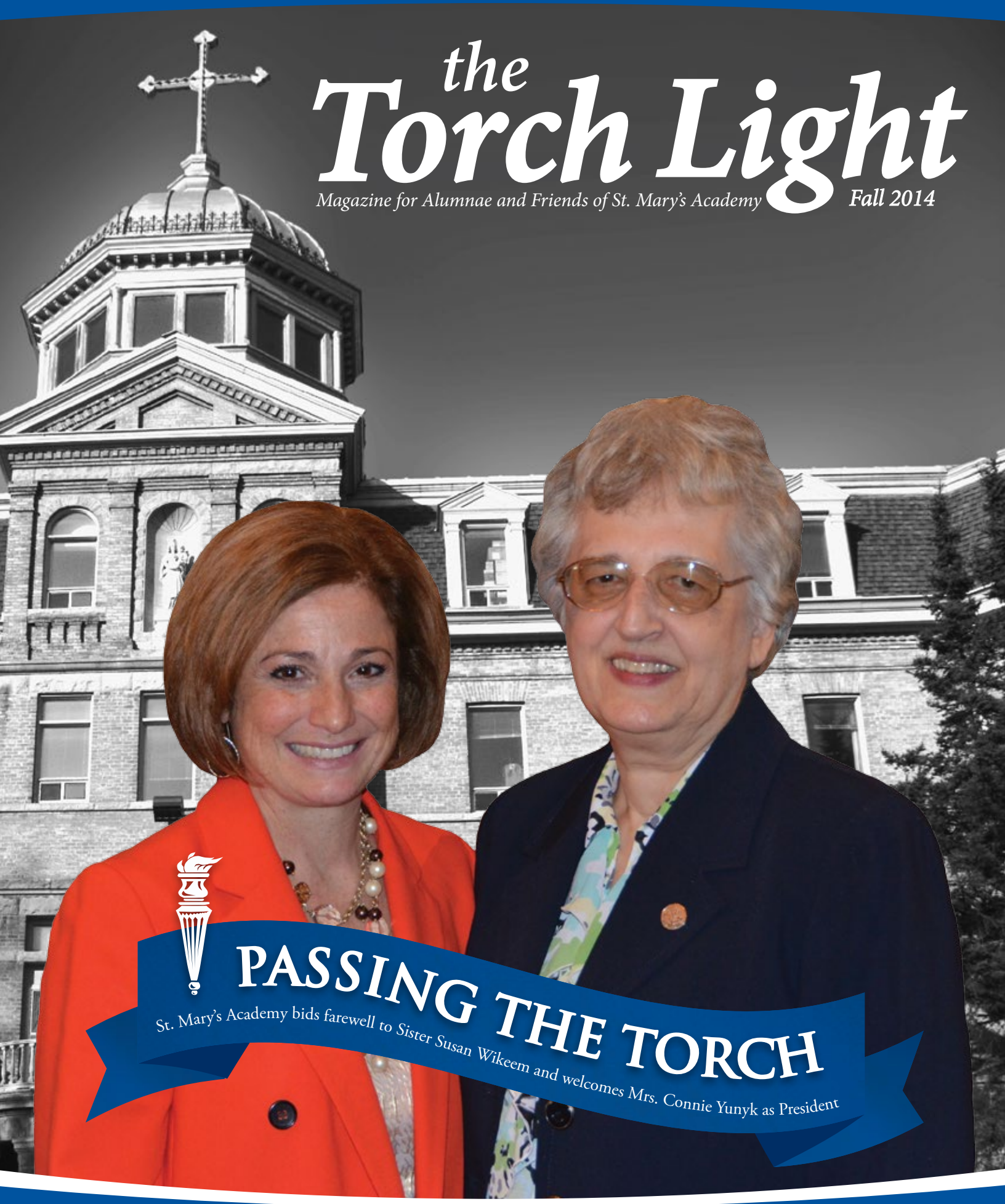
the Torch Light

Magazine for Alumnae and Friends of St. Mary's Academy

Fall 2014



PASSING THE TORCH

St. Mary's Academy bids farewell to Sister Susan Wikeem and welcomes Mrs. Connie Yunyk as President

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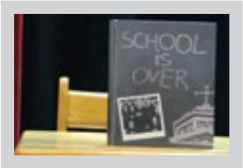
Sister Susan Wikeem's Retirement Celebration



Top: Memory Book
Bottom: Jersey with Sr. Susan's grad year

Sr. Susan Wikeem & Mark Dufresne, SMA Board Chair

l-r: Sr. Mary Gorman, Sr. Susan Wikeem, Sr. Cathy Laviolette, Sr. Marylyn Gibney

President's Message

It is with an abundance of excitement and pride that I assume my role as President of St. Mary's Academy. As President, I am committed to ensuring that the school's mission and vision are sustained as a preeminent faith-based educator of young women in Winnipeg.

We have witnessed much success over the past several years. Focus on Our Future, the school's strategic plan since 2011 has provided a roadmap for governance decisions and action plan to sustain the school's mission and vision. Much has been accomplished; however, my goal is to work closely and collaboratively with members of both our School Board and our Foundation Board to continue to successfully implement goals of the plan by June 2015. Providing access to a faith-based education for young women is a core value espoused by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Developing a realistic plan to grow the Bursary Fund for families who would not typically consider St. Mary's Academy as a potential school is one such goal.

> "I am committed to ensuring that the school's mission and vision are sustained as a preeminent faith-based educator of young women in Winnipeg."

Our campus has undergone major upgrades and expansion activity over the past 12 years! With the recent completion of the Dramatic Arts Wing and stunning Sheila Chipman Atrium, our students, faculty and staff can enjoy a safe and comfortable learning and working environment. Considered a Winnipeg landmark, my goal is to continue to allocate the necessary resources to maintain and enhance our programs, facility and grounds.

Building and sustaining purposeful and meaningful relationships with all constituents associated with our school is critical as I transition into my new role. Over the next year, I look forward to meeting and listening to your thoughts and ideas of how our school can continue to be the school of choice for young women in Winnipeg. Our foundress Marie-Rose Durocher strongly believed that an entire society can be transformed if the minds and hearts of young women are properly formed and directed. I am counting on your participation and support to achieve the mission of Blessed Marie-Rose and all our Sisters of the Holy Names and Jesus and Mary!

I ask for your prayers as we begin this school year. God Bless.

Connie Yunyk

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNING, FAITH AND SERVICE

PASSING THE TORCH

I slept and dreamed that life was joy.
I awoke and saw that life was service.
I served and understood that service was joy.
- Bengali poet Tagore

St. Mary's Academy has a new President

"We have an energetic new President in the wings. Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77) is an experienced educator and leader who brings energy and enthusiasm to the tasks before her. She is tireless in her efforts to help our young women reach their full potential and passionate about the future of St. Mary's Academy." These are the parting words of Sister Susan Wikeem as the torch of leadership was passed to Mrs. Connie Yunyk in August 2014. This marks the first time in the Academy's 145 year history that the transition has been made to lay leadership.

Long history with the Academy

Connie's association with the Academy and the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary began in 1971 when she entered grade 7. This super-sixer will be remembered by the Class of 1977 as an out-going, enthusiastic classmate and active member of the Athletic Club.

In 1981 Connie attended the University of Winnipeg obtaining 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 the Academy's staff in 1998. In 2002 she was appointed Vice Principal and in 2005 she became Principal.

Committed to faith based education

Committed to education of young women within a Catholic faith community, she completed the two year Certificate in Religious Education at St. Paul's College and the three year Nathanael Ministries Formation Program offered by the Archdiocese of Winnipeg. Also, Connie is an *Associate of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary*. Associates are people who share the spirituality, mission and charism of Mother Marie Rose and become formally affiliated with the Sisters.

Connie and her husband Jim have two children, Johnathan, a graduate of St. Paul's High School (2003) and Larissa, a graduate of the Academy (2008).

Connie responded to her appointment as follows: "I am deeply humbled and honored by this opportunity to lead SMA as President at this critical time in our history. I am forever grateful to the members of the Search Committee for their unwavering commitment and professionalism to the process; to the Board; SNJM, for placing their trust in me and to Sister Susan Wikeem for her guidance, advice and support personally and professionally over the years. I embark on this next chapter of my SMA story with enthusiasm, conviction and commitment, and look forward to working with this amazing school community to keep the flame burning bright!"

Faith & Community involvement

Connie has been a life-long parishioner of Holy Rosary Parish and has volunteered in many capacities over the years. Currently she is on the Parish Liturgical committee and is lector for both Italian and English masses.

Connie is also dedicated to the Italian community and is currently President of the Italian Canadian Centre Board of Directors.

Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77), Concetta D'Amico-Scerbo, Larissa Yunyk ('08)

The tradition continues

Although the day-to-day operations have been passed on to a lay administrator, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary remain at the helm of the Academy providing direction and service as owners, members of Boards and committees, volunteers and class prayer partners. Significantly, the Sisters establish the mission and purpose of the Academy, approve By-Laws, elect the Directors, appoint the President, and approve certain financial decisions.

