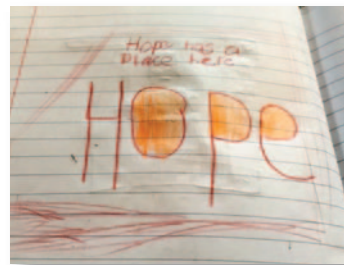
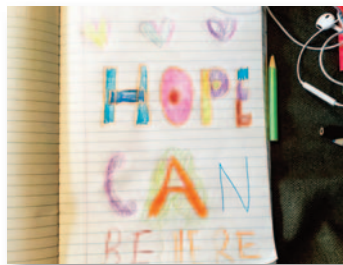
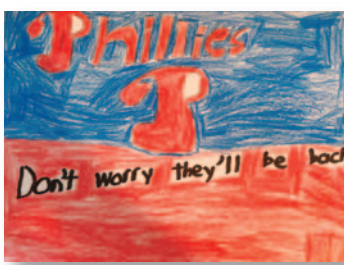
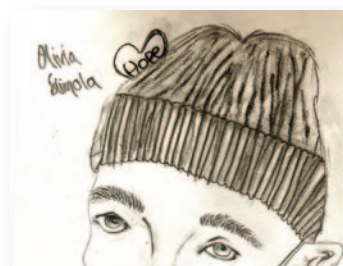
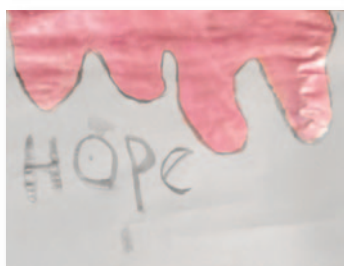
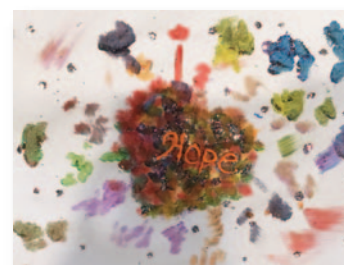




**100 YEARS**   
 UNITED IN MISSION  
 NORWOOD-FONTBONNE  
 ACADEMY

# TheGoodNews

**WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER**



## THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NORWOOD-FONTBONNE ACADEMY

**About the cover:** 'Hopeful' artwork from NFA students in grades 4 to 6, which was displayed in Baker Street Bread Co., in Chestnut Hill this spring



## Mission Statement

Founded in 1920 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy is a Catholic Independent academy for preschool to eighth grade students. Committed to a strong academic program, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy offers both Montessori and creative interactive education enriched by service learning, outreach, and co-curricular experiences. Within a faith-filled community, students are challenged to become self-directed persons who live gospel values, enjoy learning, make reflective choices, and treasure themselves, others, and the Earth.

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Nancy Nadler, *Director of Business Operations*

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Trish Bradley, *Director of Communications and Marketing*

Dan O'Sullivan, *Director of Campus Ministry*

David Rodgers, *Director of Technology*

Erin Wallin, *Director of Admissions*

Jim Rockenbach, *Director of Athletics*

### MAGAZINE STAFF

**Contributors:** Trish Bradley, Angelo Milicia, Dr. Ryan Killeen, Annmarie Greenberg, *Alumni Relations Manager*, Terri Hutsell, *former Associate Director of Donor & Community Engagement*

**Designer:** Biddle Design

# Welcome



Dear NFA Community,

This was not the school year that any of us had imagined when we began last September. The flooded classrooms that sidelined our fifth and sixth grades seem a minor bump after the complete closure of our school for the last trimester. It has been a challenging year to say the least.

From challenges, though, come growth and change. It was sometimes difficult, but the growth and change that we have undertaken this year has made us stronger as a school community. The cover line on this long-awaited *The Good News* is “We Are All in This Together,” and I believe that wholeheartedly.

In this issue, you’ll continue to see all of the good things we’ve been able to accomplish despite our setbacks. The launch of our Strategic Plan, Directed Toward Tomorrow, and its continued committee development, to the performance of “The Lion King Jr.” by our Drama Club this month shows us that we can persevere. For a school that hasn’t been in person since March, we have a lot to report!

My thanks to our families, alumni and their families, friends and the Sisters of Saint Joseph for holding us up and keeping us in your prayers these past few months. It was your encouraging words, your messages of thanks, and your offerings of help that kept us all moving forward. We continue to ask for your prayers as we plan for the next academic year.

For our staff and students, especially the Class of 2020, my deepest thanks go to you. Your adaptability and resiliency were inspiring. This was quite a different year, but we all got through it with the help of each other and God. We continue to live and work so that all may be united with God and one another.

As we begin our 100th year, I am reminded of how many storms must have come through our campus over the years. We have weathered them all, and we will get through whatever comes our way together, united in the Mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Enjoy the magazine!

