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# CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL TODAY

.....

SPRING 2020





# WHAT'S INSIDE

**Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J.**  
*President*

**Andrea Tyrpak-Endres**  
*Principal*

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*Vice President of Finance  
& Chief Financial Officer*

**David Cristantello, Ph.D.**  
*Vice President for Institutional Advancement*

**Fr. Richard Zanoni, S.J.**  
*Assistant to the President*

## MISSION STATEMENT

Canisius High School is a Catholic, Jesuit, independent, college-preparatory school serving young men of diverse backgrounds from throughout Western New York. Canisius challenges its students to strive for excellence as critical thinkers and effective communicators who are open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving, and committed to justice.

Canisius promotes the development of students through a comprehensive liberal arts curriculum firmly rooted in the Jesuit tradition of education, spirituality and service.

Faithful to St. Ignatius Loyola's desire to provide care and concern for the whole person, Canisius affords each member of the school community the opportunity to develop individual talents for the service of others and the greater glory of God.

## CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Paul Cumbo '97  
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## EDITOR

Ginger Geoffery

## ON THE COVER

### Canisius Families

Back row, left to right, **Sam Whistler '22**, **Zachary Whistler '21**, and **Zachary Siwiec '22**. Middle row, left to right, **Owen Whistler '21**, **Aguer Doar '20**, **Nathaniel Siwiec '21**, and **Tyler Siwiec '22**. Front row, left to right, **Patrick Nettina '23**, **Christian Nettina '22**, **Matthew Nettina '22**, and **Deng Doar '23**.



## FEATURES

**Riley Simpson '21**, **Eamonn Dwyer '20**, **Jed Dietrich '21**.

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FROM THE

## PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Sam Chapman '20 and Will Lalli '20  
with Fr. Ciancimino.

The high school years are an incredibly formative time in the life of a boy. There's no doubt about it. Boys grow into young men right before our eyes. To teach, form and accompany a young man at this stage of his growth is a real privilege and a great responsibility. It's where Jesuits have long felt we should be. Our task – the women and men who share and shoulder our Jesuit mission today – is to teach and prepare these young men well...and for good.

One of the joys I have is spending time with alumni whether at Alumni Weekend, JUG Night, the Sturm Luncheon, or when they drop in for a visit. Alumni share stories transporting us back years or decades to a specific teacher, coach, class, retreat, sporting event, or some other moment that made a lasting impression.

Our alumni are a link to the past and part of the rich tradition we celebrate during this 150th anniversary year. They are living examples of the fruits of their Jesuit education. And, our alumni are very much part of our vision for the future. Alumni helped to shape our goals during the planning stage of our “Rich Tradition. Bold Vision.” capital campaign, and now that the campaign is underway several alumni are leading the way by making significant campaign gifts.

The “Rich Tradition. Bold Vision.” campaign goal is \$18 million: \$10 million for endowment support for programs and the students and teachers of tomorrow, \$5 million for

capital projects, and \$3 million for the highest priorities and best use during the campaign. We have made progress – over \$15 million has been raised – but we're not over the finish line yet. There is still work to be done to achieve our goal. None of our “bold vision” for the future happens without the great generosity of our alumni, parents, and friends.

The students pictured on the cover of this magazine represent our present – they are brothers who come from four families who recognize the strength and opportunity a Jesuit education at Canisius provides for the future of these young men.

Today's students are the beneficiaries of all that we offer thanks to past campaigns and the benefactors who built the endowment, buildings, and programs we are blessed to have today. As we look to the future, it's our turn to assure that the students of tomorrow will have the opportunity to pursue a financially accessible and truly exceptional Jesuit education at Canisius. The future of families, our Church, city and nation depends on us to transform the students of today into the leaders of tomorrow...for good.

Thank you for your continued support and care for Canisius High School.

Blessings and gratitude,

Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J.



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Cheers emanated from the Canisius library, the basement, the Kennedy Field House, and Tripi Field on a fall day earlier this school year. Students in colorful shirts were competing in academic and athletic competitions while classmates coached and rooted them on. This was the scene during the first ever Fall House Games at Canisius, and the excitement was matched in the Winter Games, as well. The Games are just one of the more visible elements of the new House System implemented this year.

Most Americans' familiarity with school Houses might be limited to the Harry Potter books and movies. However, this tradition, an organic element of boarding school education, has been an integral part of institutions in other parts of the world for centuries. Many day schools have adopted the concept in recent years, keenly aware of the benefits of smaller communities within the larger school community where students can build stronger bonds and connections.

When Canisius students arrived on campus this school year they discovered (without the help of a sorting hat) which of six houses they now belong to. The Canisius houses are named for prominent Jesuits – Arrupe, Campion, Gonzaga, Jogues, Loyola, and Xavier. The House Council, consisting of the Principal, Dean of Students, and six faculty Heads of House, oversees faculty House Mentors and the Student Prefects' Council.

Currently, students and teachers are working together to finalize shield crests featuring their house colors and symbols that relate to their patron Jesuit – imagery that will eventually figure prominently in the respective school corridors. While similarities to the fictional Hogwarts can be fun, there are very real benefits to the House System that fueled our desire to develop and implement our own.

All four class years are represented within each house, and each student remains part of the same house for all four of his years.



Jonah Slabodkin '21, Zach Taylor '21, and Ethan Beck '21 played Jenga during the House Games.

Keeland Ester '20 and Tucker Crofut '20 with  
Andrea Tyrpak-Endres.

“When students have a deeper sense  
of belonging, their academic  
performance improves.”

This consistency can foster more meaningful mentoring between both teachers and students, and upper and lower classmen. And, as shown in a recent study published by the Journal of Educational Research (v107 n3 p177-185 2014), when students have a deeper sense of belonging, their academic performance improves. Peer-accountability, motivation, and support are key parts of the model. Students can earn points for their houses for a variety of academic or co-curricular activities – the previously referenced House Games are but one example of this friendly competition. Plus, there are leadership opportunities for students in each of the six houses.

Taking the plunge to develop and implement a system like this is evidence of our “bold vision” for the future of Canisius, and our continued commitment to *cura personalis* – care for the whole person. As with any major systems change, there is an adjustment period, and we’re fine tuning as we go forward. We are already seeing positive results, such as a level of competitive participation and enthusiasm for our Walkathon unprecedented in recent years. The young men of Canisius today may not be fully aware of it, but they are building the foundation of a tradition that will carry on for generations. Years from now, their successors will look to today’s house leaders as examples and early founders of their houses.

Respectfully,

*Andrea Tyrpak-Endres*  
Ms. Andrea Tyrpak-Endres



“Let us remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence.”

-Pope John Paul II

## BOLD VISION: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Since academic excellence will always be a cornerstone of Jesuit education, we must continuously evaluate the academic life of the school as we look to the future. We must never be content with the way things have always been.

Guiding our academic program in the 21st century, a time of exponential change, involves much more than simply reviewing curricula. It means understanding the world in which our students live and grasping the future they will face. It involves investigating how learning occurs best and looking at the support we offer our students in a changing and challenging world. It means adapting the spaces in which students learn and thrive.

Some examples of our academic evolution:

- Purchased and renovated a building for the arts
- Renovated the library into a modern learning commons with collaboration rooms and expanded access to online databases and publications
- Launched a makerspace lab for computer science, engineering, app development, drones, and robotics
- Developed programs in digital media arts, architecture, forensics, Western New York history, Mandarin Chinese, and digital citizenship
- Sought internships and opportunities to shadow alumni in the workplace
- Created seminars in entrepreneurship engaging students with alumni
- Updated computer science course offerings
- Collaborated with an artist-in-residence to expose students to the richness of the arts community in Western New York
- Reached across the ocean to bring students from Germany to study at Canisius. They will soon join students from China and Korea.



Quinten Gormley '20 with history teacher Justin Siuta.

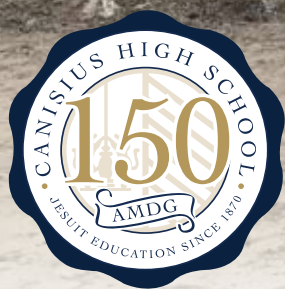
As an educational leader, we must be cognizant of our students' future as local and global citizens. The proposed Center for Global Learning, one of the centerpieces of our “Rich Tradition. Bold Vision.” capital campaign, factors significantly in our next cycle of academic evolution. The Center will engage our students with the network of Jesuit institutions, our alumni, and other opportunities across our nation and around the world.

The ongoing cycle of reflection, evaluation, and implementation/development must be continuous as Canisius, the Jesuit high school in Western New York, serves as a leader in academic excellence and rigor in our community.

At the same time, we believe the formation Canisius provides for our students is our *raison d'être*. It is why we do what we do. While we have one of the finest academic programs in Western New York, Canisius exists to develop our students into men of competence, conscience and compassion.

We want our boys to become men with compassionate hearts to complement their keen and curious minds. As the leaders of tomorrow, we know that our churches, our city, nation and world need and depend on us to form good, highly competent, reflective, and faithful men.

Learn more about the Center for Global Learning and other “Rich Tradition. Bold Vision.” campaign initiatives at [canisiushigh.org/richtraditionboldvision](http://canisiushigh.org/richtraditionboldvision).



# CANISIUS THROUGH THE YEARS

An Emmaus retreat at  
Cradle Beach Camp in 2017.

As a Jesuit school, Canisius' approach to education is *cura personalis*, meaning "care for the whole person." It is a commitment to focus not only on the academic achievements of our young men, but also their mental and physical health, spiritual growth, and their development as citizens of the world.

Liturgies, service and retreat opportunities have long been a part of the *cura personalis* approach at Canisius, although these programs have evolved over the years. Retreats, for example, have grown from relatively unstructured weekend talks in decades past, into today's structured progression of retreats offered in each of a young man's four years at Canisius.

Excerpts, in the following tan-shaded sections, from the book *Blue Doors: 150 Years of Jesuit Education at Canisius High School* by **Paul Cumbo '97** explore the evolution of the retreat programs and the modern-day Companions service immersion program.

Father James Van Dyke, S.J. '77 offered a perspective—both as an alum and a Jesuit—on the evolution of the Campus Ministry program during the 1970s:

*You had the idea of a retreat house start in the early 20th century, and into the 1960s those were places where guys came in for a weekend and had talks.... Only in the 1970s and 1980s did the idea*

*of a directed retreat really become a serious idea...that this is what we should be doing with retreat direction.*

These early days of the structured retreat program at Canisius would lead to one of the most cherished and respected elements of the CHS experience. They initiated the evolution of retreats from a series of isolated activities to a cohesive curriculum of spiritual formation now highly regarded as a key component of Jesuit secondary education.

