

# MERCY CONNECTIONS

Winter 2016

## A Message from the President

# MERCY *i*Center

INSPIRING INNOVATION



Dear Mercy Alumnae,

Over the past year, your alma mater has undergone an exciting transformation. For those of you who have not been “home” to Mercy, this correspondence will give you a sense of the changes that have taken place and what is in-the-works for summer 2016.

### ***Mercy iCenter***

The most significant upgrade is the creation of the ***Mercy iCenter*** located on the third floor east wing. Depending on your year of graduation, that corridor once housed the novitiate, then the Guidance, Advancement and Communications offices, and more recently, two converted offices that were used as technology classrooms. Last year, we initiated a significant upgrade to the Academy's technology infrastructure and integrated instructional software and hardware, and expansion of our computer science curriculum. A spectacular gala was held on March 26, 2015, at Gotham Hall in NYC, at which time we honored Marianne and Dinos Iordanou (parents of Danielle '04 and Alex '07). Over 500 guests were in attendance and \$550,000 was raised. The construction began on July 7th and by the week of August 24th, the soon-to-be named ***Mercy iCenter*** was ready for occupancy. Registration for our expanded Computer Science courses has increased by 178%.

*Continued on Page 2*



## Facilities

If you ask any of our students, what is the one thing that they would like to see improved at Mercy, you would likely hear bathrooms! A portion of the funds raised from the 5K Tower Run in 2014, were earmarked for the renovation of the bathrooms and showers in Kieran Hall (gym). The generosity of the Podpirka Family (Parents of Nicole '10) turned the dream into a reality. The old, rusted, gray lockers were given new life with a fresh coat of Mercy blue paint.

Last spring, the Academy received a generous gift from the estate of Mary Virginia Donnelly, OLMA class of '33. We relocated the Nurse's office to the lower level. The bequest enabled us to completely renovate the Nurse's office, adjacent bathroom and added an ADA bathroom. In fall 2015, the Nurse's office was dedicated in her memory and will be known as the Mary Virginia Donnelly Health Center. The dedication plaque pictured to the right.



### EDEN

The greenhouse for EDEN (EDucational and ENvironmental Research Program) was completed. EDEN is a four-tiered, scientific research program offering experiential and student-centered learning. This course of study provides students the opportunity to design and conduct research. It enhances critical thinking, collaboration, writing, presentation, and allows students to experience the application of science and math to problem solving. The greenhouse is showcased on the OLMA property in front of the gym and pictured left.



Initiated in 2013, by Dolores and Dick O'Hara (Parents of Cate '74, Therese '77, AnnMarie '83, and Mary Ellen '84, and several Mercy granddaughters, too!), we have raised \$1.5 million towards our initial \$3.0 million goal to ensure the education of future Mercy students.

Highlights of this past year would not be complete without the mention of the expanding faithfulness of the alumnae to their alma mater. The Office of Advancement under the direction of Pat Genovese DiLollo '70, along with her team diligently focused on communicating with the alumnae to keep them active in our Circle of Mercy. Amanda Corbo '99 succeeded Valerie Serpe Gigante '83 as Director of Communications. Val is currently the Principal of St. Thomas the Apostle in West Hempstead. A special word of thanks to our Alumnae Board for their participation and enthusiasm. I am happy to report that alumnae participation grew by 18% from 2014 to 2015. OLMA and the Alumnae Board hosted several gatherings including NYC, LI, Boston and FL. Please contact Pat DiLollo (pdillollo@olma.org) if you would like to host an event in your hometown and we'll come to you!

On May 15, 2015, Denise E. Higgins '75, beloved sister of Geralyn '70 and Kathryn '73 passed away from complications of Type 1 Diabetes. In her memory, her family and colleagues at Voya Investment Management established the Denise E. Higgins Memorial Fund to celebrate her life and provide financial support for Mercy students. This tuition award will be bestowed on a student in her junior or senior year who characterizes Denise's leadership qualities, interest in technology and business, commitment to service, and demonstrates the desire to reach her potential.

Our 2015-2016 goals include raising \$3.2 million to enhance our library this summer with new study areas, resources, equipment, software and hardware (\$1.2 million), and further build our endowment (\$1.0 million), and expand scholarship awards and financial assistance (\$1.0 million). Such initiatives are key to our ability to uphold our mission of providing a comprehensive and faith-filled education for young women.