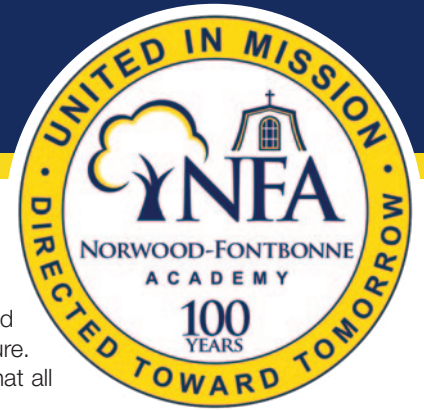
In Christ’s Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ryan Killeen".

Ryan Killeen, Ed.D.  
President



# Strategic Plan Update



**We have come a long way** since we began our Strategic Plan, Directed Toward Tomorrow 2020-2025, last spring. This almost 18-month undertaking has been a dynamic and passionate process for so many with a deep investment in Norwood-Fontbonne Academy and its future. At the heart of this process has been the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph (SSJ) as we seek “that all may be united with God and one another.”

Participants throughout the formulation of the plan took a critical eye and introspective approach. Whether part of focus groups, or completing an electronic survey, faculty, staff, parents, alumni, parents of alumni, Advisory Board members, and several of the Sisters of St. Joseph were honest and specific in their comments, and provided concrete examples of our successes and our challenges.

This honesty gave the Planning Retreat teams a solid base from which to start as they worked over a weekend in October. With guidance from consulting firm Partners in Mission, teams were tasked with defining strategic goals and preliminary objectives, based on previous data collection. These goals and objectives were further enhanced for December listening sessions, where feedback was collected from parents, alumni, parents of alumni, faculty and staff, and student groups. Minor edits and refinement to goals and objectives were made based on this process.

The plan was presented for ratification with Advisory Board and Congregation of the SSJ in January. The following month, President Killeen presented goals, objectives and strategies at a Community Meeting where he officially launched the Strategic Plan.

Although these past few months have been a different way to work, we continue to make progress on the goals set forth.



## Identity and Relationship

**Rooted in the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy**

**will:** Cultivate an inclusive faith-filled community that nurtures global citizens committed to relationships with self, others, and Earth.

- Six faculty and staff members participation in Spirits on Fire, a year-long, mission-centered formation program for lay leaders affiliated with CSSJ Congregations and ministries
- Intentional branding of SSJ in all materials
- Service Learning Curriculum and Community Service Corps Redesign and Reinvigoration
- Creation of the Campus Ministry Committee

## Student Experience

**Rooted in the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy will:** Extend excellence in academics, service learning, arts, and co-curricular/athletic programs to provide a

sustainable, individual, and holistic student experience.

- Self-assessment growth objectives in Math, DEI, and Service Learning
- Articulation with High Schools and performance assessment
- Chestnut Hill College Partnership
- Formation of Student Life Committee, and subcommittees for Athletics, Arts and Co-Curriculars
- Phase one of new Curriculum Guides
- Expanded Faculty Mentorship and Professional Development program
- Vertical and Horizontal Articulation
- Redefined grade clusters, Strengthened Middle School Model
- Formulation of a Curriculum Council





## Belonging and Inclusion

**Rooted in the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy will:** Co-create a community and culture of belonging that responds to the lifelong call to be engaged persons who impact the world with a love that unites.

- Staff training and professional development in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Collaboration with Carney Sandoe & Associates
- Establishment of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Council

## Vitality and Stewardship

**Rooted in the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy will:** Strengthen and steward an integrated, fiscally responsible operating model to ensure a strong, holistic educational experience.

- Established the NFA Endowment and Investment Committee
- Phase One launch of Finals site school website; Phase Two beginning in the fall
- Ravenna online admissions software
- Launch of 100th Anniversary events planning
- Re-establishment of the Enrollment and Marketing Committee



## Campus Environment

**Rooted in the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Norwood-Fontbonne Academy will:** Sustain a safe, functional, and welcoming campus that supports, stimulates, and advances the dynamic needs of students, families and staff while facilitating relationships with others and Earth.

- Consultation with architectural firms and RFP for Master Planning
- Preparation for Master Plan implementation

As you can see, our work continues as we identify clear goals for NFA so that we may chart our course and most fully realize the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph, providing the highest quality, formative educational experience for our students in both the immediate and distant future.

Many thanks to President Killeen, and Strategic Planning Co-chairs Paula M. Riley and Terry Merkle, and all who participated in the formulation of this plan that provides a clear road map by which the administration, faculty, and staff will navigate our growth from 2020-2025. The goals and objectives defined will set the way to establishing a more vibrant and valuable Catholic school to serve God's children.

