

MERCY CONNECTIONS

Summer 2023

Spirit of Mercy Benefit Celebrates OLMA's 95th Birthday!



Our Lady of Mercy Academy (OLMA) celebrated its 95th Anniversary on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at the Mansion at Oyster Bay. Tom and Sue Greco '73 Chambers (Dallas, TX) served as chairpersons of the event. In honor of this special anniversary, Our Lady of Mercy Academy's Board of Directors created a 95th Anniversary Board Scholarship. One of the highlights of the event was the Taylor Swift Eros ticket raffle. Four tickets were donated by Ashley '10 and Audrey '15 Morris and generated \$23,000! The winner was the McNulty family whose daughter is a rising sophomore. We thank Alison Morris Roslyn '97 for serving as the MC of the event.

OLMA President, Margaret Myhan, stated "Our 95th Anniversary milestone serves as a reminder of our beginning and, more importantly, the promise of our future rooted in faith and built upon the strength, wisdom, and commitment to providing an educational foundation for our young women based on values and integrity. We acknowledge with gratitude our "Spirit of Mercy" Honorees: The Dreams R US Foundation, The Georgia Hiden Charitable Foundation, Dr. Eileen Snyder Magri, '76 (Farmingdale, NY), Richard L. O'Hara (Roslyn, NY), and Sister Dorothy Sagona, RSM, '44 who received the Lifetime Achievement Award."



*Spirit of Mercy
Honorees*

*Left: Kerry Pace from
the Dreams R US with
Margaret Myhan and
Zully Petrucci*

*Right: Eileen Magri
with Ginny Ewen,
Margaret Myhan, and
Zully Petrucci.*



*Spirit of Mercy
Honorees*

*Left: Dick O'Hara with
Mercy daughters and
granddaughters.*

*Right: Sr. Dorothy
Sigona, RSM and her
family.*





Our Lady of Mercy Academy CONGRATULATES

THE CLASS OF 2023

We are proud to celebrate

- 71 Graduates
- \$25,200,000 Earned Scholarships
- 2 Full-Four Year Scholarship
- 396 Partial Four-Year Scholarships
- 5 Members of the NYS CHSAA "A" Lacrosse State Champions
- 14 Members of the 2023 NSCHSGAA "A" Badminton and Tennis Teams

Among other top-rated colleges and universities, recent college destinations include:

*Cornell University, Georgetown University, The Webb Institute, Barnard College,
Worcester Polytechnic University, University of Notre Dame, Fashion Institute of Technology,
Ohio State University, Fordham University, Villanova University, Sacred Heart University,
Rochester Institute of Technology, Catholic University, Misericordia University,
College of the Holy Cross, Fairfield University*



Our Lady of Mercy Academy
Educating young women with Faith, Compassion, and Promise

815 Convent Road, Syosset, NY 11791

516-921-1047

www.olma.org

Class Notes

Margaret (Peggy) Kaminski Williams '68 passed away on April 8, 2023. She attended Our Lady of Mercy Academy in Syosset and graduated from Mount Saint Vincent College in the Bronx. She went on to become one of Our Lady of Mercy's most beloved teachers and coaches.

Andrea Attivissimo '73 began an independent business serving the community through art and Christian based Yoga practice. She has an MA in Computer Graphics from CW Post.

Elizabeth Carroll Cunningham '78 and her husband are Maryknoll Lay Missionaries working in El Salvador.

Cynthia Furlinger '79 is a Senior Manager at Deloitte & Touche.

Lora Tortorici Sandler '82 co-wrote *Sleep Well, Baby Girl, and Dream*, a lovely book for mothers and daughters!

Kerriann Flanagan Brosky '86 is both an author and CEO of KFB Enterprises.

Maria Stabile Monaco '88 is Managing Director at Deloitte & Touche.

Ann Reilly, Esq '88 is Senior Counsel for a large scale pharmaceutical company.

Deidre Ryan '88 is a Solutions Owner in the technology arena.

