

Serviam

magazine
Summer 2017

A TIME TO LEAD

THE POWER OF AN ALL-GIRLS
EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD



Ursuline
Academy





PRESIDENT'S LETTER

June 2017

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to read this issue of *Serviam Magazine*. The theme for this edition is leadership, which has always been a favorite topic of mine to research. Although some proclaim that our world does not have strong role models or leaders for our young people to imitate and follow, you will have the opportunity in these pages to meet academic leaders in our school, alumnae leaders who excel in their professions, and current students who provide me with the hope that our graduates will prove the naysayers wrong.



Graduation is always a special time at the Academy, and the Class of 2017 rose to this occasion in true Ursuline fashion. The leadership the seniors provided to their younger sisters throughout their tenure at UA has been exemplary. Each young woman who was recognized for an academic or service award proudly stood in front of her peers and accepted her affirmation. The valedictory and salutatory speeches (which you can view on our YouTube channel) demonstrated all that the class had modeled through the years. Most importantly, every member of the class will be furthering her education at a four year college or university next year.

What would an issue of *Serviam* with a theme of leadership be if St. Angela Merici were not mentioned, quoted, or recognized?

"Our Ursuline tradition of education . . . enables young women to view their culture in the light of faith and to be a gospel leaven, that is, to be leaders actively engaged in the concerts of their own 'marketplace,' creatively involving themselves in the restructuring of a more just society."

St. Angela's courage for a woman of her time is something we teach at UA beginning in the seventh grade and continuing through twelfth grade. In fact, even as I write, a group of Ursuline students and faculty is visiting four cities in Italy with a side trip to Brescia, St. Angela's birthplace.

Angela's words were bold in the late 1500's. They remain the guiding tenet for the faculty, staff, students and alumnae of Ursuline Academy today.

Enjoy the magazine and have a wonderful summer.

Warmly,

Rosann M. Whiting

Rosann M. Whiting
President

Serviam Magazine
Summer 2017

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Contact communications@ursulineacademy.net



Senior class officers Clare Morris and Lobna Youssef hold a time capsule containing mementos from the Class of 2017. The capsule will be placed in a wall of the Athletic & Convocation Center.

IN THIS ISSUE

From the President	INSIDE COVER
A Time to Lead	2
Alumnae Programs: Singing the Praises of Sisterhood	8
Same Goal, Different Paths: Alumnae Profiles	12
Why I Give	15
Ursuline History: Arlington Street Memories Revisited	16
Campus Updates: Bringing the ACC to Life	18
Academics.....	20
Hour of Code.....	20
Travel Experiences	22
Faculty	25
Arts	26
Athletics.....	28
Brescia Ball 2016: Light Up the Night	30
Graduation 2017.....	32
Class Notes	34
In Memoriam	37

Serviam Magazine welcomes personal and professional news from all of our alumnae. However, we cannot guarantee that items received will appear in the Magazine. Some items may appear online. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit for content, accuracy and length. Publication of an item does not constitute endorsement by Ursuline Academy.

A TIME TO LEAD

THE POWER OF AN ALL-GIRLS
EDUCATION FOR A BETTER WORLD





Far left: Lynne Petti

Left: Lisa Collins

“I did not go willingly.” That’s what *Kelly Smith Scuderi ’91* recalls about her walk across the threshold into Ursuline Academy in 1985. She wasn’t the only 12-year-old girl who initially didn’t want to go to an all-girls school then — or now — but what she does share with current students and alumnae across the board is recognition that attending Ursuline was one of the best decisions her parents ever made on her behalf. “I went kicking and screaming because I thought it would be the end of the world,” she recalls. “Almost immediately, I loved it and realized my parents were right.”

“I had an amazing experience at Ursuline,” says *Kathleen Hegarty Palenscar ’99*. “There was an immediate difference in me, in my performance. I was shy in my co-ed [elementary] school. I wasn’t willing to raise my hand. At Ursuline, the girls were confident to say what they wanted to say.”

Lisa Collins, who has taught science at Ursuline for seven years, sees mutual respect and confidence in her classroom on a daily basis. “Here, girls have to do everything. They get their hands dirty. There’s no inhibition in terms of raising their hands and participating,” says Collins, who previously taught in the Hingham Public School District. Prior to joining the Ursuline faculty, she had her doubts about single-sex education. “I was skeptical of the girl factor and anxious about there being a lot of drama, but I’m completely sold on it, particularly in the lab.”

In a co-ed science classroom, Collins says girls often stand back. “Boys tend to take over. They tend to be more

gregarious. In high school labs, the girls end up being the recorders, the note takers, the boys do the dissections. Girls who have self-confidence issues won’t raise their hands.”

“It was empowering to be all girls and to never think twice about voicing my opinion or asking questions. It gave me a lot of confidence,” says Scuderi, who went on to study biology at the College of the Holy Cross and is today employed as a regulatory technical specialist at Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics.

Collins also thinks the school uniform makes a significant difference. “When they come into class in uniform, with their hair tied back or in a ponytail and no makeup, it’s all about the learning. The clothing and the hair and makeup and posturing is all taken out of the equation. In a co-ed room all of that is very dominant. It’s hard to compete with the raging hormones, they can’t help themselves,” she says.

At first, *Julia Fraone ’18* balked at her uniform, but now she sees it as an advantage, freeing her from the weight of daily fashion decisions. “Now, I come home and I’ll still be

“I had an amazing experience at Ursuline. There was an immediate difference in me, in my performance.... At Ursuline, the girls were confident to say what they wanted to say.”

Kathleen Hegarty Palenscar ’99

“They’re not afraid to raise their hand, to speak out.... Six years of that happening builds their confidence. They’re the ones who are doing things.”

Lisa Collins

wearing it for a couple of hours and I have no problem going out in my skirt to Legacy Place.”

Graduates and students also point out that the teachers go the extra mile to engage the students in the material at Ursuline. “**Sister Connie** was always willing to address subjects in a different way. She got people up. She made it fun and funny,” recalls Palenscar, who now owns an insurance company in Norwood with her husband. “She made you feel like you could be whoever you wanted to be.”

With a level playing field, Collins says every girl can be a leader. “They’re not afraid to raise their hand, to speak out,” notes Collins. “Six years of that happening builds their confidence. They’re the ones who are doing things.”

Fraone is a case in point. “When we got to dissect the frog, I was cutting the frog up and it was really, really cool,” she says. “And it was fine for me to touch the frog and not be embarrassed. In public school, girls step back and let the boys handle the gross stuff, but here we all handle the gross stuff and it’s kind of fun.”

Classroom Competition and Camaraderie

At Ursuline, there is an emphasis on helping girls cultivate the habits and skills they need to excel in college, succeed in the workforce and contribute as informed, engaged citizens. The school offers 10 Advanced Placement courses and an emphasis on writing. That translates into success: 100 percent of Ursuline graduates enroll at four-year colleges and universities.

Lynne Petti teaches AP European History, AP Art and other history courses. She sees teamwork among the students as a critical difference in the all-girls environment. “The girls can always get the notes from each other. Helping each other is the standard practice,” says Petti, who notes that her two grown daughters attended coed public schools, and that the contrast between their experience and the single-sex experience is clear. “My daughters were very engaged in academics, which made them oddballs at their public school. They struggled in the sciences and in AP calculus because the

boys looked down on females in those classes.”

“There’s never boy drama. Everyone is really close,” says **Grace Roberto** ’18, who attended a public elementary school in Holliston prior to coming to Ursuline. “We’re not afraid to ask questions.”

Roberto also finds that without boys, the classroom discussions are more multi-dimensional. “In religion class, we’ve been talking about marriage and morality. I feel like people wouldn’t want to ask questions in a co-ed classroom, but at Ursuline everyone is jumping to the conversation,” she says. While the girls tend to be very supportive of one another, often Facetiming after school or talking in the Tea Room about class assignments, she is quick to point out that the assignments are rigorous.

“There’s definitely healthy academic competition,” says Collins. “We have a very high percentage of students who participate in athletics, so they are also competitive there.” She says that graduates of Ursuline who are college students frequently let Collins know how well-prepared they are for higher education. “They end up tutoring their peers. They do very well in labs. They already know how to study, and they’ve had practice with managing their time. They tend to be very successful.”

One of Fraone’s favorite classes last year was Public Speaking. One assignment involved a five-minute speech with a visual PowerPoint component. Fraone’s presentation was on Disney World, where she has gone at least 20 times — an “unhealthy” number, she says with a laugh. Though the topic was light, she reports that the feedback from her teacher, Ms. Stokes, was serious and helpful. “Ms. Stokes gets right down to details,” says Fraone. “I’m not the best with timing. I go way too long or way too short and I tend to talk fast. She helped me with that, told me to speak loudly and she always tells us to make sure you have a strong stance.”

Beyond the Classroom

Most studies about single-sex education focus on grades and test scores, but outside of the classroom there are also significant advantages to an all-girls environment. For example, all student government leadership positions are held by girls. “My best friend won class president last year, and even though it was a tough week of competition, she told me every candidate came up and congratulated her nicely,” notes Fraone.

When it comes to extra-curriculars, students have a variety of opportunities to excel outside the classroom, whether playing on one of the school’s interscholastic athletic teams or

“Joining the Model UN club freshman year was probably one of the best choices I have made during my Ursuline career thus far, because it gave me the chance to interact and learn from the upperclassmen, as well as meet people from all over the world at conferences.”

Julia Fraone '18



joining one of the two dozen student clubs, such as Art Club, Glee Club, Robotics, Campus Ministry or Drama Club. Roberto, a varsity hockey and softball player, credits athletics with keeping her focused on achieving goals. “Sports help drive me,” she says. “And, I’ve made some of my best friends through hockey.”

Fraone has been a member of the Model UN club. “Joining the Model UN club freshman year was probably one of the best choices I have made during my Ursuline career thus far, because it gave me the chance to interact and learn from the upperclassmen, as well as meet people from all over the world at conferences,” she says.

Palenscar, who played soccer, basketball and golf and was captain of the basketball team, recalls that “sports were an area where everyone would get involved.” Girls participated both in varsity and club sports, and “kids would show up to all of the games.” She also notes that this was an area in which girls and boys from local Catholic schools would come together. “You could go to boys’ games and they could go to yours.”

Though there are obviously no boys on campus, the students have many opportunities to socialize with boys at local

schools, through attending sports competitions and school dances and participating together in service opportunities. Fraone finds that her local church also offers opportunities to interact with boys. “I’m making my confirmation at my own parish, so it’s like going back to co-ed moments,” she says. She also notes that even in her confirmation class, her Ursuline experience shows through. “I know most of the content from Ursuline, so I go in and I can answer confidently. I have the opportunity to be the dominant one.”

