

PAX ET BONUM

WINTER 2022 VOLUME 19 • NUMBER 2



St. Francis
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



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Sports Day Rally 2022



The *Pax et Bonum* magazine seeks to share with the reader the spirit of St. Francis Catholic High School. Stories and pictures of the activities and accomplishments of students, alumnae, parents, and staff provide glimpses into the ways in which the school's mission is carried out and its legacy continued. St. Francis benefactors are gratefully acknowledged in the *Statement of Community Support* each fall.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DEAR ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY,

I am inspired each and every day by our students. Their intelligence, faith, commitment and dreams for the future affirm that the mission of St. Francis Catholic High School is brought to life on a daily basis. One way I know this to be true is by experiencing our students through the eyes of the community. Whether it's our Troubies serving across the entire Sacramento region as they fulfill their Christian Service hours or spending time in the summer on immersion trips or internships, they give of themselves in service to others in ways that most of us will never know. A committed group of seniors travel weekly to the Oak Park Community Center to tutor students from low resource backgrounds. I see our students through the eyes of the children they serve, eyes that look up to them with hope and inspiration, directly shaping future aspirations of the youngest residents of our surrounding communities.

The greater Sacramento region also sees our mission lived out as our Troubies serve in summer internships across a myriad of industries. Originally started in 2016 and later paused by the pandemic, the steady growth of the internship program showed that our Troubies have so much to learn and contribute in fields ranging from construction management to medicine. Whether the experience affirms an intended major and future career, or in some cases validates that maybe the industry isn't all that good of a fit, the summer experience is always fruitful.

In this edition of *Pax et Bonum*, I am proud to announce the launch of **LIFT: Leveraging Internships For Troubies**. Summer of 2023 will mark LIFT's inaugural year as a formal annual program serving rising juniors and seniors. This issue of *Pax* spotlights the remarkable way that a high school internship can change a student's life and the lives of people on the other side of the world. Enjoy reading about where one alumna found her calling after a summer internship before her senior year at St. Francis.

Alumnae, current and former parents, and community members will be called upon to host some of our prospective summer student interns. As LIFT begins to take flight, I am reminded that our community of supporters play an integral role in allowing us to offer rich experiences to our students that will impact them for years to come. I am grateful to all who say yes to supporting our Troubies.

In the spirit of Pax et Bonum,

FADIA DESMOND, PH.D.



SPIRIT





TWO WEEKS AGO I HAD MY LAST HOMECOMING AND AS MUCH AS I WOULD LOVE TO TELL YOU IT WAS THE BEST, NOTHING CAN REPLACE THE FEELING OF MY FIRST HOMECOMING HERE AT ST. FRANCIS.

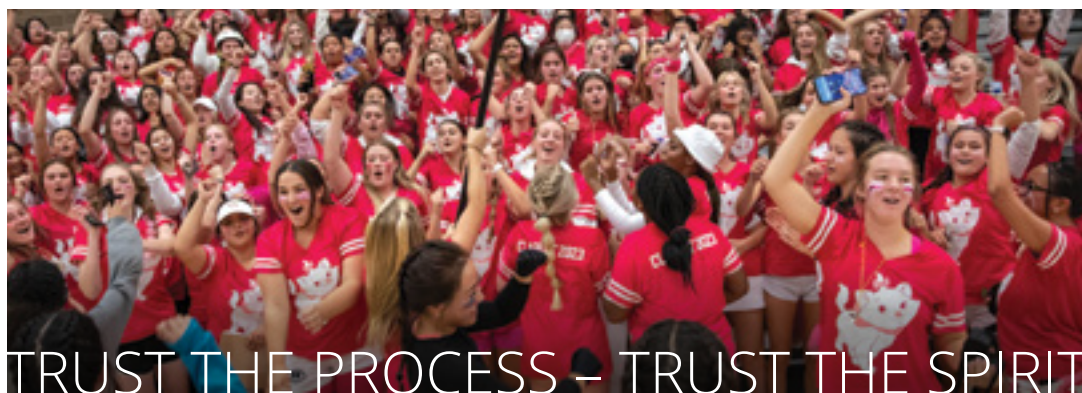
Everyone here had been talking about how it was the best part of the year and how every Troubie did their part and I was so excited to experience it myself. When I tell you I was nowhere near ready for what was about to happen I am not kidding. The energy, commitment, and spirit that came out of each and every one of the students was astonishing. I truly believe that my first homecoming week is when I fell in love with this school. The homecoming themes and activities hosted by Student Activities are all opportunities for students to get involved early in the school year. I was extremely shy freshman year and I contemplated helping out with the homecoming build also known as “dec.” It was one of the best decisions that I made my freshman year. I was able to make so many friends while I simultaneously

learned social skills that I used in and outside of the classroom, connecting with friends and teachers. I have been able to have amazing homecoming experiences because of the resources of our school which are only made possible by the generosity of donors. I honestly cannot imagine my homecoming experience any differently and I along with so many other Troubies are immensely grateful that we are able to have the memories. Your support gives life to the Student Life side of our campus.

BY DOMINIQUE RUSSELL '23

“EVEN THOUGH I HAD TENNIS PRACTICE EVERY DAY AFTER SCHOOL, I STILL FOUND WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE. WHETHER IT WAS FILLING THE TRUNK OF MY CAR WITH CANS FOR THE CANNED FOOD DRIVE, VIGOROUSLY THROWING DODGEBALLS AT UNDERCLASSMEN, OR DRILLING BOARDS AT “DEC,” I DID WHATEVER I COULD TO HELP THE SENIOR CLASS WIN HOMECOMING THIS YEAR.”

HAYLEY LABIA '23



TRUST THE PROCESS – TRUST THE SPIRIT

Spirit Week is a time for fun, competition, celebration, and growth. School-wide participation and friendly competition build school and class spirit, bringing students and staff together as the St. Francis community. Building upon the environment that past classes have created develops what it means to be a Troubie.

