

ALUMNAE MAGAZINE

FALL 2017

MOTHER OF MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

# BLUEprint



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# *Always Mercy*

Mother of Mercy began the school year in celebratory style! The first day of school kicked off with donuts for all on the front lawn and a welcome by Principal Dave Mueller and the Student Council Executive Board. Then the entire community ceremoniously entered the building through the iconic Werk Road entrance. Celebration continued in September with Mercy Day, the feast of Our Lady of Mercy and the day on which Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy in Dublin in 1831. All parts of the well-known Circle of Mercy were represented - students, administrators, faculty and staff past and present, Sisters of Mercy, alumnae, parents and friends - joined together at Mass. Each all-important piece of the Circle was commissioned in their role of being Mercy for one another in a moving candle ceremony. A picnic and community fun followed in the back lot. It was a day full of MERCY!



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Circle of Mercy,

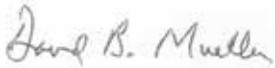
As I write on the last day of classes before Thanksgiving vacation, I'm inspired by how a disposition of gratitude changes everything. We have so many reasons to be thankful so far this year: inspiring school-wide liturgies and prayer, excellent teaching and learning, a student raffle that soared past its goal, an all-school celebration at the Zoo, student devotion to community service, a fall sports season with exciting tournament runs, sold-out performances of *The Little Mermaid*, generous service by Mercy parents, generous donations by benefactors, and the service and example of our Sisters of Mercy.

Part of the example of the Sisters is the readiness of members of an established community to venture forth confidently to found a new community designed to meet emerging needs. After all, Mother of Mercy High School was founded as a result of Sister Frances Warde leaving Ireland in 1843 to bring the work of the Sisters to America.

At this time of year I'm also inspired by the Advent spirit of patient expectation. Mary says "Yes" to a surprising and unsettling invitation. She waits for months, unsure of what will happen next but confident that "The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name." We now know what came next: for us, a world-changing birth; for Mary, measureless enduring joy (despite great sorrows) and, many years later, a school in Westwood under her patronage and graced with her spirit – a school that, like Mary, will always be regarded with warmth and gratitude.

Thank you for your care and support for Mother of Mercy!

Sincerely,



PRINCIPAL



## LET'S CONNECT

Make sure you stay a part of the Circle of Mercy!

We want to keep all our alumnae and friends informed about what is happening at Mother of Mercy - from news about the transition to the new Mercy McAuley High School, to upcoming events, reunions, updates on classmates, and more! To do this, we need your updated contact information. E-mail is one of the fastest ways for us to communicate with our alumnae, so go to our online update form at [www.motherofmercy.org/alumnaeupdate](http://www.motherofmercy.org/alumnaeupdate) to send us your e-mail address and other contact information. It takes less than one minute to complete the form! We do not sell or provide your contact information to any outside organization.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Mother of Mercy High School - Official



@MMHBobcats1



MMHBobcat

# BLUEprint

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*This magazine is printed on FSC certified mix paper from responsible resources.*



The entire Circle of Mercy - students, faculty, staff, administration, alumnae, parents and friends - helped create this image as part of our Mercy Day celebration!

COVER PHOTO: All of our students were excited about our Opening Ceremony celebration on the first day of school!



*Mission Statement: Mother of Mercy High School is a College Preparatory School for Young Women Sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Member of the Mercy Education Collaborative of Cincinnati, inspiring, educating and empowering young women to become faith-filled leaders through the Core Values of the Sisters of Mercy: Faith, Compassion, Service, Leadership and Excellence.*



# School News

## SISTERS OF MERCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### SISTERS OF MERCY ANNOUNCE LEADERS FOR NEW MERCY MCAULEY HIGH SCHOOL

After a national search, the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas announced on November 1 the appointment of the new president and the new principal of Mercy McAuley High School, who will work in tandem to continue the sisters' rich heritage of providing young women in Cincinnati with a Catholic Mercy education. These leaders will guide the launch of the new Mercy McAuley High School in fall 2018, taking the already strong academic, athletic and arts programs of Mother of Mercy and McAuley high schools to even greater heights.

*"The selection of these candidates was made with a dual-priority focus on providing outstanding leadership for the young women of Mercy McAuley High School, and continuing the Mercy charism that is central to a Mercy education."*

*—Sister Jane Hotstream, President, Sisters of Mercy – South Central Community*



Patty Ragio, President

Patty Ragio will serve as the president of Mercy McAuley High School. A graduate of Mother of Mercy High School, Patty has served in a variety of education and non-profit development roles for the past 25 years, including vice president of institutional advancement at Mount St. Joseph University, senior director of development at the University

of Cincinnati Foundation, and most recently, executive director of corporate engagement at the University of Cincinnati.

"My Mercy education had a tremendously positive, lasting impact on my life and made me the person I am. It is one of the reasons why I've taken this position," Patty stated. "My vision for Mercy McAuley High School is to provide the best, most excellent Mercy education that distinctly sets us apart from other school choices.

"I intend to honor the Sisters of Mercy legacy that I've experienced. I'll be empathetic and challenging in a positive way. I believe we should train our students for the future but do our best to honor the past. I intend to lead this organization so that Mercy McAuley High School becomes the best, most innovative Catholic girls' school in our region," said Patty.

As president, Patty will oversee the advancement of both academic and extra-curricular activities that promote Mercy education, Catholic faith formation, and the school's core values inspired by Sisters of Mercy founder Catherine McAuley: faith, compassion, service, leadership, and excellence. She also will work collaboratively with the Board of Directors and Sisters of Mercy. Patty has already assumed her role as president on a part-time basis, moving into a full-time role on April 1, 2018.

