannot wait to hear about your continued success. Congratulations Kerry!

**CALLING ALL ARTISANS!**

Are you an alum who is skilled in handmade goods? Do you have an Etsy shop or sell merchandise from your home or farmers markets? We would love to share your work! Please send your information to Tina Scarpello Webster ’91 at twebster@mtmercy.org.

Mercy women helping other Mercy women is the foundation of our Circle of Mercy!
ALLMAN LOCKWOOD
May 5th was a perfect Saturday for the beautiful wedding of Bridget Allman ‘00 and Brian Lockwood, a 2003 Bishop Timon graduate. The couple exchanged vows at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna before a fun-filled reception at the Hotel Lafayette in Buffalo. Many of the friends and family celebrating the newlyweds are Mercy alums, including girls in her wedding party, maid of honor, Bridget’s sister Molly Allman Forero ‘97 and mother of the groom, Bonnie Kane Lockwood ‘73. Congratulations and Best Wishes Bridget and Brian!

SCHUTA WHITESIDE
Congratulations to Katie Schuta ‘03 and her new husband Jon Whiteside! The couple was married on April 29, 2017, a perfect spring day. Standing by her side were Katie’s wedding party filled with Mount Mercy alumnae, Sara Drilling Hicks ‘99, Heather Turner ‘04, Andrea Muszynski ‘03, Bethany Vivian ‘03 and Lauren Crehan Groff ‘03. This is in addition to the large collection of Mercy women who celebrated the Whiteside’s at their reception; check out this MMA alum photo! Congratulations and Best Wishes Katie and Jon!

SMARDZ CURTIN
Congratulations to happy newlyweds Tracy Smardz ‘96 and Brett Curtin, a 1994 Bishop Timon graduate. The Curtin’s were married on a gorgeous Saturday, the last day of June. A beautiful view of Lake Erie was the perfect backdrop as Tracy and Brett exchanged vows outside on the patio of Public House on the Lake in Hamburg. A lively celebration filled with Mercy alums of all ages followed the ceremony and continued into the summer night. Congratulations and Best wishes to Tracy and Brett!

Anna Loraine
Welcome to the world Anna Loraine! Congratulations to Marren McParlane Miller ‘05 and her husband Josh Miller, a class of 2000 Bishop Timon alum, on the birth of their beautiful daughter. Anna was born on July 17th and these first-time parents are beyond overjoyed! Congrats Marren and Josh!

Andrew Michael
The McCrea family is growing! Congratulations to Sheila Robertson McCrea ‘96 and her husband, Steve McCrea on the birth of their son. Steve is a graduate of Bishop Timon’s class of 1996 and a teacher in the Social Studies Department at Mount Mercy. Andrew was born on January 18th and welcomed with love and excitement by his big sisters, future Mercy girls Mara, 10 and Leah, 8. Welcome Andrew and congratulations McCrea family!

Elle Ryan
The Heidinger family goes from three to four! Celebrating the birth of their adorable daughter are Erin Reid Heidinger ‘06 and her husband, Josh Heidinger. Elle was born on June 4th and joins big brother Ford, age 2. Congratulations Erin, Josh and Ford… welcome to world Elle!

Jack Hudson
The Leonard family welcomes their newest member! Congratulations to Melissa Parker Leonard ‘01 and her husband Dan Leonard on the birth of their new son. Jack was born on February 21st much to the excitement of older brother Nolan, age 6 and big sister Sofie, age 4. Congratulations to this growing family and welcome to the world baby Jack!

Rose Julia
It’s a future Mercy girl for the Pandy’s! Congratulations to Colleen Coyle Pandy ‘99 and her husband, Phillip Pandy on the birth of their baby girl, Rose. This smiling bundle of joy arrived on December 28, 2017 and her big sister Evie and big brother Quinn could not be happier! Welcome Rose and congratulations to the growing Pandy family!
A special "thank you" to those families who have designated MMA as the recipient of memorials for their loved ones.

Ruth M. Schmelzinger '35 by Irene Lynch


James Paul Pace (Donations to the Carol & Jim Pace Educational Scholarship) by Patricia R. Washabaugh, Alice M. Kavanagh, Paula M. Eye, Denise Juliano, Nora Splect, Dr. Cherin Hall, Ray & Judy Peruksi, Brad Hafner, Ruth J. Schwandt, Deann A. & Roy A. Sheppard, Geraldine Burke, Carol Clark, EdwardKent, Marilyn R. Emerich, Susan & Richard Wieszewisky, Irene Recktenwald, Les & Connie King, Jeremiah & Mariellen Brinkworth, Carmel Bitondo Dyer

IN HONOR
Sister Marilyn Sciarino RSM by Susan Tilert Kuhn
Eileen Head Malek '52 by Anonymous Donor

