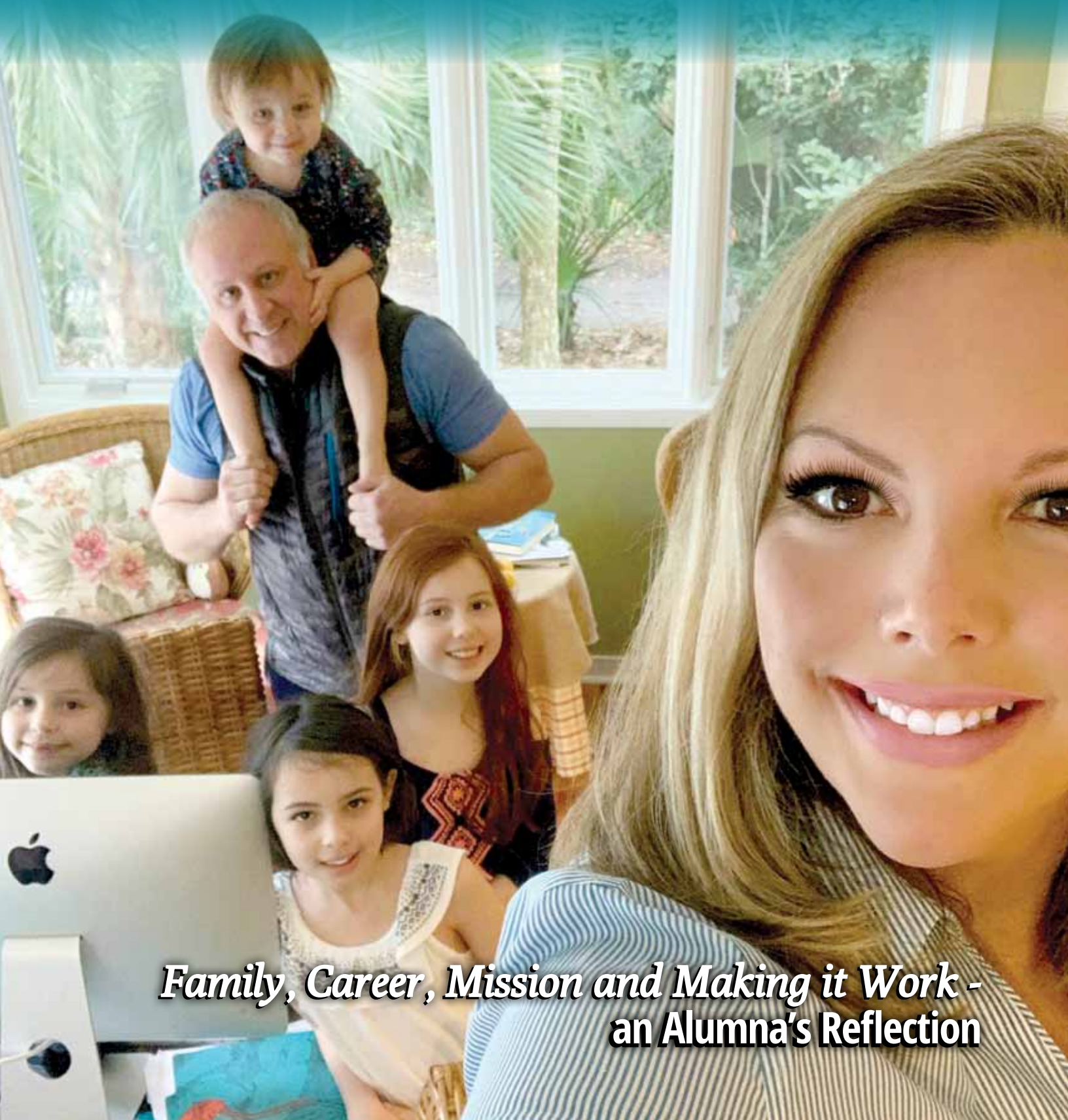


STEM AT MSDA | BREAKING BARRIERS | MOUNT MISSION

The Mount

THE MAGAZINE OF MOUNT ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY | WINTER 2019



*Family, Career, Mission and Making it Work -
an Alumna's Reflection*



FEATURE

- 6 Breaking Barriers**
From toy cars to a 68,000 ton oil rig, **Emily G. Spencer '06** reflects on confidence and her father's encouragement.



AT THE MOUNT

- 7 Robotics**
Mount students team with Seton Hall Prep to promote diversity in STEM.



STUDENTS

- 4 Mounties & STEM**
Students and alumnae totally "mind the gap" and aim to demolish it.



GUEST FEATURE

- 8 Alumna Reflection: Ann O'Rourke Brasco '95** muses on the complexities and simplicities of life, the non-negotiables, and how to have it all.