Beyond boys and Boston, Ursuline sponsors annual trips so that students are exposed to other cultures and communities, and are also able to fulfill their commitment to service. In April, Collins and Digital Integration Specialist **Greg Mertz** led a group of 14 girls on a 5-day trip to the American Southwest visiting national and state parks in three different states. The group hiked challenging trails in the Grand Canyon, Zion National Park and Bryce Canyon, visiting multiple habitats and elevations, learning how canyons and “hoodoos” are formed, and observing ancient Native American pictograms.

Petti has led trips to Italy, China and most recently Greece, this past April. “We study both the history and the art in the classroom and then visit the major archaeological and art

“The girls here are very devoted to one another. They are motivated to succeed, and have been raised with high expectations. They are naturally supportive of one another.”

Lynne Petti

There are a number of ways in which an all-girls school is different from the coed environment, but confidence and leadership opportunities stand out strongly. According to the National Coalition of Girls' Schools (NCGS), girls feel more comfortable being themselves and expressing their ideas in the single-sex environment. NCGS reports some compelling statistics that echo many of the sentiments of the Ursuline students and teachers we spoke to:

- > NCGS research reports that a majority of girls' school graduates report higher self-confidence over their coed peers. *
- > 93% of girls' school grads say they were offered greater leadership opportunities than peers at coed schools and 80% have held leadership positions since graduating from high school. **
- > Girls' school graduates are three times more likely than their peers from coed schools to consider engineering careers. *
- > Students attending all-girls schools experience higher levels of support from their classmates and teachers than do their female peers at coed schools. ***

* Source: Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in Their Characteristics and the Transition to College, National Coalition of Girls' Schools, 2016

** The Girls' School Experience: A Survey of Young Alumnae of Single Sex Schools, National Coalition of Girls' Schools, 2016

*** Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools, National Coalition of Girls' Schools, 2015



sites. We go to the Parthenon, the Acropolis and Crete.” The group also soaks up local culture attending a night of Greek dancing. “And, of course, we go shopping,” says Petti.

The Ursuline Advantage

While there is much about all-girls education that is standard across schools, Ursuline teachers and students alike are quick to remark on this particular school's culture, which fosters a sense of community through its emphasis on collaboration, Catholicism and service.

“Ursuline is unique. It's different from other all-girls Catholic schools,” says Petti, who has taught only in all-girls schools during the four decades of her career. “The girls here are very devoted to one another. They are motivated to succeed, and have been raised with high expectations. They are naturally supportive of one another.”

The service component is embraced by Ursuline students, who perform more than 24,000 hours of community service each year. Palenscar recalls her senior year service as a formative experience with life-long ramifications. She and two classmates spent a month helping out at St. Patrick's Elementary School in Roxbury. “It was character building. Service became ingrained in me,” says Palenscar, who continues to visit the Roxbury school a couple of times a year with her young daughters (whom she hopes to send to Ursuline). She also teaches CCD to special needs older women at her parish church and volunteers every other Tuesday evening at the Dedham Food Pantry.

Roberto, who was recently inducted into the National Honor Society, which recognizes those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership and character, is very active with her home parish, St. Mary's of Holliston. She teaches CCD,

helps out with the church's vacation Bible school each July, has been on summer missions to New Jersey, and will go on a mission to Mississippi this summer. Fraone and her family volunteer at My Brother's Keeper, which delivers furniture and food to local families in need. "During the Christmas season volunteers get the chance to help pick out and package gifts for families in the community, which not only counts as service hours, but is a lot of fun and helps makes another family's holiday special. It's a very humbling experience, and makes me even more grateful when I receive my own gifts on Christmas," says Fraone.

When it comes to the Catholic teachings in the Ursuline classroom, "We examine all sides of the issues. We're very open-minded," says Petti. That comes through to the students. "I feel like I'm an educated member of the church as opposed to someone who just sits there and listens. I've learned about being Catholic, but also about Islam and Judaism. It helps me realize what I like and what I find challenging about my faith," says Fraone.

Having faith as a thread that runs through the curriculum is important to Roberto. "Not every class is about religion,

but at Ursuline, when you're reading a book in English, you can talk about it from the religious perspective," she says. She adds that even students who are not Catholic value the school's commitment to community. "Whether you're Catholic or not, you can be part of the service commitment. We hear over and over about how important service is."

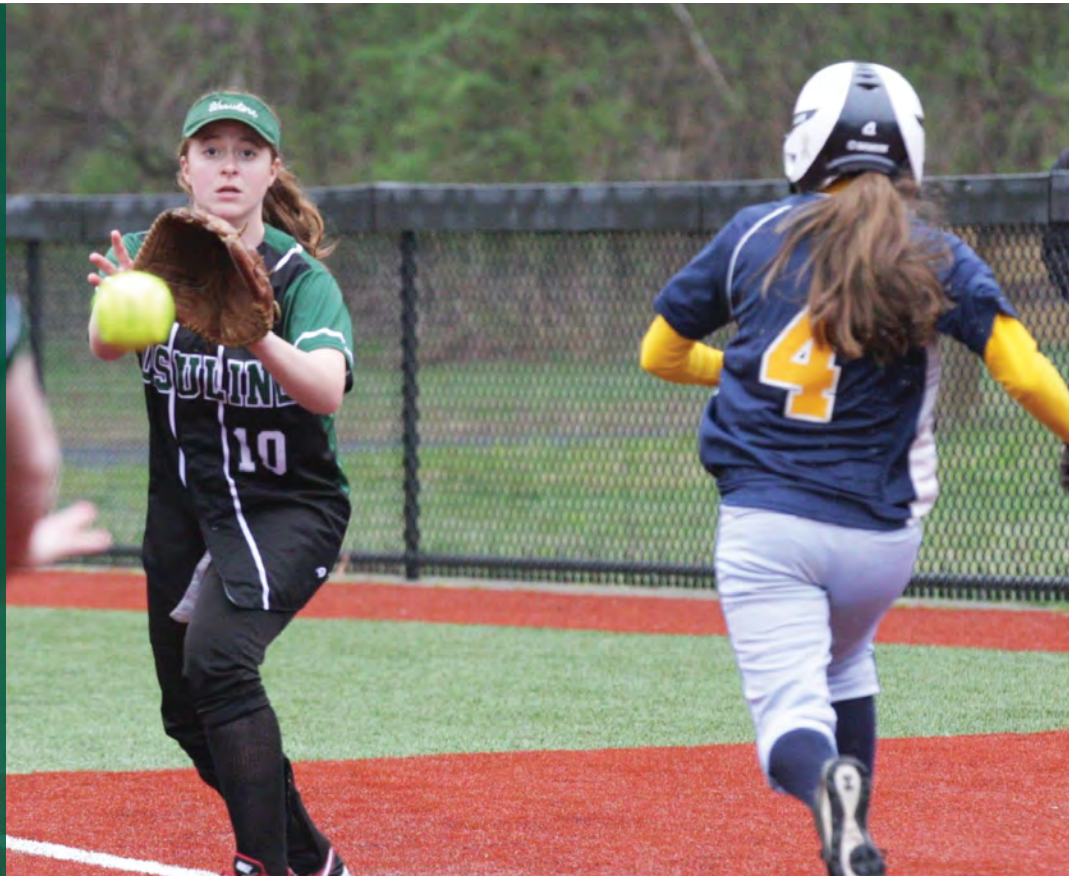
Studying at a Catholic school "shapes who you are, values and morals. It's an added dimension," says Scuderi, who literally returns to Ursuline every day to drop off and pick up her daughter, Isabella, a junior.

In the end, Palenscar says that the entire Ursuline experience has shaped her life, from her commitment to service to her confidence as a business owner to the Catholic values she is instilling in her three daughters. "Girls are able to be themselves completely. They can be silly, take risks and not be judged by males," she explains. "They learn to value other people's individuality."

"Ursuline is like a team sport," says Roberto, the athlete. "You meet people who you know will be your best friends for the rest of your life."

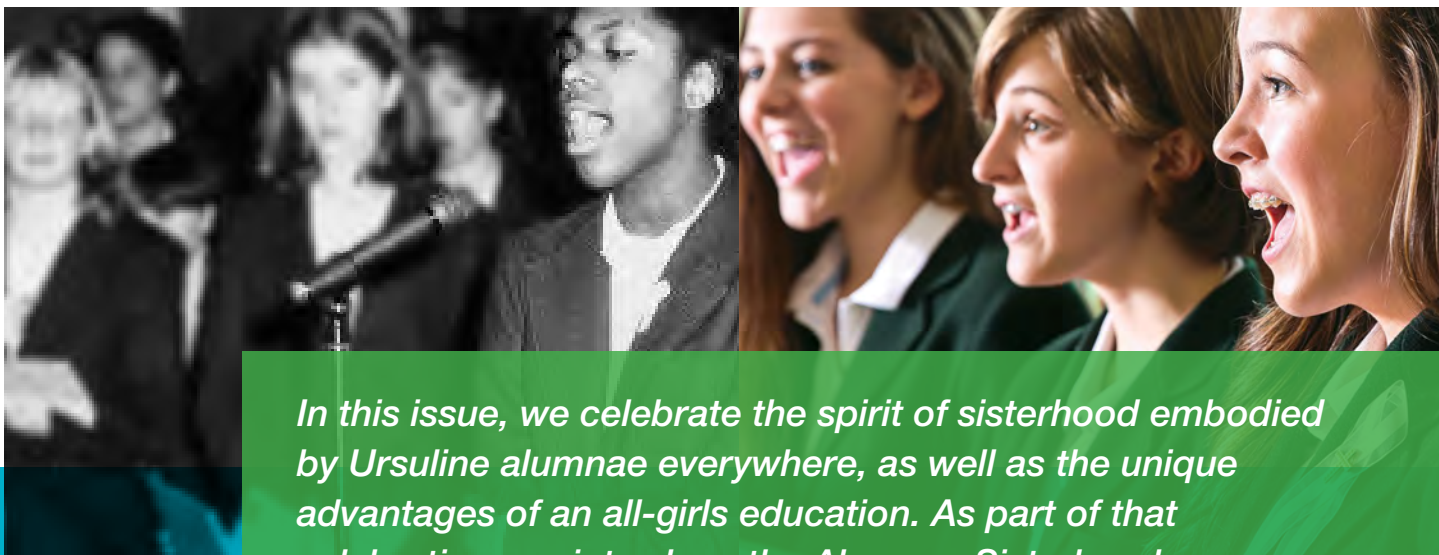
"Ursuline is like a team sport. You meet people who you know will be your best friends for the rest of your life."

Grace Roberto '18





SINGING THE PRAISES OF SISTERHOOD



In this issue, we celebrate the spirit of sisterhood embodied by Ursuline alumnae everywhere, as well as the unique advantages of an all-girls education. As part of that celebration, we introduce the Alumnae Sisterhood program, with new opportunities to learn, grow, reconnect and re-energize in the spirit of Serviam.