Ask Canisius alumni from the 1980s and 1990s about their retreat experience, and most of the feedback will center on Emmaus. For the better part of 21 years, from 1979 to 2000, it was the centerpiece of the retreat program at Canisius. A three-day, two-night program for seniors, it was, for many young men (including this author) a transformative moment wherein the extraordinary met the ordinary and the popular Jesuit expression "finding God in all things" took on a new level of meaning. With the addition of Kairos in 1999, the school's investment in an iterative retreat process continued. For seven years, Emmaus for juniors was followed by Kairos for seniors, and participation skyrocketed. For many students, the second half of their Canisius experience was defined—at least on a spiritual level—by this progression.





A Kairos retreat at Cradle Beach Camp in 2017. **David Constantine '17** talked to retreatants.

During the late 2000s, Kairos moved from senior to junior year, Emmaus shifted from junior year to sophomore year, and Canisius piloted a day-long on-campus freshman retreat. Senior year became a time of peer mentoring and community service, coupled with reflection.

Canisius had seen occasional immersive service experiences over the years to places including rural Appalachia in West Virginia and Camden, New Jersey. Despite a well-developed program of local service-learning opportunities, however, there was no widespread system of “immersion trips,” such as those existing at other schools.

In the mid-2000s, Canisius aimed to build a program that went beyond an annual service opportunity and into a service learning experience that could be adapted to various locations, both domestic and international. Thus began the Companions program which continues today with service learning experiences close to home in Buffalo and Niagara Falls, and as far away as Micronesia.

Participants in the inaugural Companions service immersion trip in 2007 in Laredo, TX with people from the local community.



**Blue Doors by Paul Cumbo '97** is available in the Canisius Campus Store and through [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



Athletic Hall of Fame inductee **Dr. John Hall '84** with his son **Christopher '16** at the Alumni Awards event.



# CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

Fifteen Canisius alumni joined an exclusive group on November 16, 2019 in the Scaccia Auditorium. In recognition of their exceptional contributions in medicine, finance, business, community service, and athletics, Canisius honored these men with induction into the school's Distinguished Alumni Hall of Honor or Athletic Hall of Fame.

**Congratulations to the 2019-2020 inductees!**



# DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

## HALL OF HONOR

### KEVIN CURRAN '75 | Business/Marketing



Kevin Curran began his marketing career in 1979 at Proctor & Gamble in Cincinnati before returning home to Buffalo in 1982 to begin a 30-year career at Fisher-Price. He worked his way up in the company's marketing department, and in 1990 moved to the Little Tikes Toys division of the Rubbermaid Company as the vice president of marketing. He later served as Little Tikes' vice president of North American sales and marketing, and then vice president of Little Tikes Europe.

In 1997, Kevin returned to Fisher-Price as the senior vice president of research and development. He led a team of more than 80 toy designers, creating 400 new toys annually. Then, as the senior vice president of international marketing, he travelled to 20+ countries to guide Fisher-Price's global expansion.

In 2000, Kevin was named general manager of the Fisher-Price "Friends" Division which created toys for characters from Sesame Street, Nickelodeon, DreamWorks, Disney, and Warner Bros. In 2009 Kevin was named CEO of Fisher-Price – now a division of Mattel. Under his guidance the business achieved record profits in 2007, 2009, and 2010.

Kevin is retired now from Fisher-Price and serves as an adjunct professor at the University at Buffalo School of Management, on the board of directors for the Buffalo Museum of Science, and does consulting work. Kevin is a former board member for the Buffalo Women and Children's Hospital Foundation and the Canisius High School board of trustees.

### CHARLES "CHIP" JONES '74 | Business/Marketing



Chip Jones built a successful 43-year career at Wittburn Enterprises, Inc., a commercial electrical construction firm, where he currently serves as the company's president.

Throughout his career, and as a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, Chip has embraced the Jesuit motto of being a "man for others" and has used his success as a local businessman to help the Western New York community by serving on the board of directors for numerous charities. His board service includes the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo, Catholic Charities of Buffalo, Canisius High School, and Goodwill Industries of Western New York.

Chip currently serves on the board of directors for Christ the King Seminary, Our Lady of Victory Homes of Charity supporting Baker-Victory Services for the Developmentally Disabled, and the Buffalo Renaissance Foundation—a non-profit dedicated to the advancement of Buffalo through grants to local charitable organizations and initiatives. Chip also served as the chairman of the board for NativityMiguel Middle School, a faith-based middle school focused on ending the cycle of poverty through the education of underserved students. Chip is also the chairman of the Buffalo and Erie County Workforce Investment Board, an initiative focused on economic growth through workforce preparation for the unemployed, underemployed and dislocated.

### MARK LEMA, M.D., PH.D. '67 | Medicine



Dr. Mark Lema is the chair of anesthesiology at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the SUNY distinguished service professor and chair of anesthesiology at the University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Over the past 20 years, Mark has served as president of the Erie County Medical Society, the Roswell Park medical staff, the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists, the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine, and the American Society of Anesthesiologists. He was also the honorary treasurer of the World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists with 146 countries represented. Mark serves on the Canisius College board of trustees, and the board of directors of the Erie County

Medical Society and The Buffalo Club.

Mark received his medical training at the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center and residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School. In addition, he holds a Ph.D. in Physiology from the University at Buffalo.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists honored Mark with its Distinguished Service Award. His many other honors and awards include the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists Distinguished Service Award, the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service, and the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine Distinguished Service Award.

### MICHAEL MADDEN '67 | Finance



Michael Madden has more than 40 years of experience in financial services and is the founder and current managing partner of BlackEagle Partners, LLC, a private equity firm with offices in New York, Detroit and Sarasota.

Prior to founding BlackEagle in 2005, Mike was a senior partner in Questor Management Co., a \$1 billion private equity firm, where he managed the firm's New York operations for six years.

Mike began his career at Kidder, Peabody & Co. in 1973 after receiving his MBA with distinction from the Wharton School (University of Pennsylvania). He started as an associate in investment banking and worked his way up to partner.

Mike remains connected to Le Moyne College in Syracuse where he

earned his BA in economics, magna cum laude, in 1971. He served on the college's board of trustees for 14 years and was chairman of the board from 1999-2003. The Madden School of Business, Le Moyne's first named school, was named in his honor in 2012.

In 2017, Mike co-founded the Center for Aging Resources and Enrichment (CARE) which provides resources to seniors and their families in the areas of healthcare, continuing education and physical and emotional well-being. Mike has also served on the non-profit boards of Telecare Catholic Television, the Trickle Up Foundation and the Syracuse Entrepreneurship Initiative. He currently serves on the Canisius High School board of trustees.

# ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

View video highlights of the Hall of Fame inductees at [canisiushigh.org/halloffame](http://canisiushigh.org/halloffame).



## ANDREW CURTIN '74 | Football, Wrestling

Andrew Curtin played three years of varsity football anchoring the undefeated 1972 and 1973 teams as the starting center. As a junior, Andrew earned All-Catholic honors. As a senior co-captain, Andrew led the Crusaders to their sixth straight league championship while earning All-Catholic and All-Western New York honors. His senior campaign was so successful he made the All-State football team and was named a National Football All-

American. National Sports Writers Coach and Athlete Magazine named him to their 1973-74 Prep All-American Team. Andrew played college football at Cornell. Andrew also excelled as a wrestler at Canisius and served as a co-captain and earned team MVP honors his senior year. He joins his brothers **Peter '71** and **David '76** in the Canisius Athletic Hall of Fame. Their father, Dr. **Daniel '41**, is a member of the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Honor.



## DR. JOHN HALL '84 | Football, Basketball, Baseball

Dr. John Hall was a key member of the athletic community during his time at Canisius. Born with cerebral palsy, John never competed on the field of play, but earned 11 varsity letters as the manager of the baseball, basketball, and football teams. John never let his physical limitations dampen his love of sports and he demonstrated an unparalleled commitment as a mainstay at every practice,

game and road trip. He occasionally refereed or umpired scrimmages, and his future wife Suzanne would get her first glimpse of him on the sidelines of a Canisius versus St. Joe's football game. He was the "Voice of the Crusaders" as the announcer for basketball games and is a Georgetown Cup champion, Manhattan Cup champion, and recipient of the varsity baseball appreciation award.



## KEITH KOSTRZEWSKI '95 | Soccer, Football, Hockey

Although he was a three sport athlete, soccer was Keith Kostrowski's true passion. As a three-year varsity starter he earned a place on the All-Catholic soccer team three straight years. He served as team captain during his junior and senior years, was named Second Team All-Western New York, and was selected for the 1994 Senior All-Star

Game selection. Keith continued his soccer career in the Big East Conference at Providence College where he made the Big East Academic Honor Roll and was a senior co-captain. As a football player, Keith was a three-year starter and Second Team All-Catholic as a junior.



## PATRICK KWIATKOWSKI '72 | Bowling – John Barnes Award

Pat Kwiatkowski was a member of the very first Canisius varsity bowling teams in 1971 and 1972. In 1995, Canisius needed a head bowling coach and Pat volunteered for the role. Over the next 23 years Pat led Canisius to five league championships and five All-Catholic championships. He coached a total of 23 First Team All-Catholic bowlers and 24 Second Team All-Catholic bowlers. In 13 years of state

level competition he coached 22 State qualifiers including a state champion in 2017. Pat coached 1,020 total games with a 725-295 win-loss record and a 71% career win percentage. Pat passed away in September 2019. His family attended the induction ceremony to accept the award on his behalf.



## DR. JUDE MALICAN, MD '77 | Swimming

Dr. Jude Malican was a four-year member of a dominate Canisius swim team that went undefeated and captured four league and four All-Catholic titles. As a senior co-captain Jude led the Canisius "Mermen" to their 13th straight league championship and 16th straight All-Catholic championship. Jude earned a total of ten All-Catholic titles, including six individual All-Catholic

awards, and was named the team's MVP as a senior. As a member of the relay team Jude earned four All-Catholic titles and was part of every school record the relay team set. Jude continued his swimming career at St. Louis University, and competed in masters events and open ocean swim races for many years.