## Spotlight on Curriculum Council

### Summer Professional Development for all NFA Teachers: Adaptable Teaching

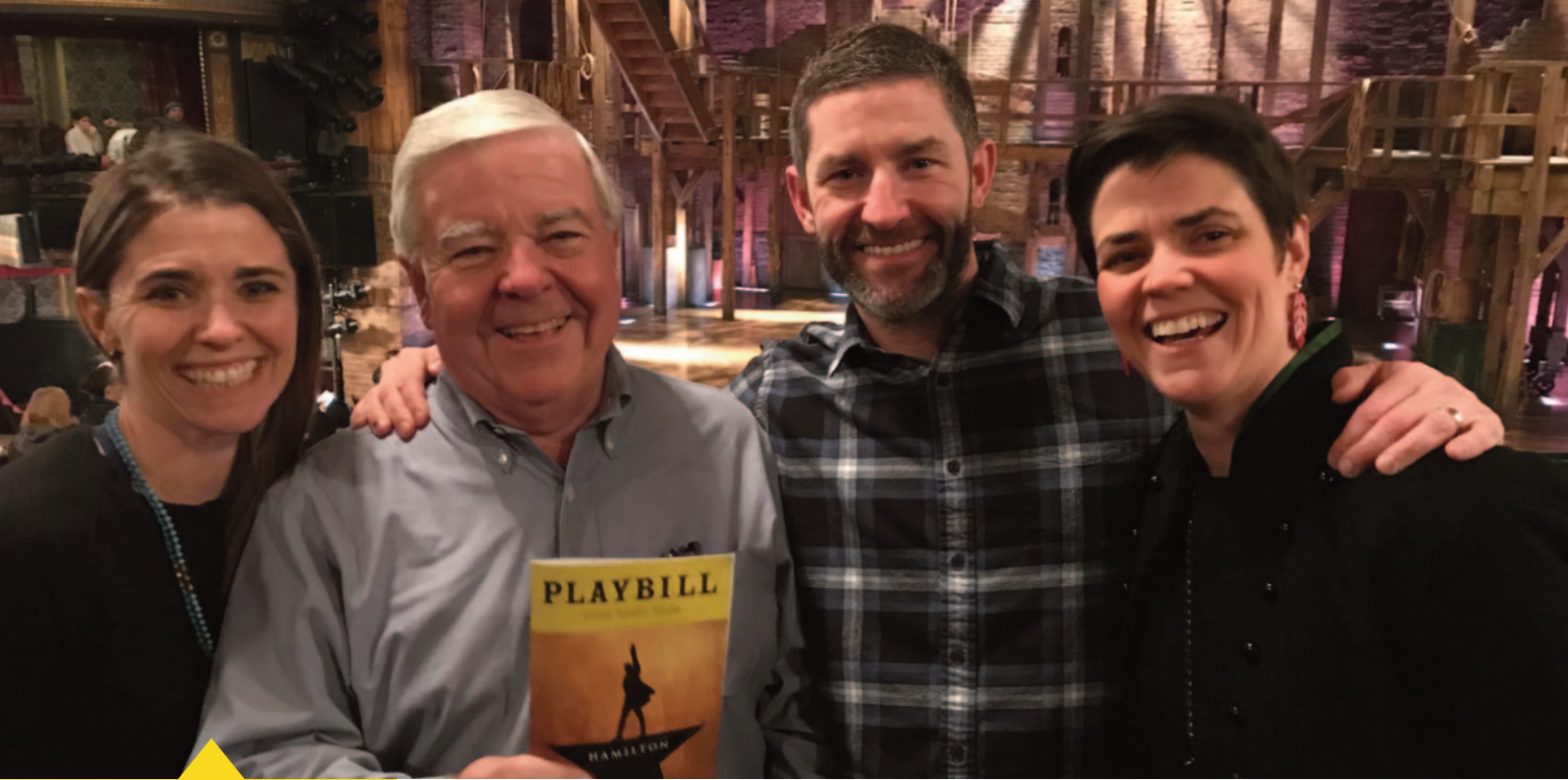
All NFA teachers are participating in a five-week professional development experience developed by the Curriculum Council before the start of school this fall. It is a self-paced model with weekly opportunities for new learning and then sharing and connecting in live sessions. The framework and content were created to support teachers as they prepare for adaptable, flexible teaching that could easily transfer between an in-person model or distance-learning model, if need be.

The weekly modules include topics that focus on:

- pedagogy and understanding our learners
- curriculum and instructional design choices
- adaptable instruction and assessment
- effective online teaching
- social and emotional learning

This opportunity creates a space for NFA teachers to reflect, learn, plan, and prepare in their individual areas of curriculum and instruction, while collectively growing as a community of educators.

