



## A Fixed Star

The transition from high school to university can often be traumatic, a leap into the dark for some, like Columbus sailing into the unknown. Many, of course, experience a seamless passage on a known journey which is prepared for well in advance. Some others though have to sail through rough seas trying to reach a safe berth. For them, resources, marks, distance, and programs may all have to be considered as factors to be weighed.

Last year one of our graduating students, Dylan Lamaca, had heart set on the Rotman Commerce program at the University of Toronto. As that 'became

less of a reality' he felt discouraged, having invested so much hope in U of T. deflated, he was reluctant to look into other options until Mrs. Williams in our Guidance Department stressed the old adage that an obstacle can be a blessing in disguise, that makes you better and more successful in the long run. And so it came to pass. Taking her advice, not eagerly, he settled on Huron College at Western University which turned out to be a perfect fit and the source of many successes, and one major victory in a hotly contested Entrepreneurship competition. All of this is summarized beautifully for our readers by Dylan himself in a very telling and insightful rendition of a young mind grappling with an uncertain fu-

ture. It is so effective that every one of our senior students, should, and will, get a picture of the mental and emotional topography we all must experience. It is universal. The destination in this tale, though attained, turns out to be less existential and pertinent than the journey. Readers can easily sense that a business course, or any course, can become a passion if the stars are aligned. We see it here. We must note with satisfaction Dylan's conviction that Del's influence in the shaping of his character, deep and permanent had a strong effect on his resilience, drive and stability. For each generation, the good news is that Del is still Del. Nothing has changed. Del is the one constant in an ever-changing world. It is indeed a fixed star.

Now dear reader, enjoy Dylan's story as told by Dylan.

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As my first year at Western comes to an end, I cannot help but feel sentimental. Not only because I successfully completed a big step in my life, but I also thought of the experiences that help lead me here. During my seven long years at Del, every day was a learning experience. I always tell younger students, especially my brother, to never take your time at Del for granted. It can get easy to get caught up in the strict academic regiment, the constant deadlines and the sometimes hectic atmosphere that we are all accustomed to. However, your time at Del truly does prepare you for life at university and beyond. I encourage younger students to make the most of their time at Del. **Cont'd on PG 4**

# A Summer Message from Brother Domenic



Dear Alums:

In March of this current year, I wrote to the parental community and expressed my gratitude to all those who in some way contributed financially beyond tuition fees they pay for their children. Their help has been essential in helping the school remain in a very sound financial condition. In addition, to financial gifts made by parents, a host of parent volunteers assist the school in so many useful ways. The Parents' Association, the Oaklands Shoppe, and others who lend a helping hand with many other activities. As well, we need to be very grateful for the dedication and diligence of our Business, Development and Facilities Offices, and the Administration that ensure that things work well and in providing competitive salaries and benefits for teachers, including the handling of the regular operational costs just as any school would. I believe we try hard to ensure a sound academic program that prepares our students well for university and college and that

there is something for everyone in our co-curricular activities.

As you may be aware tuition fees at De La Salle are significantly lower than other independent schools. Additionally, our scholarship and bursary programs assist over 110 students at the College. I cannot stress enough how important this is to the Lasallian educational mission. I do not know of many other communities where current parents, for example, are so willing to support the school's efforts to raise funds for needy students. This says a lot about the degree to which the parent community understands and shares the mission of our institution. I believe this to be a defining characteristic of our community – thankfully.

Beyond our community, others in the wider community help also. Here, I should like to express my gratitude on your behalf to Treasure Hill Corporation, the company doing the town-house development on the lower campus, which has funded the replacement of the arena roof, completed just recently. We are very grateful for the generosity of the owner, Nicholas Fidei and his staff. Thank you to each and all.

At De La Salle, we will continue to ask those who can to be generous. I wish to acknowledge those alums who contributed to the Giving Days, the Annual Fund and came out to the recent Father Luchka Memorial Golf Tournament which was very successful this year.

Your generosity bears fruit for other young people and provides a good example to our students about the Christian imperative of charity and service to those less fortunate. Recently, I reviewed the tuition fees of several schools. It is hard to imagine how families, even

those, who are gifted with fortunate financial situations, can afford the expenses of sending a child, not to mention more than one, to private school. We need to be concerned about this as an independent education of any kind, much less a Catholic one, cannot be allowed to be merely a safe haven only for those with the resources to pay. This is counter-intuitive and contrary to Catholic social justice, in my opinion. If we remain indifferent to this imperative, we will all pay a price. A good education is always the key to progress.