FEATURE

- 11 #MSDA**
Steeped in tradition yet hashtag savvy, the Mount's students take the social reigns.

DEPARTMENTS

10 Service 12 Arts 13 Athletics 14-15 Alumnae Gatherings & Reunions 16 Events

The Mount

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Mount St. Dominic
ACADEMY

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Friends,

AS AN ALUMNA OF THE MOUNT AND A STAFF MEMBER, I am in the unique position of experiencing my alma mater from several different perspectives, which enviably, this fall, was from a milestone reunion – my 30th. We started in reverence at the Memorial Mass, honoring two classmates gone too soon – Candice Blakely and Laura Tanis – then continued in revelry, lifting a glass to their memory and to those who could not join us. What I experienced that night – the desire to reacquire with each other, the praise for each other's accomplishments, the support for each other's challenges, and the joy of each other's company – was evidence of the intangible bond that is testament to this institution and those who pass through its halls.

Just before Christmas, several of our youngest alumnae (see photo below) stopped by for the annual Catching-up Party. While some are still settling in to the new routine of college life, and others are already preparing to start new jobs in the spring, they were each drawn back by that same bond and desire to reconnect.

And now, here we are, in the early days of 2019. Coinciding is the start of a new year, the beginning of a new semester, and the welcoming of a new group of young women – the accepted students of the Class of 2023 – who have the chance to join the robust legacy of thousands of women before them. As Dean of Academics Marissa Muoio '08 greeted them recently at Accepted Students Night, she spoke of the legacy of our alumnae and the bonds that we share, in addition to the continuing relevance and importance of the Mount's all-girls environment and the role that the mission of empowering young women plays in our modern society. In an inequitable society, where women earn 80 percent of what their male counterparts do, and hold only 30 percent of corporate leadership positions and state legislative seats – the gender gap is real.

Creating a nurturing environment where young women can be inquisitive, can be of service, can be compassionate, can be competitors, can be leaders, and most importantly, can be themselves, is how the Mount is working toward and contributing to an equitable future. As we prepare for the Class of 2023, while bracing to say goodbye to the Class of 2019, the Mount remains a place where young women can find their voice and ignite their passions. Mounties set forth with the confidence and determination that they can be whatever they want to be – a mother, a doctor, an author, an educator, an engineer, a business owner – and much, much more.

We invite you to read on to see just how they're doing it.

Kate Sullivan '88

Director, Alumnae Relations

The Mount
remains a place
where young
women can find
their voice and
ignite their
passions.

Young Alumnae Catching Up Party 2018





STEM @MSDA:

SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | ENGINEERING | MATHEMATICS

SHRINKING THE GENDER GAP IN TECH, ONE MOUNTIE AT A TIME

Women comprise nearly half of the workforce in the United States yet women hold less than 30 percent of all STEM-related (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) jobs across the country and more specifically – just 12 percent of the engineering positions. That “Math” just doesn’t add up. But another “M” is working to shrink that gender gap.

From the school’s earliest years, many Mount St. Dominic Academy alumnae have gravitated toward and excelled at careers in the sciences and medicine - successfully combining the pillars of study and service in pursuit of careers caring for others. But more and more each year, interest in career paths focused on technology and engineering has grown among the school’s students. Initiatives

are underway at the Mount to provide increased access to STEM curriculum as well as club and extracurricular opportunities to drive expanded interest in the fields of technology and engineering. Underscored by the debut of the Mount’s Innovation Center in the fall of 2018, STEM is on the rise at MSDA.

CYBERPATRIOT

Though it sounds like the name of a really cool Harrison Ford movie, “CyberPatriot” is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association (AFA) to inspire youth to consider careers in cybersecurity and other STEM disciplines. **Rebecca “Rex” Fernandes ‘19** and **Catherine “Cat” Morales ‘20**, representing the Mount in the nationwide competition, have been given the assignment of serving as IT professionals in charge of managing the network of a small company. The Mount’s CyberPatriots are actively competing against similar teams representing middle and high

schools throughout the country, all working to identify cybersecurity vulnerabilities, harden systems and maintain critical services – during intense and carefully monitored 6-hour weekend sessions.

“Participating in the CyberPatriot program is a wonderful opportunity to develop the skills to protect oneself in the connected world

“We’ve used our
determination, problem-
solving skills, and
perseverance to push
through the competition,
and after two rounds we are
advancing to States.”

–Cat Morales ’20

up for that role as president of the Mount’s Coding Club, Cat has enjoyed the CyberPatriot program. Working alongside her friend Rex to discover and utilize new concepts for problem-solving and maintaining cybersecurity in today’s connected world, Cat remarked, “even though there are just two of us, we’ve used our determination, problem-solving skills, and perseverance to push through the competition, and after two rounds, we are advancing to States in the Silver Division.”