BRINGING SISTERS TOGETHER WITH NEW PROGRAMS

The goal of the Alumnae Sisterhood is to give every Ursuline graduate, regardless of graduation year or place of residence, a way to rekindle the bonds of friendship that were forged during her years on campus. Some events will be held on Lowder Street while others will be at other sites or cities. Our offerings fall into three broad categories:



Networking Events

Networking events will be offered in selected cities as a way for women to broaden their connections both personal and professional. They are open to all alumnae, whether currently working or not. The first events were held in Boston in April and New York City in May, with more events to follow.



Learning & Development

Lectures and discussions focusing on a particular topic will provide a chance to return to campus and engage with members of the Ursuline community on a topic relevant to the school or to society.



Community Service

From time to time, alumnae will have the chance to join together for a morning or afternoon of service. Whether helping to plant vegetables on a farm, package books for homeless children, or paint a school, these opportunities will offer the chance to keep the spirit of Serviam alive with lifelong friends.

RECENT ALUMNAE EVENTS

The year in review – with more to come! Look for future events at UrsulineAcademy.net/Alumnae/Events.

Senior send off

The class of 2016, fresh from their graduation ceremony, gathered on campus for one last time before heading off to college. Each graduate left with a memento of her time on Lowder Street, as well as the knowledge that her Ursuline sisters are only a phone call, text message or Snapchat away during that first year away from home.

Yearbook signing

The Class of 2016 again returned to campus during their first break from college to pick up their yearbook, reunite with their classmates and teachers, and offer words of wisdom to their sisters in the Classes of 2017 and 2018.

Legacy coffees

We have a special place in our hearts for legacy families, those mother-daughter pairs who are the true embodiment of passing the spirit of St. Angela Merici to the next generation of women. At Homecoming in September and again on Valentine's Day, alumnae with a daughter currently attending Ursuline gathered for a special breakfast. Each mother and daughter was presented with a gold pin signifying her status as an Ursuline legacy.

Swan boat reunion

On May 3, alumnae from the 12 Arlington Street campus recreated the annual tradition of being the first riders on the Public Garden's swan boats. While they were not the very first riders this year, the dozen alumnae and friends had a wonderful time visiting the Public Garden and the Arlington Street building, as well as having Tea at the Taj Hotel (formerly the Ritz). See story and photos on p.16.

Lunch and Learn

The first Learning and Development offerings took the form of a Lunch and Learn series in the Ursuline convent. At the inaugural event on March 30, Director of Mission Mary-Kate Tracy-Robidoux '94 led a discussion titled "Women in Mission" focusing on the spirituality of St. Angela Merici. On June 1, President Whiting hosted the second session on "Honoring the Past and Securing the Future of Ursuline Academy."

Boston networking event

Alumnae in the Boston area gathered in April at Metro Meeting Center on Federal Street for an evening of good cheer with one another and President Whiting.

New York networking event

New York area alumnae gathered on May 10 at Connolly's Pub and Restaurant on W. 45th Street to network and share memories. The Class of '81 was well represented!



Top: March 30 Lunch and Learn in the Convent

Middle: Alumnae gather at the Boston networking event

Bottom: Valentine's Legacy breakfast

REUNION & HOMECOMING WEEKEND 2017



Starting this year, our annual Reunion will shift from the spring to the fall and will be combined with Homecoming to create a full weekend of activities. Special events will still be offered for Reunion classes (those returning after multiples of five years), but there will be something for all alumnae including families.

Mark your calendar for the weekend of September 23 and 24, 2017. This year's events will include a Mass and dedication ceremony for the new Athletic & Convocation Center.

SCHEDULE

Saturday, Sept. 23

- 10 am Legacy coffee
- 10 am Registration
- 11-11:45 am *Honoring the Past and Securing the Future* – Remarks by President Rosann Whiting
- 12-2 pm Barbecue
- 2-2:45 pm *Shaping an Ursuline Girl: From Recruitment to Graduation* Remarks by Principal Michelle Smith & Director of Admissions Maura Polles '86

4 pm

Mass and dedication of the Athletic & Convocation Center



5 pm

Tours of the ACC

6-9 pm

Cocktail party celebrating the reunion of 2's and 7's

Sunday, Sept. 24

10 am

Sisterhood brunch

For more information or to reserve a hotel room, visit us online at UrsulineAcademy.net/reunion

NEW FACES

There are two new faces leading the alumnae relations efforts for Ursuline's Advancement team, working hard to give our alumnae new and exciting ways to reconnect.



Kathryn (Kat) McCarron joined in August, 2016 as Director of Advancement. She comes with over ten years of fundraising and advancement experience in the higher education and non-profit sectors.

She worked most recently at the Pioneer Institute as the Chief Development Officer, and also has experience at Dean College and Newton Country Day School.



Susan Hehir, Director of Alumnae and Parent Relations, joined the team in November from Newton Country Day School, where she worked on volunteer relations and development operations.

She also served as Manager of Special Projects at Dean College, and worked on revitalizing Boston's theater district as a member of the Mayor's office of cultural affairs.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Mary Kate Harrington '10, Carolyn Thorne '90, and Nancy Sinclair '86

At the 20th annual Women In Leadership symposium in early March, we proudly welcomed back to campus three alumnae who shared their experiences from their days at Ursuline to their current career roles. Students in grades 9-12 were treated to a morning of wisdom, advice and humor as the panelists shared favorite Ursuline classes, teachers, their continued dedication to service post-graduation, and favorite

memories such as canoe rides on the pond on Mission Day. Senior Maggie Chipman '17 was the student moderator, engaging the panelists on a variety of topics surrounding educational paths, career choices, and how their education prepared them to face life's challenges.



(l. to r.) Susan Hehir, Mary Kate Harrington, Carolyn Thorne, Nancy Sinclair, President Whiting

We welcomed back:

Nancy Sinclair '86
Data Designer, Sapient Corporation

Carolyn Thorne '90
Veterinarian/Owner, Veterinarian Services of Westwood, LLC

Mary Kate Harrington '10
RN, Lahey Hospital and Medical Center

SAME GOAL, DIFFERENT PATHS

For both **Alison Leed '97** and **Wendy Graham-Coco '86**, their interest in the study of science took root in the pre-Science Wing lab facilities of Ursuline Academy ten years apart, before fume hoods and gel electrophoresis machines were tools of the trade for high school students. Both women majored in a form of biology in college and chose lab research as the first step in their career paths. Fast forward a few decades, we find each of these alumnae working as an established scientist developing drugs or tools to relieve human suffering, but they contribute to the field from quite different angles – one as a scientist at a major non-profit research organization, and the other as a business executive for a medical technology start-up firm.

Their stories provide affirmation that women do indeed belong in scientific careers, as well as inspiration regarding the many different paths that such careers can follow. *Serviam Magazine* caught up with Wendy and Alison recently to discuss their educational and professional stories.

Wendy Graham-Coco '86

As the Head of Operations and Acting COO at WaveGuide Corporation, a start-up medical device company, Wendy Graham-Coco runs day to day operations, manages product development activities, runs human resources, and oversees Regulatory Affairs & Quality Assurance – essentially, everything that it takes to ensure that the company's work keeps running smoothly. WaveGuide researches and develops its hand-held micro-nuclear magnetic resonance (μ NMR) platform technology, with the goal of enabling low cost, rapid, point-of-care diagnosis of diseases and providing low cost laboratory/university scientific research tools for chemical analysis.

How did you end up where you are now?

My original plan was to attend medical school, but in college my advisor recommended that I get some experience doing lab research instead of applying directly out of college. I started working in a lab at Mass. General Hospital, and had the chance to work on things like early studies of drugs to treat Parkinson's disease. After seven years there, a colleague said "let's go start a company," so a group of us left to start a biotech radiopharmaceutical company called Biostream. (Biostream was later renamed Molecular Insight

Pharmaceuticals.) I was employee number two at Biostream and helped build the Company to about 150 people and took it through an IPO.

At Molecular Insight, my science background made me realize that there was a real need for business people who understood the science behind what we were doing. The CEO approached me and offered to pay for my MBA so that the company would have someone who could speak both languages. I received my MBA from Simmons in 2003 and stayed on at Molecular Insight, eventually becoming Vice President for Portfolio Strategy and Manufacturing.

What are some applications of the technology your company is developing?

The WaveGuide technology has great potential for diagnosing tuberculosis in countries like China and India, where the disease can spread very quickly if not detected early. Currently, a TB diagnosis takes up to a month to make, but this technology could bring that time down to hours. Our μ NMR enables rapid and sensitive direct detection of a range of disease targets at the point of care, which would enable earlier treatment for patients in remote areas like a village in Africa. It could also be used to diagnose ovarian cancer by a blood sample, a real time liquid biopsy blood

test, with increased sensitivity of 500% over the leading system and reduced time to detection from 2-4 days to under thirty minutes.

What professional achievements are you most proud of?

While at Biostream/Molecular Insight, I spent ten years working on developing a radiotherapeutic to treat neuroblastoma, a fatal pediatric neuroendocrine cancer. As the Program Director, I managed the transition from a research benchtop chemical to the commercial development of a highly-specialized radiopharmaceutical therapy drug. I've also helped to build labs and manufacturing facilities all over the world, in Texas, Germany, Vancouver, Ottawa and Toronto.

What do you find exciting about working in science?

I love being able to wake up every day knowing that the work I do will make a difference, whether to an individual or to the world.

To students considering career options, I would say that there is a huge need in the science fields from actual scientists (chemists, biologists, microbiologists, geneticists, etc.) but also in regulatory affairs, quality assurance, and manufacturing for biotech, the pharmaceutical industry, or clinical trial management. These fields pay very well and provide the opportunity for travel. As a woman in science, there is no end to what you can achieve if you have the desire to pursue your goals.

How did your experience at Ursuline inform your work and other pursuits now?

I always loved science, and at Ursuline I was able to take a college level Advanced Physiology class with the seniors while I was a sophomore. Ursuline helped promote my love for science and encouraged me to take Achievement exams in Chemistry when I probably would have not gone the extra step outside the SATs. Ursuline's environment and writing intensive curriculum gave me the confidence and skills to succeed in college. I found myself well prepared for Boston University and the course load. I can honestly say this was all due to my experience at Ursuline.

What do you do for fun?

I enjoy gardening at my home in Dedham, right around the corner from Ursuline's campus.



"Every day is different in a start-up environment. When I pull into the parking lot in the morning, I never know what I'm going to encounter, but I always leave knowing that my work made a difference either in the lives of individuals or in making the world better."

