



## Encouraging student wellbeing

See page 5



Congratulations to this year's  
**MARIAN AWARD**  
Recipient Connie Magalhaes

See page 9

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TORCH LIGHT FALL 2023 ISSUE  
Published September 2023

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Sr. Catherine Laviolette, SNJM

Reis Pagtakhan

Bob Puchniak

Sr. Lorraine St-Hilaire, SNJM

Sr. Susan Wikeem '63, SNJM

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

At St. Mary's Academy, our young women are taught to seek God in all things. Through the powers of prayer, retreats, celebrations and social justice initiatives, our SMA community continues to be committed to our SNJM roots of learning, faith and service. It is with great pleasure to introduce to you, our faithful readers, this year's 2023 Torch Light. I pray our publication arrives safely in your hands. As you take a moment to sit back, relax, and peruse this year's stories, may you celebrate the good that exists in this beautiful world. I hope our Torch Light sparks each of you to share stories that you know of the great work done by our amazing SMA sisterhood, as our alumnae continue to make an everyday difference in the lives of all they encounter.

The 2022-2023 school year was sprinkled with the familiar SMA experiences we have all grown to love and anticipate, as our community enjoyed the first full opening of a school year since the pandemic. From teacups to tassels, it has been such a gift to be able to see and connect with one another face-to-face, through our meaningful rituals and traditions. The Academy's hallways have been revitalized with the powerful presence of current families, returning alumnae, visiting friends, loving teachers, renewed relations, dedicated donors and blessed faith leaders. This school year has been a pleasant reminder of the need for community and togetherness, and the irreplaceable importance of human connection through faith, hope and love.

Over the past year, our School Board has been preparing to support the students, teachers, staff and Principals with the designing of the 2023-2025 transitional framework and Strategic Plan called *Preparing The Way: A Culture of Community Leadership* with the three grounding pillars of Learning, Faith and Service. Over the next year, our communities will be presented with our three strategic pillars, and together we can align our stewarding and directives towards a bright and renewed St. Mary's Academy future of educational leadership.

Our Foundation Board has been working hard to ensure the strong health and resilience of our well-maintained historic site and the responsible stewardship of our finances. To each generous heart that has contributed their time, talents and treasures to SMA: through your invaluable gifts, St. Mary's Academy can continue to be a beacon of strength and hope for students and families who wish to give their daughters a faith-filled learning environment and world-class educational opportunities.

From our coffee table to yours: we invite you to enjoy the Torch Light, encourage each of you to spread the Good Word of Christ's love, and call upon your SNJM-etched hearts to live courageously and continue to be proud of our beloved St. Mary's Academy.

Yours in Education,  
Jennifer Tesoro '96  
President

*"This school year has been a pleasant reminder of the need for community and togetherness, and the irreplaceable importance of human connection through faith, hope and love."*



# 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

Greetings and welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. This month marks the start of a new year for our students and staff and the end of a season for me as I move out of my role as Chair of the Board and pass the torch on to our new Chair, Megan Roberts '00.

During my decade-long tenure on the Board, our school navigated significant changes. My journey began in 2013, followed closely by the retirement of Sr. Susan Wikeem '63 in 2014 and the appointment of Mrs. Connie Yunyk '77 as President. We went through the extreme challenge of the pandemic, the creation and conclusion of the 2016-2020 strategic plan, and Mrs. Yunyk's retirement in 2021. In August 2021, Ms. Jennifer Tesoro '96 was brought on board, and this past year we formulated an interim strategic plan to steer us for the next three years. Although I anticipate that the future will continue to present new challenges and changes for the Board, I have faith in the capabilities of our current Board members and am confident that our school is in excellent hands.

In the previous year, the Board was engaged in extensive efforts regarding the governance policy manual, recruitment and orientation of new Board members, and the formulation of our interim strategic plan. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Rebecca Greenhalgh (Sisler '07), Vice Chair, who assumed the Chair position during my brief maternity leave. Her leadership was vital to the Board, and she was instrumental in the recruitment of the skilled Board members we have today.

I also give heartfelt thanks to the faculty, staff, and Ms. Tesoro for their commitment to our fantastic school. Their dedicated service is how we fulfill 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.

Finally, I extend my thanks to Dr. Jason Peeler for his service to our Board and wish him well in his future endeavors.

It has been my honour to serve the Academy. I wish everyone a terrific year. Hold High the Torch!



**Franca Cerqueti**  
B. Comm (Honours)  
CHAIR  
ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

The SMA journey holds unique meaning for each individual. Whether you are a student graduating as a Super Sixer (like my twin girls), a new student, parent, teacher, alumna, volunteer, donor, or involved in other ways, we warmly invite you to read this annual issue of the Torch Light.

On behalf of the Foundation Board, I congratulate students, faculty, and staff for their resilience as we rise from the pandemic. This past year brought a sense of normalcy with the revival of routines, activities, and friendships.

The Foundation's mission is to raise funds for school programs and the bursary program, benefiting one out of six students annually. Additionally, we oversee the management of the Academy's capital assets, including the remarkable campus. We are pleased to share that the window replacement project is in its third year of completion. Upcoming projects include a roof reshingling and restoring the iconic Mary and Jesus statue on the exterior of the 1902 Administration building. This fall, we will be hosting our major fundraising event, the Marian Awards Gala.

The dedicated members of the Foundation Board, in collaboration with Ms. Jennifer Tesoro '96, have been diligently working to ensure the Foundation's goals are met. Your ongoing support is crucial to fulfilling our mission of faith-based education which equips our students for future success.

Whether you are an active member of the SMA community or an observer from a distance, there are various ways to show your support, such as attending school events or giving your time or financial resources.

Thank you to our supporters and our readers. Your generous contributions of time, presence, and money are equally and deeply appreciated. No matter how your SMA journey unfolds, let us come together and continue to Hold High the Torch.

# AROUND THE ACADEMY

## ENCOURAGING STUDENT WELLBEING

The 2022-2023 school year marked a significant milestone as students returned to full-time in-person learning, signaling a return to routines after the disruptive period of the COVID-19 pandemic that began in March 2020. The abrupt transition to remote learning brought forth numerous challenges, globally impacting students' education, social interactions, and emotional wellbeing. Many students were challenged to quickly adapt to remote learning. The absence of face-to-face interactions with teachers and peers had a profound effect on their emotional wellbeing and social development.

To foster wellness and rebuild community, the Academy's Student Services Department set a primary goal for the school year: empower students to enhance their overall wellbeing, encompassing spirit, mind, and body. Mrs. Christine Dado (Aaron '00), Resource Teacher, expressed the department's aspirations, stating, "As we navigate the post-pandemic landscape, our objective is to equip students with comprehensive holistic support, enabling them to prioritize their wellbeing. We aim to provide them with the tools and resources necessary for success in all aspects of their lives."

Recognizing the importance of positive self-talk in fostering good mental health, Mrs. Holly Storey, Guidance Counsellor, explained, "Throughout the pandemic, uncertainty became the norm which was fertile ground for negative self-talk and increased anxiety. To counteract this, we introduced school-wide wellness activities that focused on positive affirmations. Backed by scientific research, positive affirmations consist of phrases that, when regularly repeated, can transform negative thoughts and improve individuals' self-perception and increase happiness." Shawn Achor, a Happiness Researcher educated at Harvard and author of *The Happiness Advantage* and *Big Potential*, asserts that happiness forms the core around which success revolves. People who experience happiness demonstrate enhanced intelligence, motivation, and achievement.