To all our alumnae, please know we are so grateful for your participation and support to Mercy. Your ongoing endorsement will allow us to remain true to our mission and continue to provide an education in the Mercy tradition for the young women of today and tomorrow.

Please stay in touch and come visit soon!

With gratitude,

*Margaret Myhan '70*

Margaret Myhan '70  
President



*Conceptual rendering of Mercy's renovated library*



# Alumnae Spotlight

## Joan Crampton Echausse '51

Mercy President Margaret Myhan, presented Joan Crampton Echausse '51 with the "Alumna Spirit of Service" Award at the President's Dinner in October. Margaret said the following about Joan, "For more than fifty years Joan has tirelessly contributed her time to the community and pastoral group at St. Brigid's Parish in Westbury. Her spirit of faithfulness, service and generosity has been a testament to the teachings, traditions and values instilled in her as a young woman, educated in the rich heritage and principles of Catherine McAuley, while a student at Mercy." The Echausse legacy includes Joan's daughters, Mary '77 and Nancy '80, her daughter-in-law Beth Cochrane Echausse '80 and her granddaughter Meghan '13.



*Pictured above from left to right: Nancy Echausse '80, Meghan Echausse '13, Beth Echausse '80, Mary Echausse '77, Joan Echausse '51, Fr. Mike Maffeo, pastor of St. Edwards and Paul Echausse.*

As a tribute to his mother, OLMA Board Member, Paul Echausse, established the Joan C. Echausse Scholarship Fund. This fund allows for a partial scholarship for the four years of a student's high school career. He was motivated to establish this fund after learning of the great

need for scholarship and financial aid support at a board meeting. Paul has served on the Vision to Action Committee as well as the Task Force before becoming a Board Member. He and his wife, Beth Cochrane Echausse '80, recently pledged a gift of \$100,000 for Mercy's endowment "The Tower Fund".

### MESSAGE FROM LOREN KRAMPS WILDES '83, CO-PRESIDENT OF ALUMNAE BOARD

Dear Mercy Alumnae,

It is my pleasure to announce the exciting introduction of our new Alumnae Networking site. The Alumnae Board has been working together with Mercy's Office of Advancement to develop a website that will help us connect with one another. The new site will feature the following enhancements:

- **Events page**
- **Job listings**
- **Profile for each member**
- **Upload a resume**
- **Showcase your business**
- **Search for Alumnae by class, industry or name**
- **Submit a job**
- **Find a job**
- **Recruit an intern or full-time employee**
- **Network with friends**
- **Renew old friendships**



Go to [www.olma.org](http://www.olma.org) and click on the Alumnae tab on the homepage to access this new feature.

I hope you will take advantage of this new feature and be able to connect with one another. It is our hope that this is the foundation of a very strong alumnae networking initiative!

In Mercy,  
Loren

### Mercy Alumnae Board Members

#### **Co-Presidents**

Loren Kramps Wildes '83  
Samantha Ceglia '07

#### **Co-Vice Presidents**

Maggie Ewen '07  
Nicole Richards Valentine '91

#### **Members**

Amanda Corbo '99  
Elaine Gilson DeBono '95  
Pat Genovese DiLollo '70  
Mary Ann Plaia Doyle '85  
Laura Richards Dust '95  
Ginny Saladino Ewen '76  
Lynne Vecchio Falgoust '82  
Kat Fressle '10  
Dawn Flynn '84  
Kathleen Saporita Kennedy '83  
Barbara Ramsey Kiley '64  
Ann Marie O'Hara Kinney '83  
Ellen Cammarata Krumenacker '84  
Emily Maniaci '04  
Allison Murray Morris '83  
Margaret Myhan '70  
Amanda Pugliese '07  
Nicole Podpirka '10  
Mary Ellen Treacy Warch '76

#### **Board Moderator**

Sister Helen Lyons, RSM

# Class Notes

**Jeanne Herlihy '58**, who played basketball all four years while at OLMA, participated in the National Senior Games in Minnesota, where her team won the gold medal for basketball. Jeanne lives in San Diego, has three children and six grandchildren, and works part time as a therapist with people who suffer from mental illness and addiction. According to Jeanne, "As Helen Keller once said, 'Life is either a daring adventure or nothing.'"