# Creating the Foundation



Phil Hughes, with children, Chrissy Hughes Curci '91, Phil Hughes III '93, and Colleen Hughes Frens '97

## EITC/OSTC

Norwood-Fontbonne Academy is extremely grateful to all of its generous benefactors who support our mission, deeply rooted in the charism of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, through The NFA Fund. Another vital source of support comes from participation in the state of Pennsylvania's Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) Programs. Enacted in 2001, these programs enable businesses and qualified individuals to redirect their state tax dollars to Norwood-Fontbonne Academy to provide tuition assistance for qualified students. Approved businesses receive a 75 or 90 percent tax credit to offset their state taxes, making an NFA education in reach for many deserving families.

In addition to providing much needed tuition assistance, the EITC/OSTC programs indirectly benefit all of the students of Norwood-Fontbonne Academy. NFA is able to maintain a healthy enrollment, affordable tuition rates for all families, and continue its commitment to providing a quality education to children of diverse socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds aligned with the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

"Our children and grandchildren have been very fortunate to be able to attend Norwood-Fontbonne Academy. We feel that if a child is academically qualified to attend a school like NFA, they should not be constrained from attending because of his or her financial situation," says Phil Hughes, parent of Chrissy Hughes Curci '91, Phil Hughes III '93, and Colleen Hughes Frens '97, and grandparent to Joseph '24, Veronica '26 and Erin '29 Curci. "The alternatives for public education in Philadelphia are less than ideal. The state has developed this EITC and OSTC program to give parents an alternative." The program is uniquely special in that, "it allows individuals...to divert a portion of their tax dollars to private schools to allow children...to obtain a better education," he adds.

Another benefit of a robust EITC/OSTC program is that it can potentially free up dollars from The NFA Fund that may have otherwise been used for tuition assistance, allowing for greater unrestricted funding for the purpose of mission-related advancement.

To learn more about the EITC/OSTC programs and see how redistributing your Pennsylvania state taxes could help support a student at NFA, [CLICK HERE](#)

# Letter from **Advancement**



The 2019-20 school year was a year unlike any other. It was a time of uncertainty and fear; a time of cancellations and social distancing. It was also a time of hope and a chance for the entire NFA community to come together in support of one another.

The NFA Fund, our unrestricted annual giving program, essentially ground to a halt with the shift to remote learning. Solicitations were scaled back, and although our first Alumni March Madness Giving Challenge continued, it was much more subdued than originally planned. With so many families facing financial insecurity, we didn't think it would be an appropriate time to continue to ask for donations.

A truly inspiring thing happened during this tumultuous period – the gifts continued to come in. Alumni continued to participate in the March Madness Challenge, with the Class of 2012 winning the inaugural NFA Cup, awarded to the most spirited alumni class with the highest participation to The NFA Fund. Many current parents who were refunded money for aftercare and spring sports opted to donate instead to The NFA Fund or the Eighth Grade Legacy Gift. Individuals who purchased tickets for our spring event, NFA Trivia Night, elected to have their ticket fees donated to the school as a gift to The NFA Fund or exchanged for additional raffle tickets for our Taste of Philly raffle that was to be held the night of the event.

Gifts continued to come in support of NFA, whether it was through Giving Tuesday NOW, our online auction #TogetherforNFA or as donations towards our virtual game nights held in April and May. These game nights were each a fun chance to “get out” for the night during quarantine and “see” other NFA families and friends. Anyone who had the chance to join us for one or more of these events could see just how special the NFA community truly is.

As the fiscal year came to an end on June 30, we exceeded our goal of raising \$200,000 for The NFA Fund. Donors to our EITC/OSTC programs, which directs Pennsylvania tax dollars to NFA, contributed just under \$250,000 that is used for tuition assistance for qualified students. Our online auction and other events raised an additional \$16,000 and the tireless work of our NFAPA Scrip program raised more than \$11,000 for NFA. These figures would have been unthinkable in mid-April, as what we expected to be a short shutdown was extended for the rest of the school year. Our parents, parents of alumni, alumni and friends recognized the importance of the mission of Norwood-Fontbonne Academy and rallied in support of the school. Thank you all for your generous support! You allow us to look to our 100th year with high hopes for the future!

Angelo Milicia  
*Director of Institutional Advancement*  
amilicia@norfon.org

**CLICK HERE** to support NFA!

# President's Reception

This year's annual President's Reception was held in the Big House on the Norwood campus on September 26, 2019 to acknowledge members of the Blue and Gold Society, the most generous donors of The NFA Fund, and supporters of our EITC/OSTC programs. Their support assists Norwood-Fontbonne Academy in fulfilling its mission in preparing our students to come self-directed persons who live gospel values, enjoy learning, make reflective choices, and treasure themselves, others, and the Earth while realizing their unique potential. Our distinguished guests were treated to cocktails and hors d'oeuvres while entertained by the musical talent of pianist Radek Cohen '21, followed by an inspiring performance of the NFA Note-ables. Kyle Doerzbacher '21, President, NFA Student Council, Angelo Milicia, Director of Institutional Advancement, and President Ryan Killeen, Ed.D., each spoke to the guests in attendance from the steps of the Big House to thank them for their support, stressing the vital role of The NFA Fund and the impact their generous support has on our entire student body.