Connie Kampschmidt, Principal

Connie Kampschmidt will serve as principal of Mercy McAuley High School. Connie, also a graduate of Mother of Mercy High School, has been the associate principal at McAuley High School



since 1992, overseeing curriculum, student discipline, faculty hiring and evaluation, and operational activities and assisting in building expansions and renovations. Prior to that, she spent 14 years as an instructor at the University of Cincinnati. Connie started her career as a teacher, coach and athletic director at Villa Madonna Academy. As principal, Connie will help to build the culture of the new Mercy McAuley, overseeing renovations, identifying experiential

learning opportunities that balance 21st century education with a deep Catholic identity, and building relationships with students and faculty.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to be part of the leadership that will ensure Mercy education in Cincinnati for a long, long time," Connie said. "My vision for Mercy McAuley is an innovative school where every student can succeed and become someone who makes a difference in the world."

Connie becomes principal of the new school on July 1, 2018. She will continue serving as associate principal of McAuley through the end of the current school year.

*"Both Patty and Connie exceeded the criteria we sought to meet in appointing these important roles. In addition to their deep experience and accomplishments, we feel confident in their ability to create culture-bridging programs that will bring both schools' communities together and foster an even greater sense of sisterhood. They both have deep respect for the rich and illustrious histories, achievements and contributions of both Mother of Mercy and McAuley high schools, and how those factors should influence the development of Mercy McAuley."*

*—Tom Otten, chairman of the Mercy McAuley Transition Committee and retired principal of Elder High School*

Dear Alumnae and Friends

... no work of charity can be more productive of good to society, or more conducive to the happiness of the poor, than the careful instruction of women; since, whatever be the station they are destined to fill, their example and advice will always possess influence. ...

—Catherine McAuley

It is in the spirit of our founder, Catherine McAuley, that we share our joy with you! We are pleased with the progress of our new school in Cincinnati. With the selection of the president and principal ([Patty Lusheck Ragio '85](#) and [Connie Sontag Kampschmidt '70](#)) and renovation plans well under way for the Oakwood campus, Mercy McAuley High School is on course to open in August 2018.

Attendance at recent open houses and shadowing events has been great. Shared confidence continues to grow as more details are presented and the new school takes shape. Our Transition Committee has worked very hard, providing an excellent foundation for our new school and we've had wonderful engagement from all the committees, subcommittees and alumnae who have collaborated and worked so diligently to make the transition as smooth as possible.

With Patty Ragio as president and Connie Kampschmidt as principal, we're confident the new school is in excellent hands and will get off to a great start. Both Patty and Connie are firmly rooted in Cincinnati and in the values of Mercy, and both have strong professional backgrounds to provide the kind of leadership that will serve the students well academically, spiritually and socially. We firmly believe these two accomplished women will unite the students, faculty and school communities and help us to ensure an affordable, sustainable Catholic Mercy education well into the future.

Throughout this process, we have focused on what is best for the young women who will attend Mercy McAuley High School, and their well-being remains our primary concern. The Sisters of Mercy are committed to Catholic Mercy education for the young women of Cincinnati.

We are deeply grateful to each of you for your prayers, and we ask for your continuing prayerful support, as you play a vital role in the success of the new school going forward, carrying out the charism of Mercy and the mission of Catherine McAuley.

In Mercy,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sister Jane Hotstream, RSM". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Sister Jane Hotstream, RSM

President

Sisters of Mercy – South Central Community



## RENOVATIONS OF OAKWOOD CAMPUS BEGIN THIS SUMMER

In preparation for the opening of the new Mercy McAuley High School in the fall of 2018, plans are under way to transform the Oakwood campus into a new school, while also honoring the rich legacy of Mercy education in Cincinnati. Iconic elements from both McAuley and Mother of Mercy High Schools, as well as Our Lady of Mercy, the original Sisters of Mercy school in Cincinnati, will be incorporated into the Mercy McAuley building, emphasizing the significance of Mercy education in Cincinnati – past, present and future. Work will begin in early June 2018 and will conclude in August 2018, in time for the opening of the new school. Mercy McAuley is pleased to partner with HGC Construction and SHP Leading Design on these exciting renovations. Below is a sneak peek of some of the possible renovation plans that are being explored. Final decisions are expected to be made in January 2018.

### EXTERIOR ENHANCEMENTS

The front lawn will become the new school's Honor Plaza, an entrance symbolic of McAuley's and Mother of Mercy's histories of providing Mercy education in Cincinnati. The statue of Mary that is currently located on Mother of Mercy's front lawn will be relocated to the front lawn of the new school, and will stand adjacent to the statue of Catherine McAuley that is currently located on McAuley's front lawn. Initial plans call for these statues to stand at intersection points formed by a pair of parallel walks and overlapping circles, reflecting the joining of the two schools. The statues will partially face each other and a fountain at the top of the plaza, with an encircling ring of dogwood trees wrapping the plaza. The stairs underneath the front stained glass window will remain, offering a sitting or gathering place for students. A new front sign near the street will also be in place.

In the back of the building, the rear entrance will be enhanced with additional lighting and landscaping improvements, creating

a welcoming presence for students and guests. In addition, parking lots in both the back and front of the building will be patched, resealed and re-stripped, and new traffic signage will be installed.

### INTERIOR ENHANCEMENTS

From the minute students and guests enter the school from the front stairs underneath the large stained glass windows, they will continue to see iconic symbols from both schools' rich legacies. Three of the large stained glass panels currently found at the top of the marble staircase inside the main lobby of Mother of Mercy will be brought to the new school for display in the first floor lobby. The iconic stained glass windows in the current McAuley chapel which face the front of the building will remain in place.