Thea Groene Morales '94 is the owner of Rosie's Vintage located in Huntington, NY. Opened in 2016, the store is known for their diverse vintage selection. Check out her website www.rosiesvintagestore.com.

Dana Wedin Naccash '95 is an Art Psychotherapist.

Jeanne Egan-Canning '97 serves as Director of Operations at St Francis Hospital in Roslyn and a preceptor for Molloy University. She is also the President of a nonprofit foundation called the Pediatric Lyme Disease Emergency Relief Fund— a Kiwanis foundation. As a prior recipient of the Catherine McAuley Award, she attributes her love of service to her formative years at Mercy.

Kristin Gillen '00 adopted a son, Landon Jerome, from foster care in October 2021.

Michelle Rizzi Lepsis '00 is a Psychiatric Social Worker.

Katrina McCaffrey '05 is a Senior Manager of Commercial Training and Development at Myovant Sciences.

Katie Irizarry Perciavalle '05 is Marketing Director at Northwell Health.

Christina Illig Magoulis '06 is the Director of High School Publishing at W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Michelle Maier '06 is a Physician.

Samantha Gentile Rotchford '06 has two children and is Managing Director, Real Estate Credit Opportunities Fund at BDT and MSD Partners.

Jennifer Prevete '08 is Senior Counsel, Litigation at Altice USA.

Cassandra Stanco '09 is a Librarian. She attended Dickinson University and majored in History.

Rebecca Kender '10 opened her own business, Kender Academy of Irish Dance in Farmingdale, after passing the Teagascóir Coimisiún Le Rinci Gaelacha (TCRG) exam to earn her certification as an Irish Dance Instructor.

Hera Mahmood '10 is completing her training as a Pediatric Critical Care Doctor at Cornell. She married a Chaminade graduate who is studying to be a Pediatric Neurologist.

Aimee McMullin '10 lives in Durango, CO. She and her husband are physicians providing medical care on a Native American Reservation.

NEW THIS YEAR EASTER EGG HUNT



Special thank you to the Rozea family, Carol Schwegler '76, Amanda '08, Allison '11, Brooke '11 and their friends for organizing the first annual Easter Egg Hunt. Besides the fun Easter Egg Hunt, there was face painting and crafts, photographs with the Easter Bunny, and of course lots of bagels and donut holes. The event was a great success and we can't wait to do it again next year!

Keeping Up With OLMA

SAVE THE DATE - Christmas Tea Saturday, December 9, 2023 Special Guest Speaker: Adriana Trigiani

Adriana Trigiani is an American best-selling author of eighteen books, playwright, television writer/producer, film director/screenwriter/producer, and entrepreneur based in New York City. Trigiani has published a novel a year since 2000.

Each guest will receive a copy of one of her books. Some best sellers include *The Shoemaker's Wife* and *Good Left Undone*.



POURS IN THE PARLOR



Thank you Alison Morris Roslyn '97 for hosting a fun Wine Tasting in February. After a career in TV news, Alison has spent the past few years studying to become a sommelier. Not only did she donate all the wine, but she also taught us a great deal about all three wines they tasted. The featured wines were: Sarah Jessica Parker's Invivo Sauvignon Blanc, Jon Bon Jovi's Hampton Water Rose, and Cameron Diaz's Avaline Red Blend

Brittany Grella '10 is a Family Medicine Physician.

Gina Maffucci '11 is External Communications Manager at Budweiser Brewing Group.

Rebecca Martelotti '11 graduated from LIU Post in 2015 and is attending Columbia Business School for her MBA and will graduate in 2024.

Caroline Shank, MD '11 completed her Pediatric Residency in June '22 at Cohen's Children's Hospital on Long Island. She has been accepted to an Adolescent Medicine Fellowship at Cohen's Children's Hospital.

Michelle Levano '11 is the Flag Aide to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator.

Brooke Rozea Orr '11 is a Mental Health Counselor.

Jaclyn Beal '12 is a Freelance Culinary Producer and Food Stylist.