Wendy Graham-Coco '86

Alison Leed '97

Alison Leed is a research scientist at the Broad Institute, which is a non-profit research organization in Kendall Square, Cambridge. She works in the Center for the Development of Therapeutics, where she uses nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) and other biophysical techniques to discover small molecules that are active against human disease targets. She currently leads a project team of scientists with different specialties (chemistry, medicine, cell biology, physics, and computer science) working together to further understand and inhibit a potential key player in heart disease. In the past, she has worked on teams studying cancer, mitochondrial disease, malaria, and cardiovascular disease.

How did you end up where you are now?

I have always been very detail-oriented and methodical, and science is a field where those traits are very helpful. I



"I have also always enjoyed a good puzzle and a challenge, and a career in research is a daily exercise in solving one big real world puzzle."

Alison Leed '97

found the idea of working in a lab and making discoveries exciting, so I decided to focus on science and research in my studies, rather than apply to medical school.

After Ursuline, I received a BS from Georgetown University in 2001, majoring in biochemistry. After graduation, I started a PhD program at Harvard Medical School in the Division of Medical Sciences. I joined a lab at Harvard Medical using NMR (nuclear magnetic resonance) to study protein structures and continued there as a postdoc after defending my dissertation. In 2012, I joined the research team at the Broad Institute.

What professional achievements are you most proud of?

As a side project, for the past few summers I worked with a student from a local high school, and together we put together a library of small chemical compounds that could be screened to find the building blocks of future drugs. It was painstaking work, but it was very rewarding in the end. I got to see several coworkers use our library to find chemical matter that could bind proteins of interest across multiple projects in a variety of disease areas. It was exciting to supervise this student and to see her enthusiasm about science grow, especially when she realized her work would have a real impact on so many projects. She is now majoring in environmental sciences at Emory University and plans to study for a PhD in marine biology after graduation.

What do you find exciting about working in science?

Science advances best when people can work together, so any success is rewarding for all team members. It is also personally rewarding when anything is discovered, and small discoveries happen quite often in science. I love it when I realize I am the first person ever to ponder a particular question and then become the first person ever to discover the answer. In science, you are constantly learning something new and contributing to the knowledge of the entire scientific community, no matter how insignificant your discovery may seem. Every sentence in a science textbook represents an observation or discovery from at least one person's hard work, and every medicine you may take represents years of collaboration between scientists, and it's fascinating to be a part of that.

How did your experience at Ursuline inform your work and other pursuits now?

I chose to work in drug discovery because I hope my research will contribute positively to the lives of those in need one day. That is very related to the *Serviam* principles that I learned at Ursuline. I remember all of my science classes at Ursuline, but rather than the details and facts that we learned, what I remember most are the experiments we did in class: making popcorn in beakers over Bunsen burners in **Ms. Harvey's** Chemistry class, dissecting owl droppings and looking for bones in **Mrs. Lynch's** Biology class, and an egg-dropping experiment/contest in **Ms. Crowley's** Physical Science class. To this day, designing and setting up experiments is a fun way to spend a day for me.

What do you do for fun?

I have a 20-month old son who keeps me very busy. I also enjoy restoring and decorating the home where my husband and I live, and travelling.



WHY I GIVE: EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN

Mary Pat Ryan Joy '65

My parents offered me two choices for an all-girls high school Catholic education. I could drive with my Dad to a school near his place of work and study after school in his office until he headed home – late. Or I could enroll at Ursuline Academy with my eighth-grade friends. It was a no-brainer, and in retrospect, a superb choice. Ursuline formed and defined me intellectually, spiritually, and socially, and instilled in me a life-long commitment to *Serviam*.

Five decades, five children, two professions, and a multitude of volunteer involvements later, I can retrace Ursuline's influence in empowering me as a student.

Walking the school corridors, memories rush back. Dedicated faculty guiding our dissection of frogs – weekly staging of Virgil's *Aeneid* in Latin – confidently powering through math concepts, scholarly research and well-crafted papers. They stood shoulder to shoulder with us cheering our teams. Retreats allowed me, the oldest of a boisterous brood of eight, the quietude necessary to reflect on who I am, the talents God gave me, and the inchoate steps that would pave a confident path toward unknown and challenging journeys ahead.

This spring during Holy Week, President Whiting gave us opportunities via email to listen to spiritual reflections offered by seniors. They confirmed in me that I am blessed to be an Ursuline alumna. Initiatives such as the "Lunch and Learn" lecture series and alumnae task force actively engage alumnae in the mission and legacy of founder St. Angela Merici, whose vision, writings, and example of apostolic service resonate as powerfully today as they did in her Brescia Italian village 500 years ago. The new Athletic & Convocation Center and all its offerings further enhance the excellence and distinction of an Ursuline education.

I hope my gift to Ursuline will help a student have as memorable, fulfilling, and empowering an educational experience as I enjoyed. Every gift, large and small, makes a difference.

ARLINGTON STREET MEMORIES REVISITED

Boston alumnae gather to rekindle a spring tradition

by **Susan Hehir**, Director of Alumnae Relations

Springtime in Boston – warm rains awaken new life and bring a burst of color to the outdoors. People start to fill the streets again, gathering with friends to walk outside and enjoy lunch or an ice cream on a park bench. Winters can be long in Boston, so when the snow finally melts and the sun begins to warm your face, it's time to get out and enjoy some treasured traditions.

From April through much of September, the Boston Swan Boats glide across the Lagoon in Boston's Public Garden, just as they have every year since founder Robert Paget launched his first swan in 1877. According to Wikipedia, a tradition is a belief or behavior passed down within a group or society with symbolic meaning or special significance with origins in the past. With a clear understanding of tradition, four generations of the Paget family, including *Lyn Paget '78*, have lovingly tended to the preparation ritual of one of Boston's most beloved diversions. Over seventy years ago, groups of

young Ursuline girls made that diversion part of their annual spring ritual, not realizing at the time that traditions create memories, and memories can be enjoyed for a lifetime.

Ursuline Academy opened its doors at 12 Arlington Street in 1946 with 45 students. That spectacular building, with its magnificent woodwork and elaborately carved plaster ceilings, was located directly across the street from the Public Garden – the perfect location for an annual tradition to take root. Each spring, the girls of Ursuline Academy would don their blazers, hats and gloves and process over to the Lagoon to ride on the Swan Boats. The afternoon finished off with a formal tea at the Ritz Carlton, the grand dame of Boston hotels. The girls would file past the doorman – who seemed to know all of their names – and continue on to the lounge for high tea. This tradition, with all of its formality and flair, would continue until Ursuline moved to Dedham.

“What IS that bond? It does not seem to be in what we do, where or with whom we live, what we wear or drive, or how old we are. It is more in the ‘how’ of things; how we listen to each other, share experiences (and laughs), encourage, support, and let each other shine. There was great comfort and joy in our being together. The bond has to be ‘Serviam’.”

Maureen Abate '58





12 Arlington Street from the Public Garden



Ursuline-Boston students enjoy the annual swan boat ride

On a beautiful day in May, this wonderful tradition was recreated when five women of Ursuline Academy–Boston, hosted by **President Whiting**, gathered for a ride on the Swan Boats and tea at the Taj Hotel. The Swan Boat ride was facilitated by Lyn Paget, a fourth generation member of the Paget family. “I really enjoy being part of maintaining the history and tradition of a business that has provided over 140 years of enjoyment to generations of Boston locals and visitors. A creative and ambitious idea carried out by my great grandparents has become a symbol for our city. That is a legacy to protect and preserve,” said Paget.

Maureen Abate '58, an Arlington Street alumna who attended the event, confirmed Paget's sentiment and summed up the feeling of the day: “It was wonderful to see old friends, meet new ones, and trace our steps back to the meaningful places of our high school days. From the first ‘Hello’, I could feel a palpable connection with Ursuline. What IS that bond? It does not seem to be in what we do, where or with whom we live, what we wear or drive, or how old we are. It is more in the ‘how’ of things; how we listen to each other, share experiences (and laughs), encourage, support, and let each other shine. There was great comfort and joy in our being together. The bond has to be ‘*Serviam*’.”



Pat Dowling '52, Sr. Marcella Savoie, Sr. Maria Goretti, Sr. Angela Krippendorf '59, and Maureen Abate '58



Left: (standing) Kate Levesque '77, Pat Dowling '52, Maureen Abate '58, Sr. Angela Krippendorf '59, Sr. Marcella Savoie, Lyn Paget '78, President Whiting (seated) Sr. Maria Goretti. Right: Tea at the Taj with President Whiting

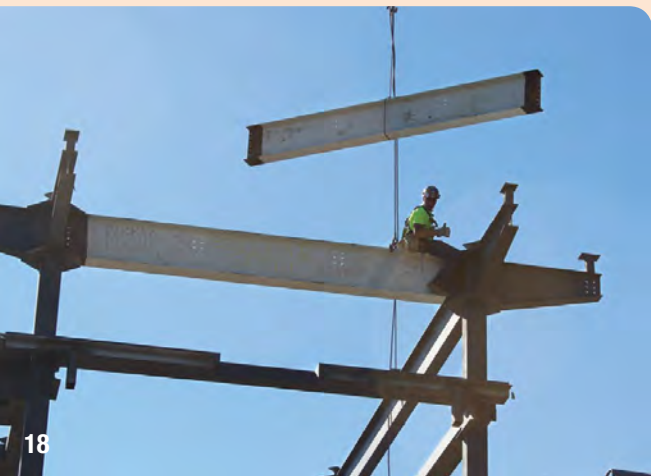


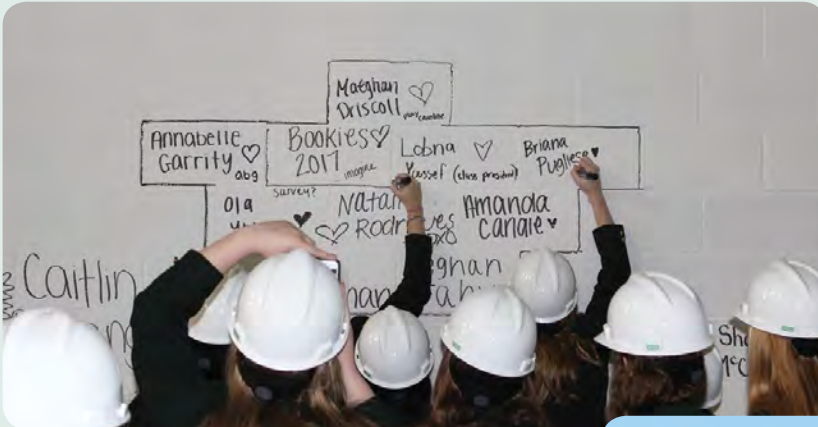
CAMPUS UPDATES

BRINGING THE ACC TO LIFE

Throughout the past school year, the Ursuline community has been witness to the emergence of the Athletic and Convocation Center from the grassy knoll in between the Science Wing and the Convent. Featuring new classrooms, athletic facilities, a fitness center, a meeting and gathering space, and an innovation space, it will move Ursuline Academy into the next generation as a campus. It is strategically located overlooking the academic building, the playing fields and the Convent, symbolizing the mind-body-spirit elements of the school's mission. Starting with the groundbreaking in May of 2016, you can see how construction progressed through the summer, fall and winter months.

