

TORCH LIGHT

MAGAZINE FOR
ALUMNAE AND FRIENDS
OF ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
FALL 2021



Meet the Academy's new President Ms. Jennifer Tesoro '96



Congratulations Class of 2021

TORCH LIGHT

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Editor

Georgina (Gina) Borkofski

Contributing Writers

Cheryl Atchison

Georgina (Gina) Borkofski

Sr. Michelle Garlinski '88, SNJM

Amy Houston '03

Jim McLandress

Kerri Moore (McIvor '94)

Sally Taylor-Alexander '77

Jennifer Tesoro '96

Graphic Design

Georgina (Gina) Borkofski

Vincent Ocampo

Photo Credits

Alexandra Logan '06

Societe Historique de Saint-Boniface

Dave Swiecicki

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

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Jennifer Tesoro '96

Senior School Principal

Michelle Klus

Junior School Principal

Carol-Ann Swayzie (van Es '80)

Director of Communications & Marketing

Georgina (Gina) Borkofski

Director of Advancement & Admissions

Kerri Moore (McIvor '94)

Manager of Alumnae Relations

Amy Houston '03

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St. Mary's Academy Alumnae: Instagram, Twitter: @smaalumwpg | Facebook: @smaalumnaewpg



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I extend warm greetings to the community of St. Mary's Academy. With the torch held high and a heart full of gratitude, I introduce myself to you as the Academy's new President. I am honoured to contribute to my alma mater as we work to continue the Academy's Mission "to nurture young women in spirit, mind, and body". As a graduate and super-sixer, St. Mary's Academy instilled in me a reverence for faith, a passion for learning and a desire to be of service to others. After 25 years, I have come back home.

With the dawning of each new day, I wake up to new beginnings and recall moments that have forged pathways. As we prepare together to build new directions for a bright and bold future, I remember the strength and courage of the many visionary women who have come before me—women who led with courage throughout the Academy's venerated 152-year history.

Following in the footsteps of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary's foundress Blessed Mother Marie-Rose Durocher, the young leaders of St. Mary's Academy are encouraged to engage in community-building by observing and attending to the true needs of our day. By enkindling values of prayer, justice and openness, our young women aspire to lift the lowly, educate for the future, remember through ritual, persevere through tough times, and courageously lead in pursuit of sustainable social action. Mother Marie-Rose was a "herald of new times" with her lively and jovial spirit. She believed that an entire society can be transformed when the hearts and minds of young women are ignited. I share her vision.

This year our school theme, **Whose voice am I listening to?**, asks us to consider the scope of influence that surrounds us as we move through times of uncertainty. The COVID-19 global pandemic has called us all to embrace ambiguity and negotiate change in our daily lives. In times of darkness, we have been able to find consolation by rooting ourselves in faith, looking to each other in community support, and discovering belonging through adversity. I applaud the tenacity and faith that everyone has shown. The 2021-2022 school year still sees us navigating the pandemic and future unknowns remain. That said, we are well positioned to work together to deliver our educational programs in a safe environment.

We honour the traditions of our rich and celebrated past as we look ahead to strengthen our identity and stay true to our mission. The Academy will continue to work towards addressing the Calls to Action set forth by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. There is much work to be done, and we recognize the importance of engaging in respectful dialogue. I invite you to share thoughts, insights and ideas with us at reconciliation@smamb.ca, as we explore, listen, and learn together.

We encourage our young leaders of tomorrow to embrace the challenges of today. I look forward to collaborating with the Academy's Governance and Foundation Boards, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, and all of our respected educational leaders and partners to ensure the strategic continuation of renewed and refreshing learning opportunities for our young women.

Connecting with our families, students, and community is a priority. Let us engage as many voices as possible to envision a future committed to sustainable service action projects, clean energy initiatives, and creative interdisciplinary problem-solving skills within our professional learning communities.

Classrooms are open, floors are polished, the first phase of window installations has begun, and our restored reception area is ready to receive.

Welcome home. I look forward to our year together.

God bless,
Jennifer Tesoro '96

"As a graduate and super-sixer, St. Mary's Academy instilled in me a reverence for faith, a passion for learning and a desire to be of service to others. After 25 years, I have come back home."



ABOUT OUR NEW PRESIDENT



STRONG FAITH, SOUND FUTURE

In January of this year, the Academy's Presidential Search Committee announced the appointment of alumna Jennifer Tesoro '96 as the next President of St. Mary's Academy. Jennifer officially took office on August 3, 2021.

Born and raised in Winnipeg, Jennifer has carried her beloved prairie roots with her in her life and work abroad. After graduating from the Academy in 1996, Jennifer was a music teacher while she earned both her Bachelor of Arts and her Bachelor of Education degrees at the University of Manitoba. She was an active member of St. Paul's College, and was elected as the Faculty of Education Vice Stick. In 2016, Jennifer earned her Master of Education with a focus on Adult Learning and Global Change from the University of British Columbia. After returning to Canada from Vienna, Austria, in 2019, Jennifer entered the doctoral program for Peace & Conflict Studies at the University of Manitoba and is currently pursuing her doctorate.

Jennifer's career dossier includes work with the International Baccalaureate Organization, the Council of International Schools, Cambridge International Education and various national education systems. She enjoys working within communities at the grassroots level to foster sustainable partnerships between and across sectors and promote youth leadership education and social action initiatives on the local and global world stage. Her international education career afforded her a breadth of organizational leadership contexts, ranging from for-profit educational powerhouses in Europe and the Middle East, to non-profit educational reform projects in Southeast and Central Asia. She has also worked as an editorial assistant with Dr. Jessica Senehi for a peer-reviewed journal called Storytelling, Self & Society out of Wayne State University Press.

Jennifer has had a life-long involvement with the church and her Catholic faith community. As a member of St. Edward the Confessor parish, she has served as a lector, a choir member, a Catechism teacher and a choir director. As a young leader, she alongside her cousin Armalyn Magsino (Tesoro '97) and a

team of likeminded youth, re-envisioned the St. Edward Youth Ministry under the direction of Fr. Vincente Tungolh, and initiated a fundraising campaign that enabled a group of young faith leaders to join the World Youth Day pilgrimage in 2002. Abroad, she continued her community outreach, serving organizations such as Amnesty International (Caritas), the Los-ev Foundation for children affected by leukemia, and Bomonti Fransiz Fakirhanesi elders home run by Les Petites Soeurs de Pauvres.

In 2011, she married her life partner. Their union was consecrated at St. Antoine de Padua Basilica, the parish of Pope John XXIII and the largest Roman Catholic Church in Istanbul, Turkey. In November 2016, she and her husband welcomed their daughter Brooke Hera at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg. Jennifer and her daughter were baptized in the same Winnipeg parish, St. Edward the Confessor.

Jennifer enjoys walk-running, listening to stories and watching pelicans land on water.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRS



Mr. Jim McLandress
CHAIR
ST. MARY'S ACADEMY INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We've had to learn a lot about ourselves in the past two years as we've navigated many changes and uncertainties. We've also been confronted with some hard truths about our past as a nation that we have to fold into our consciousness, to process and to account for. I believe we'll get there. St. Mary's Academy is adept at both teaching and learning, and both lend themselves to thriving in a complex and challenging world.

Our new President, Jennifer Tesoro, is now at the helm of the Academy. I am confident you will be as impressed with her as was the President Search Committee. She brings with her a wealth of expertise and experience, she is energetic and enthusiastic, and she is an alumna! We are blessed to have her and I am sure you will join me in offering her our support and encouragement as she embarks on this journey.

Our past President, Connie Yunyk, has officially retired to a life of family, golf and hanging out with her grandson. No doubt she'll also be looking for new ways to contribute to her community. I can't imagine she will let the passion and energy she's given to St. Mary's Academy sit idle for long. We have been blessed to have her and I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the best in her next chapter.

And finally, it has been an honour to serve as the Chair of the School Board for the past two years and now I take my position as Past Chair. Our new Chair, Deanne Magnus, is a skilled professional who has served on the Board for eight years and she is well equipped for the position. She too is an alumna. Our community is blessed to have such talented people step forward to help lead our School.



Ms. Cheryl Atchison
CHAIR
ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This past academic year has been like no other and it is with extreme gratitude that I recognize the incredible resilience, spirit and determination demonstrated by the SMA faculty, students and staff.

Established in 1989, the purpose of the SMA Foundation Inc. is to support the Academy in its tradition of excellence in educating young women. The Foundation is responsible for the management of the assets of the Academy and raising funds for bursaries, designated school programs, and ongoing capital repairs and improvements to the facilities and grounds. Through the continued support and generosity of our SMA Community, for which we are especially grateful in these more challenging times, the Foundation was able to provide just over \$365,000 in bursary assistance to 86 students this past school year, supporting the mission of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary of providing every girl an equal opportunity to experience life at SMA and reach her full potential.

On behalf of the Foundation Board of Directors, I would also like to express our sincere appreciation to Mrs. Connie Yunyk for her passionate leadership and the valuable contributions that she made to the Foundation in her role as Executive Director during her tenure. It is through Connie's leadership, vision and imaginative spirit that the Legacy Rose Garden was developed and the signature Evening at the Academy, in support of the Mother Marie-Rose Bursary Fund, came to be. Retirement marks the beginning of a new chapter in her life and we wish her all the best.

