



SPECIAL DIGITAL EDITION

SUMMER 2020

URSULA UPDATE

WE'VE

GOT THIS!





We've Got This!

In mid-March, St. Ursula Academy—along with the rest of the world—was thrown a curveball. And while we pride ourselves on our safety and security procedures, we could not have anticipated a worldwide pandemic as part of our plan. But, true to form, our incredible and creative group of faculty and staff members pivoted from in-class instruction to online learning in a flash. Our students adapted, our parents supported us, our alumnae made us proud, and our Class of 2020 still graduated—with as many traditions as we could muster.

And that's because we are SUA, and no matter the circumstances, we've got this.





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Mary Conlisk Werner '74, President

Welcome to this digital edition of *Ursula Update*.

The pages that follow reflect a community of students, teachers, and administrators who successfully stepped up and stepped forward to learn, lead, and adapt in ways that were unimaginable six months ago. We all came together in unity and love to create a remote learning environment that still embraces our Ursuline Core Values of Academic Excellence, Spirituality, and Care of the Individual. Intramurals even went digital!

And who could forget the Class of 2020? With resilience and grace, our students wrapped up their last term at SUA facing an unknown future head on. We celebrated our seniors in a magical way with 121 personal graduations, each so special. We prayed for them, and with them, to “continue to become even more of the bold woman who leads and succeeds with a servant’s heart.”

While our students and faculty were learning, leading, and adapting, our staff was behind the scenes examining creative opportunities to streamline operations, raise scholarship support, and identify best practices for the future. This one-time digital edition of *Ursula Update* saves printing costs at a time when precious dollars are needed to fund tuition assistance and SUA’s response to COVID-19.

Our SUA alumnae also are inspiring, sending words of encouragement and support to our seniors and offering professional insight and inspiration to the greater SUA community. Other alumnae—across generations and professions—stepped up for humanity, serving on the front lines as first responders and volunteers.

Yes, we’ve got this! The last three months have been a challenge, but we all know the SUA community is like no other: learning, leading, and adapting to continue our mission of preparing students for college and, most importantly, for life.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Mary Conlisk Werner '74, President



Follow President Mary Werner on Twitter
[@mwerner74pres](https://twitter.com/mwerner74pres).

“

Necessity is
the mother
of invention.

PLATO

”

Nichole Operacz Flores '89, Principal

“More often than not, we define our growth by success and achievements: are we getting faster or stronger or smarter? But I have started to define mine by gratitude. I think our ability to find what we can be grateful for—especially in unideal situations—is a measure of our emotional resilience and maturity.”

Elouise (Ellie) White, Class of 2020, shared these words in her valedictory address to her classmates. I am truly in awe of the beauty of her statement, especially from a senior who was forced to say “goodbye” to St. Ursula Academy in March, never to return to the building as a student.

When Gov. DeWine closed school buildings because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the entire SUA community—students, parents, faculty and staff—leaned into SUA’s Core Value of Openness to Change and left the campus of SUA, and soon became unable to return for the rest of the academic year. This order was filled with challenges, but emotionally it was heartbreaking. However, our team dove into the challenge and turned on a dime, and we could not imagine a more positive experience. Our experience is only punctuated by the heartfelt gratitude we feel for our community that led to the overall success of home learning.



We are grateful for our Arrows, who trust and love their teachers. They attended virtual classes, completed their work, committed to Advanced Placement testing, asked for additional help from our tutors, and had a voice in the process as we adjusted along the way. Their flexible and open mindsets allowed for learning to continue. Our Arrows also led “The Quarantine Games,” which was our online Intramurals, and created a meaningful May Crowning ceremony. Our students leaned into Openness to Change.

We are grateful for our faculty and staff, who are “rock stars” when it comes educating our Arrows. They rewrote lesson plans, embraced new technology, attended tons of professional development webinars, responded to emails at midnight, and connected with other teachers from around the United States. They persevered to uphold the integrity of our academic program for the Arrows. Our faculty and staff leaned into Openness to Change.

We are grateful for our parents, who continually support us and are our partners in this journey. Even when the governor communicated changing guidelines and expectations for year-end events, our parents stayed with us. Our parents leaned into Openness to Change.

SUA seized the moment, and we are grateful for the Ursuline Sisters who taught us about Openness to Change and gratitude. The SUA community believes deeply in these Core Values. I am personally taking Ellie’s advice from her address, “So may we take every new opportunity with a sense of **gratitude and openness**, and always remember that a grateful heart is a happy heart.” Ellie’s words could not be truer.

Gratefully yours,

Nichole Operacz Flores '89, Principal

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SPONSORED BY
THE URSULINE SISTERS OF TOLEDO

A LETTER FROM

Craig Mancinotti, Board of Trustees Chair

Like the rest of us, the St. Ursula Academy community has been asked to make tremendous changes to the plans we had in place just a few months ago. I am in awe of the spirit and fortitude of the students, families, educators, and alumnae who have responded to this challenge in an exceptional manner. Because everyone contributed and moved together, SUA was able to quickly assemble a remote learning plan that delivered on our mission and values—I would put SUA's effort and results for home-learning up against anyone's!



I'm proud of our teachers who adjusted lessons to fit remote classrooms and relationships to maintain the level of trust, comfort, support, and challenge that are the hallmarks of an in-person SUA experience. I'm proud of our administrators who created a meaningful, intimate graduation experience for 121 young women who are off to find success in their next endeavors. I'm proud of our staff who have nimbly made adjustments to SUA's summer camps and admissions events, worked to collect and tell positive and uplifting stories through our social media accounts and the monthly *Arrow Connect* e-newsletter, assessed and adjusted our budget, and continued to raise philanthropic support—always necessary, but especially critical in the months ahead.

The challenges are ongoing, as uncertainty remains the dominant theme, and we must remain flexible, but the past few months have proven that SUA is capable. My confidence in the people of SUA is high, and as we move forward with our next strategic plan—*Making a Difference*—I see great potential in this community's ability to overcome obstacles and address challenges.

To you, our alumnae, SUA families, and friends—I am grateful for your ongoing patience, understanding, and support as we move forward.

Craig Mancinotti, Board of Trustees Chair

Welcome to the Board of Trustees



Sarah Richard Zibbel '98

St. Ursula Academy proudly welcomes Sarah Richard Zibbel '98 back to her alma mater to serve on SUA's Board of Trustees. Sarah brings 18 years of experience in human resources leadership roles in non-profit, private, and public sectors to the board.

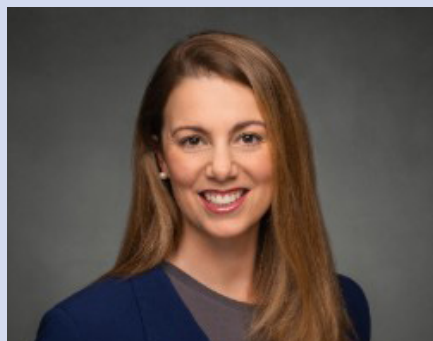
Sarah currently serves as the Senior Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer at Libbey Inc., in Toledo. She previously held various vice president positions at Owens-Illinois, as well as leadership roles at Rexam, Owens Corning, and MedCorp Inc. She is also a board member of the Toledo Chamber of Commerce.

Sarah graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Management from the University of Dayton. She went on to earn an Executive MBA from Bowling Green State University.

She lives in Perrysburg with her husband, Rick, and four children.

Sarah said that serving on the board allows her to “give back to an organization that has given so much to me.” She also feels that “single-sex education is a life-changing experience for young women.”

Welcome, Sarah!



One of Sarah's colleagues is **JENNIFER NIXON JAFFEE '00**, the only other female in the C Suite at Libbey Inc. Jennifer is the Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary.

WE'VE GOT THIS!

by **JANE PFEIFER**, *Editor*

On Thursday, March 12, 2020, the entire student body of St. Ursula Academy was dismissed at 3:00 p.m. with directions to empty their lockers, take home all books and computers, and watch for emails that would explain the way SUA would handle its response to the COVID-19 pandemic that was shutting schools, businesses, medical facilities, and countless other locations worldwide. Students, faculty, and staff went home that day wondering what would become of their rest of their Spring 2020 semester.

Within days, the SUA academic team revamped an entire curriculum to create robust, creative, and challenging lesson plans for the next several weeks. And, as weeks turned into months at home, teachers never strayed from these lessons—finishing the semester with interesting content and innovative ways to deliver it. The faculty embraced the Ursuline Core Value of “Openness to Change” whole-heartedly.

Behind the scenes, the SUA staff stepped up to raise funds for families in need, gather food for its essential Labre Project, keep up the spirits of the students and faculty, reach out to new Arrows, and

connect with our alumnae who were working on the front lines or praying for our success.

Our campus ministers kept storming Heaven with prayers and petitions for our entire community and all those affected by the virus. Our counselors were touching base with students to make sure they were handling not only their coursework, but also their feelings of loss and isolation.

Everyone in the SUA family embraces our inherent strength and cohesiveness—so, not surprisingly, we capably handled the “new normal.” Because we are Arrows—and we’ve got this.



The entire SUA community shared its strength and power through our **inspirational video**, “We’ve Got This!” Students, faculty and staff, our Ursuline Sisters, parents, and worldwide alumnae pulled together to make it through the COVID-19 pandemic—and all its life changes—as one strong sisterhood.



Faculty and staff met via a weekly Zoom call for several weeks. Teachers shared success stories, staff members updated the team about plans, and everyone celebrated milestones and achievements!



During Teacher Appreciation Week, yard signs mysteriously appeared all over the Toledo area to show SUA pride! We have the best team in town!



Mrs. Amny Karban from **The Learning Commons (TLC)** kept up her personal touch with students—even when her tutoring time went online!

She provided everything from casual check-ins to hours of one-on-one assistance for students who needed just a little extra push. For one student, Mrs. Karban was a source of encouragement as she prompted the freshman through some missing math assignments—helping that Arrow to nail a “B” in her least-favorite class.

Calls for help might come at all hours of the day or night. Mrs. Karban happily answered “SOS” texts late into the evening—once even working with a student until 11:45 p.m. to meet her midnight assignment deadline.