As of this writing, the building will be open when students return in the fall. The Ursuline community is invited to the building's dedication as part of Reunion and Homecoming on September 23-24, 2017. See p.10 for details.





Interested in supporting the project?
Contact Director of Advancement Kat
McCarron at kmccaron@ursulineacademy.net
or 781-493-7711.

URSULINE ACADEMY EMBRACES HOUR OF CODE

When does an hour last an entire week? When Ursuline students and teachers get on board with the Hour of Code and turn it into an entire week's worth of events, that's when! The Hour of Code is a global effort to entice students to try their hand at writing code and exploring science concepts. During the week of December 5, Ursuline Academy celebrated the Hour of Code with a week-long array of activities and demonstrations. The movement is sponsored by Code.org, a non-profit dedicated to expanding access to computer science and increasing participation by women and underrepresented minorities. It is based on the premise that coding is a skill that is as essential as reading or writing, and is a building block for success in a wide variety of careers.

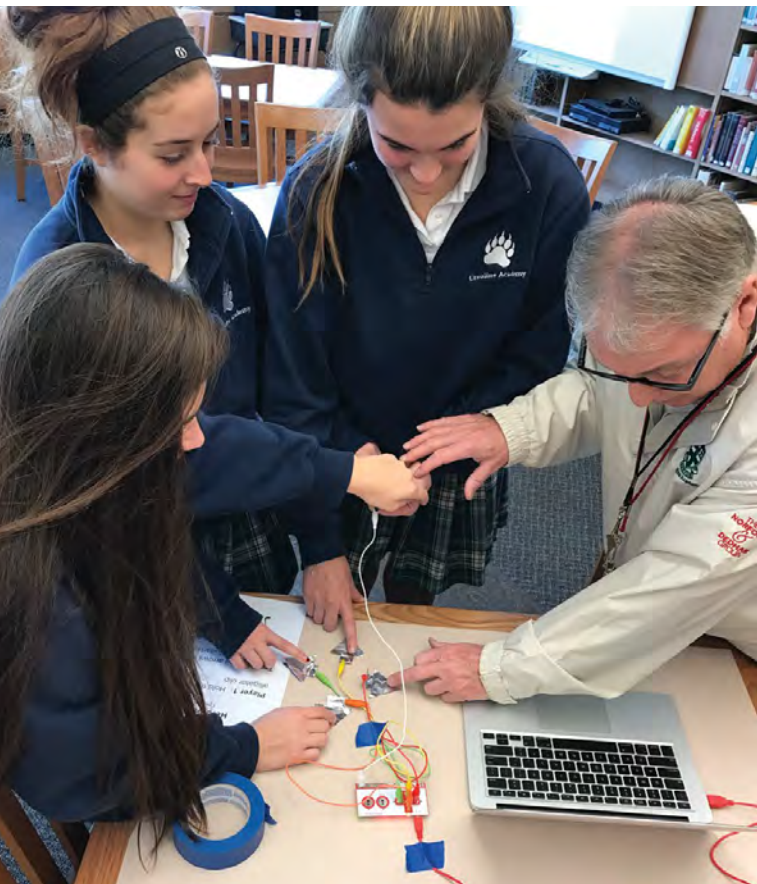
The week started with senior *Liz Ronan* talking to the student body about her experience at Girls Who Code, a summer intensive program designed to teach young women computer science and inspire them to enter STEM fields. With that as the springboard, students were able to choose from different software-related activities throughout the week. The choices included using simple circuitry kits to turn fruit into a digital keyboard, writing the code for basic game apps using Hopscotch, having upperclass students teach younger ones about programming robots, and more. Sophomore *Chloe Byrne* found it to be an eye-opener, saying "It was fascinating to hear the statistics regarding the large number of tech jobs that are likely to be available by 2020. Women are without a doubt capable of succeeding in a career involving technology, and there are so many opportunities to accommodate them, but they just need to be marketed to young women and men alike. Interest simply cannot develop without inspiration or exposure."

Teachers and administrators also got into the week-long celebration, which was a collaboration between the school's academic leadership and its technology department. Principal Smith commented, "The Hour of Code reinforced for our students and faculty the importance of a collaborative

"Women are without a doubt capable of succeeding in a career involving technology, and there are so many opportunities to accommodate them..."

Chloe Byrne '19

approach to thinking, teaching, and learning. Coding is a practical skill that our young women should understand as they navigate their educational experience at Ursuline Academy and beyond." Said Digital Integration Specialist Greg Mertz, "At Ursuline Academy, we recognize that technology is impacting every industry on the planet and want to make sure that our students have the exposure and knowledge necessary to foster the creativity and problem solving skills required for their future careers."



Ursuline students collaborate with PE teacher Dennis Hursey to build a circuit.

JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE EXPERIENCES A RESURGENCE

by **Erin Cummins**, *Latin Teacher*

The Junior Classical League (also known as the Latin Club) is an organization for enthusiasts of classical antiquity. It has grown from two members to a group of between 15 and 20. Whereas at other schools the JCL chapter consists primarily of board members who plan one or two events per year, Ursuline's chapter of JCL tries to have fun with the classics every single week. Latin students and non-Latin students alike meet every Wednesday during activity period.

Led by its two consuls, juniors *Katie Fox* and *Mackenzie Moore*, the club has participated in various games and activities. In September, we held a mock Roman election; in October, students created curse tablets for their enemies, following conventions extrapolated from archaeological evidence. In February, the club wrote valentines from various figures of history and mythology; in March, we simultaneously celebrated and mourned the assassination of Julius Caesar. One of the highlights for the club this year was a trip to Classics Day at Holy Cross, where members competed in Latin trivia and art contests and got to meet Latin students from across the state.

Next year we hope to attend more trivia contests on weekends, and possibly the Massachusetts State Latin Convention. Our club is academic, inclusive, and most of all, fun!



Under the guidance of moderator Erin Cummins, Latin club members prepare to make an "offering" to the Roman deity Bona Dea.

Elizabeth Ronan '17 Named National Merit Scholar



In September, senior *Elizabeth (Liz) Ronan* was named a Commended Student in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, was presented by **Principal Michelle Smith** to this scholastically talented senior.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation were recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2017 competition by taking the 2015 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Although they will not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarship Awards, "the young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for the NMSC.



National Parks trip

On the “UA Out West” trip, students travelled to the Grand Canyon, Bryce, and Zion National Parks, and also stopped in Las Vegas, seeing the sights and compiling a travel blog (sample below) as they went.

“Day 3: When we got to Bryce, we began our hike at Sunset Point where we looked out over all of the hoodoos [pinnacles of weathered rock] in the canyon. We hiked around 3 miles starting at Sunset Point, so we went downhill, only to go back uphill, ending at Sunrise Point. The views were beautiful! We learned that Bryce isn’t actually a Canyon, and that it’s an amphitheater, and that the hoodoos are constantly forming as others erode away. After lots of hiking and pictures, we headed on to the bus for a 5 hour bus ride to Arizona! . . . We’re loving this amazing experience out west!”

Aisling Walsh '18 and Gaby DiMartino '18

UN Commission on the Status of Women – New York City

The Model United Nations team had two participants attend the 61st UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York City from March 11-16. This two week, city-wide event was hosted by the United Nations in New York City. It gave a forum for non-profits, non-governmental organizations and United Nation Representatives to share research, initiatives and experiences regarding worldwide women empowerment. The CSW outlined goals for the next year to acquire gender equality by the year 2030. Our students networked with other Ursuline schools at the Commission and attended a host of panels, which enhanced their overall understanding and comprehension of social justice issues. This experience highlighted the importance of becoming a global citizen and recognizing the strength women continue to exude in a global context.

Emily Hagan, Social Studies teacher

French exchange – February

Over February break, thirteen students from Ursuline and Xavierian (pictured at right) traveled to France as a part of the fifth exchange program with Institution Ste. Marie located in a Mediterranean coastal town called Toulon. French Exchange was one of the best experiences of our lives. On this trip, we not only had the opportunity to observe the city of Paris, but also the beaches, islands, and nature of the south of France. Starting off our trip in Paris, we saw the famous landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe and the Champs Elysees. We then traveled to the South of France, where staying in families' homes granted us the opportunity to more fully experience the culture. Every day we explored different aspects of the South of France, including Monaco, Arles, Marseilles, Toulon, Nice, Cannes, Bandol and Antibes. We are so grateful that we had this once in a lifetime opportunity where we made memories and formed friendships with American and French people that we will remember for the rest of our lives.

**Emma McDonald '18, Amanda Giordano '18
and Kate Lauro '18**

Close Up Washington, DC

On the Close Up Washington, DC trip, students worked with peers from around the country to analyze and debate important public policy issues. They visited museums, monuments, and our representatives' offices on Capitol Hill over a six-day period to engage in experiential learning that empowers them to have an impact in our democratic society.

Jessica Stokes, Social Studies Teacher

Greece

On the Ursuline tour to Greece, we were immersed daily in the culture of Greek contemporary life. We had a particularly unique experience in Delphi on Good Friday, because Greek Orthodox Easter coincided with Catholic Easter. Easter is the most important religious holiday of contemporary Greece. They have three days of special observances and activities. On Friday night we attended Mass with the entire town of Delphi and, carrying lit candles, followed the flower-covered "tomb of Christ" in its journey throughout the town.

In general, I believe that there is no better way to understand history and peoples of the world than by traveling. In the trip to Greece, Ursuline students and chaperones got a glimpse of the cradle of Western civilization and a member of the European Union.