Welcome to Ms. Jennifer Tesoro as SMA's new President and Executive Director of the Foundation. The Foundation Board and I look forward to continued growth and success of the Foundation under her leadership and the global experiences and gifts that she brings.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENT



REFLECTIONS FROM CONNIE YUNYK (SCERBO '77)

How do I sum up a 49-year relationship with my alma mater and second home in 500 words or less? A glimpse into my journey at St. Mary's Academy will provide you with the depth of my affection, admiration and gratitude for our beloved SMA!

In September 1971, I entered the Alumnae Hall doors to begin Grade 7 and was introduced to the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary who became an influential constant in my life. I am deeply grateful to my immigrant parents who always believed in a Catholic education for their four children. In particular my father Vincenzo, my biggest cheerleader, who although an old-fashioned and overly protective Italian father, wanted his only daughter to be well-educated and to have equal opportunities just like my brothers!

In June 1977, I crossed the Alumnae Hall stage at Convocation as a proud super-sixer, ready to take on the world! I am deeply grateful to my teachers, mostly religious at the time, for their patience, kindness, wisdom and humility.

As an alumna, I attended Homecoming activities almost every year, rekindling my connection with the SNJM and the SMA sisterhood. I really enjoyed my 30th and 40th reunions with my 1977 crew; thank you ladies for all the memories and giggles.

In September 1998, I was led back to the SMA community and was hired to teach in the French Department. I had a deeply positive and enriching experience with students and colleagues in the French Department and together we planned our first French language and culture trip with students to Montreal and Quebec City and a first-ever visit to embrace our roots in Longueuil.

In 2003, I was hired as Vice Principal. I extend heartfelt gratitude to the faculty and staff at that time who were open, respectful and supportive of my transition into this role. Sister Susan Wikeem appointed me as Principal in 2005. Her mentorship and guidance as my Principal in High School and mentor during my own principalship were pivotal and transformational in my SMA journey. I thank her for her patience, wisdom, care and concern for the common good of our school, students and staff.

Many are aware that the role of President was never a role I pursued; my wish was to finish my SMA career in the classroom. However, I believe Mother Marie-Rose had her own

plans for me! I was tapped on the shoulder multiple times to take on the role as first non-religious President in the school's history. As I look back on my SMA career, I am sincerely grateful to the President Search Committee for their confidence in me. The experience stretched me, challenged me and transformed me beyond anything I would ever have imagined. It has been a privilege to serve with talented and committed directors on all of our Boards: School, Foundation, Parents' Guild and Alumnae Association.

I have a deep devotion to our heavenly Mother, and I have felt her presence beside me every day since I first stepped back into this iconic facility. I especially appreciated the ability to quietly sit with her in Holy Names Chapel.

The month of June 2021 was an exceptionally bittersweet period of time; I was extremely spoiled by the thoughtfulness and kindness of many individuals and groups within our school community—**thank you!** I also extend heartfelt gratitude to the individuals responsible for organizing my virtual retirement party on June 29, 2021. I am and will forever be extremely touched and grateful for the way in which my SMA journey was recognized and celebrated—**thank you!**

Adieu SMA, I look forward to my next chapter with excitement and joy and hope to see many of you at future SMA gatherings and galas!

TENEAMUS ALTAM FACEM!

Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77)



RETIREMENT



Mrs. Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77) retired from St. Mary's Academy at the end of July 2021. Connie began her relationship with SMA in 1971 as a grade 7 student. Shortly after graduating in 1977, Connie attended the University of Winnipeg and obtained a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in French Language and Literature. After a period of time at home raising her children, she continued her education at the University of Manitoba, obtaining a Bachelor of Education and a Post Baccalaureate Certification in Education, with emphasis on Educational Administration. She also holds Level 1 and Level 2 School Administration Certificates. Connie taught in a French Immersion setting in the public school system for ten years before joining SMA's staff in 1998. In 2002 she was appointed Vice Principal, in 2005 she became Principal and in 2014 she was appointed President. In her time as president, she successfully transitioned the school from religious led to lay led, developed and implemented a broad-spectrum strategic plan, led SMA's Foundation and Alumnae Department, spearheaded SMA's 150th anniversary celebrations and most recently and notably, led the school through the COVID-19 pandemic. In her 23 years working at SMA she has been a passionate and visionary leader who enriched countless lives.

On June 29, the SMA community virtually celebrated Connie's 49-year history with the Academy. Master of Ceremonies, Nancy Militano (Herriot '77), led a beautiful tribute to Connie that highlighted the faith, passion and dedication with which Connie served SMA. A special segment of the virtual event was a pre-recorded video of sentiments from and to Connie. Please visit SMA's YouTube channel to watch both the virtual retirement celebration and reflection video: www.youtube.com/SMAWinnipeg.

With deep gratitude, SMA thanks Connie for her many years of leadership and service to the community.



STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

LEADING, LEARNING AND LEGACY was an ambitious and inward-looking strategic plan to review structures, policy and practices across the entire SMA organization. The SMA community was engaged and provided insight to update, refresh and create current and relevant practices while respecting our legacy of learning, faith, service and leadership.

In last year's issue of the Torch Light, I reported on the completion of all the actionable items except two, which the President's office completed over the course of this year with the assistance of several SMA staff, community members and Doris-Mae Oulton, survey consultant.

As part of the Academics, Learning and Innovation pillar, leadership was directed to discern and develop an intentional process to guide and support holistic learning and teaching in alignment with SNJM principles and values. From this introspective and collaborative process was borne **A Community of Learners and Educators at SMA**. This is a self-guided document introducing the SNJM Charism and Mission and a historical perspective of SMA since 1869, with a complementary journal encouraging personal reflection and growth. This exercise will engage

and inform all members of the SMA community (students, parents, teachers, staff, Board members, Parents' Guild and the Alumnae Association) about the SNJM as the foundation of the school's mission, charism and vision.

During the Spring of 2019, SMA employees participated in the Workplace Wellness Survey. Results were studied and shared with faculty, staff and the Board of Directors in the Fall of 2019. A second Workplace Wellness for SMA Employees survey was conducted to reflect the COVID-19 realities. We thank our faculty and staff for their honest contributions.

I'm deeply grateful to this incredible community for the genuine desire and commitment to be a pre-eminent school of choice for young women. Best wishes to the Board of Directors and to incoming President Ms. Jennifer Tesoro as they continue the important work of visioning for the future!

Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77)
President, August 2014–July 2021

MESSAGE FROM MISSION AND CHARISM



Sr. Michelle Garlinski '88, SNJM
Director of Mission and Charism

WHO AM I? This question acted as a guiding theme throughout the 2020-2021 school year and it offered us an opportunity—especially during the twists, turns and pivots of a pandemic—to unpack this question on our journey. **Who am I?** surfaced in ELA assignments, religion classes, prayer services and club campaigns. Homeroom classes contemplated the question collectively and designed a puzzle piece as a response. The culmination was at our staff closing ritual on June 29 when we reflected on the words of Jesus, “You are the salt of the earth...you are the light of the world” (Matt 5:13-14). The invitation and challenge for us is to be the ones who bring our flavour to the world and lead with light and hope.

As we turn our gaze to the new school year, we do so with great hope that we will experience more familiar rhythms in our school life. We are eager to gather for school liturgies, retreats, service experiences, International Day, Homecoming, sporting activities and so much more. Our theme for the new school year is **Whose voice am I listening to?** The focus will be to encourage us to be attentive to the many voices that impact our decisions and directions daily. With a focus on the foundation of faith—Prayer (conversation with God) and Spirituality (a search for deeper meaning), we will invite our community to listen to the many voices that surround us and follow the ones that lead us to who God is calling us to be.

As we prepare to begin a new school year we endeavour to embrace the character and qualities that Blessed Mother Marie-Rose embodied. May we be attentive to the voice of God so that we respond to the needs of our community and our world in this challenging time.

**THE VOICE OF THE LORD IS POWERFUL;
THE VOICE OF THE LORD IS FULL OF MAJESTY.**
Psalm 29:4

AROUND THE ACADEMY

PANDEMIC SCHOOL YEAR

The COVID-19 pandemic was in its sixth month at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, and our city and world were firmly entrenched in a response to help stem a rising tide of positive cases. In August, the Manitoba Government announced schools would resume in-person learning in September under strict guidelines informed by Manitoba Public Health.

St. Mary's Academy formulated and implemented a **Safe SMA** plan that met and exceeded government guidelines. The primary focus was providing a clean and safe environment for students, faculty and staff. Some of the physical changes to the school included: classrooms reconfigured to allow for maximum social distancing; rooms such as the auditorium in the 1902 building, the Sr. Susan Wikeem Boardroom and the multi-purpose Room were repurposed as classrooms; desk shields were installed; sanitation stations were created; directional signage was put in place in hallways and stairwells, and; each day after students left the entire school was sanitized. The building was closed to visitors and no typical events took place. Students, faculty and staff had safety protocols to adhere to such as mandatory mask wearing (prior to this being made mandatory by the government) and social distancing. Students were grouped in cohorts in which they remained throughout the day (to the maximum extent possible).

At the beginning of the school year learning was in-person for all students; however, with a rising case count that brought



with it tighter restrictions to the city of Winnipeg, at the end of October SMA transitioned grades 9 to 12 students to a blended learning schedule: one day of in-person learning followed by a day of remote learning. Grades 7 and 8 students remained in full-time in-person learning. This was the learning structure that was in place for the rest of the school year except when the Province mandated full-time remote learning for all students. Full-time remote learning took place the first two weeks of January and from May 12 until the end of the school year.

The pandemic changed all facets of school life; however, what shone through from students, teachers and staff was the strength and tenacity of the human spirit—the love of learning and teaching prevailed.

**THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS,
AND THE DARKNESS DID NOT OVERCOME IT.**

John 1:5



AROUND THE ACADEMY

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR THEME:

WHO AM I?

“I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME, YOU ARE MINE.” - ISAIAH 43:1

Who AM I? is a primordial question we seek to find answers to throughout our life. As a faith community, we believe and proclaim that we are created in the image of God. Therefore, we are gifted and full of possibility and hope. This year, the pandemic offered many opportunities for us to learn more about ourselves as we strove to reflect God’s image in our classrooms, hallways, homes and world.



MOTHER MARIE-ROSE WEEK

St. Mary’s Academy owes its existence to the faith and courage of Mother Marie-Rose Durocher, the foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM). After six years as Superior, she died on October 6, 1849, on her 38th birthday. At SMA we dedicate the week surrounding Mother Marie-Rose’s birth and death as Mother Marie-Rose Week, and throughout the week we reflect on and celebrate her life. On October 6, 2020, we held a prayer service with students in their respective cohort classrooms. We also connected to our SNJM sister schools through video where each school presented a pre-recorded segment (view the video on our YouTube channel in the “Mother Marie-Rose” playlist). It was a blessing to join our hearts and minds in prayer and celebration with our community near-and-far.



Virtual Prayer Service

Student Isabella Monchamp '23 dressed as Mother Marie-Rose



ORANGE SHIRT DAY

On September 30, SMA participated in Orange Shirt Day. “This is a day that opens the door to global conversation on all aspects of Residential



Schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they have left behind.” www.orangeshirtday.org

WELLNESS ROOM

The Wellness Room was completed in the Spring of 2020. With COVID-19 restrictions keeping students at home for the balance of the previous school year, this school year students got to enjoy the space. The room, located on the main floor of the 1902 building, is a comfortable place to unwind and relax as well as access information about mental health and wellness.



COMPOSTING PROGRAM

In April SMA's Green Team successfully launched a school-wide composting program. The Team worked diligently and resourcefully throughout the school year to fundraise by way of making and selling beeswax wraps and Christmas gift packages. From the start of the program in April to the end of May, the program collected 727 kg (about

twice the weight of a large motorcycle) of waste from ten collections. The composting program is made possible by support from the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, Academy Bistro, a grant from Learning for a Sustainable Future, everyone who purchased fundraising items, teacher advisors and the dedication of the Green Team.



Green Team on the first day of composting



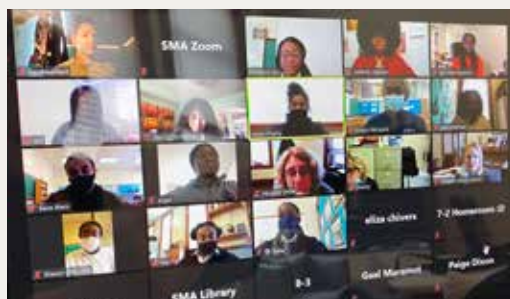
Making beeswax wraps

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In February SMA celebrated Black History Month for the second consecutive year. Grade 12 student Oluwadamilola (Dami) Ojo '21 began this initiative last year and this year she, and a dedicated group of students, curated and created activities that took place all month long. Activities were mostly virtual and included educational pieces read during morning announcements, spoken word and slam poetry, educational games, cultural food and a Black-owned business basket raffle. In March, Dami met virtually with Councillor Markus Chambers (St. Norbert—Seine River) to provide him with highlights of the month. Councillor Chambers was inspired by the events and their success and provided all students on the Black History Month Committee with his 'Know Their Names' t-shirts.



l-r: Dami Ojo '21
Hana Chyzy '21



Virtual Slam Poetry

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

For the first time at SMA a group of students and teachers came together and formed an Asian Heritage Month committee to celebrate Asian Heritage Month in May. The committee began with in-person activities and on May 12 had to pivot online. The entire month was a celebration of Asian culture that included:

- A synopsis of significant Asian individuals and historical Asian events were shown on posters and on TV screens around the school.
- Literary works from various Asian authors and a recommended reading list was published for students.
- Numerous video messages from public figures were sent to SMA. View messages on our YouTube channel in the Asian Heritage Month playlist.
- Virtual meeting with Point Douglas Councillor Vivian Santos. Councillor Santos shared her inspiring story and answered questions.
- Student created artwork that represented a connection to their culture and curated playlists of Asian music were shared on SMA's Instagram and Facebook on May 19.
- Grade 12 student, Lily Francis, an executive member of the Asian Heritage Month Committee, along with her sister and mother, shared a video on how to make fried rice. The video and recipe were posted to SMA's Instagram and Facebook on May 26.



Virtual meeting with Councillor Santos

AROUND THE ACADEMY

SCIENCE

Grade 9 student Marissa Magsino was awarded first place and a cash award in the Sanofi Biogenius Canada Regional virtual science competition for her sustainability project, “Discovering the optimal environmental conditions to maximize the biodegradation of polystyrene using Tenebrio Molitor (mealworms)”. Marissa went onto receive the gold medal as well as other awards at the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium for this project. Marissa also participated in the virtual National Canada-Wide Science Fair in Ottawa.

Grade 10 student, Sophia Krak, won a medal and best individual physics engineering project award at the intermediate level (Physics) at the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium for her project, DREADD and the Slapdash Effect. Her mentor was Jarred Perron.



Marissa Magsino '24



Sophia Krak '23

ECONOMICS

In late May some students in our grade 12 Economics class took part in the Stu Clark New Venture Championships: High School Edition with the Asper School of Business. The competition was an academic opportunity to mimic the real world process of starting a new venture. Throughout the two-day virtual competition students competed in an elevator pitch and business plan presentation. Judges evaluated the feasibility, market opportunity and business model of the ventures. Ashlynn Argo, Lauren Douthart, Julia Madden, Sydney Ostir, Natalie Viebrock placed first in the Pitch competition and third in the Business Plan competition with their venture, Crocus & Co. Oluwadamilola (Dami) Ojo placed second in both the Business Plan and Pitch competitions with her company, Melan Unify.



MELAN UNIFY

ATHLETICS

Despite the pandemic the Flames Cross Country team competed in several open meets and a virtual race hosted by Athletics Manitoba. The Flames junior and senior teams both came out in top spot in the Athletics Manitoba race. Cadence Christie '22 placed first overall in all of the races the Flames competed in.

At the conclusion of the school year the Athletic Department presented the Sr. Mary Gorman Spirit Award to Lily Francis '21 and Cadence Christie '22 for their excellence in being role models and for the support and encouragement they provide to students.



Lily Francis '21



Cadence Christie '22



In April our Spark Newspaper Club paid tribute to SMA's remarkable Maintenance Team. On behalf of all students, Olivia Chivers '21 and Gabby Barone '21 presented the team with a thank-you banner, designed by Olivia. The students stated, “Every year our maintenance team works tirelessly to keep our school clean and comfortable. This year, the team does everything they have always done, and they also keep us safe! We are so lucky to have them and we thank them!” The banner hangs outside of the cafeteria.



CLASS OF 2021

The Class of 2021 showed incredible perseverance and tenacity as they spent their grade 12 year navigating the pandemic with a mix of in-class learning in cohorts and remote learning. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, typical and significant events that signify an end to a St. Mary's Academy education such as the Grade 12 Retreat, Graduation Mass and Brunch and Grad Dinner and Dance were not available to the Class of 2021. Graduates received a 'Class of 2021' lawn sign that was delivered to their home by faculty and staff during the first half of June. On June 23, SMA was able to host a staggered walk-through of the school whereby graduates picked up their grad gowns and caps, signed the Alumnae Register and posed for a photo on the front steps of the 1902 building. Additionally, graduates received gifts from the Alumnae Association, Mission and Charism Department and the Parents' Guild.

CONVOCATION

On June 28, 109 members of the Class of 2021 convoked from SMA at a drive-in ceremony at Assiniboia Downs. Graduates and family members sat in their cars while watching convocation on jumbo screens and listening from their car radio. Graduates took to the stage individually to receive their diploma. The Salutatory Address was given by Miss Caitlyn Willison '21 and the Class Valedictorian was Miss Kelsey Smart '21. The Address to the Graduates was given by alumna Christine Cyr '90. The ceremony was livestreamed for the community.



l-r: Caitlyn Willison '21, Christine Cyr '90, Kelsey Smart '21



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

35 years: Marie Desaulniers

25 years: Christopher O'Donoghue

10 years: Laura Davey '05 and Adriane McElrea

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Eliana Dell'Acqua '03

Michelle Garlinski '88, SNJM

Stephanie Zirino '07

MATERNITY LEAVE

Rebecca Davedow

Alyssa Dotse

Sylvia Falconer (Bator '01)

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

Cindy Cordeiro: English Language Arts Teacher

Paula Fleury: French and Advanced French Teacher

Megan Grant: Math and Science Teacher

Vincent Ocampo: Communications Coordinator and Graphic Designer

RETIREMENTS



Maria Martino
15 years



Connie Yunyk
(Scerbo '77)
23 years



Janet Zonneveld
21 years

ALUMNAE



Sally Taylor-Alexander '77
Alumnae Association President

MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

WOW, is an understatement for the past year! COVID-19 presented challenges to many this year, including the Alumnae Association Board. In past years, the Alumnae Association hosts many annual events including Homecoming, Drinks Under the Dome and December Celebration Mass & Tea, but this year was quite different. Due to restrictions, all of our gather-

ings were cancelled except for our Virtual Card making night in November. A small group of alumnae attended this event under the instruction of Ms. Carmen Sichewski '86, Clothing and Textiles teacher, creating a lovely set of four occasional greeting cards. Thank you to all who attended! Additionally, we held our meetings virtually including the Annual General Meeting (AGM) last December. Although it was not in person, it was wonderful to see out of province participation due to meeting virtually.