Working with her coding compatriots, Cat looks forward to bringing as much technology as possible to the Mount. Their goals include learning how to utilize various types of code, creating new software, producing products that will enhance the school’s ability to communicate and be safe on and offline, and discovering how coding can impact their lives.



L to R: Cat Morales ’20 and Rex Fernandes ’19 participated in CyberPatriot

that we live in,” noted Elizabeth Rogacki, science teacher and head of the Mount’s technology team. “The competition also encourages critical thinking and problem-solving which will be paramount as the future brings more automation to the workplace.”

With her sights set on a career in computer science and warming

MSDA ALUMNA IN STEM @IBM

Monique
Outerbridge ’88

recently
rejoined the
team at IBM as
a Senior Man-
aging Consul-
tant, providing
advice and
counsel to cli-
ents primarily



in the federal health/public service sectors. Since studying computer systems engineering as an undergrad at Howard University, Monique has been working in the IT sector, including roles focused on cybersecurity, with earlier positions at IBM, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Federal Drug Administration and Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey. But STEM wasn’t always on her mind:

“My initial entry into the STEM field wasn’t something that I propelled myself into – it actually was suggested by my senior advisor while at the Mount. But even after majoring in Computer Systems Engineering at Howard University, the IT bug still hadn’t totally bitten. It wasn’t until I started working at Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey where I began to appreciate the direct impact technology has on everyday lives. As my career took me to the federal government managing our nationwide Medicare systems then onto leading the system implementation of our most modern overhaul of healthcare with the Affordable Care Act, one thing became clear; my passion for IT is tightly woven with my desire to help people and ensure technology enhances, not overwhelms, their lives. The STEM field offers endless possibilities to affect our existence and the people working in STEM are accountable for that impact. Bringing more diversity and, therefore, varied life experiences to STEM fields will improve the evaluation of effect.”

Mechanical Engineer Emily G. Spencer '09 Reflects on Rigs, Racecars and Confidence

LEARNING THE BUSINESS OF OIL, ON LAND AND OFFSHORE

Nearly a decade after graduating from Mount St. Dominic Academy, Emily G. Spencer, class of 2009, currently spends a great deal of time out on the water in the Gulf of Mexico - working on an offshore oil rig!

In her role as a Rig Manager Trainee for Transocean, a leading international provider of offshore contract drilling services for oil and gas wells, Emily is part of the operations department and a program that trains new recruits for management positions. Back and forth between the Deepwater Asgard and the Transocean offices in Houston, Emily works with her Rig Manager to learn the intricacies of each of the positions involved in the day-to-day operations of the rig, while also attending meetings to have a working knowledge of the commercial side of the drilling business as well.

In her years since graduating from the Mount, Emily has been pursuing her career as an engineer - beginning with earning her undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering with honors from Stevens Institute of Technology, and an Oil and Gas Engineering Post-Graduate Certificate from the University of Aberdeen. However, she really started her journey to the middle of the Gulf of Mexico and her love of the mechanics of things much earlier than that.

"While many fathers may not have thought to include their daughters in the garage, my dad did, and I didn't have to ask," said Emily. "He would even buy a lot of racecar themed toys for me as a toddler and all throughout my childhood - encouraging my early love of cars and my curiosity about the way things worked."

Time spent in the garage with her dad working on cars, and her parents' encouragement buoyed her interest in engineering before she even knew where that could take her. During her time at the Mount, Emily's physics teacher, Mrs. Elizabeth Rogacki, encouraged her students with an interest and aptitude for physics and other sciences to consider studying engineering, and that's when her path started taking shape.

"It was through some simple internet research that I learned how several disciplines of engineering could work in offshore drilling - an area of great interest to me," Emily noted. She decided to pursue mechanical engineering not only because that specialty would



prepare her for offshore drilling roles, but also its applicability to the automotive industry - a career safeguard against the turbulent nature of the oil industry.

While she credits her father with instilling in her the ability to brush off any commentary about why she chose a "boy's job," she attributes the atmosphere at the Mount that empowers young women to be the best they can be and challenge the status quo as contributing to her self-confidence.

"Confidence is an important skill to develop because it is one of the first things that people notice," Emily said. "This allowed me to be unbothered when walking into my mechanical engineering orientation where I was one of five women among 100 men, and this continues today as the oil and gas business is notoriously male dominated. I can board a rig and be unbothered by the fact that I might be one of just two women on a ship with 150 men. I am here because I want to be and I enjoy the challenge."

“Confidence is an important skill to develop because it's one of the first things that people notice.”