Mrs. Karban’s favorite example of academic success under the quarantine circumstances came from a student who struggled with online learning. With three weeks left in the quarter, the student was facing three Fs and a B. Pulling together with this Arrow’s teachers, Mrs. Karban and her team created a timeline for completing assignments—both current ones and ones that were already late. With Mrs. Karban’s daily multiple texts, lots of ‘Q&A’ sessions, and a ton of encouragement, everyone worked to assist the student—who ended the quarter with two As, one B, and one C. “She worked her tail off, and I am so proud of her!,” Mrs. Karban said. “Rather than just sit back and give up because she was so far behind, she turned it around and really worked hard...and her work paid off!”

CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATION

The members of the **Class of 2020** will never forget their senior year. Although the students missed out on several traditions, the SUA team did everything possible to deliver meaningful and memorable virtual events to replace the in-person ceremonies that were prohibited because of the pandemic.

On May 17, what would have been the Class of 2020's graduation day, every senior received a yellow rose delivered to her home.

The 121 students in SUA's Class of 2020 each had her own personal graduation ceremony at school, beginning with a solo walk through the senior hallway and ending with a family photo of the graduate with her diploma.



8TH GRADE GRADUATION

The **Class of 2024** completed its 8th grade year in May with a virtual graduation ceremony. After the online gathering, special visitors arrived at each graduate's home to present her with a yellow rose.

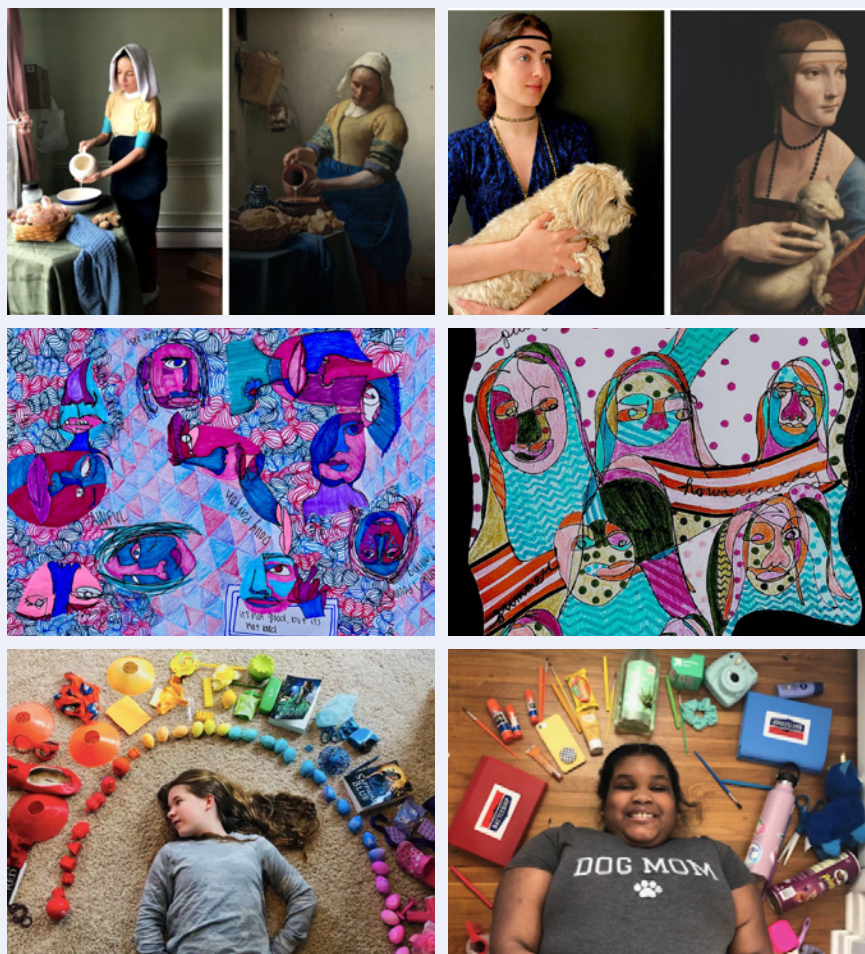


(May 2020) "In Madrid, Spain, we are going on Week 10 of quarantine. During the first eight weeks, we were not able to leave our homes except for medical emergencies, trips to the grocery store, or taking out our dog. Luckily, we have a dog, so we were able to go out a few times a day. There hasn't been shortage of food, but the process to get food became complicated. The supermarkets were open but had very limited hours, and only a few people were allowed in at a time. If you went during busy hours, you could wait in line for more than two hours before we were allowed to enter. We are finally allowed to go for walks/runs/bike rides from 6:00-10:00 a.m. and 8:00-11:00 p.m. We must be in a mask and try to keep at least six feet of distance from other people. Because Madrid is such a concentrated city, we have been hit very hard by the virus." - Elizabeth Niehaus '09

Ms. Caitlyn Shawaker's **Ceramics** students chose a famous work of art to recreate using materials they found around their house! They had to match the lighting, composition, setting, and subject matter of the original work of art.

The **Community Art** class, taught by Ms. Caroline Jardine, participated in an interesting project while meeting via Zoom. Students were partnered with a classmate and instructed to have a 30-minute video chat. While they video-chatted, they made pen blind-contour line drawings (drawings a person makes while NOT looking at her paper) of each other and integrated words and phrases from their conversation. Then, they developed their drawings with color and pattern to create a finished abstract piece.

Ms. Shawaker's **JA Color Theory** class had fun and learned the basics from this imaginative assignment!



Our Arrow sisters who work on the **front lines in health care** checked in with us during the pandemic, sending words of encouragement and photos of themselves in action. Thank you, alumnae!



Three SUA Grads Earn Prestigious Scholarships

by **YOLANDA ROBINSON DURDEN '86**, *Alumnae Engagement Coordinator*

The Class of 2020 received more than \$18 million in college scholarships, which was earned by 80 percent of the graduates. Three members of the Class of 2020, however, earned major college scholarships, enabling them to attend the college of their choice.



Jessica Segura earned the Bowling Green State University Presidential Scholars Award for full tuition. She will major in Art—with a specialization in Digital Arts and Animation—and minor in Entrepreneurship. At SUA, Jess was a member of the Creative Writing Club for four years, and she participated in the musical during her sophomore, junior, and senior years. At BGSU, Jess plans to join the Creative Writing Club and the Anime Club.

For the first time in recent history, two SUA students—**Amari Wilson** and **Kennedy Coleman**—have received a Morrill Scholarship and are participating in the Morrill Scholarship Program through The Ohio State University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI), one of the oldest and most prominent offices of its kind in the nation. Founded in 1970, ODI supports the recruitment, retention, and success of students, faculty, and staff who enhance the university's diversity.

The Morrill Scholarship Program rewards academically talented students who are actively engaged in diversity-based leadership, service, and social justice activities. The Morrill Scholarship is awarded on a competitive basis to students admitted to the Columbus campus for the fall semester following high school graduation. Freshmen in this program must be involved in groups specific to their interest of advocacy and are expected to participate in the annual Spring Break alternative trip to locations like Chicago, Ill., and Washington, D.C., where they can get a firsthand look at fighting housing insecurity and homelessness on many levels.



While at SUA, **Amari** participated in Labre, French Club, African American Club, and Track and Field. She was also a St. Francis de Sales High School football cheerleader. "Attending an all-girls school was one of the best decisions I ever made," Amari shared. "You just have to go in with a welcoming heart and mind and make the experience you want to have."

Amari is proud of the person she has become by attending SUA. She plans to major in Nursing at OSU. Amari received the Morrill Scholarship with Distinction.



Kennedy is an Arrow legacy; her mother, Christine Coleman, graduated in 1990. Kennedy will study Pharmaceutical Sciences at OSU. She said, "The block scheduling at SUA allowed me to take six science credits in comparison to the three credits required." In addition to academics, Kennedy participated in varsity lacrosse, Campus Ministry core team, National

Honor Society, Student Council, Labre, and the musical. Outside of SUA, Kennedy teaches dance to people with disabilities at iDance and recently raised more than \$51,000 in seven weeks while running for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Student of the Year. Kennedy said, "I will miss the constant words of encouragement and support from my teachers, the immense love I have for the Class of 2020, and everything that makes St. Ursula so incredibly special. But most of all, I will miss all of the people." Kennedy received the Morrill Scholarship with Excellence.

Amari and Kennedy are both only children, but together they found sisterhood at St. Ursula Academy and now beyond the walls of SUA at OSU.

2020 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

The University of Akron
The University of Alabama
Albion College
Appalachian State University
Arcadia University
Arizona State University
The University of Arizona
Ashland University
Auburn University
Baldwin Wallace University
Ball State University
Barry University
Baylor University
Bellarmine University
Belmont University
Bowling Green State University
University of California, Berkeley
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Central Michigan University
Central State University
University of Cincinnati
Clark Atlanta University
Clemson University
Cleveland State University
Coastal Carolina University
University of Colorado Boulder
Columbia College Chicago
Cornerstone University
Cumberland University
Davidson College
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Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida Southern College
Fordham University
Franciscan University of Steubenville

Grand Valley State University
Hampton University
Hawai'i Pacific University
Heidelberg University
Hope College
Howard University
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University of Illinois at Chicago
Indiana Institute of Technology
Indiana University
University of Indianapolis
John Carroll University
Johnson & Wales University, Providence
Kalamazoo College
Keiser University
Kent State University
University of Kentucky
Kingston University, England
Lourdes University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University New Orleans
Malone University
Marquette University
Marymount Manhattan College
The University of Memphis
Mercyhurst University
Miami University
University of Miami
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
Monroe County Community College
Morgan State University
Niagara University
University of North Carolina Greensboro
University of North Florida
Oakland University
Oberlin College
Ohio Northern University

The Ohio State University
Ohio University
Ohio Valley University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Otterbein University
Owens Community College
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University
Point University
Prairie View A&M University
Purdue University
Randolph-Macon College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
Saint Louis University
Saint Mary's College
Seton Hall University
Seton Hill University
University of South Carolina
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Environmental Science and Forestry
Syracuse University
The University of Tampa
Tennessee State University
The University of Tennessee
Tiffin University
University of Toledo
University of Toronto
Valparaiso University
Walsh University
University of Washington
West Virginia University
Wittenberg University
The College of Wooster
Wright State University
Xavier University
Youngstown State University

CALCULATING A PATH TO SUCCESS IN MATHEMATICS

by **JANE PFEIFER**, *Editor*

The thought of a math class might strike terror in the heart of some students, but that's not the case at St. Ursula Academy. In fact, SUA students thoroughly enjoy their math classes for many reasons, including the interesting curriculum, variety of course options, and dedicated faculty members.