At a schoolwide wellness activity, students were asked to answer the question, "What do you think people need to hear to have a good day?" They wrote their responses on popsicle sticks and each morning a positive affirmation was read aloud during the morning announcements. Additionally, a "take-an-affirmation and leave-an-affirmation" box was introduced, where students could both find and offer encouragement.

Another valuable support system offered by the Academy is the Peer Support Team, comprised of students from grades 10 to 12 who serve as mentors and guides for their younger peers. Peer Support members undergo training in working with youth and take on responsibilities such as leading homeroom presentations and fostering connections to enhance a sense of community and compassion within the school. Bhavika Sandhu '23, Peer Support Team Co-Head for the 22-23 school year, states, "We want to have a positive impact on students,

and kindness is our guiding principle. Because we are their peers, we are relatable in a way that teachers and other adults are not. We help empower students to feel more confident which enables them to better tackle any issue they are faced with." Reflecting on the positive affirmation initiative, Alexis Hazell '24, Peer Support Team Co-Head for the 23-24 school year, emphasizes, "I believe that positive affirmations have a good impact on students. Hearing a daily affirmation over the announcements each morning offered a fresh perspective and it was something we carried with us throughout the day. Also, in my homeroom sometimes we would imagine Mr. Hess standing in front of a mirror reciting affirmations to himself and that would make us smile and laugh."

The Student Services Department also extends its support through other initiatives, including feminism and body positivity campaigns, grade-specific peer support activities, a dedicated mental health day for grade 10 students, study skills presentations, peer tutoring programs, and more. Operating within the framework of the school's mission statement and Catholic teachings, the department includes guidance counsellors, resource teachers, a career and academic advisor, and the Mission and Charism team.

I-r:  
Bhavika Sandhu '23  
Alexis Hazell '24



# AROUND THE ACADEMY



SMA Cast



Belle, played by Hannah Linsangan '23  
The Beast, played by Hollie Horner '25

## DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

From March 16 to 18, 2023, over 80 students dazzled audiences with their breathtaking performances in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. With two sold out evening shows and two matinees, the production was a resounding success that left audiences inspired.

"I couldn't believe I was playing Belle—it was a dream come true for me," shared Hannah Linsangan '23, who brought the iconic Disney princess to life. "The support and camaraderie among the cast and crew created a safe space for myself as well as many others, and I will cherish the memories of this production forever."

The show's Director, Ms. Laura Davey '05, SMA's Dramatic Arts teacher shared, "The show was a true collaborative effort. Hundreds of students, teachers, staff, and volunteers contributed their talents both onstage and backstage to create a spellbinding performance that transported the audience into the enchanting tale of Belle and the Beast." Ms. Davey also shared, "I am incredibly proud of our students and the effort they put into bringing this beloved story to life. Their passion and talent truly shone through."

From the stunning costumes to the mesmerizing set design, every aspect of the production was meticulously crafted to create a captivating experience. The musical numbers were unforgettable and the acting was heartfelt and compelling, drawing the audience into the story and leaving them thoroughly entertained.

Brava to all involved for a spectacular showcase of talent and creativity!



l-r: Michelle Ajayi '26, Sofia Vergara '26



l-r: Rhyza Magayanes '28  
Gursimrat Sidhu '28  
Mika Magsino '28

## TARTAN TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION CENTRE

ALEXANDRA LOGAN '06

In September 2022, the Tartan Technology & Innovation Centre (the Tech Centre) opened its doors. Situated in the former location of the Tartan Shop, the Tech Centre has become a hub for students and staff, inspiring them to explore the potential of technology to innovate the world around them. It provides a creative space where students can utilize 3D printing to design and fabricate functional objects that address real-world problems. Additionally, they can collaborate on projects beyond the confines of the classroom, such as creating custom stickers or t-shirts. The Tech Centre also fosters community-building through multiplayer video games and more.

And the excitement isn't limited to the students alone! Teachers like Ms. Nicole McGlenen '12, a Grade 7 Social Studies teacher, have leveraged the Tech Centre for their classes. For her "Amazing Race" end-of-year project, Ms. McGlenen utilized Virtual Reality (VR) headsets, enabling students to choose a country to visit virtually and search for specific items. Rhyza Magayanes, a Grade 7 student, shared her experience, saying, "Using VR made it feel like I was actually there. I got to explore a country I've never been to, and now I'm eager to see it in real life!" When asked about the feedback she received from her students, Ms. McGlenen expressed, "The girls absolutely love the Tech Centre! In every class, they ask when they can use VR again. It's a fantastic way to captivate students and immerse them in the subject matter."

# AROUND THE ACADEMY



Right - Kiara Vergara '23



## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023

On June 28, 101 members of the Class of 2023 received their diploma from St. Mary's Academy. The resilient Class of 2023 navigated unprecedented challenges beginning in their grade 9 year with the onset of the pandemic in March 2020. Despite these adversities, they demonstrated remarkable strength, determination and adaptability, shaping them into individuals equipped to conquer any future obstacles that may come their way. Their grade 12 year marked a return to normalcy, allowing them to enjoy cherished traditions such as the Grade 12 Retreat, Graduate/Family Mass and Brunch, Graduation Dinner and Dance, and Convocation held in Alumnae Hall. At Convocation, Miss Kiara Vergara '23 delivered the Salutatory Address, while Miss Jordyn Espenell '23 gave the Valedictorian speech. The Address to Graduates was delivered by alumna, Dr. Karen Skakun '87.



*Although we are all preparing to forge our own paths, the community we've found at St. Mary's will stay with us forever: a sisterhood built on perseverance, faith, hope and love. We are ready to become the people we've dreamed of being and cast our fire on the earth by fighting for justice, promoting equality, caring for the earth, and loving one another. I challenge everyone in this room, as Ralph Waldo Emerson instructs,*

***"Dare to live the life you have dreamed for yourself.  
Go forward and make your dreams come true."***

*– Jordyn Espenell '23*

Bottom photos, l-r: Graduate/Family Brunch, Graduation Dinner and Dance



## SISTERS PASS THE TORCH

SR. SUSAN WIKEEM '63, SNJM

After 148 years the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary transferred sponsorship of the school to St. Mary's Academy Stewardship.

On September 12, 2022, the Feast of the Holy Name of Mary, sponsorship of St. Mary's Academy was officially transferred from the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) to St. Mary's Academy Stewardship, a public juridic person (church corporation) established by Archbishop Gagnon. The purpose of SMA Stewardship is to further Catholic education that was originally undertaken by the SNJM in the Archdiocese of Winnipeg. It implements this purpose by exercising canonical Sponsorship over St. Mary's Academy Inc. (the school) and the SMA Foundation Inc., through the appointment of the members of the School and the Foundation and the reception of their annual reports. The members of the Academy and the Foundation are accountable to the SMA Stewardship for ensuring the School and the Foundation are implementing their ministry in accordance with the Mission and Governing Philosophy of St. Mary's Academy and the teachings of the Church.