Also, several locker bays currently located on the ground floor at McAuley will be transformed into a Legacy Center. Honoring the schools' rich traditions and heritage, this area will serve as a gathering place for Mercy McAuley students to study or simply socialize with friends. Plans call for some of the familiar wooden lockers from Mother of Mercy to be relocated to this area, along with the photos and memorabilia that honor the rich legacies of both McAuley and Mother of Mercy High Schools.

The auditorium will also undergo several renovations, including painting, cleaning, and the installation of a new curtain. The gymnasium will also be painted to reflect the school's new branding, colors and mascot. Also, aesthetic and functional improvements are planned for the cafeteria, the music/choral classrooms, the cluster of art rooms, the library, and hallways and common areas, which will be repainted.

Watch for more information!

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, and check your email over the coming months, to stay informed on the latest information about the new Mercy McAuley High School.



This rendering is one design being considered. A key critical concern in finalizing the design is how to best protect the priceless stained glass murals.

*Legacy Center Design Options*



Dear Mercy Alumnae and Friends,

On December 8, our students, faculty and staff from both McAuley and Mother of Mercy shared a wonderful day together on the Mother of Mercy campus. The day began with Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, followed by many activities focused on faith, friendship and sisterhood. At the end of the day, we announced the new Mercy McAuley school colors, logo and mascot in a high-energy, spirited pep assembly with both school communities. We wanted our students, faculty and staff to be the first to see the branding elements for the new school, and their response was extraordinary! Video and photos from the “unveiling” have been posted on both schools’ web sites and social media sites. Every student, faculty and staff member went home with a free T-shirt with the new logo and mascot.

We have selected orange, white and gray as the school colors for Mercy McAuley, with orange serving as the primary color. The school mascot is the Wolf. The new school’s logo is shown below, along with the tagline: **Opening Hearts. Opening Minds. Opening Doors.** Please take a look at the “Identity Essentials” below and on the next page for a concise explanation of the new brand elements.

Please be assured that we took a very thoughtful and systematic approach to developing the brand for Mercy McAuley. We partnered with a local branding agency, Madison Design, which is led by Mother of Mercy alumna Jackie Roberto. Jackie and her team of branding experts led us through a comprehensive process that began with extensive research and input from students, parents, faculty/staff, and alumnae from both school communities, along with prospective students and families as well as grade school principals. The input we received helped us develop the brand position and ultimately, the visual expression of the brand – logo, colors, mascot and tagline. We are confident that the brand effectively represents who we are, who we serve, and how we are different from other schools, and we believe it will position Mercy McAuley for success for many years to come.

On behalf of the Mercy McAuley Transition Committee, thank you for your ongoing prayers and support for Mercy McAuley High School. GO WOLVES!!

Sincerely,

Mercy McAuley Transition Committee

**Tom Otten, Chair**

**Cindy Costello**

**Denise Krueger**

**Wayne Morse**

**Kathy Schnier**



**Mercy  
McAuley**

#### TAGLINE

**Opening Hearts. Opening Minds.  
Opening Doors.™**

#### MEANING & SYMBOLISM

The Mercy Charism leads young women to engage in a continual rhythm of contemplation and action. In the logo, inward facing arrows representing contemplation and outward facing arrows representing action meet at a center point. That center, combined with the four cardinal directions suggest the five values of the Charism as well as the idea of instilling a moral compass, which is further reinforced by the circular container shape. The negative space inside creates a Holy Cross.

# Identity Essentials

## BRAND POSITION

*The Brand Position statement clearly, consistently, and emotionally articulates what the new high school is, who it serves, and why it's different and better than the competition. We began by conducting qualitative and quantitative research with current, competitive, and prospective parents and students as well as alumnae, faculty and staff, Catholic grade school principals, and current school principals and assistant principals. We also performed a comprehensive competitive analysis.*

Mercy McAuley is where young women gain a broader worldview as part of a community, not part of the crowd. Within this sisterhood, we guide each student to grow in confidence and purpose through a customized plan for personal growth. Mercy education is a diverse range of formative experiences, innovative programs, experiential education and off-campus service learning opportunities. Women of Mercy think and learn beyond their comfort zone and are equipped to bring compassionate change to the world.

Wolves are fierce, strong, loyal, and intelligent. They are pack animals, devoted to the good of the group. Wolves rise to challenges, solve problems, and win as a team.

## KEY WORDS

*We used the Brand Position as the basis for developing the visual brand and defined key words to guide the process.*

Broader worldview = **OPENNESS**

Not part of the crowd / customized plan for personal growth = **UNIQUE**

Diverse range of formative experiences, innovative programs, experiential education, off-campus service learning opportunities = **ACCELERATED GROWTH**

Women of Mercy think and learn beyond their comfort zone and are equipped to bring compassionate change to the world = **COMPASSIONATE**