One main reason that SUA girls thrive in their math classes is because of the 4x4 Collegiate Block schedule. SUA's beneficial schedule allows students to take a full course in math in just one semester. While every student is required to take math for all four years in high school, she can also add extra math classes because of the flexible block schedule. In fact, Marie Blesing, Director of The Learning Commons, said Arrows average more than four math classes before graduation.

"Incoming freshmen are placed into one of four math courses: Algebra 1 A/B (a two-semester course), Algebra 1, Honors Algebra 1, or Honors Geometry," she said. From

there, each girl has her own path, but those who excel in math are encouraged to double-up on math in junior and senior year. Junior Academy students have a college-prep track or an accelerated track. JA students take three or four quarters of math per year, depending on their track, which actually ensures they receive more math instruction than a typical middle-school student would receive. Nikki Schaub, chair of the Math Department and JA Math teacher, added that JA students also have math electives, including the popular course Math, Art, and Puzzles.

continued »

"The Mathematics Department at SUA is a tight-knit team dedicated to meeting the unique needs of their students. Each visit to their classrooms unearths yet another reason that they are such a gift to the entire SUA community. With educational backgrounds in Middle School, Adolescent and Young Adult, and the collegiate level, each team member brings a specialized expertise in both content knowledge and the way students learn. The Math team fully embraces the growth mindset—not only for their students, but also for themselves. They are constantly learning, reflecting, modeling risk-taking, and trying new things. This team has not only embraced the concept that 'mathematics is not about numbers, equations, computations or algorithms; it's about understanding' (William Thurston), but also that math is about their connection with each young lady."

MALINDA SIERS, *Director of Faculty and Curriculum Development*

Incredibly beneficial to SUA students is the collaboration among the eight math teachers in the building. Blessing said, “The math curriculum, starting from the JA math courses, is aligned so that students have the problem-solving skills, rigor, and content knowledge necessary to prepare them for advanced placement (AP) courses.” Schaub added that she ensures JA students learn the correct math vocabulary and other skills—such as using the TI-84 graphing calculator—that will guarantee success in future classes. Overall, as teachers work together, they find creative ways to engage students in math. Sharing ideas has built a strong department and keeps teachers focused on student success.

“AP math levels require students to see math graphically, analytically, and numerically—so we start the building blocks for these concepts in sixth grade and carry them through to senior year,” Kim Shockey, math department faculty member, said.

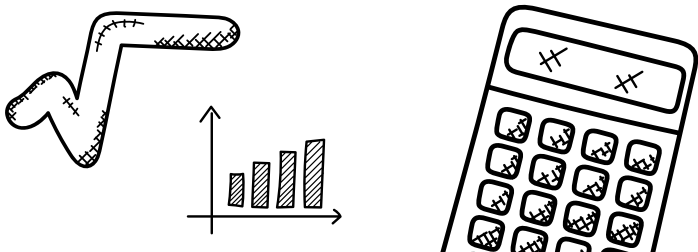
With 15 separate math courses, SUA students can find their most meaningful set of courses. Shockey said that means students can even jump between college preparatory and honors courses as they navigate their future college and career options. “Each student’s plan is customized,” she said.

“Mrs. Shockey’s Statistics class and her teaching style showed me a different kind of math that I really enjoyed, and it inspired me to pursue a Statistics minor at Miami University!”

SKYLER MONTAINE '19

Shockey teaches Statistics and AP Statistics, and she has watched those courses grow in popularity over the last few years. “Approximately 75 percent of our graduating seniors took a statistics course this year, and others took

continued »



Conquering the Challenge of Advanced Classes

by **KILLEEN FRENCH-HILL '26**

As a sixth grader entering St. Ursula Academy, I was not fond of the idea of taking an advanced math class, such as pre-algebra. I was honored that I had placed into it, but, coming from a public school, I wasn’t sure what to expect. However, I was met with something unexpected when I walked into the classroom. A challenge faced me, the type that playfully tells you, “C’mon, you can do it. Give it a try.” My teachers repeated this message, and a unique bond grew between us. I also discovered friendships with girls older than I am, friendships that emphasize the SUA sisterhood. Though this obstacle intimidated me, my teachers and peers helped me to realize that challenges raise you to be who you are and allow you to reach your full potential. This type of interaction boosted my confidence, which soon turned the “advanced class” into just an average class. I know that this challenge has already affected my future courses, leading to more advanced math classes from next year all the way to high school. Right now, I once again fear a fierce challenge staring me down. But with more friendships, wonderful teachers, and student-teacher bonds on the way, I am confident that these “advanced classes” will turn out to be just another class.

“The math department at SUA is second to none. During my time at SUA, I had the opportunity to truly excel in math, earning college credit through Advanced Placement exams and studying at the University of Toledo. The math teachers have your best interest in mind and are always there to help in your current math class, as well as planning for the future. If you have the option to take more math, do it! Math is a great foundation for many different career paths and can help you in your future!”

ELLIE WHITE '20

it during junior year.” She said Statistics is essential for career paths such as economics, nursing, business, and psychology. Calculus is also popular, and it is useful for math and some business majors.

100

PERCENT

PASS RATE ON
AP CALCULUS
EXAMS IN 2018

The College Board offers AP exams in Statistics and two Calculus courses. If a student passes all three exams, she may earn between six and ten Calc credits and three Stats credits in college. Shockey and Blessing calculated, at typical credit-hour rates, a savings of approximately \$7,000-8,000 in tuition, as well as the added benefit of more flexibility in a college schedule.

Blessing summed up the SUA math experience: “Students develop a deep understanding of the concepts, so they truly know the content; they don’t just memorize it.”

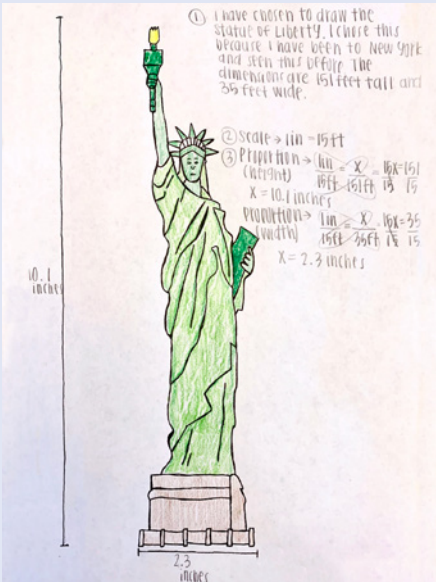
Taking AP math courses made me as prepared or better prepared than the students in my [college] classes. I came into New York University with so many AP credits that the school had to cap me at 32 credits (eight AP courses). Currently, I am on track to graduate in 2022, but I may add another major or minor. Graduating a year early would save me approximately \$75,000.

In the coming years, I am hoping to do research on stochastic modeling, a probability tool used in financial forecasting. I would not be where I am without the background in mathematics given to me by the teachers at SUA. I owe it all to them.

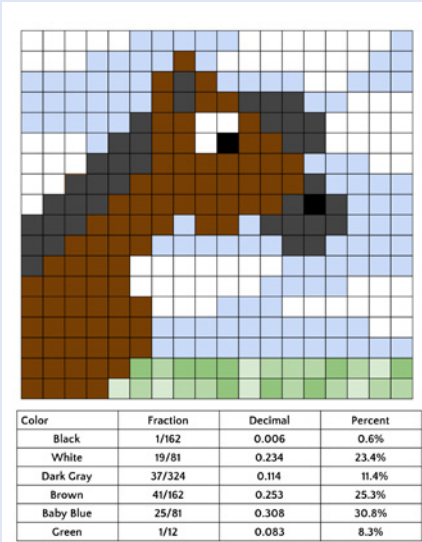
CAROLINE GOETZ '19

MRS. COURTNEY THOMAS' GEOMETRY

STUDENTS worked on a similarity unit as part of their remote learning this spring. Students chose real-life objects and created scale drawings of them. They created a scale of the model to the actual object and used proportions to find the dimensions of their scale drawing.



Junior Academy students in **MRS. NIKKI SCHAUB'S JA MATH CLASS** created pixel art! They determined the percent of each color used in their artwork and represented this percent as a fraction and as a decimal.



Senior Academic Awards and Honors

St. Ursula Academy awarded the Class of 2020 Valedictorian honors to Elouise White and Salutatorian honors to Annalee Miklosek.

VALEDICTORIAN Elouise White is a graduate of Saint Joseph Parish School Sylvania, and she will attend Purdue University in the fall, where she will major in Genetic Engineering. Ellie is a member of the STEM Club, Vice President of the National Honor Society, and an Ambassador Society member; she also participated in the SUA musicals and in several other extracurricular activities. She is the daughter of Mike and Anne White.



Elouise White

SALUTATORIAN Annalee Miklosek is a graduate of Most Blessed Sacrament parish school, and she will attend the University of Michigan next year, majoring in Cognitive Science and Mathematics. Anna is a member of the Ambassador Society, the National Honor Society, and the SUA musical, among many other clubs and activities. She is the daughter of Michael Miklosek and Edna Miklosek-Baker.



Annalee Miklosek

Each year, St. Ursula Academy presents three special awards to students in its graduating class. These awards speak to the essence of a St. Ursula student—caring, selfless, engaged, and supportive of her sisters and her community.

THE BISHOP'S CROSS is given to a senior who has shown outstanding participation in all religious expressions of the school, has maintained an “A” or “B” average in Theology, has exhibited an attitude of cooperation and enthusiastic support for the school’s effort to build a caring, honest community, and has participated outside the school in religious projects and groups. The Bishop’s Cross for the Class of 2020 was awarded to **Madison Griffin**.