As freshmen, we were unprepared for the plethora of energy that consumed campus. After quarantining in our sophomore year, however, we were fortunate to experience a regular Spirit Week. Although Spirit Week took place last year, many activities were limited. This meant modified activities and rules, such as having Sports Day outside and wearing masks full-time.

It was not only refreshing to have a regular Spirit Week this year but also exciting. Since it happened relatively early in the school year, it began the year on a positive note. This influenced other school-wide events, such as St. Francis Day, in an uplifting way.

We looked forward to the friendly competition with other classes and collaborating within our own class. Forming new friendships, building spirit, and engaging with the St. Francis community came naturally when working towards a common goal together. Trusting the process and working together helped strengthen our class bond, and seeing the final product of all our hard work was rewarding.

BY AUBREY SPOWART '23
AND HAYLEY LABIA '23



CANNED FOOD DRIVE

One of the highlights of this year's homecoming week was our annual Canned Food Drive. Being that I am SBO Ministry Coordinator, this event is almost like my child. I have been anticipating it since the day I was elected last spring. As St. Francis students, we are devoted to serving our community, and that idea is something that is so prominent at the Canned Food Drive. I also have a special place in my heart for this day because it seems to be the day of homecoming when students forget that they are competing against each other. We really all come together as one. I was so proud of our students and their hard work this year. Many of them had been collecting recycling and canned food since the beginning of the school year. Additionally, this year we incorporated donations into the drive. As a school we were able to donate over four thousand cans and close to five thousand dollars to the Sacramento Food Bank.

BY ALANA SAELTZER '23



If I were to describe Spirit Week in three words, they would be competition, connection, and community. Whether strategizing for sports day, teaching choreography, or painting murals, students lobby their classmates to get involved with the goal of racking up homecoming points. The competition is visible by way of crazy costumes and signs and audible in cheers filling the gym. While the initial plan may be winning, working side-by-side naturally creates opportunities for new friendships to form and tangible reminders of the unique, life-long relationships that already exist among many students. Something particular to SF is the unspoken license to be fun, spirited, and creative when it comes to homecoming. As a staff member, I love seeing this whole other side of students that would otherwise stay hidden. These unique aspects of Spirit Week always lead to connection. Working toward a shared goal naturally bonds individuals to their class. However, when students gather for the prayer service, rush to help another class clean up spilled paint, or cheer on a different class with a great dance and princess procession, they unite themselves with the larger St. Francis community. While each class leaves traces of itself in our traditions, there is enough continuity and strength in our Spirit Week customs to overcome and thrive...even after a pandemic.

BY STEPHANIE VILLANUEVA '98





"UNMASKED" BY LUNA ROMO '25

CONGRATULATIONS TO LUNA ROMO '25 WHOSE PHOTO "UNMASKED" WAS SELECTED AS A WINNER IN TWO SEPARATE ART SHOWS.

"This photograph represents the freedom I felt coming out of quarantine and finally being amongst my friends again. I wanted to capture the feeling of being truly unmasked - both being physically unmasked and emotionally unmasked. Amongst my friends there is no need to hide who I am and how I feel," Luna stated. "Coming out of quarantine, things felt different. Being with friends felt more meaningful, and thus photos of them meant more to me. This photo captures a turning point in my life of feeling open to new things, new people, and appreciating all of it so much more."

Unmasked was chosen as the best photo for the 21st Annual High School Self Portrait Show. The artwork was selected by a cohort of local artists and the Chalk It Up executive board and was presented at a 2nd Saturday Artists' gallery show in Midtown Sacramento this summer. It was also chosen as the Congressional Art District 6 winner by Congresswoman Doris Matsui. The annual competition celebrates the artistic achievements of the nation's high school students. Each Member of Congress chooses a panel of local artists, art teachers, gallery owners, to act as judges. The winning artwork from each district will hang in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol for one year. As part of winning, Luna received a free flight to visit Washington D.C. where she will receive a tour of the Capitol and see her artwork hung in the Cannon Tunnel.

Luna is currently taking AP Studio Art where she is creating a body of work exploring California light. "I'm beginning to use professional DSLR cameras and trying various lenses. I find myself looking at the world differently - with a photographer's eye. Working with Mrs. Willow, I've come to appreciate how there is a potential for great photos in our everyday lives. Shadows, colors, reflections, movements and so much more exist all the time and I'm slowly becoming more aware of taking the time to capture them photographically."

ANGELA MATHENGE '23 WILL REPRESENT ST. FRANCIS AT GIRLS STATE

ANGELA MATHENGE '23 WAS RECENTLY HONORED BY THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY OF CALIFORNIA TO REPRESENT ST. FRANCIS AT THE 80TH SESSION OF GIRLS STATE THIS SUMMER

Part of a competitive field of exceptional Troubies, Angela was chosen after interviewing with the selection committee. The committee had this to say: "Angela has been involved in student government and leadership throughout her high school career. In addition, she has been on the speech team and a student athlete in volleyball. Angela has been on the honor roll all three grades and received the Latin Convention Award because of her advanced knowledge of Greek mythology and the Team Captain of the club volleyball. Angela is also an advocate for black students of California. What impressed me the most about Angela's interview is the amount of research she did into Girls State – even looking at TikTok and Facebook. I have never had anyone do that much research into Girls State EVER. When asked who her hero would be she said her mother. Her mother is an immigrant from Kenya and has endured many hardships."

The mission of American Legion Auxiliary California Girls State is to provide an outstanding, unique and coveted educational opportunity for the young women of California that instills the basic ideals and principles of American government. Girls State seeks to promote the traditions of patriotism and citizenship, in an inclusive and civil environment. The organization's four founding principles of Justice, Freedom, Democracy, and Loyalty combined with the core value of Service Not Self, can be found throughout the conference's signature practices of promoting an understanding of the democratic process, honoring veterans and the military, mentoring young people, and developing self-efficacy.