We do have coming up several more components to our over-all plan to upgrade and enhance our facilities. It is my hope that later this year renovations to the De La Salle Centre building will commence. The entire interior of the building will be revamped to house new science laboratories and innovation classes. While this project is being done, the building committee and I will continue to work with our architect to push forward site approvals for the new gymnasium and the refurbishing of the existing gym space.

There is lots to do. First, your prayers that all goes smooth. Second, I ask you to consider a financial gift to assist us with our works. No gift, generously given, is too small to be insignificant; everything helps. In the end, it is the sincerity of the "widow's pence" and the concern of the "rich young man" that will make the difference and keep the Catholic mission of the College true to its objectives and purpose. Real generosity and service consist in believing in the welfare and interests of others. May the Good Lord bless you and your loved ones.

Yours respectfully,

Brother Domenic, fsc



## Guilty

We plead guilty. When it comes to praising the successes gained by our little school we do not hold back. We are deliberately lavish when we applaud the accomplishments of our graduates especially when an exceptional triumph has been realized. The purpose of this little note is to trumpet a truly exceptional victory. In the world of debating and public speaking the competitors usually begin at a provincial level and then move up to a national level. Winners of national titles can move on to the World Championships. These championships are held annually in various cities around the world. The debaters come from elite schools in many countries so the competition is very spirited. According to Mr. Bellisario, DEL's renowned debating coach, it is extremely unusual, in his recollections, to have any school repeat as winners. It is just too difficult.

However, De La Salle has overthrown the settled order, cut the Gordian Knot and set a new precedent, perhaps never to be equaled. The World Champion for 2019 is this year's Vale-



dictorian Megan Campbell. Four years ago, the same title was won by her brother Connor Campbell. Since the world is very big and DEL, as noted, is very small, we must cherish this unique achievement. No two debaters from the same school ever managed this feat. The Campbell siblings have dominated the debating world dramatically: Two world titles from the same school and the same family. In this great Cathedral of Creation many wonders visit us to entertain, delight or threaten. From dazzling comets to vicious volcanoes to delightful little hummingbirds the Creator is varied in His visitations. One of these he bestowed on De La Salle. It was a few short centuries coming, since La Salle founded his schools in France in 1719, but it came. We humbly rejoice in our champions because we understand the necessary labours required. So, if we are happy with our little school, we must admit we are guilty.

## The Summer 2019 Signum Fidei issue is brought to you by:

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You never know what you may take away from it, and how you can use it to be successful in other aspects of your life in the future.

Time management and a work ethic are two essential tools that all Del students learn at some point during their tenure at the College. From scrambling to get an assignment done on the way home from a basketball game, to the long nights studying for exams, the work seemingly never stops. There are so many ways that students can get involved, such as being on a sports team or participating in a club, so being able to handle it all leads to success at all levels. Luckily, everyone at Del wants to see you succeed and are willing to help you reach your goals. The faculty, much like the student body, is there for a reason. That constant support system was something I took for granted, but now it is crucial part of my success in university so far.

A great example of this was through my interactions with Mrs. Williams, my guidance councillor during my Grade 12 year. She was instrumental in helping me choose my university, and her guidance during the year is something that I am truly grateful for. I will always remember visiting her office to tell her about my acceptances, and to ask her for advice. My original plan was to go to U of T and their Rotman Commerce program. Unfortunately, when that was becoming less of a reality, I felt discouraged. I felt as if I was unprepared to take on another option because I had invested a lot into UofT. Mrs. Williams saw it differently. She kept driving home the fact that backup plans exist for a reason. Just because you do not get into your "dream" choice does not mean you are a failure. It could turn out to be a blessing in disguise, something that actually makes you better and allows you to be more successful in the long run. After

spending a year at Huron at Western, I can definitely say that I have made the perfect choice for me. If it was not for her help, I may not have been as comfortable exploring my options and finding the perfect fit for not just my academic career, but for so many other aspects that I discovered this year.