Madison Griffin

THE ST. ANGELA AWARD, named for SUA’s foundress, is bestowed upon a graduate who, like St. Angela Merici, believes in the importance of Christian living with attitudes, values, and actions based on charity. She also exhibits the qualities of service, friendship, care, compassion, and concern for others. This year’s recipients of the St. Angela Award were **Elyse Monaghan** and **Sydney Rudolph**.



Elyse Monaghan



Sydney Rudolph

THE MARY ANN GUGGER AWARD is presented to a graduate who gave generous amounts of time to her school and embraced school spirit. This award honors Mary Ann’s spirit and dedication to St. Ursula Academy. The Class of 2020 recipients of the Mary Ann Gugger Award were **Amara Berhan** and **Abigail Kohler**.



Amara Berhan



Abigail Kohler

Bonjour, Mes Amies!

by **JULIE ARNOLD**, *World Language Department, French teacher*

Our Gen Z Arrows receive a bounty of texts, emails, and social media notifications. But how many of them receive letters in the mail?

And from Paris?

As part of St. Ursula Academy's French program, students exchanged physical letters with our sister school in Paris, Sainte Ursule. In the digital age, this old-world communication method is charming—and even enlightening. Tech-savvy students swooned over their French friend's chic stationery and flowing cursive handwriting—details missing from ho-hum emails.

The teenagers swapped stories about family, friends, and school, finding both common ground and surprising cultural differences. (These kids speak three languages? And an apartment in Paris costs how much?)

Recent stay-at-home orders gave these pen pals plenty to talk about. Our Arrows learned first-hand what quarantine life is like in Paris and shared their own experiences here at home. Many students also communicated via social media, sharing photos, videos, and moment-by-moment stories about navigating our new normal. Our young women learned that whether you see the Eiffel Tower out your window or the Glass City Skyway, we have a whole lot in common. And we're all in this together.



BLOCK SCHEDULING MODELS COLLEGE COURSE LOAD

by **EMILY OTTO**, *Annual Fund Coordinator*

St. Ursula Academy's 4x4 Collegiate Block Scheduling method helps prepare students for the future. College Counselor Becky Tobias said, "Typically in the first semester of college, students will be advised to register for four three-credit classes (for a total of 12 credit hours) or four four-credit classes (16 credit hours), depending on their college and academic requirements. Instead of focusing on multiple class content and exams, block scheduling allows students to focus solely on four classes."

The advantages to block scheduling are improved teaching and learning, the ability to focus attention on fewer subjects, individualized pacing, more course offerings, and stronger interpersonal relationships

among teachers and students. This type of schedule allows students to complete an entire course in one semester instead of a full academic year.

Final exams, for example, would encompass three or four subjects—instead of seven or eight in a typical high school schedule—which allows students to master content and reduces the stress of the testing period.

SUA has used the Collegiate Block Schedule method for more than 20 years, with parents, students, and teachers giving positive feedback at every assessment. It truly sets SUA apart in high school academics and provides more opportunities for deeper learning and extra assistance, if needed.

Creative Artwork is Alumna's Passion

by JANE PFEIFER, *Editor*



If you ever wondered why that burger in a restaurant commercial looks especially delicious or the tuna sandwich in a print ad makes your mouth water, you can credit the work of a food designer. Chances are, that food designer is St. Ursula Academy alumna Mary Seguin '79.

Mary has made quite a name for herself in the world of film and commercials, as well as print, for her outstanding work in food design. With credits on motion pictures such as “Carol” and “Creed II” and in commercials for Smucker’s, Subway, and Penn Station, she is constantly adding to her client list.

Her road to food stylist was not linear. Like many artists, she had a strong foundation in her field, but was always open to new paths. Her footing in creative fields came from art classes she took at SUA and at the Toledo Museum of Art as a young girl.

After graduating from Bowling Green State University, Mary worked as a game designer for Ohio Arts in Bryan, Ohio. A toy convention took her to New York City—and she was hooked on what it could offer. She moved there to work in advertising, eventually becoming an art director at several agencies.

She then moved to Cincinnati in 1986. She started a family and earned a master’s degree in painting from University of Cincinnati. She had a random encounter with actress and director Jodie Foster—who hired her as

a production assistant on a film that was shooting nearby. She worked on props and set design for that film, which led later to working on “Creed II” in Philadelphia and “Carol” back in Cincinnati.

Later, Mary enrolled in culinary school to learn more about food. Soon she was teaching cooking classes and giving demonstrations about food presentation. She said, “We have a huge gap in ‘visual language’—no matter what field you are in, you should be able to describe what you see or what you want to see with the correct vocabulary.” Her food designer business incorporates her love of art and style with her passion for food.

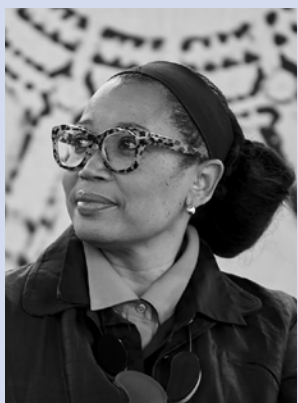


“I always say that people should hire artists because we are, in essence, problem solvers.” Clearly, Mary’s ability to adapt to situations and offer solutions has kept her creative flair going in many different industries—but the foundation came from her time in the SUA art room decades ago when her imagination was encouraged to soar.



Mary Seguin '79 held a workshop at SUA with Art and Life Skills students on January 31, 2020. Mary worked with students to show how the elements of art can be used in the composition of food.

ALUMNAE IN THE ARTS



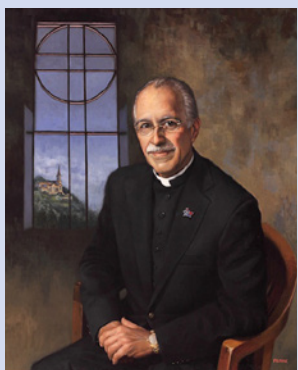
CHERYL STUBBLEFIELD DURST '80, *Executive Vice President of the International Interior Design Association (IIDA)*

Cheryl Durst credits St. Ursula Academy with giving her a firm foundation for her personal and professional life. And what a professional life she has as the Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Interior Design Association (IIDA). In her role, she is committed to achieving broad recognition for the value of design and its significant role in society through both functionality and engagement in everyday workspaces. Durst oversees the strategic direction of IIDA, leads the Association's International Board of Directors, and supports the work of 15,000 members working in 58 countries. She holds dual degrees in journalism and

economics from Boston University and is a member of the Board of Trustees for both the New York School of Interior Design (NYSID) and Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art.

"Careers in the arts and in design are ultimately fulfilling and are of incredible benefit to society as a whole," Durst said. "Art and design (that is, artists and designers) reflect, illuminate, and support humanity through creative and artistic expression. Art and design require practitioners to give of themselves...not just their brilliant and creative minds, but also their hearts and souls. As an artist or a designer, you make the world a better place: more humane, more civil, more beautiful, and more meaningful."

.....



ANN FILIPIAK '79, *Portrait Artist*

Ann Filipiak was an art student at SUA for four years in Ethelyn Holt's classroom. "She was an excellent teacher who focused on the critical Elements of Art and the Principles of Design," Filipiak said. "She also insisted that each student keep a sketch book and provide a new drawing every week of something she had drawn from life, which encouraged me to work from life and practice my craft daily. Senior year, all the students presented a one-woman show. I developed a lot of pride and confidence in my work because of the SUA Art Department's encouragement."

Portrait of Fr. Ronald Olszewski,
President of St. Francis
de Sales High School

After SUA, Filipiak attended St. Mary's College in South Bend, Ind. She took many studio and art history classes there and spent her sophomore year studying painting in Rome.

"I now own my own studio in Sylvania, Ohio, where I teach portrait classes. I have painted portrait commissions for many local families and businesses. I have also painted five former deans for The Ohio State University, the president of the National Shrine Hospital, and the president of St. Francis de Sales High School."

"Two things I learned from Mrs. Holt [and my other teachers]: practice your skills daily and learn to work from life. There is no substitute for either of those skills. Also, it is important to follow your bliss; success will find you when you follow a career that aligns with your passion."

ALUMNAE IN THE ARTS



MARY CATHERINE DISALLE SCHLATTER '84, *Jewelry Designer*

Mary Catherine was a devoted art student at St. Ursula Academy. “Being innately creative, I couldn’t wait to step into the art room to develop line, shape, color, texture, and space in my artistic aesthetic. It was fun to talk with and share ideas with my art class friends, some of which I still have today. I remember enjoying setting up my senior showcase and being proud of the work I displayed,” she said.

In college, Schlatter took many graphic design, marketing, and art history classes. She also enjoyed other artistic pursuits, such as dance, photography, interior design, drawing, painting, metalsmithing, and casting jewelry. Fitting art into her busy life

was often difficult, but she made it work. “Sometimes life takes over, and you have no idea how you will add it in, but just focusing one week at a time can build your art into something.”

Now a recognized jewelry designer, she didn’t necessarily set out to pursue that path. “I started wearing some of the jewelry I designed and was asked ‘where did you get that?’ I would respond, ‘I made it.’ As I spent time in the jewelry studio designing pieces, the feedback was positive; friends and acquaintances would say they would always get compliments when they wore my jewelry. I developed my own fine jewelry line and have created custom pieces, too.”

“My advice for current SUA students interested in pursuing the arts is to understand that the world needs more people creating. Remain open to learning. Pay attention to how you feel when you’re doing something—if it brings you joy, it is worth pursuing. Believe in yourself and that your perspective is worth sharing. Focus more on the process than on the result. Remember that anything worthwhile in life takes time.”

View Schlatter’s work at <http://www.catherinedisalle.com>.