Meghan Echausse '13 is the Nurse Residency Coordinator at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Caitlin Demmett '13 is an Oncology Pharmacist.

Danielle Izzo '14 is a Litigation Associate.

Marilyn Lehmuller '14 is a Project Manager at Clune Construction Company.

Class Notes... continued

Breige Pilch '14 is Director of Curriculum at a Catholic High School in the Boston area.

Tyla Swinton '14 is an attorney at Jackson Lewis PC.

Jessica Mingrino '15 is a Law Clerk at Baker Hostetler.

Caroline Rizea '15 is a 3rd-year medical student at the University of New England.

Brianna Cahill '16 is a Registered Nurse in the Mother Baby Unit.

Liz Flynn '16 is a NY Mets Assistant Team Photographer.

Katherine McCusker '16 is a senior certified Appian Developer in Fairfax, VA and is Pursuing her certification as a Project Management Professions. She graduated from Catholic University in 2020 with a BS in Computer Science.

Samantha Paralikas '16 graduated from Harvard Law School this spring and will be at Caravath, Swaine & Moore LLP.

Meghan Connors '17 is an Ad Sales Associate for Paramount.

Emily Mohlin '17 attended Rice University and majored in Sport Management and Political Science. Emily spent a year with Americorps after graduation, helping kids play sports in under-served areas. She is the Associate Director of Programs for Special Olympics Long Island.

Kira Maher '17 completed her MA In Public Media and Strategic Communications at Fordham University.

Camilla Grimaldi '18 graduated from Hofstra University in May 2022 with a B.S. in Biochemistry. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from The Graduate Center, CUNY, where she is doing research at Hunter College which focuses on the design and clinical translation of novel pharmaceuticals to be used for imaging and therapeutics in a broad range of diseases.

Sarah McCusker '18 is a 2022 graduate of Lehigh University and is currently in the Doctoral Program at the University of Chicago working towards her Ph.D in Physics.

Lauren Shank, RN '18 graduated from the University of Scranton with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing Science.

Anna Wilson '18 is completing her MS in Biotechnology at NYU and is expected to graduate in Spring 2024.

Shayna Trachten '19 successfully defended her senior honors thesis, "Towards Inclusive Music Curricula: The Calling of Social Justice in Music Education" at Hofstra University.

Grace Mohlin '20 is at Tulane University studying Management and Legal Studies. Grace graduated with two majors in three years, in large part to the AP classes she took at Mercy.

Grace DeMartino '21 just hit her halfway mark for her undergraduate degree completing her Sophomore year at MIT. Grace is interning this summer at NASDAQ. She is majoring in Data Science/Data Technology/Economics.

Elizabeth Hommel '21 is studying Biology at Belmont Abbey and made the Dean's List (Freshman & Sophomore years). She was also First Team All Conference Lacrosse, named team Captain for 2024 season women's lacrosse, and named to Conference Carolina's Presidential Honor Roll (Freshman & Sophomore years - Magna Cum Laude)

Caroline Lopez '21 will be traveling to the University of Edinburgh in Scotland this summer to do lab research and will be attending the Fall semester there through University of Chicago's Chemistry student exchange program.

Madison Spanodemoss '21 was among 16 individuals elected to the Girls Scouts of Nassau County's Board of Directors at the end of July '22. This was her second term on the Board.

Ysabella Amurao '22 is attending Rochester Institute of Technology and majoring in UX Design.

Abigail Gallagher '22 is studying Communications at Ave Maria University in Florida.

Andreya Kokkoris '22 is majoring in Biology and Chemistry at Sacred Heart University and hopes to be a cosmetic chemist.

Caitlin McNulty '22 made the Nursing Dean's list at Decker School of Nursing at Binghamton University.