Lynne Petti, Social Studies Teacher



Above: Ursuline and Xavierian students on the French exchange trip Below: Students at the Close Up, Washington DC trip



Upcoming trips:

Summer 2017: Leadership trip to Italy

April 2018: Four country tour to Berlin, London, Bruges, Normandy

April 2018: Barcelona, Madrid, Provence and Paris

Tracing Trickery and Treachery Through Antiquity

by **Abigail Wukitch '18**

Tricks and treason
All have reason
For those who call Rome
Their ancient home,
Infidelity and illusion
Often caused great confusion
It does not take geeks
To see it is the same for the Greeks
So let us travel back
In order to track
How things like sophistry
Changed the course of history

Ten years of war
Became a bore
So Greece made a trick
To end the war quick
A horse of wood
Before the gates of Troy stood
Trojans dragged the horse in
Which helped the Greeks win
In the horse the soldiers hid
Until they were bid
Then out they came
And set the city aflame

A trick and a traitor
Made Rome much greater
The Romans need wives
To ensure the city survives
So they invite the Sabines to dine
And provide plenty of wine
While the Sabines got drunk and dizzy
The Romans got tricky and busy
They grabbed the girls with no pity
And took them back to their city

Tarpeia the traitor
Regrets her choice later
Of helping the Sabines
Instead of staying on the sidelines
She leads them to the citadel
Expecting to be paid well
She was bold
And demanded their bracelets of gold
But instead
They bash in her head
Using their golden shields
For there is nothing treason yields
But the demise
Of anyone who lies

Ptolemy XIII shared Egypt's throne
But Cleopatra wanted it for her own
When Caesar came to their land
A meeting with Cleopatra was banned
So she pulled a little trick
Proving she was quite slick
Rolled in a Persian rug
And feeling very smug
To Caesar's room she travelled
Where the rug was unravelled
According to the story
She stood in all her glory
Addressing Caesar as mister
It was not long before he kissed her!

Brutus and Caesar were friends
Until Caesar's power overextends
Caesar thought he was the best legislator
So he made himself permanent dictator
So Cassius Longus
And his brother-in-law Brutus

Then make a plan
To cut short Caesar's lifespan
In the senate former
About sixty who deplore him
Stab him in the head
Until he is dead
Cassius and Brutus were in trouble
As anger began to bubble
Civil War ensued
So to Greece they were pursued
At Philippi they battled
Losing made Brutus rattled
To save his pride
He committed suicide

Thus proves the point
Treachery will always disappoint
Although tricks
Can be a good fix
For all the greats
Deceit was mixed with their fates
While studying ancient warfare
You always must beware
For the ancients do not show veracity
But instead act with mendacity

Abigail Wukitch '18 earned third place for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the CANE Annual Writing Contest (Classical Association of New England). Twelve students from Ursuline submitted entries to the competition.

Class of 2017 College Enrollment

Assumption College
Auburn University
Babson College
Bentley University
Boston College
Boston University
Bryant University
Clemson University
Colorado School of Mines
Connecticut College
Elon University
Fairfield University
Furman University

George Washington University
Harvard College
Ithaca College
Loyola University-Maryland
Merrimack College
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
Providence College
Regis College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Sacred Heart University
Saint Anselm College
Saint Joseph College in Maine

Saint Joseph's University
Saint Michael's College
Stonehill College
Tulane University
University of Delaware
University of Maine
University of Massachusetts-Amherst
University of Massachusetts-Boston

University of Michigan
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of Vermont
Villanova University



Cultivating the vine: THE ST. ANGELA MERICI RETREAT

"It is good to see you gathered together for prayer, reflection, sharing and mutual support during this time. How often we met in the Company to discuss spiritual things and to give encouragement to one another to remain steadfast in the life which we had begun!"

(8th Legacy, 5th Counsel)



Calligraphy by Sr. Zela Procter

Who exactly was St. Angela Merici? How did she live? What was she seeking to accomplish when she gathered her company of women 1535? What are the defining qualities of an Ursuline school? These are some of the questions that faculty and staff of Ursuline schools across the country contemplate when they experience an "Angela retreat" – two days of learning, prayer, reflection and fellowship with a small group of colleagues, designed to communicate a sense of who St. Angela was in a real and personal way.

Until relatively recently, students at Ursuline schools across the country came to know the spirit of St. Angela Merici

through her living example, the Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union. With the number of active Sisters declining, finding a way to pass on the spirit of St. Angela to new faculty has become a challenge for Ursuline school leadership. A few years ago, Sr. Diane Fulgenzi of Ursuline Academy in St. Louis began leading Angela retreats at Ursuline schools across the country, with the purpose of ensuring that faculty and staff know St. Angela and her charism as if they had met her personally. The ultimate goal is for all faculty and staff of Ursuline schools to experience the retreat at least once and to find a way to bring the spirit of St. Angela into his or her daily practice.



Participants huddled against the chilly ocean winds at the first Angela Retreat in April of 2016.

Since the 2015-16 school year, three Angela retreats have been held for Ursuline-Dedham staff. Director of Mission Mary-Kate Tracy '94 coordinates the retreats, intentionally inviting a mix of attendees from different functions within the school. Participants gather at the Miramar Retreat House, a stone's throw from Kingston Bay in Duxbury, Massachusetts and spend one and a half days in residence there, learning about St. Angela's background and character. They begin to understand what motivated her, and how she came to recognize the need for a community of women who had a vocation other than marriage or religious life. The qualities of her spirit are set forth as ideals to inspire current Ursuline students: an interweaving of prayer and service; a lived attentiveness to the Holy Spirit; risk-taking; creativity and innovation; trust; optimism and hope; belief in the giftedness of women; being as well as doing; and peace-making and reconciliation.



SPEECH TEAM EXPERIENCES A RESURGENCE

Always a staple of the Ursuline Academy extracurricular line-up, the Speech and Debate team's membership increased from seven members in the 2015-16 academic year to 20 members in the 2016-17 year. Continuing Ursuline tradition for the fourth year running, three members qualified to compete at the NCFL National Speech and Debate Tournament held in Louisville, Kentucky in May.

Maggie Chipman '17, team captain, competed in Dramatic Performance at her fourth Nationals. The sister act of *Jamie Folwell '19* and *Maggie Folwell '20* competed in Duo Interpretation, each girl attending Nationals for the first time. Congratulations to all the girls, as well as to first-year coach, **Mrs. Samantha Grone**, UA Theology teacher!

Ursuline and Xaverian: MAKING A PARTNERSHIP SING

The music directors from Ursuline Academy and Xaverian Brothers High School have been working all year to forge a partnership that brings together their vocal performing groups for the mutual benefit of both schools. Beginning in the late summer, the groups kicked off the school year with a day-long retreat that brought them together to create a sense of community and learn how to harmonize together.

In February, the two schools performed their culminating concert of the year, called *Together in Harmony: a Collaborative Concert*. Held in Xaverian's Bisson Foyer, the event drew an audience of approximately 200 people. The evening intermingled performances by each school's respective choral and a cappella groups, as well as mixed vocal ensembles. The offerings ranged from liturgical hymns to a traditional South African hymn to popular music, with a Katie Perry/Lady Gaga mashup bringing the house down.

Commented **Susan Glancy**, Ursuline Music Director, "Watching the students become friends through their shared love of music has been such a joy. They look forward to rehearsals, not only because they get to perform music from

the mixed choral repertoire, but they are creating friendships that we hope will last long after the last note is sung." Xaverian Music Director James Brodeur commented, "This collaboration is so important. On a pedagogical level, our young men should experience what it is like to sing with young women. On a more profound level, the collaboration challenges students to recognize that music is about people, bringing people 'together in harmony.'"

To view the "Together in Harmony" concert in its entirety, visit [YouTube.com/UrsulineAcademyMA](https://www.youtube.com/UrsulineAcademyMA).



FINE ARTS OFFERINGS CONTINUE TO EXPAND

by **Cara DiPietro '17**

While Ursuline girls have always shared a passion for the arts, this past year has truly been the beginning of a renaissance age for the Ursuline Academy Fine Arts department. In their high school years, students' interests can truly flourish due to the addition of several new electives. This past year, 10th and 11th grade students were able to take Visual Art and Design I, where they create works of art using a variety of artistic media from drawing, digital photography, Adobe Photoshop and painting, and explore hand lettering, realism, and abstraction. Starting in the 2017-18 school year, Visual Art and Design II will be offered, in which students will be introduced to more complex concepts. Senior Studio Art is offered to students in the 12th grade, and is designed to give seniors intensive daily instruction and practice in art and design. In addition to two-dimensional media, students will work in three-dimensional forms as well as visual abstraction.

Along with classes in art and design, new performing arts classes such as Music Theory I and Musical Theater: Production and Performance have been made available. In Music Theory, students are able to study musical notation, music history, ear training, and composition. Starting in the fall, Music Theory II will allow students to focus on harmonic structure, form and composition. Students will also continue to develop their musicianship skills through sight-reading and aural dictation, both melodic and rhythmic. Musical Theater: Production and Performance allows students to explore acting, singing, directing, dancing,



Musical Theater students presented modern interpretations of Shakespearean plays

rehearsal, performance, and design skills which culminate in the presentation of musical theater scenes. Drama I, another new course in 2017, is designed to introduce students to the art of the actor through plays, storytelling, improvisation, and interpretation of poetry. Communication Arts will also continue to be offered to students. The objectives of Communication Arts are to enhance and improve public speaking technique, to become a savvy media analyst and to produce purposeful video content using a variety of creative approaches and editing using iMovie.



Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

Each year, the Boston Globe sponsors the Scholastic Art & Writing awards to honor the creative endeavors of 7th to 12th grade students from across the Commonwealth. This year's awards ceremony held in March at the Museum of Fine Arts honored two Ursuline students, **Isabella Orup '18** and **Erin Grela '19** (left to right). Isabella received a Gold Key and Lauren received an Honorable Mention, both for their paintings.

#ROLLBEARS:

Ursuline athletics teams claw to the top

by Maggie Chipman '17

2016-2017 was not just a year of academic accomplishments at Ursuline; it had its share of athletic accomplishments as well.

Across the fifteen sports offered, each team demonstrated a season of growth, making small steps to build the athletic program and the reputation of Ursuline athletes throughout the MIAA. However, individual teams are not the only thing growing; the athletic capabilities of the Academy are growing as well, with the opening of the new Athletic and Convocation Center (ACC) for the 2017-2018 school year. The building will serve as a major upgrade to the athletic facilities on campus, with its full-size basketball court, fitness center, student and faculty locker rooms, and indoor track, as well as a center for academics and school functions. Athletic Director **Michael O'Connor** sheds light on just how many people will be positively affected by the addition, noting, "301 girls played sports this year. 122 played one sport, 109 played 2 sports, and 70 girls played 3 sports. I'm hoping that with the new facility, all the girls, even those who don't play a sport, will be involved in fitness activities."

However, O'Connor recognizes the flexibility with which the sports teams have functioned up until this point, and lauds each team for its successful season. Varsity volleyball led the fall sports teams to success, advancing to tournament semifinals of the South sectionals. The program, comprised of three teams and 38 girls, is led by head coach **Kali Vasich**, an Ursuline mathematics and coding teacher. The varsity soccer team also advanced to tournament, and soccer's JV and junior high team divisions demonstrated success modeled after their varsity counterpart, each team finishing strong. Captain **Alexandra Rota '17** praised her teammates, stating, "Every member fought extremely hard to get [to tournament] and we had so much fun along the way." The field hockey program expanded dramatically this season, with the addition of a JV team allowing more girls to develop their skills. The cross country team gamely worked through their season without a fitness center during the construction of the ACC, crossing their season's finish line with a bevy of girls reaching personal records. Closing the fall season with a championship finish, the swim and dive team placed first in the league under the direction of head coach and history department faculty member **Jessica Stokes**. In addition to

the league championship, many swimmers continued to sectional and state championship meets.