## SMITH MORRIS '82 | Football, Track and Field

As a freshman running back, Smith Morris scored 14 touchdowns and was named to the All-Catholic Team. A wrist injury cut short his sophomore season, but Smith returned as a junior to rush for 1,000 yards and 20 touchdowns on his way to being named to the All-WNY team. As a senior, Smith scored 12 touchdowns in a down year for the Canisius team. The Buffalo News twice

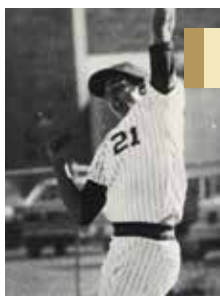
selected Smith as its Player of the Week for his football accomplishments. He earned All-Catholic honors three times, and was a finalist for the Connolly Cup – the award recognizing the top high school football player in Western New York. Smith also competed with the Canisius track and field team and captured multiple league titles with relay teams.



## JOE RACCUIA '90 | Baseball, Basketball

As a two-sport athlete at Canisius, Joe Raccuia was a leader on both the basketball court and baseball diamond. Joe played three years of varsity baseball, winning the Georgetown Cup as a sophomore and earning All-Catholic honors as a junior. As a senior captain, Joe was again named First Team All-Catholic and Second Team All-

Western New York and earned an invitation to the North/South All-Star Game. As a member of the basketball team, Joe achieved Second Team All-Catholic status his junior and senior years and served as captain as a senior. He was named the 1989 Canisius High School Athlete of the Year.



## RON RACCUIA '86 | Baseball, Football

Ron Raccuia was a three-year starter on the varsity baseball team anchoring the infield as a second baseman. As a junior, Ron was named First Team All-Catholic and All-Western New York. He served as a team captain his senior year and again captured All-Catholic and All-Western New York honors. On the gridiron, Ron quarterbacked the

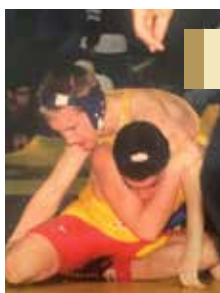
Crusaders in both his junior and senior years. During his senior campaign, he was a dual threat and key contributor as a quarterback and receiver. He led the team in receiving touchdowns, and as the quarterback Ron commanded an offense that tripled its production from the previous season.



## PAUL RILEY '03 | Cross Country, Track and Field

As a four-year member of the varsity cross country and indoor and outdoor track teams, Paul Riley is one of the most prolific runners in Canisius High School history. He is a three-time All-Catholic cross country champion who led the team to league championships in 1999, 2001, and 2002. Paul excelled even further with indoor and outdoor track as a five-time All-Catholic track champion and

member of the 2001, 2002, and 2003 Monsignor Martin championship teams. Paul won the state Catholic high school title in the 1000 meter indoor and captured the New York State Federation title in the 800 meter outdoor. He still holds the 800 meter outdoor and 1000 meter indoor records at Canisius.



## DAN THRUSH '99 | Wrestling

Dan Thrush made an impact early at Canisius by racking up the most wins ever by a freshman – a record he held until 2003 – and winning All-Catholics. Dan would win three more All-Catholic titles during his time at Canisius, making him the only Canisius wrestler ever to win four total. In his junior year, Dan placed second overall in the

New York State Catholic High School Athletic Association (NYSCHSAA). He repeated that feat as a senior and won the NYSCHSAA Ironman Award for finishing in the state top six in each of his four years. At Canisius Dan won a total of 109 matches – a school record that stood for 20 years.



## JOHN URSCHEL '09 | Football, Track and Field

John Urschel started for three years as a lineman for the Canisius varsity football team and earned All-Catholic honors all three years. As a senior, he was named First Team All-WNY and won the 2009 Trench Trophy awarded to the best lineman in Western New York. As a member of the indoor and outdoor track and field teams Urschel was a successful shot-putter. His classmates voted him "Mr.

Canisius" in 2009. His football career continued at Penn State University where he earned First Team Big Ten and First Team Academic All-American honors, and the 2013 William V. Campbell Trophy, also known as the Academic Heisman. The Baltimore Ravens drafted Urschel in 2014 and he played for the team until his retirement in 2017.



## TO LEARN; TO THINK; TO LEAD

BY DR. HERMAN MOGAVERO '68

*Dr. Herman Mogavero is a dermatologist with the Buffalo Medical Group. He also serves on the Canisius High School facilities committee.*

**Tim Sanders '22** plays the piano that Dr. Mogavero and his wife, Patricia, donated to Canisius. The stained glass windows in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart are a gift to the school from Dr. Mogavero's class – the class of 1968.

*A, Ab, Ex, E, De, Sine, Cum, Pro, Prae, In* (meaning in or on) are all prepositions that take the ablative case.

So began the first days of freshman Latin in September 1964 under the wise tutelage of **Mr. Nicholas Kessler '28**. This lesson was not just a simple exercise in memorization. It was an initial piece of learning to learn. Other subjects followed similar paths. **Mr. Robert O'Connor '55** presented the logic of geometric proofs. Fr. Alvin Hufnagel, S.J. was an eccentric teacher but in retrospect he was far ahead of the scientific community. Fr. Frederick Reisert, S.J. taught a rigorous physics class that rivaled a college level course, predating present AP courses.

The overall curriculum had demanding literature, composition, foreign language, religion, history and social studies that required a disciplined approach of reading for comprehension. This is an incomplete compendium but it is presented to focus on the formative and fundamental nature of the learning experience that Canisius High School afforded its students. This basis was the foundational piece on a path of lifelong learning.

The object of these efforts was to move from learning to thinking. The ability to think requires this broad foundation and the synthesis of the overall various disciplines as one tries to construct and test a thesis that has not been already proven. The liberal arts are not liberal in the political sense. A less common meaning of liberal is “unrestricted” as in the freedom to develop and confirm the validity of such original thoughts. In my career, I was fortunate to experience this as a post-doctoral and faculty member in the department of dermatology at Johns Hopkins. This type of thought should be guided by advancing the human experience. This is the core of the Jesuit inspired “social justice” ethical morality.

The application of these educational principles outside of the classroom, afforded all of us with the opportunity to undertake leadership roles. At Canisius, these revolved around a wide variety of extracurricular activities and athletics. The participation in these endeavors was not always marked by successful outcomes, but we were well served by learning from our setbacks and failures to reengage and face the next set of challenges.

These efforts have helped me understand the important role of stewardship of community resources. At Canisius, I participated on the class of 1968 reunion committee and facilities committee. One of the important aspects of this type of institutional support is the role of philanthropy (both time and treasure) in advocating for the success of the school's efforts. My Hopkins experience stressed that you can never fully plan for all contingencies and that unrestricted resources need to be available. I benefited when my department chair was able to allocate unrestricted funds to support my research projects. I try to pay it forward by making an annual donation to the Canisius president's discretionary fund to provide resources for any unbudgeted need. Likewise, when Canisius purchased the Center for the Arts building at 1140 Delaware, it coincided with the death of a classmate who was a Chicago middle school art teacher. Together with other classmates we were able to endow a memorial scholarship directed to a current Canisius upperclassman studying visual arts. This type of targeted philanthropy can hopefully assist the next generation of Canisius students as they pass through the formative Jesuit educational experiences. It just will no longer include as a rite of passage the mandatory understanding of the Latin prepositions that take the ablative case.



# STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

BY JED DIETRICH '87

*Colleen and Jed Dietrich, pictured with Canisius President Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J., established the Jed Dietrich, Esq. '87 and Colleen Dietrich, Esq. Scholarship at Canisius.*

Canisius High School profoundly shaped me athletically, academically and spiritually.

The rowing team and **Joseph Krakowiak '63**, the head rowing coach when I rowed, influenced my Canisius experience immensely. Joe provided me with structure and broad-based goal-setting inspiration that has led to much of my personal success. A core concept that Joe advised was that an extreme work ethic and a passion for doing your very best in everything would result in outstanding outcomes.

Joe was highly organized, always cognizant of time management and supremely aware of setting goals, accomplishing goals and thereafter reaching for higher achievements. This, coupled with the culture of Canisius which I found to be competitive and inspirational in terms of feeding my personal ambitions both athletically and academically, laid a foundation for career success.

From an academic standpoint, I found great growth from the rigorous workload. This led to success at Temple University where I graduated Magna Cum Laude with a triple major of Economics, Real Estate and Pre-Law in 1991. This then led to a Juris Doctor degree from the University at Buffalo Law School in 1995. Canisius taught that putting the nose to the grindstone results in success academically. This is a bread and butter concept that is often overlooked in our society of immediate self-gratification through perceived shortcuts.

Upon spiritual reflection, Canisius fostered my personal growth with God. Canisius taught that God is there for us in good times and in bad times. Moreover, Canisius taught that throughout life one comes to forks in the road that must be traversed carefully. I frequently use this analogy with my staff to advise that we must always: Chose the right path morally, chose the right path legally, and chose the right path interpersonally to treat others as

we would like to be treated. Canisius taught these tenets, encouraged these tenets, and has inspired me to live by these tenets. Because I went to Canisius and because I was exposed to these values, I lead my legal team by these tenets and encourage my team



Jed Dietrich with rowing coach Joe Krakowiak.



"Canisius taught that throughout life one comes to forks in the road that must be traversed carefully."

members to live in this way. I am blessed to have been provided with this education and I am blessed to be in a position to encourage others to provide the highest level of personal injury service in this way.

Moreover, **Jed IV '21** is a fourth generation Canisius student. Both of his grandfathers, **Jed '60** and **George Doyle '53**, and great grandfather **Vincent Doyle '23**, are alumni. Colleen has always felt a loyal bond with Canisius and was strongly in favor of establishing the scholarship. It's our hope that Jed IV will continue supporting his legacy.

Finally, President Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J. and Principal Andrea Tyrpak-Endres have shown great care, fortitude and exceptional leadership. Because Jed IV is an Ignatian Scholar, we've been exposed to the school's ability to vigorously push students to excel and to strive for excellence in every facet of the person. I am pleased to see that Canisius still provides the foundation to shape the future leaders of our country.

It is, has been, and always will be our pleasure to support Canisius so that others may have a similar experience.



## LESSONS FROM SKIPPER

BY CHRIS O'BRIEN '81

*Chris O'Brien is a personal injury attorney in Western New York. He is also the father of **Braden '13** and **Eamon '20**.*



Longtime former Canisius athletic director and coach Jim Skipper passed away in January 2020.