On September 11, 2022, the SNJM gathered in Holy Names Chapel to release their longstanding ministry and offer prayers for the school to carry on in the spirit of Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher, the foundress of the SNJM.



St. Mary's Academy Stewardship Current Members

Back row l-r: Archbishop Richard Gagnon, Sr. Lorraine St-Hilaire, SNJM, Bob Puchniak, Reis Pagtakhan. Front row l-r: Sr. Catherine Laviolette, SNJM, Sr. Susan Wikeem '63, SNJM, Sr. Edith Grenier, SNJM.

*"The educational charism of the Sisters has deep roots at St. Mary's Academy and will continue to grace the Academy in the years ahead." – Archbishop Gagnon*

## 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 congratulate dedicated members and with fondness we say farewell to those who have moved on.

### YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

**35 Years:** Garry Normand, Maintenance

**25 Years:** Michelle Klus, Senior School Principal

**10 Years:** Rebecca Davedow, Science Teacher

### FAREWELL

Bernadette Balagtas, French Teacher

Reiss Burtniak, Math Teacher

Nadine Dannenberg '95, Executive Assistant

Catherine David (Marquez '01), Economics Teacher

Christina Janzen, Librarian

Patti LeBlanc, Educational Assistant

Maria Marasco, Religion Teacher

### RETIREMENTS



Chantelle Deslauriers  
Français Avancé Teacher  
4 Years of Service



Dana Sigurdson  
Guidance Counsellor  
15 Years of Service



# MARIAN AWARDS GALA

**Saturday, October 28, 2023**

**CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

Join us to honour the life and legacy of  
Constanca (Connie) Magalhaes  
2023 Marian Award Recipient.

Funds raised to enhance innovative teaching  
and learning, and support our sustainability as a  
forward-thinking school for young women.

**THE ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION IS HONOURED TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CONSTANCA (CONNIE) MAGALHAES WITH A 2023 MARIAN AWARD.**

Connie was deeply committed to both family and faith, and it was important to her to provide her five daughters with a faith-based education. The Magalhaes family connection with St. Mary's Academy began in 1985 when the eldest daughter enrolled in grade 7. All five daughters completed their education at SMA, and two of Connie's granddaughters are currently attending the school.

Connie taught at the University of Manitoba and was also a devoted volunteer, helping with the SMA's Parents' Guild and Athletic Department for 16 years. She also led groups in the Girl Guides, volunteered at Folklorama, and was an active member of South Park Estates. Family and religion were central values in Connie and her husband, Luis's, lives which they instilled in their children and grandchildren.

Connie returned home to God on November 15, 2021, leaving a legacy of love, family, faith, and service. SMA is honored to posthumously award Connie the Marian Award, which will be accepted by her daughters at the **Marian Awards Gala on October 28, 2023.**

**FIND OUT MORE AND PURCHASE TICKETS AT**  
[smamb.ca/events/marian-awards](https://smamb.ca/events/marian-awards)



# ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION AND ALUMNAE RELATIONS



**Brenna Mahoney '01**  
CHAIR

*"I encourage each of you to Hold High the Torch, let its light guide you through the challenges of life, and let its flame unite us as a community."*

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

Reflecting on my term as Board Chair, I am pleased with the successes we achieved together this year. Serving in this role allowed me to witness the unwavering dedication and spirit of our alumnae community.

Undoubtedly, one of the highlights was the unforgettable Drinks Under the Dome for the Class of 2022—a delightful evening filled with laughter, reminiscing, and post-pandemic connections. Equally special was our homecoming celebrations, particularly the beautiful blessing of the new rose garden. This heartfelt moment brought together our shared memories and the promise of a bright future. And who could forget the resounding success of our December celebration? It truly captured the spirit of St. Mary's Academy, creating a joyful atmosphere that brought us all together.

To our graduates, congratulations and best wishes as you embark on new journeys. May you find fulfillment and great success, knowing that you are now part of a vast alumnae community always ready to lend a helping hand or offer guidance.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to my fellow board members for their unwavering dedication and hard work. It has been a privilege to collaborate with such a talented group who uphold the Academy's values with inspiring commitment.

My heartfelt appreciation also goes to the school for its continuous support. Without the tireless efforts of the Academy's team, our alumnae initiatives would not succeed. Special thanks to Sr. Marylyn Gibney, SNJM, for her guidance, wisdom, and fostering a strong connection between the alumnae and the school.

I encourage each of you to Hold High the Torch, let its light guide you through the challenges of life, and let its flame unite us as a community. We are forever bound by our shared experiences and the transformative education we received. It has been an honour to serve as your Board Chair.

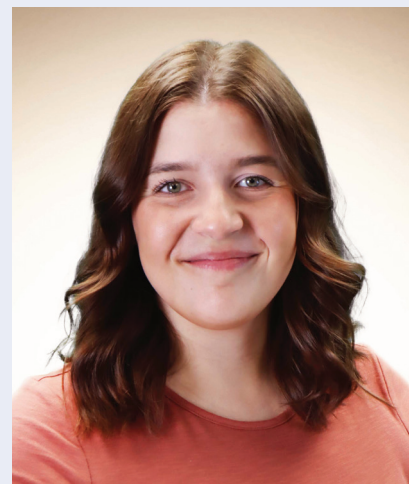
## MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNAE RELATIONS OFFICE

Hello alumnae! I am delighted to have returned to SMA in the position of Alumnae Relations and Special Events Coordinator in the Alumnae Office. I am a proud graduate from the Class of 2012, and it feels incredibly special to return to my alma mater in this capacity. After completing my Bachelor's Degree in Kinesiology at the University of Winnipeg, I gained valuable experience working in the non-profit sector, particularly at Special Olympics Manitoba.

With my background in event planning and my love for St. Mary's Academy, I am eager to organize unforgettable reunions, gatherings, and activities that will bring together our incredible community. I am excited about reconnecting with alumnae and fostering a sense of belonging. My true passion lies in building lasting connections with each alumna, listening to your stories, and celebrating your accomplishments. I understand the profound impact St. Mary's Academy has had on countless lives and I look forward to hearing your stories and celebrating with you.

If you would like to share your stories or simply connect, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [alumnae@smamb.ca](mailto:alumnae@smamb.ca). I am here to listen, support, and celebrate the remarkable journey of each and every one of our alumnae.

I am looking forward to embarking on this incredible journey with you and creating meaningful experiences for our St. Mary's Academy alumnae community.



**Alexis Wolbaum '12**  
ALUMNAE RELATIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

# HOMECOMING 2022

Our first in-person Homecoming since 2019 took place on September 24, 2023. The day began with a Commemorative Years Brunch that proved to be a heartwarming and nostalgic event as alumnae, SNJM, and current and former faculty and staff gathered to celebrate and reconnect. With over 200 attendees, the cafeteria was filled with smiles, laughter, and lively conversations. Commemorative years celebrated included the classes of '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02, and '12. Zephyra Vun '05 showcased a captivating live art demonstration. Brunch was catered by The Gates on Roblin.