Speaking of university, my first year at Huron University at Western was nothing short of amazing. After spending seven years at Del, this was the first big change I have had to endure in a long time. It was very daunting, and I was trying to blend my expectations with the reality that university was going to be very different than Del. The beauty about Huron is that its community closely resembles that of the Del community back home. It is an affiliate college, so its numbers are obviously not as large, but that plays to its advantage. One of Del's biggest strengths is its intimate interrelationship between its faculty, students and the surrounding community. Huron is very much the same, where the faculty and community there acts as a support system offering a wide range of services to help students succeed, no matter what they pursue. The class sizes are smaller than traditional lectures, which for a business student like me, is my ideal environment. It lets me offer my own opinions during class discussions, which leads to more involved debates between students. By getting involved in something as simple as class discussions, I can stand out more, the discussions become more meaningful, and it helps me develop the interpersonal and verbal communication skills necessary to be successful within a business environment. Additionally, many of the professors go out of their way to establish a personal relationship with their students, creating another resource for students to use to help the transition to university go more smoothly. The similarities between the community at Huron and Del is appar-

ent with how connected they are to the community and the close-knit environment that is so well-known. This was evident since the first day, where everyone at Huron, from Residence Dons to the Principal and Vice-Principal helped carry the countless boxes and bags I had up to my room. I did not know that I necessarily wanted to replicate the same atmosphere that I was used to, but it turns out it was exactly what I needed. It helps me grow not only as a person, but as a student knowing I can try new things while also being able to rely on a place that always supports me.

The desire to give back to the community that is established during your time at Del does not exactly leave you when you move on. There is a reason why the school motto is "Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve." With that in mind, I wanted to make that involvement a part of my university career and give back to the place at which I would spend the next four years. That is when I joined the Huron University Students' Council. Elected as a First-Year Representative by my peers, I help contribute to real decisions that affect not only Huron students, but also our relationship and interactions with the larger campus at Western. This includes voting on the creation of a new building on campus, to debating various initiatives that will affect students positively. It has given me a greater appreciation for the school and is one big way I can still make a difference for others while also strengthening my ties to the school that I call home.

Being a Huron University student does not limit me from the experiences and services available on Western's main campus. Whenever you move on to a new environment, you are often eager to try new things and create new memories. When I arrived at Western, I was very excited to step out of my comfort zone, and participate in clubs and initiatives that I did not previously

get a chance to do. This led me to the Western Organization of Filipinos, or WOOF for short. It is a student organization that promotes Filipino Culture, both traditional and modern, across various platforms. I joined this year as a First-Year rep, and was responsible for helping plan events such as social events, charity fundraisers and cultural showcases throughout the year. Growing up, I did not have many role models who were Filipino outside of my family. This was hard at times, but it also motivated me. I joined WOOF because I wanted to surround myself with positive influences who were also Filipino, while also helping me grow and become more comfortable with who I am. I am staying with WOOF, as I was elected as the new VP Finance for the next school year. While working so hard to create new relationships and find new role models, I realized something about myself. I can become a positive role model for others in the future through my own actions and character. That is why I want to remain involved in the clubs and initiatives that I am passionate about, so that I can develop a strong relationship with like-minded people and become that role model that others are to me now.

My biggest highlight this year was definitely winning the W5 Ivey Entrepreneurship Case Competition earlier in January. W5 is Western's Entrepreneurship Club on campus, and this competition is their flagship, and the culmination of Ivey Entrepreneurship Week. My team and I competed against 29 others, many of them consisting of upper-years and current Ivey students. Going into the competition, I did not know what to expect. To be honest, part of me felt unprepared despite the fact I had become familiar with the "case study" method during my lectures. My team and I just went in looking for experience and a chance to apply what we learned in the classroom to the real world. The case was based

on creating a profitable business centered around a specific social issue. The choices were mental health, waste management and social inequality. Our business was based on developing a biodegradable cup, called "Bio-Cup" that would be marketed at various events and places such as concerts, coffee shops and bars. We presented in front of our fellow competitors and judges ranging from Ivey students and graduates, other entrepreneurs and representatives from Uber Eats, the main event sponsor. Winning the competition was very exciting, and I definitely learned a lot about myself and my team throughout. My supposed worries about me being unprepared quickly went away when I realized that I was ready all along. I recalled not only the knowledge that I gained in class this year, but also all of the lessons that I have accumulated along the way. My team's success did not come from a specific formula or equation, but rather something as basic as writing skills and the ability to verbally communicate our plan and have others buy into our ideas. Not only did we have to convince ourselves that we had the best business, but we also had to convince the judges and differentiate our ideas from the other groups who had similar ideas. The whole experience taught me to never abandon the little things that you learn, as they could become the key to your success in the future.