In lieu of gatherings and other events, committee work began in January 2021 to review and update the Alumnae Board Constitution and Terms of Reference. This was an important project to complete as it defined the future roles and responsibilities of the Alumnae Association Board and the Alumnae Relations Office. A summary of the review project is on the next page. Please review the items and join us at the virtual

AGM on September 25 to vote in these changes. If you are interested in joining the Alumnae Association Board or volunteering at any future events, please send an email to: alumnae@smamb.ca.

Each year the Alumnae Association Board of Directors awards the Alumnae Spirit Award at Convocation. This award is given to a student who embodies the spirit of a SMA alumnae, not only in her academics but most importantly through her involvement in student life. Congratulations to this year's recipient Kelsey Smart.

The "New Normal" will eventually happen, but in the meantime, I would like to commend all of the St. Mary's Academy faculty and staff for doing an incredible job of making sure that everyone is safe within the community. Way to Hold High the Torch!

Back in 2017, after attending my 40th reunion, I was approached to join the Alumnae Association Board and I am so grateful for the opportunity to have met other alumnae from a variety of graduating classes. In these past four years of service I appreciate the new connections I have made that otherwise would not have been possible. I know there is much work yet to be done and I am excited to pass the torch onto our incoming Chair, Kaitlyn Militano '06, who will take over leadership after the virtual AGM on September 25.

We look forward to seeing many alumnae throughout the coming year.

ALUMNAE CONSTITUTION UPDATES

In January the Alumnae Association Board began a review and update to the Alumnae Association Board Constitution and Terms of Reference. The goal of the Review project was to align and strengthen the relationship and objectives of the Alumnae Association Board of Directors and the Alumnae Relations Office.

The five main outcomes of this project are: 1) Revised Alumnae Association Vision, 2) New Terms of Reference, 3) New Board Manual, 4) Revised Constitution, 5) Optimization of a planning process and a new Alumnae Engagement Survey to inform the new Alumnae Engagement Plan.

Below is the proposed revised Vision of the SMA Alumnae Association:

VISION *(Amendments italicized bold)*

The St. Mary's Academy Alumnae Association promotes continued connection to the Academy and the diverse, inter-generational sisterhood of alumnae. ***This connection underpins the purpose for gathering which in turn ignites the action to serve and sustains the desire to be an SMA ambassador for life.***

Inspired by Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, who believed that an entire society can be transformed if the minds and hearts of young women are properly nurtured, our vision is that each alumna:

- ***Treasure her connection*** to the school and other alumnae.
- ***Engage in gathering*** and networking initiatives to strengthen her connection to SMA and other alumnae
- Support St. Mary's Academy and its mission through ***service for the greater good of the community.***
- ***Continue to 'Hold High the Torch' by being an ambassador*** and striving for excellence in her personal and professional life.

Full project summary and survey results are available at smamb.ca/alumnae. Proposed revisions to update the Constitution will be presented for approval at the virtual Annual General Meeting on September 25, 2021. All alumnae are welcome to attend the AGM to learn more and find out how to become involved with the Association.

Constitution Review Committee Members:

Athena Dinos '83: Co-chair

Amy Houston '03: Co-chair and Manager of Alumnae Relations

Marla Armstrong (Smendziuk '90)

Sara Craven '08

Sally Taylor-Alexander '77: Alumnae Association Board Chair

Kaitlyn Militano '06

Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77): Past President



Amy Houston '03
Manager of Alumnae Relations

MESSAGE FROM ALUMNAE RELATIONS

This year as we continued to navigate the pandemic we welcomed the opportunity to re-imagine how to engage with alumnae. We curated and published a great deal of content for our online platforms and were delighted to see the many responses.

Although we could not physically gather for Homecoming or the Alumnae in Business: "Navigating Covid-19" event, we shared many laughs and smiles over Zoom. Some Commemorative Year classes hosted Zoom reunions at which a broad range of alumnae from Canada, United States, England, Netherlands and beyond gathered virtually. It is our goal to continue to incorporate virtual components into future events. We continue to watch our Alumnae Regional Private Facebook Groups grow with new members! This is a great place to connect with alumnae of all ages that are living in your region. Check smamb.ca/alumnae to see regional and class year groups. If you would like to start a group for your graduation year, please contact me at ahouston@smamb.ca.

Did you know that the Alumnae Association established a Bursary Fund in 1975? Alumnae are welcome to contribute to this fund which provides tuition support to students in need. We look forward to seeing this fund grow and support our young women for years to come. Donations can be made at smamb.ca/support-us.

The key to the success of alumnae engagement is YOU! Your continued support, feedback and participation is what allows us to continually improve our gathering and service experiences for alumnae. Thank you to all who took time to engage!

I look forward to hearing from you, please reach out to me anytime. Wishing you blessings of happiness and good health.

FIND ALUMNAE NEWS AND
EVENTS AT
SMAMB.CA/ALUMNAE

REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1960

An intimate gathering was held at St. Mary's Academy in September 2020 for the Class of 1960's 60th reunion.

Pictured:

Front row, l-r: Janet Whitely (Maillard), Valerie Wadephul (Drewrys), Joan Conway (Anscomb), Christine Butterill (Keegan).

Second row, l-r: Joan Siran (Yarema), Janet Downs (Curran), Patricia Bozyk, Donna Musgrave (Duffield), Margaret Hucal (Koch).



Class of 1960

VIRTUAL REUNIONS

CLASSES OF 1975, 1980, 1990 AND 1995

Each of these classes hosted virtual reunions in October 2020. The reunions had visitors from all over Canada as well as the United States and London, England.



Class of 1975



Class of 1990

FUTURE VIRTUAL REUNIONS

Classes interested in virtual reunions are asked to contact Amy Houston at ahouston@smamb.ca.

ALUMNAE EVENTS



VIRTUAL CARD MAKING

On November 18, 2020 alumnae and friends joined Ms. Carmen Sichewski '86, Clothing and Textiles teacher, for an enjoyable evening making greeting cards. Together the group assembled a unique set of four occasional cards (card sets were mailed to attendees in advance).



ALUMNAE INDUCTION

At the end of June the Class of 2021 participated in a come-and-go Alumnae Induction at SMA. Graduates signed the alumnae register, received gifts from the Alumnae Association, the Mission and Charism Department and Parents' Guild and posed for a photo on the front steps.

CAREER AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

CONNECTING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW WITH THE LEADERS OF TODAY

The St. Mary's Academy Career and Mentorship Program aims to provide high school students with resources and guidance to help them navigate post-secondary planning and career exploration. Drawing on our vast and diverse alumnae network, the Career and Mentorship Program invites community members to participate in a variety of events including career presentations, panel interviews and casual group conversations about the first few years outside of the Academy.

CAREER SPEAKERS FOR GRADE 9 STUDENTS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON EVENT | OCTOBER 9, 2020

Alumnae participants:

Meera Wildeman (Bahadoosingh '00)
Detective with the Major Crimes Unit, Winnipeg Police Service

Emily Enns '07
Marketing Manager, Farm at Hand/ Telus Agriculture

Krista Halayko (Gelmich '90)
Engineer, MB Hydro

Andrea McLandress (Litwin '88)
Natural Resources, Management, Indigenous Populations

Jessica Stothers (Wansbutter '00)
Registered Nurse and completing Nurse Practitioner Masters Degree



Top row, l-r: Andrea McLandress (Litwin '88), Krista Halayko (Gelmich '90), Emily Enns '07
Bottom row, l-r: Jessica Stothers (Wansbutter '00), Amy Houston '03, Meera Wildeman (Bahadoosingh '00)

CAREER SPEAKERS FOR GRADE 10 STUDENTS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON EVENT | MARCH 12, 2021

Alumnae participants:

Anika Campeau '12
Certified Orthotist Resident, Snider Orthotics

Alanna de Korompay '02
Forensic Toxicologist, San Diego Sheriff's Crime Laboratory

Heather Wallace (Crocker '94)
Project Engineer, Manitoba Hydro

Iris Yudai '89
Senior Reporter, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)



l-r: Iris Yudai '89, Heather Wallace (Crocker '94), Anika Campeau '12

ASK AN ALUM PANEL DISCUSSION FOR GRADES 11 AND 12 STUDENTS VIRTUAL EVENT | APRIL 8, 2021

Alumnae participants:

Alisha Beaudoin '11
Fourth year medical student at the University of Manitoba

Samantha Hale '09
Associate at Lenczner Slaght LLP

Danielle Krzyszczyk '14
Studying for Doctorate in
Clinical Psychology at
William James College



Clockwise from top: Danielle Krzyszczyk '14,
Alisha Beaudoin '11, Samantha Hale '09

SEEKING ALUMNAE VOLUNTEERS

ASK AN ALUM | November 25, 2021

Seeking recent SMA grads (within 6 years) to engage in conversation with Grades 11 and 12 students about post secondary life, expectations and involvement.

PANEL INTERVIEWS | April 20, 2022

Seeking approximately 60 alumnae and parents to act as panelists. Participants should have a passion for mentorship, career development and a minimum of five years work experience.

Please express your interest to Amy Houston,
ahouston@smamb.ca.

STAY CONNECTED!

Both St. Mary's Academy and our Alumnae Department are on social media. Connect with us!