“DOMO ARIGATO *MISS* ROBOTO”

Students code and team up with SHP to promote diversity in STEM

AS PART OF THE EVOLVING CURRICULUM AT MOUNT ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY AIMED AT EXPANDING THE STUDENTS' AWARENESS OF AND ACUMEN FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, FRESHMEN ARE ABLE TO TAKE THE COURSE “UTILIZING TECHNOLOGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY” WHICH IS BROKEN INTO TWO SECTIONS: DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CODING. Juniors and seniors have the opportunity to gain hands on experience and further their coding abilities with “Introduction to Robotics and Computer Programming.” As part of this course under the direction of Mrs. Rogacki, students learn basic programming and problem solving strategies to complete various challenges in robot function and activity. Students are also able to further their computer science studies with online coursework, including AP classes and engineering studies.

New for the school year 2018-19, the Mount has teamed up with Seton Hall Prep on the expansion of their respective robotics clubs. This combined club “Team 5992” has created a new opportunity for the two schools to work together and learn together – giving the students a head start in the development of the interpersonal

skills and critical thinking that are required in a successful tech-focused work environment. The team at Seton Hall also noted of the collaboration, “Opening Team 5992 to MSDA marks a significant step in promoting diversity and women in the STEM movement. We firmly believe in equal opportunity for everyone to succeed, and we see sharing our facilities with others as a significant advancement towards achieving that goal.”



The Art of Auspicious Chaos and Having It All

GUEST ALUMNA BYLINE: Ann O'Rourke Brasco '95, *Oprah Insider*

Read the directions, follow the instructions, roll up your sleeves, work hard, show up early, stay late, expect less, demand more, depend on yourself, and learn to pry away at locks on doors you want to open. Like so many of us, this is what I have done because it was what we needed to do.

As a young girl, I knew I could not be all things but I must be many things. I understood, as women, we must be a locksmith to those rusty, chain-tied locks. This was the daunting part.

And then there is the inspiring part. Work has been done and work is underway with grit and grace. On the forefronts, women fought and continued to fight for a place at the table in boardrooms, courtrooms, in voting booths, and on factory and senate floors. Educators in the trenches were equipping us with tools to make an authentic impact along whatever road we chose to journey.

Paths were plowed by those who persevered before us. Aunts, mothers, matriarchs, and ancestors have paid for the crowns so many of us are too timid to wear. From the flames of this sacrifice, an enduring question rises up amidst the smoldering ash. How can we have it all?

How we can be impactful in our work, meaningful in our homes, and compassionate in our communities presents like a 10,000 piece puzzle.

The burden of this question weighed on my early life. I wanted to be a mom. I wanted to be a success and I wanted to circumvent mistake. I wondered whether the choices I would make would come at a price not fully realized until later.

As we left the safe harbors of high school for a promising future, I watched many friends follow a carefully charted course. Many friends carefully chose a course of study, followed a profession through, met a mate, and seemingly began a family on schedule.

~
"I can see that my experience,
in times of struggle and celebration, were
preparing me for what lies ahead."
~

By contrast, my course ran more like an odyssey amidst tempests and squalls. I changed majors, mates, jobs, and charted one point at a time in my foggy trek. My compass: my sense of calling or purpose.

In a little over two decades that followed my time at the Mount, I attained my Master's in Social Work from NYU, treated patients on a lockdown psychiatric unit, left my clinical work to build and grow a transportation business with my husband, developed a writing career, rescued three dogs, and had four beautiful daughters.

Around the time I turned forty, we moved to a coastal barrier island, bought a property management company with a business mission and social mission, and focused on living a life of clear intention.

And throughout the adventure, the question of how to have it all would resurface. How do we make all of this work? I would ask the universe, and it seemed the universe would ask me.

I hold the answers less a matter of instruction and more a matter of perspective. There is the part that realizes the gift of time - you have just one glorious life to live fully, past your limits and with full intent.

I share my thoughts on perspective with you below. These are my six foundations upon which I build the simplicities and complexities of life. Take what you like, leave the rest, and continue the conversation with those who matter:



1 Do not wait to be fully prepared to show up

but not let the dragging weight of perfectionism hold us in place. Perfectionism is a vehicle for procrastination. Very good and done is often better than perfect and pending. We fail at many things not because we are weak but because we are human and we are learning. It is difficult and yet necessary to proceed even when fear and doubt are present.

2 Identify the non-negotiable

were sitting down to dinner each night with my daughters, living more deliberately, and worshipping together on Sundays to pause with gratitude for this life.

These inviolables seem to share Pierre Teilhard de Chardin's sentiment, "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Protect what you love. When we find we have strayed from our priorities and get it all wrong, we must find the strength to start over.

3 Stay connected

reach my goals without a community of coworkers, mentors, family, and friends to lean on. We go further together. We need caregivers who raise our children with affection and respect. We need educators, like my mom, Patricia O'Rourke, (who passed in 2014) and the Caldwell Dominicans, who educate the whole person. We need friends who bear witness rather than judgment. We need sisterhoods who offer truth steeped in compassion. We need to show up for

1. Fully prepared is a mirage ten feet in front of us at all times. We must work hard and practice radical kindness

2. What is specifically non negotiable to each soul is as unique as their own fingerprint. My own non-negotiables

3. I do not delegate well. I tend to isolate when stressed. The truth of my wholeness, however, is that I could never

each other. We need to stay present in the now of each other's lives.