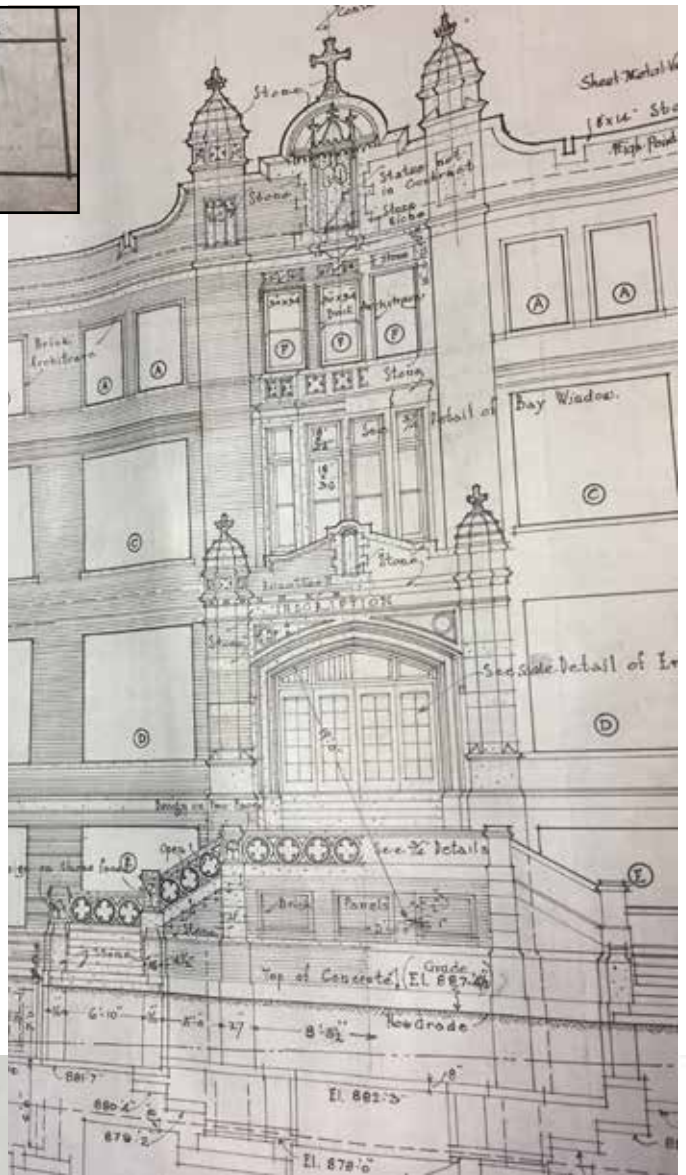


**MERCY McAULEY**  
**WOLVES**

*Many thanks to Mercy McAuley President, Patty Luscheck Ragio '85 and Principal Connie Sontag Kampschmidt '70, for their part in the exciting pep assembly. Give a cheer to Mercy faculty member Steve Baker for modeling the new mascot!*



1916/22  
F-14-22  
Samuel Hammond Tona  
Architects  
Dixie Terminal Bldg



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# Honoring Our Past

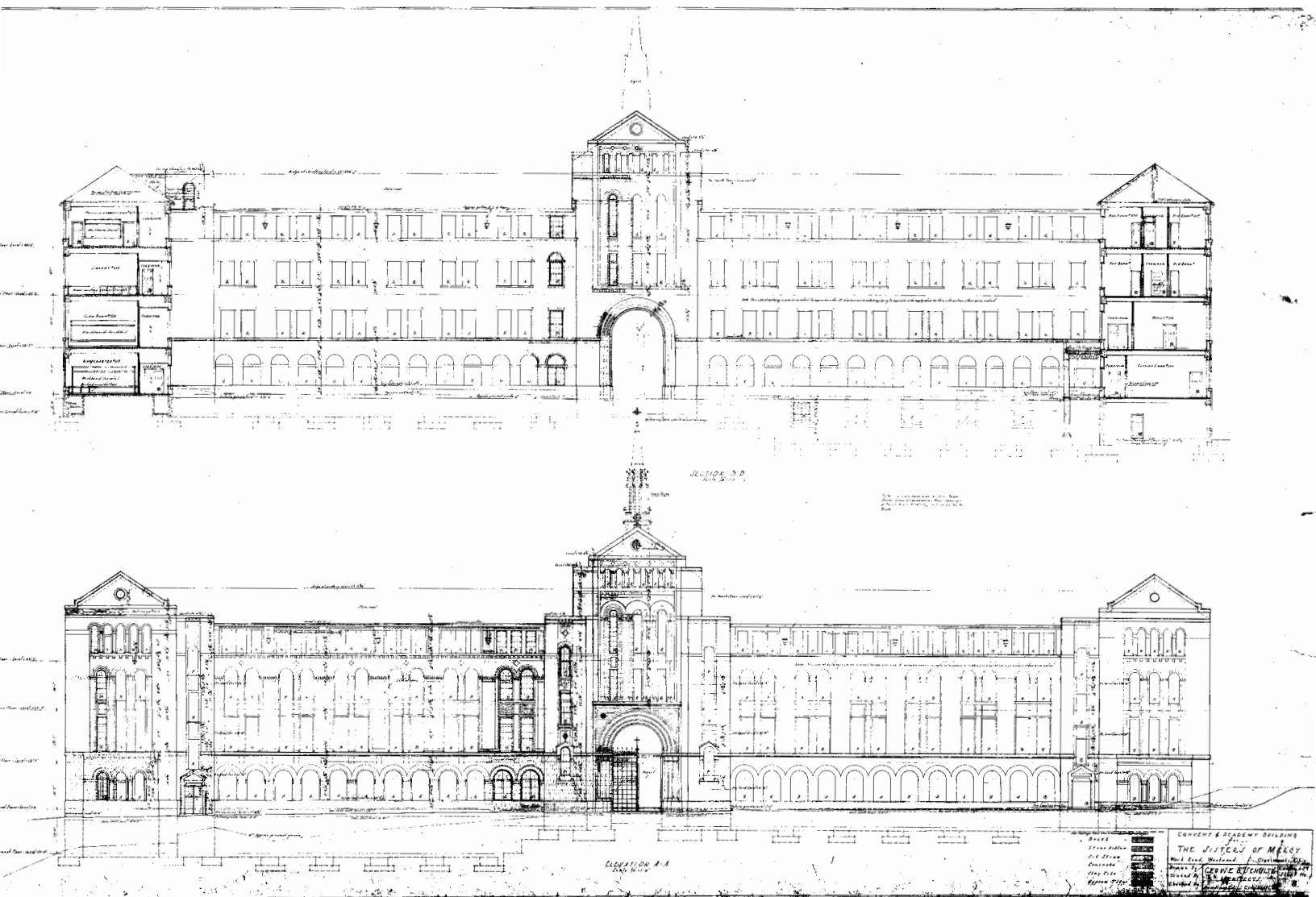
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If you take a peek into Mother of Mercy's archives, there are all kinds of interesting things to discover! First, you might open a box containing the blueprints for original Academy building, designed in 1922 and completed in 1924. These blueprints are works of art in themselves, hand-drawn on linen by Samuel Hannaford & Sons, Architects. Hannaford & Sons was the premier architectural firm in Cincinnati for many years and designed many Cincinnati landmarks, including Our Lady of Mercy on Freeman Avenue, Music Hall, City Hall, and the Eden Park Water Tower.