JENNIFER NAZAR MARRA '84, *Artist and Art Educator*

Jennifer Nazar Marra '84 sat in the St. Ursula Academy art room dreaming of her future and knowing she could make something exciting, something impactful of her life. Her creative spirit and artistic talent led her directly from the halls of SUA to the world-renowned Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. After earning degrees in visual merchandising and fashion buying merchandising—and spending time designing windows at Barney’s and sets for Broadway shows—she moved to Europe, where she travelled to all the major cities on the continent. Three years later, she moved home to earn a degree in Art Education at University of Toledo. She has now instilled a love of art in elementary students in the Bedford Public Schools, at Saint Joseph Parish School Sylvania, and at West Side Montessori.

“I try to make people aware of the beauty in the world, not just in museums—in food, in music, in prayer. I was given a gift to create, and nothing makes me happier than when I’m giving my artistic gift away to others.”



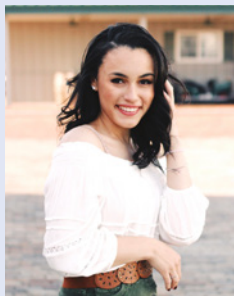
JESUS CHRIST **SUPERSTAR**

At the end of January, St. Ursula Academy presented *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Valentine Theater in downtown Toledo. Patrons were treated to moving performances, outstanding vocals, and amazing scenery, courtesy of the hard-working cast and crew under the direction of Kirsten Hinshaw '00, Director of Performing Arts.



Two Recent Graduates Pursue Theater Degrees

The leading ladies of St. Ursula Academy's recent musical productions have decided to continue their passion for musical theater at the college level.



Amara Berhan '20 will attend the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She will major in Musical Theater and minor in Arts Administration.

"In order to pursue a career in this incredibly challenging industry, one needs confidence, grit, and unwavering support. SUA has equipped me with all three of these things, and without them, I would not be where I am today. I owe so much to our performing arts department and teachers."



Julia Niehaus '20 will attend Indiana University to major in Theater and Drama.

"Between the direction of Mrs. Kirsten Hinshaw '00 and the teachings of Mrs. Allison Krzyminski, the SUA theatre department has allowed me to flourish and grow in countless ways. My teachers have supported me in my dreams and pushed me towards goals I did not believe were achievable. Their constant love and support created such a safe and wonderful learning environment for me. I can't thank them enough for all they did to prepare me as a performer and as a young woman."

Dance Team Earns National Championship

The St. Ursula Academy Dance Team earned two prestigious rankings, including a National Championship, at the Universal Dance Association (UDA) national tournament at the ESPN Wide World of Sports facility in Orlando, Fla., on Sunday, Feb. 2: first in the nation in Small Varsity Pom and fifth in the nation in Small Varsity Jazz.



The team competed in a field of approximately 65 national high schools in both categories.

Varsity Dance Team coach Morgan Melchert said, "I can't begin to describe this feeling. If I had to put this moment into words, they would be 'simply incredible.' This championship was a culmination of all our hard work, sacrifice, and true love for what we do."

When the team members and Coach Melchert returned to SUA after the competition, they were treated to a team breakfast before making their way through the school hallways, which were full of cheering Arrows applauding their classmates. Reporters from several local TV stations were on hand to interview team members, Coach Melchert, Principal Nichole Flores, and President Mary Werner.

Dancing Her Way to OSU

by **RITA HAYES P '26**,
Director of Admissions and Marketing



Jesslene O'Loughlin just graduated from SUA with four varsity letters from SUA's prestigious Dance Team. And she isn't finished sharing her talent and love for dance just yet. Jessie will be attending The Ohio State University this fall, where she will major in neuroscience and be a member of the OSU Dance Team.

Jessie has been dancing her entire life. However, it wasn't until her junior year that she began to seriously consider exploring her options for dancing in college. She attended a clinic in Las Vegas where dance coaches, including those from OSU, came to see performers. She connected with the OSU team immediately and later attended an OSU dance clinic, during which she was able to go on the football field to watch the OSU Dance Team perform. Jessie said the "excitement of gameday was fascinating" and something she very much wanted to be a part of.

The OSU dance coaches attended the UDA Nationals Dance Competition in February 2020, where they saw Jessie and her SUA teammates earn a national title for their pom routine.

At the end of March, Jessie was offered a spot on the team and signed her letter of intent. Of the 22 athletes on the OSU Dance Team, Jessie is one of only six from Ohio. She will join the team just as former SUA Arrow and Dance Team member, Lexi Miehl '16, moves on as an OSU graduate.

Jessie cannot wait to cheer on the Buckeyes in her native state, and the SUA community cannot wait to cheer on Jessie as a member of the Buckeye Dance Team.

LEXI MIEHLS '16 won a national title in Jazz last January at the Universal Cheer and Dance Association College National Championships as a member of The Ohio State University Buckeye Dance Team. She is an SUA Dance Team alumna and was a neuroscience major at OSU.

ATHLETIC SIGNINGS 2019-2020



HANNAH BEST
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY
VOLLEYBALL



PIPER CONLAN
SETON HILL UNIVERSITY
LACROSSE



BROOKE HOFFMAN
OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
SOFTBALL



KELLY GARRISON
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
DANCE



KAYLA KREGAR
NIAGARA UNIVERSITY
SWIMMING



AMANDA MOMANY
OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
GOLF



PAYTON MORMAN
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
VOLLEYBALL



KENEDIE MORR
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
DANCE



JESSELENE O'LOUGHLIN
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
DANCE



LINDSEY SMITH
UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS
SOCCER



GRACE TURSKI
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
SOCCER



PAIGE ZOLCIAK
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
GOLF

HALL OF FAME

SUA's annual Hall of Fame ceremony has been rescheduled to April 2021. Stay tuned for more information!

MONTE CARLO NIGHT

SUA's Monte Carlo Night has gone virtual! We're inviting past Arrow athletes, near and far, to support current Arrow athletes in a virtual version of SUA's annual athletics fund-raiser. There will be a video presentation and raffle drawing on July 16 at 7:00 p.m. at www.toledosua.org/monte-carlo.

Although the raffle tickets are sold out, you can still bid in the silent auction (open July 14 at 7:00 p.m. EST until July 16 at 7:30 p.m. EST).

Linking Life Lessons from SUA and Professional Sports

by **JOSH YECKE**, *Director of Advancement*

Growing up, Alexandra Graf '12 spent a lot of time around Inverness Club, where her dad, David Graf, was the club's golf pro for 20 years. Alex learned to play golf so she could spend time with her dad, and he, in turn, taught her the game. She golfed for Coach Jim McGowan at SUA and eventually earned the opportunity to play at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La., where she also received her degree in Marketing.

After college, Alex found her way back to Toledo, working for ProMedica and then a law firm. In 2018, she joined the team that runs the Marathon Classic at Highland Meadows Golf Club in Sylvania. Alex's current role, however, is the most exciting. After the 2019 Marathon Classic closed, Alex joined the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) as Tournament Services Manager for the 2021 Solheim Cup, which will take place at a course where Alex has a lot of history: Inverness Club.

Alex describes her role in bringing the Solheim Cup to Toledo as "a dream." The biennial event, similar to the PGA's Ryder Cup, pits the top 12 American LPGA golfers against the top 12 European LPGA golfers in a fun and competitive event featuring great golf and patriotism. The Solheim Cup venue alternates between the U.S. and

Europe. Toledo and Inverness began preparing to bid on hosting the 2021 event more than five years ago and were named the host in 2016.

The Solheim Cup and the LPGA align with Alex's values. "Coming from a female-focused environment at SUA, I've always believed that women can do anything men can do, and we are leaders. Women's golf is on such a great path and has so many opportunities."

Lessons from SUA and golf have guided Alex on her professional journey. She believes that her focus on the process and attention to doing the tasks she's supposed to do have led her in the right direction—and that has been true whether she was selecting a college, searching for a job, or spending hours at the putting green working on her short game.



St. Ursula Academy is the proud winner of the Three Rivers Athletic Conference (TRAC) All-Sports Trophy for 2019-2020!

With championships in volleyball, golf, soccer, cross country, and swim/dive, the Arrows clinched the prestigious honor.

Congratulations to the athletes, coaches, and parents for all of their hard work and dedication to every Arrow team.

“

Nothing
can dim the
light that
shines from
within.

MAYA ANGELOU

”

Throughout Ohio,
stadiums and porch
lights lit up at 20:20
on April 20, 2020, to
honor and support the
Class of 2020.



WHY I GIVE



“St. Ursula Academy offers young women countless opportunities to grow academically, spiritually, and socially as they discover and pursue their passions. The coursework offered at SUA, paired with the mentorship of dedicated faculty and staff, has made a lasting impact on me in my academic and professional careers.

I give back to St. Ursula because I want every student to have the opportunity to learn and grow in such a wonderful, empowering community. The relationships I have forged at SUA have helped form me into the person I am today, and I hope that every student is able to share this incredible experience.”

HANNAH HASELHUHN '18

Join Hannah and make your gift to support young women at
www.toledosua.org/supportsua!

Don't miss opportunities to stay connected with the SUA community! Update your profile at www.toledosua.org/alumnae/contact-information.

FOUNDERS' DAY

December 12, 1854, is a special day in the Ursuline community—it's the day that four sisters arrived in Toledo to establish a school that would carry on the core values established by the order and based on the teaching of its foundress, St. Angela Merici.

The SUA community celebrated the Ursuline Sisters' Founders' Day in December with a special all-school assembly, treats for the visiting Sisters, and emotional speeches by SUA's President, Mary Werner '74, and Principal, Nichole Flores '89, who spoke of their appreciation for their SUA education and their love for the Ursuline sisters who taught them.

Students were reminded of the "Sweet Sisterhood" at SUA with donuts and locker magnets that displayed the message "Sorelle Prima" (Sisters First) in Italian, St. Angela's native tongue.



MAY CROWNING

As a Catholic school and a community of strong women, we value and honor Mary, the Mother of God, for her strength and open heart. One of SUA's most beloved traditions is May Crowning, in which we solemnly pay tribute to Mary for her role in Jesus' life. This year, the ceremony looked a little different, but we continued to show our respect to Our Blessed Mother. The faculty, staff, and Class of 2020 selected four seniors to participate: Camryn Kaestner crowned Mary's statue with a wreath of flowers, Hannah Best and Amara Berhan accompanied Camryn as her court, and Julia Niehaus sang "Ave Maria."