Being a runner at Canisius brought far more than playing time on a cross country course or a track. It was always about the bigger picture, understanding how being part of a team meant being part of a family. It meant sacrificing personal glory for a team's success. As callow teens, we didn't realize then that when Mr. Skipper preached that we were only as good as our seventh man on a cross-country team that we were being taught lessons that would stay with us for life.

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"Lessons could come in the form of conversations about religion, race, or social issues while crammed in a van coming back from a meet."

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Wins were the goal and were always pursued, but there were more important lessons taught. Those lessons could come in the form of conversations about religion, race, or social issues while crammed in a van coming back from a meet in Cobleskill, or in the disappointment expressed in a very quiet locker room after we had proven that high school boys will sometimes not be entirely focused in their practice habits.

We came from a variety of social settings, neighborhoods and families. Those barriers were broken down slowly but resolutely as "team, team, team" was drilled into us. Time and again, Coach Skipper would teach (and when necessary, admonish) a group of seniors that they had to lead if their team was to win, then he would show them how by example. The fact that those men would then go on to coach is not surprising; whether it was high school, college or running clubs, Coach Skipper's lessons (and sayings) were passed along. The lessons remained the same: It's all about the team.

So, it wasn't entirely surprising that many slightly less spry men in their 40s, 50s and 60s gathered together in a church to send off Jim Skipper. Church mattered to Coach. Family mattered to Coach. There was a familiarity in standing with the larger family he had built: one of Fitz (**Mark Fitzgerald '79**) and Grim (**Rich Grimm '79**), and the Seitz brothers (**Don Seitz '77** and **Peter Seitz '79**), **Bill Maloney '80**, **Neil Keane '80**, **Gibbons (Kevin Gibbons '79)** and **Crangle (Joe Crangle '86)**, and many more. It was a reaffirmation and perhaps a realization of what we had been taught: At Canisius, it's not about who you compete against, it's about your brothers who stand with you and you with them.





## JESUIT SPIRIT

*Pamela Jacobs Vogt P'85 served as the first woman to chair the Canisius High School Board of Trustees. Here she shares her different perspectives as a parent, board member and friend of Canisius, as told to Canisius High School Today writer Marty Haumesser.*

My first experience with Canisius High School was in the mid to late 1970s when my late husband, Dr. Lawrence Jacobs, and I were invited to the GAMBIT auction. I was so impressed with the young men I met that evening, I immediately knew I wanted our son, **Christopher Jacobs '85**, to attend Canisius. Since then, Canisius has made all the difference in my life, Chris' life, and in our family life.

After our son graduated, I was the first woman to serve as chairman of the board at a time when school president Fr. James Keenan, S.J. was credited with putting Canisius on solid financial footing. It was wonderful to be part of such a dedicated group, as so many people jumped in to help so that we could raise funds to make more scholarships available to students.

When I was chairman, other board members said they needed a woman's touch and everyone was very supportive and welcoming. So, a woman's touch is what I delivered – we added the sign to the front of the school, complete with flowers and gardens, and spruced up the campus store. It must have worked, because Fr. Keenan later gave me the St. Peter Canisius Award (the highest honor the school bestows, in recognition of exemplary service to the school) which I value very much to this day.

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 “The Jesuits always seem to be there  
 when you need them most.”  
 .....

It is difficult to explain, but the minute I walked into Canisius I felt at home. I still feel that way, even though it has been many years since I served on the board. And, the Jesuits always seem to be there when you need them most.



One incident that really stands out among my Canisius memories was when my husband was very ill and in the hospital. **Fr. Ronald Sams, S.J. '46**, a long-time teacher at the school, came to offer the sacrament of the sick for Lawrence. Hearing of my husband's illness from Fr. Sams, our dear friend **Tom Beecher, Jr. '52**, canceled a business meeting he had scheduled at the World Trade Center in New York City so he could visit Lawrence. The day of the scheduled meeting was September 11, 2001.

Tom's life and the lives of all those who would have been at that meeting were saved. I like to think that is an example of the power of Canisius connections and the Jesuit spirit of “Men for Others.”

Canisius does not rest on its laurels – the school just keeps moving forward. I am so proud every time I drive by and ever grateful to Canisius for so many opportunities to be part of it.



## INSIGHT THROUGH ART

BY CATHERINE PITEK

Catherine Pitek P'00 has taught art at Canisius since 2011. She's pictured here with **Mike Lafferty '20**.

Canisius has changed my life. That was an observation made by my husband, Michael, as I headed out on a Kairos retreat in January. And indeed, it has. I was blessed to be hired as the art teacher at Canisius after teaching art at a Catholic grammar school for 15 years and at the college level earlier in my career. High school was the only level I had not taught, and I hoped that this change would increase my ability to work with students on a more conceptual and skill development level. It did so much more than that. Teaching all boys was a whole new and surprisingly wonderful experience. They take criticism openly, and have learned to take risks and explore new ways of communicating. They may not come into the program thinking of themselves as artists, but I believe that most of them leave with a greater understanding of the world of visual communication and the knowledge that they have ideas that can be shared with others through their own art.

“They (students) have ideas that can be shared with others through their own art.”

I have a unique opportunity to practice the Jesuit ideal of *cura personalis*, the care of the whole person, through art. The arts provide insight into the minds and hearts of our students, and can be a creative outlet to balance the rigors of the Canisius academic program. When they share their work within the studio and school exhibits, it fosters an understanding in their peers. Art allows me, and others, to see a side of the students that is not always evident in the classroom or on a playing field. It always delights me to see a 200 pound linebacker work diligently on a detailed and elegant still life.

Being at Canisius has also increased my understanding of Ignatian Spirituality through the formation programs for faculty and students. My days on retreat and weeks on immersion trips all over the nation with the students and fellow staff members have been some of the most meaningful of my last nine years. My spiritual life has taken on a whole new dimension. Focusing on others has allowed for greater insight about myself. It has helped me to be a more discerning teacher, wife, and mother.

Canisius' recent purchase of the Center for the Arts building is a huge sign of commitment from the administration and board of trustees to our fine arts program. The Center is a special place where students feel like they have ownership in their studio space. A group of students has already left a permanent work of art in the new building – a stained-glass window on the grand staircase landing. With grant money, we commissioned a professional stained-glass artist to guide students in idea generation for the design and train them in the art of stained glass. A unique experience emerged during this project as I worked alongside the young men as a fellow student. Occasions when I can create art with students allows them to see that all artists struggle, but through engagement, practice and persistence we can surmount the problems encountered. Isn't that what life is about?

When I reflect on my years at Canisius, I think about how the collaboration with faculty, staff, parents and students has created something more powerful than one's own work, all for the greater glory of God. This job has indeed changed my life.





## ACT WITH JUSTICE

*In the nation's capital, Crusaders made connections with students from other parts of the world while learning to advocate for justice.*

Twelve Canisius High School students and two faculty members traveled to Washington, DC in November 2019 to participate in the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice – the largest annual Catholic social justice gathering in the United States. The 2,000 conference attendees represented Jesuit colleges and high schools, including schools in Portugal and Latin America. The Canisius students took part in talks and breakout sessions focused on prayer, education, empowerment, and advocacy under the conference theme of “Radical Hope, Prophetic Action.”

“The Ignatian Family Teach-In was a profound experience for our Canisius delegation,” said Joe Van Volkenburg, who serves as an associate campus minister at Canisius. “Much like our custom during Kairos retreats or Companions service immersion trips, we met each evening of the Teach-In to reflect on and process our experiences.”

“The call to act for justice has always resonated with who I am.”

“While the full impact of the Teach-In may not be realized by our students for years to come, we are planting seeds for the next generation to lead and act with justice,” explains Joe.

**Luke Read '20** (wearing pink striped tie) shared the following reflection on the experience:

*I signed up for the Canisius delegation to the Ignatian Family Teach-In because the call to act for justice has always resonated with who I am, yet I never felt like I knew how to actually act on my beliefs.*

*As I entered into the convention hall, I was deeply struck by the sheer number of students from Jesuit schools from around the world that had come together to learn about and act on the shared issues of social justice. There were students there who were directly impacted by difficulties around our country including the crises at the border and the fires out west.*

*Through the break-out sessions and talks, I learned about the importance of advocacy and how to successfully communicate my convictions and values to those who can actively make a difference in policy.*

*As a Canisius student, I've learned that being committed to justice is important, but at the Teach-In, we were able to put these values into practice.*

*The Church's true mission of advocating for faith and justice became clear to me at the Teach-In; I saw how the Jesuit network sought to organize all believers for a common goal: radical hope and prophetic action.*

*I was surprised by the opportunity to have my voice heard as a senior in high school as several politicians were willing to listen to what we had to say.*



## CENTER STAGE

*Chris Handley is back in Buffalo to lead the Alleyway Theatre following theatre adventures in New York City, Indiana, and on the Mississippi River.*

**Chris Handley '01** has had the desire to perform since he was in nursery school when his grandfather took him to the circus. "My dream to this day is to be the ringmaster of the greatest show on earth," Chris laughs.

At Canisius High School, Chris and fellow classmates **Adam Baber '01**, **Sam Russo '01**, and **Dan Zak '01** were not only involved in school theater productions, they also formed their own theater company in their senior year, producing plays during summer breaks in college at various local theaters. His classmates knew then that a bigger stage awaited Chris.

"We always knew Chris was destined to be successful on and off the stage," recalls Adam Baber, former assistant principal at Canisius and current principal at McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester. "I have vivid memories of watching him in *Man of La Mancha* from the orchestra pit – he's not only a tremendously versatile and talented actor, but he has a broad view of the world of theater and all that it takes to make a production work."

Chris is stepping up to that bigger stage this spring as he takes over as executive artistic director at Alleyway Theatre in Buffalo, only the second director to lead the renowned theater since it was founded 40 years ago by Neal Radice. While Chris knows he has some big shoes to fill, he is confident of the theater's continued success because of the collaborative spirit among the dedicated theater artists in Western New York.

"Collaboration is something I first learned about while participating in productions at Canisius," Chris notes. "As students, we were given the freedom to create and try something new, while recognizing

our responsibility to our roles and those of our fellow actors. It is a principle I've developed ever since."

After graduation from Canisius, Chris earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theater from SUNY Fredonia. He came back to Buffalo for a short time – and actually performed in two productions at Alleyway – eventually moving to New York City where he pursued various acting roles while working in box office operations at a Broadway theater. While in New York, he was selected to act and sing on a riverboat that traveled the Mississippi River. Following that experience – which Chris describes as wonderful – he went back to school and earned a Master of Fine Arts from Indiana University, where he first began teaching acting and directing.

