

TORCH LIGHT

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
YEAR IN REVIEW
FALL 2022



Introducing the state of the art Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre

See page 22

SAVE THE DATE
MARIAN AWARDS GALA
Friday, May 5, 2023

See page 23

TORCH LIGHT

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Laura MacDonald

Gillian Muise

Jaime Patrick (Forbes '94)

Delaney Vun '03

Mary-Alex Willer (Puchniak '03)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Firsts are often celebrated as milestone events in a memorable collection of learning and lived experience throughout our life journey. A first step, a first kiss; the first day of school, the donning of cap and gown; a first goal, a first dance—these moments we remember are extensive. I have thoroughly enjoyed sharing many firsts with our St. Mary's Academy community this year. Thank you, everyone, for the warm and open welcome.

The new Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre promises a grassroots community-imagined project sparked with thanks to our generous Parents' Guild, and aims to inspire our young women to express their creativity by engaging with tools to maximize a hands-on learning experience.

Last year, our school theme had us asking, "Whose Voice Am I Listening To?" Opportunities to hear God's voice through our studies, work, each other, and society, gave us direction. Venturing deeper this year, we are invited to consider, "What Do I Believe?" Each day of discovery will move us closer to understanding our dynamic selves and the intersectional world around us.

Holding a space for prayer throughout our school day is another essential and encouraging practice for our community, where young people are taught resilience, inner strength-building, and constructive self-talk as they explore and cultivate their relationship with God and their faith through different modes of prayer.

Bringing out the best in one another is a daily lived aspiration here at St. Mary's Academy. Every smile shared, every look of understanding, and every intention of care has influenced each person in our loving community. We are so blessed to have the freedom to live boldly through our faith, learn fervently with confidence, and serve each other by walking together and leading with love. In our hallways, immense work continued behind-the-scenes this past year, as we faced the recurring unknowns of restrictions, mandates, codes, and constraints. Thankfully, the strength of our faith and collective belief in the powerful ways of God have kept us true to ourselves and the well-being of those around us, as we live our mantra of Hold High the Torch with pride by intentionally practicing a decision-making approach of *primum non nocere*. Helping others and addressing today's societal needs was the guiding principle of our foundress, Mother Marie-Rose Durocher, and we are

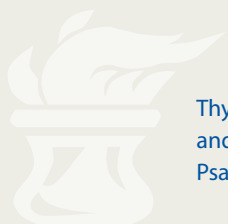
proud to continue the educational legacy of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM).

I look forward to another exciting year with all who support and realize the courageous mission of our founding SNJM. Heuristic minds and curious hearts are ideal conditions for learning, and you have enriched this space.

Yesterday we remember our roots; tomorrow we embrace our future; today, we are called to be light for the people. Open-mindedness is actualized through listening—may our hearts and minds be set in motion by the willingness to see the good in this world. Until our paths cross again: be well, sit back, and enjoy the Torch Light.

Yours in faith, hope, and love,
Jennifer Tesoro

*"Yesterday we remember
our roots; tomorrow we
embrace our future;
today, we are called to
be light for the people."*



Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet
and Light Unto My Path.
Psalm 119:105



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRS



Deanne Magnus '01
CHAIR
ST. MARY'S ACADEMY INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 2021-2022 school year was one of continued uncertainty due to the pandemic. I commend all of our students, families, leadership, faculty and staff for navigating yet another year with the pandemic in our midst. Your ability to persevere and succeed in the face of challenge casts an inspirational light on our community from which all benefit.

The 2021-2022 school year also brought significant change as we welcomed our President, Ms. Jennifer Tesoro '96, in August 2021. Ms. Tesoro embraced her first year at the helm of the school with as much faith, professionalism, energy, and enthusiasm as we witnessed in the presidential search process. The Board could not have asked for a more skilled, inspirational and charismatic leader for our school!

The Board has been hard at work, alongside Ms. Tesoro, providing strategic direction, oversight, and support. We are focused on revitalizing our governance structure and priorities to ensure that we are fulfilling our role of excellence in Catholic education with objectives that are in harmony with the mission of the Catholic Church and the founding vision and spirit of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. We look forward to the 2022-2023 school year where we will continue our work with Ms. Tesoro and the senior leadership team to develop a new strategic plan for our school.

At the end of this year, the Board will say farewell to four of our Directors. I would like to thank Vanessa Mulhern '00, Maria Mitousis '95, Kelsey Stevens '11 and Amanda Haney for their dedication and service. A very special thank you to Jim McLandress who served on the Board since 2012 and has been not only a strong leader as our Chair from 2019 to 2021, but a passionate advocate for St. Mary's Academy.

Let us all continue to Hold High the Torch as we move forward together.



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

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On behalf of the St. Mary's Academy Foundation Board of Directors, I express sincere appreciation to all of the Academy's faculty and staff for their remarkable leadership, commitment and inspiration to students and families throughout a continued challenging time. Deep appreciation also goes to Ms. Jennifer Tesoro, who assumed the role of Executive Director of the St. Mary's Academy Foundation on August 1, 2021. Ms. Tesoro has led the Foundation with passion, enthusiasm, and a commitment to achieving our mission and upholding our values.

In keeping with its purpose of supporting the Academy in its tradition of fostering a culture of academic excellence for young women, the Foundation was able to provide just over \$374,000 in bursary assistance to students during this past year, which was achieved through the generous support of our SMA community—thank you! It is through your continued support of the Foundation that we are able to make a difference in the lives of students and their families. In addition to raising funds for bursaries and designated school programs, the Foundation is also responsible for the management of the assets of the Academy, including ongoing capital initiatives. We are proud to say that the Legacy Rose Garden is in full bloom and the window replacement project is well underway.

It has been my honour to serve as Chair of the Foundation for the past two years. As my term comes to an end, I would like to thank Ms. Tesoro and her staff for their dedication to the mission and values of the Foundation along with their support of the Foundation Board. I also extend my best wishes to Franca Cerqueti as incoming Chair of the Foundation Board and I wish continued success to the Academy and Foundation. I am certain the Torch will continue to be Held High.

AROUND THE ACADEMY

THIRD PANDEMIC SCHOOL YEAR

As students returned to school on September 9, 2021, they stepped into their third year of pandemic-influenced learning. In person learning with comprehensive safety

protocols were in place for the entire school year.

Restrictions loosened in the spring of 2022 to mirror public health guidance from the Manitoba Government.

REFLECTIONS ON TEACHING AND LEARNING DURING THE PANDEMIC

Mary-Anne Lovallo (Washchyshyn '93), Teacher

"I wish you courage, although I am certain that you are not lacking it." Mother Marie-Rose's words are often with me as I walk the halls of the Academy during these uncertain times.

At first, the extended 2020 Spring Break to flatten the curve did not scare me. In my nearly two-decade experience, SMA was never closed and a pause after the busy 150 anniversary was welcome. But everyone knows what happened next.

Communication with students moved from paper, Yammer, and email to Teams. I quickly learned how to make fillable documents, embed links, create online quizzes. I was confident my teaching plans would prevail. Yes, we can do Romeo and Juliet, study Arthur Miller's masterpieces and learn the Enneagram remotely!

At first, excited students attended online classes, cameras on, even in uniform! However, with time, teaching and learning became more taxing. Blended learning (alternating in person and remote) was physically, mentally, and emotionally exhausting. Teaching in a mask was horrible. Trying to connect with masked students, or worse, digital students, was heartbreaking. Online classes included course work, but also instructions to stand up, get a glass of water, open the front door and take in deep breaths of fresh air.

Although in person full time this year, fear of the virus, mask requirements, and frequent absences affected overall spirit. Removal of restrictions in spring 2022 provided some normalcy, but normal also meant year-end exams, and new anxieties.

Students taught me a great deal during this pandemic: genuine positivity amidst despair, team building from a distance,

determination regardless of obstacles, and commitment to their SMA community. They were given an unprecedented challenge, and with the tools available to them, courageously endured.

Identifying what we lost to the pandemic is easy. Recently, I asked my grade 12 ELA students what they won. Many said awareness of self, appreciation for family, and an understanding of the inevitability and necessity of change. They also won the skills and experiences required to face this evolving world, online and offline.