In addition to the Sisters involvements at the Academy, there are also Associates of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary on staff.

Honouring SNJM's Foundress

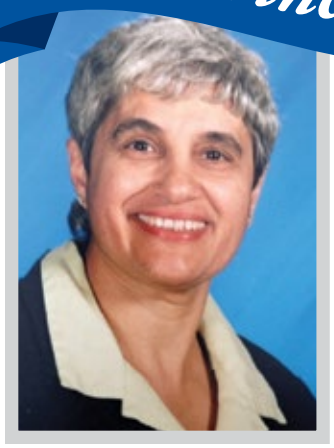
The week of October 6th is Mother Marie Rose Durocher Week at the Academy. During this week staff and students learn more about the foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and what inspired her life and actions. Her favorite scripture text from the Gospel of Luke was "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled." She believed that education, grounded in faith and centered in justice, could transform the minds and hearts of young women, and that the women, in turn, could transform an entire society. Today this vision continues to inspire members of the SMA community. Faculty and staff fan the sparks and embers into flames confident that our graduates will Hold High the Torch and become the firebuilders of tomorrow.

A network of schools

St. Mary's Academy is one of seven schools in North America sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. These SNJM Network Schools, individually and collaboratively, continue the founding spirit of the sisters and their foundress, Mother Marie Rose Durocher. Every year in March administrators from the anglophone schools meet to discuss common issues and initiatives. One initiative we undertook last year was to encourage each of our schools to adopt a Holy Names school in a third world country to lend support to that school. Our adopted school is Holy Names High School in Bela Bela, Lesotho, Africa.

In March 2014 the Academy hosted the annual gathering of the ***SNJM Network of Schools*** in Winnipeg. Pictured are Administrators from SNJM schools along with Father Mark Tarrant (far left). Winnipeg administrators are Sister Cathy Laviolette and Connie Yunyk (front row, far right). Missing from photo is Sister Susan Wikeem.

New Principal



St. Mary's Academy is pleased to welcome Mrs. Josie Audino as Principal, beginning in August 2014.

Mrs. Audino is an experienced, well respected educator and school administrator. She has served as the Principal of Collège Churchill, Principal of École LaVérendrye and Vice-Principal of Kelvin High School.

Mrs. Audino is married with children and grandchildren. Daughters Felicia and Diana are alumnae of the Academy and son Vince is an alumnus of St. Paul's High School. Vince's two daughters currently attend the Academy.

Mrs. Audino is an active member of Holy Rosary Parish where she is President of the Catholic Women's League. She has many volunteer involvements in the community including the Italian community. In 2012 she was presented with the Donna dell'Anno Award.

AROUND THE ACADEMY

A-wop-bam-a-lu-mop and wop bam boom!

School Musical: Grease

From November 29th to December 1st, Alumnae Hall travelled back to 1959 for the SMA Drama Production of ***Grease: The High School Version***.

Playing to three excited, sold-out crowds, the cast and crew (over 140 students) sang, danced and acted their way into the hearts of the audience. Standing ovations and boisterous applause ensued when the infamous "Greased Lightning" first made its way onto the stage. Patrons left Alumnae Hall humming classic favourites such as "Summer Nights", "Greased Lightning" and "We Go Together."

Mother Marie Rose Week & Annual Retreat/Rally

Mother Marie Rose Week (MMR) is a annual event at the Academy where we recognize the Foundress of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. The week contains activities, information and events designed to help our community remember her values, mission and charism and how we are part of it today.

The Retreat/Rally held during MMR week, is a community and faith-based experience led by guest speakers. Our theme for 2013 was ***Together As One*** and guest facilitators were Cathy Johnson and Sr. Mary Kay Kelley SSJ from Philadelphia. They led each grade level on separate afternoons with presentations, small group reflection, media clips and student led witness talks. The students were challenged in aspects of community such as friendship, their giftedness, where they are going and trust.

MMR Week Planning Committee with advisor Ms. Michelle Garlinski

School Life

International Day

International Day, a time honoured tradition and signature fundraiser for the SMA Parents' Guild, took place on November 3, 2013. The 39th annual 'mini-Folklorama' was a resounding success with delicious ethnic food, top notch cultural entertainment, a variety of artistry in the art auction, wonderful gifts in the rainbow auction and many treats to choose from at the bake table.

New at International Day was a partnership with the SMA Green Team to promote an environmentally friendly experience by providing compostable plates, cutlery and free water.

Mark your calendars for the next International Day - Sunday, November 2, 2014. All are welcome!

Mission Club

The Mission Club gives students the opportunity to help and support those in need, both locally and within the global community. Each year the Mission Club provides financial assistance through various fundraising projects to organizations that are either managed or supported by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. In the 2013/14 school year the Mission Club supported the following charities: Esther House, Rossbrook House, Villa Rosa and Pregnancy & Family Support Service, Immaculate Conception Drop-In Centre, Holy Names House of Peace, Holy Names school and students in Lesotho Africa.

Leadership Team with Sister Joanne Pundyk (centre) and Ms. Teresa Uruski (far right).

In October 2013 a special guest of the Mission Club was Sister Joanne Pundyk, SNJM from Brazil. Sister Joanne shared stories and life lessons from her work assisting women with skill development for self employment opportunities, along with parenting and childcare support through a community based program in the heart of Brazil.

Youth In Philanthropy

Mission Statement - Girls clad in plaid, working to create positive change through philanthropic contributions in our community.

YIP members with teacher advisor, Mrs. Allison Challes

Youth In Philanthropy (YIP) at SMA, in cooperation with the Winnipeg Foundation, is a program designed to introduce high school students to philanthropy and community development.

This past school year YIP visited and granted $1000 each to the following charities: Hospitality House Refugee Ministry, Manitoba Forestry Association, Parkinson Society, Teen Klinic Drop In Centre and Winnipeg Inner City Missions.

Annual Special Project

YIP's special project involved helping the Children's Hospital Guild of Manitoba with their *Sew-4-Kids* program. SMA's YIP members stayed after school on Friday evenings throughout the winter to sew flannel pajama bottoms for children receiving chemotherapy.

"Be all that God meant for you to be and you will set the world on fire."
- St. Catherine of Siena

Campus Ministry - A Monthly Service

Campus Ministry aims to foster the faith life of our SMA community in various ways and strives to embrace the mission of the school in innovative, relevant programs and ministries. A Monthly Service (AMS) is one of those ways. It is an initiative of our students who participated in the *YouthLeader* program a few years ago. It is a monthly service outreach to a different agency or organization that students and staff can participate in once or all year. The goals are to serve those in need with their peers. Once a month, from 4 to 6 PM places such as Rossbrook House, Villa Cabrini, Spence Street Thrift Store and Villa Rosa have been visited. Campus Ministry Student Coordinators arrange for the locations, set dates and do the promotion. It is a great way to be of service to the broader community!

Wrapping Christmas gifts at Villa Rosa

Decorating for Halloween at Rossbrook House

Château Frontenac

Quebec Trip

Thirty Grade 10 and 11 French/Français students accompanied by Mme Desaulniers, Mme Grande, and Mlle Prystanski, travelled to Québec City and Montréal from February 14-18, 2014.

The group enjoyed dogsledding, snowshoeing, dancing at an authentic sugar shack, tobogganing in front of the Château Frontenac, tubing at the Winter Sports Village, touring Marie-Rose Centre in Longueuil, mass at Ste-Anne-de–Beaupré Basilica, visiting the tomb of St. André at Saint Joseph's Oratory in Montréal, walking through the Sacred Door at Notre-Dame in Québec city, a ferry ride across the St. Lawrence River and visiting the Montmorency Falls. It was a very busy, inspiring and fun trip!

Debate

Under the coaching of Mr. Jordan Burg, eight senior debaters travelled to Montreal in late October 2013 for the annual McGill High School Debate Tournament.

The Academy has participated in this tournament for many years and it continues to be a wonderful opportunity for our students to make connections and refine their debating skills.

Vow of Silence

On April 17, 2014 people all over the world remained silent in honour of those whose voices have not been heard. The Academy joined in as girls from grades 7-12 participated in this cause. Faculty and students wore red in solidarity and took a stand against injustice occurring all over the world.

This cause became an important mission for the class of 7-3. The class decided to host a campaign to help support people who had been silenced through abuse and violence. The girls made posters, created brochures and went door to door asking for pledges. They raised $1,500 and donated the money to Osborne House, a local safe-house for women and children.

Grade 7-3 with Ms. Marlene Bertrand of Osborne House and teacher Ms. Stephanie Zirino

Archbishop Gagnon

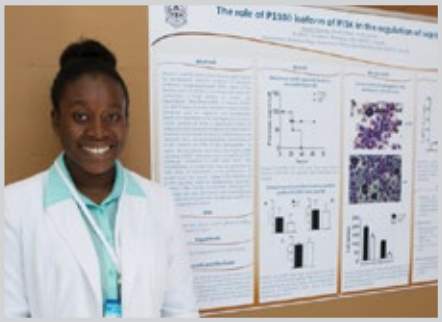
The Academy was pleased to welcome newly installed Archbishop Richard Gagnon for his first visit to the school on January 30, 2014. His Grace toured the school with Sister Susan Wikeem. Archbishop Gagnon returned to the Academy on April 23 to preside over our Easter Liturgy.