Winning the competition was a very rewarding experience, as many were shocked to find out how confident we were despite our young age. It was also a great glimpse into what is possible for me within the business world. I really hope to continue this in the



future, gaining experience and building my own path towards my future career. It would not be possible without the opportunities provided to me at Huron and Western. The supportive faculty and the unique environment allows me to be comfortable and confident pursuing opportunities like the case competition. It further illustrates that choosing your university is so important because it is where you spend some of the most important years of your life. I feel the same now about it as I did on my first day. This is the perfect choice for me.

Through all of the successes, all of it can be attributed to the lessons I learned during my time at Del. At Huron, I continue to use what I have learned while creating new memories and experiences. You never truly stop learning, no matter where you are in life. I am very thankful to have the opportunity to affect my community in a positive way while also keeping the core values that Del taught me close to my heart. Everyday is a learning experience, a statement that I know will stick with me for years to come.



### Manchester City Crowned Champions

Saturday, June 1st began with approximately 60 alumni returning to the Del Campus. For some, it was to avenge a tough loss at last year's tournament, for others it was to prove to Mr. Hunt that their essay deserved at least 70%.

Marvin Self and Marco Antonucci dominated for Chelsea. They proved that age only matters if you're a fine wine, as they lead a "veteran" team right to the cup final.

For Juventus, Mario Ciccarella, Nick Giampaolo, Joe Bozzo and Nick Asaro were spotted guzzling down triple shots of espresso in the bushes between matches. After seeing them zip around the field, some questioned whether there was something more in their drinks than just caffeine. Unfortunately, their tournament dreams ended early when their leading scorer Bruno Baldassarra had to leave early to suit up for the York 9s.

If there was a trophy for best dressed, Barcelona would have taken the cup. Unfortunately there isn't, and they lost. After trading away the Pinto brothers at the last minute, Mathew Gucciardi and Christian Visentin could only do so much. Team Barcelona left campus still searching for their first career tournament win. They left winners in the hearts

of their competitors though, as Justin Gibbs and Michael Pezzetta managed to leave their opponents without any injuries for the first time.

AC Milan proved that to be successful, you don't need to sign up a team of friends, all you need is a Mr. Pede plan which calculated angles, velocities and ball pressure and Austin McKay, Evan Delaney and Forbes Gilbertson executing his plan to perfection.

And of course Manchester City captured their first career Del Alumni Soccer Tournament Championship. They were the only team to employ a full time Coach as Neil Pinto broke out Jose Mourinho like tactics FTW. Gianluca Palmieri provided the goals, Christian Diener lead the aerial attack, Dante de Thomasis maintained his lifetime career penalty record of never missing in a competitive match and Robbie Volpentesta kept the ball out of the net. But the real MVP of this team was massage therapist Kendra Thomson as the Manchester City roster spent more time on the therapy table than on the pitch. Special thanks to Lucas Grella for shaving before the day.

Thanks again to everyone who came out to make the Del Alumni Tournament such a successful event. We look forward to seeing you all back on the pitch again next year.



## 2019 Father Michael Luchka Memorial Golf Tournament



To say Fr. Luchka was passionate is a classic understatement. Somewhat volatile would overstate the case, but everything he did was infused with at least a touch of passion: teaching, playing hockey, attending staff meetings, and especially playing golf, his blessing and his curse. It is on record, attested by living witnesses, that on the golf course, which attracted him as often as possible, he tended to be a touch explosive from time to time, which golf allows to indulgent human beings occasionally. The targets of his fiery tirades, heard only by a few of us more relaxed players, were ubiquitous: his clubs, the greens, the rough, the wind, the unfair placement of trees and sand-traps, the staff. Nothing escaped his censure, for golf was serious.