Labre Collects Food Donations for Local Food Banks

The COVID-19 pandemic changed the method of the Labre Project at St. Ursula Academy, but definitely not its importance. As the SUA team continued its mission to feed the underserved in downtown Toledo each Monday—with different protocols—it learned of the increased need for canned goods at local food banks and community outreach locations, as more people were out of work because of the pandemic. Without missing a beat, the Labre teams at SUA and St. John's Jesuit High School and Academy created a food collection event to gather donations of canned goods and other non-perishable food items to support the Seagate Food Bank and Mareda Center in downtown Toledo from April 21-24.



SUA Labre Moderator Mark Dubielak and Campus Minister Kevin Shannon collected food at SUA.

SUA Campus Ministry Team Goes Virtual



During the SUA community's time apart this spring, Campus Ministers Kevin Shannon and Christine Kuhns emailed videos of readings and meditations, as well as the beloved Angela Moment, to students, faculty, and staff members. Sr. Donna Frey, Director of Mission Effectiveness, also provided lessons from St. Angela Merici that reinforced not only SUA's core values, but also St. Angela's steadfast and unwavering commitment to continue moving through life while helping others.

SUA STEM Club Continues to Tackle Complex Scientific Issues

MAKING FUTURE SPACE MISSIONS SAFER

St. Ursula Academy's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Club entered the NASA WEAR Challenge during the 2019-2020 school year and made it to the second round of reviews, with the opportunity to present its project at NASA. The WEAR Challenge is a national competition for middle and high school students to design wearable radiation countermeasures for deep space exploration. According to NASA, the "WEAR Challenge addresses an authentic, current space exploration challenge to protect Artemis astronauts on deep space missions. Through Artemis, we will see the first woman and next man land on the Moon by 2024 and establish sustainable exploration with our commercial and international partners by 2028."

The SUA team is one of 78 from across the nation invited to participate in the WEAR challenge. SUA's team members are Mariah Oberhaus '21, Tiare Nicholas-Bublick '21 (team leader), Madeline Bumpus '21, and Hannah Jeffrey '22.



WINNERS OF PRESTIGIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEST

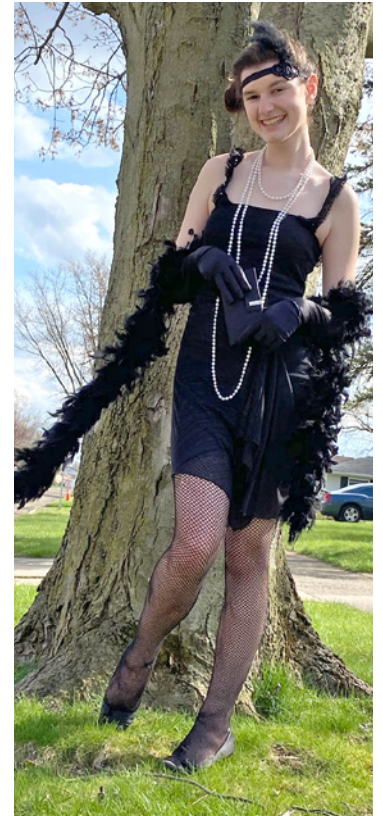
SUA's STEM Club won the Lexus Eco Challenge, a national contest for students in grades 6-12 that gets them involved in an environmental issue that affects their community. The SUA team's project, "Upcycle the Wastes," involved mixing manure, dead leaves, dredge sediment, and zebra mussel shells to create a new soil to combat Lake Erie watershed problems in northwest Ohio. As part of the challenge, the team used critical thinking and research skills to find a solution, test it, and report on the results.

The team included Sarah Brown '20, Veronica Eichbauer '20, Hannah Jeffrey '22, Ellie White '20, and Madelyn Jeffrey '20. A \$10,000 prize was shared among these students, their moderator, Mrs. Jackie Kane, and SUA's STEM program.



INTRAMURALS 2020: THE QUARANTINE GAMES

CLASS OF 2020 **Spy Seniors**
CLASS OF 2021 **Jaws Juniors**
CLASS OF 2022 **So Glow Sophomores**
CLASS OF 2023 **Flashback Freshmen**
CLASS OF '24-'26 **JV JA**



ONLINE LEARNING

Mia Hayes '26

Junior Academy student and artist Mia Hayes '26 perfectly captured the feeling of SUA Arrows as they wrapped up their online learning!

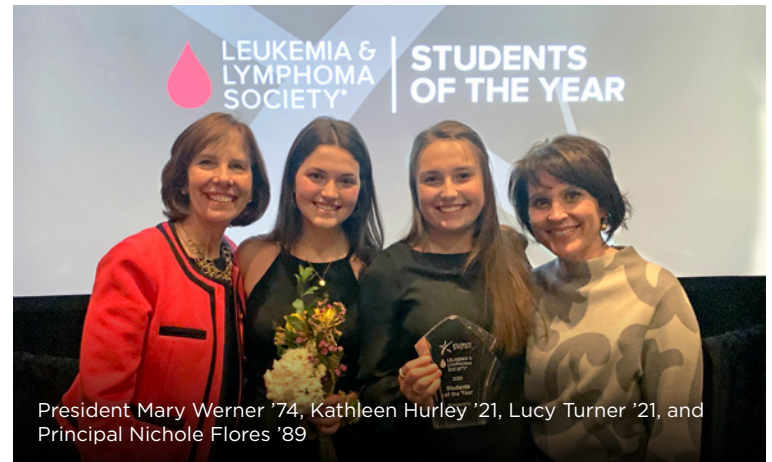
Students Raise Funds for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

Two St. Ursula Academy student teams competed in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) Students of the Year challenge and raised nearly \$137,000.

The “One Kick Wonders” team of Kathleen Hurley ’21 and Lucy Turner ’21 set a record for the contest, raising \$85,946.03 and earning Students of the Year honors. As the official winners of the challenge, Lucy and Kathleen split a \$2,500 college scholarship. The other SUA team, “Coleman’s Cancer Crushers,” helmed by Kennedy Coleman ’20, raised an additional \$51,037.63.

According to Cecilia Chaudhary ’96, LLS’s Campaign Specialist for Students of the Year, “because both teams raised more than \$50,000, each will be able to connect the team’s name with a portfolio of research projects that focuses on a specific area of LLS’s mission that is meaningful to them. The students will receive regular updates on their project as it progresses. This is a wonderful honor for these girls!”

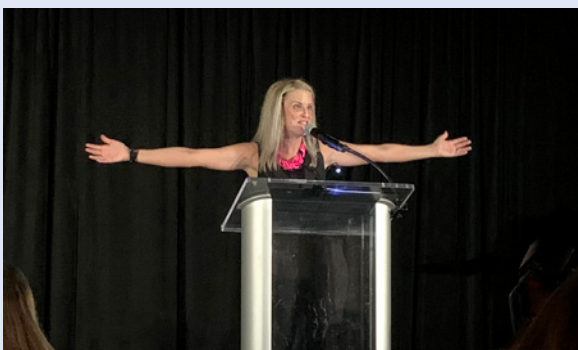
The Students of the Year campaign is designed to “foster professional skills such as entrepreneurship, marketing, and project management” in candidates as they work to raise funds for LLS. Students can work individually or as a group of two or three, and they must lead a multigenerational team. Candidates might create websites, write letters for donations, secure corporate sponsorships, hold fundraisers, or perform a variety of other tasks as fundraisers.



President Mary Werner '74, Kathleen Hurley '21, Lucy Turner '21, and Principal Nichole Flores '89



Principal Nichole Flores '89, Kennedy Coleman '20, and President Mary Werner '74



In addition to Cecilia McCormick Chaudhary ’96 and Lauren Deaton Dzierwa ’96, LLS’s 2018 Woman of the Year, speaking at the event, **KATIE LINDBERG PETERS ’97**, was the evening’s mistress of ceremonies.

CLASS NOTES

GOLDEN APPLE AWARD

In April 2020, **Amy Muszynski '04**, a Junior Academy social studies teacher, earned the prestigious Golden Apple Award from the Diocese of Toledo for excellence in teaching.



'63

Kitty Kelley Metzger and her husband took a mission trip to Myanmar, where they distributed water pots that purify the water and talked about Jesus. "What an amazing experience," Metzger said.



'86

Talitha Reas Mueller and her husband recently purchased a long-standing Batavia Popcorn Depot in Illinois. Talitha's passion is working with children with special needs and advocating for them. She believes in helping them reach their highest potential through education and in community-based settings. With this new venture, "My goal is to offer employment opportunities for local students and provide an inclusive work environment for students with special needs."

'88

In December 2019, **Kimberly Bates** was promoted to Managing Editor of *The Blade*, Toledo's daily newspaper. She began working at the paper as an intern in 1992 and has been involved in many aspects of the company, including working as a special reporter, city editor, and assistant managing editor.

'90

Melanie Masters Burzynski left her position at University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) External Affairs, where she helped the university exceed its campaign goal of \$4.2 billion, raising more than \$5.4 billion. She is now overseeing fundraising for the Los Angeles Public Libraries and the 72 branches throughout the city, a cause that is close to her heart.



'04

Meagan Murtagh saw a quick need during the COVID-19 pandemic and jumped into action. She heard of a local bagel shop where she lives, in Jackson Hole, Wyo., that was in danger of closing, and she wanted to help it stay open. She reached out to friends to help raise money for the shop; her campaign was such a success that she established "The Hole Quarantine" project. The goal of the project is to collect donations or buy food, snacks, or gift certificates from local businesses, and donate it all to those in need, including front-line workers. The project has raised more than \$100,000.

'10

Marissa Tashenberg graduated from Bowling Green State University with her Master in Business Administration degree, which is her second master's degree from BGSU. She previously earned her Master of Education in Sport Administration.

'16

Madeline Perry was recently named Outstanding Senior at The Ohio State University. Only 20 graduating seniors are awarded the title in a class of more than 9,000 students.