*"As (Canisius) students, we were given the freedom to create and try something new."*

Today, in addition to his role at Alleyway, Chris continues to act and is head of the Alleyway Theatre School of Western New York where he teaches beginning, intermediate and advanced acting students. Having founded the Alleyway school, he also teaches directing at his alma mater SUNY Fredonia and works with area high school students to help prepare them for theater in college.

"Canisius demanded a lot and required you to be responsible for yourself, your actions, and your passions," Chris concludes. "I am just so grateful to have had the opportunity and have taken those lessons with me at every stage of my career."



## LEAPS AND BOUNDS

*Bruce Taylor attended Canisius during the tumultuous 1960s before embarking on an international career in dance.*

**Bruce Taylor '69** traveled all the way from his home in Paris, France to join his fellow Canisius High School classmates at their 50th reunion last summer. But that's nothing compared to the journey he has taken since his first steps through the blue doors at Canisius.

Raised by a single mom, with two sisters and a brother, Bruce grew up in Buffalo's Cold Springs neighborhood during the tumultuous 1960s. With good grades in Catholic grammar school, Bruce was encouraged by a teacher to apply to Canisius and he earned a scholarship to attend the high school.

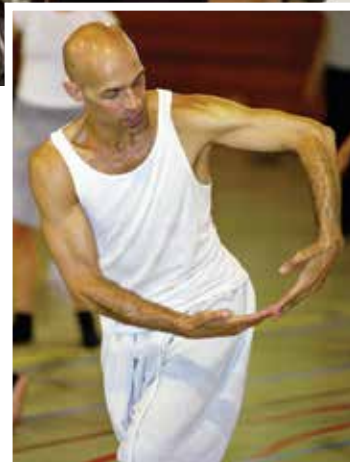
"From the moment I walked through those imposing doors, Canisius became my haven, a safe place for a young African American student," Bruce recalls. "Times were hard then, both in terms of racial issues and economic circumstances, but my haven never let me down, giving me the best and most precious values and principles."

Shy and introverted as a freshman, Bruce soon immersed himself in languages and theater, joining the drama and glee clubs. He had been singing and dancing in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas at the Buffalo Museum of Science prior to coming to Canisius. He also danced on local television on Saturdays during a Top 50 music program. So, he had a leg up in the arts when he came to high school.

"From the moment I walked through those imposing doors, Canisius became my haven, a safe place for a young African American student"

However, Bruce notes that it was Fr. Paul Naumann, S.J. who taught him about theater etiquette and how to get involved in every production. "As our teacher and theater director, he was such an elegant man and I was so proud that he chose me for many roles over my years at Canisius," Bruce says. "He taught us that, as an actor, you have to listen and let the other players have their moment, not overacting. I have carried that lesson throughout my career."

After Canisius, Bruce went to New York University and then North Carolina School of the Arts, earning a Bachelor of Fine



Arts. He then headed to the west coast where he danced in productions before going back to New York City. There, he discovered the world of Alvin Ailey, the country's most famous Black choreographer.

Bruce studied with the Alvin Ailey American Center, the Martha Graham School, and the Dance Theater of Harlem. He made his Broadway debut in "Your Arms Too Short To Box With God" and danced on Broadway in "The Wiz." He also danced in several American films and television shows, before easing on down the road to Europe.

Bruce has lived in Paris for nearly 40 years, performing on French and German television, while teaching dance and choreography in cities across Europe. He currently teaches at the Paris Opera School as well as in various European cities and dance festivals. He also directs his own company of dance called CHOREONYX.

"My path started with Fr. Naumann at Canisius who instilled the flame to keep on going, no matter how difficult it becomes," Bruce concludes. "Thank you Canisius, my haven, for helping me face the future with eyes wide open!"

# STUDENTS TO WATCH

## NIGEL DABNEY '20

"To use my own abilities in a way that can help someone else is rewarding."

**HOMETOWN:** North Buffalo

**FAVORITE CLASSES/TEACHERS:** Ever since I was little I've been good at math. I'll most likely choose a career field that involves math, but I don't know what that career is yet. My academic path at Canisius hasn't been without a few bumps, and I'm thankful for the teachers who've helped me along the way. One in particular is Mr. Hinchcliffe (Craig Hinchcliffe, history). Just one example of what I've learned from him is the importance of taking notes. I was in a mindset that I should earn credit for the notes that I take. But, he helped me see that the real purpose of note taking is to learn the material and I shouldn't be looking at it as a way to earn points. I had been focused on the wrong outcome.

**ACTIVITIES:** Being part of the state championship-winning football team this year was incredible. I've played football all four years

here – middle linebacker and running back – and this year was a roller coaster. I broke my hand part way through the season, but I came back for the playoffs and played with my hand wrapped in a cast. There were so many emotions when we clinched the title on the final play. I had tears running down my face – happy that we won, but sad that this was my last game for Canisius.

**FUTURE PLANS:** SUNY Cortland is probably my number one choice. I'm hoping to play football in college and I like the Cortland coaches and the campus. When I visited, I experienced a welcoming feeling similar to what I experienced when I first visited Canisius. Both felt like places where I could fit in.

**SERVICE:** I enjoyed doing volunteer work with children with special needs at the Dr. Lydia T. Wright School in Buffalo. To use my own abilities in a way that can help someone else is rewarding.



## ANDREW GILL '21

"I wanted new challenges...the many opportunities at Canisius appealed to me."

**HOMETOWN:** Clarence

**WHY I CHOSE CANISIUS:** The many opportunities at Canisius appealed to me. Before high school I was homeschooled, so I wanted new challenges and my parents agreed that going to Canisius would be good for me, too. With homeschooling there is limited social interaction compared to coming to school every day. At first, I was a little uneasy. However, over time, I was able to develop my social skills and I grew more comfortable around people and made many friends at school.

**ACTIVITIES:** My freshman year I played baseball at Canisius and now I play for a team outside of school. I'm working at Wegmans which is a good learning experience. This summer I'm going

on a Companions service immersion trip to Cincinnati and I'm looking forward to that as it's the next step following my Emmaus and Kairos retreats. The self-reflection during the retreats was impactful in getting me to think deeply about who I am and where I can grow.

**FAVORITE CLASS:** My homeschooling prior to Canisius also included lessons at a learning center starting in sixth grade. Latin was one of the subjects I studied there, so I was able to go into Latin 2 when I started at Canisius. I like Latin because I'm interested in history, and Latin ties in with history.

**FUTURE PLANS:** It could be exciting to go out of state for college, but I might stay closer to home. I'm still undecided on where and what I'll study.

**SERVICE:** A moment that sticks with me happened while handing out hot chocolate at St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. There was one person who was so happy and must have said "thank you" twenty times. It's something small – handing out hot chocolate – but to this person it meant a lot. It was a powerful experience for me knowing that I can have an impact on someone even with a small gesture of kindness. Canisius provides opportunities where students are put into places of service.





## SAM HARIG '20

"Emmaus and Kairos were both amazing experiences that helped me open up."

**HOMETOWN:** North Tonawanda

**ALUMNI RELATIVES:** Dan Harig '18, brother; Gary Harig '64, grandfather

**ACTIVITIES:** Being a prefect in the new Canisius House system is an honor. In this role I am one of six students who represents the student body in a leadership capacity. I'm also in the National Honor Society and serve as a captain for the rugby and football teams. Being part of a state championship football team this year was incredible. That's something about my high school experience that I'll never forget.

**FUTURE PLANS:** Ithaca and St. Bonaventure are my top two choices. I want to continue playing rugby in college. As for what I'll study, physical therapy and broadcasting both interest me. I've enjoyed the broadcasting class at Canisius and doing play-by-play for Crusaders games. Working out in the weight room sparked my interest in physical therapy and I think I'd like to help people that way.



**RETREATS:** Emmaus and Kairos were both amazing experiences that helped me open up. I also went on a Companions service immersion trip to New Orleans which allowed me to build bonds with classmates and meet people I would never have met otherwise. One of those people was a man named Lionel who ran the homeless shelter where we stayed. Working with him in the kitchen was eye-opening as we saw the incredible amount of work he does every morning, all for the goal of helping other people. Since my retreats and immersion were so impactful, I want younger students to experience that too, and that's why I worked on the freshman retreat and am preparing to lead an Emmaus.

**ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS:** Don't be an 8:00 to 3:00 guy. Take advantage of the opportunities that Canisius provides – clubs, sports, and retreats.

## SIMON HTOO '20

"Once I let myself be open to learning about my faith I grew more interested."

**HOMETOWN:** Buffalo

**ACTIVITIES:** Coach Pat (Pat Kwiatkowski '72) encouraged me to try bowling and mentored me over the years. I love the family atmosphere of the bowling team, and I've grown attached to the Kwiatkowski family. It was difficult when Coach Pat passed away last fall. I also play rugby which Sam Harig '20 introduced me to a couple of years ago. I enjoy the physical aspect but also the kinship with my teammates.

**FAVORITE CLASS:** When I signed up for Computer Science I had no idea what I was getting into, and when Mr. Amodeo (Eric Amodeo '94) first told us what we'd be doing, it was intimidating. But, the class is fun and I discovered that I like figuring out how to make things work.

**SERVICE:** Working with kids at the Journey's End Refugee Services summer camp made me feel at home. They even taught me some Tigrinya which is the language some

of them speak. My family came to the U.S. from Thailand as refugees in 2008. Learning English was an initial challenge for me. Now I volunteer with the Buffalo State Community Academic Center where I translate for newly arrived families and help them understand differences in American society.

**FUTURE PLANS:** Through sports I've become interested in how muscles work and heal, and I plan to study physical therapy in college so I can help others improve their performance or recover from injuries. My top choices for college are the University at Buffalo, Daemen, and D'Youville. I'd like to stay close to my family.

**ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS:** Be open-minded. For example, I used to attend church and tune out, but once I let myself be open to learning about my faith I grew more interested. I now teach altar server classes and help kids learn about reconciliation and baptism.



## JAHARE HUDSON '20

"Love of self is very important. My Kairos retreat helped me realize that."



**HOMETOWN:** Buffalo

**WHY I CAME TO CANISIUS:** My great aunt wanted me to come here for a better education. I reluctantly transferred in as a sophomore and it was tough at first. I remember sitting by myself at lunch when another student sat down with me. He became my first friend at Canisius, and once I started forming friendships I loved it here.