(from left) Dr. Ryan Killeen, President, joins 100th Anniversary Gala co-chairs (from left) David and Robin Comerford, and Jackie and Tim Woolley, parents of alumni



(from left) Jay '88 and Susie '88 Valinis, parents of alumni, and current parents Katie Ciolko, Mirusia Jablonski-Cohen, and Jonathan Cohen, with their son, Jonah '24



(from left) Judy Lloyd, current parent, S. Owen Bonner, SSJ, Audrey Schwenger, chair, Development Committee, and parent of alumni, and S. Marjorie Lawless, former NFA faculty, catch up with each other.



Members of the Note-ables, led by Janet Kershner, Music Teacher, sing some selections for the attendees.



Chrissy '91 and Greg Curci, current parents, at the reception in the Big House



Dr. Killeen with Strategic Planning Co-Chairs Paula M. Riley and Terry Merkle

# Service-Learning at NFA



*Our eighth graders lent their helping hands at the SHARE Food facility in the Hunting Park neighborhood of Philadelphia. Students toured the large facility, learned about hunger and poverty issues and reflected on ways to reduce food insecurity in our region.*



*Seventh graders harvested cabbage for Farmers Against Hunger, which collects surplus fresh produce from farms, grocery stores, and wholesale suppliers in New Jersey and distributes to those in need through local hunger relief organizations. Over 6,000 lbs. of cabbage were donated to local food banks.*

**For almost 20 years, Service-Learning has been an important component of NFA's curriculum.** Not only are students learning in the classrooms about social justice, they are out in the community, face-to-face, twice a year, raising their collective social consciousness.

Each of our service sites engages our students in service with various populations and focuses on unique justice issues. The core of our Service-Learning curriculum is Catholic Social Teaching and the emphasis on the rights of all and our responsibility to ensure these rights.

As Bleek Turner '21 said in a reflection on this year, "...If you want become a big loving and caring person who wants to contribute to your community, start doing small things, then big things, and the next thing you know you are a bigger community helper than you would ever imagine."

The hope is that participating in these Service-Learning experiences throughout a student's time at NFA, he or she will build a lifelong commitment to social justice in big and small ways. Here are highlights of some of this year's experiences:



*Fifth grade students went to Holy Name School in Camden, N.J., where they worked with first graders on worksheets and games.*



*Grades 3 and 4 traveled to Our Lady of Confidence, a special education school of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, to spend some time with friends. Students played games, read books, and got to know each other a little better.*



Planning began in the fall to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Norwood-Fontbonne Academy's Montessori program. A committee was formed with Montessori teachers, faculty and other staff, and live events were in the works. Each Monday on NFA's social media were Montessori Mondays, and the students' coin collection this year raised money for Maria Montessori's 150th birthday. A new logo was designed in celebration of the 50th, and merchandise was produced to commemorate this special occasion.

Given the news that NFA couldn't have the live event that had been planned this spring, the committee instead held a week of virtual events on the school's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram social media pages in May. The focus was on the history of Montessori and its connection to the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Many of the Montessori legacy families and alumni contributed stories, photos, and recollections that were highlighted, too.

One of the highlights of that week was a virtual panel discussion on Montessori education in general and NFA's Montessori program. Several of NFA's Montessori teachers were there to tell their stories and answer questions from some of the attendees. Current and former faculty and staff, Montessori families,

new and old, friends, and even prospective families tuned in to celebrate this virtual milestone.

There continues to be much to celebrate, and our hope is to celebrate in person this fall.

### Montessori Education at Norwood-Fontbonne Academy

In 1969, S. James Anthony Scanlon, SSJ, served as principal of then-Norwood Academy. Her friend, Father Francis B. Schulte, who was serving as the Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia at the time, encouraged her to explore the possibility of starting a Montessori program at Norwood Academy. Schulte, who later became an Archbishop, was also a graduate of Norwood Academy for Boys in 1940.

With the help of S. Mary Harold, SSJ, and S. Roseann Quinn, SSJ, S. James Anthony opened the first Montessori preschool classroom in what is now the White House, located on Germantown Avenue. The 1969 first classroom served for 30 boys, ages three to five. In 1971, the first Montessori class for three- to five-year-old girls was opened.