Given his love of the game Fr. Luchka would be more than gratified, on June 19, as he looked down to see 125 golfers gathered at the Cardinal Golf Course to play and raise money in his name. It was a perfect day: great weather, blue sky and good friends. After the competition the first place foursome boasted Daniel Muirhead, Matt Scazano, Marco Bozzo and Thomas Schemitsch. Second place went to Michael Gucciardi, Nick Calabrese, Giovanni Nardone, and John Volpatti. The longest drive was hit by Giovanni Nardoni and Joe Serpe won closest to the pin. There was a very good lunch, great prizes and many smiles. The best news is that this wonderful group of Del grads, parents, friends of Del and sponsors raised \$30,000, an amount that will fund two bursaries. That, after all, is what we are here for, to assist the work of the school, to help the disadvantaged rise up in society. Through 300 years the campaign of salvation continues, and continues to improve, thanks to our impressive, generous troopers. Bless them all. Fr. Luchka must be happy.



### Ah, Youth! 2009 and 2014 Reunions

In the Brother Michael Room, beautifully appointed, on Friday, June 15, we welcomed the first Five Year Reunion for the graduates of 2014 (pictured below). One week later, on Friday, June 21, we celebrated the Ten Year Reunion for our grads of 2009 (pictured above). Both were well-attended. No doubt the universe is unfolding as it should in a prosaic fashion with most of us settled in a plodding, unadorned, even uninspired, pace of daily routines-with apologies to the more adventurous. However, there were no dull souls at the two lively reunions. Before, during and after dinner (delicious) the mood was unusually buoyant, the conversations unusually lively and the volume of voices unusually loud. Both of the parties were happy occasions,

even joyous. It was obvious that our guests were delighted to see their friends again, to remember their student lives again, to describe their studies and budding careers, and to leap into the future through a crystal ball. We expect these normal aspects of reunions. What we did not expect was the rampant enthusiasm we saw and heard. They were exuberant, flitting here and there, trying not to miss a word or a story. Some teaching staff attended, easily enticed into pleasant reveries. These young people were truly living on the high wire of life, their youth and optimism so palpable, most happily palpable. It was infectious and inspiring to feel the fire in their lives. You could feel the energy. Ah youth! May they continue to be so as long as the old world keeps turning. Stay Tuned



# Annual Alumni Baseball Game at Tom Riley Park



On Saturday, June 22, 2019, Mr. Mason hosted the much-anticipated DEL Alumni Baseball game at Tom Riley Park. What a game it was. Bailey Fullan (DEL '02) flirted with a shutout performance on the mound, great plays were made on defense and the first ever grand slam in the history of the event by Matt

Scanzano (DEL '14). Deadlocked at 7-7 after 7 innings, our Commissioner, Mr. Mason, had to make the call to play an extra inning with Brendan Lynch (DEL '09) and co. coming out with the win. MVP Trophies were given out to Matt Scanzano for a great performance on

the mound to go along with his grand slam, Brendan Lynch who produced at the plate and on the mound and Bailey Fullan who pitched like Curt Schilling. One of the most hotly contested baseball games at any level in years, we want to thank all the Alumni that came out and we already can't wait for next year!



## Star Trek -New Worlds

Henry Kissinger wrote an article on, "How the Enlightenment Ends" which related a startling fact about Artificial Intelligence. We are told that a recently designed program, Alpha Zero, plays chess at a level "superior to chess masters and in a style not previously seen in chess history". On its own, in just a few hours of self-play, it achieved a level of skill that took human beings 1500 years to obtain. Obviously this a new, strange frontier, leading to territories "where no one has gone before", with dramatic implications for everyone. But not everyone knows or cares, as humanity would have it, for a fog of indifference blows us here and there at times. However, there is one Del grad who may have it in his power to compel our attention because his work largely deals with the unprecedented. His name is Dr. Marcus Bernardini (Class of 1991) and he is 1 of only 35 gynecologic oncologists in Ontario, a unique specialty that is predominately surgical. Now the narrative becomes pertinent and may land right in our laps. Great strides have been made and are being made in modern medicine. The need is great to deal with tsunamis of burgeoning illnesses upon a strained health-care system attempting to manage so many vicious diseases. The numbers are daunting, and if you have someone cursed by illness, they are frightening. However, be prepared for startling advances in medicine when the twin powers of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics come into play. It is happening right now, and the dramatic results will touch every one of our lives. The pace of innovation will probably be very rapid, even perhaps astonishing. One of the leaders of the University Health Network robotics' surgery program is indeed Dr. Bernardini, a unique force, a power immersed in the complications of research.