SOFIA ISABEL PEREZ-LANZA '23 AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP

Senior Sofia Isabel Perez-Lanza was awarded one of just two Eduitalia scholarships under the jurisdiction of the Western Italian Consulate region. Sofia, who took AP Italian from Mrs. Rosemarie Bertini last year, was recognized during a virtual awards ceremony in October and will have the opportunity to study in Italy next summer with a full scholarship from Accademia Italiana di Milano. This is the third year in a row a St. Francis student in the Italian program was awarded an Eduitalia scholarship. Mrs. Bertini recognizes Sofia as "a most deserving young woman who fought to include Italian in her very impacted schedule and through her determination was able to successfully study the AP level as a junior."

Congratulations to Sofia for this incredible achievement!

NICOLLE HARRITY AWARDED CLAES NOBEL EDUCATOR OF DISTINCTION

As a teacher, there may be nothing more rewarding than the recognition of your students. St. Francis High School English teacher, Nicolle Harrity, was recently awarded the Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction, a special program of the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). St. Francis senior Dominique Russell nominated Harrity.

“I was completely shocked and profusely honored that a student would put my name forward,” said Harrity during a recent interview for TroubieTV.

In a letter announcing the award to Harrity, NSHSS president and co-founder James Lewis said, “Your nomination as an Educator of Distinction by Dominique Russell is a testament to the lasting impact you are making on today’s youth. This honor is presented to you because of your dedication to teaching and learning and the difference you are making as a role model, source of inspiration and leader in your profession.”

Harrity credits teachers she had in high school for her love of learning and choosing to become a teacher. “I love talking books and the fact I get paid to sit around with students and nerd out on talking literature and writing seems like a dream come true,” said Harrity. “I love the teenage group because I get to see the growth and maturity. I like getting to see that lightbulb moment.”

Nicolle Harrity teaches junior and senior English and serves as the yearbook advisor at St. Francis. She’s been teaching for 15 years and joined the faculty at St. Francis in 2016.



DEACON McFADDEN PUBLISHES HIS FIRST BOOK “SALVATION HISTORY”

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.” These words from Aristotle mark the importance of education that inspires. Deacon Jim McFadden, a steadfast figure in the halls and Theology classrooms of St. Francis since 1988, has continued his education ministry through the publication of his first book, “Salvation History: God’s Rescue Operation.”

“My hope is that readers of ‘Salvation History’ will integrate their sacred story into God’s over-arching narrative of communion, fellowship, and harmony,” adds McFadden. “We’re most human when the two come together.”

One of Deacon McFadden’s students, Elysa Pascua ’24, added that the book has greatly impacted the way she views life, herself, family, the community, and the world. “His writing is filled with great wisdom, it has given me a new perspective on many aspects of life, and helped set the foundation of my faith.”

Off campus, Deacon has participated in detention ministry at Folsom Prison since 2003. He was ordained a deacon in 2004 and is assigned to St. John the Baptist C.C. in Folsom where he helps facilitate Adult Faith Formation. For the last ten years, he’s been doing spiritual direction, which has become a big part of his service to the community.

In addition to teaching freshman Theology courses, Deacon McFadden began writing in 2019 for “Shalom Tidings,” a national Catholic magazine. Deacon Jim has published numerous articles, stating, “It is a blessing to promote the Kingdom of God via this evangelical medium.” He had previously done television work for Shalom World several years ago, the highlight being a ten-part series on Salvation History.



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ST. FRANCIS ANNOUNCES A NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR

MARY GEARY ELLINGSON '67

St. Francis is pleased to announce Mary Geary Ellingson '67 as the Board of Trustees Chair. She has served on the Board since 2018. Mary graduated from St. Francis with the Class of 1967 and has been active on the reunion committee since graduation. She has also stayed involved with school activities as the mother of two daughters who graduated from St. Francis, Amy Ellingson Brender '94 and Sarah Ellingson McMurray '97.

“As I begin my 5th year as a trustee on the board of St. Francis High School, I reflect on the many challenges of the past few years and the courage and strength of board leaders as they navigated the unexpected. As chair this year, I look forward to continuing their work on diversifying our entire campus, including the board. A huge step in bringing this to fruition is that which makes us attractive and affordable. We must appeal to every young woman looking for a high school that meets her needs as an individual and her dreams for the future. We must also meet the financial needs of all families who want a St. Francis education for their daughters. These are not easy goals to meet but we can continue through hard work to move the ball closer. We are a community of strong faith, exceptional talent, and open hearts. This is what we want to send out into our world.”



MARY ELLINGSON '67 AND HER
DAUGHTERS AMY '94 & SARAH '97

A TIME FOR THANKSGIVING

St. Francis Catholic High School is particularly grateful for the team of accomplished volunteers, many of whom are St. Francis alums, who serve on our Board of Trustees. Our school is truly better for their faithful, and faith-filled, service.

Mary Geary Ellingson '67, P'94, P'97, CHAIR

Jennifer O'Brien Cooley '89

Melissa Svetich DeNigris '00

Diane Henderson, P'21

Dr. Caron Houston, P'12

Trish O'Connell Ziegler, P'08

Rena DeNigris Zellars '95

Most Reverend Bishop Jaime Soto

**The Very Reverend Christopher R. Frazer,
VICAR GENERAL**

**Noel Hesser,
REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

**Katie Perata,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ROLE OF OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES WWW.STFRANCISHS.ORG/BOARD-TRUSTEES



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JASON & SILVIA TOVAR; NETA TOVAR '25



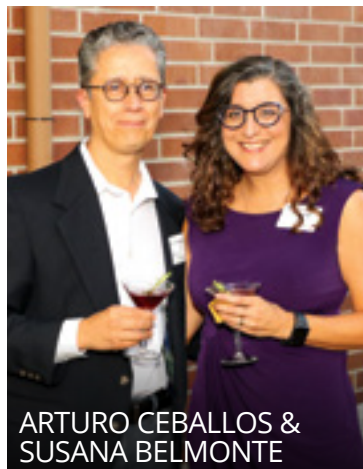
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ROSANNA RAPTON & SHIRLEY LIU



ARTURO CEBALLOS & SUSANA BELMONTE



LISA WILKINS, ANGELA MATHENGE '23, LOUISE MORR '23, DOMINIQUE RUSSELL '23, SYDNEY HURTER '23, DR. FADIA DESMOND



BOARD CHAIR MARY ELLINGSON '67



CARLA & STEVE STUCK

PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY RECEPTION

The St. Francis President's Society Reception was held on campus on Thursday, October 13th. Benefactors from a wide array of affiliations – current parents, alumnae, alum parents, community supporters, former and current employees, past and present board members – were celebrated for their love and generosity to our students and school.