NFA presented a virtual panel discussion on Montessori education and NFA's program. Participants included (top row, from middle) S. Roseann Tribiunani, SSJ, M.Ed., Junior Level Montessori Teacher, Ryan Killeen, Ed.D.; (middle row, from left) Audra Gurin, M.Ed., Carole Tippett, M.Ed., Preschool Montessori Teachers, Marianne Finnegan, M.A., Upper School Principal; (bottom row, from left) Maya Tippett, M.Ed., Junior Level Montessori Teacher, Monica Walsh, Ed.D., Montessori Preschool, and Nancy Peluso, M.Ed., Lower School Principal



Montessori teachers Maya Tippett and Carole Tippett hold the citation from Philadelphia's City Council which "is honored to recognize and thank Norwood-Fontbonne Academy as it celebrates 50 years of excellence in Montessori Education."

In 1972 and 1973, several sisters went to Italy to study the Montessori method. When they returned, the Junior-Level Montessori classrooms for six- to nine-year olds were opened at Fontbonne Academy on the second floor of NFA's Fontbonne Building.

Over these 50 years the Montessori Program at NFA has grown and developed. Today, Montessori children begin their time at NFA as three, four and five year olds in warm, welcoming house-like settings. Following pre-school, their educational path continues into the Junior Level Montessori classrooms

still located within the Fontbonne building. The Montessori students merge with NFA's primary students in the fourth grade, however elements of the Montessori philosophy remain in the NFA's curriculum through the eighth grade.

NFA is Philadelphia's only American Montessori Society-accredited school for children age three through third grade, and only one of six schools in Pennsylvania.

"My experience with Montessori education meant having the world at my fingertips, ready to explore, with the kind and loving guidance of my gifted teachers. Being able to have my children also benefit from this unique form of education is a gift. I love watching them grow into strong, independent young women—starting in the very same classroom I did—The Gate House!"

—  
Cara Saponaro Maybruck '00

## Montessori Education



The Montessori method is a way of learning that was created, developed and implemented by Italian physician Dr. Maria Montessori in the early 1900s. It is a child-centered educational approach based on self-directed activity, hands-on learning and collaborative play. Dr. Montessori believed that education had a role to play in the development of world peace. "Preventing conflicts is the work of politics; establishing peace is the work of education," she said. This philosophy, closely aligned with the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, fits naturally within NFA's dual path curriculum.

# A Year in Review



White House Kindergarten students jump for joy in their decorated t-shirts as they celebrated 100 Days this winter.



In the beginning of the school year, fifth and sixth grade classroom spaces were flooded. After several weeks, Dr. Killeen cut the ribbon for the newly renovated classrooms.



There's nothing like a buddy to help you get through a quarantine! Reading Buddies Erin Curci and Pearl McNamee work on one of their Gate House required works via FaceTime.



NFA's fifth and sixth grades participated in Global Maker Day this fall. Schools across the world complete challenges specific to innovation and the maker movement and post their work to Twitter with #globalmakerday. Sixth graders Henry Blocker and Alexis Kelly work on their projects together.



Marianne Canuso and her fourth grade class are seen skyping this fall as they made a virtual connection with a school in Florida. The classes had been collaborated virtually to discuss homelessness, climate, among other issues. These interactions were made possible by Empatico, which empowers teachers and students to explore the world through experiences that spark curiosity, kindness, and empathy.



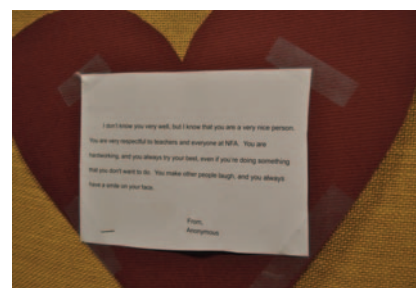
Author Deborah Heiligman visited NFA in the fall and met with grades 6, 7 and 8 to discuss her new book, *Torpedoed*. Students, faculty, staff and parents enjoyed hearing about the writing process, and the amazing survival stories of the men, women and children on the ship.



Congratulations to Josh Harrigan '22, who spelled 'thermohaline' for the win at NFA's school-wide Annual Spelling Bee. Josh is seen here with Dr. Killeen and his parents.



Daniel Goldsmith, Holocaust survivor, and Allan Silverberg, Committee Chairman, Holocaust Remembrance Education Program, of Fegelson-Young-Feinberg Post 697 Jewish War Veterans of Levittown, spoke with NFA eighth grade students, faculty, staff and parents about the atrocities of World War II and the Holocaust.



"Since you can be anything, be kind!," was featured on NFA's social media on February 14, showcasing eighth graders' anonymous notes to fellow students. The feature ran every hour for 24 hours!



Congratulations to seventh graders, Brad Conner, for his first-place win, Sofia Romano for her fourth-place win, and Samantha Hendrzak and Francesca Rodgers for their honorable mention in the grade 7 to 9 category in the Pennsylvania Statistics Poster Competition, sponsored by St. Francis University's School of STEAM. This contest is open to all students in Pennsylvania from kindergarten to grade 12. Thanks, too, for Mr. Joe Rosowski, grade 7 teacher, for his guidance!