4 Plan for the unexpected

It seems that there are a multitude of ways to get to joy and to arrive at whole living. At the same time, the unexpected happens to all of us. No life remains untouched by loss, disease, disappointment, or tragedy. Unexpected sorrows and great joys await us all. The more we can lean into both, with our eyes open, the more we experience our fullest lives.

5 Self care

committed to others. Pause, recalculate and change course as needed. To forgive both others and ourselves is essential.

Some days I impress even myself while other days I search for my seemingly lost cell phone while talking on it. We will misstep. We will work incredibly hard. We will get hurt by others. It is all part of the deal. We will corral lessons amidst the chaos and celebrate successes beyond what we ever thought possible. When we accept our humanity with love and grace, and some levity, we further open the doorway to possibility.

6 Give and give again

everything at once but we can have much more than we imagined. Life reveals we can have everything we need when, in spiritual irony, we help others to have what they need. In over forty years on this earth, life unveils this astounding truth to me repeatedly - we give and we receive.

4. A key to having a full life is, in part, planning. A key to misery is expecting life to go according to that plan.

5. Sacrifice and self care are not exclusive of one another. Self care is not selfish but rather the hallway to a life

6. We do not have time, rather we make time. Valuing priorities more than time itself was key for me. We cannot have

It seems these contingent points of life milestones may be less random than they seem. Clinical strengths I developed in my early work are not wasted in my work with staff, clients, my children, my writing, and in my own self reflection. The more I reflect the more I can see that my experience, in times of struggle and celebration, were preparing me for what lies ahead.

Perhaps these seemingly random dots on life's grid are part of a grand design strung together by a master seamstress - a tailor whose design is beyond my comprehension and who I aim to grow closer to in each day of my existence. Our universe is truly a series of constellations of light, heat, energy, chaos and awe inspiring grand design.



CBS This Morning co-anchor and Oprah BFF, Gayle King, shares the spread with Ann in the December 2018 *O Magazine* Holiday edition.

Ann Brasco

Ann's work is featured in *Huffington Post*, *Oprah Magazine*, *Thrive Global*, *Mind Body Green*, *Role Reboot*, *The Good Men Project*, *Everyday Feminism*, *The Newark Star Ledger*, *NJ.com*, *The Seabrooker*, among other publications. She is the author of *Sweetie's Search for a Forever Home in the Garden State*, a children's book about her courageous rescue dog.

Ann is an *O Magazine* Insider and was featured in the December 2018 issue of *O Magazine*. To read more about her work and life with four spirited little girls on Seabrook Island, SC, visit her website annbrasco.com. and follow her on Facebook or Instagram @AnnBrasco.

Snapshot on Service

Mission and being of service to others runs deep within Mount community

Mission is one of the four Dominican Pillars that Mount St. Dominic Academy was founded on, and an intrinsic characteristic of so many of the young women that attend the school.

Each month, students visit Toni's Kitchen Food Ministry at St. Luke's Church in Montclair and Franciscan Charities' St. Ann's Soup Kitchen in Newark to lend a helping hand to our neighbors in need. Sister Lena Picillo, OP, head of campus ministry, is in awe of the students and how they so readily give of themselves, but the bonds to these ministries go even deeper than our current Mount students.

TONI'S KITCHEN

Toni's Kitchen welcomes its guests with a 'warm embrace of hospitality,' which for the past nearly four years has been made that much more welcoming by Mount alumna **Tara Pellegrino Chowaniec '92**. Tara began as the mission's Assistant Director in 2015 and currently serves as a consultant representing Toni's in the community, continuing to build connections to serve the most vulnerable populations. According to Tara, the soup kitchen is and has always been the heart and soul of Toni's mission, but today, in addition to serving hot and healthy meals in an environment of respect, they also provide health screenings for high blood pressure and glucose monitoring, along with mental health support within the soup kitchen setting. In addition, Toni's has expanded the service beyond the dining room with the Healthy Backpacks initiative. Each week, through the generosity of sponsors and volunteers, Toni's provides more than 200 food-insecure children in community-based programs with a backpack filled with healthy non-perishables and fresh produce —enough for several family meals.



Tara Pellegrino Chowaniec '92

ST. ANN'S

Each year, St. Ann's provides more than 100,000 home-cooked, nutritious meals to those in need in a safe, warm and welcoming environment. Other services provided by Franciscan Charities such as a food pantry, children's services and annual coat, toy and school backpack drives that help deliver warmth and happiness to families throughout the Newark community are operated under the direction of Melissa Lucanie, President of the Board of Franciscan Charities and mom to Mount junior **Tess Lucanie '20**.