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
Instagram, Facebook, YouTube: @smawinnipeg
Twitter: @smawpg

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY ALUMNAE
Instagram, Twitter: @smaalumwpg
Facebook: @smaalumnaewpg

2020-2021 ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Sally Taylor-Alexander '77
Vice President: Kaitlyn Militano '06
Treasurer: Athena Dinos '83
Secretary: Emma Sherren '11
Past President: Michelle Saltel (Moore '95)
Marla Armstrong (Smendziuk '90)
Yvonne Bayer-Cheung '91
Sara Craven '08
Cathie Cronin-Licharson '75
Jaime Duha (Prystenski '07)
Carolyn Eva Meadows '83
Marcia McKenzie (Maia '92)
Mary-Ann Mitchler '82
Maria Mitousis '95
Honourary Member: Sr. Marylyn Gibney, SNJM
SMA President: Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77)
Manager of Alumnae Relations: Amy Houston '03

GRAPEVINE

1939 Phyllis O'Neil (Avery) celebrated her 100th birthday with Mass at her home parish in Richmond, BC on August 24, 2021.

1941 Happy 80th reunion to the Class of 1941!

1948 Violet Knight (Blain) resides in Loughton, Essex in the United Kingdom. As Homecoming approaches, she fondly remembers her last visit to Winnipeg in the Fall of 2018. Last year she celebrated her 90th 'covid style' birthday in her decorated gazebo with a small family picnic and video calls from friends and family around the world; a unique memory she will treasure forever. With gatherings and outings being restricted, she keeps connected with daily chats. The pandemic may have cancelled her travel plans to Edinburgh and a river cruise down the Douro in Portugal last year, but she has been able to enjoy time at her daughter's place in Somerset instead. Violet sends her greetings to all alumnae!

Violet stays connected with Amy Houston in the Alumnae Relations Office through letter mail. Violet writes a couple of times each year and Amy looks forward to the air mail letter which is undoubtedly signed, 'In great admiration, Vi'.

1951 Happy 70th reunion to the Class of 1951!

1958 Sheila Williams (Keegan) lives in Burlington, ON and does not get back to Winnipeg very often however, memories of SMA stay with her. Her love of music began as a little girl with participation in choirs and musicals at the Academy. This laid the groundwork for a lifelong involvement in and enjoyment of church choirs and the organization of drama and musicals with students in schools where she taught. In retirement, Sheila is involved in community concerts and theatre productions, many of which remind her of the fun she had on SMA's stage. *Sheila is pictured on the far left with family.*



1960 Maureen Kolodie (Smith)

and her husband live in Winnipeg surrounded by their grandchildren. She spent the winter reading and watching her grandkids skate in their backyard. Maureen shares the following memory: “I was watching Kelly & Michael on CTV and it reminded me of an incident that occurred in my sewing class with Sister Gonzaga. It was colour day and I wore a red skirt and pink top. Sister Gonzaga said, “You should never wear pink and red together.” But today, there is Kelly Ripa wearing a pink skirt, red top and red shoes. Sister Gonzaga would not be impressed! Also, the day before colour day we were all reminded to dress tastefully, and if one was wearing a sweater, “it should be tight enough to show that you’re a woman, but loose enough to show that you’re a lady.”



1961 Happy 60th reunion to the Class of 1961!



1967 Bernadette Gabriel (Zahorodna) is the President of the Sokol Polish Folk Ensemble where she sings and organizes concerts. Her other love is being a liturgical church decorator for all occasions. She is a proud mother of two successful children. This year she was a Manitoba 150 Honour Medal recipient, nominated by Cathy Cox, Minister of Sports, Culture and Heritage.



1970 Wendy Maximilian (Loepp) moved to Victoria, BC, four years ago. She looks forward to connecting with alumnae in the Victoria and Vancouver areas. She is a Service Director for Air Canada and celebrates her 50th anniversary in aviation this year. She is hopeful to be back in the air soon.

1971 Happy 50th reunion to the Class of 1971!

FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT HOMECOMING ON SEPTEMBER 25, CLASS CAPTAINS, REUNIONS AND FACEBOOK GROUPS VISIT WWW.SMAMB.CA/ALUMNAE.

1973 Late in May, **Joy Marsh (MacDonald)** contacted graduates of 1973 to inquire if there was interest in jointly purchasing a brick for the SMA Rose Garden. With the aid of the class Facebook group, very soon there were enough contributions to purchase a flagstone and a small donation to put towards the Bursary Fund. To stay in touch with Class of 1973, all are encouraged to join the ‘SMA 1973’ Facebook group (go to smamb.ca/alumnae to find the link). The 50th reunion is in 2023 and it would be nice to have as many as possible connected.



l-r: Joy Marsh (MacDonald), Joan Spice (Halliday), Marian McGurran-Scott, Joan La Rue-Van Es Liv Furgale (Ludkiewicz), Michelle Meade (Blanchard), Joan Blake (McGibbon) Deborah Semchuk, Dale Ketcheson (Scott)

1973 Dale Ketcheson (Scott) shares the following: “I fondly remember one of my first after school art classes in 1967, taught by Sister Phillipine. As a grade seven beginner art student, I was sitting at a table, working with oil pastels. The subject was displayed nearby: a composition of wax fruit and a raffia covered wine bottle. My mother, who in her time at SMA also took classes from Sister Phillipine, arrived to pick me up. She looked at the fruit & wine bottle and said, “I think that is the same wine bottle I sketched”. Sister Phillipine went and found a different bottle and put it on the table, and said, “No, this is the bottle you sketched”. Sister Phillipine was incredibly talented and I remember our time together fondly—I still think of her when I occasionally paint.” Dale’s mother is **Agnes Scott (Lohr ’38)**. She attended SMA for grade school and received her B.A. through St. Mary’s College in 1938.



Sister Phillipine

1975 Teresa Petriw (Prokopanko) has been an avid quilter for 30 years. This past year she was a part of a Book Club Quilt Challenge which was featured in the Canadian Quilters Association magazine in November 2020. Her group selected the book *Switchback* and everyone created a quilted item that was inspired by the book. Teresa’s quilt featured cool blues and a swirling pattern reminiscent of the chill of a mountain snowstorm. Teresa lives in Lethbridge, AB. She welcomes visits from classmates when their travels take them to Southern Alberta. *Teresa is pictured with her quilt.*



1976 Georgina Brown (Marino) has spent the past year as a primary caregiver for a dear old friend who required extended care. Her husband returned to teaching electrical courses at Sheridan College in Brampton. The weekly commute has been 'like dating all over again'. Georgina holds down the fort south of Peterborough and they 'vacation' together on weekends. The couple enjoys picking up take-out meals and going for al fresco dinners at their favourite places in the Kawartha Lakes cottage country area. They are looking forward to putting their first cabin cruiser, a vintage 1984 Bayliner, in the water for the first time and enjoying the breathtaking vistas of Lake Ontario.

1977 Kitty Kwan recalls cherished time with classmates and beloved homeroom teacher, Sister Edith. Although it's been eight years since Kitty last visited Winnipeg from her home in Hong Kong, she hopes to get back soon.



1979 Kathleen Kiernan authored a book, *Big Feelings Come and Go*, with her colleague and in collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Child Protection. The book is available to download for free in nine languages. Printed copies in English and French can be purchased from the Canadian Centre for Child Protection's website, www.protectchildren.ca.

1980 Caroline Waterman, a proud super sixer, attended theatre school at Dalhousie where she studied theatrical costuming with Robert Doyle. She then moved to England where she worked for a while at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art before becoming a self-employed costume supervisor. She has worked for the National Theatre, the Royal Opera House, the English National Opera, various West End theatres and Glyndebourne.



1981 Happy 40th reunion to the Class of 1981!

1981 Josefa Villafana began her teaching career at Frontier School Division and Lunenburg County District School Board in Nova Scotia, which she says was by far her best and favourite teaching experience to date. Upon her return to Winnipeg she taught in many classrooms from elementary to junior high, including one and two room school houses. Josefa also spent time in support positions such as resource and literacy support and worked for three years with WSD's Interdivisional Student Services which led her to Villa Rosa and Manitoba Youth Justice. Most recently, she worked for three years in a joint program with Interdivisional and Marymount. Although she had planned to retire last June, she returned to the classroom this year to bring a close to her teacher career. Josefa has fond memories of her classmates and of SMA.



1982 Pamela Mala Sinha is an award-winning Canadian actress (ER, Huff, The Newsroom) and writer/creator. Currently she is developing an original drama television series called Nirvana which is being produced by Sienna Films. Pamela has also completed a feature film called Happy Place, which is based on the play of the same name which premiered to critical acclaim in Toronto, followed by sold-out runs in Vancouver and Winnipeg in 2018.

Pamela was the recipient of Canada's prestigious Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding New Play (playwright) and Outstanding Lead Actress for her solo debut play, *Crash*. Her third play, *New*, will have its world premiere this fall at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre in Winnipeg followed by its Toronto premiere at Necessary Angel. Also, Pamela's half-hour dramedy, *Maya*, has been optioned by Hawkeye Pictures in Toronto. Her writing has been published by Random House and Scirocco Press in Canada and Bloomsbury Publishing in the UK.

1988 Sherri Sosa (Pucci) has spent the majority of her career in the entertainment industry in Las Vegas. She is a prominent female leader in her industry and most recently accepted a senior position as President of Venue Nation for Live Nation. She is an advocate for women's leadership in business and she will be sharing her insights with students in SMA's Career and Mentorship program this year.