Math Inquiry Symposium

On May 15, 2014 grade 7 & 8 students took part in a Math Inquiry Symposium hosted at the Academy, organized by teacher Ms. Janet Zonneveld. Many professionals from various occupations conducted presentations regarding their use of fundamental mathematics to create, find solutions and communicate with others in their respective professions.

Sanofi BioGENEius Challenge Canada

For a second year, student Oreofe Okuunu competed in the Sanofi BioGENEius Challenge with her project *The role of p110 delta isoform of P13K in the regulation of sepsis*.



Graduation

One hundred and four students graduated from the Academy on June 24, 2014. Marissa Antoniuk gave the valedictory address and Kellie O'Rourke ('76) gave the address to the graduates.

Best wishes to graduates on future endeavours. Hold High the Torch!

SPORTS AT THE ACADEMY

Basketball

The Junior Varsity Basketball team placed first in the West Winnipeg Athletic Conference league. The team went on to win bronze at the Manitoba Hight School Athletic Association Provincial Championships. Coached by Audrey Dragojeciv, received the Academy's Nikki Redekop Coach of the Year Award.

Volleyball

The Junior Varsity Team won silver in the West Winnipeg Athletic Association Championship and won silver in the Manitoba High School Athletic Association JV Provincial Championships.

The Varsity Team won silver at the West Winnipeg Athletic Conference Championships and then finished in the Top 8 in the Manitoba High School Athletic Association Championships.

Golf

The Academy's golf team won the 2013 MHSAA Provincial Championships, the 2014 WWAC Ames Division Championships and the 2014 MBCI Invitational.

High School Hockey

The Flames finished the regular season with a 9 wins, 5 losses and 5 ties in the very tough CTV Division A schedule.

For the first time in the Academy's high school hockey history, the team travelled to Quebec City from February 5-9 to take part in a multilevel tournament where they competed in the Open category, taking on teams from both Canada and the United States.

Team visiting Cathedrale Notre Dame de Quebec while on a break from tournament games.

Female World Sport School Challenge

For the second consecutive year the Academy was pleased to be the host school for the *Female World Sport School Challenge.* This Hockey Canada sanctioned tournament took place at the MTS Iceplex from March 13-16, 2014.

The 8-team tournament featured three local Sport School teams: Shaftesbury Titans, Balmoral Hall Blazers and our St. Mary's Academy Flames. They were joined by the Banff Hockey Academy, Edge School for Athletics, Pursuit of Excellence, Rothesay Netherwood Riverhawks and the St. Francis Xavier Hockey Academy.

The tournament featured a meet-and-greet with Olympic gold medalist Jill Officer on the Friday evening and a banquet with guest speaker Winnipeg Jets Head Coach Paul Maurice on the Saturday.

Congratulations to the winning teams:
Gold: Shaftesbury Titans
Silver: Pursuit of Excellence
Bronze: St. Mary's Academy Flames

Athletic Banquet

The Academy's *Athletic Banquet* was an inspiring evening recognizing SMA athletes and coaches for the time and dedication they put into their respective sports.

Guests were treated to an inside look at curler Jill Officer's life as she gave the keynote address. Jill wove her story from being a high school athlete to becoming an Olympic Gold Medalist - the speech was motivational and humorous. Entertainment was provided by local musicians *McKenzie and Tate* (McKenzie Kolton is a grade 9 student at the Academy and Tate is her younger brother).

l-r: Mira Villegas ('14), Sydney Loewen ('14), Ms. Adriane McElrea, Jill Officer, Chantale Bosc ('14), Nina Semchyshyn ('14), Sister Susan Wikeem

Retirement

Andrea Cibinel (Fricke '76)

In June 2014 Andrea retired after 15 years of dedicated service as the Academy's Director of Alumnae Relations & Special Events. In addition to connecting with alumnae through various events and activities Andrea was instrumental in establishing and growing the annual Marian Awards Luncheon which celebrated its 10th anniversary in May 2014. Andrea was a tireless supporter of the Academy and she will be missed.

We wish Andrea many years of happiness with family and friends and time for the cottage and reading. We also look forward to seeing her at alumnae events!

l-r: Andrea Cibinel and Alfina Grande

Alfina Grande

In June 2014 Alfina retired after 7 years as a dedicated French teacher at the Academy. Alfina was passionate about teaching and languages - her legacy includes encouraging our students' participation in the yearly Concours d'Art Oratoire.

Alfina retires from the Academy to dedicate more time to the family business (Mona Lisa Ristorante Italiano), to continue her tenure as President of the Italian Canadian League of Manitoba and to enjoy time with family and friends. We will miss Alfina and we wish her many years of happiness!

Recognition

In June the following staff members were recognized for long service:

30 years

Sister Josephine Chudzik (Purchasing)

20 years

Lorne Hess (Teacher)

10 Years

Allison Stefanyshyn (Teacher)
Wilhmien Duffy (Secretary)
Mary-Anne Lovallo (Teacher)

STAFF NEWS

Farewell

The Academy says farewell and thank you to staff who are moving on:

Jeannine Pistawka (Barnabe '88) has been appointed Principal at St. Ignatius School effective September 2014. Jeannine gave the Academy 16 years of dedicated service.

Mary Ross (Graham '70) has worked in both the Directors office and Advancement office. Mary is relocating and retiring to Vancouver Island with her husband.

Matthew Paschak leaves his position as Science teacher to begin Medical School at the University of Manitoba in September.

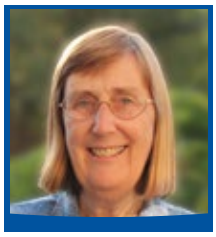
Ian Campbell leaves the Academy as our Liturgical Music teacher due to scheduling conflicts.

Laura Jane Boville the Academy's Choir teacher will be on MAT leave next year with her third child and plans to stay home afterwards.

MARIAN AWARDS

HOLD HIGH THE TORCH

2014 Marian Award Recipients



Leanne Boyd ('69)

Leanne holds RSW & MSW degrees along with an Advanced Certificate - Community Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, she has worked for the Government of Manitoba for the last 38 years. She is Director, Policy Development, Research and Evaluation, Healthy Child Manitoba which bridges community and Manitoba's Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet, the only legislated Cabinet Committee in Canada dedicated to the health and well-being of children and youth.

Sr. Lesley Sacouman ('63), friend and mentor for many decades, introduced Leanne. They first met when Leanne was in grade 11 at SMA and was a member of the Legion of Mary. One activity was to walk down Main Street where they would meet people in their dignity and humanity. After talking with the people, they soon realized that food was available for them on weekdays but not on Sundays so they decided they would buy food, make sandwiches and serve them on Sunday's at Immaculate Conception Parish. This small mustard seed has become the Sunday Drop-in, an inner city cornerstone, which still operates today.

"So, then, what are the building blocks we received from SMA–our foundational values, some learned at home and many learned and/or embraced to be our own in high school? We know a lot more now, than we did when I was in high school, about the adolescent brain–under construction until age 25 or so – and the impact of high school on academic and socio-emotional learning. Research has provided us with incontrovertible evidence on the critical importance of learning in a safe environment, an environment of faith and hope, and its scaffolding effect on future life outcomes. As alumnae of SMA, we are responsible for speaking Truth to Power. We are responsible for "holding high the torch" and for transforming the vision of Blessed Marie Rose through our lives. I chose to transform that vision through a career in government. I chose to dedicate my 40 years in government to improving the mental health of children, youth, their families and communities. I believe our emotional and spiritual well-being is the essence of life at the individual and population level. There is an epidemic of children, youth and young adults with mental health problems in our schools and communities. Every person in this room could help to stop this epidemic–could personally connect with a child, youth, young adult and see their strengths–to be the difference that will enable them to learn, and to live their lives in a safe, happy and fulfilling way. This is my vision that I carry with me–every day–from my years at St. Mary Academy." ***Leanne Boyd***

Kellie O'Rourke ('76)

Kellie is a Registered Nurse with 35 years experience in healthcare, currently Chief Operating Officer of Winnipeg West Integrated Health & Social Services. Her portfolio includes Grace Hospital, Winnipeg West ACCESS Centre and Community Health Services for St. James Assiniboia and Assiniboine South, a unique new health care delivery model within the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. In this capacity, Kellie oversees a staff of 2500 and $150M budget.

Colleen O'Rourke ('69) declared her sister to be a woman of great character and accomplishment including her educational achievements of BN in Nursing and her Masters degree of Science in Administration. While serving as Executive Director of Support Services at St. Boniface, she was responsible for capital projects including the $16M Bergen Cardiac Centre, the $13M "Atrium" and the Buhler Gallery, the first hospital art gallery in Manitoba. Kellie's volunteer history is extensive, always embracing the importance of providing service to both her community and her profession with a thirst for knowledge and a commitment to patient care and wellness.