Tess started volunteering at the soup kitchen alongside her mother at a very early age, and has grown up with service and a sense of mission as a very important part of her life. She has spent summers volunteering with the ministry's Summer Literacy Program where she learned first hand the many struggles that children in need have, including access to basic school supplies. Remembering her early days in school when shopping for supplies was so exciting, Tess wanted the children of the mission to have that experience as well. In 2017, she organized a drive that provided more than 100 backpacks to local children. Realizing the need was even greater than anticipated, this past summer, after more hard work and lots of networking, Tess was able to gather more than 400 donated backpacks, ensuring that those 400 children would be prepared for and excited about the coming school year.



Tess Lucanie '20

The Mount community is grateful to Tara, Tess, and Mrs. Lucanie for doing so much to help so many. This alumna, student and Mount mom are providing MSDA students with the opportunity to positively impact the lives of others and learn that their service absolutely makes a difference toward creating a kinder and more compassionate world.

#MSDA GOES SOCIAL

THE MOUNT OF 2019 IS MORE #SOCIAL THAN EVER AND THE STUDENTS ARE TAKING OVER.

Just before Christmas break, the MSDA Lip Dub 2018 made its debut on YouTube and has already amassed close to 3,000 views. Months of planning and hard work by the students supported by the school's faculty and staff resulted in a five minute video that features the entire student body and showcases the Mount's class years, athletic teams, clubs, and facilities, as well as the school's spirit and camaraderie in a modern and fun way. Visit <https://goo.gl/bvwWyM> to check it out and share.

With more than 1 billion active monthly users ranking as the second most engaged social network after Facebook, Instagram is the go to channel for the Mount's Generation Z students. #TakeoverTuesday has seen several Mount students take the helm of the school's Insta account, delivering a sneak peek into the daily life of a Mount student.

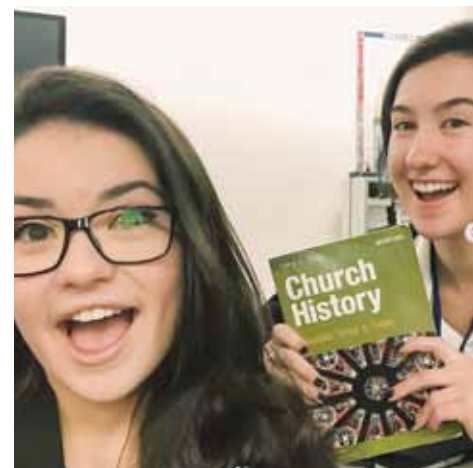
#Mount Monday profiles posted on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter showcase an MSDA teacher, staff member or alumnae, and feature personal musings on life, family, career, service, the Mount, and more. #Transformation Tuesday features highlight a current Mount student and in her own words, discusses what the Mount means to her, and the impact the school and the sisterhood have had on her life. Make sure to follow all the Mount's social media channels for the most up to date news and insider views.



@MSDAcademy



@MSDALumnae



The Mount Stage

FALL PRODUCTION

Magically, over the course of a few weeks in the fall of 2018, the Mount's Doris M. Byrne Performing Arts Center transformed into a mythical wooded fairyland that served as the backdrop for "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Performing to packed houses with audiences bemused by a humorous love triangle and band of theatrical players, the theater students and tech team did an amazing job learning the complexities of a Shakespearean comedy and delivered a delightful performance.



Photo © Fred Goode

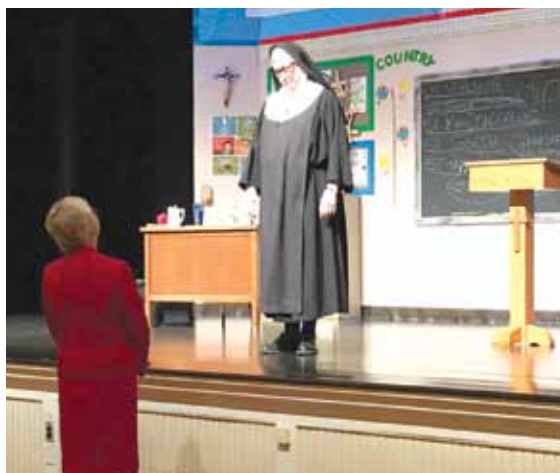
SAVE THE DATE: "HAIRSPRAY" FEBRUARY 28/MARCH 1-3, 2019

Spring 2019 brings to the stage the exploration of "inappropriate hair height" in the musical "Hairspray." Playbill 'teases' the musical in this way: "A girl achieves her dream of performing on a TV dance show in 1960s Baltimore — and works to integrate the show in the process — in this musical version of the John Waters film." Visit www.msda.booktix.com for ticket information.