Next, you will find another box with blueprints for the theatre/science wing. Designed by Crowe & Schulte Architects in 1927, the plans called for matching wings on each side of the main building, one housing the theatre (that we know today) and the other housing a sizeable and elaborate chapel. In addition, the design included a building connecting these two wings in the front with a gated archway to a central courtyard; this building would have dormitory, convent, and additional classroom space. As the building was finished in 1931, you can tell that this plan was scaled back significantly, undoubtedly due to the Great Depression.

Mother of Mercy has adapted to many changes over its 102 years. As the next chapter of Mercy education in Cincinnati begins, we will honor and treasure our past as we look with confidence to the future.



# 2018

*There's nothing like a brand new year and a brand new calendar! Make plans now to join us for one - or all! - of these events. Watch our website and Facebook page for more details.*



Mercy's Gym - Bobcat Basketball vs McAuley. Games at 3:00, 4:30 and 6:00. Reception for alumnae following game.



Theatre festival featuring freshmen and sophomore drama students. All performances at 7:00 pm in the theatre.



Alumnae Open House from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Come and visit all your favorite spots on Mercy's beautiful campus!



Golden Guild celebration for alumnae, Classes 1935-1968. Watch for your invitation!



Come see the work of our talented art students, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm in the Art Department.



Final home game of the regular season for Bobcat Basketball. Come and celebrate Mercy's great BB tradition!



Mercy Gala celebrates with a PROM - Last Dance theme. See pages 26-27 for more details!



Annual Easter Egg Hunt for ages 1-10, rain or shine! Hunt and activities start at 1:00 pm.



Mercy Theater proudly presents "The Dining Room." All performances at 7:30pm in the Sr. Mary Carlos Theatre.



Help us celebrate Mercy's fine tradition of music! All performances at 7:00 in the Sr. Mary Carlos Theatre.



Join us for Mass, closing ceremony and community party as we CELEBRATE MERCY! Watch for more details!



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# *Campus Life*

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The junior class was pleased to receive their Mercy pins in a beautiful ceremony in October. The pins symbolize their status as upperclasswomen and their commitment to becoming women of Mercy. [Rachel Leonhardt '15](#) was the guest speaker. Rachel told the juniors, "Let the way you conduct and present yourselves show everyone what a true Mercy girl looks like. Remember, you can take the girl out of Mercy but you can never take the Mercy out of the girl."

## LOTS GOING ON THIS FALL!

Mercy girls made guest appearances in several big venues this fall. In September, Mercy had the privilege of singing the National Anthem at the Reds Game. Current students and alumnae proudly wore their Mercy blue and carefully followed Mrs. Kim Zang's direction. It was great to be on the field!



Congratulations to Seniors Emma Brueggemeyer, Anna Burger, Kelly Spraul and Jessica Whitman who were named National Merit Commended Students.



A team of Mercy students participated in the 31st annual Prepare Affair. The team helped homeowners in Bond Hill rake leaves, clean gutters and other maintenance chores to get their homes and yards ready for winter.



Three Mercy art students participated in the first annual 2017 Cincinnati Zoo Plein Air Competition! Artists Marian Scuggs, Claire Farrow, and Emma Brueggemeyer created artwork in front of thousands of zoo visitors. Their work was then exhibited at the Cincinnati Art Club's Wessel Gallery in October.



Cast and crew of Mercy Theatre's production of The Little Mermaid were thrilled to travel 'under the sea' with sell-out crowds!



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# *Bobcat Life*

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# STELLAR SEASON FOR FALL SPORTS

Mercy Volleyball certainly had a stellar swan-song season, as district champions going all the way to the Division I regional semi-finals. Many magic moments happened throughout the season. First, Coach **Denise Ortman Harvey '91** had her 300th career win -- on Mercy Day, September 24 -- in the game clinching the Fall Classic Volleyball Tournament championship! Next, in the final home game of the season, all players from both teams, Ursuline and Mercy, joined hands in prayer after the game. **Sister Nancy Merkle '62** led the prayer and closed with "Bless this place, Lord, and bless these people. As we move forward in all we do, we celebrate all that we have. Thank you, loving God of Mercy."



The Golf team had a great season with a record of 19 and 6, won the Best of the West tournament, and had the highest finish at districts in school history with a fifth place finish.