In addition to sharing deep gratitude, Dr. Fadia Desmond reminded the audience that their support does something life-changing. "Decades of research on young women, self-esteem and the confidence gap has shown us that at the most critical time in their development, upon entering high school, young women can be consumed by self-doubt, reticent to share how smart they really are, hesitant to raise their hands in classes, and at risk of questioning their potential for success. When given the opportunity to attend an all-girl high school, especially one rooted in the Catholic faith, they emerge with hope, resiliency, faith, and a deep belief in oneself," she shared. "Everything from how they see themselves to how they see the world is reframed and reinvisioned. Limits become challenges, roadblocks become opportunities, and self-doubt gives way to self-love."

Guests enjoyed a delightful crisp fall evening in front of the beautiful arts center that included student performances, speeches and ambassadors who welcomed and thanked the guests. The atmosphere was electric, conversations inspiring and relationships solidified. Attendees left knowing that their provision for a St. Francis education means that every young woman who walks onto this campus has a seat at the table, because they'll never see the table set any other way. And thanks to the support of all of our benefactors, by the time most of our young women graduate, they are building the table.

THE PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY

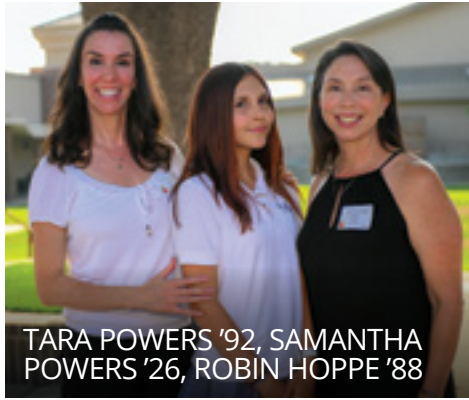
CIRCLE OF ST. FRANCIS	\$10,000+
PAX ET BONUM CIRCLE	\$5,000–\$9,999
ASSISI CIRCLE	\$2,500–\$4,999
TROUBADOUR CIRCLE	\$2,000–\$2,499
YOUNG ALUMNAE (LAST 10 YEARS)	\$250+

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FRANCISCAN CIRCLE	\$500 – \$999
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FRIENDS CIRCLE	Gifts up to \$99



EMI GARCIA '24 & ROSANNA GARCIA '81



TARA POWERS '92, SAMANTHA POWERS '26, ROBIN HOPPE '88



MEREDITH LYONS '93, REESE HUGHES '24, JENNIFER DOWLEY '80

LEGACY FAMILY BREAKFAST

Sixty legacy alums joined their daughters, granddaughters, nieces and sisters for a reception and Welcome Mass held on August 17th. We saw alumnae from the class of 1957 (Mary Ann Murphy Novotny) through our more recent grads from 2021 and 2022. As an alum shared, "one of the most significant ways to honor St. Francis High School and our daughters and granddaughters is to send them to school here. They are a living testament to the good work that takes place on campus."



LILY CULLO '23 & DAWN WINSTON '91



LINDA BUCCHIONI & BELLA DE LA CRUZ '23



MARY ANN NOVOTNY '57, MAGGIE LEONARD '24, JULIE LEONARD '97



LYNDSY BARGE '98, ISABELLA BARGE '26, MIA MORENO '26, DEBORAH MORENO '73



ANGELA DUSEL '94, EMILY DUSEL '23, PAM ZANZE '68



ROOTED IN GRATITUDE

Held on November 3rd, St. Francis' 11th annual day of giving, Thankful Thursday, was a booming success! Our Troubies are well loved and supported by the St. Francis Catholic High School faculty and staff who invest countless hours and resources into providing them a holistic educational experience for their mind, body and spirit.

The support from our students was contagious and reverberated out to our families, alumnae, alum parents, grandparents and countless others who came together to provide the financial assistance that helps 24 percent of our students this year. The student energy was evidenced and many arrived early to cheer and kick off Thankful Thursday as students were dropped off. They continued the excitement throughout the day which included thanking a teacher or staff member, student versus staffulty games at lunch, and volunteering to help make thank you calls to the many donors who participated.

Not to be outdone, our parent and grandparent community visibly supported the day by volunteering to collect student donations and making thank you calls. Our Grandparent and Parent and Clubs conducted peer-to-peer outreach, were onsite volunteers, and our Dad's Club hosted their annual rousing auction that evening raising additional funds for tuition assistance and creating a fun and festive environment.

Thanks to the many gifts from all of our community, we raised more than \$115,000 on that day and the total continues to grow!

You can still make a gift at www.stfrancishs.org/dayofgiving



ELLIE BROWN '19

FROM THE US NAVY TO ASPIRING NURSE



At the end of her Junior year, Ellie Brown '19, spent her summer rotating through the halls of Kaiser Permanente in various departments ranging from emergency medicine to geriatrics. As a rising senior at the time, Ellie would not yet know that the six week internship would dramatically alter the course of her life after graduating from St. Francis Catholic High School, so much so that it would take her to the other side of the world treating wounded soldiers.

Ellie is a United States Navy Hospital Corpsman at the NATO Hospital in Naples, Italy. As a 0000 (quad zero) corpsman, Ellie can deploy operationally with the Marines ("green side") and serve in the front lines as a medic or give medical aid on a naval ship ("blue side") or be stationed shore side in a hospital. Since the summer of 2018 when Ellie was about to begin her senior year, until today, the world has opened up for Ellie.