IN MEMORIAM
Ann Assciutto by Joyce Roberts
Joan Poole-Balton '56 by Mary Ellen Shaughnessy
Linda T. Tevington Barlow '60 by MMA Alumnae Assoc.
Jeffrey Baron by Mary & Karen Rossi
Michael Bartlett by Richard & Patricia Ertel
Ali Bateman by Martin & Mary Whyte
Eugene Bauer by Mike & Mary O'Sullivan, Leonard & Catherine (O'Neill) Coppola
Kathleen A. Beutler '68 by MMA Alumnae Assoc.
James Black by Mary Millckfeld
Margaret M. "Molly" McNaughton Bociek '87 by MMA Alumnae Association, Kathy Glavey, Joan E. Couglin, Pat & Kathy Martello, Jim & Anita Neenan, Cathy Rafer, Maureen Canney, Bob & Kathy Fischer
David "Gene" Boechel by Marty & Peggy McGrath, Judd-Lyn Colpoys, Mary Millckfeld, Peggy Crowley '51, MMA Community
Martin E. Bogdan by Maureen Canney
Marie Bolibrzuch by Maureen Canney
Rosemary Boris by Kathy Harrigan, Michael & Dianne Frawley, Jim & Pat Connolly
Charles Michael Broderick by Leonard & Catherine (O'Neill) Coppola
Robert F. "Bobby" Browne by MMA Community, Tina Webster, Joan Flynn
Carl Buscemi by Peter & Marguerite Phillips
James (Jim) Byrne by Bonnie & Nelson Cosgrove
Robert S. Byrne, Sr. by Guy & Margaret Latona
Joan Byrnes by Jeanne Cassidy
Alicia M. Campbell '90 by Anita & Pat Crotty
Collette Carey by Frances A. Kilik, Ann Faltyn & Family, Frank & Mary Jo Feeley, Jeanne & Mark Cassidy, Jane Carranza by Bea Kilian
Mary A. Markulis Choi '54 by Joanne Schwartzott '54
Joseph Ciancio by Jean Canney & Family, Jack & Noreen McBride
Gary F. Claybyck by Patricia Graham, Clyde & Sue Brooks, Peter & Marguerite Phillips
Kathleen A. Coffey '57 by MMA Alumnae Association