The Alumnae Association hosted their Annual General Meeting which was followed by Mass presided over by Father Gerry Ward. A highlight was a powerful rendition of Ave Maria sung by former teacher, Dr. Chancy. Dr. Leisha Strachan, alumna from the Class of 1992 who was celebrating her 30th reunion, expressed her appreciation, saying, "It was very emotional to see Monsieur Chancy again and to hear him sing; it was a beautiful addition to the Homecoming experience." This sentiment was shared by many who had been touched by Dr. Chancy during his tenure as a French teacher from 1982 to 1999. Reflecting on the day, Dr. Chancy remarked, "It was a wonderful experience for me. I was very happy to be there with my former students. I've sung many times and I haven't felt that way in a long time. I look forward to coming back next year."

The Legacy Rose Garden was unveiled and blessed by Father Gerry Ward. This garden commemorates the Academy's 150th anniversary which took place in 2019. Featuring a fountain, benches, red roses, and inscribed boulders, flagstones, and bricks, all donated by the community, it is a beautiful and serene space.

The day concluded with guests enjoying refreshments and sentimental tours of the school. Homecoming brought together over 350 people.

Top Right: Alumnae in Holy Name Chapel

Bottom Right: Class of 1957: 65th Reunion

Below: Zephyra Vun '05 Live Art Demonstration



Unveiling and Blessing of the Legacy Rose Garden



Class of 2012: 10th Reunion



Class of 1977: 45th Reunion



Class of 1992: 30th Reunion, pictured with Dr. Chancy



Class of 1972: 50th Reunion



Class of 1997: 25th Reunion

# 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 13, 2022

Grade 9 students enjoyed presentations about the educational journey and fields of Law, Medicine, and Technology. Alumnae presenters included Theresa Vandean '98, Deputy District Registrar of the Winnipeg Land Titles Office, Lawyer, Dr. Meaghan Alto '01, MD BSc Pharm CFPC, and Amanda Burridge '07, Certified Health Information Management Professional.



l-r: Theresa Vandean '98, Meaghan Alto '01, Amanda Burridge '07



### ASK AN ALUM | NOVEMBER 24, 2022

Grade 11 and 12 students enjoyed the opportunity to listen to and ask questions of professional alumnae about career paths, post-secondary education, applying for scholarships, and study tips. Alumnae mentors included (pictured from left to right, back to front) Ibukun Okunnu '20, Bachelor of Science, University of Manitoba; Sarina Pilek '18, Bachelor of Science, McGill University; Kearley Abbot '16, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Manitoba; Giovanna Mazza '20, Assistant Film Director; Amanda Cerqueti '18, Bachelor of Commerce, University of Manitoba; Sydney Loewen '14, Dentist, University of Manitoba; Ameenah Zeid '21, Engineering, University of Manitoba; Victoria Klus '20, Bachelor of Nursing, Red River College; Ireland Smith '21, Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba; Caitlin Willison '21, Bachelor of Education, University of Winnipeg; Larissa Pagdato '18, Bachelor of Science, Athletic Therapy, University of Winnipeg; Alexia Mandarano '21, Faculty of Science, University of Manitoba; Juliana Anderson '17, Masters of Interior Architecture, University of Manitoba; Thanh Nguyen '15, Indigenous Services Canada; Mira Villegas '14, Bachelor of Science, University of Manitoba.



I-r: Karen Skakun '87, Delaney Vun '03, Dr. Annie Coughlin '07, Adriane McElrea



I-r: Jaewon Jang '24, Marissa Magsino '24, Roxanne Porth '24, Quinn McMullan '24



Back row I-r: Suzan Polz '94, Jessica Slater (Malach '10), Vanessa Mirza (Malach '12), Kaylene Kessler, Maureen Kinnear, Adriane McElrea, Erin Crymble, Christine Ostapczuk, Karen Skakun (Charleson '87). Front row I-r: Ainsley Balcewich '10, Kori Osmond (Wachniak '03), Samantha Beiko '07, Alexis Wolbaum '12, Melissa Giller (Grapentine '03)

*"Panel Interviews was the best opportunity to make connections with adults who are professionals in their field. In addition, it was an excellent opportunity to practice basic interview skills during the interview and refine them after getting feedback.*

*- Jaewon Jang '24*



## GRADE 10 CAREER SPEAKERS | MARCH 8, 2022

On International Women's Day, grade 10 students were treated to presentations from alumnae about their careers and lives beyond the walls of SMA. Presenters included Dr. Karen Skakun '87, Veterinarian; Delaney Vun '03, Lawyer; Dr. Annie Coughlin '07, Naturopathic Doctor.

## PANEL INTERVIEWS | APRIL 19, 2023

Panel Interviews provide students with real world experience to develop career readiness skills, practice professional interview skills, and benefit from practical and individual advice from mentors. More than thirty students from grade 11 and 12 participated in these interviews with twenty-six alumnae and friends from a variety of backgrounds, including medicine, business, law, and the arts. Students came prepared with their résumés and questions. Mentors listened as students presented their résumé and accomplishments, and then offered feedback, answered questions, and gave wonderful advice.

*"Meeting and interviewing these exceptional students at Panel Interviews was an absolute pleasure. Their intelligence, talent, and character left a lasting impression on me. Being a part of this incredible SMA community fills me with immense pride and gratitude." - Dr. Karen Skakun '87*



## CAREER AND MENTORSHIP EVENTS FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

GRADE 9 CAREER SPEAKERS | October 12, 2023

ASK AN ALUM | November 23, 2023

GRADE 10 CAREER SPEAKERS  
International Women's Day | March 8, 2024

PANEL INTERVIEWS | April 17, 2024

Alumnae and friends who are interested in participating as a career speaker and/or as a mentor, please contact Alexis Wolbaum '12 at [alumnae@smamb.ca](mailto:alumnae@smamb.ca). More information is found at [smamb.ca/alumnae/volunteering](http://smamb.ca/alumnae/volunteering).

**1943** Happy 80th reunion to the Class of 1943!



**1949 Sr. Vera Hoelscher, SNJM**, is celebrating 70 years of religious life with the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.



**1948 Sr. Mary Ellen King**, passed away on May 10, 2023 in Victoria, BC. She entered the congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann in 1949 and served in a variety of leadership roles in British Columbia and Quebec throughout her career.

**1953** Happy 70th reunion to the Class of 1953!



**1959 Sr. Johanna Jonker, SNJM**, is celebrating 60 years of religious life with the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.



**1962 Carole Stone (Parson)** passed away in March 2023. In 1992, Carole founded the Sisters of the Holy Rock (SHR), a not-for-profit inter-denominational entertainment group. As a tribute to Carole, the SHR made a donation to the Academy. A plaque honouring Carole is situated outside of Rose Hall (aka the old or small auditorium).

**1963** Happy 60th reunion to the Class of 1963!



**1963 Sr. Susan Wikeem, SNJM** was honoured with a St. Paul's College Ignatian Society 2022 Magis Prize for Service for Others in November 2023. At present, Sr. Susan serves as the Provincial Superior with the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and is a Director with St. Paul's College Foundation Inc. Presenting the award to Sr. Susan was alumna, **Jasmine Tavares '18**.

**1973** Happy 50th reunion to the Class of 1973!



**1979 Carol Fletcher** retired from Transcona Memorial United Church (TMUC) in June 2023 after 35 years of dedicated service. Carol led many community initiatives during her time at TMUC including chairing the Transcona Food Securities Network that partnered with schools, churches, and business in the area. Carol is pictured in the front.