HELP LIFT TAKE FLIGHT

If any of our readers are interested in offering a Troubie a summer internship position and being a part of the inaugural year of **LIFT: Leveraging Internships For Troubies**, please email Fadia Desmond at fdesmond@stfrancishs.org. Help LIFT take flight and change the professional trajectory of a St. Francis student.

The seed was planted during her St. Francis internship and affirmed what was a budding desire to go into the nursing field. With no way to explore it on her own, Ellie applied for an SFHS summer internship and earned a spot within Kaiser's program. Ellie shares, "A lot of young people like the idea of going into medicine but they go into it blind. Any medical job involves a lot of self-giving, and caring for others whether mentally or physically; it takes a special person and is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly. The internship opportunity gave me that peek behind the curtain to see if it was something I truly wanted to do with my life."

Thinking back on the highlights of her internship experience, Ellie enjoyed how interactive her internship was and believes the internship was a stepping stone in her life's path showing her what her calling was. Ellie reflects that, "It gave me the ability to see that medicine was something that interested me. The providers they had us work alongside were nothing but gracious in aiding the curiosity we had."

Since Ellie was part of a cohort of St. Francis students serving at Kaiser locations across the greater Sacramento region, she fondly remembers how much it meant to work alongside her fellow Troubadour sisters. Being in an interactive learning environment with them was more than enjoyable. "Finding people that share a common interest with you is essential. It helps you grow and pursue that interest even more." Affirmed by her classmates and by the experience, Ellie aspires to be an RN and is thrilled that her service to the U.S. Navy supports her educational goals and aspirations.

SARAH HANEY '98

A CAREER WITH PASSION AND PURPOSE



Sarah Haney '98 had an inspiring journey to her current role as Chief Development Officer for the Sacramento SPCA. From the Bay Area back to Sacramento and cross-country moves, Sarah refined her skills in the world of fundraising, event management, marketing and business development, ultimately applying them all to her expanding role with the SPCA.

Sarah followed in the footsteps of her father and grandfather and attended UC Berkeley. Attracted to the larger, more diverse student body, the 1,000+ lecture halls felt intimidating at first but taught her to be more assertive. Pursuing her BA in American Studies, her thesis class was particularly inspiring as she completed a 35-page research paper on whether collegiate players should get paid. She had a vested interest when in 2021, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) allowed a ruling that unlocked college athletes getting paid for the first time in history.

Returning to Sacramento in a tough job market, Sarah volunteered for Make-a-Wish while contemplating a career in teaching. Volunteering led to a job offer as Make-a-Wish needed a Wish Coordinator. In this role, Sarah planned and implemented all facets of wish granting and found it one of the most memorable periods of her life. She also notes that starting her nonprofit career in the operational side taught her the importance of program and mission in the world of fundraising.

Ready for more challenge and adventure, Sarah moved to Orange County to expand her career. Working as Director, Major Gifts for United Way, Sarah oversaw all women's engagement opportunities including the Women's Philanthropy Fund (women giving \$10,000+ annually), Women Looking Forward, and the Women's Philanthropy Fund Breakfast fundraiser.

She next moved to Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Orange County as Senior Director, Major Gifts & Events. From there, she promoted into a national role as Vice President Development and moved to the Dallas/Fort Worth corporate office. A significant accomplishment in this role was leading the organization's first-ever national partnership with a studio on

a major motion picture - "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies." Never satisfied with the status quo, Sarah next took on two simultaneous roles with BBBS as Regional Executive Director, Tarrant County and Vice President, Marketing.

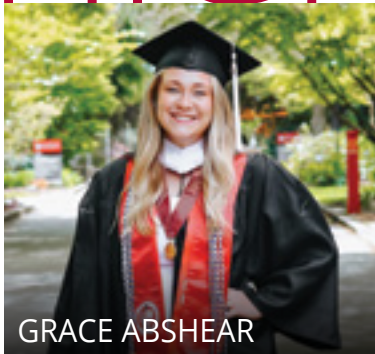
Sarah noted, "these experiences expanded my knowledge of nonprofit work. When you work in different markets, you have to learn what is important there. Different states and areas have very unique donor climates." Sarah remains grateful for her introduction to nonprofit work at Make-a-Wish. "Starting from the bottom up on the development side helped me to understand the importance of accuracy, stewardship, and volunteer management. I can jump in anywhere needed which enables me to have good mentorship relationships with my team. I encourage everyone to learn from the ground up in the industry you are interested in."

Ultimately Sarah wanted to work in animal welfare, although jobs in this area were scarce. In 2017, she joined the Sacramento SPCA as Director of Development building a strong professional team and leading the organization's annual fundraising efforts. She also had one of her proudest professional achievements: the successful completion of a \$4.8 million capital campaign for the Zoe K. McCrea Animal Health Center during Covid. This new center increased the organizations spay/neuter surgery capacity and community access to low-cost pet wellness services. In July, Sarah was promoted to Chief Development Officer and is excited for all the opportunities ahead at the SPCA.

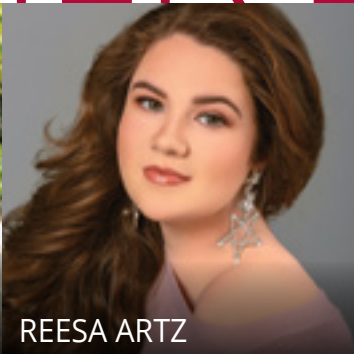
Many of Sarah's fondest St. Francis memories were playing water polo starting in her sophomore year, the first year we had a team. She credits St. Francis with instilling strong study habits and an ability to be task oriented enabling her to schedule and prioritize. Skills that resulted in a great college education and a rewarding career.

Sarah and her husband Ryan Taylor managed to pull off a wedding during the early Covid days and are now the proud parents of four senior dogs and open up their home to foster other animals with special needs.