May the following alumnae rest in peace:

Denise Maloney O'Hearn '56
Maria Gomez Oakes '59
Margaret Burns Mazen '63
Sister Kathleen Dunne '69
Ann-Marie Sullivan Peters '72
Linda Sasso Duca '84
Melissa Ortiz Florio '94
Kelly Moulton '08

†

Alumnae Spotlights

Marianne Lannig , LCSW '74 Honored with the 2023 Outstanding Service Award at LifeWay



Marianne Lannig, LCSW, holds an MSW from Adelphi University, an MA in teaching from Queens College and an MA in theology from Seminary of the Immaculate Conception on Long Island. Among her accomplishments serving as a social worker for 18 years, Marianne co-created a child and family counseling agency in a local Long Island community and served as its clinical director for seven years. She has also served in this capacity in corporate and medical settings.

As a volunteer coordinator for more than six years, Marianne has played a critical role in ensuring that the survivors who call LifeWay home receive the support they need to heal and rebuild their lives. "LifeWay's unique design provides severely traumatized women from around the world a place to live within a homelike setting," Marianne says.

Marianne's contributions to the fight against human trafficking are truly inspiring. Her unwavering dedication to this cause serves as a shining example of what it means to be a compassionate advocate for those in need.

Alumna Sarah Kendrick '18 and her mom Deborah praise OLMA's Art Department

"During my time at Our Lady of Mercy Academy, I was able to explore my passion for design in a variety of visual arts classes ranging from drawing and painting to advertising. The selection and quality of these classes allowed me to personalize my schedule to my interests and develop a well-rounded portfolio for college applications. These classes (along with a wide range of clubs like the National Art Honor Society) connected me to a group of like-minded students within the Mercy community. The individualized attention, support, and superb technical instruction I received from my visual arts teachers at Mercy (particularly Mrs. Jodi Spadaro, who was the Department Chair at the time) was invaluable to my development and super encouraging. By the end of my time at Mercy, I was fully prepared to attend Parsons School of Design, where I earned my BFA in Communications Design."

- Sarah Kendrick '18



"For many years, I have known the Sisters of Mercy and the amazing works they do in the name of their founder, Catherine McAuley. It was an honor to send my daughter, Sarah, to Mercy in 2014. Through her Mercy education she not only received an outstanding academic education but in addition, an education and appreciation of the Mercy principles of empowerment and social justice.

Mercy also fully supported Sarah's love of the arts. Their outstanding Art Department, led at the time by Mrs. Jodi Spadaro, allowed Sarah to flourish and grow as an artist.

Through the mentoring and preparation she received at Mercy, she was well prepared to attend Parsons School of Design and subsequently in the design industry working for Milk Makeup.

I truly appreciate the entire faculty for their dedication to the education and empowerment of Mercy girls."

-Deborah Kendrick

Past Parent Spotlight



Raymond and Angela McCusker, OLMA's 25th Annual Golf Outing Honorees, photographed with their daughters, Kate '16 and Sarah '18.

"Ray and I would like to thank you for this incredible honor and for supporting Our Lady of Mercy Academy this evening. I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the value of Mercy's commitment to an all-girls Catholic education and its impact on shaping future leaders.

Our daughters, Kate and Sarah, started their education in public schools. We were fortunate...the schools in our area are good, but increasingly, as the years went by, we believed they needed something more - the tangibles and intangibles.

Mercy excels in all the things parents look for in their child's education: academic excellence, the ability to participate in sports, clubs, and community service.

But here is where Mercy moves beyond that; the students are immersed in a supportive, all-girls, faith-based community, developing the skills and resilience to achieve their full potential.

Critical thinking, effective problem-solving, and ethical decision-making are all nurtured here to grow empowered women. They raise their voices with confidence and share their ideas boldly. I see evidence of this in my daughters. Their ability to share their beliefs with passion, To advocate for themselves and for others. Walk the corridors of Mercy, See the faces of the young women on the playing fields, on Sports Night, or singing in the chapel, and you will sense something profoundly intangible, yet very real. An innate spirit of community fills every corner of this institution - a fostered sisterhood.

Mercy has inspired our daughters and their classmates to give their best in every aspect of their lives while remembering that their true purpose lies beyond worldly recognition.