"Now we must recover amidst the problems that have arisen. I hope our community continues to learn from our hardships and evolves along with our ever-changing world."

- Cassidy Ledger '22

Cassidy Ledger '22, Student

I look back to the beginning of the pandemic in which I felt like I was flung back and forth every day. Before school had shut down, a group of students and teachers were set to go to Europe during spring break. I remember my mother fearfully telling me that I could not go; it was not worth being ill, forced into isolation in a foreign country. The pandemic became characterized by adverse experiences. My grades were high as ever but I was emotionally drained. Each day I would be excited to watch a movie virtually with friends, some of whom were combating intensifying depression. I knew people who came out as transgender. I knew people who lost a family member to COVID-19. One day I was attending religion class in bed; the next I was attending a virtual funeral.

The transition from last year to this year has been jarring. After the chaos of my tenth and eleventh year, I feel astounded to receive a full graduating ceremony. Leading up to my graduation, I was expecting it to be taken away, and as a result, I never fully internalized it. While the pandemic may seem over, the effects are apparent and I feel the ramifications of the pandemic surfacing as many people around me feel, more than usual, exhausted. Now we must recover amidst the problems that have arisen. I hope our community continues to learn from our hardships and evolves along with our ever-changing world.



l-r: Mary-Anne Lovallo (Washchyshyn '93), Cassidy Ledger '22

AROUND THE ACADEMY

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR THEME: WHOSE VOICE AM I LISTENING TO?

"The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty." - Psalm 29:4

Each school year the Academy embraces a faith-filled theme that is infused into all facets of school life. "Whose Voice Am I Listening To?" challenged our community to think about how we hear God in a world that is full of

distractions, to be intentional about the voices that we listen to, and to consider how we make decisions. Prayer, contemplation and meditation are encouraged to help one discern whose voice they are listening to.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

National Truth and Reconciliation Week took place from September 27 to October 1, 2021. The Academy devoted much learning time to raising awareness, having discussions, growing in understanding of Truth, and embracing a spirit of Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Over the course of two days students and teachers took part in a blanket exercise. This is a moving and informative learning experience that depicts pre-contact, treaty-making, colonization and resistance. Participants are actively involved as they walk on blankets that represent Turtle Island. As the exercise unfolds, the blankets constantly change positions, representing the changes and challenges experienced by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people. Facilitating the blanket exercise were Elders Katherine Thomas and Florence Sanderson, as well as Tammy Rempel and Lloyd Letkeman. Particularly poignant were the personal stories from Elders Katherine and Florence.

Later in the week students and teachers participated in virtual information sessions hosted by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, including: We are all Treaty People; Language, Music, Culture and Tomorrow's Path; and Truth and Reconciliation Allyship.

On Monday, October 4, grade 9 students took part in a two-part Truth and Reconciliation activity: students watched and discussed informational videos on the history of Residential Schools in Canada. Thereafter, students and teachers walked to the site of the former Assiniboia Residential School at 615 Academy Road and took part in discussions and reflections.

Later in October the Academy hosted the Assiniboia Residential School exhibit. Created by the Indigenous Relations Division of the City of Winnipeg, the exhibit depicts the oper-



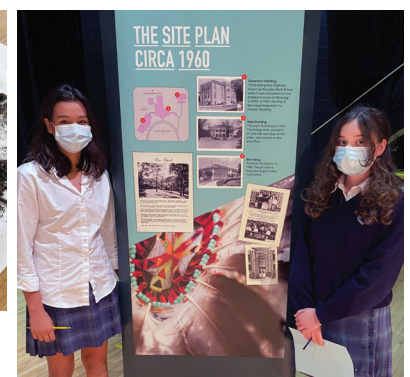
Blanket Exercise

ation of the Assiniboia Residential School over its existence in Winnipeg from 1958 to 1973. The school was federally funded and was part of the federal government's Residential School system, made mandatory under the Indian Act. All students experienced the exhibit and engaged in reflection with their teachers.

On November 26, faculty and staff gathered for a Living Land Acknowledgement inspired by our alumna, Katya Adamov Ferguson '03. Ms. Jennifer Tesoro '96, President, and our Mission and Charism team led participants through the shared history of the land and peoples while each person created handmade art from soil.



Living Land Acknowledgement Art



Assiniboia Residential School exhibit

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Mary's Academy is situated on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

AROUND THE ACADEMY

DRAMATIC ARTS

The Academy's Performing Arts Wing was vibrant with learning and creativity over the course of the school year. Our grade 7 students performed *Fractured Fairy Tales* and grade 9 students presented *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Grade 10 students performed *No Body to Murder* and *And Then There Was One: A Spoof*, two hilarious murder mystery farces which were suspenseful and entertaining for our first live audience in two years! Finishing the school year with live performances were grades 11 and 12 Drama students putting on a full production of Roald Dahl's *The Witches*.



The Witches

THE SPARK NEWSPAPER

Jordyn Allison '24, a member of our student-led newspaper, The Spark, is researching the history of student newspapers at the Academy. Jordyn concluded, "with the Academy being one of the oldest schools in Winnipeg and writing, it seems, is in our DNA, there must be something impressive within the millions of words written over one and a half centuries." With the guidance of her teacher advisor, Mrs. Lovallo '93, and the assistance of Archivist Sr. Mary Gorman '49, Jordyn is digging up fun nuggets from days-gone-by. Jordyn is publishing her findings in a series in The Spark, with the first article published in June 2022 and with the remainder to follow in the coming school year. One such nugget from Jordyn's first article reads, "although we've become accustomed to formal articles in our newspapers this certainly wasn't the case in the earliest editions. In a section titled 'odds and ends' a student writes, "Teacher – What is your idea of a trip to the land of the beautiful?" and the teacher replied, "Scholar – a whole week with no exercise or composition."

CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK & FIELD

The Flames Senior Cross Country team captured first place at the Manitoba High School Athletic Association provincial championship race in early May. This is the Flames' 11th provincial championship. In June the Flames Track and Field Senior team won the Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association Provincial Varsity Girls Championship. Of special note, the Senior Medley Relay team broke the Provincial High School record, coming in at a time of 4:11:12.

SPRING 2023

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY IS PROUD TO PRESENT

Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

© Disney

SHOWTIMES:

MARCH 16 AT 7:00 PM | MARCH 17 AT 7:00 PM | MARCH 18 AT 2:00 PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE EARLY 2023 AT WWW.SMAMB.CA



Seated: Sr. Mary Gorman '49 | Standing l-r: Mary-Anne Lovallo '93 (Washchyslyn '93)
Jordyn Allison '24

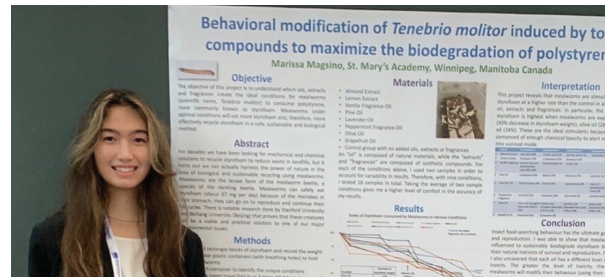


AROUND THE ACADEMY

SCIENCE

In April, Marissa Magsino '24 participated in the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium with her project, "Behavioral modification of *Tenebrio Molitor* (mealworms) by toxins to maximize the biodegradation of polystyrene". Over a four-week period Marissa utilized the SMA science lab to conduct her research. Her project revealed that when higher levels of toxic compounds are exposed to mealworms the more their ultimate goal of survival and reproduction plays a role in increasing the rate of styrofoam consumption. Marissa received a Gold Medal as well as the following awards: Geoscientists of Manitoba special award; Canadian Institute of Food Science & Technology special award; SHAD Canada special award and, Best Overall Intermediate-level project.

With Marissa's recognition as a Top Project, she represented Manitoba in the National Canada-Wide Science Fair (virtual event based in New Brunswick) in May. Marissa won the following awards: Silver medal award in the Intermediate Level; Special Award: Sanofi Biogenius Canada Award, including a cash prize and certificate; Grand Award: Sanofi International BioGENEius Challenge Award.