HIGHER LEARNING



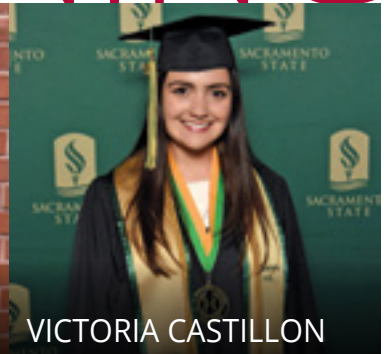
GRACE ABSHEAR



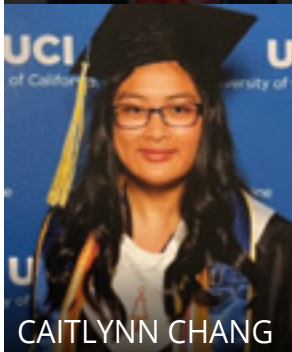
REESA ARTZ



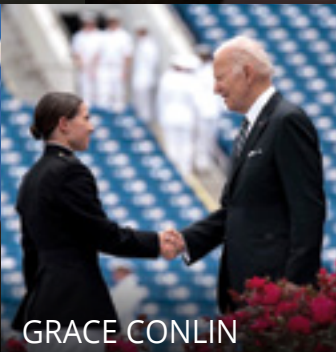
AUDREY CAMARILLO



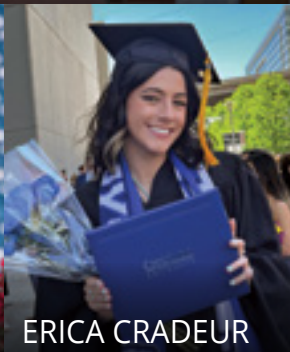
VICTORIA CASTILLON



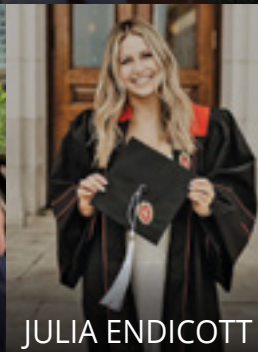
CAITLYNN CHANG



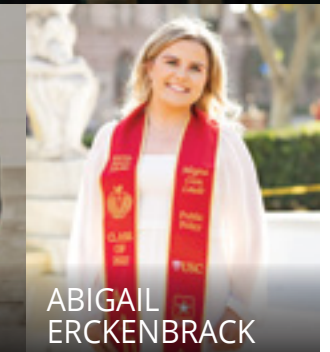
GRACE CONLIN



ERICA CRAEUR



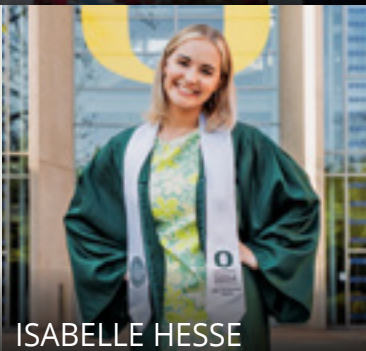
JULIA ENDICOTT



ABIGAIL
ERCKENBRACK



MARIANNE HAYES



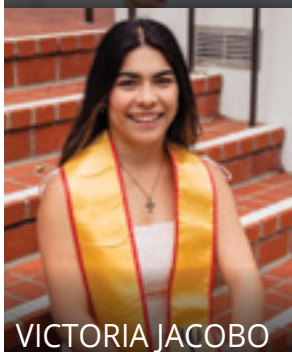
ISABELLE HESSE



CHYNNA HINRICHSEN



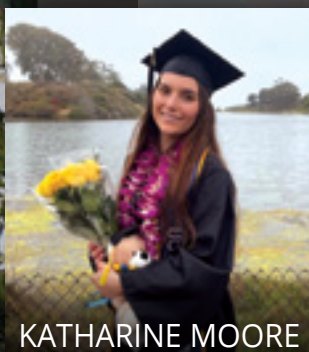
KIYA AND KYLA JACKSON



VICTORIA JACOBO



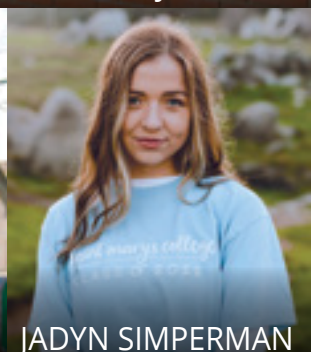
LAUREN LUKOWICZ



KATHARINE MOORE



AMANDA ROINA



JADYN SIMPERMAN



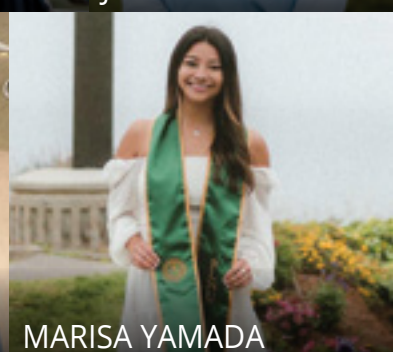
MAYA SOLIS



LAUREN WILKINS



ELYSIA WITHAM



MARISA YAMADA

Grace Abshear '18 graduated Summa Cum Laude from Seattle University with a BA in Criminal Justice with a specialization in Forensic Psychology and a minor in Psychology. She received the award for highest GPA in her major and was a four year Division 1 athlete.

Reesa Artz '18 graduated Summa Cum Laude from Sweet Briar College with a BA in Psychology and Dance. Reesa is excited to announce that in Summer/Fall 2022 she will be making magic at Walt Disney World with the Disney College Program, and in January 2023 has accepted a place at the #2 School of Nursing, at Duke University. She plans to get her Doctorate of Nursing Practice and become a Family Nurse Practitioner.

Audrey Camarillo '18 graduated Magna Cum Laude with great distinction from Pepperdine University with a Bachelor's in Biology. She is currently at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing pursuing a MS in Nursing.

Victoria Castillon '18 graduated Summa Cum Laude from California State University, Sacramento with a BA in Psychology and minor in Spanish. She was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. She is continuing her education at CSUS working towards an MA and an Education Specialty (EdS) in School Psychology.

Caitlynn Chang '18 graduated Cum Laude from the University of California, Irvine with a BS Biomedical Engineering.

Grace Conlin '18 graduated from the United States Naval Academy with a BS in History with honors and a minor in Arabic. Upon graduating, she received a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant officer in the United States Marine Corps.