"A key lesson I learned at St. Mary's is the importance of human connection. As a young ICU nurse I cared for the some of the first AIDS patients in Manitoba. In the early days of the epidemic there was enormous fear and a lack of information about transmission and healthcare providers went to extremes to protect themselves. We were doing the best we could with the information we had. After working a long stretch of seven 12 hour shifts to care for one man in isolation, I spontaneously took my protective gloves off and touched him on his shoulder to comfort him after removing a breathing tube. He then told me of his sense of extreme isolation due to the lack of eye contact and human touch and how much this small touch meant to him as one human being to another during such a terrifying time in his life. I've never forgotten that patient and what he taught me. Throughout all the roles in my career, I have kept that lesson in the forefront. Today as Chief Operating Officer of Winnipeg West Integrated Health & Social Services I have such an incredible opportunity to help create an environment and support a culture where people can do their best work and be truly present for those who come to us for care or services. During our monthly orientation for new staff & physicians one of the key messages I give is that: "People don't always remember what we did or didn't do for them but they *always, always* remember how we made them feel." ***Kellie O'Rourke***

10th Annual Marian Awards Luncheon

May 10, 2014 | Manitoba Club

l-r: Colleen O'Rourke, Kellie O'Rourke, Sr. Susan Wikeem, Leanne Boyd, Sr. Lesley Sacouman, Andrea Cibinel

The Academy thanks the following sponsors for their generosity: **Mimosa Sponsor:** Gary & Patricia Buckley. **Dessert Table Sponsor:** Bockstael Construction Limited. **Podium Sponsor:** S & J Construction. **Program Sponsor:** KPMG. **Table Sponsors:** Coughlin Insurance Brokers, Mona Lisa Ristorante, SWOB, St. Mary's Academy Alumnae Association and the St. Mary's Academy Parents' Guild.

ALUMNAE

A young woman once said to an old woman,
"What is life's heaviest burden?"
And the old woman said,
"To have nothing to carry."
- Jewish tale

Alumnae Association President's Message

Christina Tompkins (Woods '90)

Nine years ago a good friend of mine who sat on the Alumnae Board asked if I would be interested in being part of the board to help past and future Alumnae stay connected with the school. That was when I really began to realize how much St. Mary's impacted my family, career and life. I had just attended my 10th year reunion and, to be honest, was a little bit nervous coming back as I had not seen many people since graduation. This nervousness went away as I felt like I had come home. This feeling convinced me that getting involved with the Alumnae Board and re-connecting with the school was something I really wanted to do.

Those nine years have gone by fast and have been filled with many fond and wonderful memories. The greatest benefit of being active on the Alumnae Board was meeting the many wonderful ladies who have graduated throughout the years. I am also thankful and privileged to have met and worked with the Alumnae Board members, past and present. Their hard work and dedication is always inspiring. I believe they would join me in saying how rewarding the experience can be. These nine years were filled with many meetings and events that both challenged us as an association but also filled us with great pride in both our efforts and our school.

I encourage alumna of St. Mary's Academy to get involved with the Alumnae Association Board, or in other volunteer capacities. I, and other Alumnae Board members and volunteers, can assure you it is an immensely rewarding feeling to know you have given back to the school that has given us so much.

Nominations for the Board of Directors

If you would like to put your name forward to be a member of the Alumnae Board please send an email to:
alumnaeboard@stmarysacademy.mb.ca
Nominations close on September 19, 2014.

Kind regards,
Christina Tompkins (Woods '90)

< Alumnae Association Board. Top to bottom, l-r: Mary Shariff ('83), Stephanie Grabau ('07), Athena Dinos ('83), Lois Bosc ('83), Nicole Gautron ('83), Leanne Boyd ('69), Carolyn Eva Meadows ('83), Sara Hogarth (Bromley '86), Sr. Marylyn Gibney, Sandra Martin (Alwis '97), Brentlee Strijack ('96), Christina Tompkins (Woods '90), Irene Mestito-Dao ('89), Cathie Cronin-Licharson ('75), Marcia McKenzie (Maia '92), Sr. Susan Wikeem ('63), Andrea Cibinel (Fricke '76), Missing: Stephanie Arniel ('11), Joanne Steeves (Weight '90), Christina Kenny (Shelest '96)

In Memoriam

It is with sorrow that St. Mary's Academy acknowledges the passing of the following alumnae. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

Catherine Vivian Kraemer (Kamedish '28)
Nora Gauthier (Conway, Commercial Class '39)
Agnes Davies (Crawford '40)
Shirley McGregor (Madson '43)
Bertha Alida Vandersteen ('43)
Patricia Fern Houston (Kelly, Commercial Class '45)
Mildred Lavergne (Bromley '45)
Johanna Boyko (Malenchak , SMA College '46)
Ruth Ellen Allbutt (McIsaac '48)
Frances Mary Depres (Jobin '48)
Marjorie Pritchard (McNulty '48)
Lillian Rose Marie Van Walleghem (De Wandel, Commercial Class '50)
Dorothy Zawatsky (McLean '55)
Elizabeth Melnyk (Chipura '56)
Carolyn Adele Scott (Unwin, SMA College '62)
Val Friesen (Cloutier '63)
Audrey Gail Whyte (Harriott '65)
Judith Lynne Faurschou ('66)
Patricia Saltel (Tuck '66)
Donna Matthews (Dallinger '71)
Lynne Willcock (Kirkpatrick '74)
Wanda Chmielowicz ('77)
Sandy Popkevich ('78)
Amber Jean Waly ('99)

Kathleen Sylvia Crocker (Teacher 1975-1996)

Homecoming Weekend 2013

September 27 & 29, 2013

Sister Strikes Again

On February 1, 2014 the SMA Alumnae Association brought critically acclaimed ***Sister Strikes Again! Late Nite Catechism 2*** by Maripat Donovan to Alumnae Hall. The laughter echoed as Sister lamented the sins of the 20th century!

Actress Kim Richards (Sister) with SMA Alumnae Association organizers and volunteers.

The SMA Alumnae Association extends special thanks to the following sponsors: **Gold Sponsor** Cibinel Architects Ltd., **Silver Sponsors** HR Adworks and South Winnipeg Eye Centre. **Bronze Sponsors**: Banville & Jones, Henderson Vision Centre, Lawton Partners, Couture Capital Group, Crosstown Civic Credit Union, GBL Solutions, Inn at the Forks, Taylor McCaffrey LLP, Remax Realty: Joanne Hiebert, Sargent Sundae, St. Charles Catholic School, St. Paul's College, University of Manitoba and Wow! Hospitality Concepts Inc.

The GRAPEVINE

1929

Una Johnstone (Gray) is well and continues to lead an active life appropriate to a woman of 103! Stairs are a problem, but she walks daily and makes every effort to avoid a wheelchair. She maintains her home in Wildwood Park, but resides at the Riverview Health Centre with her roommate, a budgie named "Tweety Pie".

Mrs. Johnstone has a caregiver who visits her six days a week and organizes many outings, in addition to assuring that hair, make-up and manicures are kept to her liking. A favourite field trip is visiting her home to lounge under the trees, listen to the birds and enjoy the flowers whose planting she supervises every spring.

Mrs. Johnstone also appreciates scenic drives and has often given instructions to be taken through the grounds of St. Mary's Academy as she recalls her school days and the Sisters with great fondness. This finally led to a visit where Mrs. Johnstone toured her alma mater for the first time since graduation. Archivist, Sr. Mary Gorman, prepared for the visit by producing photos and documents dating back 90 years. Mrs. Johnstone was able to immediately identify herself in photos and then went on to identify former classmates.

The Academy is very grateful to Mrs. Johnstone for her donation of her leather bound 1869 Family Bible.

Una Johnstone (seated) with Andrea Cibinel, Sister Mary Gorman & Sister Susan Wikeem.

1947

Audrey Jarvis (Mahon) of Etobicoke, Ontario visited the school with her two children and was pleased to find not only her own grad photos but also photos covering four generations of family connections lining the hallway walls: her sister **Constance Corner** (Mahon '44) and her sister in-law **Lucille Mahon** (Skelly '49); Lucille Mahon's mother, **Mabel Skelly** (Payne '24) and sister, **Margaret Meagher** (Skelly '48)**; Kathleen Downs** (Mahon '79), and daughters **Amy Downs** ('10) and **Sarah Carpick** (Downs '12) and their cousin **Kendra Mahon** ('11)**.**

1955

Victoria Gretchen (Mihychuk) and **Margaret Ritchie** (Lester) want to alert classmates that they are on full throttle 60th reunion planning for 2015 and any input is welcome (204-475-4535)! Please mark your calendars now; Homecoming Weekend is September 25-27, 2015.