**FAVORITE TEACHER:** Ms. Doyle (Julie Doyle, history) in particular has been there for me from the beginning. I've struggled with depression and anxiety and there was a time when I had an anxiety attack at school. She saw me in the hallway, brought me into her room, got me water and a cookie, and we talked. Small acts of kindness make a big difference.

**ACTIVITIES:** I'm president of the Culinary Club, and in the Writers Club, Book Club, and Drama Guild. I'm also part of the LGBT community. Being gay and African American – a double minority – contributed to my anxiety and depression, but I want others to know there is hope, and love of self is very important. My Kairos retreat helped me realize that. It was one of my best Canisius experiences, and this year I led a Kairos so I could help other students have their own powerful experience.

**FUTURE PLANS:** Taking AP Psychology helped me decide my college major. Because of my personal struggles, I want to help other people learn to manage their depression and anxiety.

**ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS:** Get to know people. It may be tough at first, but I guarantee there is at least one person out there who wants to get to know you as much as you want to get to know him. In order to see that person, you have to jump in with both feet.

## CONNOR LONG '20

"I value my education...and wanted a school that would challenge me. Canisius was the right fit."

**HOMETOWN:** Attica

**WHY I CHOSE CANISIUS:** When I visited it was clear to me that Canisius students value their education more than students I met at other schools. That stood out because I value my education too and wanted a school that would challenge me. Canisius was the right fit. My dad works in Buffalo and that made the commute easier.

**FAVORITE CLASSES/TEACHERS:** History classes have been some of my favorites, and learning this year about economics through history has helped me nail down a direction for college. I plan on majoring in business or finance. I've also taken Latin all four years with Mr. (John) Anderson and I look forward to his class. He's taught me not simply to care about earning a grade, but to care about what I'm learning.

**FUTURE PLANS:** Ohio State and the University of Pittsburgh are my top choices. Both are top

business schools. When I visited those schools, I sensed that students took pride in being part of the school community. It felt similar to what I've experienced with the Canisius community and I want to continue that sense of community in college.

**ACTIVITIES:** I've played varsity federation hockey all four years and rowed for three years. These sports pushed me as an athlete, helped me develop as a leader, and taught me the importance of teamwork. Teammates must rely on each other to achieve success in these sports.

**RETREATS:** Emmaus and Kairos are so beneficial because they allow us to do something we don't often do – take a step back. Life moves quickly, especially at Canisius, and we sometimes put family, faith, or other important relationships on the back burner. The two or three days on retreat provide time to focus on developing those relationships.





## HENRY MACDONALD '20

"Canisius stood out as having a caring environment, and it has turned out to be everything I thought."

**HOMETOWN:** Williamsville

**WHY I CHOSE CANISIUS:** When I was looking at schools, Canisius stood out as having a caring environment, and it has turned out to be everything I thought. The teachers and fellow students here are willing to help.

**ACTIVITIES:** Sports are big for me. I play volleyball and tennis for Canisius, and all kinds of sports with friends. I enjoy the camaraderie, plus sports can bring a community together. It's evident at our big games when lots of people show up and show their care for each other and their care for the school.

**FAVORITE CLASSES:** U.S. History my junior year was one of my favorites because we learned how our country developed. Going on the school trip to Gettysburg with Mr. Rizzo (**Sam Rizzo '97**, history) was an awesome experience. It added a reality to what we learned in class, plus it was fun being with my classmates for an extended period of time.

**FUTURE PLANS:** My dream job is to work in the sports industry. I'm still deciding where I'll go to college – I've applied to six schools – but wherever I go I'll likely study business.

**RETREATS:** Through the retreats, I was able to grow closer to God by reflecting on my own life and areas where I can improve. The retreats gave me a chance to step back from the day-to-day reality, have fun, and get to know classmates on a deeper level, too. My brother goes to a public high school that, unfortunately for him, doesn't offer anything like this. The retreats helped me grow as a person and better understand who I am.

**ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS:** The harder you work now, the more good habits you'll develop that will help you later in life. Also, Canisius offers opportunities that you won't get at other schools. Take advantage of those opportunities.



## JOE SMOLAREK '20

"Canisius teaches students to behave with a level of respect in everything."



**HOMETOWN:** Elma

**ACTIVITIES:** Baseball is my favorite sport. I played for Canisius my first two years and now I play on a travel baseball team outside of school. What I like about baseball is that it is an individual sport at the plate, but it's a team sport in other aspects and we have to work together to have success.

**FAVORITE CLASS:** Math – although I did not like math at all when I first came to Canisius. Mr. Zera (**Joe Zera '01**) helped change that. He pushed me to work harder when I was struggling and

made himself available for extra help. I've discovered that I like the problem-solving aspects of math, and it's satisfying to do the work and come up with the right answer.

**FUTURE PLANS:** My top choices are the University of Kentucky, University of Tampa, and the University of South Carolina. I want to study business and I'd like to do that someplace warmer than Buffalo. My career goal is to work for the FBI.

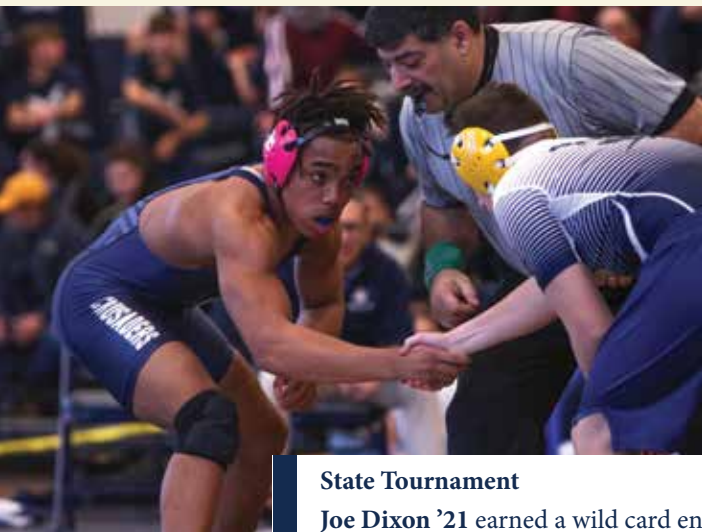
**SERVICE:** During my Companions service immersion trip to Washington, DC we had opportunities to eat and talk with people who came for meals at the soup kitchen where we were working. Listening and learning about the lives of these people, seeing who they are, and how they came to be where they are today, were some of the most impactful parts of that experience.

**HOW CANISIUS HAS CHANGED ME:** There is a degree of seriousness at Canisius which is what I wanted when I chose Canisius to help prepare me for college, but I realize now that it goes beyond academics. Canisius teaches students to behave with a level of respect in everything – how we treat each other and how we treat ourselves. Even something as seemingly minor as the dress code – it's enforced because there is a level of respect expected in how we present ourselves.

# #WhyCHS

## Domination in the Pool

The Canisius swim team captured its 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive Monsignor Martin championship. **Sean Grace '21** (pictured), **Clayton Kibler '20**, **Max Kruglov '21**, **Evan Maynard '21**, **Henry Weimer '22**, **Christian Wilson '22**, and **Matt Woyksnar '22** all qualified for the state championships.



## State Tournament

**Joe Dixon '21** earned a wild card entry in the New York State Public High School Athletic Association state wrestling tournament.



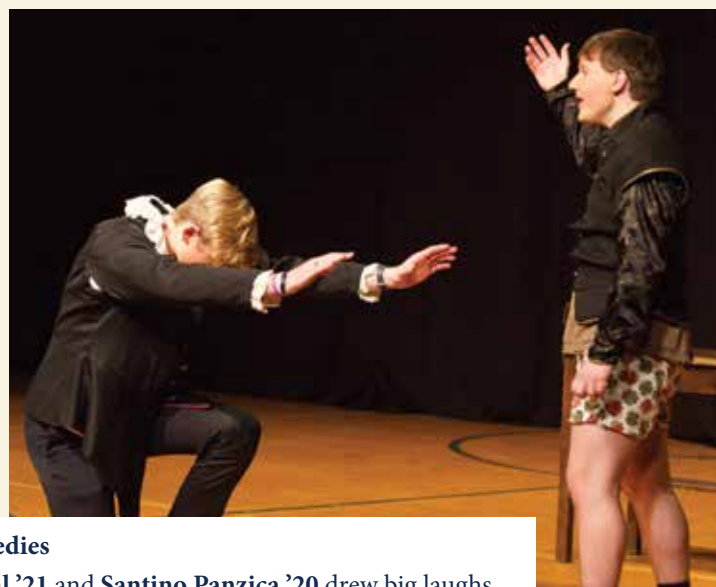
## Full Court Press

Canisius defeated rival St. Joe's twice in the regular season, then again in the Manhattan Cup final to capture the championship. Pictured: **Joe Ciocca '21**.



## Big Steps

**Matthew Minton '21** is a competitive Irish step dancer. He put his skills on display at the Canisius Coffee House. The event raises money for the school's Companions service immersion program.



## One Act Comedies

**Andrew Skakal '21** and **Santino Panzica '20** drew big laughs with their performances in "The Actor's Nightmare," one of five one-act plays produced by the Canisius Drama Guild this year.





# ALUMNI EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...



Former longtime Canisius faculty member Jeff Gemmer dropped the ceremonial first puck at the Alumni Hockey Game at Riverworks in December.



SEPTEMBER

29

**FR. STURM LEGACY FUND LUNCHEON**  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Tom Fontana '69, Emmy-winning television writer/producer whose series include *Oz*, *Homicide: Life on the Street*, and *St. Elsewhere*.

OCTOBER

14

**WASHINGTON, DC ALUMNI RECEPTION**  
OCTOBER 14, 2020

NOVEMBER

18

**BOSTON ALUMNI RECEPTION**  
NOVEMBER 18, 2020

NOVEMBER

21

**FAMILY SERVICE DAY**  
NOVEMBER 21, 2020

JANUARY

2021

**JUG NIGHT**  
JANUARY 22, 2021

FEBRUARY

2021

**FLORIDA ALUMNI RECEPTIONS**  
FEBRUARY 23, 24, 25, 2021

SEE YOU AT

## ALUMNI WEEKEND 2020

JUNE 19-20 \*TENTATIVE\*



### EVENTS INCLUDE:

- Fr. John G. Sturm, S.J. '35 Alumni Golf Classic
- All Alumni Bash  
(all class years, and guests, encouraged to attend)
- School Tours
- Class of 1970 Golden Jubilee Reunion
- Individual Class Gatherings

Visit [canisiushigh.org/weekend](http://canisiushigh.org/weekend) for the latest dates and times.

# ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Share your news. Email [CHStoday@canisiushigh.org](mailto:CHStoday@canisiushigh.org).  
Photos are encouraged.

**Gene Vukelic '48** is a new member of the Western New York Business Hall of Fame. He was one of seven members inducted in 2019. Gene is chairman of Try-It Distributing. He expanded the company from 12 employees in 1960 to 250 employees today.

**Dr. David Zimpfer '48** received the Professional Legacy Award from the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision for his long-term service as national treasurer and business manager, and his significant impact on the organization. He also participated in a recent Honor Flight trip celebrating military veterans which included visits to the war memorials in Washington, DC. David and his wife, Mary Lou, celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary in 2019.

**Joseph Basil, Sr. '50** is thrilled that a 16th Basil is now attending Canisius High School.



**Richard Griffin '50** (photo left) was honored with the 2019 Champion for Justice Award by the Erie County Bar Association's Volunteer Lawyers Project. The award is conferred upon a member of the legal community whose actions have shown her or him to be a true champion for justice. Richard has advocated throughout his career for a pro bono program, and was the driving force for the creation of a legal services for the elderly program.

**Richard Grisanti '50** formally retired from his career as an attorney in 2019. He has seven children, 14 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. The Grisanti family has three generations of attorneys: Richard and his late brother **Eugene '47**, their late father Nicholas, and Richard's son Mark who is a State Supreme Court Judge. "Thank God to date I have no conditions or prescriptions," says Richard.

**Kenneth Schwarz '50** reports that he is enjoying good health, traveling, singing in a barbershop chorus and church choir. He dislikes raking leaves, shoveling snow, and poor showings of Notre Dame football games. "All activities are great with my wife, Linda," says Kenneth.

**Tom Beecher '52** has dedicated his time since October 2018 to the "Movement To Restore Trust" in the Diocese of Buffalo. Find more information at [movementtorestoretrust.org](http://movementtorestoretrust.org).

**Steve DiPasquale '52** and his wife Fran have been enjoying retirement for 25 years. They have two daughters and two sons, 14 grandchildren, and as of June 2020 they will also have 14 great grandchildren. Steve and Fran enjoy Western New York in the summer and Boca Raton, FL for the winter months. They will celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary on June 29. "Our great Canisius class of 1952 still has quite a few members able to get together a few times each year to tell stories and have hot dogs or lunch together," says Steve. "We may have enough of us to celebrate our 65th class reunion in a couple more years."

**Don Donius '52** moved to a patio home in Clarence Center, and spent another winter in Florida after the holidays.

**James Farry, Jr. '52** retired from GM/Delphi and was inducted into GM/Delphi Inventors Hall of Fame. He has five children and eight grandchildren.

**Fr. Mark Friel '52** says all is well in the aging process for him, and life as a Catholic priest continues to be a blessing and a joy.

**Ed McCarthy '52** and his wife Ann spent their 19th winter in Palm Bay, FL. They welcomed their eighth great grandchild in August 2019.

**Joe Mercurio '52** is celebrating his 30th year of retirement from the IRS. He's also continuing to celebrate 27 years as a deacon in the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo and, during the winter months, for our Lady of Lourdes parish in Venice, FL.



**Dr. Anthony Bartholomew '53** continues as member of the faculty at NEOMED-U (Northeastern Ohio Medical University) in Rootstown, Ohio where he is tasked with rating medical students' encounters with simulated patients.

**James Manak '53** is an adjunct law professor and the author of a monthly criminal law publication called *Care Commentaries on Interrogation Issues*.

**Donald Jankowski '54** and his wife Lorraine are celebrating 58 years of marriage this June. "Seems impossible," says Donald. "So many years of precious love, the birth of three treasured babies, spats and making up, forgiving and forgetting and sweet friends we met on the way."

**Thomas McGuire '54** retired in 1994 after 40 years of service at Union Carbide. He has seven children, 26 grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. Tom and his wife, Grace, have been married 61 years.

**Joe Godfrey, S.J. '56** has retired from teaching philosophy at St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia.

**Jim Maul '56** and his wife Carol spent three weeks on a land tour and Mekong Delta river cruise of Cambodia and Vietnam. "The two countries were beautiful and the people were very hospitable," says Jim. "We recommend a visit."

**Dr. Ronald Zielin '56** is a clinical assistant professor at the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine.



**Peter Nolan '57** (photo left) received a Silver Circle award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Chicago Chapter in May 2019. The Silver Circle honors broadcasters who have contributed 25 years of outstanding service to Chicago television. Peter's latest book, *News Stories*, a Memoir chronicles his career as a broadcast journalist from Niagara Falls to Youngstown, Ohio to Chicago in the latter half of the 20th century.



**Robert Bennett '58** (photo left) is working with a new initiative called the Opportunities Collaborative for Students with Special Needs. The group's mission is to improve the capacity of charter schools, non-public schools, and early childhood providers across Western New York to ensure they are equipped to provide high quality supports and services to students with a wide range of learning differences.

Robert served for 20 years on the New York State Board of Regents, including seven years as chancellor. He was appointed chancellor emeritus, a lifetime title, in 2009.

**Robert Brady '58** was inducted into the Buffalo Business Hall of Fame. As president and CEO of Moog, Inc. from 1988 to 2011 he led the company on a vast expansion through acquisitions and product-development efforts. He remains active in the Western New York community and serves as chairman of M&T Bank Corp. He is also a board member of Albright-Knox Art Gallery and Astronics Corp.

**Aloysius Stanton '59** and his wife have been enjoying "green" living (no snow) in Florida since 2016. He owned a direct marketing business for 15 years before selling it in 2013, and then did consulting work for two years. Aloysius and his wife have seven grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

**Bill Hamilton '60** is continuing to live the Canisius experience 60 years after graduating. His three grandsons, sons of his daughter Holly Kerwin, are currently on the Canisius Honor Roll with First Honors. **Luke Kerwin '20** plays goalie for the Canisius varsity federation hockey team, **Andrew Kerwin '21** plays left tackle for the Canisius state champion football team, and **Nick Kerwin '23** is on the JV football team. Bill's son **Allen Hamilton '88** is a successful financial executive.



**Rick Herrmann '62** gathered with other Herrmanns recently on Waikiki in Honolulu. Left to right are Brody Herrmann (potentially) '25, **Kurt Herrmann '88**, **Rick Herrmann '62**, and **AJ Herrmann '00**.

**Richard Ralyea '65** retired after spending many years designing and building Food Service Millwork as the owner of Richcraft, Inc., and then selling the company to Buffalo Hotel Supply in 1996. He established BHS Fabrication and maintained managerial duties there until the end of 2009. He is currently enjoying domestic duties at home with Diane, his wife of 52 years, who shares many of his Canisius memories as his dance partner since 1962. They have four adult children and four grandchildren.



**Joe Catalano '66** (photo left) is enjoying teaching urban and regional planning at the California State Polytechnic University Pomona. He says there is "no retirement in sight."

**Paul Inderbitzen '67** retired from the clinical laboratory at Lowell General Hospital in Lowell, MA after 46 years of service. He was the manager of the blood bank and transfusion service for 30 years and was an adjunct faculty member in the Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. He currently serves as the moderator for the town of Hudson, NH and the Hudson School District. In this position he is responsible for running all town, school, and state elections.

**Michael Madden '67** received the National Eagle Scout Association's Outstanding Eagle Scout Award. This award recognizes Eagle Scouts who have demonstrated outstanding achievement at the local, state, or regional level, and made a positive impact in the community. Mike is the co-founder and managing partner of BlackEagle Partners, LLC, a private equity firm. In 2012, Mike helped launch the Madden School of Business at Le Moyne College.

**John Connolly '68** was honored with the LaSalle Medal by the Canisius College Alumni Association in 2019. The medal recognizes outstanding alumni whose contributions to the college have advanced its mission. John serves as a trustee for both Canisius College and Canisius High School.

**James Hojnacki '68** retired from Praxair Turbomachinery in August 2017 but continues to operate Hojnacki's Tree Farm in Bennington, NY.

**John Moloney, Jr. '69** wants alumni to know that he is alive and well, and has been living south of Buffalo for 42 years.

**Rick Klee '70** retired last September after 21 years as tax director for the University of Notre Dame. He enjoys getting together with **Ed Posluzny '70** and occasionally **Peter Kreher '70** at Notre Dame football tailgates.

**Tom Pepe '70** was recently reappointed to the County College of Morris board of trustees by the Morris County Freeholders and was elected to a two-year term as board chair. He also serves as chair of NORWESCAP, the Northwest New Jersey Community Action Program, Inc., which provides a broad range of social, health, wellness, educational and nutritional services to thousands of residents of Northwest New Jersey. His wife of 45 years, Donna, also volunteers for a number of advocacy organizations.

**Thomas Ruffino '70** was appointed president and CEO of Fandango Sanctuary in Englewood, FL. Fandango is a donkey, horse, and farm animal rescue nonprofit organization.

**Dr. Thomas Kaminska '71** celebrated the birth of an eighth grandchild on December 14, 2019. "We are so happy all eight are local," says Tom.

**Peter Velocci '71** recently retired and is looking forward to traveling and enjoying various culinary experiences. He and his son **Nicholas '04** attended JUG Night 2020 in January at Canisius where they "had a great time eating, drinking and celebrating with other alumni."

**Rodney Krysztof '72** recently gathered with classmates for a Canisius College vs. University at Buffalo basketball game. The high school classmates cheered for their respective colleges while enjoying each other's company. "UB won, but no harsh 'shots' were given to the Griffin grads, although a few beers were had," reports Rodney. Pictured left to right: **Rocky Krysztof '72, Bill O'Connor '72, Gene Rudzinski '72, Dan Joyce '72, Mike Murray '72** (UB cap), **John Toolen '72, and John Buszka '72.**



**John Maggiotto '73** participated in the "Art on Paper" fair in New York City's Pier 36 in March 2020. The event features top modern and contemporary paper-based art.