**Class of 1960 at the Fall Reunion at Mercy**

**Sister M. Seton Agovino, RSM '62** is OLMA's Social Worker. Before coming to Mercy, Sister Seton most recently spent nine years at MercyFirst as Vice President of Mission.

**Jane Dwyer Meyers '62** recently returned from Paris, a city she grew to love while studying in a classroom at Mercy. Jane wrote, "My teacher, Sister Mary Placida, taught us so much about Paris. I felt I knew the city because of her enthusiasm and excellent teaching."

**Maureen O'Donnell Bennett '63** wrote, "I have finally made it to northwest Florida to be by my grandsons...loving it!"

**Janet Moore Robinson '64** was sorry to miss the 50th reunion. She was traveling to Oklahoma to welcome her ninth grandchild and then to North Carolina for her tenth grandchild.



**Freshman, Marykate Kiley '19 poses with her grandmother, Barbara Ramsey Kiley '64 at the 2015 Tower Run.**

**Bonnie Bowes Duran '65** retired in late 2009, after teaching elementary school and special education for 16 years and working as a senior caseworker in Child Protective Services for 20 years. She and her husband, Paul, enjoy spending time with their three married children and five grandchildren and have been enjoying world adventure travel over the past 20 years. She was sorry to miss the 50th reunion, but was hiking in Patagonia, Chile.

**Mary McCabe Meakem '65** married Wayne Angelbeck on September 6, 2014. The couple is retired and spends their time volunteering. She is involved at Valley Hospital, West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Power Ponies, and Habitat for Humanity. Mary has one granddaughter.

**Kathleen Latuga Hickey '65** and her husband, Richard, have three children. Kerry is a speech language pathologist on Long Island. Mike is an attorney for US Customs. Brian is a prosecuting attorney in Virginia Beach. Kathleen has five grandchildren and is a retired teacher from Sachem School District on Long Island.

**Victoria Boehm Zilai '65** and her husband were both elementary school teachers prior to purchasing a deli, where they worked for more than 20 years before recently retiring. They now live in a lovely retirement community and enjoy all the activities.

**Sheila Frye Wilson '68**, Mercy's Librarian is looking forward to the Library renovation this summer!



**Class of 1965 celebrated their 50th Reunion this past October.**



**Talk about Legacy! All five Saitta daughters and one granddaughter attended their mom's (Mary Cashin Saitta '50) 65th Reunion. Pictured Left to Right Granddaughter, Taylor Dunn, daughters, Moira Saitta Sowarby '81, Michaela Saitta Simone '79, Paula Saitta Casey '72, Mary Saitta Philips '71, Winnie Saitta Dunn '74 and Mary Cashin Saitta '50.**



# Alumnae Spotlight

## Virginia "Ginny" Saladino Ewen '76

On Friday, April 22nd Ginny Ewen and her husband, John, will receive Our Lady of Mercy Academy's Lifetime Achievement Award at the "Spirit of Mercy" Benefit at the North Hempstead Country Club, Port Washington, NY. A Mercy mom of three girls, Maggie '07, Joanna '15 and Julia '17, Ginny was the force behind the formation of the Alumnae Board and served in the capacity of President for its first three years.

Ginny and John were a tremendous help in getting the EDEN (EDucational and ENvironmental Research Program) greenhouse built. They called upon their friends at D&B Engineering to help with the construction



of the greenhouse. This program now is in its third year and has 35 students enrolled in the program. Ginny, in conjunction with Catholic Health Services, created the "Focus on the Future - Making Healthy College Choices" program. This program is designed for our seniors and their families as a tool to make their college transition a safe one.

We are pleased to award the Lifetime Achievement Award to Ginny and John Ewen! If you would like more information about the "Spirit of Mercy" Benefit, please contact Pat Dilollo '70 at 516-921-1047 x 117 or go to [www.olma.org](http://www.olma.org).



**Class of 1970 at the Fall Reunion**

**Peggy Thorp Laso '71** wrote, "Looking back, Mercy was such a wonderful part of my growing-up years. I have appreciated the dedication of the faculty and the deep friendships that I made there in the four years that I was blessed in being a student." Peggy also wanted to thank Sr. Monica. She wrote, "She gave me my love of math, which is now being put to good use as I am Chair of the Lewis County, Washington State Board of Equalization, hearing tax appeals. Thank you, Sr. Monica, 44 years later!"