1960

Valerie Wadephul (Drewys) was in grade 11 at SMA and her father, Walter V. Drewrys was a charter member of the 1st Ukrainian Catholic Council of the Knights of Columbus. Father Eugene Rudachek was in the process of establishing St. Anne's Ukrainian Catholic Parish on Douglas Avenue.

"Father mentioned to my Dad that he needed a large painting of St. Anne for the church and asked him if he knew where he could go to get one painted. I had been taking oil painting lessons for years so Dad suggested that Father Rudachek ask me. He brought me a copy of the picture he wanted painted and I asked Sister Philippine if I could use the studio at SMA to paint it under her supervision. She agreed.

When Father was informed that I could use the studio he asked me what I would charge him to do so. What did I know? I had no clue how to answer him so I just said, "The experience will be good for me and I will do it in thanksgiving for my talent." My mother thought I was such a spiritual girl for such a 'generous' answer. Little did she know. She told me years later how proud she was when I answered Father as I had. I set her straight; but I am happy now that I was ignorant of pricing such things.

I do not know how many months it took me to complete the painting it but I was very happy when Sister Philippine said it looked finished to her.

On my 50th birthday, Aug 15, 1993, Rev Father Dr. Stefan Soroka - parish priest of St. Anne's Church (now Metropolitan of Philadelphia and Archbishop of all Ukrainian Catholics in the USA) invited me to St. Anne's for Sunday Mass. I attended with my family. He introduced me to the parish as the artist of the painting and presented me with a bouquet of roses. What a blessing this whole experience has been. With thanks I praise God."

1961

Marie Schnerch (Sharpe) has published *The Roblin* now selling at McNally Robinson. Built in 1882, in Winnipeg's Exchange District, The Roblin Hotel was distinguished by being the last men-only hotel and beer parlour left in Canada. It remained family owned until it was demolished in 1993. The book brings to life stories about the colourful men who lived in the hotel and those who frequented the beer parlour as remembered by her cousin, Camille Roy.

Their grandmother, Adelina Roy, graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1901 and Marie has kindly donated much historic memorabilia to the school archives over the years.

The GRAPEVINE

1964

Audrey Mutter (Stupak) is excited about the 50th anniversary of graduation and thinks it would be wonderful if classmates could come together for a special celebration on Sat, Sept 27 during the Alumnae Homecoming Weekend. Her sister-in-law, Yvonne (McClure) Stupak (Rm 21) is coming from Toronto and Patricia Riordan (Rm21) is also planning to attend. If alumnae are interested in doing a special "class of 1964" activity, please contact Audrey by e-mail at amutter@shaw.ca or phone 204-889-7783. Suggestions for a possible activity and planning assistance would be very much appreciated. If you cannot attend but would like to let our classmates know a little bit about your life so far, please forward your story.

Marilyn Morrissette (Dubray, Commercial '64) has moved back home to her roots in Swan River, MB to spend her retirement years among childhood friends and work as an educational assistant. Marilyn was one of three young women from Swan River to come south together to further their education. All three resided with the Sisters of Service on Hargrave Street while attending St. Mary's Academy.

1965

Barbra Clubb and husband (of 29 years) Kevin Burns were recently travelling in Arizona and took the opportunity to visit classmate **Sue Hicks** (Spencer '65) and husband Dave who have a winter home north of Tuscon in Sun City, Oro Valley.

l-r: Kevin Burns, Barb Clubb, Sue Hicks, friend Lindsay Setzer and seated, Dave Hicks

1969

Pattie Moore & Sari Stiles

While travelling through Atlantic Canada **Pattie Moore** (Delabbio) stopped at a B&B in Amhurst, NS and was pleasantly surprised to meet **Sari Stiles** (Kelman) who attended the Academy from 1969 to 1972, prior to moving to California. It's a small world!

It feels like yesterday yet the calendar tells us it is 45 years ago! How did that happen? In order to celebrate, we thought it would be appropriate to have a dinner on the Saturday before the Alumnae Tea on September 27. Please mark your calendar and let one of us know if you can attend

Pattie Delabbio Moore: moorepattie@gmail.com; JoAnne Sergeant Wade: jjwade15@gmail.com; Marlene Johns Andrews: mmandrews5@yahoo.ca; Paulette Guertin Richardson: guertinpaulette@hotmail.com.

1970

Sheila Grover and her husband Greg Thomas are both historians and have recently combined their efforts to produce the book *100 Summers on Lake Winnipeg: A Resort History of Victoria Beach*. Through text, images and maps, the book traces the evolution of this unique and lovely spot as a private land consortium with a vision of a family-oriented retreat in the boreal woods.

1971

Rev. Mary Holmen retired from her position as Interfaith Chaplain at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre in July. She maintains her certification as a Specialist in Pastoral Care and a Teaching Supervisor of Clinical Pastoral Education with the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care. Mary has one more year remaining in her term as Chair of the Professional Practice Commission and member of the Board of CASC. She will continue to exercise her ministry and serve as Honorary Assistant in the parish of St. Peter, Winnipeg.

1974

The time has come ... we've officially been out of high school for 40 years and a reunion is in order! A small committee has been established to work on a plan for a Sat, Sep, 27 event for the Class of '74, as part of the larger SMA reunion weekend. Your ideas for the get-together are welcome. Once a plan is in place, we'll be in touch with everyone for whom we have contact information so please pass on my email and number. And remember, even if someone didn't graduate from SMA but was a part of the class earlier on, we want them with us. Barbara Herriot-Miller: bhm121@yahoo.ca or 204-453-3227

1976

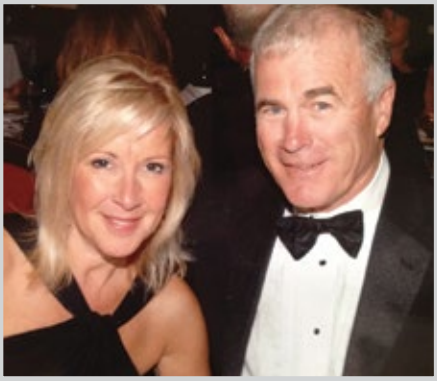
Colleen Kovacs, Mimi Harris (Dubienski), **Andrea Cibinel** (Fricke), **Christine Blackshaw** (McLean) and **Monica Hennessy** (Green) along with some of their men folk met in Las Vegas in November 2013 to explore the concept of Freedom 55 and what applications that might have in their real lives. Please note – although there may have been a real cigarette lit once or twice in the seventies, the cigarettes in this photo are not real. The boas are, however.

1977

Sally Taylor-Alexander and her sister **Jennifer Millington** (Taylor '79) ran the London Marathon for charity in April 2014. Their sister, **Alexandra Clarke** (Taylor '88) served as Team Manager and headed up the cheering section. Jennifer lives in Barton-Under-Needwood and Alexandra lives in Staffordshire. Sally remains in Winnipeg which allowed her daughter, **Robyn Alexander**, to graduate with the Class of 2014!

The GRAPEVINE

1978



Teresa Gall and fiancé Melvin McLeod

Teresa Gall and fiancé Melvin McLeod live on a farm called Maplehill in Lakefield, ON, where they just planted an orchard to go with their culinary garden. They look forward to harvesting four different kinds of apples as well as pears in a few years. Teresa has a sales and marketing business, Integra Sales (est 1988) and the couple also own two water treatment stores, McLeod's Ecowater (est 1979) in Peterborough and EcoWater Bowmanville (est 2009) in Bowmanville. "Now if I could only figure out how to establish a vineyard up here … I would!"

1979

Rita Mui lives in southwest Hong Kong on Lantau Island where she shares a home with her husband and four dogs. She is responsible for advertising in Hong Kong for Fox International Channels. In 1982 Rita earned her BCommerce (Hons) from the U of M and is currently the president of the U of M Alumni Association in Hong Kong.

1980

Mary LeMaître (PhD, French & Catholic Studies) is a French professor at the University of Winnipeg. She enjoys writing French language books, her first being **The Secret Life of French Verbs and Other Sentence Parts** (2012). She also does research on Residential Schools, treaties and the Indian Act and is currently focusing on colonialism in Canada and its abiding presence in contemporary Canadian social discourse.

1981

l-r: Donna MacFarlane (Cousineau), Penny McLandress (Beck), Deirdre Egan, Susanne Parent-Pulak, Judy Clendenan (Race) and Colleen Singbeil

It was a sunny weekend in March when four girls from Winnipeg, **Susanne Parent-Pulak, Judy Clendenan** (Race), **Colleen Singbeil** and **Penny Mclandress** (Beck), and one from Bragg Creek, Alberta **Donna Macfarlane** (Cousineau) met up in Chicago to spend the weekend at **Deirdre Egan's** home to celebrate their 50th birthdays before they all turned 51. It was three days full of site-seeing (some chose not to stand on a sky platform 103 stories high) shopping, eating and lots and lots of talking, as some seemed to possess a photographic memory of high school. It had been a few years since they last had a sleep over together but all agreed, it needs to happen again soon.