Born and raised in Toronto, he has fond memories of Del. He played soccer and

was active in the Math League. He had a good core group of friends, interacting in many circles. After his undergraduate degree medical degree from the University of Western Ontario, he finished a residency program in the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Toronto. As well as obtaining a Master of Science degree he completed his fellowship through U of T which also included training at Duke University Medical Centre. Currently he wears many hats, spreading himself thinly over many obligations (Division Head at University Health Network/Sinai Health Systems, Principal Investigator of a number of trials including the Prevent Ovarian Cancer Program, former Board Member of the Ontario Oncology Association). Imagine the work he has done to reach these heights that allows him to dance around technology with creative insights enabling him to view unprecedented vistas. This talented, exceptional doctor is a gift to us all. We are fortunate to read about him, to learn of his work and see the promise of the future he is creating. We must pray for his good fortune and success, as he will be contributing to a future in which our own health will be at play.

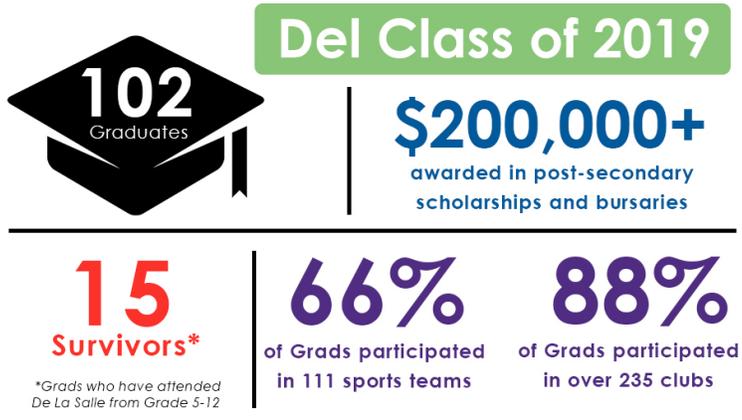


We must remember also that our little school has a dramatic effect, a large impact in our larger society. Our numbers are small but our reach is extensive as our graduates go forth to accomplish wonders. Dr. Bernardini epitomizes this function of De La Salle. The world around us may not always be as fruitful as we try to be. We will keep trying because of people like Dr. Bernardini. They will take us to "where no one has gone before."

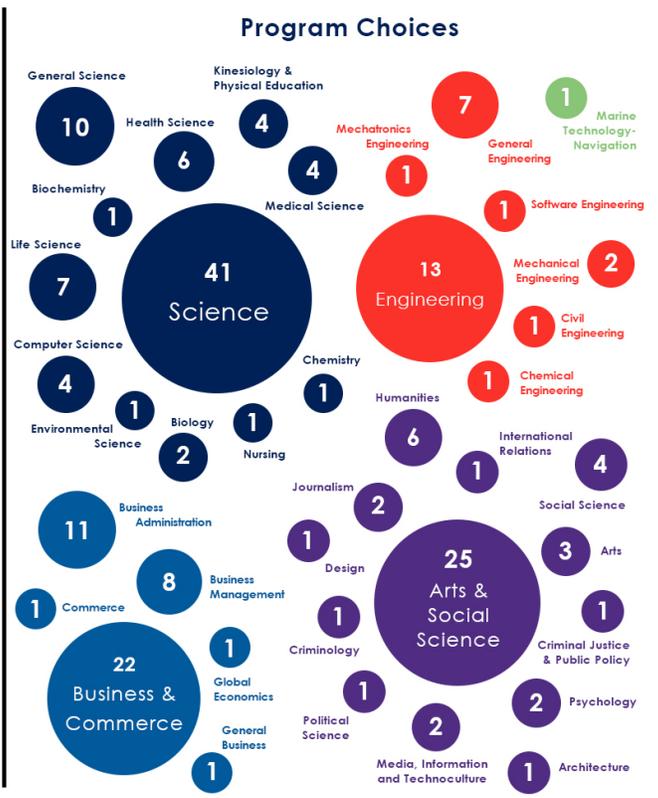




On Monday, June 3rd, 2019, the Class of 2019 entered the Del Auditorium one last time to receive their high school diplomas. On behalf of all of the staff at the College, we want to congratulate the 168th graduating class on all that they have achieved during their time at De La Salle, and wish them good luck on their future endeavors. A special congratulations also goes out to all of the students who received subject awards, special awards and scholarships. Below you will find some statistics on this exceptional class, including their university destinations and program choices. Continue to the next page to read two of the Graduate Profiles a selection of our graduates put together while reflecting on their time at De La Salle and what it means to “Enter to Learn. Leave to Serve.”