In the winter season, yet again two teams qualified for the state tournament: basketball and ice hockey. Each had a comeback season, building on the tough previous seasons as

"I'm hoping that with the new facility, all the girls, even those who don't play a sport, will be involved in fitness activities."

Athletic Director Michael O'Connor

well as slow starts to the current one. JV ice hockey had an impressive season similar to its varsity counterpart, finishing with a winning majority. The season's individual sports, indoor track and downhill skiing, did particularly well, each large in number of participants and number of personal records set. Skier **Nicola Carmone '21** qualified to compete at states as the team's leading racer.

Finally, thus far into the spring sports season, the Bears have been quite successful under the leadership of several new coaches. Varsity lacrosse gained a new head coach, Dean of Academic Affairs **Shannon Parker**, as well as golf (**Mary Jo Clarke**) and tennis (**Tom Keady**). While golf is embracing a building year with no seniors on the team, the tennis, lacrosse and softball teams have made the state tournament. The track and field girls have experienced a successful season as a team, finishing with 2 wins and 1 loss in league competition, with 79 athletes in the program and a strong senior presence. The team sent a fistful of athletes to the All States Tournament in June. (See related story.) Meanwhile, Ursuline's newest sport, the student-founded club sailing team is in its second season of competition.

For those who have had hallmark seasons, as well as those who have experienced building years, Ursuline girls have remained humble and dedicated to the ethos of teamwork.



Lacrosse teams from Ursuline-Dedham and Ursuline-St. Louis share a moment at the halftime of their game. The annual Ursuline Sisters Lacrosse Tournament was held in New Rochelle, New York from April 6-8, 2017.

Ursuline runners continue to burn up the track

Ursuline runners have a habit of medaling at statewide competitions and setting new records, and that trend has not changed this school year. At the conclusion of the indoor season, junior *Ashley Thomas* competed at the All State Track Meet where athletes compete across divisions in their respective events, bringing home a medal for her eighth place finish in the 55 meter sprint, as well as setting a new school record for the event.

On June 3, two relay teams – the 4 x 100 consisting of *Jackie Hayes* '18, *Annalee Petrella* '22, *Kelly Cheevers* '21, and *Ashley Thomas* and the 4 x 800 powered by *Bridget Popkin* '20, *Maddi Sanders* '19, *Natalie McGrail* '19 and *Catherine Treseler* '18 – headed to All-States, where the 100-relay team became the first in Ursuline history to break 51 seconds with a time of 50:94. Ashley Thomas also competed in the 200 and *Siobhan O'Sullivan* '20 in the shotput; O'Sullivan broke her own school record by throwing a 34'7 1/4".



4 x 100 relay team of Jackie Hayes, Annalee Petrella, Kelly Cheevers, and Ashley Thomas



College bound athletes

Three members of the Class of 2017 have signed letters of commitment to continue their athletic pursuits in college. *Erin Olson* (left) will continue her volleyball career at St. Joseph's College of Maine; *Emma Luniewicz* (center) will row for the University of Michigan; and *Ashleigh Marini* (right) will swim for Merrimack College in North Andover, MA.

Light Up The Night

URSULINE ACADEMY'S

Brescia Ball

Saturday, November 5, 2016
The Lantana, Randolph

This year's Brescia Ball was held at The Lantana, a new location convenient to the Ursuline campus. For the first time, the event made use of mobile bidding, enabling attendees as well as people in remote locations to bid on items from their phone or mobile device. This added an element of excitement and mystery to the event, as attendees are instantly notified if they have been outbid on an item. The silent auction and dinner were followed by a live auction, emceed by auctioneer Jim Wells.

The Brescia Ball celebrates Ursuline Academy's mission by honoring individuals within the school community who exemplify Serviam in their daily lives. This year's honorees were *Patricia Leary Dowling '52* and *Mary Jo Gorman Keaney '82*.

Patricia Leary Dowling of the class of 1952 attended Ursuline Academy's Arlington Street campus. In the 1940's, Pat's mother Mary Leary was instrumental in working with then Archbishop Cushing to encourage the Ursuline Sisters to return to Boston to open a girls' school; the sisters had fled Boston after being chased out by an anti-Catholic mob in 1834. After graduating, Pat attended Boston College where she studied nursing. During her career, she managed the Admiral's Club for American Airlines at Logan Airport. Pat has remained a devoted supporter of Ursuline over the years; she and her husband Steve's generous support of the Athletic and Convocation Center has been crucial to making it a reality.

Mary Jo Gorman Keaney '82 is well known as Ursuline's principal from 2009 – 2015. She gracefully bridged the transition between religious and lay leadership, in part because, like the sisters, she viewed her work at Ursuline as a vocation. Mary Jo is a true classicist and scholar, having studied Classics at Bowdoin College and taught Classics at Newton Country Day School before pursuing a Masters in Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She holds two of her Ursuline teachers, **Sister Ursula** and **Sister Dorothy Doyle**, in the highest regard for serving as her most important role models and friends; they are the foundation for Mary Jo's fondness of saying "I stand on the shoulders of the ones who came before me."

We extend our gratitude to everyone who worked tirelessly to make Brescia Ball 2016 a successful event for Ursuline Academy.

Honorees:

Patricia Leary Dowling '52
and
Mary Jo Gorman Keaney '82



*Joe Leary, Patricia Leary Dowling '52,
and Betty Leary Horrigan '54*



*Barb Murphy, Mary Jo Gorman Keaney '82,
and Mary Beth Murphy Roche '81*



Chairperson: Mary Keough P'16 '19
Event Coordinator: Tracey Finch P'19

Thank you to all who helped make the Brescia Ball happen, especially the Committee Members:

Janice Fahy P'17

Mary-Ellen Gioioso P'14 '16 '21

Sandra Giordano P'19

Kate Gormley P'17 '19

Christine Kern P'19 '21

Elizabeth King P'20 '22

Julie Lynch P'14 '20

Mary McCourt P'19

Kathleen McDonald P'20

Lisa McDonough P'17

Laurel Mullen P'16 '17

Julie Steinkrauss P'17 '22

Stephanie Waldeck P'18



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2017!

Lauren Ashe
Nancy Audy
Catherine Bacon
Caitlin Beranger
Sara Bettinger
Sophia Brown
Sarah Cady
Bridget Cahill
Amanda Canale
Mary Chipman
Nicole Consigli
Meredith Correia
Victoria Cowell
Cara DiPietro
Maeghan Driscoll
Megan Duffy

Hayley Evans
Meghan Fahy
Anna Fantozzi
Marie Fearnley
Katherine Freeman
Annabelle Garrity
Michaela Gillis
Claire Gormley
Kailana Harriott
Carine Hajjar
Bridget Healy
Clare Heffernan
Kelly Johnson
Nicole Lewis
Emma Luniewicz
Julia Lynch

Sofia Malinn
Ashleigh Marini
Shannon McCafferty
Brenna McDonnell
Delia McDonough
Brooke Mercuri
Yvonne Moriarty
Clare Morris
Ashley Mullen
Julia Mullert
Sarah Murphy
Erin Olson
Lindsey Patterson
Briana Pugliese
Maya Rao
Katrina Rivard

Natalie Rodrigues
Elizabeth Ronan
Alexandra Rota
Olivia Saraf
Jillian Skerry
Ashley Steinkrauss
Alannah Sullivan
Catherine Sullivan
Ciara Sutherburg
Samantha Thomas
Julianne Webster
Lobna Youssef
Ola Youssef





President Whiting and Regina Sullivan '78

"The core of our Ursuline heritage is really about a woman who over 450 years ago believed women needed an alternative platform to utilize their talents . . . Way back when, in the dark ages, women had two choices: to be married or to go into the convent. In response to that challenge, St. Angela probably asked my favorite questions: "How come? Why not?"

Regina Sullivan '78, Commencement Speaker



Salutatorian Alexandra Rota

AWARD WINNERS

Serviam Award: **Julianne Webster**

The Serviam Award is a great honor in Ursuline schools worldwide and seeks to reward outstanding traits of leadership in service, awareness of others, acceptance of responsibility and academic achievement.

Sister Mercedes Videira Medal: **Claire Gormley**

Established in 2009, this special award is presented to a student who best embodies the qualities of an Ursuline woman as embodied by Sister Mercedes herself: integrity, humility, generosity and concern for others, coupled with a deep love for the Academy.



Valedictorian Carine Hajjar

CLASS NOTES



Elinor Dilorio Gulla '81 married Michael A. Gulla in October, 2016.



Meghan George Deschamps '03 with bridesmaids Alexandra Flores Spicer and Jill Reilly



Harper Alicen Slifka



Teagan Katherine Kelly

The girls of '68 gathered in May of 2017 at the home of *Amelia Nore Horgan*. They have been having mini-reunions each year since their 45th reunion, and are looking forward to the September dedication of the new ACC and their 50th reunion.

Maureen McFaul Newcomb '68 writes "our son, Andrew, married in October 2015 and I retired in May, 2016."

Sharon Reed-Eramian '68 retired in June 2015. She taught Elementary Physical Education in Avon, Needham and Marshfield, and is currently living in Pembroke, MA. She is celebrating the birth of her first grandchild and enjoying golf and tennis on the South Shore.

Patricia Foley Cummins '77 and her husband Brian were honored to receive the John J. Griffin, Sr. award from Boston College in April 2017. The award recognizes the crucial role that volunteers play in Alumni Association programming.

Michele Garrison Glynn '80 received her doctorate in Teacher Leadership in 2016.

Elinor Dilorio Gulla '81 was married on October 1st 2016 to Michael A. Gulla of Norwood, MA. Her daughter, *Colleen Gallabue '07*, was her Maid of Honor at a Catholic Mass held at Saint Catherine of Siena, Norwood.

Darlene Luccio Jordan '85 was honored in February 2017 as a Woman of Distinction by Palm Beach Atlantic University for her support of education through scholarships and for her work on the Florida Board of Governors for the state university system.

Elizabeth David-Dembrowsky '96 founded Good Counsel, a not for profit organization dedicated to providing services to social entrepreneurs. Admitted to practice law in NY, NJ, MA, FL, and CA, she invites members of the extended Ursuline Academy community to contact her directly at elizabeth@



Members of the Class of 1968



Anthony Felice Cafasso



Josephine Michele Vermillion



Elizabeth David-Dembrowsky '96

goodcounselinc.org to learn more about the organization's work and how to be involved.

Bridgette Morrissey Kelly '96 and her husband, Patrick, welcomed Teagan Katherine Kelly on March 10, 2017. Excited siblings Maeve, Gemma and Finn love her so much.