1982

Theresa Eyssens lives in Brisbane, Australia and is married with two children, Tyson and Savanah, ages five and six. She has been working at IBM for more than 25 years and is the Senior Executive Partner running the Mining and Oil & Gas practice for IBM in Australia. She remembers the moment she realized what she wanted to do for a living - work for IBM. It was when she logged onto to her first IBM PC in Mrs. Challes' Advanced Math class in the 10th grade!

1984

The Class of '84 is celebrating its 30th reunion this September 26-28. Plans are being made for a casual get together of girls only and we'd love to see as many of you as possible. Helping with planning are **Kim Boughton** (Semchyshyn), **Kathy Roberts** (Kopczewski), **Sally Correia, Denise Watson, Angie Mathieson, Cathy Gillespie** (Jacyk), **Deborah Barth** (Wellink) and **Susan Belmonte**. To make sure you keep updated with reunion details, please send your contact info to sebelmonte@shaw.ca.

1987

l-r: Chantelle Deslauriers-Gray, Victoria Delveaux (Bereznay), Elisabeth Lang, Christine Kulas (Van de Mosselaer), Tracy Iliffe, Christine Soubry (MacInnes)

Elisabeth Lang is currently living in Ottawa, Ontario with her husband and three daughters; Kate (20), Jane (15) and Claire (12). After seven years as a litigation lawyer in private practice, Elisabeth joined the Federal Government and is now Director General, Program Policy and Regulatory Affairs with the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, Industry Canada. Elisabeth keeps in touch with many of the amazing women from the class of '87 and is looking forward to a joint 45th Birthday celebration with a group of them in Chicago.

1992

Lea Ledohowski has been appointed President of Canad Inns. Lea graduated from the U of M with a B.A. Honours in Psychology, has a Master's in Architecture from the University of BC, is a LEED Accredited Professional and holds a Master's of Science in Real Estate Development and Finance from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Lea has over 25 years of experience with Canad Inns and will be based out of the Toronto office.

1994

Lucia MacKenzie (Bova) is married to Ryley MacKenzie, the son of **Hope MacKenzie** (Trush '66). They have two daughters Laura (5) and Simona (1) and live in Victoria, BC, where Lucia is a middle school math teacher at St. Michaels University School.

20th Class Reunion: plans are underway for dinner and drinks on the Saturday, September 27th portion of the Class of 1994 20th reunion. For information on reunion events or to be added to the reunion Facebook group (71 members so far!), please contact **Kerri Moore** (McIvor) at kerrimoore@mymts.net or **Kathryn Kolbuch** at kathrynkolbuch@gmail.com.

1995

Teresa Cotroneo graduated from the U of M with a major in linguistics and had intended to pursue speech pathology but a "twist of fate" kept her in Winnipeg working at the Caboto Centre for eleven years gaining experience with non-profits, managing special events, working with volunteers and meeting an amazing network of people. In 2012 she joined Folklorama Inc. as Director of Member and Festival Services, she leads the department by the same name which ultimately organizes all logistical aspects of the annual flagship festival. *"I absolutely love what I do and the team we work with! This year marks the 45th Folklorama festival and I am completely honoured to be part of such an amazing organization and still in awe of the more than 20,000 volunteers who make it happen every year. I thought my path was taking me somewhere else when I was completing my university degree; turns out I was on it all along."*

1998

Kristy Sivorot (Miller) has been living in Victoria, BC for the last 13 years. She is married with one child, Griffin Forrest Sivorot, born April 29, 2013. Kristy a Registered Nurse working in PAR (Post Anesthetic Recovery Room). She and her husband enjoy swimming and the outdoor life, spending a lot of time hiking, camping and exploring the many other islands and beaches in BC. They keep honey bees, as well as chickens and are soon to be expanding their homesteading life to include more animals and land in an effort to get back to living closer to the land.

2001

Christina Fawcett

Christina Fawcett completed her Ph.D. in English Literature at the University of Glasgow in November of 2013 and will be travelling to Scotland with her family for the awarding of the degree the summer of 2014. Christina's thesis examined works of J.R.R. Tolkien and the moral complexity of the monster. Her work argued that in Tolkien's attempt to create a modern Beowulf, he had drawn together past myth and modern faith to create a world of diverse spiritual signification.

Amanda Jo McLeod works part time at McPhillips Station Casino and part time at CJNU Nostalgia radio as an on air producer and occasional announcer. She also helped organize the M7 Con held in Los Angeles. Last summer, she was able to meet one of her heroes, S.E Hinton (author of the Outsiders and Rumble Fish), who inspired and encouraged Amanda Jo to write again. She now has three projects on the go and hopes to have a children's book published next year. And last but not least a short film project, **The Colt Girls**, which she filmed in 2009, will be turned into a web series in 2015.

2002

Dr. Priya Chopra graduated from the University of Manitoba in 2007 with a Bachelor of Med. Rehab (Respiratory Therapy) and works at St. Boniface Hospital in the Neonatal Intensive Care, as well as Adult Medical Intensive Care. In addition to her ICU work, she is a Sessional Instructor for the U of M, teaching classes in Clinical Skills and Current Practices. Priya has kept in touch with her classmates from St. Mary's, especially two of her closest friends Patricia Bal and Courtney Andrysiak.

Andrea Metner and Mrs. Deb Nickel

Andrea Metner (Wiebe) was joined by her mother and husband Ryan in a recent tour of the school. This was the first time she had been back since convocation and she was eager to see the all the changes and find her family name on the donor wall. The Metners live in Moosehorn where they operate a hardware store.

2004

10th reunion! Meet up with old friends for a fun night at Maw's Eatery & Bar on Homecoming Weekend! For ticket details please join your class facebook group or contact meaghanmackay@hotmail.com.

2005

Erika Pinga is working as an Application Developer for IBM in Calgary. She did her under graduate studies at the U of M but found greater job opportunities out west. *"Please tell all the kiddies to pursue Computer Science if it's something that interests them! Tons of opportunities available especially for women since there aren't a lot of us in the industry. If I could do SMA all over again I would pay more attention during my Computer Science and Pre-Cal classes. Also still best friends with a few SMA girls, one of them pregnant and another engaged! Time flies, 2015 will be our reunion, will definitely have to come back, and hopefully catch up with old classmates and teachers!"*

The GRAPEVINE

2005

Allison Poff has been with Foreign Affairs and International Trade (now Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development) for the last five years as a Foreign Service officer in the Political/Economic stream. She has just returned from 2.5 years in Haiti where she worked on security sector reform (i.e. projects with the Haitian National Police).

2006

Dr. Alanna Junaid was awarded the University of Manitoba Gold Medal in Dentistry for highest standing in Dentistry. She is joining Tuxedo Edge Dental Centre.

Dr. Katie Cook

Dr. Katie Cook is a recent grad of the U of M, Faculty of Medicine and participated in the 2014 Medical Art Show and Gala: *Living the Dream.*

2007

Amanda Burridge graduated in 2012 from the Health Information Management Program at Red River College, and is a member of the Canadian Health Information Management Association. She has recently been appointed the Supervisor of Coding & Data Quality at St. Boniface Hospital.

2009

Julia Vossen has completed Level 1 in Carpentry at Winnipeg Tech and is currently in her second year of a four year Construction Management degree program at Red River College. During her first year, she was the recipient of the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association student award scholarship. She interviewed for the association, posted on YouTube and in their magazine, and focused on the challenges women face in the construction industry, including the increased participation of women in the trades. Julia's first six month co-op job experience was as a lab and field technician with Stantec in Calgary. She then returned to Winnipeg to complete her 2nd year and was offered a job with Winnipeg based Bockstael Construction as a Business Development Administrator for her second year co-op education program. She has also been asked to participate in the Manitoba Construction Career Expo. *"It's very exciting to be part of an industry that is highly male dominated and is only just beginning to recognize women as an asset to the field. Women can make a difference in this industry and there are a lot of companies out there willing to help women get more involved; they just have to believe that they can."*

2010

Chelsea Caldwell is a U of W student and chair of United Way of Winnipeg Youth United Council. Chelsea is also one of three recipients in the age 20-25 category to receive a Future Leaders of Manitoba award in 2014. The annual awards recognize young Manitobans for their dedication to the social and economic growth of the province.

Boundaries by Dorian Schwartz

Dorian Schwartz is a psychology student who has painted since she could hold a brush and has participated in various art shows. She won third place in an art competition in England where her piece is on display at the Glyndebourne Opera House. *"I have always been inspired by those who delve full force into doing what they love, in particular by those who let their passion become their work. I created this piece at a time in my life when societal pressures to conform and find a stable career with a steady income were weighing heavy on my 20 year old soul. The bright color and out of control expression symbolizes my inner longing to express myself creatively, while the black frame like shapes symbolize the fear I hold of having to fit within the boundaries that society places upon me."*

2010 and 2011

l-r: Ellen Enns ('10), Krystal Bergen ('10), Samantha MacRea ('10)
Samantha Brodick ('11), Jane Hilder ('11), Caroline Grimes ('11)

Six "St. Mary's girls" pictured above, were part of a team of students in the ED2 year of the Environmental Design Program of the Faculty of Architecture at the U of M that won a spot in the International Warming Huts Competition in 2013. Their entry, Weave Wave Warming Hut was the winner of the student entry. With their classmates, they spent three months designing, fabricating, and gathering materials, as well as spending a week on the Assiniboine River constructing the Hut. They took part in presentations given at different public events about the Warming Huts, including the WAG's 10x20x20 and a special presentation given by the University. The project itself was featured in the Wpg Free Press, Wpg Sun, The CBC and international design blogs like ArchDaily.

