



GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVES 2026

Each year three graduates are selected to represent the Graduating Class.

Please read through the descriptions below and consider who in your class might best represent you.

VALEDICTORIAN

We have researched the various practices of universities and comparable high schools to come up with the criteria for selecting the Valedictorian.

Applicants must compose a Valedictory Address, 3 to 5 minutes in length, which will be delivered at Convocation on June 24, 2026. Applicants must be in good standing, with an average above 85% (as of the February 2026 report).

As Valedictorian, you are the voice of the Class of 2026. The Valedictory Address should reflect the graduating class's gratitude for a St. Mary's Academy education. Reference to specific individuals, including students, teachers, administration, and faculty, is discouraged. Consider addressing the following:

- the value of a St. Mary's Academy education
- lessons learned at St. Mary's Academy
- the influence of the SNJM and the SNJM charism
- a memory that defined the Class of 2026

1. Please attach the speech behind this application. **Speeches are due to Mrs. Davedow by 12:35 PM Friday, May 1, 2026.** No late applications will be accepted.
2. Students will be asked to present the speech to a panel, consisting of St. Mary's Academy community members. The speech will be evaluated for its content and execution. The successful candidate must be available to revise, if necessary, and rehearse the speech in the days preceding the event.
3. Please note that in good standing includes demeanor and actions all the way to the end of the year. It is expected that applicants would NOT participate in activities such as a skip or prank day that do not reflect the mission of SMA.
4. The panel will include 6+ members of the SMA community.

SALUTATORIAN

The salutatorian opens the convocation ceremony. The purpose of the 1-2 minute address is to greet the guests on behalf of the graduating class who have come to share in this special occasion and thank them for their support. References to specific individuals are discouraged.

1. The salutatorian should be a student in good standing as described for the valedictorian.
2. **Nominations are due to Mrs. Davedow by 12:35 PM Friday, May 1, 2026.**
3. Voting will take place online in the weeks following.

MISS CONGENIALITY

Miss Congeniality is a student who personifies the best of what a SMA student should represent. They are a student in good standing. They get along with all of their classmates and teachers. They have a welcoming manner about them and contributes to the atmosphere inside and outside the classroom in a positive manner.

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