As the sole Sanofi Grand Award winner, Marissa represented Canada in person at the International BioGENEius Challenge held at the prestigious BIO International Convention in June in San Diego, CA (pictured). This is the largest biotechnology event in the world. The event consisted of networking events and public exhibitions. Marissa welcomed research and career advice from numerous biotechnology executives and was asked to present her project as the opening speech at the Coast to Coast Competition at the Canadian Pavilion during the Convention. Cliff Cullen, Deputy Minister of Manitoba and Minister of Economic Development, Investment and Trade was also at the Convention, and presented Marissa with a congratulatory letter for winning the Canadian competition and for representing Manitoba.

CLASS OF 2022

On June 27, 97 members of the Class of 2022 convoked in the Academy's Alumnae Hall. This was the first year back in-house for convocation after two years of drive-in convocations. Giving the Salutatory Address was Miss Emilia Banmann '22, with the Valedictorian speech from Miss Brooke Buchan '22, and the Address to Graduates was given by alumna and Marian Award Recipient, Dr. Leisha Strachan '92.



Emilia Banmann '22

Brooke Buchan '22

Leisha Strachan '92

"Whose voice are you listening to? This question has been asked all year, with many answers. Who are we listening to? Most importantly, are we listening to ourselves? There are many voices in this world who will try to tell you who you are, but those voices do not get to dictate who you are. Only you have that power. This is the most important lesson St. Mary's Academy has taught us—authenticity. St. Mary's has given all of us a solid foundation of who we are and has helped us establish our own identity."

- Brooke Buchan, Valedictory Address



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Heartfelt appreciation is extended to all who dedicate themselves to the Academy's mission of faith-based education. With joy we welcome new members to our community and with fondness we say farewell to those who have moved on.

RETIREMENTS



Dawn Bohonos
Guidance Counsellor
10 Years of Service



Sr. Mary Gorman '49, SNJM
Teacher: 1959/60, 67/68, 87/89
Principal: 1971-1972 | Director: 1989-1995
Archivist: 1995-2022



Celina Wierzbicki
Receptionist
14 Years of Service

YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

35 YEARS

Demetro Danyluk, Physical Education Teacher

20 YEARS

Alexandru Ionescu, IT Manager

Mary-Anne Lovallo (Washchyshyn '93), ELA Teacher

10 YEARS

Dawn Bohonos, Guidance Counsellor

Georgina (Gina) Borkofski, Director of Communications & Marketing

Patti LeBlanc, Educational Assistant

Maria Marasco, Religion Teacher

FAREWELL

Lindsey Fennell '07, Academic Advisor; Paula Fleury, French Teacher; Sr. Michelle Garlinski '88, SNJM, Director of Mission and Charism; Guiliana Grande, Art Teacher; Amy Houston '03, Manager of Alumnae Relations; Martha MacKinnon, ELA Teacher; Kerri Moore (McIvor '94), Director of Advancement and Admissions; Gina Unger, Human Ecology Teacher; Stephanie Zirino '07, Social Studies Teacher.

FACULTY & STAFF WHO JOINED THE ACADEMY IN 2021 AND 2022

Niclas Bembenek, Science Teacher; Leah Boughen '12, Admissions and Community Outreach; Christina Burridge '11, Alumnae Relations & Special Events Coordinator; Reiss Burtaniak, Math Teacher; Cindy Cordeiro, Religion Teacher; Carsen Heinrichs, Maintenance; Kaylene Kessler, Advancement Manager; Shaylyn Maharaj-Poliah, ELA Teacher; Alexandra Malkiewicz '14, Religion and Supply Teacher; Sydney Maurice '15, ELA Teacher; Rachel Meiklejohn, Physical Education Teacher; Hope Mwalugaja, Advancement Assistant & Database Administrator; Joel Sisk, ELA Teacher; Cole Snyder, Art Teacher; Holly Storey, Guidance Counsellor; Lara Thordarson, Human Ecology Teacher; Edward Villamar, IT Technician; Dana Vivian, Guidance Counsellor.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY ARCHIVIST

St. Mary's Academy is seeking an Archivist to lead historical record keeping and upgrade archival systems. With a long and storied history dating back to 1869, this position is instrumental in ensuring the Academy's history is carefully maintained and easily retrievable. The incumbent will be responsible for sourcing, preserving, cataloguing, and managing historical information.

Please share this career opportunity with people in your network. Interested applicants are asked to email careers@smamb.ca with the subject line: Archivist.



Kaitlyn Militano '06
Chair, St. Mary's Academy Alumnae Association

"It has been my honour to serve as Chair of the Alumnae Association Board and give back to the school that helped shape me into the woman that I am today."

MESSAGE FROM THE ST. MARY'S ACADEMY ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION BOARD CHAIR

With another year of the pandemic behind us, I look back to the success of our first ever Virtual Homecoming held on September 25, 2021. "Tea-in-a-Box" packages were prepared by Academy Bistro and delivered by alumnae board members to local attendees, followed by an afternoon consisting of a virtual celebration, complete with a tour of the Academy, greetings from various alumnae from around the world and current and former staff, and breakout sessions for socializing.

Unfortunately, our annual December event in celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception was cancelled due to pandemic restrictions. Also cancelled in December was Drinks Under the Dome for the Classes of 2020 and 2021; however, we were pleased to host these class gatherings in June. It was wonderful to have these young alumnae back at the Academy and celebrate with them!

Each year the Alumnae Association awards the Alumnae Spirit Award at Convocation. This award is given to a student who embodies the spirit of an SMA alumna, not only in academics, but most importantly through her involvement in student life. Congratulations to our 2022 recipient, Ellie Ames '22!

I would like to thank Sr. Marylyn Gibney for nominating me to the Alumnae Association Board of Directors. In these past five years, I am grateful to have connected with alumnae from many different years with whom I would not have developed relationships if I had not been on this Board. It has been my honour to serve as Chair of the Board and give back to the school that helped shape me into the woman that I am today.

I look forward to passing the torch to our incoming Chair, Brenna Mahoney '01, after the Annual General Meeting on September 24, 2022. I wish Brenna and the entire Board much success as they move the Association forward while Holding High the Torch.

WELCOMING CHRISTINA BURRIDGE '11 TO THE ALUMNAE OFFICE

This August we were delighted to welcome alumna, Christina Burridge '11, into the role of Alumnae Relations and Special Events Coordinator. Christina will work in the St. Mary's Academy Foundation alongside Kaylene Kessler, Advancement Manager, and Hope Mwalugaja, Advancement Assistant and Database Administrator.

In her role, Christina will foster the connectedness of the Academy's alumnae to their alma mater and support the mission of the SMA Alumnae Association—a community of women committed to preserving the heritage and legacy of SMA through celebrating and enabling life-long connections among alumnae. Additionally, Christina will plan and execute Foundation events, including alumnae gatherings.

Christina is a graduate of the Creative Communications program at Red River College Polytechnic and was most recently employed as a Social Media Specialist at Gwen Selter Creative Living Centre. Christina is a skilled communicator, writer and content creator who enjoys building relationships.

Christina looks forward to reconnecting with our community and forging bonds with our treasured alumnae. You can expect to see and hear from Christina in your inbox, on social media and in person. Please feel free to reach out to Christina at cburridge@smamb.ca.



Christina Burridge '11
Alumnae Relations and Special Events Coordinator

HOMECOMING 2021

The Academy's first ever Virtual Homecoming took place on Saturday, September 25, 2021, with over 100 alumnae from near-and-far participating. Just prior to the start of the virtual event, "Tea-in-a-Box" packages were delivered to local alumnae from Alumnae Association Board Members and Jennifer Tesoro '96, the Academy's President. Many good conversations and fun selfies were taken during drop-offs. The virtual event kicked off with the Alumnae Association Annual General Meeting (AGM). Following a well-attended AGM, Homecoming got underway with participants warming up with fun icebreaker questions followed by the formal portion, which opened with a prayer service from the Academy's Mission & Charism team. Next, attendees watched a unique tour of the school sprinkled with video greetings and messages from several former and current teachers. Mme. Desaulniers closed the video portion with a beautiful blessing. Following the program, attendees were able to re-connect with one another in breakout rooms. Many thanks to all who participated and to all who provided contributions to the Alumnae Spirit Award (presented to a student at Convocation). Over \$500 was raised.