2012

Bénédicte LeMaître has completed her second year of an Honour's degree in Religion. She is also a cantor at St. Mary's Cathedral and in the diocesan choir. This year she competed in the Manitoba Music Festival for the first time and came in second in both her voice categories. She was also the stand-in and double for Kelly Reilly in the recently-released Hollywood movie "Heaven is For Real".

Alana Robert was one of twenty Canadians to receive the national Terry Fox Humanitarian Award valued at $28,000. Over the past year, she and **Alexandra Derwin** ('12) founded the Justice For Women student initiative at the University of Manitoba, which raises funds and awareness for critical human rights issues specifically affecting women locally and globally, and facilitates an inclusive environment on campus. Over the past year, the group has raised thousands of dollars for female development projects around the world, and has contributed to the creation of various university policies that govern over 37,000 staff and students.

2013

April Cairns is attending Red River College's Business Administration program. She plans to major in Human Resources and specialize in Compensation and Benefits.

Governor General's Caring Canadian Award

"Created in 1995, the ***Governor General's Caring Canadian Award*** recognizes individuals who volunteer their time to help others and to build a smarter and more caring nation." **Two of the 2013 recipients are alumnae of the Academy.**

Sr. Lesley Sacouman '63

Governor General David Johnston & Sr. Lesley Sacouman
photo by Sgt. Ronald Duchesne

Sr. Lesley Sacouman has been an inspiration to others for four decades. To her credits, she co-founded Rossbrook House, an inner-city drop-in shelter, in the mid-70's followed closely by founding an alternative junior high school program held at Rossbrook House. In 1998, she founded Esther House, a second stage home for women in addictions recovery. In 2002, after a year spent living in a New York City shelter she returned with a vision for a transitional shelter for women from different countries, circumstances and faiths. To meet this need, she opened Holy Names House of Peace in 2004 and in 2010 the facility was expanded. In July 2013 she helped launch Marie Rose Place which will offer furnished apartments for newcomer, single women and their children, set to open in October 2014.

Sr. Lesley is the Executive Director of Holy Names House of Peace and is a member of The Winnipeg Foundation board.

Erin Ward '07

Governor General David Johnston & Erin Ward
photo by Community Foundations of Canada

During Erin's time at the Academy, she was a Human Rights and Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) club participant. After graduation, Erin earned a placement at the Manitoba Children's Museum in the Winnipeg Foundation's Summer Internship Program for YIP members who demonstrated a keen interest in the non-profit sector, and in volunteerism.

When that ended, Erin wanted to do more so she helped start the Young Philanthropists' Network (YPN), a group of 18 to 35 year-olds who pool their time and resources to contribute to an endowment fund at The Winnipeg Foundation, and make grants to the community.

Erin is also a member on the Foundation's Nourishing Potential Advisory Committee, deciding on the allocation of grants for after-school nutrition programs, which is fitting as she has degrees in Education and Human Ecology from the U of M.

Births

Jeremy David Sereda born January 7, 2014 to **Katie (Jensen '04)** and Graham Sereda.

Joseph Opoku born January 12, 2014 to **Megan (Puchniak '95)** and Jeffrey Otu.

Anna Margaret Stephens and Hailey Marie Stephens born January 4, 2014 to **Janine (Hanson '01)** and Matt Stephens.

Ariya Marie Staerk born April 8, 2014 to **Alana Duffy ('01)** and David Staerk.

Edward Benedict Zhang born June 20, 2014 to **Sheena Luu ('01)** and Wei Zhang.

ADVANCEMENT

Diane McGowan
Director of Advancement

One generation plants the tree, another gets the shade.

Chinese Proverb

Congratulations Class of '65 for truly Holding High the Torch!

In 2005 the Class of '65 set a precedent by establishing a bursary fund to celebrate its 40th reunion.

In 2014 this group of loyal, resourceful women met the goal and conditions of the original *Terms of Reference of the Class of '65 Bursary*, and initial disbursements will commence this fiscal year.

Thank you all! You are making it possible for young women to benefit from an Academy education, and for the Academy to recruit and retain students from a wide range of socio-economic conditions.

The generosity of the Class of '65 has also resulted in the evolution of a new SMA Homecoming Weekend "tradition". Other classes followed suit and included fundraising in their reunion weekend activities, resulting in generous gifts to the ***Alumnae Bursary fund***.

"Class Agents" help SMA

In January 2014 a group of alumnae from the classes of 1955 to 1964 graciously agreed to be "class agents" and assist the Advancement Office in its efforts soliciting gifts for the ***Unrestricted Bursary Fund***. The ladies came to the Academy to share ideas regarding bursary funds and sign letters to their classmates. The result was a doubling of the amount donated to the Bursary Fund from the previous year!

It is the modest, thoughtful annual gifts that will ensure the Academy can continue to provide financial assistance to deserving students.

Our sincere thanks to the following alumnae for their generous time commitment and for sharing our vision:
Gail Coyston (Smith '55), Patricia Knudsen (Stanich '56), Verna Sylvestre (Mann '56), Eleanor Cramp (Vail '57), Carol Kennedy (Johnson '57), Josephine Dreger (Shelest '58) Jean Van Walleghem (Giesinger '58), Gertrude Racz (Vis '58), Deanne McDonald (Hebert '59), Thelmarie Kirk (Mills '59) Pat Bozyk ('60), Margaret Hucal (Koch '60) Vonnie Von Helmolt '61, Mary Jean Davis (Merlin '62), Sister Susan Wikeem ('63), Rosemary Van Rosmalen (Trudeau '64).

The Academy's Bursary Program

The mission of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary is education with "special concern for the poor and disadvantaged." As a Catholic school in the tradition of the Sisters, the Academy echoes this concern with its own mission statement which mandates promotion of justice, education of social responsibility and financial accessibility. The Academy promotes the dignity of each person and challenges each member of the school community to act justly. It follows then, that it is integral to the ethos of the Academy to recruit and retain students from a wide range of socio-economic conditions and provide financial assistance to deserving students.

In order to ensure that the mission of the Sisters and the Academy would continue to be carried out the ***Bursary Fund*** was established from financial contributions of groups and individuals, to provide financial aid to those students whose parents demonstrate financial need.

A specific and segregated pool of capital which is utilized in assisting students attending the Academy through the reduction of tuition fees, the ***Fund*** is held by the St. Mary's Academy Foundation Inc. The Foundation is a public foundation registered as a charity under the Income Tax Act.

St. Mary's Academy Bursary Fund

The ***Bursary Fund*** plays an important role in maintaining the diversity of the school. Aside from benefiting the students who receive bursaries, the entire school benefits from their contribution and from the cosmopolitan and heterogeneous make-up of the student body.

Since June 1974 when the bursary program was formalized the Academy 2,843 financial awards have been disbursed totalling $3,520,619. Within the Fund are several unrestricted bursaries, as well as bursaries in the names of individuals or groups who gifted the capital by way of bequests or other gifts, for unrestricted applications as well as gifts with restrictive conditions.

Funds in the spotlight:

Austin Moffatt Barkwell Bursary Fund

Mr. Barkwell was at the helm of Barkwell Paper Company until 1958. His wife Harriet (nee Harrington) attended St. Mary's Academy in 1903 and his daughters attended the Academy during the late 1930's and early 1940's. The fund was established by Beatrice E. Connell (Barkwell '36) in memory of her father.

Gabrielle Roy Bursary Fund

Manitoba author Gabrielle Roy's work has left an enduring mark on the cultural life of her country. She was educated by the Sisters of the Holy Names at St. Joseph's Academy and one of her sisters was a member of the Order, Sister Leon de la Croix. Another of Gabrielle's sisters, Clemence, was cared for by the Sisters of the Holy names, specifically Gabrielle's friend Sister Berthe Valcourt who currently resides at Residence Despins. Upon the death of Clemence, Sister Berthe arranged for the establishment of the Gabrielle Roy Bursary Fund.

The Fund is open to receive donations at any time and may be an appropriate vehicle to receive gifts from book clubs, or simply friends and alumnae who recognize the tradition of women contributing to the arts.

Onie Clubb Bursary Fund

This bursary was established in 2003 in memory of Onie Clubb (Leyden '28), a loyal alumna of St. Mary's Academy, by Mrs. Clubb's daughters Barbara Clubb '65, Patricia Clubb '66, Susan Clubb '71 and Carole Clubb '75. While the primary donors to the fund are family members, the fund is open to donations from others.