**Jody Goetz Spadaro '71** is Mercy's Fine Arts-Performing Arts & Visual Arts Chairperson.

**Jeanne Neumann '72** is a professor of Classics at Davidson College in North Carolina. Jeanne received her Ph.D. in Classical Philosophy from Harvard.

**Susan Greco Chambers '73** and her family recently moved from Houston to Dallas. Her husband, Tom, is the new CFO of Kosmos Energy.



**Class of 1975 donated a bench in memory of classmates, Denise Higgins '75 and Eileen Gonyon Dowdy '75.**

**Ann Marie Cotter Smith '75** recently wrote, "My daughter, Jaclyn '11, has taken my husband and me on a world-wide adventure. She began rowing at OLMA and her journey continues. Jaclyn, who is legally blind, was invited four years ago to try out for the US Para-Rowing team. She has taken us to Korea, the Netherlands and recently Europe. Her team has qualified for the Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2016.

**Rosanne McKeown Boguski '70** lives in the Tampa area, near her daughter and her family. Rosanne also has a son who lives in Maine and two beautiful granddaughters. Roseanne is currently working from home as a contractor for IBM.

**Lynne Castellano DeLaurentis '70** is currently an assistant teacher in second grade at a small private school in Darien, CT. Lynne and her husband take ballroom dance classes and recently participated in a showcase routine.

**Janice Ramsey '70** retired in May of 2015 after 40 years in banking and education.

**Kathleen Curtin Winti '70** lives in Dallas, TX, having moved there in 1988, when JC Penney relocated their corporate offices. Kathleen and her husband John, are semi-retired and enjoy traveling and being actively involved in their grandchildren's activities.

**Terri Wrenn Garcia '70** earned a Masters in Library Science and has spent the past 40 years as a librarian with a specialty in law. She has plied her trade in law schools, a court, several companies' legal departments (MasterCard, JC Penney, and Federal Reserve Bank of NY) and law firms. Terri says she cannot imagine retiring, especially when she gets to learn new things everyday.

# Highlights from

## ***The 3rd Annual Tribute to the life and service of Sister Jackie Walsh, RSM***

Both students and alumnae performed at the 3rd annual Tribute to Sr. Jackie Walsh, RSM, on May 30, 2015. All proceeds from the event benefited the Sister Jackie Walsh, RSM Angel Fund. This fund provides tuition assistance.

*Pictured from left to right: Ginette Morris, Eileen Young, Alison Morris Roslyn '97, Kathryn Wildes '12, and Loren Kramps Wildes '83*



## ***First Annual Alumnae Family BBQ***

Mercy's beautiful campus provided the ideal setting for the First Annual Alumnae BBQ held on July 19, 2015. A Mass in Mercy's chapel began the day culminating with a BBQ on the east campus. The event, sponsored by the OLMA Alumnae Board, was well attended by alumnae and their families.

*Pictured above: Left-Members of the Class of 2004 after opening their time capsule.*

*Right- Members of the Class of 1995 enjoying a beautiful day on campus with their families and future Mercy girls!*



## ***9th Annual Tower Run***

On October 17, 2015, Mercy held the 9th Annual Tower Run in honor of former teacher, MaryJo Lorello. Funds raised from this event benefited Cancer Care of Woodbury and the Library Renovation and Student Study Center.

*Pictured left: AnneMarie O'Hara Kinney '83, Richard O'Hara, Annemarie O'Hara, Erin O'Hara '16, Richard O'Hara and Jane Kinney*



# Alumnae Events



## **8th Annual MAPA Christmas Tea**

More than one hundred alumnae gathered at Mercy for the 8th Annual MAPA Christmas Tea on Saturday, December 5, 2015. This wonderful event - a highlight on the calendar each year - was chaired by Mary Ellen Treacy Warch '76 and featured the artwork of Beth Vendreyes Williams '70, Elizabeth Cassidy '69 and Mercy mom, and illustrator, Ann Engelhart. All proceeds from this event benefited the Sr. Jackie Walsh Angel Fund.