**University Destinations**





## Solyana Gedlu

*Health Science, Queen's University*

**Years at Del:** 9-12

**Extra-Curriculars:** DECA, The Society of Africanist Archaeologists

**Scholarships:** Queen's Principle Scholarship (\$6000)

**Enter to Learn:** It is no exaggeration that Del is an academically rigorous school. Still, I was shocked when I transitioned from my elementary school to Del. The reverence for academics at Del was unprecedented for me. This shocking transition was quite difficult initially; however, I was lucky enough to have helpful teachers who eased this transition by providing tutorials after school and extra help in the mornings. Seeing teachers come before or stay after school hours to help students out was a new sight for me. It was through moments like these that I realized that the first half of Del's motto, "Enter to Learn," was not exclusive to academics. It included learning to be punctual, determined, considerate, compassionate, and to have perseverance. These characteristics which I have learned through the demonstration of my teachers as well as through challenging times have led me to live a fulfilled life as a Chris-

tian student. These lessons will be well applied in my future years at university and I am extremely grateful for that.

**Leave to Serve:** The second half of Del's motto, "Leave to Serve," was evident to me early on in my high school career. Before attending Del, I was not accustomed to volunteer work or community service. After my 4 years attending Del, it is now a critical component of my life. The lessons learned from volunteering at the Good Shepherd and St. Francis Table are ones that will reside with me for the rest of my life. I now have a reverence for serving those in need. To serve does not only apply for those in desperate need, but even those within the walls of Del. The countless hours that teachers spent trying to help their students understand a concept or the many meetings scheduled by our guidance counselors to ensure we took the proper steps forward for university preparations are all a testament to the second half of the school's motto. Never had I seen teachers and staff members so invested in bettering the lives and quality of education for their students. After being surrounded by this climate for 4 years, I am inspired to live out this part of Del's motto. I am inspired to serve others within the walls of my university but also to serve those outside. Del has reminded me that there are people in need who are often neglected, and it is my duty as a Christian person and Del alum to serve those people.

**Important Lesson:** The most important lesson I have learned from Del is to find balance in life. Although academics is held to a high standard at Del, so is being sociable and serving those in need. I learned that ending my high school career with only a diploma in mind was not the right mindset. My high school career encompassed the friendships I made, the memories I will remem-

ber, the academic achievements, the service I participated in, the extra-curriculars I partook in, and much more. This balance will lead me to success in university because too much emphasis in any one aspect will lead a lack in another.

**Most Memorable Moment:** There are many memories that come to mind when trying to pick a favourite one. Perhaps the memory that sits best with me was when I joined the DECA club. I was in grade 12 and had never really taken a business-related course nor had I participated in DECA before; nevertheless, I joined with enthusiasm. Once regionals came around, the nervousness hit. I unfortunately reminded myself of my lack of experience in the business world. My oral event seemed to have gone horribly and my mood was ruined. During the award ceremony, I did not win anything, which was not a surprise to me at that moment; yet, I was still upset. Luckily, my peers and friends had won awards which brightened my mood since I was happy for them and the reputation they were giving Del. A few weeks went by when Ms. Katz announced that the list of competitors who had qualified for provincials was outside her room. I checked the list out of pure curiosity and to my surprise, my name was on the list. I had qualified for DECA provincials and I was shocked to say the least. My mood immediately changed and I was proud, although this feat may have not been a big one for other people. Nonetheless, I learned to have confidence, to never lose hope, and to have faith in myself. These lessons learned have made this moment most memorable for me.

**Looking Forward:** I am most excited for the variety of things offered at universities. Whether it be clubs, societies, or electives, any interest you have is most likely covered in some shape or form. I am excited to immerse myself in this opportunity along with meeting new people along the way.