**1983** Happy 40th reunion to the Class of 1983!



**1992 Ruby Yudai** was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal in December 2022 at a ceremony at the Manitoba Legislature for her work as a Visual Arts Specialist at Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute. For the past three years, Ruby ensured student art projects incorporated Indigenous perspectives and built school and community awareness, answering

the calls to action towards Truth and Reconciliation. One student-led art project was welcome signs in local Indigenous languages using cultural imagery from Ojibwe, Cree, Dakota, Dene, Michif, and Oji-Cree, which greet people as they enter the school. Another project was a public art display of ribbon weaving on the school fence. These were inspired by and emulate traditional Métis beading to commemorate the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Ruby fondly remembers and is grateful for her high school art classes with Ms. Nickel, who helped her hone her talent and grow her passion for art. In turn, Ruby works every day to nurture, guide, and inspire her own students.

## GRAPEVINE STORIES

Submit your story for the 2024 Grapevine to [alumnae@smamb.ca](mailto:alumnae@smamb.ca). Cutoff date is April 15, 2024.



**1992 Dr. Leisha Strachan** was awarded the R. Tait McKenzie Award from Physical and Health Education Canada. The award recognizes career achievements, leadership, and mentorship in the community. Also, this past year she was selected as one of 100 Accomplished Black Canadian Women. She served

on the research team for Anti-Racism in Sport Campaign in Winnipeg, and this past summer started a new term as Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management at the University of Manitoba. Leisha is pictured with fellow alumna Angeline Lim (Sheppard '92).

**1993** Happy 30th reunion to the Class of 1993!



**1998 Alexandra Guemili**, MSW, RSW, is a social justice advocate with a background in the non-profit sector and the Manitoba Provincial government. She holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Manitoba and has received several academic awards for her achievements.

Alexandra's work experience includes roles in child welfare, employment and income assistance, and youth probation. She has also worked as a specialized advocate with the FASD Justice Program, which is connected to Canada's only existing FASD court. Alexandra currently works as a Systemic Advocacy Specialist with the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth, where she seeks to break barriers and innovate modes to assess and respond to systemic issues impacting vulnerable children and youth in Manitoba. Alexandra is also proud to be the wife of her partner of 16 years and a mother to two daughters. Outside of work, she enjoys camping and spending time with her two cats and dog.



**1999 Suzan Tetrault (Goritz)** was awarded the annual Jim Pattison Group (JPG) Personal Achiever Award. JPG recognizes top performers in each of their divisions who deserve special attention for their outstanding performance and accomplishments. Suzan is celebrating her 19th year with the company this October and is pictured receiving the award with the General Manager.

**2001 Andrea Ferguson** was inducted into the Manitoba Sport Hall of Fame as the first Ringette Athlete in November 2022. She has since retired from playing and was recently named as the U21 Canadian National Team Head Coach.



**2001 Janine Stephens (Hanson)** was named Coach of the Year by Sport Manitoba. In 2022, Janine coached rowing with the national team at the World Championships, the provincial team at the National Rowing Championships, and led Team Manitoba at the Canada Summer Games. She coaches alumna, **Katie Sierhuis '20**. Janine will be the Master of Ceremonies at the Marian Awards Gala on October 28, 2023.

**2003** Happy 20th reunion to the Class of 2003!



**2005 Jess Salgueiro** was cast as Eve in the upcoming Frasier reboot opposite Kelsey Grammer. She says that Kelsey is a dream to work with and is excited for people to watch the show. It will be out on Paramount+ in 2023.



**2007 Francesca Rizzuto** along with her sister **Marcella '10**, started the haircare line Casa Haircare, which they sell out of their salon, Lineage House. The products are made in Canada and scented with essential oils. They look forward to growing the brand into a collection of minimalist products for all hair types. Marcella & Francesca pictured left to right.



**2010 Chelsea Caldwell** is living in Jerusalem. She is legal counsel with the Department of Justice Canada, working in the role of Deputy Director of the Security Justice Advisory Directorate with the Office of the United States Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

**2012 Alicia Ogoms** plays volleyball professionally and has been a member of the Women's National Team for the past seven years. She is preparing for the 2024 Olympic Qualifiers held in China later this year. After the Qualifiers, Alicia will go Europe to play in her 8th professional season.

**2013** Happy 10th reunion to the Class of 2013!



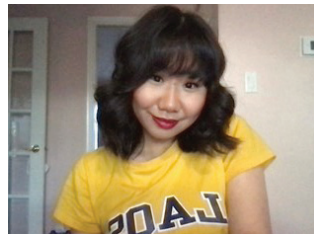
Winnipeg Women's Conference Committee, Dana pictured third from left.



**2013 Montana Funk** obtained a bachelor's degree at the University of Manitoba and a Juris Doctorate at the University of North Dakota. Following law school, Montana moved to the State of Montana to practice. She now lives in Billings, Montana and is in her fourth year of practice, specializing in Criminal Defense. Montana is also the host of the American Bar Associations Young Lawyer Rising Podcast which covers issues pertinent to young lawyers and provides advice on various topics to listeners ranging from newly minted attorneys to lawyers 10 years into practice and beyond. When Montana is not working, she enjoys spending time with her dog, playing board games with friends, and travelling.

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**2014 Dana Plett** graduated from the University of Manitoba in 2017 and started her career in marketing and sales. Her passion for event planning led her to volunteer for organizations such as MTC for their annual Black and White Ball and the Winnipeg Women's Conference. Two years ago, for the inaugural Winnipeg Women's Conference she sat on the committee as Director of Special Events. The conference was held at the Winnipeg Art Gallery and sold out both years. The networking event fostered both professional and personal growth.



**2019 Malisa Thoudsanikone** obtained a bachelor's degree in journalism with a minor in English literature at Carleton University, graduating with honours in the spring of 2023. One of her biggest achievements is the publication of her op-ed, "How the media's stereotypical portrayal of East Asian women warped my storytelling," in the Ottawa Citizen. Malisa is currently revising her first young adult dark fantasy novel with the hopes of submitting it to agents in 2024.

Malisa is currently revising her first young adult dark fantasy novel with the hopes of submitting it to agents in 2024.



**2013 Lauren Gowler** was chosen by the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba as this year's outstanding graduating student. This honour provided her the opportunity to recognize two outstanding teachers who had a profound impact on her educational journey. At the Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning's Student Teacher Recognition Reception on May 2, 2023, she recognized Ms. Deborah Nickel, her art and art history teacher from the Academy, and Professor David Ireland, her criminal law professor at Robson Hall. Lauren graduates from the Faculty of Law in September 2023 and she is excited to pursue a master's degree in Art, Business and Law at Queen Mary University of London, England. Lauren is pictured with Ms. Nickel at the Academy in May 2023.



**2020 Katie Sierhuis** competed in the Canada Summer Games in 2022 and came in 5th overall in women's pair rowing. She is coached by alumna **Janine Hanson '01**. Katie is currently studying at Gonzaga University in Washington, DC, majoring in human physiology and hopes to attend medical school to specialize in cardiology. Katie is pictured front centre.

**2022 Nieve DeGagné**, nominated by her teachers at the Academy, received a Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Award for her work on the Academy's Green Team. Nieve helped to implement a mask recycling and composting program in the school, which will benefit countless future generations.