Erica Cradeur '18 graduated from Creighton University with a BS in Computer Science and Digital Development with a Business minor. Upon graduating, she was hired full time to work at Valmont Industries as an Associate Network Engineer and is currently working at their headquarters in Omaha.

Julia Endicott '18 graduated from University of Wisconsin with a BA in Communication Arts: Radio-TV-Film with a minor in Sports Communications. Upon graduating, she started working at Roc Nation as a Sports Marketing Coordinator in New York City.

Abigail Erckenbrack '18 graduated from the University of Southern California on the Dean's List with a BS in Public Policy. She was a Warren Bennis Scholar and commissioned into the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant branching Military Intelligence.

Marianne Hayes '18 graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a BA in Psychology and California Elementary Teaching Credential. She received a Fulbright Fellowship to teach English in Taiwan for the 2022-2023 school year.

Isabelle Hesse '18 graduated from University of Oregon. Upon graduation she began teaching at a K-8 Catholic elementary school while also teaching dance, getting her Masters in Higher education and Student Affairs (followed by her Doctorate) and running a photography business.

Chynna Hinrichsen '18 graduated from University of Southern California with a BA in International Relations and a Minor in Cultural Diplomacy. She earned the USC Provost Award, USC Discovery Scholar Award, USC Global Scholar Award, and a scholarship for grad school as a Dornsife Scholar. She was also invited to apply for the position of USC Valedictorian. Chynna is currently finishing up a one year MA of Public Diplomacy at USC and applying to law school.

Kiya Jackson '18 and **Kyla Jackson '18** graduated from UC Davis both with a BS in Biological Sciences. Kiya will continue her post baccalaureate studies at Davis and continue on to grad school. Kyla will continue her studies in nursing school.

Victoria Jacobo '18 graduated from St. Mary's College of California with a BS in Psychology and a concentration in Clinical and Counseling. Upon graduation she accepted a position at St. Mary's as their Coordinator for the Student Success Office.

Lauren Lukowicz '18 graduated from the University of Alabama with a BA in Psychology and minor in Criminal Justice. Upon graduation she began working for Rollins Financial Advisors, LLC.

Katharine Moore '18 graduated with honors from University of California, Santa Barbara with a BS in Biological Sciences.

Amanda Roina '18 graduated from Colorado State University with a BS in Biological Sciences and a minor in Chemistry. She recently started working at a Catholic high school in Scottsdale, Arizona as an interventionist working with special education students and helping them excel in the area of science. She is currently working on receiving her Masters of Education with an emphasis in STEM at Grand Canyon University.

Jadyn Simperman '18 graduated Cum Laude from Saint Mary's College of Notre Dame with a BS in Nursing. Jadyn received the Dean's List Award all four years of college. She recently started the Nursing Residency Program at UC Davis Medical Center in the Emergency Medicine Department.

Maya Solis '18 graduated from the United States Naval Academy with a BS in Political Science and a minor in Japanese. She is joining the submarine service and will soon be attending Nuclear Power School to begin training. Throughout her time at the Academy, she was awarded the State Department's Critical Language Scholarship for Japanese, and additionally won the category for Nonproliferation Policy. She was also a member of the Drum & Bugle Corps and Gospel Choir.

Lauren Wilkins '18 graduated Cum Laude from the University of Alabama with a BA in International Studies.

Elysia Witham '18 graduated from Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science with a BS in Computer Engineering. Upon graduation she accepted a job working for MIT Lincoln Laboratory.

Marisa Yamada '18 graduated from Point Loma Nazarene University with a BS in Nursing. Upon graduation she began working as a Registered Nurse on a neurology unit at University of California, San Diego Health.

CELEBRATING OUR ALUMNAE



1



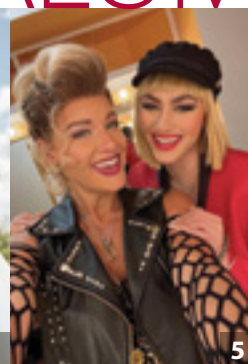
2



3



4



5



6



Stay LinkedIn with Your Troubie Sisters and join the St. Francis Alumnae private LinkedIn group! Whether you're looking for a new job, relocating to a new town, or wanting to connect, you can reach out to your Troubie network for support. Be sure to add St. Francis Catholic High School to your Education profile on LinkedIn. This will allow you to network with alumnae around the world with just the click of a button.

To join the private group, visit:

<http://bit.ly/SFHSAIumLinkedIn>

Le-Mai Dam Lyons '05 and her husband, Garrett, welcomed a new baby boy, Ellis Lyons, born on August 24th. Ellis joins big brother Rufus (1).

Kristie Figone Ishoo '05 and her husband, Josh, welcomed a baby girl, Mia Bobbie Ishoo, on December 15, 2021. **1**

Rosie Pauli Bains '07 married Amar Bains on September 3rd in Ketchikan, Alaska. Many of Rosie's former classmates were there to celebrate: **Claire Buchanan, Carolyn Blucher, Emily Scroggs Clyma, Mallory Saffold Matthews, Michelle Kaplan, Lauren Brunner Bierbaum.** **2**

Leah Pezzetti Horner '13 won her third regional Emmy courtesy of NATAS Pacific Southwest. The award was for a story that she shot, wrote and edited. You can watch it here: <https://fb.watch/dQZtSTSEiu> **3**

Sara-Kate Pirnik '16 married Charles Johansen on September 17th in Grapevine, Texas. The couple met at Baylor University and live in Dallas. Sara-Kate works in client development for a software company, Charles is in finance. Many of Sara-Kate's SFHS classmates were involved in the ceremony as bridesmaids, members of the Something Blue Crew delivered readings and the pre-meal blessing. Her sister, **Molly '18**, was Maid of Honor. **4**

Amaya Barnes '17 joined the River Cats at the end of September 2022 as an Account Executive for Inside Sales. She graduated from Sacramento State University with a BS in Kinesiology, Sports Studies and a minor in Recreation Administration in May 2022. You might also see Amaya supporting St. Francis, as she has been a Troubie swim coach since February of 2018.

