

NEWS RELEASE



MOTHER MCAULEY

Liberal Arts High School

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mother McAuley Honors Sister Rosemary Connelly, RSM

October 17, 2019 (Chicago, Ill.) – Mother McAuley High School held its Fall Festival to benefit Misericordia Heart of Mercy, a home for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This annual event is hosted by the McAuley National Honors Society (NHS). Students are invited to donate \$5 to dress out of uniform, with all the proceeds going toward Misericordia. Part of the day also includes a performance by the Misericordia dance troop, The Heartbreakers, followed by a party with the performers. During the past 30+ years the Fall Festival has raised more than \$50,000 for Misericordia. This year's Fall Festival theme was "Disney."

Prior to this year's assembly and performance, McAuley's NHS and administration honored Sister Rosemary Connelly, RSM, for her 50 years of service to Misericordia as its Executive Director. This year she also celebrated 70 years as a Sister of Mercy.

Sister Rosemary has been integral in promoting inclusion by advancing the mission of Misericordia. In 2015, she was inducted into the Mother McAuley Hall of Honor, in recognition of her service.

"Through her work, Sister Rosemary has changed the world so profoundly, and done so in the name of God and the Sisters of Mercy," said Mary Acker Klingenberger '75, president of Mother McAuley. "Like our founder, Catherine McAuley, she's been a bold pioneer, driven to do the right thing for those who could not necessarily do it for themselves. She is a tremendous example to McAuley students of how the vision and influence of one can impact so many. Our young women and our alumnae have strengthened their own cultural empathy under the inspiring leadership of Sister Rosemary and through various volunteer opportunities."

As a former McAuley faculty member (she taught English for one year before joining Misericordia) Sister Rosemary has maintained strong ties with the McAuley family. Those ties have continued to grow throughout the years as McAuley has shared with its family the great mission of Misericordia and how vital it is to the community. Over the years, members of the school's Board of Trustees and alumnae have supported Misericordia events including its annual Golf Outing, Women's League, Family Fest and Holiday Brunch. Each spring, McAuley students and faculty support Misericordia's Candy Tag Days by collecting donations and volunteering at tagging locations.

About Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School

Founded in 1956 by the Sisters of Mercy, Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School currently educates more than 900 young women in grades 9 through 12 and is the largest all-girls high school in the country. McAuley promotes a single-gender education platform that encourages young women to grow in faith, envision their future and discover their talents through a challenging and motivating academic and co-curricular program. Mother McAuley's tradition of excellence has made it a top choice for all-girls private education in the Chicago area. The school boasts 28,000 alumnae.

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