# BIRTHS AND IN MEMORIAM

## BIRTHS

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

**Emma Marie** | April 6, 2022

to Sarah (Zubrecki '11) and Duncan Henderson

**Kalia Angelina** | July 13, 2022

to Sabrina (Moccia '10) and Grant Reid

**Jamie Brock** | September 24, 2022

to Christy (Wright '13) and Jeffrey Leachman

**Ari Samuel** | October 14, 2022

to Hannah Diamond '13 and Mike Gershman

**Saoirse Rani** | October 20, 2022

to Jessica (Schnerch '06) and Liam Taaffe

**Ilija Mykolai** | December 9, 2022

to Ola (Pecuch '09) and Antony Paulic

**Lilyana Joan** | January 25, 2023

to Johanna (Washchyshyn '05) and Mikhas Chablik

**Svea Elizabeth** | February 14, 2023

to Brittany (Goodman '10) Rankine

**Wilson Troy** | February 16, 2023

to Sinéad (McGahern '08) and Micah Stewart

**River** | February 19, 2023

to Kerrie Calvadores '12

**Iver Elliott** | February 19, 2023

to Kristin Macaulay '05 and Matthew Martens

**Slava Stefania** | March 14, 2023

to Daria Lukie '09 and Chad Deprez

**Grayson Sam** | May 26, 2023

to Samantha Semchyshyn '11 and Evan Foster

**Noah** | May 30, 2023

to Kathryn (Patrick '05) and Joel Deeley

**Claire Johanna** | June 17, 2023

to Ala (Jekielek '11) and Chad Olinyk

**Lewis Henry** | June 20, 2023

to Kelsey Zadro '08 and Matt Horta

**Sussanie Melaike** | July 23, 2023

to Pramini Perera '11 and Barnett Warnock

**Scottie Robin** | July 30, 2023

to Jenna Thompson '13

## IN MEMORIAM

WITH SORROW ST. MARY'S ACADEMY ACKNOWLEDGES ALUMNAE AND STAFF WHO RETURNED HOME TO GOD BETWEEN AUGUST 1, 2022 AND JULY 31, 2023.

Phyllis (Avery '39) O'Neill

Yvonne (Persons '45) Van Wallegem

Earla (Clark '48) Ingram

Sr. Mary Ellen King '48, SSA

Barbara Verna (Bzony '48) Klim

Violet (Blain '48) Knight

Margaret MacDonald '48

Gail (Doody '51) Burns

Judith (Smallcombe '56) Brown

Patricia Haip '56

Sr. Alice Konefall '58, SNJM

Carole (Parson '62) Stone

Daria (Paskewitz '66) McLean

Eileen (Kennedy '67) Jones

Bernadette (Kropp '68) Gray

Patricia (Graham '69) Beiko

Janice (Heuchert '69) Richardson

Mary Lou (Van Schie '78) Mendro

Heather Mestdagh '98



Sr. Alice Konefall '58, SNJM  
Former SMA Teacher and Counsellor

# TREES OF TRIBUTE

Situated on an 11.5-acre campus, St. Mary's Academy is a picturesque setting adorned with approximately 340 trees. The magnificent trees provide a serene atmosphere for walking and reading, serve as playful obstacles to navigate, and hold sentimental value. Some trees were planted with a purpose and stand as a living tribute to honour and memorialize a loved one, celebrate a birth date, commemorate a graduation year, and symbolize a commitment.



## JOCELYN HUTTON TREE

A spruce tree planted in 1980 near Academy Road stands as a poignant memorial to Jocelyn Hutton. Jocelyn attended the Academy for one year in 1974 and then moved to Toronto with her parents, returning in 1976 for another year before leaving to attend Kelvin High School. Despite changing schools, Jocelyn maintained close relationships with her former Academy classmates and the Sisters. In her grade 12 year, Jocelyn was diagnosed with bone cancer. She courageously battled the illness for several months, but tragically succumbed to it in 1980. The Sisters gifted her classmates with a tree which they planted to honour and celebrate the memory of Jocelyn.

During the summer of 2022, John Hutton approached the St. Mary's Academy Foundation with a request for the installation of a commemorative plaque on his sister's tree. Expressing the longstanding tradition of his family, John shared, "For over four decades we have gathered at the tree, usually on the anniversary of her passing, to reflect on cherished memories. A commemorative plaque would serve as a meaningful tribute on the 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of her passing in 2023." Alongside his request, John generously provided a donation that not only covered the expenses for the plaque's creation but also provides funds to facilitate the creation of plaques for other trees — please see below.

Left photo, back row: Sean Hutton, Raymond Ngarbou, Nathan Laser, John Hutton, Ed Zeglen, Chris Pate  
Front row: Kelsey Hutton, Linda Beaupre, Andrea Craig, Vic Lee



If you are interested or would like to learn more about our advancement and development initiatives, please contact us at [advancement@smamb.ca](mailto:advancement@smamb.ca). We look forward to connecting with you.

## MOTHER MARIE-ROSE TREE

Situated near Kingsway is a Hackberry tree that was planted in 2011 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary (SNJM) and Associates. The tree commemorates the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Mother Marie-Rose Durocher, foundress of the SNJM. Mother Marie-Rose was born on October 6, 1811, and died on October 6, 1849, on her 38<sup>th</sup> birthday. Her accomplishments during her short life led Pope John Paul II to beatify her in 1982 as a woman for all times. In attendance at the tree planting ceremony were SNJM, Associates, students, alumnae, faculty, staff, and friends.



## CLASS OF 1971 TREE

Adjacent to Wellington Crescent stands a *Tilia Americana* Basswood tree that was ceremoniously planted in 2011 to honour the inaugural class of Super Sixers. In the late 1950's the Academy began phasing out the elementary grades and closed the College in 1964. By 1965 the school was exclusively grades 7 to 12. Previously, students who attended from grades 1 to 12 were acknowledged with a dedicated page in the Yearbook. However, in 1971, this practice was obsolete. Reflecting on this matter, Enda Egan '71 expressed, "Among the thirteen of us who had spent all six years there, I strongly felt that we were missing out. After much discussion, we concluded that indeed something should be done." Thus emerged the renowned term "Super Sixer," designating students who completed six years at the Academy, spanning from grades 7 to 12. Subsequently, during their 20-year reunion in 1991, the class planted a tree on the grounds, signifying the milestone event. Finally, at their 40-year reunion in 2011, a commemorative plaque was affixed to the tree.



*"To commemorate and respond to this encyclical, we undertook the planting of a tree to symbolize our commitment through a simple yet significant action."*

*– Sr. Marylyn Gibney, SNJM*

## LAUDATO SI' TREE

Situated near Kingsway is an Autumn Blaze Maple tree that was planted in 2022 to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si' — On Care For Our Common Home*. The encyclical calls for environmental stewardship and addresses the interconnectedness of ecological, social, and economic issues in a plea for global solidarity and sustainable development.

God of the Universe,

You made the heavens and the earth,

Upon this tree we have planted in the grounds of SMA  
may your stars rain down their blessed dust.

May it and us be blessed with rain and sunshine.

Grant us humility that we might become more human,

That we might mend our rift from your creation,

That we might then know the sacredness of the gift of life,

That we might truly experience life from your hand.

For you planted humanity in a garden and began  
our resurrection in a garden.