Right: Jennifer Tesoro '96 with Sheila Smith (Mullen '85)
Below: Tea-in-a-Box



Greetings from Sr. Susan Wikeem '63

Virtual Homecoming

HOMECOMING 2022

Commemorative Years Brunch – Saturday, September 24, 2022

Doors open: 9:30 AM | Brunch 10 AM to 12 PM | SMA Cafeteria | \$35 per person

For the Classes of 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002 and 2012, as well as all alumnae from 1962 and earlier, Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, and current and former staff. Purchase tickets by September 21 from smamb.ca/events/homecoming.

SMA Alumnae Association AGM:
11:30 AM to 12 PM | Durocher Library
Mass: 12 PM to 1 PM | Alumnae Hall
Legacy Rose Garden Unveiling and Blessing: 1:15 PM
Touring and Tea: 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

CLASS REUNIONS THAT TOOK PLACE IN 2021

CLUB EST. 1881



Class of 2001: 20th Reunion at the Winnipeg Rowing Club.



Class of 1965: 56th Reunion, luncheon at Frankie's Italian Kitchen.



Class of 1991: 30th Reunion at Rae and Jerry's Steakhouse.



Class of 1981: 40th Reunion, gathering at Josie Militano's residence.

CAREER AND MENTORSHIP

CONNECTING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW WITH THE LEADERS OF TODAY

St. Mary's Academy's Career and Mentorship Program aims to provide our 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, current students have opportunities to be mentored, supported, and inspired by our alumnae at events such as Career Speakers, Ask an Alum, and Panel Interviews.

GRADE 9 CAREER SPEAKERS | OCTOBER 15, 2021

Grade 9 students participated in virtual presentations about the educational journey and careers in Corporate Business and Entertainment, Physiotherapy, and Interior Design. Alumnae presenters included: Sherri Pucci Sosa '88, Gaming, Entertainment & Hospitality Executive; Dr. Moni Fricke '82, BMR (PT), MSc, PhD, Assistant professor and Director of the Office of Interprofessional Collaboration, College of Rehabilitation Sciences, Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Manitoba; and Shaila Denomme (Queau-Guzzi '08), B. Env. D., Senior Design Director at Genuwine Cellars.



Sherri Pucci Sosa '88

Dr. Moni Fricke '82

Shaila Denomme
(Queau-Guzzi '08)



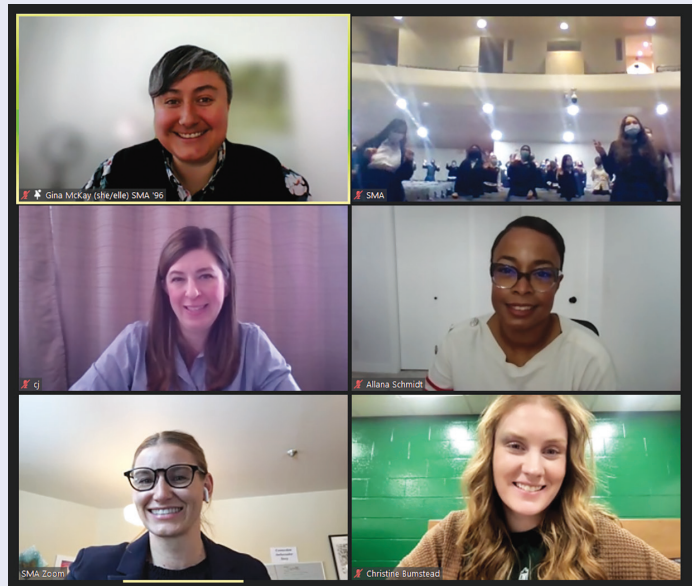
Top left to right: Amy Houston '03, Selina Audino '17, Morgan Burr '16. Bottom left to right: Mackenzie Gray '16, Isha Khandelwal '18. Not pictured, Bethany Kolisniak '19.

ASK AN ALUM | NOVEMBER 25, 2021

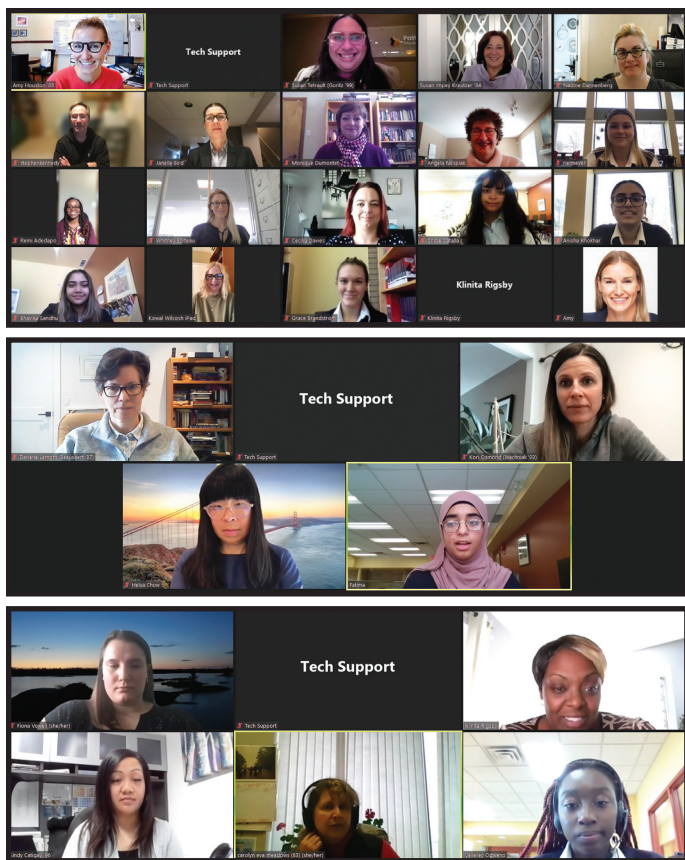
Grades 11 and 12 students participated in an interactive "Ask an Alum" virtual session wherein they listened to our alumnae's post-secondary lived experiences and had opportunities to ask questions about navigating the first few years of post-secondary education, applying for scholarships, and study tips. Alumnae mentors included Morgan Burr '16, Bachelor of Kinesiology, Adapted Physical Activity, University of Alberta; Mackenzie Gray '16, International Development Studies, University of Winnipeg; Isha Khandelwal '18, Philosophy Major and Law School prep, University of Manitoba; Selina Audino '17, Lincoln Alexander School of Law, Ryerson, Toronto; Bethany Kolisniak '19, Indigenous Studies, UBC Okanagan, 2019 Temerty Loran and Terry Fox Humanitarian Scholar.

GRADE 10 CAREER SPEAKERS | MARCH 8, 2022

Taking place on International Women's Day, Grade 10 students participated in virtual presentations from alumnae who shared their unique stories of diversity, equity and empowerment. Alumnae presenters included: Gina McKay '96, President CUPE; Angela Gadway '97, Medical Laboratory Technologist; Allana Schmidt (Phipps '03), VP Organizational Management, 24-7 Intouch; and Christine Bumstead '13, Assistant Coach, University of Saskatchewan Huskies.



Clockwise from top:
Gina McKay '96
SMA students
Allana Schmidt (Phipps '03)
Christine Bumstead '13
Amy Houston '03
Angela Gadway '97



PANEL INTERVIEWS | APRIL 20, 2022

Panel Interviews provide students with real world experience to develop career readiness skills, practice professional interview skills, and benefit from practical and individualized advice from mentors. Forty grades 11 and 12 students participated and more than seventy-five alumnae and friends from a vast range of backgrounds (academia, engineering, science, medicine, criminal justice, business, and the arts) participated as mentors. Students came prepared with their resume and questions. Mentors listened as students presented their resume, fielded thought-provoking questions, and provided feedback and advice.

"The students I spoke with in Panel Interviews are accomplished, ambitious, and gracious. Their families and SMA should be very proud of them! It is wonderful that the school is connecting students with SMA's global alumnae community."