**Dr. John Scandurra '79** co-founded Aria CV, Inc. which in February 2020 was granted breakthrough device designation from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for its Aria CV Pulmonary Hypertension System (Aria CV PH System). The implanted Aria CV PH System is designed to restore the benefits of a healthy, elastic pulmonary artery, which in turn reduces cardiac workload and enhances blood flow. These benefits have the potential to improve both duration and quality of life.

**Greg Siemankowski '83** has been appointed to a judgeship in Texas and is hearing cases regarding power generation, water rights, and telecom.

**Nelson Cosgrove '85** has joined Mazda North American Operations as its director of motorsports. Nelson was previously a senior manager for Toyota Racing Development USA.



**Sam Burruano, Jr. '86** (photo left) was elected general counsel and corporate secretary for Financial Institutions, Inc. and its banking, investment, and insurance subs: Five Star Bank, Courier Capital, LLC, SDN Insurance Agency, LLC, and HNP Capital, LLC.



**Michael Jones '89** (photo left) is a partnership sales specialist for AAA Western and Central New York. He manages local, regional, and national AAA corporate partners and oversees the corporate group membership program in the region.



**Andy Deyell '91** (photo left) will return to Canisius High School in summer 2020 and will become the school's next vice president for institutional advancement. Andy has served as the Elmwood Franklin School's head of school since 2014.

**Alex Gress '91** accepted the position of executive vice president and chief financial officer with

the Hamister Group, a healthcare and hotel management company. Alex was previously the president of 43North, a state-funded business competition that brings high-tech startups to Buffalo.

**Brian Rider, Ph.D. '91** is a professor in the department of mathematics at Temple University. His current research is focused on random matrix theory, or the study of universal properties of the spectrum of "typical" linear operators in the infinite dimensional limit.



**Dan Bridon '92** (photo left) was promoted to the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army in his 23rd year of active duty service in October 2018, shortly following completion of medical battalion command at Ft. Belvoir, VA. He has since completed an Army War College Fellowship year at the Department of Health and Human Services, and is working on staff at the Defense Health Agency in Falls Church, VA. He was also recently selected for a second command tour in 2021 to be the commander of Reynolds Army Community Hospital in Fort Sill, OK. Dan and his wife Diane live with the youngest of their three children in Manassas, VA and are parishioners at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Lake Ridge, VA.



**Jason Young '92** is in his eighth season coaching volleyball for Hamilton Southeastern High School in Fishers, IN.



**Michael McGreevy '97** (photo left) has built a successful executive coaching and leadership development practice over the past five years and serves leaders across the country. Some of his local clients include executives from Kaleida Health and ACV Auctions. He is happily married to

his wife Lydia, and they live in the Elmwood village with their three children.



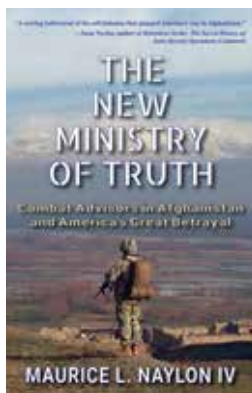
**Nicholas Mineo '97** (photo left) recently celebrated the third anniversary of Core Consultancy, a business management consultancy he co-founded and directs. Core Consultancy specializes in building compliance and ethics programs across industries including construction, healthcare, religious, sports, entertainment, and gambling.

**Joe Beecher '99** joined the board of directors for the Girls Education Collaborative. He is the father of two daughters, and is a senior investment advisor with Dopkins Wealth Management LLC. Joe also previously served on the Canisius High School Alumni Board of Governors.

**Chris Handley '01** starred as Buddy the elf in MusicalFare Theatre's production of "Elf the Musical" in November-December 2019.

**Dan Paolini '02** was honored by Christ the King School with the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award. Dan is the CEO at NexxusPoint, a Buffalo-based consulting and staffing solutions provider. He is also the president of the Kenmore Mercy Hospital Foundation's board of trustees and board chair of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Western & Central New York chapter. Dan is also an active supporter of St. Luke's Mission of Mercy.

**John Montesanti '03** recently moved back to Buffalo and accepted a position as an immigration attorney at Serotte Reich, PLLC.



**Maurice "Chipp" Naylor '05** recently completed his service in the Marine Corps, and published a memoir about his combat deployment to Afghanistan titled *The New Ministry of Truth: Combat Advisors in Afghanistan and America's Great Betrayal*. Chipp and his wife Jenna live in Richmond, VA.

## TELL US WHAT'S NEW

- *Started a new job?*
- *Got married?*
- *Welcomed a baby?*
- *Retired?*
- *Wrote a book?*
- *Starred in a play?*
- *Won a championship?*
- *Launched a business?*
- *Celebrated an anniversary?*
- *Traveled the world?*

Whatever you've been up to, your fellow Crusaders would like to hear about it. To share your news, email [CHStoday@canisiushigh.org](mailto:CHStoday@canisiushigh.org). Photos are encouraged.

**You may also mail news to:**

**Canisius High School**  
Office of Communications  
1180 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14209

**BEST SUMMER EVER. 2020**

**SPORTS CAMPS**  
For rising sixth through ninth grade boys

**WONDER WEEK WORKSHOPS**  
For rising sixth and seventh grade boys

**VIDEO GAME DESIGN AND ANIMATION**

**ROBOTICS AND SCIENCE OLYMPIAD**

**ROBOTICS AND MATH IN MOTION**

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**

**HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**  
For rising eighth grade boys

**FOR DATES AND TIMES, GO TO [CANISIUSHIGH.ORG/BESTSUMMEREVER](http://CANISIUSHIGH.ORG/BESTSUMMEREVER)**



**Connor Mangan '11** attended the 50th Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland in January 2020. Connor is the deputy chief of staff to Kevin Sneider, the global managing partner at management consulting firm McKinsey & Company. The most discussed theme at the Forum was climate change and sustainability, and how businesses can shift to a carbon neutral and eventually a carbon negative operating model. Topics ranged from reinforcing foundations of flood-prone cities to electrifying transport and scaling up hydrogen power. "Other highlights included meeting people from all over the world and the fantastic skiing," Connor says. He is pictured here with his mother, Martha. Connor and **Andrew Atkinson '11** also organized a morning of volunteering in New York City earlier this year. With a group of friends, including many from Jesuit high schools around the country, they served food at the Xavier Mission in Manhattan. Connor and Andrew look forward to organizing more volunteering events in the future.

**Cole Townsend '11** received his BA in Art History from Williams College in 2015 and is living in Cambridge, MA where he works as a product designer at Robin Powered, Inc., a provider of cloud-based workplace scheduling and management software. Cole has continued his competitive running career that began at Canisius, and he is running for the Tracksmith Hare AC where he competes in cross country and indoor mile, 3K, and 5K.

**Brian Nguyen '12** is working with Canisius on an Otterbox deal to protect students' iPads.



**Ryan Hunter '13** (photo left) is a Super Bowl champion. Ryan is an offensive guard for the Kansas City Chiefs. The Chiefs defeated the San Francisco 49ers for the NFL championship on February 2, 2020.

**Michael Kenefick '15** donated peripheral blood stem cells in November 2019 through the "Be The Match" bone marrow donation program after he was matched with a patient in need of a transplant.



# The Jesuit Mission Continues

*The Society of Jesus—  
serving at the heart of the Church  
and at the margins since 1540*  
AMDG



**JESUITS**

To learn more, visit  
[BeAJesuit.org](http://BeAJesuit.org)

*Pictured: The East Coast Jesuits in formation*





**Andrew Slattery '16** and **Michael Feeley '16** will both be commissioned as Naval officers in May. Andrew will serve on a surface warship, and Michael will serve on a submarine. The two are pictured at left at their final Notre Dame ROTC Navy Ball.

**Daniel Kane '17** is a junior at Loyola University in Chicago and is making plans to attend law school.

**Casimir Zablotzki '18** spent summer 2019 studying at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland. He wrote about the experience for the website Enquiry: Free Thought and Discourse.

**Connor Morrissey '19** achieved the rank of Eagle Scout with Troop 58. For his Eagle Scout project he refinished shelters at Don Miller Park in North Tonawanda, which serves as a campsite and park for the community.

## WEDDINGS



**Ryan Gannon '09** (photo above) married Olivia Keisic in July 2019.

## BIRTHS



**Dan Frank '86** and his wife, Angelica Grisales, welcomed their first son, Mateo Sebastian Frank (photo left), in August 2019 in Anchorage, Alaska. Dan manages his own environmental consulting business, and Angie works at a surgery center.



**Nick Zinter '01** and his wife Maggie welcomed their son, Henry Francis (photo left) on December 12, 2019.



**Steven Kos '05** and Caroline Polino announced the birth of daughter Claire Marie Kos (photo left) on December 10, 2019. She was 20.5 inches and weighed 7.85 pounds. She is the granddaughter of **Stephen "Gary" Kos '69** and **Frank Polino '77**, and the niece of **Frank Polino '09**.



**Mark Piegay '06** welcomed a son, Liam Richard Piegay (photo left) – 8.95 pounds, 21 inches – on November 27, 2019.

## IN MEMORIAM *We remember alumni of whose passing we've learned since December 2019.*

Charles R. Bigelow '42

Ladislaus "Walter" J. Kostrzewski '44

Lawrence W. Grogan '48

Robert H. Schumacher '48

Ronald P. Bowers '49

Dennis P. Heimback '49

Joseph R. Mullen '49

Frank R. Weitz '49

Gerald R. Schabel '50

William L. Holcomb '52

Thomas W. Morsheimer '52

Ronald T. Deahna '54

Kenneth J. Hohl '55

Roy F. Schrett '55

Peter J. Wacks '58

Peter M. Kooshoian '59

Joseph T. Dray '67

Douglas V. Drumsta '68

Patrick S. O'Keefe '71

Mark L. Malczewski, Ph.D. '73

Andrew P. Bernolak '77

Jonathan C. Litwin '88

Stefano J. Galante '19

*We also mourn the passing of former longtime Canisius athletic director Jim Skipper. He served at Canisius for 40 years until his retirement in 2006.*



Canisius High School  
1180 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14209

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 847  
BUFFALO, NY

The background of the lower half of the poster features a photograph of two male students smiling and looking at each other. The student on the left is wearing a white dress shirt and a patterned tie, while the student on the right is wearing a dark blue zip-up sweater over a collared shirt. In the background, there is a large, faint image of a wheel and a collage of student portraits.

# ONE DAY ALL IN

## Canisius Day of Caring

Mark Your Calendar:  
**May 28, 2020**

Andrew Sabuda '22 and Chris Sabuda '22