Our blessed memory and hope, therefore, lie in a garden.

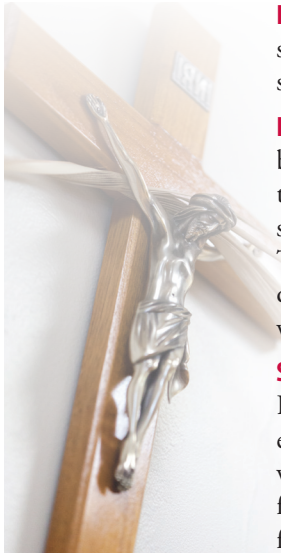
We rejoice that we find ourselves eclipsed by  
the magnitude of generosity and mystery.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.

# MESSAGE FROM ST. MARY'S ACADEMY FOUNDATION

At St. Mary's Academy Foundation, our purpose is to raise funds to support our young women and their journey of learning, faith and service while at SMA. These three pillars will help form well-rounded young women who will be tomorrow's leaders in the world. The Foundation supports these pillars in a variety of ways, and because of our generous donors, we are able to continue to provide valuable opportunities which are integral to the SMA experience.



**LEARNING:** The Foundation supports the learning pillar through our General and individually-named Bursary Funds. The Bursary Program fosters students' educational journey within our community. One of six students are given a SMA Catholic education due to the generous financial aid from our bursary donors.

**FAITH:** The foundress of the SNJM, Blessed Mother Marie-Rose Durocher, believed an entire society can be transformed if the minds and hearts of young women are guided and nurtured. When you donate to the Foundation's School Programs Fund, you are providing funding for school initiatives that enhance responsible and ethical learning, such as innovative arts programs and cutting-edge technology exploration. These initiatives empower students to discover their creativity, develop critical thinking skills, and foster a deeper understanding of responsible practices in the context of the arts, athletics, and technology, all the while helping form well-rounded students who are building self-confidence with a foundation in faith.

**SERVICE:** This past year the Foundation was thrilled to invite a group of students to attend the Rossbrook House fundraising dinner as well as the Welcome Home fundraising dinner for House of Peace. These evenings are an opportunity outside of their mandatory service hours to connect to other organizations who are doing amazing work and changing lives. Connecting students to other larger organizations and fundraising helps spark a philanthropic desire that can spread through the entire school with student fundraising initiatives such as bake sales, casual day, and the Walk for Cancer.

As a Foundation, we work every day to support our future leaders who are learning to think critically and creatively as they adapt to change, embrace social consciousness, and find their important voice.

On October 28th, the Foundation will be hosting its largest fundraising event of the year, the Marian Awards Gala. This event will highlight the pillars that SMA stands on, all while honouring the life of a community leader, Connie Magalhaes. Each of our fundraising initiatives during this evening will impact and inspire our learning, faith and service pillars. We invite you to join us in fundraising for our future leaders while we celebrate and honour our past.

It is our honour to continue the work of Blessed Mother Marie-Rose and the SNJM—thank you for your partnership and support in this continuous endeavor.

## IN THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Over 40% of new families supported the Lighting A New Way Program

Over \$3,000 was raised for the Arts

Monthly donations grew by 50%

Over \$50,000 was donated to the Bursary Fund



## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Heather Skublics Lampman '87 is no stranger to St. Mary's Academy. Heather had a unique experience during her six years at the school, as her mother, Christine Skublics, was a teacher and then the Academy's first lay principal between 1978 and 1989 (principal from 1984-1989). "We didn't have any extended family in the city, so the SMA staff and community became our family, some of the teachers have been like my aunts." Heather recalls her time at the Academy as an experience of feeling at home and able to be accepted for who she was and to develop in freedom.

In memory of Heather's mother, who passed away in 1991, the family established the Christine Skublics Scholarship as a tribute to her strong connection and dedication to SMA. When Heather returned to the city after being away for a number of years, she had the opportunity to work at SMA for a brief time, actively participated in the Alumnae Association and was honored to present the Christine Skublics scholarship to students on two occasions. Heather finds great joy in staying connected with the school community and frequently seizes the opportunity to visit her mother's picture on the second floor, beside the plaque displaying award recipients. Throughout the years, she has made efforts to contribute to the growth of this scholarship fund. SMA thanks Heather for her ongoing support of the school and the SNJM mission.

# DONOR RECOGNITION

The Academy is grateful for its many donors 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 donors who contributed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

## **MOTHER MARIE-ROSE CIRCLE | \$25,000+**

Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary

## **FOUNDERS CIRCLE | \$10,000 – \$24,999**

Estate of Elisabeth Kavanagh

Estate of Michael Koryluk

Cecilia Sheehan '52

Jess and Celia Tesoro

Brenda Yost (Foster '59) In Honour of Shelia June Foster '52

## **HOLY NAMES CIRCLE | \$5,000 – \$9,999**

Ruth and Brian Hastings

Estate of James Muir

The Jim & Janice Tennant Foundation

## **PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE | \$2,000 – \$4,999**

Andrea (Leslie '97) and Sergio Almeida

Jose Antonio Villeda Medical Corp.

Estate of Violet Knight

Romulo Magsino and Michelle Halipchuk-Magsino

Angela Mathieson '84 In Honour of Beverly Mathieson

Jennifer Tesoro '96

Rita Wong '95

## **TARTAN CIRCLE | \$1,000 – \$1,999**

Aaron Anderson and Lynne Sweeney

Lisa Anttila '95 and Andrew Holtmann

Cynthia Balaberda '77

Dean Barth and Karen Colfer

Barry & Lynda Brown (Oland '69) and Alyson Brown '98

D-7 Property Management Ltd.

Angela and Greg Elkie

Estate of Maureen Winnifred Ayres

Sandra Geddes '76

The Gibson Kramps Family

Mary and Gregg Hanson

Mark and Tamara Hart

John Hutton

Alan and Barbara MacInnes

Michael and Brenda Evans Family Foundation

Donald and Alli Minarik

Drs. Marc and Shelley Mollot

Kelly Park's Family

James Richardson & Sons, Limited and Affiliated Companies

Reena Ray Sisk (Ray '90) and Joel Sisk

Michelle (Moore '95) and Eric Saltel

Sisters of the Holy Rock

Jennifer and Brian Thiessen

Tri-Star Technical Ltd.

Jean (Giesinger '58) and Walter Van Wallegem

Kathy and Phil VanderZalm

2 Anonymous

## **FRIENDS | \$1 – \$999**

Adedamola and Remilekun Adedapo

Vinod Adimathra and Pratheeksha Joseph

Ayele Affanou

Shafique Ahmad

Rizwan Ahmed

Hamilton and Patience Ajiamah

Christina Albi '85

Ann Jee and Allen Alzona

Rosalinda Amato and Michael Choiselat

Kevin and Sarah Anseeuw

Michael and Dorothy Antoniuk

Katia Arrus and Renzo Borgesa

Ayobola and Adebisi Ayowole-Obi

The Bahl Family

Darin Banmann and Rachel Suarez-Banmann

Dorota Baranowska and Jerzy Piotrowicz

Mehmood and Nighat Batla

Douglas Baxter

Larry Beeston and Anna Sikora

Penny and Terry Berntt

Malcolm and Jennifer Bird

Jose Biscocho

Georgina Borkofski

Michael and Karen Boucher

Leanne Boyd '69

Patricia Bozyk '61

Kristina (Orzechowski '90) and Jeffrey Braun

Suzanne Brennan

Christine and Daryl Brigg

Suzanne and Jared Buffie

Darlene Burns (Woerlee '69)

Kevin Burns

Christina Burrige '11

Steve Burton and Yvette Ramos

Christine Butterill (Keegan '60)

Sarah (Nutting '87) and William Byers

Virgilio and Leny Caparas Jr.