We appreciate the rich opportunities provided to our daughters and their friends. These young women have gone on to excel in the creative arts, law, technology, medicine, the physical sciences, and armed service appointments at some of our country's finest institutions of higher learning. Your participation in Mercy fundraisers like this one is critical to providing financial aid to deserving young women whose circumstances may not allow them to achieve their full potential.

Ray and I are grateful for Mercy's 95 years of unwavering dedication to empowering young women. Thank you to the teachers, administration, staff, board members, alumnae, our friends and business associates, and the generous friends of Mercy for supporting this unique institution and its critical mission."

- An excerpt from Angela McCusker's Golf Honoree speech

ATHLETICS AT OLMA

Class of 2022 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees



Inductees included:

*Pat Milton '66, Margaret "Peggy" Williams '67, Breida Sullivan Gossman '71, Kathy Murphy Mechan '71, Sister Meghan McArdle '89, Mary Hogan Jacob '96, Jeanine Murphy Charkar '96, Jacklyn Smith '11
& the 1991 Federation Championship Basketball Team*

**Class of 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame
Induction
Saturday, October 28, 2023**

Congratulations to the:

**2023 NYS CHSAA "A"
Lacrosse Champions**

**2023 NSCHSGAA "AA"
Badminton Champions**

**2022 NSCHSGAA "A"
Tennis Champions**



For the Love of Basketball

Denise Hammersley Andersen '91 became the first Catholic High School Athletic Association Player - male or female - to eclipse 2,000 career basketball points. She led OLMA to the New York State Federation Class D Championship and finished her career with school and league records of 2,048 points. She was inducted into the Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame as well as Our Lady of Mercy Academy's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Denise's daughters, Meghan and Kaitlyn, are both members graduating class of 2023 and OLMA's basketball team. Meghan was named the N.S.C.H.S.G.A.A. Basketball Player of the Year! Both girls will be attending Fairfield University.



CAREER DAY 2022



Our Annual Career Day is held each year in December and is structured for the Junior Class. OLMA alumna, Dr. Valerie Wells '90, was our Keynote Speaker. Valerie graduated from Amherst College summa cum laude with a BA in Chemistry. She came to New York to attend Mount Sinai School of Medicine where she completed her education. She was elected to the medical honor society Alpha Omega Alpha. Dr. Wells completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mount Sinai Medical Center, where she served as Chief Resident.

Dr. Wells has been practicing on the Upper East Side of Manhattan for 10 years. In 2005 she began to build a general gynecology and gynecologic surgery practice in this current location that has been thriving ever since. Dr. Wells has been board certified since 2004. She has been awarded the Patient's Choice Award in both 2008 and 2009, and received the Compassionate Doctor Recognition in 2010, 2011, and 2012. Dr. Wells is an active member of a number of professional organizations such as the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ASCCP), and the American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (AAGL). Dr. Wells enjoys participating in the education of Mount Sinai medical students. She has been an invited speaker on a variety of gynecologic topics and has made appearances both in print and television media.

We offered the following workshops:

Transitioning Careers

Alison Morris Roslyn '97, Yale graduate and former News Anchor and OLMA President, Margaret Myhan '70

Financial Literacy

Rebecca Orlich '10, CPA '10, Fordham University Graduate and Certified Financial Literacy Instructor

Business Etiquette

Ginny Saladino Ewen '76, Chairwoman of OLMA's Board of Directors and President of Innovative Recycling Technologies, Nicole Richards Valentine '91, educator, and Gabriella Valentine '17, alumna

How to Start Your Own Business

Stephanie Reda '14 and Michaela Lamberta '11

Panels

Education & Community Services

Law and Public Policy, Engineering, Business Management, and Administration

Health and Medicine

Arts, Culture, Lifestyle, and Entertainment



MERCY THROUGH THE DECADES 2023 REUNION WEEKEND

Schedule of Events



**** NEW THIS YEAR ****

**Friday, October 20, 2023
WELCOME HOME RECEPTION
IN OLMA'S AUDITORIUM**

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**Luncheon at Mansion at Oyster Bay
Saturday, October 21, 2023**

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Celebrating milestone reunion years

**1943, 1948, 1953, 1958,
1963, 1968, 1973, 1978,
1983, 1988, 1993, 1998,
2003, 2008, 2013, 2018**

All alumnae are welcome to attend,
regardless of when you graduated!