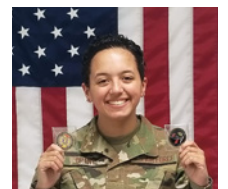
Kristen Heuring recently graduated from Oberlin College with a major in neuroscience, a minor in English, and a minor in Rhetoric and Composition. She is hoping to attend Carnegie Mellon University for a master's degree in Professional Writing next, pending the opening of schools.

'18

Mackenzie Volker, a student at Ohio University, has been elected chapter president of the Ohio Alpha Chapter Pi Beta Phi fraternity for women. As president, she intends to focus on the Pi Beta Phi mission and vision to empower women to cultivate servant leadership, enrich lives through community and philanthropic service, and live out the Pi Phi core values for the betterment of society.

'19

Airman Kailyn Grant was recognized for excellence by U.S. Army General Paul E. Funk, the Commanding General of Army Training and Doctrine Command. She has been assisting with COVID-19 medical screening operations at the Harper Clinic at Fort Leonard Wood.



Fixing Bones and Breaking Stereotypes

by **JOSH YECKE**, *Director of Advancement*



When asked what she hopes for her career, Krystin Miller Hidden, MD '07, admits that she is tempted to say that she will have saved thousands of lives, published an abundance of papers, and have been recognized as a world-renowned surgeon, but she is quick to assert that it only takes one

important event to give meaning to her career. “If I can save or change one life, the years of work are worth it.”

The years Krystin has invested on her path to becoming an orthopedic surgeon are not insignificant: five years of residency at The Ohio State University’s Wexner Medical Center, four years of medical school at the University of Toledo’s College of Medicine, and three-and-a-half years earning her Bachelor of Science degree in cellular and molecular biology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is not finished, either. Krystin has been accepted to the nation’s top fellowship for orthopedic surgery—Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Wash.—where she will spend the next year training as one of five surgeons in this elite program. Krystin insists that none of these opportunities would have been possible without the support of her family, but they would also not be possible without a lot of her own talent and hard work.

While majoring in cellular and molecular biology at the U of I, as Krystin puts it, she “minored in soccer.” Krystin played four years of Division 1 soccer, including her final season as co-captain and the leader in minutes played for the Fighting Illini. A lesson she has learned many times over is that things worth having are not easy to do. Krystin spent her freshman year at U of I as a bench warmer—an experience she was not familiar with, coming from an outstanding career on an Arrow team that won four division championships.

Krystin chose to go her own way in high school, not following her older sister (and best friend) who selected another Catholic high school, and she is grateful her parents supported her in that decision. As an eighth grader at high school visitation, Krystin said, “St. Ursula made sense to me—educationally, athletically, and the people. When I walked into the school, I knew it was the one, just like meeting your spouse.” Her picture of high school also included Arrow soccer. The all-girl environment at SUA allowed her to eliminate minor decision-making tasks that would distract her from her academic and athletic goals. Krystin reflects that what mattered most in high school was faith, learning, and the people she met.



Soccer was obviously a large part of Krystin’s life, but it was SUA’s academic program that helped her life journey. Earning Advanced Placement credits were key to graduating early from college—all while training and competing as a D1 athlete. She describes her transition to college as “flawless.”

As Krystin watched her soccer teammates recover from injuries and build relationships with their orthopedic surgeons, she was steered to her specialty. She is in rare company, as women make up only five percent of orthopedic surgeons in the U.S.

In so many ways, she thought the odds were stacked against her—in receiving her fellowship at Harborview, in finding a way into orthopedic surgery, in graduating early as a D1 athlete. The odds are probably stacked against Krystin saving thousands of lives, publishing stacks of papers, and becoming a world-renowned surgeon, but if her past is any indication of her future, no one should bet against her.

ARROW BABIES



CHRISTINA GIAMMARCO SPICER '03

and husband Richard welcomed
Elodie Madeline on October 10, 2019.



ALLISON KANTNER BLOMQUIST '03

and husband Sean welcomed Blair Marie
on April 6, 2019.



JACQUELINE NOBLE CERVENAK '03

and husband Michael welcomed
Francesca Catherine on April 28, 2019.



JORDAN WANIEWSKI STOLL '03

and husband Joe welcomed Emmett
on August 21, 2019.



CHELSEA ADAMS BARTO '07

and husband Kevin welcomed
Audrey James on August 12, 2018.



MELISSA LEONARD FROGAMENI '07

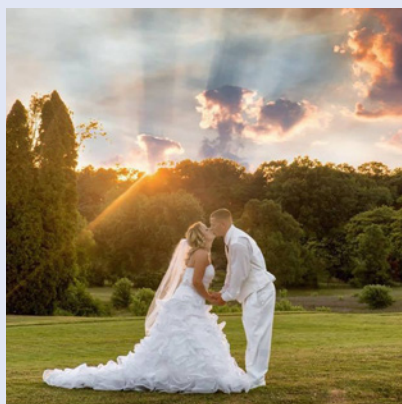
and husband Anthony welcomed
Vivian Reese on February 13, 2020.



JANIKA PITTMAN ADLER '07

and husband Dustin welcomed
Alexander James on June 1, 2019.

ARROW WEDDINGS

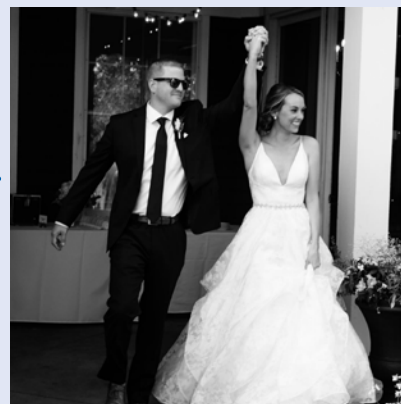


..... CHELSEA ADAMS '07

married Kevin J. Barto on June 25, 2016.

CHRISTINA DISALLE '08

married Mike Schoen (SJJ '05) on July 27, 2019.

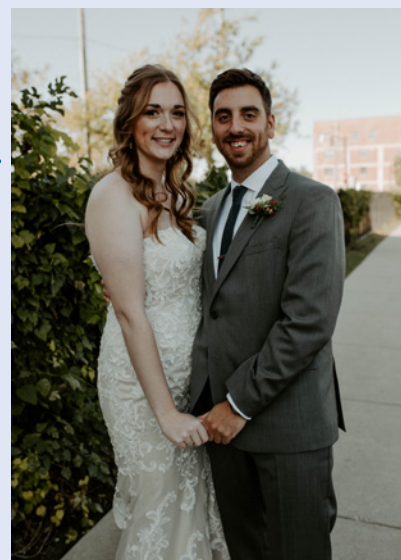


..... MEGAN ALEXANDER '11

married Christopher Serement on September 21, 2019.

CALEIGH ORAVECZ '12

married Keith Heuring on October 12, 2019.



Caitlin Grohnke '14, Caitlyn Basinski '12,
Nicole Dailey '12, Caleigh, Victoria McCollum '12,
and friend Ashley Folta



..... EMILY ANTYPAS '15

married Samuel Harrison on June 6, 2020.

ALUMNAE GATHERINGS

SARASOTA, FLORIDA FEB. 7, 2020



Back row: Caroline Sporek Plessner '69 and Mary Conlisk Werner '74 (President)
Front row: Sharon Fels Crystal '54, Joan Riopelle Ellis '46, Martha Dederman Messinger '54

NAPLES, FLORIDA FEB. 8, 2020



Back row: Michelle Moses (Special Events and Advancement Services Manager), Sharon Kropp (SUA grandparent), Sistie Ott Gabel '63, Carol Imes-Luscombe '54, Betty Beckler Straub '54, Christine Sheline Flynn '60, Sheila Connell Johnson '65

Front row: Carol Hanrahan (SUA grandparent), Mary Conlisk Werner '74 (President), Penny Emmick O'Brien '61, Karen Corrigan Schroeder '62

REUNION WEEKEND

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's Reunion Weekend had to be cancelled, including the Alumnae Mass and cocktail reception. The Honor Years for both 2020 and 2021 will be celebrated on June 26, 2021.

The Class of 1970 will celebrate its 50th Reunion next summer, as well: June 25-27, 2021.

PALM BEACH, FLORIDA FEB. 9, 2020



Beth Hosman Stutler '76, Janie Blanchard Weirich '66, Mary Kennedy '76, Katy Desmond '76, Patty O'Neill Thomas '76, Laura Ann Taylor Peppard '76, Jeanne Blanchard Hanlon '76, Mary Conlisk Werner '74 (President)

ORLANDO, FLORIDA FEB. 10, 2020



Mary Conlisk Werner '74 (President), Allison Arthur '98, Melissa Leonard Frogameni '07, Jennifer Rosinski '88, Sue Flury '71, Erin Obert Justen '98

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA FEB. 11, 2020



Mary Conlisk Werner '74 (President), Ann Kromenacker Dutcher '61, Kajal Patel Procacci '89, Ginel Spencer McCaw '90, Michelle Moses (Special Events and Advancement Services Manager)

SUA's New Alumnae Engagement Coordinator Brings Skill and Heart to Her Role

Because St. Ursula Academy values its 9,500-plus alumnae, the school administration added the new position of Alumnae Engagement Coordinator last winter. Yolanda Robinson Durden '86 was the perfect woman for the job.

Durden's memories of SUA are strong and filled with love. "In 8th grade," she said, "I was so excited to learn that I had been accepted to attend SUA. I was coming from Maumee Valley Country Day School, where I had been a student since kindergarten. I was the only student going on to SUA—so I was a bit nervous."

"Soon I was relieved to meet girls from many different elementary schools, and I made friends easily. While attending SUA, I participated in several activities—the African American Club, the Dance Club (not team), and the Home Economics Club. Many of my fondest memories include dress-up days, when we wore heels, and reading all the great works in Ms. Lang's (now Mrs. Buehrer) class, secretly naming my future children from the characters in our assigned classic book reading. I also loved the long-held traditions of Intramurals and school dances."

Durden attended Bowling Green State University after graduation, earning a degree in Interpersonal and Public Communications; after that, she received a Master of Public Administration degree from University of Toledo. While attending a breakfast for the SUA African American Club, she met an alumna from the class of 1975 who planned to start her own business; Durden eventually worked for her at UT's Minority Business Development Center. "That experience, working for an African

American female entrepreneur, was pivotal in attaining the confidence to work independently." She and her husband launched a regional transportation business, which they operated until last year.