Ilene Carels '60

Erika Carlow (Lukacs '86)

Catholic Women's League of Canada

Sindy Catigay (Pagtalunan '96)

Franca and Miro Cerqueti

Laura Chan '93

Karen Charrier

Daniel Chenier

Mrs. and Mr. Ying Tung and Wai Kwong Andy Cheung

The Chicoine Family

Michael Choiselat and Rosalinda Amato

Vera and Elias Cholakis

Michelle Ann Chua-Santos

Jason and Heidi Chuback

Barbara Clubb '65 and Kevin Burns

George and Mary Ellen Constantinides

Carlos and Cindy Cordeiro

Maria-Teresa Cotroneo '95

Marlene (Cantwell '53) and Cornelius Coughlin

Eleanor Cramp (Vail '57)

Sara Craven '08

Nadine Dannenberg (Gauthier '95)

Linda Dart

Maria and Aldwin De Castro

Daniel De Lacerda and Patricia Georgopoulos De Lacerda

Dear Dental Corporation

Carla Devlin

Rupinder Dhugra

Cheryl and Lyle Didyk

Bella Dingman '13

Oanh Thi Hoang Nguyen and Long Dinh

Bruce and Cindy Dornn

Janet Downs (Curran '60)

Jane Drexler

David and Melissa Duval

Earle Edie and Cheryl Maxom

Christine Eichkorn (Reise '55)

Chiaka Enaboifo

Brenda and Michael Evans

Jennifer Fallis '97

Lois Ferguson

Johanne (Markiewicz '66) and James Ferguson

Joan Flood '73

Richelle (St. Croix '03) and Nate Friesen

Geoffrey Garland

Cheryl and Brian Gilleshammer

Barbara Godfrey '70

Suzan (Goritz '99) Tetrault

Paulo and Rosanna Governo (Aletta '93)

Gregory and Liane Grande

In Honour of Bernadette Gray (Kropp '68)

# DONOR RECOGNITION

## FRIENDS CON'T | \$1 – \$999

Rebecca Greenhalgh (Sisler '07)  
Victoria Gretchen (Mihychuk '55)  
Jasdeep Grewal Mancer and Evan Mancer  
Linda Guernsey (Porter '65)  
Rowyn Hamm  
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Harvey  
Heather Clarke Foundation  
Susan and Vincent Hendricks  
Amarjeet Hirkewal  
Chris and Allison Hohl  
Camilla Holland and Colin Viebrock  
Mary Holmen (Whytehead '71)  
Amy Houston '03  
Carol Hryniuk-Adamov (Hryniuk '72)  
The Hu Family  
Louise (Whytehead '73) and Ken Hunter  
Hoi Wan Ip  
J.C. Paving LTD.  
Dominika Jasiewicz-Bialy (Jasiewicz '01) and Peter Bialy  
Charles and Lynn Jaworski  
Laura and Scott Johnson  
Richard Jones and Laurel Porth Jones  
Julian and Tanis McKenna Joshua  
Patricia De Luca and Dean Kasur  
Catherine Kelly '64  
Carol Kennedy (Johnson Gr. 11 '56, Gr. 12 '57)  
Imeke Kerr (Timmerman '65)  
Kaylene Kessler  
Kayla Ketcheson '09  
Ayesha and Hammad Khan  
Michelle Klus  
Rowena Krentz (Agapito '93)  
Susan Krepert and Owen Mooney  
Scott Lakusiak  
Gwendolyn and Marshall Lawrence  
Lindy Ledohowski '94  
Katrina Limberatos  
Maria-Fe and Ronald Linsangan  
Alexandra Lount  
Mary-Anne Lovallo (Washchyslyn '93)  
January Luczak  
Clare ('86), Gord, Quinn and Mahri ('20) MacKay  
Somesh and Pooja Madaan  
Magalhaes Family  
Stephanie and Daniel Mages  
Pramila Maharjan and Shiva Shrestha  
Rekha Malaviya '83  
Carlyle Manaigre and Kristen Roy  
Ihor and Svitlana Matkivska  
Lucie Mauro '72  
Laura and Scott McDonald  
Jacki and Kirk McManus  
Marcia Meyer '69  
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# COMING EVENTS

## Homecoming

**Saturday, September 16, 2023**

### Commemorative Years Brunch

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

**SMA Cafeteria | \$40 per person**

For the classes of 2013, 2003, 1998, 1993, 1988, 1983, 1978, 1973, 1968, 1963 all alumnae from 1963 and earlier, Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, and current and former staff. Details and purchase tickets at [www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming](http://www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming).

### Alumnae Association Annual General Meeting

11:45 AM | Alumnae Hall

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

### Touring and Activities: 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Visit booths at the Service Fair with local organizations in attendance, participate in a scavenger hunt around the school, visit with alumnae and teachers and enjoy tea and light snacks.

[www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming](http://www.smamb.ca/events/homecoming).

## Marian Awards Gala

**Saturday, October 28, 2023 | 6 PM**

### Canadian Museum for Human Rights

Honouring the life and legacy of Constanca (Connie) Magalhaes. Funds raised go to enhance innovative teaching and learning, and support our sustainability as a forward-thinking school for young women.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities available at [www.smamb.ca/events/marian-awards](http://www.smamb.ca/events/marian-awards).

## December Celebration and Retiree Blessing

**Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 11 AM**

### Holy Names Chapel

Celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception  
Hosted by the Alumnae Association

## Drinks Under The Dome for the Class of 2023

**Thursday, December 21, 2023 | 4 PM**

### Sheila Chipman Atrium

Graduates from the Class of 2023 gather for a Christmas beverage and appetizers, sign yearbooks, and re-connect with classmates.

## Open House

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024 | 7 PM to 9 PM**

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

## Female World Sport School Challenge

**January 25 to 28, 2024 | hockey for all centre**

Watch elite level female hockey. Hosted by the Flames Prep Hockey Team. [www.fwssc.ca](http://www.fwssc.ca).

## Torch Talks

**Saturday, February 3, 2024 | 10 AM to 12 PM**

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

## International Day

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

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.

## 3rd Annual Parents' Guild Golf Tournament

Early in June 2024. Details will be found at [www.smamb.ca/events/PGGolf](http://www.smamb.ca/events/PGGolf).

## Vancouver Chapter Reunion Luncheon

Late spring 2024 | Richmond Girl Guide House  
4780 Blundell Road, Richmond, B.C.

Details available at [www.smamb.ca/alumnae](http://www.smamb.ca/alumnae). For more information, contact Darlene Burns (Woerlee '69) at [darlene\\_burns@telus.net](mailto:darlene_burns@telus.net).



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# MARIAN AWARDS GALA

**Saturday, October 28, 2023**

Canadian Museum for Human Rights

See page 9 for details