- Helsa Chow '94



"I was fortunate enough to speak with three alumnae who are well established in their respective fields, Judy Rodrigues '89, Megan McCartney '01, and Elisabeth Hayden '11.



Discussing our experiences at St. Mary's Academy as well as the paths that they took after graduation was a great inspiration and comfort to me. "

- Emma Anderson '22

CAREER AND MENTORSHIP EVENTS FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

GRADE 9 CAREER SPEAKERS | October 13, 2022

ASK AN ALUM | November 24, 2022

GRADE 10 CAREER SPEAKERS (International Women's Day) | March 8, 2023

PANEL INTERVIEWS | April 19, 2023

Alumnae and friends who are interested in participating as a career speaker and/or as a mentor, please contact Christina Burridge '11 at alumnae@smamb.ca. More information is found at smamb.ca/alumnae/volunteering.

CLASSES OF 2020 AND 2021

DRINKS UNDER THE DOME

Drinks Under the Dome is a time-honoured tradition for the Academy's newest alumnae whereby they return to their alma mater and reconnect with each other. Drinks Under the Dome is typically held each December; however, due to pandemic restrictions no events were held at the Academy from March 2020 until May 2022. The Academy hosted Drinks Under the Dome for the Classes of 2021 and 2020 on June 15 and 16 respectively. Each class member signed a class poster which will be on display for them at their 10-year reunion, enjoyed a tour of the school, and reminisced with each other and their former teachers while sipping drinks and enjoying appetizers.

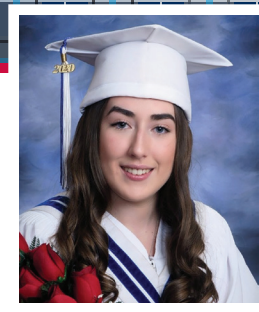
Left to right: Dana Miln '20, Leontina Caci '20, Anna Sonntag '20, Jenna Solomon '20, Sarah Gauthier '20, Nicoletta Kaluzny '20, Joy Kemerle '20, Grace Kemerle '20



Graduating During the Pandemic

"Transitioning to learning online was definitely a learning experience. I learned a lot about myself, who I was, and what was important to me. My connections and friendships with some of my classmates grew even stronger as we had to work hard to stay connected with one another. Everything was unexpected during this time and, although not being able to have a typical graduation was really difficult, I also wouldn't change a thing. I still had the best grad celebrations with those that I care deeply about, made some of the best memories, and have a great story to share."

– Sydney Atchison '20



Left to right: Victoria Klus '20, Melat Asefa '20, Chrissa Constantinides '20, Alessandra Iafolla '20



"Online learning was very difficult and I struggled the most with a desire to stay motivated. I admire the resiliency of my graduating class. I truly think we made the best out of the situation by focusing on the things we could do rather than what we could not." – Katelyn Sierhuis '20



Left to right: Victoria Ochrymowicz '20, Clara Ekdahl '20, Hailey Love '20, MacKenzie Borges '20, Bianca Alexis '20



Left to right: Gabriella Barone '21, Kelsey Smart '21, Kate Baron '21, Sydney Ostir '21



Top - left to right:
Theresa James '21
Julia Armstrong '21
Danielle Borbajo '21
Oluwadamilola Ojo '21
Sena Alem '21
Ashlie Moreno '21



Left to right:
Olivia Fulton '21
Annika Zirino '21
Sarah Gregoire '21
Ireland Smith '21



"I give all the praise to the 2021 grad committee because everything they planned truly made me feel like we had a special graduation ceremony with our peers and family."

– Oluwadamilola (Dami) Ojo '21



"Graduating during the pandemic was incredibly difficult and exhausting; however, the teachers and my classmates got me through it. Without our teachers' constant support there is no way I could have gotten through the year."

– Winnie Carey '21

1942 Happy 80th reunion to the Class of 1942!



1944 Lillian Swiderski gathered with classmates earlier this year. Her fondest memory of the Academy is meeting all of the nice people and cherishing the friendships that were made. Lillian's advice to students is, "enjoy your time at the Academy, it goes by fast and make sure to have fun". She credits her fulfilled life to faith, love

for her family, and constant gratitude. Lillian's granddaughter, **Hanna Duncan '14**, is pursuing her Commerce Degree from the Asper School of Business and is in the midst of completing her CPA designation. Pictured is Lillian (centre) with classmates **Aileen Robinson (Picard)**, left, and **Patricia Thompson (Broadhurst)**, right.

1945 Beatrice Fediuk (Hamel '45/'46 Grade 12) passed away on February 12, 2022, and her final gift to the world was her self-authored obituary submitted as an 'Application for Eternal Life'. Published on February 19, 2022, in the Winnipeg Free Press, Beatrice stated her main objective during her life was, "To be honest and compassionate; to treat everyone with respect; to demonstrate integrity in all I do, and to live as independently as possible, as long as possible". Beatrice's 'Application' caught the attention of many news outlets. Read the obituary at https://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-305494/FEDIUK_BEATRICE.



1949 Lois Ferguson (Lawrence) from Victoria, BC, visited Winnipeg and stopped by the Academy, accompanied by her son, Lonny. In recent years Lois has been reminiscing about her time at the Academy in the late 40s and early 50s as a boarding student after she lost her father in WWII. During her visit she toured the school and

enjoyed the history installation in the Sheila Chipman Atrium. Lois identified herself as one of the small children in one of the historical photos (pictured). Lois's special place in the school is Holy Names Chapel and she recalled the old ornate brass fixtures and kneelers that once occupied the space. Although the Chapel has been remodeled, her memories were vivid and she enjoyed quiet moments in prayer. Lois remarked how special it was to be back at the school. She extends warm greetings to all alumnae. This was a bucket list trip!



1949 Sr. Mary Gorman, SNJM, (Sr. Patrick of the Trinity) celebrated her 90th birthday on January 5, 2022. At the end of December, the Academy sent word to our community about this special milestone and many people took the opportunity to send birthday wishes. Sr. Mary took great delight in each message and expression of care and provided this thank you message:

Dear Friends, thank you so very much for the wonderful birthday greetings. So many memories—I just had to smile. Your wishes brought great joy and gratitude for the blessings you have been in my life. I love you dearly and fondly remember our times together.

I thank God for my years as a Sister of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, and our mission of education.

I pray for you every day, always have and always will. God Bless, Sister Mary Gorman

1952 Happy 70th reunion to the Class of 1952!

1954 Sr. Lorraine Perreault belongs to the religious order of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd and served at Marymount in Winnipeg. She reflects back on her time at the Academy with appreciation. Sr. Lorraine feels blessed that the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary not only gave her a home, but an education that opened up her future. Sr. Lorraine is especially grateful to Sr. Yvonne (Berthe Alice) for her love and care, and for all of her wonderful teachers.

1962 Happy 60th reunion to the Class of 1962!

1963 Florence Tomicki (Van Walleghem) lives in Cranbrook, BC, and continues to treasure the Torch Light and all of the wonderful memories it brings to mind. She looks forward to visiting Winnipeg soon.

1967 Gwen Buccini (Pucci) is working on plans for a 55th reunion celebration. Please reach out to her for more information at gwenbuccini@hotmail.com.

HOME COMING TAKES PLACE ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2022

For up-to-date information about Class Captains, Reunions and Private Class Facebook Groups visit www.smamb.ca/alumnae.



1969 Marilyn Spillane (Browning) has been enjoying life on the west coast of Ireland since 1975. She runs a local pub, Spillane's Bar. She and her late Irish husband happily raised five children and enjoy having 18 nephews and nieces who all help out with the business. Marilyn welcomes any alumnae visiting Ireland to visit The Dingle Peninsula, County Kerry and look up Spillane's Bar, Maharees. She would be delighted to see you. Marilyn recalls her time at SMA with fondness and is delighted that the school is thriving and evolving. She hopes to visit soon.

1971 Deborah Cliffe is a retired Register Nurse and worked as a community immunizer during the pandemic. She has lived in White Rock, BC, for 27 years. Deborah remains in touch with many SMA classmates and hopes to be able to celebrate with other alumnae soon.