GRAPEVINE STORIES

ALUMNAE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A STORY IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE TORCH LIGHT ARE ASKED TO REACH OUT TO AMY HOUSTON
AHOUSTON@SMAMB.CA.



1989 Gena Chatto celebrates her 25th year as an optometrist in Colorado, where she shares a practice with her husband, Roger. The couple celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this year and are blessed with two children, Ryan and Ryli. Beyond optometry and family life, Gena's creative pursuits include photography as well as designing websites as an independent

contractor for 360 Multimedia LLC. Gena enjoyed attending Homecoming in 2019 and she sends love and well wishes to dear SMA friends.

1989 Amanda MacRae, M.A. has been the CEO of A & O Support Services for Older Adults for the past 16 years. During the pandemic, Amanda and her team coordinated many of their specialized programs and services to be accessed virtually, by phone and by contactless curbside delivery, which served thousands of seniors. Amanda is sharing the successes of these new innovative programs, many of which are the first of their kind in Canada, with other organizations and communities across the country.



1990 This year **Christine Cyr** was appointed Associate Vice-President Indigenous-Students, Community and Cultural Integration at the University of Manitoba. She has worked at the U of M for 20 years, most recently as Director of UM's Indigenous Student Centre. In June Christine addressed the graduating class of 2021 at Convocation. In 2015 she was one of five panelists in SMA's Burning Bright Speaker Series: Beyond The Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



1991 Happy 30th reunion to the Class of 1991!

1994 Nilufer and Saira '91 Rahman are sisters and independent filmmakers. In 2010 they established a company, Snow Angel Films Inc. As Canadian Muslim women of Bangladeshi descent, Saira and Nilufer aim to amplify diverse and marginalized voices and stories. Some of their notable projects include Arctic Mosque (CBC, APTN, feature documentary, 2013), Letter To A Terrorist (short film, 2015), Prairie Mosque (Bell/MTS, feature documentary, 2018) and The Year We Fasted Alone (documentary, 2021). Most recently they released a short film online called Still, in response to the hate-motivated killing of a Muslim family in London, ON on June 6, 2021. The sisters hope to continue creating content that will engage, inspire, entertain and connect audiences for many years to come. *Pictured left is Nilufer and right is Saira.*



1995 Kathleen Moore is no stranger to the theatre world. This year she performed in Come From Away in Melbourne, Australia where she covered five out of six female roles. She says, "I don't think I've ever been so challenged in my career, than covering this many principal roles. So much detail to learn technically, let alone acting and singing as well!

It's a challenge I do not shy away from, and once out there on the stage, I enjoy every second." Being a freelance performing artist has allowed her to move between many different companies and work in venues she only dreamed of while a student at SMA. Kathleen got married in 2012 and lives in Bendigo, Victoria, where her husband works as a Librarian. COVID-19 inspired her to start her own singing and acting studio and run private singing lessons and masterclasses (Made in Manitoba Masterclass Series!) online. She also has a Blogcast (Blog+Podcast) about the perils and worries of turning 40. Additionally, Kathleen has some film projects to release in the near future.

PRIVATE FACEBOOK GROUPS

SOME GRADUATION YEARS HAVE PRIVATE FACEBOOK GROUPS. A LISTING IS FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE AT THE ADDRESS BELOW. IF YOUR CLASS WOULD LIKE A GROUP, CONTACT AMY HOUSTON AT [AHOUSTON@SMAMB.CA](mailto:ahouston@smamb.ca).

www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming/join-class-fb-group

1996 Happy 25th reunion to the Class of 1996!

1996 Alana Crocker has a Computer and Electrical Engineering degree from McGill and a Masters in Medical Engineering from the University of Toronto. She spent much of her career in Biomedical Field Management in Toronto and areas of the United States. Alana moved back to Winnipeg in 2015 with her young family. Since her return she has shifted gears and pursued work in the public sector with the City of Winnipeg, working as Manager of Development and Inspections. She enjoys the challenges of working in the public sector and hopes to provide mentorship to women in the industry.



1998 Last year, **Robynne Kazina** was the 2020 recipient of the LGBTQ2+ Chamber of Commerce Community Builder Award and the Canadian Bar Association Ally Award from the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Community Section. She has worked pro bono on many cases to bring legislative change to modernize Manitoba's laws on parentage and assisted reproduction—these changes are expected to pass this fall. She is well respected in the field of fertility

law and adoption, and was one of 15 lawyers who formed the ad hoc Association of Canadian Family and Fertility Lawyers (the only Manitoba participant) who advocated for revisions to federal regulations regarding surrogacy. She has shared her knowledge and expertise through presentations at Osgoode Hall, University of Manitoba and the Manitoba Bar Association to name a few.

2000 Lindsay McLeod received the Junior Varsity Girls Coach of the Year award for the 2019-2020 season from Basketball Manitoba. Lindsay coaches at Dakota Collegiate and the team went through last season undefeated. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 the provincial playoffs last spring were cancelled. It was 20 years ago that retired SMA teacher Deb May coached Lindsay and the SMA Flames in the Provincial Varsity Basketball finals.

2001 Happy 20th reunion to the Class of 2001!

2001 Adrienne Ball calls Texas home and hopes to be able to split her time between Texas and Costa Rica in the near future. She recently started a business as an online Holistic Health Coach at Wildly Healthy Coaching. Additionally, she continues to work in the fashion industry. She hopes to be able to travel to Winnipeg for her reunion in the fall and looks forward to re-connecting with many classmates.



2001 Andrea McLean (Young)

was married in 2016 and many of her bridesmaids were SMA grads. Her daughter Eleanor was born in 2019. Andrea earned a Masters in Education at University of Manitoba in 2018 and is a teacher in the St. James School Division.



2002 Joanne Zoleta received a Professional Engineer designation in September 2020. She is one of the Top 5 nominees for Employee of the Year with leading Industrial Developer, Beedie. When she reflects on her SMA education she is reminded of the empowerment and lifelong memories with great friends.

2003 Renée El-Gabalawy graduated from the University of Manitoba with her PhD in 2015 and she completed her Clinical Psychology residency at the Medical University of South Carolina in 2015. She works as an Associate Professor at the University of Manitoba in the Max Rady College of Medicine and Clinical Psychologist with Shared Health. Last winter she was featured in the Winnipeg Free Press for identifying and bringing awareness to the impact of delayed and cancelled surgeries as a result of COVID-19. Throughout the course of this year, her research and clinical practice has focused on adverse health events/medical trauma including psychological responses to COVID-19.



2003 After a 14 year dancing career in New York with Alvin Ailey Modern Dance Company and School, **Rachael McLaren** returned home to Winnipeg. Now settled with her family and two daughters, she has transitioned

her career to acting and teaching dance. Rachael has particular interest in supporting young Black and People of Colour dancers by exploring embodied expression, storytelling, and empowerment through dance. This year she was featured in a short CBC Arts documentary on YouTube titled, Ballet took her all over the world—now she's finally home. Rachel looks forward to this next chapter of motherhood and sharing her gifts with young dancers in Winnipeg.

2003 Delaney Vun is a partner at Fillmore Riley LLP and was selected for inclusion in the Best Lawyers in Canada list (from Winnipeg) in Corporate Law for 2021.

STAY CONNECTED

SUBMIT AN ADDRESS CHANGE OR PROVIDE AN UPDATE AT WWW.SMAMB.CA/ALUMNAE OR EMAIL AHOUSTON@SMAMB.CA.



2004 Alexandra Bolton has taken her passion and Masters in Drama Therapy to a whole new level as the new child life clown, Dr. Bloomsie, for HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital. She is the fourth clown in the program and Winnipeg was the first city in Canada to have a therapeutic clowning program for children.

2005 Rebecca Szymkow has spent her time in the arts and culture industry since she graduated. She first worked at Manitoba Theatre for Young People, then went to Paquin Artists Agency where she now works as an Artist Manager and runs a sync division at their music label, Birthday Cake. She is an innovator and ambassador for Keychange EU which works towards gender equality in the music industry.



2007 Shannon Del Bigio is the Associate Owner of Shoppers Drug Mart in the Tuxedo Shopping Centre. After graduating from Pharmacy at the University of Saskatchewan in 2016, Shannon moved to Alberta to practice pharmacy in both Edmonton and Calgary. In 2020, she was overjoyed to move back in Winnipeg to take over ownership of the store. Shannon is passionate for fitness and is an avid runner having completed nine full marathons, including Boston and London. She is an advocate for the benefit of mental well-being through the power of movement.



l-r: Ariadna Dlugosh, Maria Mitousis

2007 Ariadna Dlugosh joined Mitousis Lemieux Howard as an Associate last fall. Ariadna is one of six lawyers at the firm focused on family law. Alumna, lawyer and firm owner, **Maria Mitousis '95**, was awarded the Community Involvement Award from the Manitoba Bar Association in January 2021.

2009 Juliet Daet continues to practice Intellectual Property litigation in Ottawa. Her written submissions before the Federal Court in *Pentastar Transport Ltd vs. FCA US LLC (Chrysler)*, where she acted as co-counsel, were recently chosen for publication in *Litigator*, a national legal publication featuring arguments from leading cases in different areas of law. The case of *Pentastar* is considered to be the first and leading case in trademark administrative law after the law was changed in 2019 by the Supreme Court of Canada.



2009 Samantha Hale served as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honourable Suzanne Côté at the Supreme Court of Canada for the 2020-2021 term. She is currently an Associate at Lenczner Slaght LLP, a boutique litigation firm in Toronto, where her practice is focused on general commercial matters, administrative law and appellate advocacy.