*Pictured left to right: Beth Vendreyes Williams '70, Elizabeth Cassidy '69 and Margaret Myhan '70.*

## **Breakfast with Santa for Gracie**

On Saturday, December 5th, Mercy alumnae gathered to support fellow classmate Jennifer Dondero Skuches '98 and her daughter Grace. Grace was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer in June of 2015. All proceeds from this event went directly to the Skuches Family.

*Pictured to the right: Members of classes of 1998, 1999 and 2000 with their children.*



## **Focus on the Future: Career Day**

On Monday, December 7, 2015, Mercy held the 2nd Annual Focus on the Future: Career Day. Over 40 alumnae came back to Mercy to speak with students about their careers and hold workshops and panel discussions.

*Pictured left: Alison Morris Roslyn '97, Pat DiLollo '70 and Laura Schaefer '86*

## **Young Alumnae College Break Pizza Party**

Our Young Alumnae College Break Pizza Party on Thursday, January 8, 2016, was once again a huge success. Members of the classes 2013, 2014 and 2015, came back to visit with faculty and staff. They were wowed by the new **Mercy iCenter**.

*Pictured to the right: members of the class of 2013, 2014 and 2015.*





**Class of 1985 with Sr. Elaine Hansen, RSM**

**Val Serpe Gigante '83** recently became principal of St. Thomas the Apostle School in West Hempstead, NY, after serving Mercy as Director of Communications for three years. Congratulations, Val! Val's daughter, Samantha '16 is a senior at OLMA this year.

**Loretta Ranalli Jacobs '83** has lived in Illinois since 1999. She has been married 28 years and works in Chicago at Bankers Life and Casualty, where she heads the Long-Term Care business. Loretta is an actuary by trade and has been involved in LTC work for more than 20 years. Loretta's husband, Tom, is a college professor teaching finance.

**Jeanne Schmitz Babinski '83** enjoyed spending time at OLMA last year when her daughter, Johanna, spent the day at Mercy shadowing. Johanna '19 is now a Mercy freshman. Jeanne gets to see **Denise Grandsire Golle '83** at various events at Chaminade, where their sons attend high school.

**Denise Stabile Harrison '83** has been married for 23 years and has a son and a daughter. Denise has lived in Manalapan, NJ, for 16 years. Denise previously worked in IT for an insurance company, but stopped working 15 years ago to be at home. She is very active in her community.

Congratulations to **Sister Meghan McArdle, OSU '89**, who after being Campus Minister for 3 years and teaching Theology for 8 years, was appointed the role of Assistant Principal for Academics and Student Life at Mercy this fall.

Congratulations to **Kristin Schmid '97** who is serving Mercy as School Psychologist.

Congratulations to **Amanda Corbo '99** who has assumed the title of Director of Communications at Mercy. Look for lots of updates on social media!



**Class of 2000 at the Fall Reunion**

Congratulations to **Jen Yatco '00** who was appointed Chairperson of the English Department at OLMA.

**Rominna Lim Laraia '01** and her husband, Jeffrey, gave birth to a baby boy, Thomas Hugo, in November 2015.

*Pictured to the right: Mercy moms and their daughters enjoy time together at the Christmas Tea. From left to right: Elizabeth Flood Jansen '06, Vivian Flood, Meghan Shannon Jonas '06, Barbara Shannon, Kelly Nicholson '06 and Cindy Nicholson, Diana Keenan '07 and Lauren Keenan.*



Congratulations to Mercy's Fine Arts teacher, **Chrissy Lorusso Shelley '01**, and her husband, Will, who welcomed baby Violet Jane, to their family last May. *(Pictured above)*

**Maria Katime Corigliano '02** daughter, Emilia, turned one in January 2016.

**Rebecca Holton Nash '02** moved to Leonardtown, Maryland in July, 2014, and works in the State's Attorney's Office for St. Mary's County in the traffic department. Rebecca married Joel Nash in October 2014.

**Sandy Passarella '02** joined the Math department at Mercy in September.

**Christine Azzolino Kallner '03** and her husband, Nicholas, gave birth to a baby boy, John William, in April 2015.

**Randell Bozzello '04** was married to John Hochenberger in July of 2014, and recently purchased a home in West Babylon.

Congratulations to **Annemarie Levane '04** who was appointed Chairperson of the Mathematics Department at OLMA.