1972 Happy 50th reunion to the Class of 1972!

1982 Happy 40th reunion to the Class of 1982! **Mary-Ann Mitchler, Kathy Rathert and Jane Ann Mintenko** are working to coordinate reunion celebrations. Please email Mary-Ann at mmitchler@shaw.ca for more information.



1984 Siobhan Turner became a Master of Wine in August 2021. This is the highest qualification in wine and a title held by only 418 people worldwide. She lives in London, England, and works internationally, primarily in fine wine, and specializes in wine authentication. Siobhan is a supporter of the wines of the Okanagan, which means she gets to spend time in a beautiful wine region and also visit and drink great wine with alumna **Audra Bayer '84**. Siobhan is pictured with her daughter, Freya.

1986 After a successful career in the restaurant business, **Janet Park-Ardebol** launched her own condiment company, The Kocina, in 2020. Found in many local businesses in and around Winnipeg, her famous award-winning pickles, honeys and assorted mustards are also across North America and as far as Dubai. Janet is a proud mother to four amazing children.



Alumnae from the Class of 1987. Left to right: Tracy Iliffe, Larissa Tratch, Victoria Delveaux (Bereznay), Chris Soubry (MacInnes), Sandra Russell (Pound), Christine Kulas (Van de Mosselaer), Tracy Eyssens

1987 Several classmates from the Class of 1987 enjoyed a wonderful "mini-reunion" in Vancouver in October 2021. Not pictured are Chantel Deslauriers and Gisele Olivier.

1989 Judy Rodrigues lives in Amsterdam, Netherlands. She has worked internationally in forest conservation for over 20 years. This year with the help of technology, Judy was able to participate as a panelist at the Academy's Panel Interviews mentorship event.

1992 Happy 30th reunion to the Class of 1992!



1994 Helsa Chow works as a Senior Vice President with Citi in San Francisco. She works with the venture investing team at Citi Ventures and a global business development group in New York to bring fintech start-up technology to the bank. She and her husband Scott (pictured) are celebrating their 17th wedding anniversary this year. They love hiking along the coast and in the mountains.



1994 A lifelong educator and award-winning former English professor, **Lindy Ledohowski** was promoted to Chief Operating Officer of Wize, the acquiring company of the company she founded, EssayJack.

STAY CONNECTED

Please submit your address or email address change to www.smamb.ca/alumnae/stay-connected.



1995 Maria Neufeld (Guida Magalhaes) P.Eng., was awarded the 2021 Judith Weiszmann Women in Engineering Champion Award by Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba. As a champion for women in engineering, Maria chairs the 30 by 30 Task

Force at Manitoba Hydro, leading a team in developing action plans to recruit and retain women in engineering at Manitoba Hydro. For years, Maria has served as a mentor for Engineering students and interns. She served on the SMA School Board from 2018-2021.

2001 Janine Stephens (Hanson) of the Winnipeg Rowing Club and Manitoba Rowing Association received the 2021 Jack Nicholson Coaching Bursary. Janine is a two-time Olympian with a Silver Medal in Women's Eights Rowing in 2012 and an 8th place finish in quadruple sculls in the 2008 Olympics. She received a Marian Award from the Academy in 2013.



2002 Happy 20th reunion to the Class of 2002!



1996 Gina McKay is a 2SLGBTQ+, Métis, feminist, labour movement activist and leader engaged in the regional, national, and international labour movement. She is a proud working member on numerous equity and human rights committees with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the Canadian Labour

Congress, The Manitoba Federation of Labour, and the Winnipeg Labour Council. Gina was recently elected Equity Vice President—LGBTQ2SI+ to the Canadian Labour Congress, President of CUPE Manitoba, and Regional Vice President representing Manitoba on the CUPE National Executive Board.



2003 This year, in **Melissa Cattini's** personal life, she became engaged and in her professional life she was appointed as a partner at MLT Aikins LLP.



2004 Laura Imhoff went into the Military Naval Reserves and received a Bachelor of Kinesiology in the Athletic Therapy program. In 2006, Laura suffered a traumatic knee injury while playing for the Canadian Military Soccer team and that experience, including the recovery and rehabilitation that

was involved, fueled her desire to help others overcome their injuries. With over 10 years of experience, Laura has opened a multidisciplinary clinic in Winnipeg's South Osborne neighborhood called Home Stretch Therapy.

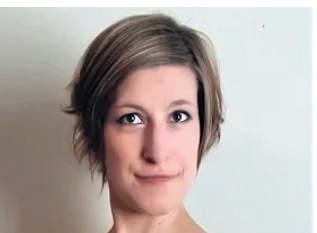


1997 After graduation, **Kristina Frykas (Washchshyn)**, became a professional ballet teacher upon completion of the Teacher Training Program at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet (RWB) in 2000. After 20 years of sharing her love of dance with students at the RWB and continuing to teach Ukrainian Dance with

Sopilka Ukrainian Dance School, she opened her own dance school, Kazka Dance Collective, in Winnipeg. "Kazka" is the Ukrainian word for fairytale as it is her fairytale come true.



2005 "You are Here", is a solo art show by **Zephyra Vun** that will accompany the launch of her first book of the same name. Both the visual art exhibit and the non-fiction book are about leading a purposeful existence through presence and living in the now. Zephyra is creating an entirely new body of work for the show which includes nine pieces that are unlike any of her previous works. Like the present moment, each piece will be created with, and inspire within the viewer, intentionality, simplicity, and embodiment. The exhibit will be on display at Pulse Gallery at The Forks starting in October 2022.



1999 Teresa Stolarskyj recently relocated to Wellington, New Zealand with her Kiwi partner and virtually completed her Master of Arts in Liberal Studies through Simon Fraser University. In December

she joined the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and works addressing homelessness. She finds the work deeply rewarding. She looks forward to indulging in her love of singing and live music.



2005 Amanda Joy Pineda (Ruiz) graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Nursing in 2010. She recently completed her MBA and became a Director of Health Services for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and the Child and Women's Health Respiratory Therapy Program

at Health Sciences Centre. On the side, she started a pop up dinner "speakeasy" series, "Bahay kubo Tiki Bar".



2006 Andrea Wessels (Smith) and her family moved back to Winnipeg from South Africa in 2021. She is the Provincial Program Manager at Mood Disorders of Manitoba. Andrea presented a Body Image workshop to grades 9 and 11 students this past April.

2007 Trinh Nguyen works as a nurse in both the ER and ICU and went to graduate school in September 2020. She is in the PhD Nursing program at the University of Manitoba. She married her husband, Peter Lu, on September 18, 2021.

2007 This year, **Samara Preun**, CPA, CGA, was admitted into partnership with Olafson & Jones, Chartered Professional Accountants. She began working for the firm in 2007, graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) degree from the University of Manitoba in 2012 and got her professional accounting designation in 2015. Samara has served many roles within the firm, most recently as a Tax Manager.

2008 Emily Jones, BEnvD, MID, is the co-founder and one of the principal designers at re:Design Studio, an interior design company in Winnipeg. She graduated with a Master of Interior Design from the University of Manitoba in 2018 and started the Studio with her best friend the same year. Business continues to grow and their portfolio includes a range of work from renovations to new builds.

2012 Happy 10th reunion to the Class of 2012!



2013 Alessia Guzzi graduated in March with an MSc. from the University of Manitoba Department of Environment and Geography, on the topic of Arctic coastal oceanography and biogeochemistry in Hudson Bay and James Bay. She serves on the Board of Directors of a local non-profit, KIDS Initiative Inc.,

and leads the development of an educational outreach program for the organization that focuses on sustainable development and international development initiatives.



Left to right: Chris Jarecki SPHS '13, Morgan Steeves '15, Brian Steeves SPHS '88, Erin Mohoric '13, Eric Steeves SPHS '13, Joanne Steeves (Weight '90), Kyle Steeves SPHS '18

2013 Erin Mohoric married Eric Steeves SPHS '13 on August 21, 2021 at the Steeves family cabin in Ontario.



2015 Patricia Sliwa graduated from University of Winnipeg with a Bachelor of Business Administration, majoring in Human Resources, Organizational Behaviour and Marketing. She works in real estate with Century 21 Bachman & Associates.