LATE NITE CATECHISM

Off-Broadway came to Ryerson Avenue with a one-night-only performance of the one-woman production, "Late Nite Catechism." The evening began with a sold-out supper of meatloaf and string beans in the cafeteria and continued with an interactive and highly entertaining two-hour catechism class led by 'Sister,' that included involvement from MSDA alumnae, faculty and Head of School Sister Fran Sullivan. A traditional bake sale at intermission and late night 50/50 that ultimately awarded the winner with \$4,000 (and another \$4,000 for the school) rounded out the hugely fun and successful evening with all proceeds supporting the Mount.



MOUNT STUDENT ATHLETICS NEWS

SIGNINGS & ATHLETICS



Hannah Maqsudi '19 signed her National Letter of Intent to attend Sacred Heart University as a Student-Athlete for soccer.



Dani Dabroski '19 signed her National Letter of Intent to attend Villanova University as a Student-Athlete for softball.



Johanna Rivera '19 signed her National Letter of Intent to attend Felician University as a Student-Athlete for softball.



Julianna Bender '19 signed her National Letter of Intent to attend College of the Holy Cross as a Student-Athlete for swimming.



NEVER MISS A MOUNT GAME

The Mount is excited to be partnering with alumna **Kiki Enderle '88** and her company NFHS Network to broadcast Lady Lions athletic events – LIVE. State of the art camera equipment has been installed in the Athletic Center and all sporting events will be streamed live and on demand through the NFHS Network. This new partnership provides families with access to MSDA sporting events they may not be able to attend in person, whether they'd like to stream live from a phone, laptop or smart TV or view at a later date. Visit the Mount website for more details and subscription information.



FALL SPORTS

The Lady Lions **CROSS COUNTRY** Team had a successful fall season, finishing up with a record of 9-2 and a strong third-place finish in the Super Essex Conference Liberty Division standings. Head coach Richard O'Connor noted, "We had a strong season this fall led by a solid group of upperclassmen."



A team in development, Mount **FIELD HOCKEY** finished the season at 4-16, but according to head coach Alexis Ambrosino, that record is not reflective of the team's progression and improvement throughout the season. With improvements on the team front as well as the individual skill level, Miss Ambrosino is looking forward to a promising season next year.



A Super Essex Conference Liberty Division championship capped off **SOCCER** for the Mount, finishing with a regular season record of 11-6-2. With no more than two goals scored against them in any one game, as well as 11 shut outs, the Mount team truly came to play all season long.



According to *The Caldwell Progress*, "The MSDA **TENNIS** team turned things around this season. After finishing with just one victory in 2017, the team improved to 10-8." According to head coach **Brianna Turano '10**, "the team really stepped up this year. Not only was our overall record better, but they came together and were determined to win. In practices, they worked on what they struggled with in matches, and in matches they always played their best tennis."



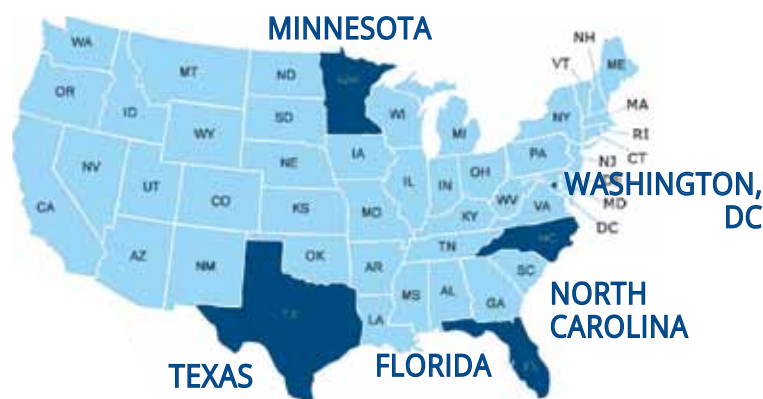
With a 25-7 record, Mount **VOLLEYBALL** turned in a remarkable season that started with a win at the Prep Tournament – the Mount's first since 2013 – with impressive contests against Lawrenceville and Kent Place. Adding excitement to the season, **Jessica Sanderson '19** became the first player in Mount history to reach 1,000 kills and **Joelle Perrone '19** became the first player to accomplish 1,000 digs.



MOUNT on the MOVE

THE WEATHER WAS BALMY WHEN THE "MOUNT ON the Move" get-togethers began in August 2018. The first stop, just down the road from the Caldwell campus, was the Verona Inn, where 21 alumnae spanning class years from six decades enjoyed an evening of friendship and a festive raffle of MSDA gear. As the leaves began to turn, the road trip headed south for a riverside ladies lunch on September 29 at the Navesink Country Club which was the perfect host for 15 MSDA alumnae and served for some as just one aspect of a weekend long mini-reunion. A few weeks later at the end of October, Sister Fran changed from a car to a train and headed east to New York City, meeting up with 23 Mounties for an evening of festive fellowship amidst a Halloween-festooned Lillie's Victorian Establishment in Union Square. These events would not have been possible without the support of so many alumnae, especially **Lauren Connell Madia '99**, **Mairead Costello Clifford '89** and **Amanda Azzinnari '10**, who each played an instrumental role in the planning of these welcoming gatherings.