**Fionna Sciamie Elliot '05** gave birth to a baby boy, Michael Benton, in January, 2016

**Nicole Manzone '05** latest venture is working for *iris Worldwide* in NYC as a Senior Designer. The team and I have created our first 60-second TV spot for Jeep called "Portraits". Our spot made its debut during the Super Bowl of 2016. The concept behind "Portraits" is to show celebrities and everyday people that have a connection to Jeep in celebration of the brands 75th Anniversary.

Congratulations to **Sarah Angello '06** on her engagement to Bryan DeBono.

Congratulations to **Lauren Saporito '06** on her engagement to Kevin Howard.

**Deirdre Reedy '07** teaches English at Mercy.

**Danielle French '08** recently received her doctorate from Sacred Heart University in Physical Therapy and is working at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan.

**Katie Correa '08** joined OLMA's faculty this fall as an English teacher.





# Alumnae Spotlight

## Kimberly Maxson '10

Kimberly Maxson '10, a four-year member of OLMA's Mercy Players, received a bachelor's degree from Temple University, with honors, with a concentration in musical theatre and a minor in dance in 2014. Upon graduation, Kim began performing in Philadelphia area theatres, including an ensemble role in **9 to 5: The Musical** at the Walnut Street Theatre – the nation's oldest theatre. Recently, Kim has performed at the Media Theatre, PA, as the understudy in several performances of **Gypsy** as Louise (Gypsy Rose Lee) and as Tessie Tura in the song "You Gotta



Get Gimmick". Kim has also performed in **South Pacific** and **Chicago** at Maples Repertory Theatre, MO, where she was also the Dance Captain, as a featured dancer in **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels** at The Ritz Theater, NJ, and in **The Who's TOMMY** and **The Producers** at Theatre Three in Port Jefferson, NY. She just completed an extended run in **Billy Elliot** at the Media Theatre and will next be performing in **Heathers: The Musical** at the Eagle Theatre, NJ, where she will also serve as Dance Captain.

**Leanne Gelish '08** is proud to announce the publication of her first children's book, "Audrey & The Extraordinary Camera" The book follows young Audrey Terralucci as she explores New York City with a magical camera. The book is now available on Amazon.com

**Laura Marciano '08** is teaching in the Fine Arts-Performing Arts and Visual Arts Department at Mercy. She was married last summer and honeymooned in Hawaii. She is also an entrepreneur and owns, Laura's Dance & Fitness Studio.

**Patricia "Trish" Ottaviano '08** wrote an anti-bullying book called **Girl World: How to Ditch the Drama and Find Your Inner Amazing** and was recently featured in Teen Vogue Magazine.



**Victoria Ferrera '10** graduated from Tufts University in 2014. She works as Operations and Logistics Manager for Soilair Selection, a wine importing company.

**Kathleen Hughes '10** received her BS in Philosophy and her MS in Education from Fordham University. She is beginning her second year of teaching at the Ethical Culture Fieldston School in Manhattan.

**Ashley Morris '10** is events coordinator in the New York office of the T. J. Martell Foundation, which is the music industry's largest foundation for leukemia, cancer, and AIDS research. Ashley graduated from Marist College in 2014, and was recently the guest speaker at OLMA's Tri-M Music Honor Society induction ceremony.



Congratulations to **Alyssa Ammazalorso '11** who was the Valedictorian at her graduation from Fordham University in May. Alyssa was also Mercy's Valedictorian in 2011.

**Keira Finnell '11** was one of three women who recently starred in the theater production of **The Waiting Room** at the Bare Bones Theater in Northport, NY. **The Waiting Room** is a dark comedy about the price of vanity.

**Elizabeth Carlson '13** was recently awarded two Colonial States Athletic Conference awards: First Team All Conference and the Sportsmanship Award for the 2015 season. She also made the Academic All-Conference team for school years 2013/2014 and 2014/2015. Elizabeth is attending Marywood University, class of 2017.

**Bailey Sutton '13** recently finished an internship with Congresswoman, Kathleen Rice in Washington, DC.



## Class of 2015 Profile

116	2015 Graduates
112	Entering Four Year Colleges
4	Entering Two Year Colleges
512	Full and Partial Four Year Scholarships
1	National Merit Scholarship
5	National Merit Commendations
47	NYS Advanced Regents Diplomas
48	NYS Advanced Regents Diplomas with Honors

The Class of 2015 earned \$24,393,488.00 in scholarships!