Coming off their performance at Woodmere Art Museum, members of the Note-ables did a fabulous job on the Chestnut Hill Holiday House Tour in December, as they performed holiday classics at one of the homes on the tour.



JLC third graders were the teachers at Chestnut Hill College this winter, as they prepared a Montessori demonstration lesson for S. Dorothy Bredehoff, SSJ's education class. S. Marjorie Lawless, SSJ, former faculty, gave a brief overview of the Montessori method and philosophy of education, followed by NFA students who taught the older students a lesson using their Montessori materials.



# NFA Speaker Series

Last year, NFA kicked off its speaker series with Dr. Ken Ginsburg, who spoke on on "Building on the Strengths of Young People: A Trauma-Sensitive, Resilience-Building Strategy." Prior to his discussion with parents, Dr. Ginsburg did a special seminar topic, "Raising Children and Adolescents Who Are Prepared to Thrive in a Challenging World," for NFA faculty and staff, and students enrolled in graduate education classes at Chestnut Hill College.

Continuing this spring, we virtually welcomed Dr. Eileen Kennedy-Moore, who presented "Guidance for Parents Dealing with the Stress of COVID-19." She offered tips and suggestions for parents, as they waded through the ups and downs of quarantine and uncertainty.

We hope to continue our Speaker Series, and invite more presenters to NFA to discuss topics important to our community. We will keep you posted on our next presentation.

Follow us on social media!



# Congratulations Class of 2020

**Therese Marie Aaron**

Merion Mercy Academy

**Sabrina Grace Borzi**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

**Blake Joshua Brown**

Germantown Academy

AWARDED AN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP TO ABINGTON FRIENDS SCHOOL, AND ACADEMIC GRANTS TO ST. JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL AND GERMANTOWN ACADEMY

**Robert Stephen Brzezinski III**

Springside Chestnut Hill Academy

AWARDED AN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP TO SPRINGSIDE CHESTNUT HILL ACADEMY

**Zahir Leavon Coleman**

La Salle College High School

**Frederick Raymond Conner III**

La Salle College High School

**Thomas Piper Donovan**

St. Joseph's Preparatory School

**William Kenneth Dougherty**

St. Joseph's Preparatory School

**Evelyn Hall Ebersole**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

**Lola Frances Figueroa-Clark**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

**Penelope Dawson Gilmore**

Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School

**Rowan Joseph Griffith**

William Penn Charter

**Kelby Nicholas Hampton**

La Salle College High School

**George Thomas Hohenleitner**

La Salle College High School

**Jane Marie Hohenleitner**

Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School

**Susannah Elizabeth Hughes**

Central High School

**Paul Parulian Hutapea**

La Salle College High School

**Maya Claire Ilgenfritz**

Plymouth Whitmarsh High School

**Amya Jade Jackson**

Bishop McDevitt High School

**Isaiah Antonio Johnson**

Roman Catholic High School

**John Christopher Koch IV**

La Salle College High School

**Grace Constance Kyle**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

**Adeyemi Huda Lewis**

The Philadelphia High School For Creative and Performing Arts



**Sarah Mark**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

**Padraic Flanagan May**

St. Joseph's Preparatory School  
AWARDED THE PRINCIPAL'S GRANT TO ST. JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**James Andrew McGowan**

La Salle College High School

**Chloe Moon**

Plymouth Whitmarsh High School

**Noelle Francesca O'Brien**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy  
AWARDED THE FONTBONNE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP TO MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

**Benjamin Thomas Olsen**

St. Joseph's Preparatory School  
AWARDED THE BROTHER'S GRANT TO ST. JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**Zachary Joseph Olsen**

St. Joseph's Preparatory School  
AWARDED THE BROTHER'S GRANT TO ST. JOSEPH'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**Leeann Regina Quinn**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

**Nuria Veronica Reichert**

Science Leadership Academy, Beeber

**Meredith Grace Rizzi**

Germantown Academy

**Eva Filomena Rodgers**

Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School

**Rocco John Dennis Roman**

St. Joseph's Preparatory School

**Anna Kate Simola**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy

**Lucia Frances Smigiel**

Germantown Academy

**Ayden Nyema Starr**

Roman Catholic High School  
AWARDED THE MAGUIRE SCHOLARSHIP TO ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

**John Damian Stevenson**

La Salle College High School

**Makayla Lynn Taylor**

Little Flower High School  
AWARDED THE FINE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP AND THE MISSION AND MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP TO LITTLE FLOWER HIGH SCHOOL

**Dylan James Trotman**

Hatboro-Horsham High School

**Andrew Michael Van Stone**

La Salle College High School  
AWARDED THE PRINCIPAL'S SCHOLARSHIP TO LA SALLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