The generosity and loyalty of the Clubb family assists in keeping the Academy accessible to deserving students.

The Sister Susan Wikeem Bursary

Established in 1985, this bursary continues to provide financial assistance to deserving students through the reduction of tuition fees. *Please note, it is Sister Susan's wish that in lieu of gifts for her retirement in 2014, donations be made to the bursary* to ensure St. Mary's Academy remains accessible to all qualified students regardless of their economic circumstances.

How the Bursary Fund is applied

Bursaries are awarded on the basis of:
- The financial need of the family.
- The number of students requesting a bursary.
- The amount of bursary money available.

Bursaries are not granted to cover the full cost of tuition. A financial commitment is required by the applicant's family.

"When an educator plants a seed of knowledge she grows a tree of hope."

Painting presented to Sister Susan Wikeem at her retirement celebration on June 6, 2014. Painted by Natalie Desaulniers ('13).

Annual Giving

We are thankful to the many donors who support the Academy and its mission through SMA Foundation's Annual Giving program - the ***Blue Ribbon Society.***

The following donors made gifts between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.

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6 anonymous gifts

1,000 for $1,000

The tradition of the performing arts at SMA goes back to its foundation. The Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary took over direction of the Academy in August 1874 and by December of that year, their students delivered the first performance. A new theatre arts wing was completed in 2013 to ensure future students of the Academy have access to a state-of-the-art rehearsal, performing and learning facility.

The Academy thanks the following alumnae who have donated to the 1,000 for $1,000 appeal.

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1,000 for $1,000 donors

A young woman once said to an old woman, "What is life's heaviest burden?"
And the old woman said, "To have nothing to carry."
- Jewish tale

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our donor reports. If any errors or omissions have been made, please accept our sincere apologies and notify the Advancement Office at 204-478-6030.

Join this distinguished list of donors!

Support the 1000 for $1000 appeal and receive a perpetual ovation on the BRAVA wall.

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I am pleased to join the 1000 for $1000 Appeal in support of expanding the vision. I would like to pledge gift(s) in the amount of $1,000.00 as one-time payment of _____, or installments as follows:

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[ ] One Year Pledge _____ $83.33 per month for every $1,000.00 gift
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St. Mary's Academy Foundation Inc.
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Tax receipts will be issued.

COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars!

2014 Alumnae Homecoming Weekend

Homecoming Wine & Cheese Reception

Friday, September 26, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
Tickets: $15, payable at the door
For alumnae from the Classes of 1954, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1984, 1989, 1994, 2004. This is an ideal time to tour the school. To reserve a spot, please call the Alumnae Office at 204-478-6031 or email alumnae@stmarysacademy.mb.ca. Those who cannot make the Homecoming Weekend are invited to send photos and an update on their lives for posting at the reunion.

Homecoming Mass and Tea

Sunday, September 28, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.
Open to all alumnae and friends. Mass will begin after a brief Alumnae Association Annual General Meeting at 12:00 p.m. in Alumnae Hall followed by the Tea in the cafeteria. Memorabilia will also be available for purchase and there will be a terrific silent auction.

International Day

Sunday, November 2, 2014. Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Pavilions open at 11:30 a.m.
Celebrate the diversity and culture of the SMA community while enjoying a variety of ethnic food, live entertainment, bake sale, rainbow auction and an art auction.

Shrek—High School Drama Production

Friday, November 28 at 7:30 p.m. | Saturday, November 29 at 7:30 p.m. | Sunday, November 30 at 2:00 p.m.
Tickets will be available from www.stmarysacademy.mb.ca.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Sunday, December 7, 2014. Mass at 11:00 a.m. in Holy Names Chapel | Light lunch after Mass in the boardroom
Donations of non-perishable food items and gently worn hats, mitts or scarves will be collected.

Drinks in the Dome

Wednesday, December 17, 2014 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on the 4th floor
Ticket: $5, payable at the door
The Grads of the Class of 2014 may pick up their yearbooks at this event and take the opportunity to get their classmates' autographs. Please use the 550 Wellington Crescent entrance. RSVP to alumnae@stmarysacademy.mb.ca or 478-6031.

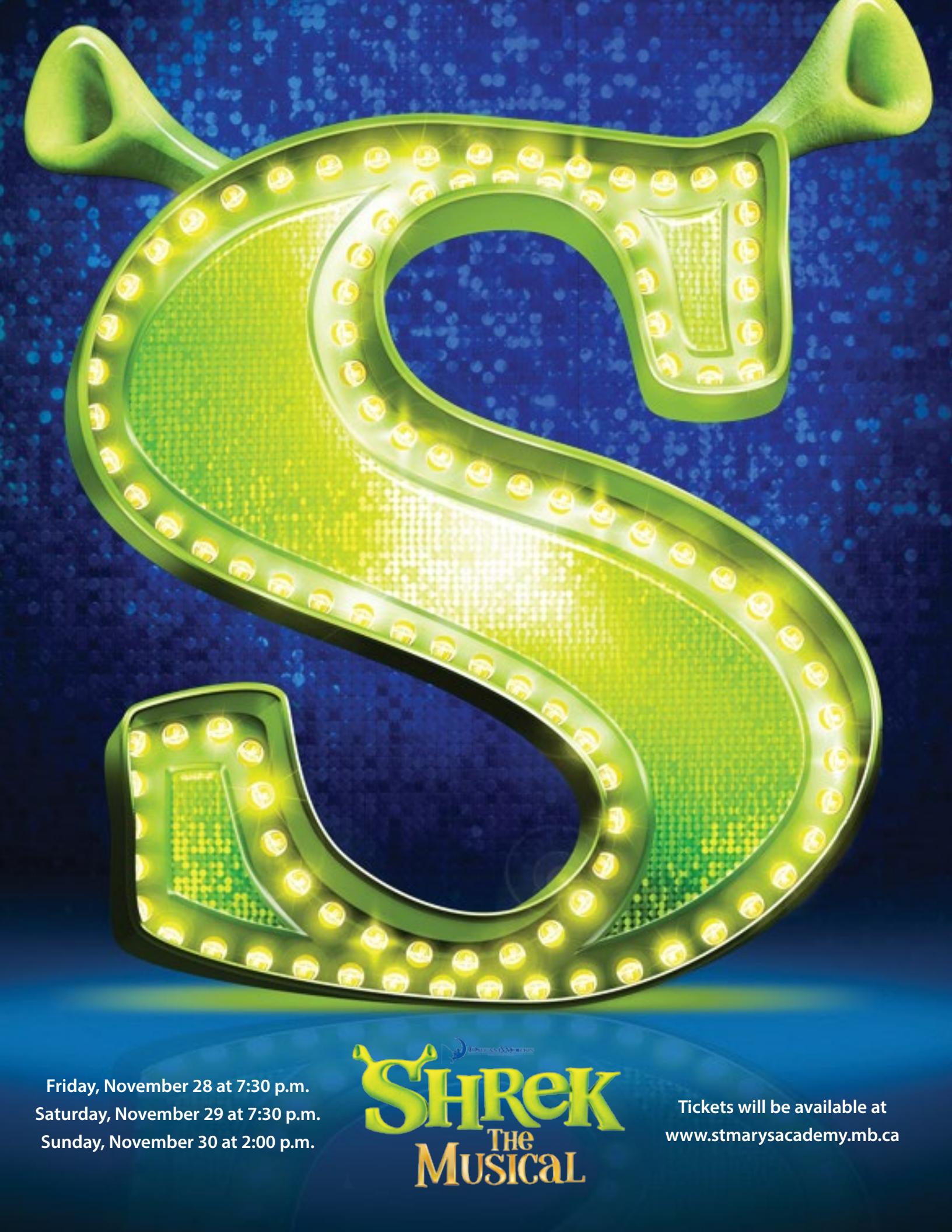
Marian Awards Luncheon

Saturday, May 9, 2015. Mimosa reception at 10:30 a.m. | Brunch to follow
Tickets: $70 per person, available by calling the Alumnae Office at 204-478-6031
Join the Academy as we honour distinguished Alumnae who continue to ***Hold High the Torch***.

Vancouver Alumnae's 56th annual pot-luck luncheon

Sunday, November 2, 2014 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at 1869 Spyglass Place, Recreation Centre Room
All St. Mary's Academy Alumnae are invited! This is the perfect opportunity to renew high school acquaintances and forge new friendships with other former Winnipeggers. The organizers will be issuing an invitation via e-mail or telephone to all known alumnae in BC. If you are interested in attending, helping out or finding out more about the Vancouver Alumnae please contact the membership coordinator, Darlene Burns (Woerlee '69) at darlene_burns@telus.net.

Note, Spyglass Place is a 5 minute walk from the Olympic Village Skytrain Station. Free Parking on Spyglass and inexpensive parking at the Skytrain lot. Also note, there are three stairs to the Recreation Centre. There is a wheelchair ramp, however, if needed advance notification is required.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SHREK
THE MUSICAL
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