# Focus on the Future Career Day

A dedicated committee consisting of Mercy moms, the Offices of Advancement and School Counseling and the Alumnae Board worked together on a new and innovative Career Day Program. During breakfast, Fox 5 Business Reporter, Alison Morris Roslyn '97, gave the keynote address. Alison advised the students to "go for their dreams - even if they are a bit different."

Students were able to attend one of two workshops - Resume Writing and Resume Skills and Leadership Presence conducted by three Mercy moms, namely, Mercy Board member, Maggie Serravalli (Christina '11), Executive Vice President, Client Experience for Fidelity Institutional, Alicia Sundberg, (Paige '15) Senior Vice President of Domestic Operations and Strategic Solutions at Fidelity Investments and Jean Wynn (Amanda Shea '16), Managing Director and Chief Administrative Officer for the President of BNY Mellon.



*Pictured above from left to right Campbell DeNatale '16, Emily Angeola Paccasassi '93, Christine DeLuca '10, Kerriann Flanagan Brosky '86, Jamie Bonventre '06, Maureen Quinn '05 and Maggie Serravalli.*

Students were also able to visit with alumnae and Mercy moms representing the following career fields: Medical and Health, Education, STEM/Computer Science/ Technology, Communications, Arts/Entertainment, Business and Criminal Justice/Law/Government. All students and presenters met back in the auditorium.

Jean Wynn and her daughter, Amanda '16, moderated the group. Members of the panel included, Primary Care Physician, Teresa Esposito '84 (Bella '15), Rebecca Budinoff Dikow, Ph.D. '99 a Biodiversity Genomics

Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution, Author and Assistant college professor, Colleen Eren, Ph.D.'00, employment recruiter for fashion companies, Mary Kate Kane '05, Senior Manager, Corporate Financial Planning and Analysis for Coty, Inc., Annette F. Vetrano Morales '03, Author, photographer and writer, Kerriann Flanagan Brosky '86 and Mercy mom, Angela Jett (Alexandra '19), FBI Agent.

All students were given the book *Lean In* by Facebook's Chief Operating Officer, Sheryl Sandberg, as well as, 'goodies' from many companies represented in the program. The student feedback from this program was outstanding and we thank all of our alumnae and committee members who took time off to mentor our students.

## A very special thank you to the 2016 Career Day participants

Sara Awad '10  
 Jamie Bonaventre '06  
 Kerriann Flanagan Brosky '86  
 Christine DeLuca '10  
 Kristen DeMetropolis  
 Lisa DeSantis '10  
 Ann Genovese DeSimone '79  
 Stephanie Conde DeSousa '03  
 Rebecca Budinoff Dikow, Ph. D. '99  
 Laura L. Dust, M.A. CCC-SLP, TSSLD '95  
 Colleen Eren, Ph.D.'00  
 Teresa Esposito, MD '84  
 Lynne Vecchio Falgoust '82  
 Bernadette Flynn '06  
 Kat Fressle '10  
 Kristen Glass '09  
 Madelaine Hackett '98  
 Geraldine Hart  
 Mary Hogan Jacob '96  
 Angela Jett  
 Mary Kate Kane '05  
 Rhyann Kelly '10  
 Marianne Bredin Lannig, LCSW '74  
 Katrina McCaffrey '05  
 Elissa Soldo Mostransky '97  
 Elizabeth Nygaard '81  
 Marianna Nicoletta-Ferrantelli '98  
 Emily Angeola Paccasassi '93  
 Maria Pezzolla, RN '04  
 Nicole Podpirka '10  
 Maureen Quinn '05  
 Ashley Scaglione '11  
 Laura M Schaefer '86  
 Patricia Hackett Swanson, DDS '04  
 Catherine Twarowski DVM '06  
 Annette F. Vetrano-Morales '03  
 Katrina Vetrano Perez '03



*Pictured above seated left to right: Joanne Kirk, Mary Ellen Tracy Warch '76. Nancy Azzolino, Sister Theresa Kelly, RSM. Standing left to right...Brooke Rozea '11, Carol Schwegler Rozea '76, Amanda Rozea '08, Lauren Dannenhoffer Schneider '77, Casey Sneider '11 and Marilyn Graney Lehmuller '76.*

Sister Theresa Kelly, RSM to be honored at the  
"Spirit of Mercy" Benefit on April 22, 2016.