Tours of the Academy

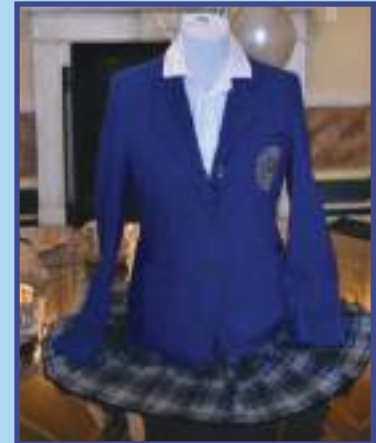
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Reunion Mass

5:00 PM

Reception in Auditorium

6:00 PM



2022 Mercy Through the Decades Highlights



*2022 Luncheon Honorees:
Dr. Val Serpe '83, Sr. Madeline Moore,
RSM, and Mr. Nick Troiani*



*Members of the Class of 1972 celebrating
their 50 year OLMA Reunion*



*Olivia Duffy '15 and
Angelique D'Alessandro '15
catching up after graduating 7
years ago!*



"Mercy through the Decades" Reunion Weekend

Friday, October 20 & Saturday, October 21, 2023

Schedule of Events:

New Friday, October 20, 2023 - Welcome Reception - 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday, 20,2023
11:00 AM - Luncheon at The Mansion at Oyster Bay
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM - Tours of OLMA
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Family Mass
6:00 PM - Reception - OLMA Auditorium

Friday, October 20, 2023 - 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**** NEW THIS YEAR ****

WELCOME HOME RECEPTION IN OLMA'S AUDITORIUM

Meet up with your classmates for Music, Food Trucks, Wine & Beer

☐ I would like ____ Individual Tickets \$ 65

Saturday, October 21, 2023

"Mercy Through the Decades" Reunion Luncheon

☐ I would like ____ Individual Tickets \$ 95

In honor of your jubilee, please consider a class gift. The proceeds from this event funds the OLMA Alumnae Award. This award is a partial, need-based scholarship available to an incoming 9th grade student. Priority will be given to a student with an Our Lady of Mercy alumna connection. With your support we will be able to provide a number of awards each year!

- ☐ I would like to make a Class gift in the amount of \$_____.
- ☐ Yes, I would like a school tour on Saturday, October 21, 2023.
- ☐ Yes, I will be attending the Family Mass and Reception with _____ guests.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____ Class of: _____

- ☐ Please accept my sponsorship/donation as noted; a check will follow.
- ☐ Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ made payable to OLMA.

Please charge my ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

in the amount of \$_____.

Name on card: _____

Card number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Billing Zip Code: _____ Security Code: _____

Questions? Call Our Lady of Mercy at 516.921.1047 (ext. 117) or email pdilollo@olma.org.

Mail your RSVP to: OLMA 815 Convent Road, Syosset, NY 11791
Attn: Mercy Through The Decades



Our Lady of Mercy Academy
815 Convent Road
Syosset, NY 11791

**REUNION INFORMATION
INSIDE**

Save - the - Date

OLMA Open House
Sunday, October 1, 2023
10:00 AM -1:00 PM

Reunion Welcome Reception
Friday, October 20, 2023
6:00 PM

Mercy Through the Decades
Reunion Luncheon
Saturday, October 21, 2022
11:00 AM

OLMA Athletic Hall of Fame Induction
Saturday, October 28, 2023

MAPA Christmas Tea
Saturday, December 9, 2022
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Career Day
Friday, December 8, 2023
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Spirit of Mercy Benefit
Thursday, April 25, 2024

Alumnae Contact Information

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Barbara Ramsey Kiley '64,
Alumnae Association President

Mary Ellen Treacy Warch '76
Alumnae Association Vice President

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