Leigh Moreno Lewis '98 is living in Kingston, MA, with her husband, Tim, and three children, Gabriella (6), Daniel (3), and Matthew (1). She teaches English and serves as English Curriculum Coordinator in Norwell.

Heather Stickney Kreisberg '02 married Jay Kreisberg on August 10, 2013 and is also the proud mama to Matthew Charles (born May 2014) and James Joseph (born March 2016). She is honored to have fellow Ursuline alumna *Kerry McColgan '02* as James' godmother.

Kelly Clark Clark '02 and her husband, Brian, welcomed their third daughter, Kacie Kristina Clark, on October 1, 2016. Kacie joins her sisters, Brenna (4) and Sierra (2). Kelly is a special educator of students with autism in Boston Public Schools and also a dance teacher.

Kara McGann Cafasso '03 and her husband, Frank, welcomed their son, Anthony Felice Cafasso, on November 2, 2016. Anthony has a big sister, Olivia.

Meghan George Deschamps '03 was married on September 17th, 2016 in Sandwich, MA with classmates *Jill Reilly* and *Alexandra Flores Spicer* serving as bridesmaids.

Caitlin McHugh '03 and her husband, David Luengas, moved back to Boston in the summer of 2015 after eight years living in Mexico City to start the next chapter of their lives as parents. Amalia Marie Luengas was born on December 24, 2015.

Sarah Van Oudenaren Slifka '04 and her husband, Colin Slifka (XBHS '04), welcomed a baby girl, Harper Alicen Slifka, on July 12, 2016. Harper weighed in at 7lbs 13oz and 20 1/4 inches long.



Gabriella (6), Daniel (3), and Matthew (1) Lewis



Caitlin McHugh '03 and husband, David, with daughter Amalia Marie Luengas



Pilar Elena Garro and Kathleen Porter Garro '07



Brenna (4), Sierra (2) and new sister, Kacie Kristina Clark

CLASS NOTES



Skye Hawkins Mendes '08 and Anthony Mendes (above) Bridesmaids (below) included (l-r) Alex Hawkins '13, Charlotte Harrison '08, and Lisa DiNapoli '08.



Nicole Norton Vermillion '05 welcomed her second child, a “future Ursuline girl!” Josephine Michele Vermillion was born on March 24, 2016!

Kathleen Porter Garro '07 married Pilar Elena Garro in Bristol Rhode Island on October 10th, 2016. Both have successful careers working for The Trustees of Reservations, the oldest land conservation in the country.

Carolyn Arnish '08 writes “I started working as a pharmacist at Dedham Pharmacy & Medical Supply when it opened in July 2016 and I am currently the Pharmacy Manager of Record. I’m proud to say that we also have a current Ursuline student, class of 2018, who works here too as a store clerk!”

Caitlin Burchill '08 writes “I am starting a new reporting gig at Salt Lake City’s NBC affiliate, KSL! I’ll be the station’s morning reporter. Hope all is well at UA! GO BEARS!!!!”

Skye Hawkins Mendes '08 married Anthony Mendes on July 2, 2016 in Burrillville, RI. Bridesmaids included (L-R) *Alex Hawkins '13*, *Charlotte Harrison '08*, and *Lisa DiNapoli '08*. Also in attendance were *Victoria Masterson '13* and *Abigail Sullivan '13*.

Victoria Howe '10 writes “I am living in DC next door to fellow alumnae *Chloe Potash '10* and *Caroline Wilber '10!*”

Cassandra Nedder '15 writes “Due to the APs I took at Ursuline I will be graduating in 3 years instead of 4 for my undergraduate!”

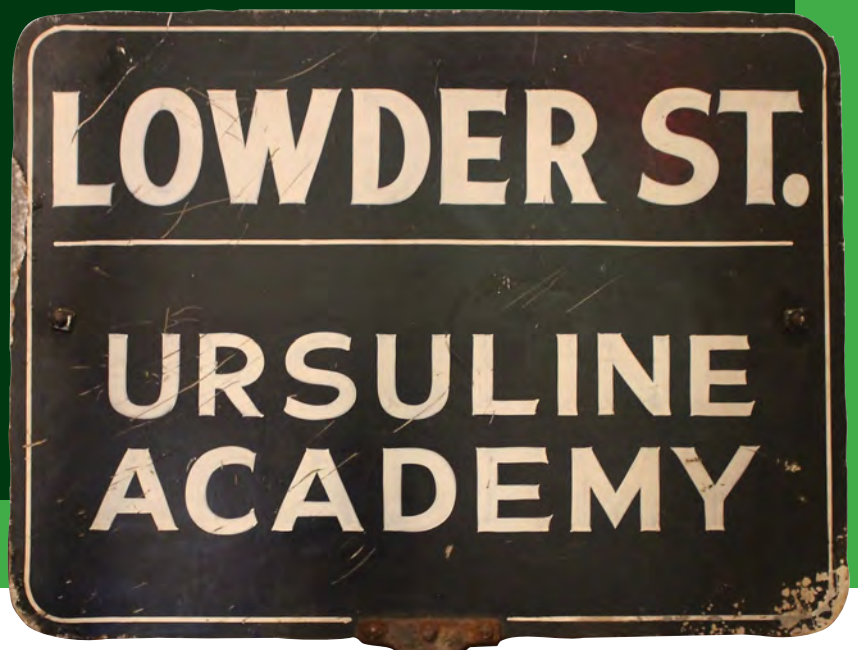
Ashley Gioioso '16 was chosen along with one other classmate to lead the Peer Ministry program at Assumption College for the 2017-2018 academic school year.

LOST AND FOUND

Found: One rusted and scratched sign bearing the words “Lowder St. – Ursuline Academy” was found in an antique shop in Maine by a relative of an Ursuline employee. It appears to be from the 1940’s.

Can you help us solve the mystery of how it made an escape from atop a sign post in Dedham all the way to Maine? Contact communications@ursulineacademy.net with clues. No questions asked.

Reward: Our undying gratitude.



Michael S. Haynes P '07 '12, Board of Trustees



1958–2017

Ursuline Academy lost a dear friend with the passing of Board of Trustees Member **Michael S. Haynes P'07 '12**, of Franklin and Truro, on April 22 following a courageous battle with cancer. Mike was the proud father of two Ursuline graduates, *Brooke '07* and *Victoria (Tori) '12*.

From the sidelines of an Ursuline swim meet to the conference table of a board meeting, Mike's love for all things Ursuline was contagious and sincere. He worked tirelessly to support and advance the school in his many years of service to the Academy. During his tenure as a Trustee from 2013-2017, Mike was the Chair of the Extra-Curricular Activities Affairs Committee from 2015-2016, and was on the Finance Committee from 2016-2017. Mike also served on the Advancement Committee of the Board of Trustees from 2007-2015.

To know Mike Haynes was to know a kind, thoughtful man who found joy in each day. "Words cannot express what an honor it was to work alongside Mike, and the gratitude

that I feel for all that he has done for Ursuline. My deepest condolences go out to Cathy, Brooke and Tori," said **President Rosann Whiting**.

Donations may be made in Mike's name to Ursuline Academy or to the Truro Conservation Trust, Great Hollow Beach Project, PO Box 327, North Truro, MA 02652.

Alumnae

Marie T. Mullen McHugh Kenney '48 | November 28, 2016

JoEllen Malinn Murphy '49 | May 6, 2016

Katherine Bernier Thorp '57 | October 29, 2016

Jacqueline Wynne '63 | September 26, 2016

Susan Karabalis Mulvey '67 | June 11, 2017

Kathleen Heaney '68 | May 27, 2017

Relatives and Friends

Linda Bottary | grandmother of *Alyssa Bottary '21*, March 29, 2017

Paul V. Buckley | husband of *Marian Walsh '72*, February 19, 2017

Harry R. Campbell | grandfather of *Mary '16* and *Anna Glass '20*, September 3, 2016

Brian Carey | father of *Kaitlin Carey Martin '98*, April 26, 2017

Richard J. Charbonnier | father of *Heather Coken '14*, April 14, 2017

Edwin A. Chirokas | grandfather of *Julianne Chirokas '18*, December 26, 2016

Mary-Jeanne Claus | grandmother of *Annelise Perry '19*, November 13, 2016

Mary Ann Dillon | former Ursuline religion teacher and mother of *Alanna Dillon Suda '91*, December 10, 2015

John Dougherty | husband of *Jennifer Thompson Dougherty '91*, November 5, 2016

R. John Feely, Jr. | father of *Mary Feely Moriarty '80*, *Alice Feely Wilson '81*, *Jane Feely Marinella '83*, *Constance Feely Giguere '86*, husband of former faculty, *Constance Feely*, and grandfather of *Rachel Marinella '18*. February 18, 2017

Gilbert "Gil" Gailius | grandfather of *Caroline Gailius '13* and *Jeanna Gailius '19*, May 30, 2017

Joseph C. Higgins, Jr. | father of *Molly Higgins Mahn '82* and *Catharine Higgins '84*, August 1, 2016

Maureen Joseph | grandmother of *Mary '12* and *Elizabeth Joseph '15*, November 21, 2016

Paul D. Krippendorf | brother of *Sr. Angela (Clare) Krippendorf O.S.U. '59*, December 24, 2016

Louis Luccio, Jr. | father of *Maribeth Luccio Kindred '81* and *Jennifer Luccio Phipps '91*, grandfather of *Alexandra Luccio '04*, and brother of *Carol Luccio Farwell '67*, August 27, 2016

Myles McCabe | grandfather of *Caitlin Bur-chill '08*, April 5, 2017

Barry McDonough | father of *Mary McDonough Hanna '80*, *Frances McDonough Jaskot '84*, *Bridgid McDonough Coyle '91* and grandfather of *Caroline '20* and *Catherine Coyle '20*, October 11, 2016

Jean McGuire | grandmother of *Jayne McGuire '21*, September 24, 2016

Joseph McHugh | father of *Kathleen McHugh Klein '80*, *Sharon McHugh '81* and *Eileen McHugh Becker '83*, January 25, 2017

John A. Ryan | father of *Maureen Ryan Palermo '77*, August 14, 2016

Thomas Tucker Walsh | brother of *Inez Walsh Moore '62*, March 10, 2017

Thomas R. Welch, Jr. | father of *Elizabeth Welch Ehasz '86*, *Susannah '89* and *Melissa '92*, September 2, 2016

Thomas J. Whearty, Jr. | father of *Liz Whearty Hildebrand '82* and *Anne Whearty O'Kane '85*, March 28, 2017

Anne Talbott Willett | aunt of *Eileen Reynolds Lindburg '68*, *Rebecca Reynolds '77* and *Meg Reynolds '82*, March 26, 2017



Ursuline Academy

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