## Alex Mastromarini

*Business Management & Organization Studies (advanced entry into IVEY), University of Western Ontario*

**Years at Del:** Grade 5 Survivor

**Athletic teams:** Badminton, Track & Field, Soccer, Hockey.

**Extra-curriculars:** Vice-President DECA, Co-Head of Lasallian Youth Team, Chess Club, Tennis Club, Hockey (North York Knights 'Select' Assistant Captain), Recreational Soccer, Student Council (general council member), Meagan's Walk Committee leader, School Tour Guide

**Scholarships:** Continuing admission scholarship (\$10,000)

**Enter to Learn:** As a school known for the excellence of its academic program, I think this part of the school's motto is quite fitting to define my experience at Del. I came to Del in Grade five, experiencing bouts of strenuous schoolwork and exams for the very first time. Although it was not easy, I am thankful that I endured and learned; I can now confidently say I have written over one-hundred exams and an unimaginable number of tests and quizzes. Despite seeming like a damaging and stressful experience, Del's trials and tribulations have shaped me into an organized, responsible, and driven individual; someone who, in the future, will always be willing to test their limits, learn from their countless mistakes, and adapt to best succeed in any situation.

**Leave to Serve:** In addition to its academic programs and athletic teams, Del takes pride in encouraging its students

to be spiritual. For many students, their spiritual satisfaction came solely from their church and religion; however, as a student who took interest in the less fortunate communities of Toronto, especially those who were considered youth, I decided to use service clubs, such as the Lasallian Youth Team, as an outlet to "serve." After countless hours of organizing fundraisers or directly serving at shelters and food banks, I now feel an ever-growing obligation to benefit those around me. Service has greatly shaped my experience at Del, helping me to realize that it is my obligation to give back to a community that has given me so much. As I enter a university setting, I hope to not only continue to serve through the organizations I have in the past and the organizations currently in place at the university, but also create my own service outlets to directly solve the problems for which I am most passionate.

**Important Lesson:** The most important lesson I learned at Del is that you can succeed at any amalgamation of tasks with careful planning and a steady passion for success. Although it might seem platitudinous, I truly learned this lesson after agreeing to write and study for four AP exams, while completing two cumulative assignments; a crazy task that all occurred within in five days and is something no sane person would attempt.

**Most Memorable Moment:** My most memorable moment at Del was win-



ning the Junior Soccer CISAA championship in Grade nine. After four years of playing soccer with no championship to show for it, I had become extremely eager to succeed in Grade nine. I will never forget the effort each and every player gave in order to finish undefeated at the end of the season and qualify for the playoffs. Additionally, even though we played another undefeated team in the finals, we fought every minute of the game and ended up scoring a header in the dying seconds of the game.

**Looking Forward:** As I graduate and attend Western University, I look forward to reuniting with my fellow graduates in the years to come. I am certain that many of my fellow graduates will do amazing things in the future and I am eager to see who will continue the trajectory of success that Del has set us on.



## 2019 Founder's Day of Giving Reception



The Founder's hope of helping the needy, the disadvantaged, is the very ideal of every altruist who pushes back the darkness, who understands the compelling need to advance civility and thereby crush the impulses of greed and selfishness. Nothing has changed since La Salle founded the Order so long ago. His ideal, to educate poor children, is still our ideal today. We are continually trying to increase the number of our students on bursary as part of our effort to help correct the world's neglectful blunders. Revolutions are not helpful. Sharing is better. The good news is that we are succeeding, as every year the amount given to the fund increases. Last year our grads, friends and families donated \$41,000. This year, on May 15, the amount given was close to \$50,000, enough for three bursaries. It was an exciting day in our office as we watched the numbers climb higher and higher. So, we are happy to report to you a healthy and growing stream of charitable giving. We pray it continues.



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Click here to donate online  
OR  
Please print and complete the form below

## DE LA SALLE COLLEGE "OAKLANDS" ANNUAL FUND

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- Scan or Email to: [businessoffice@delasalle.ca](mailto:businessoffice@delasalle.ca)
- Donation in Person - Visit the Business Office at De La Salle College
- Donation by Phone - (416) 969-8771 Ext. 232 or Ext. 230
- Donation by Fax to (416) 969-9086
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