At this event Sr. Theresa will be receiving  
Our Lady of Mercy Academy's  
Lifetime Achievement Award.

If you would like to attend the event, please  
contact Amanda Corbo '99 at  
516.921.1047 x122 or [acorbo@olma.org](mailto:acorbo@olma.org).



## Fall Combined Reunion - Save-the-date-Saturday, October 15, 2016

Save the date for the annual Combined Reunion Luncheon on Saturday, October 15, 2016. On this day we will honor members of the Class of 1966, as they celebrate their 50th Reunion and the Class of 1991, as they celebrate their 25th Anniversary. All alumnae are welcome to attend this event – particularly classes ending in 1 and 6! Reunion Saturday begins at 10:00 am with tours of the school. Mass is celebrated in our Chapel at noon, followed by a luncheon in the auditorium.

**Class of 1966 Reunion Chair**  
**Class of 1971 Reunion Chairs**

Maureen Curtin Dixon - modixon@optonline.net  
Diane Palmara Trupia - dmpt53@aol.com &  
Debbie Valentine - debbie.valentineC9LY@statefarm.com  
Ginny Saladino Ewen - ginyewen@optonline.net &  
Mary Ellen Treacy Warch - mal58@optonline.net  
Nicole Richards Valentine - ndvalentine@gmail.com  
Christina Illig - christinaillig@gmail.com

**Class of 1976 Reunion Chairs**

**Class of 1991 Reunion Chair**  
**Class of 2006 Reunion Chair**

For further information or any other questions, please contact Pat Genovese DiLollo '70, Director of Advancement at 516.921.1047 x117 or email pdilollo@olma.org.



## Celebrated a milestone?



- \* Had a baby?
- \* Recently engaged or married?
- \* Promoted at work or start a new job?
- \* Received advanced Degrees?

Tell us about your exciting news!

We will be doing a special spread in our next **Mercy Connections** newsletter to share with our Mercy family.

Please submit a photo and a little write up on these special milestones in your life. Email your news to Amanda Corbo at [acorbo@olma.org](mailto:acorbo@olma.org).

### Attention Alumnae Parents:

If you are receiving your daughter's mail, please contact the Office of Advancement with her updated address.

**Our Lady of Mercy Academy**  
**815 Convent Road**  
**Syosset, NY 11791**  
**516.921.1047**  
**[www.olma.org](http://www.olma.org)**

**Pat Genovese DiLollo '70**  
Director of Advancement x117 or  
[pdilollo@olma.org](mailto:pdilollo@olma.org)

**Sr. Theresa Kelly, RSM**  
Special Events Coordinator x128 or  
[tkelly@olma.org](mailto:tkelly@olma.org)

**Amanda Corbo '99**  
Director of Communications x122 or  
[acorbo@olma.org](mailto:acorbo@olma.org)

### Save The Dates

March 15 - Focus on the Future:  
Healthy College Choices

April 22 - The "Spirit of Mercy" Benefit

May 17-20 - Festival of the Arts

May 21 - Sr. Jackie Walsh, RSM Tribute

June 12 - Alumnae BBQ

June 26 - Boston Alumnae Gathering

October 15 - Combined Reunion  
Mass & Luncheon

December 3 - MAPA Christmas Tea

Visit [www.olma.org](http://www.olma.org) for more info

*"No work of charity can be more productive of good to society than the careful instruction of women."*

*-Catherine McAuley*



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## *The "Spirit of Mercy" Benefit*

*Honoring*

*Sister Theresa Kelly, RSM*

*&*

*John and Ginny Saladino Ewen '76*

*on*

*Friday, April 22, 2016*

*Cocktails at 7:30 pm*

*Dinner at 8:30 pm*

*at the*

*North Hempstead Country Club*

*291 Port Washington Blvd*

*Port Washington, NY 11050*

*proceeds benefit*

*The Library Renovation*

*&*

*New Student Study Center*

*Go to [www.olma.org](http://www.olma.org) for more information*