2016 Emma Welham along with **Ivy (Jeniece) Charles '14** and **Emily Meadows '13** were named to the 2021/2022 National Mentorship Program at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre (RMTTC). Emma, Ivy and **Kate George '17** also worked together on the fall 2021 show, *Orlando*, at RMTTC.

2017 Lumiere Parrenas took part in the Central Canada/ USA working student group for the Building Bridges Initiative pioneered by Loyola University Chicago. The group discussed themes of accompaniment, migration, and synodality, and they engaged in a historic virtual event with Pope Francis wherein they shared their hopes and dreams for the Catholic Church.



2019 Emma Callbeck is a student at Carleton University and is completing her Bachelor of Global and International Studies degree this year. She works with Health Canada part-time and is applying to law school for 2023. She enjoys mentoring SMA alumnae with their applications to the student internship Page Program within the House of Commons.

2020 Clara Ekdahl is a Psychology major and Theatre minor at the University of Manitoba. She is president of her sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta, and won the Alpha Gamma Delta Buff Academic Achievement Award along with the Highest New Member GPA Award in 2021. Also, she was Vice President Philanthropy with a focus on fighting hunger.

2021 Madison Gordon is pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in Fashion Design in Paris. When she is back in Canada, she will enjoy time with family at their new home in Prince Edward Island.

BIRTHS

WITH JOY ST. MARY'S ACADEMY ACKNOWLEDGES THE BIRTH OF CHILDREN TO ALUMNAE.

Clara Jean | July 2, 2021

to Alexandra (Goodman '12) and Evan Allan

Codie Anne | August 6, 2021

to Nicole (Loewen '04) and John Klassen

Charles Ga-Sing | August 12, 2021

to Stephanie Poon '05 and Andrew Woods

Tessa | August 13, 2021

to Christa (Woloschiniwsky '09) and David Richichi

Jane Arianna | August 24, 2021

to Alanna Junaid '06 and Adrian Schulz

Roslynn Maeve | August 30, 2021

to Sinead (McGahern '08) and Micah Stewart

Quinn Christine | September 10, 2021

to Paige Zakaluk '11 and Andrew Rawson

Blake Edward | September 29, 2021

to Sheana Pylypowich '02 and Drew Kennedy

Élodie Alice | October 17, 2021

to Renee El-Gabalawy '03 and David Perrin

Bianca Andrea Cibinel | October 20, 2021

to Katherine Cibinel '01 and Andrew Hunt

Bianca Lillian | born October 21, 2021

to Giovanna Minenna '07 and Scott Russell

Isaac James | December 27, 2021

to Jennifer Bernardo '06 and Meg Mendoza

Finn Alexander | January 19, 2022

to Tacey (Coggins '03) and Ryan Walker

Levi | January 21, 2022

to Leanne Pearson Riley '08 and Jordan Riley

Nora Jean | December 16, 2021

to Amanda Burrridge '07 and James Swanson

Evangeline Monique | March 13, 2022

to Darlene (Baloy '06) and Corey Janson

Wynn Lindsey | March 8, 2022

to Carling (MacDonald '06) and Michael Merner

Zachary Leo | March 29, 2022

to Angela (Fernando '06) and Nathan Timmerman

Adalyn Grace | April 15, 2022

to Catherine (Bator '03) and Tyler Machutchon

Bennett Kashyap | April 21, 2022

to Tejal (Kristjanson '11) and Brady Friesen

Spencer John Bjorn | May 13, 2022

to Emily Brownell '13 and John Crockett

Martine | May 15, 2022

to Christine (Zielonko '08) and Justin Vocadlo

Holden Steven Peter | May 17, 2022

to Lindsey (MacDonald '04) and Andrew Parkes

Halle Joan | June 1, 2022

to Kyla (Fraser '06) and Stuart Parsons

Milo John Efren | June 10, 2022

to Marie Ewonchuk '03 and Mark Arbilo

IN MEMORIAM

WITH SORROW ST. MARY'S ACADEMY ACKNOWLEDGES ALUMNAE AND STAFF WHO RETURNED HOME TO GOD BETWEEN AUGUST 1, 2021 AND JULY 31, 2022.

Sr. Mildred Peterkin '38, RSCJ (Teacher 1972-1973)

Mary Josephine Coughlin (Kent '42 – Grade 10)

Beatrice Fediuk (Hamel '45, '46 – Grade 12)

Elizabeth (Liz) Genik (Torbiak '45)

Norma Morasutti '45

Mildred Buelow (Finlan '46)

Jean Green (Janina Grabiec '48)

Theresa (Terry) Katner (McManus '49)

Gloria Sweeney (Morasutti '50)

Gail Burns (Doody '51) (Teacher 1975-1980)

Mary Judith (Judy) Hughes (Sinclair '51, Commercial '53)

Sheila Stanley (Foster '52)

Joan Brinkhurst (Barnett '55)

Ann Hodges (Mykle '55)

Marie Pilek '59 (Commercial)

Marguerite Kostynuik (Leckett '62)

Bernadette Bond/Gray (Kropp '68) (Teacher 1975-1984)

Madeleine Morrison '69

Kathleen Michener '73

Dr. Nichole Riese '77

Theresa LeMaitre '78

Giselle Lisoway (Legeny '88)

Sharon Dainard '94

Monika Stanson '13

Sheila Cordner (Teacher 1975-1993)

MESSAGE FROM ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION



Kaylene Kessler
Advancement Manager

"The past few years have been a time of 'pivoting' for all. Now is the time for forward and onward motions. The team at the Foundation is thrilled to welcome you back to the school, to events, and to the office for meetings."



Anna Maria Magnifico '68 presenting Magnifico Global scholarship to Brooke Buchan '22.

On Tuesday, May 24, 2022, I joined the wonderful faculty and staff at St. Mary's Academy. Within the short time that I have been here, I have noticed something very evident—the love that alumnae, students, parents and staff have for the school.

I have experienced this love being shown in three ways: Time, Talent and Treasures.

Time, the commitment of hours donated by our many alumnae and parents who sit on committees and boards.

Talent, the talent and skill-sets shared by all who participate in our career and mentorship activities and other special events.

Treasures, the money donated to help enhance the educational experience of our students and maintain our school and grounds.

In the 2021–2022 school year, 94 bursaries were awarded to students, totaling just over \$374,000. Thank you to all for your generosity.

In the spring of 2022, the Foundation completed the Legacy Rose Garden which raised a total of just over \$144,000. Thank you to all of our generous donors! The garden honours the contributions of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, faculty, staff, students, parents, alumnae, and friends. We welcome all donors and friends to join us for an unveiling and blessing at Homecoming on Saturday, September 24, 2022, at 1:15 PM.

We have welcomed many new donors to our Legacy & Hope Wall, including the class of 1994 with a contribution in memory of classmate, Sharon Dainard, and the class of 2013 with a contribution in memory of classmate, Monika Stanson. The Legacy & Hope wall will be updated in early 2023 with plans to launch a new interactive donor wall recognizing all contributions made to the Foundation.

We are also pleased to offer our students two new scholarship awards that were presented at the 2022 Convocation, The Magnifico Global Studies Award and the Tesoro Family Scholarship.

This year we had a soft launch for the Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre, which is housed in the former location of the Tartan Shop. This is a space where students' curiosities will be sparked as they explore and learn modern technology. The Centre has been set into motion by a generous donation of \$15,000 from the Parents' Guild. This room will be one-hundred percent funded by our wonderful donors, and will need consistent funding as we continue to grant the wishes of our students. Flip the page for more details and photos.

The past few years have been a time of 'pivoting' for all. Now is the time for forward and onward motions. The team at the Foundation is thrilled to welcome you back to the school, to events, and to the office for meetings.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Foundation and/or Alumnae Relations, please feel free to contact me at kkessler@smamb.ca or 204-478-6031. I look forward to our new normal and to welcome you back home.

Kaylene Kessler

THE ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION was established in 1989 to help the Academy maintain its tradition of excellence in education for young women. The Foundation manages assets and raises funds for designated school programs, bursaries and on-going capital repairs to the Academy's heritage buildings and grounds. To find out more or contribute a gift, please go to www.smamb.ca/support-us.