Tennis also enjoyed a good season and was inspired to write a team poem:

*"From early morning rallies in June,  
To watching the pros play,  
This tennis team had enough adventure  
More than this last year of Mercy can say!  
Tennis adds years to your life  
And life to your years,  
Memories to cherish, a bond to hold dear."*

Mercy's Soccer team had a theme for their season: Tied Together. Every team member wore one blue shoelace to represent both the team and the Mercy legacy being tied together, on and off the field, and beyond the final whistle. The Homecoming soccer game brought the Mercy and McAuley soccer programs together and the teams enjoyed pre-game and post-game festivities.



Cross Country also enjoyed a great season, placing 14th at Regionals. Senior Andrea Reinstatler (pictured with assistant coach **Melina Artmayer '13**) qualified for State with an incredible sprint to the finish to place 19th. At the State meet, Andrea placed 85th out of 173 runners. She ran the second fastest time of her career and was the fifth Mercy runner to qualify for State as an individual.

## *Go Bobcats!*

*Our lives are made of  
days and nights,  
of seasons and years,  
for we are part of a universe  
of suns and moons  
and planets.*

*We mark ends and  
we make beginnings  
and, in all,  
we praise God  
for the grace and mercy  
that fill our days.*

*We profess our common faith  
and our hope of eternal resurrection  
for those who have passed through death to new life.*

**ALUMNAE:**

Miriam Stautberg Splain '40  
Norma Von Holle '45  
Joann Koegel Heekin McDermott '48  
Laverne Schmutte Stevens '48  
Mary Ann Bigner Schmidt '50  
Sandra Johnson '54  
Mary Ann Hoffmann Ruebusch '55  
Mary Lou Niemeier Tich '55  
JoAnn Coors '56  
Rosemary Koehlke '56  
Martha Fahey Christman '58  
Phyllis Steinker Scanlon '58  
Kim Visse Cruze '71  
Joyce Witsken Bartish '78  
Lynn Driehaus '78  
Pam Wells Miller '81  
Karen Doerger Corso '84

**HUSBAND OF:**

Naomi Schlosser Centner '41  
Joan Rosfelder Kasper '48  
Connie Carroll Widmer '52  
Marilyn Melson Mueller '53  
Sue Schaaf Rickert '53  
Eileen Hoehn Overbeck '58  
Deanna Hoetker Hurtubise '62  
Gail Vidal Lawson '65  
Carol Dolle Stricker '66  
Angie Heintz Hummeldorf '01

**DAUGHTER OF:**

Arlene Martini Doerger '61  
Denise LaRosa Ciambarella '71

**SON OF:**

Peggy Buttelerwerth Klingensmith '57

**MOTHER OF:**

Marilyn Hockney Yacchari '56  
Barbara Stahl Norton '65  
Lynn Guentner Buckley '66  
Linda Barnes Staat '66  
Kathy Lockwood Ahlers '67  
Mary Woeste Jacobs '67  
Nancy Wiesner Lawrence '67  
Nancy Ahlers Gamm '68  
Janet Guentner Hunter '69  
Jane Woeste Reiff '69  
Patricia Barnes Schulze '71  
Jo Ann Ahlers Breetz '72  
Mary Lynn Lockwood Copeland '72  
Janette Gau Farrand '72  
Mary Ann Winterhalter Stadtmiller '73  
Sandy Kling Voelker '73  
Terry Hess Zeek '73  
Mary Ann Guentner Collins '74  
Patricia Lockwood Maddock '74  
Mary Lee Hess Koopman '75  
Karen Stevens '75  
Ann Honnert Farney '76  
Gayle Guentner Hoenke '76  
Mary Ondeck Van Orman '76  
Kathy Kling Schneider '76  
Janie Winterhalter '76  
Linda Stevens Ketterman '78  
Peggy Winterhalter Schafer '78  
Annie Rosiello Lammers '79  
Rosemary Hess Lytle '79  
Karla Klekamp Kraft '80  
Patricia Ondeck Schmidt '81  
Mary Sue Stevens '81  
Karen Barnes Kurzhals '83  
Amy Hess '84  
Molly Breyer Vance '96  
Megan Flanagan '05  
Laura Cruze '07  
Kaitlyn Miller '11  
Megan Corso '14  
Emily Corso '17

**FATHER OF:**

Janice Niklas Teeter '67  
Peggy Re Kathmann '68  
Cheryl Hudepohl Fehring '69  
Judy Niklas Plogsted '69  
Sandra Barlage Wallace '70  
Paulette Schinkal Corbett '71  
Dianne Re Heileman '71  
Lynne Kasper '71  
Donna Hudepohl Nenandov '71  
Becky Re Hammonds '72  
Sandra Hudepohl Newrath '73  
Sharon Barlage Quinn '74  
Barbara Schinkal Schuermann '76  
Jane Weiler '76  
Maureen Davis Diehl '77  
Suzanne Barlage Martin '77  
Lynn Davis Langenbrunner '78  
Susan Weiler Vasilevic '78  
Denise Davis Bellman '80  
Beth Huhn Keyes '80  
Nancy Wingham Ryan '81  
Kathleen Davis Mazza '83  
Terry Vogelpohl Hudepohl '87  
Claire Conant Dunkam '89  
Jennifer Hudepohl '89  
Mary Beth Overbeck '92

**FORMER FACULTY:**

Sr. Kathy Green RSM  
Susan Zink

*(Mercy has been notified of these deaths  
through November 15, 2017.)*



# Alumnae Life



**Erin Runtz Matteson '98** lives in Virginia Beach, VA and works as a project manager.

**Amber Curry Ardic '01** and her husband are restaurateurs who recently opened Leyla Mediterranean in Anderson Township. Amber says, "My husband is an excellent chef from Turkey. His lifelong dream has been to have his own restaurant. Please stop by Leyla Mediterranean to say hi." They were also blessed with their second daughter, Merve Beritan, in May 2017, joining 2-year old Leyla Rojin.