2010 Chelsea Caldwell graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School in 2017 and then moved to Ottawa to work for the Department of Justice as Legal Counsel. While working in the legal unit at Global Affairs Canada she worked on varied files from commercial transactions, the repatriation of Canadians during the pandemic and international child abductions. Chelsea recently went on secondment to the Office of the Counsel to the Clerk of the Privy Council, which supports the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

2011 Happy 10th reunion to the Class of 2011!



2011 Alisha Beaudoin graduated with a Bachelor of Kinesiology in 2015. She starts her final year of medical school this fall at the University of Manitoba. This past year Alisha received a diagnosis of a rare form of Lupus. She spent most of the year in rehabilitation to regain the use of her legs and adapt to living in a wheelchair. She is excited to return to medical school and graduate in 2022.

2013 Michelle Paluszek completed her Master's degree in Clinical Psychology in 2020 and is now working on her PhD. Michelle is avidly involved in research, with over 10 peer-reviewed publications in scientific journals. Her research interests involve understanding the complex relationship between stressful or traumatic events and wellbeing. She was awarded the Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral) to support her education and dissertation research over the remaining three years of her program.

2014 Mira Villegas graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Manitoba in 2019 and is a third year medical student. She holds positions on the Canadian Federation of Medical Students and Manitoba Medical Students' Association. Mira is passionate about promoting diversity and inclusivity among medical students and she assisted with a nationwide mentorship program for Filipino youth.

2014 Nicole Bailey graduated from the Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry at the University of Manitoba in May with her Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD). She began working as a dentist at Dental Image Therapy Centre this summer.

2015 Abbey Meadows completed a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology at the University of Winnipeg in 2019 and is now completing a Masters in Science in Community Health at the University of Manitoba. This fall she begins Medical School at the University of Manitoba.



2016 Morgan Burr graduated with a Bachelor degree in Kinesiology, majoring in Adapted Physical Activity. She specialized in Autism Spectrum Disorder and Behavioural Management and uses movement and physical activity as a tool to reduce aggressive behaviours in the individuals she supports. She is working at a day program in Winnipeg as the Movement Lead and a member of the Clinical Behaviour Team and hopes to further her studies with a Master of Disability Studies at the University of Manitoba.



Mackenzie DeiCont '17 and Atlin Reichardt '16 co-chaired this past year's Shinerama Campaign at the Asper School of Business with the help of three other alumnae, **Shea Studler '16, Felicia Boersch '16 and Talia Gowdar '15**. The campaign raised over \$13,000 in support of Cystic Fibrosis Canada. (Pictured in order names appear in the story).



2016 Laura Gilleshammer graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor in Commerce (Honours) this spring. She enjoyed spending four years on the St. Paul's College Students' Association in various roles. She is now completing a Graduate Diploma in Accounting at Western University to begin to work toward her CPA designation. Upon graduation from the program, she will work at

Ernst & Young LLP in Toronto in 2022 in the assurance practice. Laura also runs a small jewelry business called Modern Meets Retro. She donates a portion of proceeds to local charities each month.

2016 Tory Micklash graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Bachelor degree in Kinesiology with a minor in Psychology. Tory played as a goalie for the UBC Thunderbirds hockey team and leaves a legacy of 4th all-time in goals against average among other accolades. She hopes to pursue a professional hockey career in Europe next season.

2017 Sanjam Panag completed a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Winnipeg in Conflict Resolution Studies. From her experience completing her practicum with the office of Senator Marilou McPhedran and working with the Ministers Regional Office she was selected as one of six provincial legislative interns and will work with the NDP provincial caucus this year ahead of the election. Sanjam is passionate about a community led project titled Rainbow Butterfly—a warming hut project that honours murdered and missing Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ+ individuals.

2018 Jasmine Tavares (second from left) was the Senior Stick at St. Paul's College this past year. She is pursuing a Bachelor degree in Psychology and hopes to work in the Criminal Psychology field. Jasmine's aunt, **Amanda Camara '09** (far left) is the Director of Admissions & Marketing at St. Paul's High School. Jasmine's mom, **Sylvia Camara Tavares '96** (far right) is a Public Health Nurse working on the COVID-19 community response team.



2020 Katie Sierhius will pursue studies in Human Physiology at Gonzaga University on a rowing scholarship this fall. She took up rowing in 2017 and attended the Canada Games that same year, went to the Western Canada Games in 2019 and plans on participating in the Games in 2022. She trained at the Winnipeg Rowing Club with coach and alumna, **Janine Stephens (Hanson '01)**. Katie is a passionate supporter of cancer research and participates in the Dragon Boat Festival each year.



2020 Chrissa Constantinides was a recipient of the Folklorama Scholarship last year. She proudly celebrates her Greek heritage and is actively involved with Folklorama celebrations each year. Chrissa has been a Youth Ambassador and performs as a member of the Kefi Greek Folk Dancers of Manitoba. She has completed her first year of Sciences at University of Manitoba and hopes to pursue a career in healthcare.

BIRTHS

Neela Kumari | July 19, 2020
to Asha (Chahal '03) and Sonny Bhanot

Aurelia Lina | July 23, 2020
to Natasha (Rossol '10) and Chris Beaudoin

Emma Joy | August 5, 2020
to Mallory (Gomez '05) and Christian Pledger

Laya Lynn | August 10, 2020
to Lindsey (MacDonald '04) and Andrew Parkes

Giada Rose | August 12, 2020
to Maria (Colosimo '06) and Nick Differ

Antonia Joan | August 20, 2020
to Christine Mendes '03 and Jason Krause

Leo Kenneth | August 27, 2020
to Laura Davey '05 and Michael Banias

Ethan Paul | September 3, 2020
to Christine (Zielonko '08) and Justin Vocadlo

Carter Mason | September 4, 2020
to Stephanie (Primeau '11) and Travis Trumbla

Wesley Komishon | September 5, 2020
to Allison Komishon '04 and Stefan Bars

Swayze Jean | September 10, 2020
to Lindsey Fennel '07 and Ryan Sandul

Brooke | September 14, 2020
to Alexa (Drepko '05) and Shane Yanke

Weston Layne | September 21, 2020
to Kori (Wachniak '03) and Tyler Osmond

Sawyer Jean | September 21, 2020
to Kelcie (Chiswell '06) and Brad Ryant

Sophie Lynn | September 24, 2020
to Lyndsey (O'Connor '09) and Quin Wiebe

Wesley Valentine | September 29, 2020
to Samantha Beiko '07 and Peter Benoit

Mira Gemma | October 2, 2020
to Krissy Jarema '02 and Kevin Leander

Sage | October 14, 2020
to Staci Burridge '08 and Dave Strike

Vera Elizabeth | October 17, 2020
to Melissa (Morrow '06) and Kyle Meilleur

Willa Stevie | November 10, 2020
to Carolyn (Bulman '04) and Nick Gilbert

Cade Johan | November 30, 2020
to Andrea (Smith '06) and Daniel Wessels

Cole Lawrence Leonard | December 1, 2020
to Lindsey (Reid '01) and Dorian Anneck

Theodore Ambrose | December 29, 2020
to Katie Dubiensi '09 and Chris Chipman

Jack Oliver | January 12, 2021
to Larissa (Yunyk '08) and Jesse Tamblyn

Luna Maria | January 12, 2021
to Ximena (Orellana '02) and Geoff Mathews

Lilah James | February 4, 2021
to Mackenzie (Carlson '08) and Luke Dempsey

Jacob Emerson | February 8, 2021
to Chelsea (Shepherd '07) and Lucas Wazney

Isla Gabriela Henryka | February 23, 2021
to Patricia Dasiewicz-Nerman '04 and Seth Nerman

Luka Loe | February 28, 2021
to Daria Lukie '09 and Chad Deprez

Theodore David | March 7, 2021
to Emily (Enns '07) and Kurtis Van Wallegghem

Maya Hendrix | March 20, 2021
to Rachael McLaren '03 and Brian Chipman

Bijou Alexandra | April 19, 2021
to Lara (Koscielny '00) and Mike Johnson

Olivia Alice | April 20, 2021
to Kathryn (Patrick '05) and Joel Deeley

Naavya Mayumi | June 1, 2021
to Delaney Vun '03 and Bhavesh Mistry

Maya Dawn | June 9, 2021
to Meera (Bahadoosingh '00) and Andre Wildeman

Sophie Lynne Adele | June 17, 2021
to Melissa Kies '01 and Russell Audette

Maddox Quin | July 11, 2021
to Maxine (Lam '06) and Winson Ly

Peyton Simone Brenda | July 16, 2021
to Samantha (Jones '03) and Bryce Osborne

IN MEMORIAM

WITH SORROW ST. MARY'S ACADEMY ACKNOWLEDGES ALUMNAE AND STAFF WHO RETURNED HOME TO GOD PRIOR TO AUGUST 2021.