Natalie Bourgeois '17 made her Broadway debut in *Pretty Woman, The Broadway Tour* alongside fellow Troubie **Jessica Crouch '04!** **5**

Julia Razo '17 is playing professional basketball overseas. She signed her first professional contract with Las Maristas A Coruña in Spain. **6**

Julia Turner '19 completed a 200 hour yoga instructor certification and is teaching yoga at Creighton University. She is now the program assistant for the Group Fitness program. Mrs. Bueno's yoga class had quite the impact! She's preparing for her upcoming graduation in May, earning a BSBA in Accounting. Following graduation, she will be working in Raleigh, North Carolina as a Tax Consultant at Deloitte.



SHARE YOUR WISDOM CAREER DAY & MENTORING

Career Day 2023 will be held on campus on **Friday, March 24, 2023 from 9:00AM-12:00PM**. Alums enjoy this chance to give back by sharing their education and career experiences and perspectives with today's students. Many comment that they wished they had this opportunity when they were students at St. Francis.

This is a highly anticipated student event and local alums are encouraged to participate in person; some accommodations can be made for remote alums to participate virtually in a hybrid format. Career Day is offered each year so that over a four-year period, our students can explore a variety of careers and start building their alumnae network.



SIGN UP HERE

REUNIONS



CLASS OF 1957: 65 YEAR REUNION

On November 1, 2022, alumnae gathered on the St. Francis campus for their 65th reunion.



CLASS OF 1965: 57 YEAR REUNION

On June 25, 2022 alumnae from St. Francis and Christian Brothers gathered to celebrate their 57th Reunion.



CLASS OF 1971: 50ISH YEAR REUNION

Alumnae from the Class of 1971 gathered at a classmate's home on October 4, 2022 to celebrate their 50ish Reunion.

UPCOMING REUNIONS

If your class year ends in a "3" or "8," it's time to start planning a reunion weekend for 2023.

Contact Kristie Figone Ishoo to be involved in the planning of your class-specific reunion or for additional details for any of the reunions listed above: kishoo@stfrancishs.org, or 916.737.5020.

CLASS OF 1973: 50 YEAR
Planning a reunion on campus
June 2, 2023.

CLASS OF 1997: 25 YEAR
Planning a reunion on April 1, 2023.

CLASS OF 2012: 10 YEAR
Planning a reunion on Dec. 22, 2022.

CLASS OF 2016: 5 YEAR
Planning a reunion. Date TBD.

CLASS OF 2018: 5 YEAR
Planning a reunion to take place
sometime in 2023.



Crab Feed Dinner & Dance

JANUARY 28, 2023



SEE YOU THERE!

CALENDAR

For more information on Alumnae events, visit:
WWW.STFRANCISHS.ORG/ALUMNAE

JANUARY

CRAB FEED

Saturday, January 28, 2023

Always a sellout, this annual event brings together current families, faculty and staff and our Alumnae community for a no-host bar and a scrumptious meal of antipasto platter, salad and bread, hearty Italian meat sauce spooned over rigatoni, and crab, crab and more crab! Don't miss the mini-auction, dessert auction, raffle and dance the night away to the smooth tunes of Clean Slate! Tickets go fast!

For more information: www.stfrancishs.org/crab-feed
Become a sponsor: www.stfrancishs.org/sponsor

MARCH

SIP, SAVOR & SUPPORT!

40TH ANNUAL AUCTION, DINNER & DANCE PARTY

Saturday, March 4, 2023

Join us for an enchanting evening with your St. Francis community enjoying student performances, delicious food, signature cocktails, and superb wine. Peruse our robust silent auction and sign-up parties offerings. Cap off the evening with a premier live auction, rousing fund-a-vision, and then dance away the rest of the night away. You will have the time of your life while supporting St. Francis Catholic High School.

For more information: www.stfrancishs.org/auction
Become a sponsor: www.stfrancishs.org/sponsor

SPRING PLAY: ANTIGONE

March 17-25, 2023

Antigone is the story of a young woman who becomes an unlikely activist and heroine when she alone defies the law of her uncle, Kreon, to give her brother an honorable burial after a brutal civil war. Elegantly translated by Anne Carson, the themes of Sophocles' 441 BC play are still relevant in today's world as we watch women in war-torn countries rise up against tyranny to care for their families and communities.

For tickets and showtimes: www.stfrancishs.org/tickets

CAREER DAY

Friday, March 24, 2023

Local alums are encouraged to participate in person, and remote alums can participate virtually in a hybrid format. Imagine over a four-year period how many different careers a St. Francis student can explore, and the incredible alumnae network they can start building along the way. Read more on page 20.

For more information: www.stfrancishs.org/career-day

THE ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY MOURNS THE LOSS OF THE FOLLOWING ALUMNAE:

Maryanne Butler Lynch '53

Joan McPherson Topp '53

Barbara Stager Schnetz '56

Marolyn Meredith Harris '57

Linda Dumond '65

Colleen Keating Matthews '65

Christine Utz '67

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

St. Francis of Assisi - Pray for us.

St. Clare of Assisi - Pray for us.



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For information about important
dates and upcoming events,
please visit our website:
www.stfrancishs.org

Parents of Alumnae:

Please forward this publication and
notify the Advancement Office of the
updated address for your daughter.

40TH ANNUAL AUCTION, DINNER & DANCE PARTY

*Sip, Savor &
Support!*

MARCH 4, 2023 | 5:30 - 11:00PM

\$150 per person

- ★ Sponsorship Opportunities are available
- ★ The Silent Auction opens on February 17th!
- ★ This year's Auction Chair is Cari Fox, P '26

**SCAN THE QR CODE FOR SPONSORSHIP,
TICKET AND AUCTION INFORMATION!**



For more information, please contact Natalie Anzini at 916-737-5015 or nanzini@stfrancishs.org

St. Francis Catholic High School | 5900 Elvas Avenue, Sacramento