Geraldine Colarusso by Mario & Karen Rossi
Mary M. "Mimi" Hillery Collins '49 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Madonna Nagle Heilig, Tom & Kathie Brinkworth
Donald W. Colpoys by Mary Lou Colpoys-Wynee, Francis "Jake" Shea, Frank & Patricia Shea, Michael & Dianne Frawley, Kathy Glavey, Bonnie Kane Lockwood, Jean Canney, Charlotte Bisantz, Jim & Phil Gallagher
Monica Conrad by Maureen Canney, Kathy Glavey, Joe Couglin, Phyllis Doherty '50, Leonard & Catherine (O'Neill) Coppola
Frances Mercy Frizzell Considine '45 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Jean M. Boeckel
Jack Corbett by Mary Zeis
Mary Ann Bohen Corbett '66 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Mr. & Mrs. Terrance Barrett, Joe & Sharon Hoffstetter & family, Jaan & Fred Steviet, Rosemary Sheehan, Mike & Dianne Frawley, Jean Canney, Frank & Mary Jo Feeley, Pat & Gail Lewis, Eileen Bohen, Michael & Mary O'Sullivan, Kathy Glavey, Kathy Rafer, Maureen (McDonald) O'Neill '66
Kari Cosentino by John & Kathleen Keller
Kevin P. Courtney by Angie Byrnes
Betty Cooper by Mr. & Mrs. Betrus
Marcy Danes by Leonard & Catherine Coppola
Ellen Strong Denecke '51 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Ann Faltyn, Irene Lynch, Martin & Peggy McGrath
Michael Denecke by Ann Faltyn & Family
Robert Derry by Joan Flynn
M. Jane Dickman by MMA Community
Linda (Crawford) Donovan by Rosemary (Wright) Sheehan, Mary Millckfeld, Jean Canney & Family, The Fischer Family
Mary E. "Betty" Dougherty '46 by MMA Alumnae Association
Margaret June Long Doyle '39 by MMA Alumnae Association
Charles Patrick Drumm by Maureen Canney, Michael & Dianne Frawley
Kathleen Marie Finger Edlich '76 by MMA Alumnae Association
Kathleen R. Barnes Evans '52 by MMA Alumnae Association, Baggott Family
James R. Falkner by Jim & Phil Gallagher
Janice M. Schulz Farrell '59 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Jim & Phil Gallagher, Connie & Dick Reich, Garry & Jane Warfield
Debbie Felschow by Mary Millckfeld
Mary Ellen Coughlin Flatley '56 by MMA Alumnae Association
Kathleen Finnegan by Mary Millckfeld
Mary C. Honan Fitzgerald '45 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Jean Canney, Jeanne & Mark Cassidy, Jack & Noreen McBride
Dan Fitzgibbons by Joe & Sharon Hoffstetter & Family
William J. Flanagan by Dan & Sheila Finucane, Susan Rickard Demme
Barbara Fleskenstein by Elizabeth Easing
Miriam "Jane" Foley Foley '60 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Nelson & Bonnie Cosgrove, Kathy McNamara O'Neill '60
Robert Fontaine by Barbara A. Klavoon
Ann Marie Forster by Jeremiah & Mary Ann Hassett
Donald Fox by June & Dennis McNaughton
Gloria Gallagher by Michael & Marian Betrus
Tessie Gavrin by Seamus & Ann Kilmurray
Thomas Joseph Gentry, Sr. by Maureen Canney
Joseph Giemrek by Joan Flynn
Michelle Gill by Laura Low
Donald Gould by Michael & Dianne Frawley
Grace Griffin by Dave & Sheila Stanchak & Family, Joan Cuthbert
Colleen M. Kennedy Grochola '90 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Mary Zeis, Juli-Lyn Colpoys, Nancy A. McCarthy, Carol A. Goldfarb, Joan Flynn, Howard & Sally Hutton, Irene Lynch, Jeanne & Mark Cassidy, Beverly (Scherer) & Thomas Leatherbarrow, Tom & Kathie Brinkworth, Gary & Ruth Kresser, Georgianna Lester Elliott '64
Leona L. Grogg-Lesswing by Charles B. & Carol A. Schweitzer
Mary Jo Brennan Guenther '67 by MMA Alumnae Association
Sharol Hamister by Cheryl Meyers Ruth
Carol Hammer by Kathleen Hess
Linda M. Harrett '56 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Mary Ellen Twiss RSM
Mary Hartley by John & Celine Crabbe
Joseph E. Hassey by Roslyn Connny
Shirley Hauptman by Barbara Breidenstein
Michaelene Hayes-Stasio by Kelly Farrell
The Head sisters: Eileen(Living), Dorothy, Marie, Francie, Bernadine by Anonymous Donor
Arleane Herman by John & Kathleen Keller
Sheriff Thomas F. Higgins, Jr. by Frances A. Kilik, Mary Millckfeld, Dave & Colleen Sussman, Mike & Colleen Chase
Jean M. Olden Hosken '48 by MMA Alumnae Association
Kathleen Hourihan '67 by Helen Cullinan Sverker
Mary Lou Hourihan '70 by Helen Cullinan Sverker
Dorothea Howard by Anita & Jim Neenan, Joan Flynn
Mr. Hudson by Peter & Marguerite Phillips
Curt Humphrey by Barbara A. Klavoon
Marion T. (Brennan) Hynes by Catherine Bastian, Bernie & Pat Kennedy, Anita & Pat Crotty
Catherine lafrate by Pat & Patsy Lyons
Antonino Ippolito by Cheryl Meyers Ruth
T. Gregory Jacobs by Bonnie & Nelson Cosgrove
Linda Jewett by Jim & Phil Gallagher
Barbara Suzanne Falkner Jordan '59 by MMA Alumnae Association
Genevieve C. Kaminski by Bill Spaulding
Margie Downey Kania '56 by Helen Cullinan Sverker
Hikel Karem by Carol & Jim Connors
Maureen T. Corcoran Keane '56 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Mary Alice Walz
Lawrence Keegan by Jack & Kathy Hess, Nelson & Bonnie Cosgrove
Patrick Kelley by Mary Millckfeld
Myles Kelly by Dave & Sheila Stanchak & Boys
Sheila Ann Kelly '61 by MMA Alumnas Assoc., Vincy Ventresca O'Donnell '61, Carol Lewis Quinn '61, Kathy Glavey
Jeanne M. Kiernan by Elizabeth A. Gallagher
Robert Kilger by Maureen Schanbacher
Joseph Kloc by Cathy Rafer
Daisy Kogut by Mary (Tootsie) Cronin
Doris Krause by Dave & Sheila Stanchak & Family
James J. Kreuzer by Kerry & Colleen Painter
Dorothy Kuebler by Maureen Schanbacher
Rita M. Donkey LaBasco '44 by MMA Alumnae Association
Robert G. Lamb by Howard & Sally Hutton
Barbara Larkman by Jean Canney
Mary Ann Lebron by Patricia Crowley
Ryan Paul Lepo by Peter & Marguerite Phillips
Jill Irene Lepo-Wieniewicz by Peter & Marguerite Phillips
Martin Leslie by Jeanne & Mark Cassidy
Helen B. Letina by Maureen Canney, Anita & Pat Crotty
Catherine L. Ruth Lilley '42 by MMA Alumnae Assoc., Dan & Sheila Finucane, Michael & Dianne Frawley
Kelly Lilley by Dan & Sheila Finucane, Pat & Kathy Martello
Cecelia Hinkley Leteven Litwin '62 by MMA Alumnae Association
JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
10:00 AM – MOUNT MERCY DINING HALL
Cost: $25 for a family of three
Each additional person is $5.00
Reservations due by December 11th

* Enjoy a special visit from Santa & Mrs. Claus
* Mercy Elves will serve juice, coffee, donuts & treats
* Santa has a gift for each child
* Children can enjoy our craft table and basket raffle

For reservations please go to our website
www.mtmercy.org under Alumnae Events

For more information or to join the mailing list
please contact Breanne Flynn at
bflynn@mtmercy.org or 716-825-8796 ext. 306