TARTAN TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION CENTRE

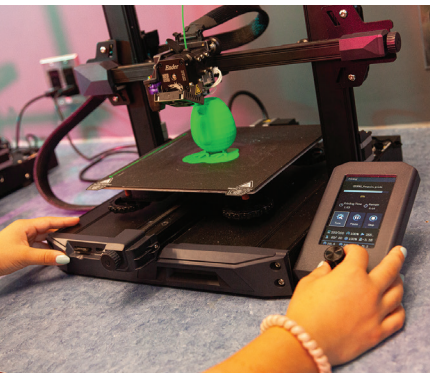
THE ACADEMY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEW TARTAN TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION CENTRE OFFICIALLY OPENED ITS DOORS IN SEPTEMBER 2022

With input from student and teacher focus groups informing the technological offerings and experts staffing the Centre to guide exploration, this is a space where students' curiosity will be sparked as they delve into modern technology such as digital media, virtual reality, 3D printing, digital art, gaming/ Esports and more. The Centre opened with a baseline of innovative technologies and more will be phased in over a three-year period. Located on the main floor in the former Tartan Shop, the Centre is ideally situated for ease of access to students. In this immersive leading-edge space, our youth of today will embrace the technology of tomorrow.



Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre

The Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre was set in motion by a generous \$15,000 donation from the Parents' Guild. Fundraising for the Centre will continue through various St. Mary's Academy Foundation campaigns, including the Marian Awards Gala. Please join us on May 5, 2023, to help us honour award recipient(s) and raise funds to increase the technological offerings in the Centre. Your support plays a vital role in ensuring our students have access to leading-edge technology and gain the needed expertise to grow and flourish in our exciting, fast-paced, technological world.



3-D Printer



Oculus Quest 2 Virtual Reality



DSLR Camera



Digital art created by Jade Pelland '25



XP-Pen Digital Drawing Tablet

MARIAN AWARDS GALA

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, May 5, 2023

RBC CONVENTION CENTRE

Join us to honour our
Marian Award recipient(s)
and to help us raise funds
for the Academy's new
**TARTAN TECHNOLOGY
& INNOVATION CENTRE**

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY MARIAN AWARDS recognize alumnae and friends who model excellence and service in their personal and professional lives. Recipients distinguish themselves and the Academy by continuing to Hold High the Torch. Recipient(s) will be announced this fall and tickets will be available at that time. The Marian Awards were instituted in 2005 and to date 36 alumnae and friends are recipients. We hope you will come together with us to **Hold High The Torch on May 5, 2023.**

Enjoy an evening of dining, entertainment, auctions, and philanthropy. Hosted by the St. Mary's Academy Foundation.





Bella Dingman '13

BELLA DINGMAN '13 YOUNG ALUMNA GIVING BACK

When I began my St. Mary's Academy journey in grade 7, I found myself frequently looking at the lineage of family members that attended SMA before me. Today, I reflect on my cousins beginning that same journey and am eager to see where it leads them. From the foundational learning in classrooms to the many other experiences like grade 7 camp, grade 9 welcome night, the St. Paul's High School Walk for Cancer, and the Parent/Daughter Brunch leading up to convocation, all hold a vivid place in my memory.

When I graduated 8 years ago, I was unsure what the future held. I left SMA as a proud super sixer with what I felt were the tools to take on the "real world". I also knew that when I graduated my connection with the school was not ending, but rather it was blossoming into something new. I felt a deep desire to give back to the community that gave to me, being able to inspire other young women as they carve their own story.

As a proud alumna, I will forever share my experiences with people I meet and emphasize the culture of community that is woven between us all. I am proud to be a part of a network that takes great pride in its alumnae, nurturing relations through all stages of our lives. No matter where this winding road of life takes each of us, there is likely to be another alumna in that same part of the world. We are a tight-knit group of women that encourage and empower one another!

The future of SMA is rooted in the contributions of its alumnae, with a continued commitment to be an ambassador to Hold High the Torch. My monthly donation ensures another student has the same opportunity for a St. Mary's Academy education, just like I did. No matter how big or small the donation, I know that every little bit helps in achieving that goal, so monthly giving is my way of building my donation over the year. To me, it was an experience like none other. It was the place that I felt safe to be who I wanted to be. It was the place that shaped me into who I am today, tying together all my goals and ambitions. I hope that together, we can continue this legacy; a legacy of igniting our fire to burn bright from within.

"The future of SMA is rooted in the contributions of its alumnae, with a continued commitment to be an ambassador to Hold High the Torch. My monthly donation ensures another student has the same opportunity for a St. Mary's Academy education, just like I did."

- Bella Dingman '13



Since 1869 St. Mary's Academy has been a community of learning, faith and service that empowers young women to fulfill their potential. In order for the Academy to remain a leading-edge educational institution, donations are necessary. Donations are used to enhance educational and extra-curricular opportunities for our young women. The ongoing support of our community ensures that the Academy can continue its legacy of preparing young women to be leaders in our communities and world. **Please contribute your gift at www.smamb.ca/support-us.**

ANNUAL GIVING

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 enables the Academy to maintain the highest standards in student programs, upgrade and maintain our historic facility, and provide bursary support to qualified applicants.

Sincere gratitude is extended to the following supporters who contributed between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

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ANNUAL GIVING

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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 Kaylene Kessler, Advancement Manager, at kkessler@smamb.ca or 204-478-6031.

COMING EVENTS

Events will take place following COVID-19 precautions and guidelines. Some events may be significantly altered or cancelled, in which case we endeavour to provide the community with as much notice as possible.

Homecoming

Saturday, September 24, 2022

Commemorative Years Brunch

Doors open: 9:30 AM | Brunch 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

SMA Cafeteria | \$35 per person

For the Classes of 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002 and 2012, as well as all alumnae from 1962 and earlier, Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, and current and former staff. Purchase tickets by September 21 from www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming.

SMA Alumnae Association Annual General Meeting

11:30 AM to 12:00 PM | Durocher Library

Mass: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM | Alumnae Hall

Legacy Rose Garden Unveiling and Blessing: 1:15 PM

Touring and Tea: 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Tour the school, visit with alumnae and teachers, and enjoy tea and dainties.

www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming.

International Day

Sunday, October 23, 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, bake sale, and raffles. Admission is free.

December Celebration

Date TBA

Celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Details will be found at www.smamb.ca. Hosted by the Alumnae Association.

Drinks Under The Dome For the Class of 2022

December 21, 2022 at 4:00 PM

Grads from the Class of 2022 gather in the Atrium for a Christmas beverage and appetizers, sign yearbooks, and re-connect with classmates.

Open House

January 17, 2023 | 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Information session in Alumnae Hall at 7:00 PM, followed by campus tours. All prospective students and families are welcome. www.smamb.ca/admissions/OpenHouse.

Female World Sport School Challenge

January 26 to 29, 2023 | Bell MTS Iceplex

Hosted by the Flames Prep Hockey Team
www.fwssc.ca.

Torch Talks

February 11, 2023

Informative session for parents on current topics. Hosted by the SMA Parents' Guild. Topic to be announced.
www.smamb.ca/events/Torchtalks.

Beauty and the Beast

March 16 and 17, 2023 at 7 PM | March 18, 2023 at 2 PM

St. Mary's Academy's Dramatic Arts Performance.

Tickets available early 2023 at www.smamb.ca.

Marian Awards Gala

May 5, 2023 | RBC Convention Centre

Join the Academy to honour our Marian Awards recipient(s) and help us raise funds for the Academy's new Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre. Tickets on sale in the fall of 2022 from www.smamb.ca/events/marian-awards.

3rd Annual Parents' Guild Golf Tournament

Early in June 2023. Details will be found at www.smamb.ca/events/PGGolf.

Vancouver Chapter Reunion Luncheon

Late spring 2023 | Richmond Girl Guide House
4780 Blundell Road, Richmond, B.C.

Details will be available at www.smamb.ca/alumnae. For more information, contact Darlene Burns (Woerlee '69) at darlene_burns@telus.net.

St. Mary's Academy: Instagram, Facebook, YouTube: @smawinnipeg | Twitter: @smawpg

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



SAVE THE DATE
MARIAN AWARDS GALA
Friday, May 5, 2023

See page 23