Durden's daughter Alaina is also an Arrow—Class of 2014. Like her mom, she participated in the African American Club, and she also helped to reignite SUA's Gospel Choir. Alaina graduated with a 4.2 grade point average and was a member of the National Honor Society. She has been admitted to the University of Toledo medical school.



Durden always felt the pull to SUA. "I volunteered prior to my daughter attending the school and was always in recruiting mode, talking to young ladies about the opportunity that an all-girls school provides; I helped plan my class reunions, too." She began to think about working at SUA; as luck would have it, her alma mater had just posted her dream job.

"My goals [as the Alumnae Engagement Coordinator] include assisting alumnae by reconnecting them to our school and to each other through networking and relationship-building activities. These activities will offer our alumnae opportunities to interact virtually based on common locations and common areas of interests, as well as showcase alumnae entrepreneurship and nontraditional areas of work. I will highlight graduates who share ways to make an impact and support those who are working toward their personal and professional goals. All these initiatives, and many more, make this position feel more like something I love and less like work."

Stay Connected—don't miss out on SUA news and events in Toledo and around the country!

Get Involved—volunteer, mentor SUA students and young alumnae, or plan an alumnae event.

Support Young Women—a gift to SUA is a gift that supports young women and expands opportunities. Each alumna can make a difference!



Young Alumnae Get Professional Boost

Being an alumna of St. Ursula Academy has many benefits. Our most recent group of alumnae, the Class of 2020, was given the opportunity to learn from one of SUA's own, **Alana Edmunds Smith '04**, who is the Senior Product Manager, Video & Live, at LinkedIn. She conducted a virtual presentation for them on setting up a LinkedIn account and schooled them on the advantages of using LinkedIn for professional networking.

All alumnae are invited to view her presentation and to join the Class of 2020 in setting up a personal account. Visit www.toledosua.org and click on "Professional Development" under the Alumnae tab at the top of the page.



Be sure to join SUA's LinkedIn group, "**Alumnae of St. Ursula Academy, Toledo,**" to network with other alumnae and learn about any upcoming virtual presentations.

IN MEMORY OF OUR ALUMNAE —

OCTOBER 1, 2019 - MAY 31, 2020

1943

Mary Uhl Mueller
Margaret Davies Kranz

1944

Betty Hayes Kirschner

1947

Jean Ann Stein Giesige

1949

Joyce Hurley Beaber
Clare Manion Hankenhof
Nannette Simonis Bodart

1950

Mary Lou Maier Hermiller
Mary Ann Graham Topmoeller

1951

Suzanne Hartnett Wehinger

1952

Carole Badger Booth
Elizabeth Fitz Poss

1955

Ann Holzemer Remillard
sister of Patricia Holzemer Wilhelm '60 and Mary Holzemer Walsh '71

1957

Constance Effler Schumann

1958

Joan Adamski Cherry

1960

Elizabeth McHugh Wurtz

1962

Kaye Poirier Schuller
Luanne Schmitz Meyer

1966

Catherine Krumeich Wilson

1970

Mary Ann Hamilton Mulcahy
sister of Winifred Hamilton Stewart '68, Patricia Hamilton Bayer '72, and Anne Hamilton Neller '73

1978

Charmaine Abernathy
sister of Regina Abernathy '88

2007

Alexandra Reisner

IN MEMORIAM

OCTOBER 1, 2019 - MAY 31, 2020

Richard P. Anderson, *brother of Carol Anderson Kraus '52*

James Appold, *father of Karen Appold Kerr '81 and Caitlin Appold Fry '87*

Langston Bannister, *father of Carla Bannister Bond '82*

Mary Bevington, *mother of Marcia Bevington '69*

Lois Weber Bogusz, *mother of Christine Bogusz Lesser '73, Melissa Bogusz Allen '77, and Nancy Bogusz Coy '81*

Bernadette Bollin, *mother of Debra Bollin Worst '65*

Paula Bueno, *mother of Monica Bueno '90*

George Burtch, *husband of Linda Neumann Burtch '61*

Leotha Crawford, *mother of Monica Crawford Edwards '83 and Sharon Crawford '84*

Walter J. DeGroft Jr., *father of Laura DeGroft Burzynski '85 and Kathleen DeGroft Blake '91*

Gerald Demski, *brother of Carita Demski Pakulski '58*

Joseph Dowling, *husband of Patricia Meyer Dowling '55*

Thomas Ehni, *father of Marcia Ehni Wernert '79*

Richard A. Ehret Sr., *husband of Kenna Stewart Ehret '65*

Ellen Schwanz Ekey, *mother of Lynn Ekey Nuse '76 and Laura Ekey Creamer '82*

Gregory Fawcett, *father of Katherine Fawcett '10, Emily Fawcett '12, Margaret Fawcett '15, Grace Fawcett '17, and Caroline Fawcett '23*

Mark Forgach, *father of Molly Forgach '22 and Heidi Forgach '23*

Theodore R. Gerken Jr., *father of Jill Gerken '85 and Beth Gerken Stoway '87; brother of Marcia Gerken Sullivan '53*

Katherine Gibbs, *mother of Mary Anne Wolff '83 and Lisa Gibbs Griffin '90*

Ralph Greenawalt, *father of Joy Greenawalt Miller '77*

Patricia Haas, *mother of Felisha Haas '05*

Robert Huss, *father of Julie Huss Esparza '84; brother of Nancy Huss Kennelly '54*

Thomas (Sam) Irmen, *father of JoDee Irmen Robertson '76 and Elizabeth Irmen Damm '79*

Barbara Kurek, *mother of Coreen Kurek Ball '86*

Brian Latta, *father of Celina Latta '18*

Lynn Lippincott, *brother of Karen Lippincott Ristow '68*

Joann McKelvey, *mother of Molly McKelvey LeBlanc '72*

Sharon Marougi, *mother of Katrina Marougi '00*

Bernadine Martin, *mother of Diane Martin Fockler '76 and Lynn Martin Koeniger '81*

Anthony A. Matthews, *husband of Marianne St. John Matthews '59; brother of Helen Matthews Michalek '59*

Samuel McFarland, *father of Erin McFarland Barrett '96*

Dennis McHue, *father of Aimee McHue Howard '85 and Cherie McHue Martzke '89; brother of Denise McHue '66*

Katherine McKinney, *mother of LeDeithra McKinney '91 and Heleena McKinney '98*

Ronald Mickel, *husband of Jill Luebbe Mickel '71; brother-in-law of Cheryl Luebbe Call '64 and Jane Luebbe Weasel '67*

Ted Miller, *father of Devanee Miller Washington '94*

F. Roger and Joan Oswald, *parents of Susan Oswald Bartoletti '77*

Carolyn Pietrzak, *mother of Valerie Pietrzak St. Clair '85 and Emily Pietrzak Keller '94*

John Piggot, MD, *husband of Barbara Ueberroth Piggott '55; father of Karen Piggott Munsat '81 and Denise Piggott Monaghan '88*

Michael Podracky, *father of Dana Podracky '03 and Erin Podracky '08*

James Pohlman, *husband of Susan Haydu Pohlman '71; brother of Mary Jo Pohlman '71*

Gerald Rable, *brother of Nanci Rable Riddle '58*

Scott Richardson, *husband of Susan Galloway Richardson '83; brother-in-law of Kathryn Galloway Bertke '73*

Robert Ronau, *mother of Julie Ronau Welsh '89*

Giovanni Santacroce, *father of Sophia Santacroce '25*

Mary Jo Hack-Save, *mother of Lauren Hack Wuellner '82; mother-in-law of Kathleen Sprenger Hack '81*

Dzidra Shllaku, *mother of Mara Shllaku Bereksi '72*

Garrett Snyder, *father of Deanna Snyder-Illiams '99*

Timothy Sobczak Sr., *father of Lynn Sobczak '92*

Dennis Steinmetz, *brother of Judy Steinmetz '83 and Jane Steinmetz Himeline '83*

Richard Sullivan, *brother-in-law of Marcia Gerken Sullivan '53*

Roger Van Gunten, *husband of Beverly McColl McCarthy '61*

Thomas Welly, *husband of Ann Schuchman Welly '54; brother-in-law of Frances Schuchman Rousseau '57*

Henry Wilkins, *father of Jessica Wilkins Hausfeld '05*

Thomas Wonders, *father of Leanne Wonders Stang '85*

Dorothy Zajac, *mother-in-law of Jeanne Andrews Zajac '75*

Adele Marie Zalewski, *mother of Stacey Childress Davis '94*

Vicki Zoepke, *mother of Samantha Zoepke '10*



URSULA UPDATE

Mary Conlisk Werner '74 P '01, '03, '05
President

Nichole Operacz Flores '89 P '15, '21
Principal

Elizabeth Huebner P '00, '06
Assistant Principal

Sr. Donna Frey
Director of Mission Effectiveness

Jennifer Robertson Guzman '95 P '15
Director of the Junior Academy Program

Rita Hayes P '26
Director of Admissions and Marketing

Holly Shiple Martens '05
Director of Finance

Beth Porter
Director of Academics

Malinda Siers P '20, '21
Director of Faculty and Curriculum Development

Josh Yecke
Director of Advancement

Yolanda Robinson Durden '86 P '14
Alumnae Engagement Coordinator

Michelle Moses P '22, '24
Special Events and Advancement Services Manager

Emily Otto
Annual Fund Coordinator

Jane Pfeifer
Ursula Update Editor

Tess Segura
Ursula Update Layout and Design

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***Ursula Update* is published for the alumnae, families,
and friends of St. Ursula Academy.**
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PLEASE DIRECT ALL COMMENTS TO:

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Toledo, OH 43606

(419) 329-2253
mmoses@toledosua.org

OUR ADMISSIONS OFFICE IS OPEN!

Please encourage your family and friends to contact us with any admissions questions—we would love to help! We are now able to give individual family tours.

Please help share the benefits of a St. Ursula Academy education—rigorous academics, a faith-filled environment, and a strong, empowered sisterhood of Arrows!