Planning for the 2019 leg of the 'Mount Tour' is taking shape with events hosted by Sister Fran in the works in Florida (end of March/early April), North Carolina (late April) and Washington, DC (early May), with other local gatherings being sorted out in Texas and Minnesota.* All alumnae in those regions will be notified directly by mail and/or email, and alerts will be posted on the alumnae Facebook page as well.



VERONA



JERSEY SHORE



NEW YORK CITY

*Dates subject to change

MSDA Security Update: New Procedures for Visiting the Mount

MOUNT ST. DOMINIC ACADEMY WELCOMES VISITS FROM OUR COMMUNITY members during regular business hours throughout the year. In an effort to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff, a new security system with updated protocols has been implemented throughout the high school. The interior student spaces have all been equipped with state of the art locks and, in some cases, new doors that require an activated Mount ID to access. All visitors, including alumnae as well as current and past parents, should plan to enter the school at the entrance closest to the school's main office – the right-hand side door leading into Aquinas Hall (opposite the Athletic Center). Visitors will be required to be buzzed in by the main office and sign in to receive a visitor's pass. Students, faculty and staff have been advised not to hold the doors open for anyone who is not wearing a Mount ID badge, so please do not view this measure as inhospitable, but as a precaution to maintain a safe and secure environment for the Mount's students and employees.



Fall 2018 MSDA Milestone Reunions



40TH REUNION - 1978

The Mount's Class of 1978 celebrated their 40th reunion in October at Caldwell Flowerland with classmates traveling from as far as California, Arizona, and Florida. With some connecting for the first time in 40 years, classmates and friends enjoyed a memorable celebration that included prayers, reflections, music from the 70's, a catered dinner by Stephanie's, all orchestrated by a committee of 14 classmates that began their planning a full year in advance.

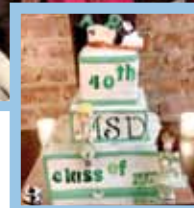
Carol Walsh '78 created a special cake adorned with class colors (green and white), girls chewing bubble gum and a saddle shoe. Special guests included Sister Jean Adrienne, OP, Sister Donna Marie O'Brien, OP, Sister Pat Crowley, OP, and Sister Marie Mueller, OP.

The Class of 1978 felt strongly about giving back to the Mount and along with a very generous donation of over \$1,000, also purchased a brick paver to memorialize their reunion.



1973-45TH REUNION

The Class of 1973 celebrated their 45th reunion over the course of two days in October, including a reception at the Mount, a moving presentation of photos, and dinner at Calandra's.



1988 - 30TH REUNION

In honor of the big 80s, AquaNet was in the house as the MSDA Class of 1988 gathered first at the Mount's annual Memorial Mass, followed by a rousing tour and a fun-filled dinner down the hill at Calandra's.



25TH REUNION - 1993

The Mount's Class of 1993 went up the hill to the Highlawn Pavilion where classmates celebrated their 25th reunion in style and with one of the best views anywhere in New Jersey.





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EVENTS AND NEWS

For more information,
visit msdacademy.org/events

FEB
14

2019
THURSDAY

DAY
OF
GIVING
MSDA

FEB
28

2019
THURSDAY

MAR
1-3

2019
FRIDAY
SATURDAY
SUNDAY

SPRING
PRODUCTION:
HAIRSPRAY
Doris M. Byrne
Performing Arts
Center

MAR
22

2019
FRIDAY

DADS
NIGHT
OUT
The
Clubhouse,
Montclair

MAR
28

2019
THURSDAY

TRICKY
TRAY
Valley
Regency,
Clifton

APR
7

2019
SUNDAY

MOTHER
DAUGHTER
COMMUNION
BREAKFAST
Birchwood
Manor,
Whippany

MAY
2

2019
THURSDAY

CAPSTONE
SYMPOSIUM
MSDA

MAY
4

2019
SATURDAY

MOUNT SAINT DOMINIC
MSDA '05K
MEGHAN DOYLE



The 5th Annual MSDA Meghan Doyle '05K will be held on Saturday, May 4. Help Meghan's family and the Mount community carry on the spirit of this spirited alumna while raising important funds in support of the Mount's financial assistance program. The run/walk event is a wonderful way to get outside, connect with classmates and support the Mount. Visit www.msdacademy.org for more race information.

HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Keep the Mount updated with your family, social, and professional news.



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