Della Lavallee (Kohnen '44)
Anna McCarthy (Finlay '45)
Margaret Horner (Pyne '48)
Joan McKinnon (Millen '48, Commercial '49)
Marguerite Raine (O'Reilly '49)
Carol Robertson (Dalton '49)
Sister Mary Rose (Anselm) Hammerling, O.S.B. (College '50)
Marilyn Solodiuk (Doran '51)
Theresa Dilger '52 (Grade 11)
Gloria Alcock (Hunter '54)
Margaret Ritchie (Lester '55)
Marilyn Gail Chivers (Johnson '57)
Bernadette Groinus (Pyra '58 Grade 11, '59 Commercial)
Shanley Parkinson (Ross '58 Grade 11, '59 Grade 12)
Judith Wolfenden (Curran '58 Grade 11, '59 Grade 12)
Catherine Macpherson (Heuberger '59 Grade 12)
Georgette Dragan (Perron '60)
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Doreen Murray (Taylor '62 Grade 11)
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Lisa Mesman-Raynayo '82
Charlene Petrash '82
Anita Siemens (Lambert '82)
Lauren Lu '84
Emily Middagh '16



Sr. Carol Peloquin, SNJM
Former SMA teacher

THE MANITOBA 150 WOMEN TRAILBLAZERS

Early in 2020 as Manitobans were preparing to celebrate the province's 150th anniversary, the Nellie McClung Foundation called for nominations for the Manitoba 150 Women Trailblazer Awards. These Trailblazer Awards were to "honour Nellie McClung's vision by recognizing the spirit of her life's work being advanced by women leaders of today or throughout Manitoba's history."

The Manitoba 150 Women Trailblazers recipients were announced on January 28, 2021, the 105th Anniversary of most Manitoba women being the first in Canada to receive the right to vote. St. Mary's Academy was honoured to have many members of our community receive the award. Congratulations to recipients and nominees.



Top: The Manitoba Community of The Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary



Right: Sisters of Charity of Montreal (the Grey Nuns)

TRAILBLAZER NOMINEES

Left to right:

Aglae Lorena "Dollee" Chevrier 1895

Dr. Reeni Soni (Bose '85)

Parusia Purohit '91

Johanna Seier '11



Image not available



TRAILBLAZER RECIPIENTS

The Manitoba Community of The Sisters
of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM)
Sisters of Charity of Montreal (the Grey Nuns)
Sr. Angelica of Mary, SNJM
Sr. Luc d'Antioche, SNJM
Sr. Agathe Dorge, SNJM
Sr. Léonne Dumesnil, SNJM

Sr. Carol Peloquin, SNJM
Sr. Geraldine MacNamara '55, SNJM
Mary Dyma (Sawczak '22)
Joan Mary Harland '32
Eira "Babs" Friesen (Charles '36)
Leanne Boyd '69
Honourable Judge Kimberly Prost '76



Left to right:
Sr. Angelica of Mary, SNJM
Sr. Sister Luc d'Antioche, SNJM
(Photo credit: Societe Historique de
Saint-Boniface)
Sr. Agathe Dorge, SNJM
Sr. Carol Peloquin, SNJM



Left to right:
Sr. Geraldine MacNamara '55, SNJM
Sr. Léonne Dumesnil, SNJM
Mary Dyma (Sawczak '22)
Joan Mary Harland '32



Left to right:
Eira "Babs" Friesen (Charles '36)
Leanne Boyd '69
Honourable Judge Kimberly Prost '76

MESSAGE FROM ADVANCEMENT & ADMISSIONS



Kerri Moore (McIvor '94)
Director of Advancement and Admissions

In a year of much change and uncertainty, one thing that has stayed the same is the amazing support from the SMA community. I find it incredibly rewarding to serve our community by working with our supporters who want to give back.

We are grateful for our donors who enabled us to distribute over \$365,000 in bursary funding to 86 students. Thanks are also extended to the family, friends

and classmates of Brenda Proskan '78 who established a scholarship in her memory and to the five new members of the Marian Legacy Society who have included SMA in their estate plans.

The supporters of our Capital Asset Fund have enabled SMA to replace all of the windows in the 1902 and 1908 buildings over the next 3 years to keep our beautiful and historic campus in wonderful condition. The first phase of window installations was completed this summer.

To recognize the steadfast support and varied contributions from the SMA community, we are excited to unveil a few new recognition boards in the halls! The Marian Legacy Society Board now hangs in the 1902 wing, recognizing over 70 individuals who have left an estate gift to SMA or informed us of their intention to do so. If you're interested in learning more about the Marian Legacy Society, please contact me.

The Legacy & Hope Campaign for the Mother Marie-Rose Bursary Fund is in its final year. This school year is the last chance to have your name included on the Legacy & Hope Donor Wall in the Sheila Chipman Atrium, with a donation of \$1000 or more made before June 30, 2022. If you're interested, please contact me.

As Director of Admissions, I am thrilled to welcome 130 new families to SMA this Fall! This group of applicants has experienced SMA mainly through a computer screen during our first Virtual Open House, Zoom information sessions and virtual tours. I am excited to be able to welcome the newest group of SMAGs in person, tour them around our beautiful campus and treat them to some SMA hospitality!

I serve this amazing community by advancing its mission to educate young women in spirit, mind and body. If you are considering supporting SMA, please contact me at kmoore@smamb.ca or 204-478-6031. I am here to help!

LEGACY ROSE GARDEN

THE LEGACY ROSE GARDEN is in full bloom and the final phase of construction is almost complete!

The garden features 150 red roses, a fountain, benches, boulders, flagstones and bricks—all donated and inscribed by our SMA community. Thank you to the over 260 donors who supported this project, raising over \$140,000 for the Capital Asset Fund. This beautiful serene space will be enjoyed by generations of SMA girls to come. Stay tuned for details of the official Legacy Rose Garden launch, when guidelines allow us to gather.

THANK YOU PHASE 2 LEGACY ROSE GARDEN DONORS:

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Bernarr and Anne Bars (Spisich '69)
Kelly Olson (Jacobucci '80)
Lawrence Prout
R.J. Mathieson

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Patricia Bozyk '61
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The Academy is grateful for its many supporters who help advance our mission to nurture young women in spirit, mind and body, so that each student reaches her fullest potential as an individual created in God's image. Your generosity is essential in enabling the Academy to maintain the highest standards in student programs, upgrade and maintain our historic facility and provide bursary support for qualified applicants.

Sincere gratitude is extended to the following supporters who contributed between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

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Estate of Terence W.E. O'Connell
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St. Mary's Academy Foundation Inc. is a registered charity. Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$20.00 or more. If you would like to make a donation, you may do so online at smamb.ca/support-us or contact Kerri Moore (Mclvor '94), Director of Advancement & Admissions, at kmoore@smamb.ca or 204-478-6031.

COMING EVENTS

In an effort to keep students and staff as safe as possible, St. Mary's Academy is closed to visitors. Events listed with an asterisk will only take place in-person at St. Mary's Academy if the school reopens to visitors. Updates will be posted on www.smamb.ca.

1st Annual Parents' Guild Golf Tournament—SOLD OUT

September 16, 2021 | Kingswood Golf Course, Lasalle, MB
(re-scheduled from June 2021)

Virtual Homecoming

September 25, 2021

- Virtual Reunions are available for the classes of 2011, 2001, 1996, 1991, 1981, 1971, 1961, 1951 & 1941.
- Details at www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming.

Vancouver Chapter Reunion Luncheon

November 7, 2021 | Richmond Girl Guide House
4780 Blundell Road, Richmond, B.C. Time TBD

Details available at www.smamb.ca/alumnae. RSVP to Darlene Burns (Woerlee '69) at darlene_burns@telus.net.

***December Celebration**

December 5, 2021

- Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass at 11:00 AM in Holy Names Chapel.
- Christmas Tea: following Mass in the Sister Susan Wikeem Boardroom.
- Donations of non-perishable food items, new hats, mitts, scarves and monetary donations will be collected for Rossbrook House.

***Drinks Under The Dome—For the Classes of 2020 & 2021**

December 21, 2021 | Sr. Susan Wikeem Boardroom

- Class of 2021: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
- Class of 2020: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- Grads from the Class of 2020 and 2021 gather to share a Christmas beverage and appetizers, sign yearbooks and re-connect with their classmates. Use the Wellington Crescent Entrance. RSVP to ahouston@smamb.ca.

***Open House**

January 18, 2022 | 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Information session and campus tours for prospective students.

Female World Sport School Challenge

January 27 to 30, 2022 | Bell MTS Iceplex

Hosted by the Flames Prep Hockey Team

Watch elite female hockey at the annual FWSSC.

Details at www.fwssc.ca.

***Torch Talks**

February 12, 2022 | 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Informative sessions for parents on current topics hosted by the SMA Parents' Guild. Topic to be announced.

***International Day**

April 24, 2022

- Mass at 10:30 AM
- Pavilions open at 11:30 AM
- Celebrate the diversity and culture of the SMA community. Enjoy a variety of ethnic food, live entertainment and a bake sale.

***Generations Day**

April 28, 2022

Mentors of grades 7, 8 & 9 students gather to share, connect and tour the Academy.

***Marian Awards for Excellence Brunch**

May 7, 2022 | St. Mary's Academy Cafeteria (new location)

- Reception at 10:00 AM. Brunch at 10:30 AM.
- Catered by The Gates on Roblin
- Tickets are \$75 each, available in March 2022 from www.smamb.ca/events/marian-awards-for-excellence.

***Table for One Hundred Father-Daughter Dinner**

June 3, 2022

Details and tickets available in April 2022 from www.smamb.ca/events/tablefor100.

2nd Annual SMA Golf Tournament

Hosted by the Parents' Guild

Early in June 2022. Details to be announced.

***An Evening at the Academy**

Details to be announced.

An Evening at the Academy is SMA's gala dinner in support of the Bursary Fund. For information on sponsorship opportunities and table purchases, contact Kerri Moore (McIvor '94) at kmoore@smamb.ca or 204-478-6031.



St. Mary's Academy
550 Wellington Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3M 0C1
smamb.ca