**Elisabeth Michels Steel '01** has a BS in Bio-engineering from the University of Toledo and a Master of Science from Wayne State University; Elisabeth is a doctoral candidate in biomedical engineering at Wayne State, expecting to graduate with her Ph.D in December. Elisabeth writes, "The last 16 years have been a whirlwind of ups and downs – mostly ups, thanks to the values instilled by my Mercy education and the support from my Circle of Mercy. I married Kevin Steel in 2011, bought our first house in 2013 (right down the street here in Michigan from Mercy High School and Sisters of Mercy convent), welcomed our first son, Ian in 2015 and our second son, Gavin, in October 2016 (2 days before my birthday.) My Catholic theology education was continued at the University of Toledo under the tutelage of Fr. James Bacik, in the esteemed Christian Leadership Scholarship Program, a peer of Fr. Wesseling (former OL Visitation pastor.) I continue to be a voice and activist for women, especially in the STEM field, and now as a mother, am vocal for equal status in the workplace. Thank you, Mercy, and Mercy teachers, for uplifting me into a life of faith and service, respect and love for others."



**Mary Ellen Stockelman Briggs '54** writes: "I am currently Director of our local Pregnancy Resource Center, a member of our Parish Council (Holy Trinity in West Union, Ohio), Board President of the Adams County Senior Services Council. I was a Sister of Mercy (Sr. Mary Elise) from 1954-1987 and served on the faculty and administration at both Mother of Mercy and McAuley High Schools. I married in 1991, at age 55. My husband died of throat cancer in 2006. God continues to use me in many wonderful ways. I am in good health at age 80. I have never been happier and I am grateful for my life. Sometimes I wish I had children, but I have tons of spiritual children. I hope to be able to come if there is a special opening of the new school in 2018."

**Theresa Leininger Miller '82** is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Cincinnati. She holds a Bachelors degree in English and History from Xavier University, plus a Masters degree, M.Phil and Ph.D in History of Art from Yale University.

**Kate Riestenberg Busack '06** graduated from Ohio State University with a Masters in Nursing in 2016. She currently practices as part of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Team at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Kate and husband, Joel were married in June of 2017 and left for a bucket list honeymoon to Italy, Spain, and France in August!



**Kendra Leahy Denlinger '08** has had an eventful 2017! "I married Clinton Denlinger on January 17, 2017 in Lebanon, OH. It was a chilly 13 degrees outside, but the snow served as the perfect background for our winter wedding. Five Mercy girls stood by my side: **Kylie Leahy '08** as my maid of honor, and **Emily Cosker '08, Tammy Roy '08, Megan Green '08 and Christy Green Rebholz '08** as bridesmaids. I was named a recipient of the University of Cincinnati's Presidential Medal of Graduate Student Excellence in the spring and graduated in April with my Ph.D in chemistry."



**Emma Hatch '14**, a senior at Loyola University in Chicago, earned All-Region honors at the NCAA DI Midwest Cross Country Regional, despite the 12-degree windchill, finishing 23rd overall with a time of 20:47, a PR by over thirty seconds. The DI Midwest Region includes 33 teams from nine states.



**Leah Fightmaster Costello '07** graduated from Ohio University with a degree in journalism and has worked as a reporter for The Community Press and a freelance contributor for WCPO. She currently works as a digital media specialist for The Summit Country Day School. She and husband Joe (LaSalle '05) were married in July 2017.



**Olivia Meinhardt '10** has her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology/Spanish from the University of Dayton and works for Great American Insurance in Columbus, Ohio. We send her all good wishes as she is engaged to be married in July 2018.



**Hannah Doll '17**, a freshman at Haverford College in Pennsylvania, qualified to the NCAA DIII National Cross Country Championships in November 2017. Her team earned an at-large bid after coming in third in the Mideast Regional, which included 49 teams from seven states plus the District of Columbia. Hannah was 4th for the Haverford Squirrels, 43 overall in the 6k race with a solid time of 23:31.



### *Last Chance!*

Mercy has shelves full of past yearbooks. If you are interested in purchasing a new one, deeply discounted, please inquire about availability with the Alumnae Office at [alum@motherofmercy.org](mailto:alum@motherofmercy.org) or 513-661-2740, ext. 304



# Reunions

**THE CLASS OF 1956** always is ahead in their reunion plans! Regular luncheons are March 27, June 26 and December 18 at 11:30 am at Nick & Tom's. Also mark your calendar for Sunday, September 16, 2018 at 12:30 pm at LaRosa's (Boudinot Avenue) for the 62nd Reunion! Contact Jan Gibson Mathews at [jan.mathews@fuse.net](mailto:jan.mathews@fuse.net) or (513) 469-1781 for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1958** has begun planning for their 60-year reunion! Mark your calendar for Friday, April 13, 2018 right here at Mercy. Contact Skip Meyer Huhn at (513) 922-8091 or [skiphuhn@gmail.com](mailto:skiphuhn@gmail.com) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1960** has their regular quarterly luncheon February – May – August - November - at LaRosa's on Boudinot at 11:30 am. Next luncheon is Thursday, February 8, 2018. Contact Paulette Sperber Rasche via email at [rasche127@fuse.net](mailto:rasche127@fuse.net) or by phone at (513) 661-9753 for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1963** meets on the second Saturday of every other month at LaRosa's on Boudinot at 12 noon. Next meeting is Saturday, January 13, 2018. In addition, mark your calendar for Sunday, April 15, 2018 for their 55th Reunion at Mother of Mercy. Contact Helen Welge Rohrer at [wesa@fuse.net](mailto:wesa@fuse.net) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1965** looks forward to their semi-annual meetings in March and September. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, March 29, 2018 at LaRosa's on Boudinot at

6:00 pm. Contact Peggy Kleimeyer Tonnis at (513) 923-4256 or Mary Lou Voellmecke Fette at (513) 923-1163 or [leelou@fuse.net](mailto:leelou@fuse.net) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1966** meets quarterly on the second Saturday of the month at noon at the Boudinot LaRosa's. The next luncheon is set for January 13, 2018. Contact Joanne Gandenberger at [jogandy1126@yahoo.com](mailto:jogandy1126@yahoo.com) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1968** has begun planning for their 50-year reunion! Mark your calendar for 3:00-7:00 pm on Saturday, April 7, 2018 right here at Mercy. Stay up-to-date by checking out the Class's Facebook group – Mother of Mercy Class of 1968. Contact Peggy Speer Trentman at [ptrentman@fuse.net](mailto:ptrentman@fuse.net) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1974** meets at Pirates Den on first Wednesday of every other month, 6:00pm till ?? Next gathering is Wednesday, February 7, 2018. Contact Diane Braun Pekel at [dpekel56@gmail.com](mailto:dpekel56@gmail.com) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1978** has begun planning for their 40th reunion! Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Mother of Mercy. Contact Lisa Mahon Fluegeman at [mamalisa.f@gmail.com](mailto:mamalisa.f@gmail.com) if you would like to help or for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1983** has begun planning for their 35-year reunion! Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 14, 2018 at Mother of Mercy, 7-11:00 p.m. Contact Lesa Postel at [lesapostel@hotmail.com](mailto:lesapostel@hotmail.com) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1988** has begun planning for their 30-year reunion! Mark your calendar for Friday, May 4, 2018 right here at Mercy. Contact Becky Berninger Sutton at [bsutton@kemba.com](mailto:bsutton@kemba.com) for more information.

**THE CLASS OF 1993** has begun planning for their 25-year reunion in the spring of 2018 Save the date for Saturday, May 12, 2018 at Mercy. Contact Kate Mitchell at [mitchell\\_k@motherofmercy.org](mailto:mitchell_k@motherofmercy.org) for more information.



THE CLASS OF 2003 has begun planning for their 15-year reunion! Mark your calendar for Friday, April 6, 2018 at Mercy. Stay tuned for more information or contact Jen Stacey Brady at [brady\\_j@motherofmercy.org](mailto:brady_j@motherofmercy.org)!

THE CLASS OF 2008 has begun planning for their 10-year reunion! Save the date for Friday, May 11, 2018 at Mother of Mercy. Stay tuned for more information or contact Kelly O'Conner Taney at [keoconner@gmail.com](mailto:keoconner@gmail.com) or Sarah Durso Stagge at [sedurso@yahoo.com](mailto:sedurso@yahoo.com) for more information.

***Mother of Mercy is deeply grateful for the donations from reunion classes in honor of their milestone celebrations. Your generosity to Mercy tuition assistance goes a long way toward turning our students into women of Mercy like yourselves!***

As you can see, there are many reunions planned and the calendar is pretty full! Please contact Lisa Mahon Fluegeman in the Alumnae Office at 513-661-2740, ext. 304 or by email at [alum@motherofmercy.org](mailto:alum@motherofmercy.org) with any questions.

### ***Join Us!***

Just because it's not a reunion year for you doesn't mean you can't come and enjoy a trip down memory lane! Come and enjoy the next Alumnae Open House on Sunday, March 18, 2018 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Visit all your favorite spots on Mercy's beautiful campus!

Watch for more details for an end-of-the-school-year celebration on Saturday, June 2, 2018. We want to CELEBRATE MERCY!



**ALUMNAE OPEN HOUSE**



# *Mercy* **PROM**

*This is it...* **Celebrate MERCY 1915-2018!**

*What* **Mercy's Gala Saturday, February 17, 2018**

*Where* **Mercy High School Gymnasium**

*Theme song* **Last Dance by Donna Summer**

*Doors Open* **5:30pm**

Be there to relive your PROM NIGHT with your MR. RIGHT!

We will be honoring the faculty and staff over the past 103 years who have dedicated their careers to giving the gift of a Mercy education.

Music and dancing through the eras under the Big Blue Mirror Ball!



Please be part of the biggest assembly of alums to join hands and sing "the Circle of Mercy is timeless." Live and silent items will include Mercy Memorabilia. If you have something you would like to donate, please drop it off in the office or call us to arrange pick up at 513-661-2740 ext 381. Funds raised will be used here at MERCY for 2017-2018 budgeted needs including supplementing tuition costs!

## *Sadie Hawkins Surprise*

Ladies get your PROM PROPOSALS READY!! Think of a unique way to invite your man to this year's Gala...**Mercy Prom**.

Come celebrate Mercy's "LAST DANCE". Document your moment through pictures and submit to [mercygala@motherofmercy.org](mailto:mercygala@motherofmercy.org) The most creative will be crowned MERCY Prom KING and QUEEN! They will be awarded a date night on us! Have FUN!

Office of Institutional Advancement  
3036 Werk Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45211



*May our  
Mother of Mercy  
and the  
Infant Jesus  
bring you  
blessings of  
peace, love and  
joy  
in your heart  
and home  
in the New Year.*