**Daniel Patrick Walker**

La Salle College High School

**Lily Katherine Wise**

Springside Chestnut Hill Academy

**John Fredrick Zamichieli**

Plymouth Whitmarsh High School

# Class of 2020 Honors

## NFA Parents Association Award for High Academic Honors

*presented to students who have achieved the highest academic averages throughout their eighth grade year*

**Susannah Hughes**

**Noelle O'Brien**

**Sarah Mark**

**Lucia Smigiel**

## The Dr. James D. Kelly Award

*presented to a boy and girl, nominated by their classmates, for honor, courage, scholarship, leadership, service and character*

**Thomas Donovan**

**Noelle O'Brien**

## The Student Athlete Award

*presented to students who have excelled in two or more varsity sports and who rank academically in the upper half of their class*

**John Koch IV**

**Lucia Smigiel**

## The Jacques R.K. Normand Award

*presented to students, nominated by their classmates, who have shown the qualities of kindness, cheerfulness and generosity throughout their years at NFA*

**Grace Kyle**

**Benjamin Olsen**

## The Sid MacLeod Award for Excellence in Public Speaking

*named for Sid MacLeod, longtime faculty member and presented to a student in honor of his dedication to children*

**Sabrina Borzi**

**Padraic May**

## The Russell G. Clements Award for Excellence in Drama

*named for Russell G. Clements, longtime faculty member, and presented to a Drama Club member who most notably exhibits the qualities of personal growth*

**Jane Hohenleitner**

**Padraic May**

## The Mother Saint John Fontbonne Award

*presented to two students who reflect the qualities of unity, reconciliation, and compassion within the NFA school community, in memory of Mother Saint John Fontbonne, foundress of the Sisters of St. Joseph*

**Blake Brown**

**Leeann Quinn**

## The Nello Naticchione IV Memorial Award

*presented to a student who embodies the principles of Catholic Social Teaching as evidenced through his or her commitment to service learning*

**Frederick Conner III**

**Makayla Taylor**

## The George M. Aspen Memorial Mathematics Award

*presented to a student who possesses the qualities that George Aspen, longtime faculty member valued — prepared, diligent and respectful of lessons in math class*

**Sarah Mark**

**Benjamin Olsen**

**Eva Rodgers**

## The Sister Mary Helen Beirne Award

*presented to a student who consistently strives for "the More" in academics, co-curricular activities, in day-to-day NFA school life, and in relationships*

**Penelope Gilmore**

**Zachary Olsen**

## Community Service Corps (CSC) Awards

*presented to students who have been members of CSC for each year they have been eligible to participate*

**Thomas Donovan**

**Maya Ilgenfritz**

**Benjamin Olsen**

**Zachary Olsen**

**Nuria Reichert**

**Meredith Rizzi**

**Eva Rodgers**

**Lucia Smigiel**

**John Zamichieli**



# Alumni News

## ENGAGEMENTS

Shannon McGoldrick '96 to Seth Richards

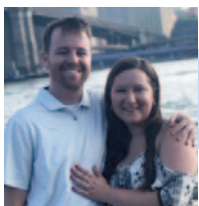


**Deanna Kelly '04**  
and Patrick Haggerty

**Colleen Caldwell '06**  
and Joseph Hogh



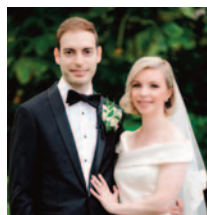
Evan Cleary '06 to Ellie Zhang  
Libby Hill '06 to Steve Medeiros



**Ryan Flynn '07** to  
Stephanie Anne

Ali Stever '08 to Kieran Keyser  
Anna Feinschil '11 to Ryan Chanin

Ryan Mulrain '94 to Christina Kijek  
Caitlin McKeon '01 to Marc Murphy  
Patrick Lombard '01 to Kate Turner



**Stephanie Crooks '02**  
and Monty Essid

**Kevin McNamara '02**  
and his beautiful bride,  
Julie



Julia Meyn '03 to Anthony Lombard  
Britta McDonald '03 to Alex Teixeira  
Connor Cunningham '04 to Charlotte Flynn  
Jack McDonald '05 to Tori Montano  
Meaghan Bricker '06 to Robert Jaffe  
Elizabeth O'Brien '06 to Zachariah Council



**Mary Elizabeth  
Lynch '09** to  
Brandon Roberts

Andrew Shaw '09 to Rachelle Seney

Twin girls Sarah  
and Sophia, to  
**Kelly Chang '91**,  
his wife, Vanessa,  
and big brother,  
Andrew



John Joseph IV, to **John Sabia '96**, and his  
wife, Nickki Panziera



Maisie Rose to  
**Katie Murphy  
Gray '97**, her  
husband,  
Andrew, and big  
sisters, Cora  
and Eva

Weston "Cruz" LeRoy to **Karly Nolen '97** and  
her husband, Jack

Charles James to **Andrew Carnevale '99**,  
and his wife, Julie

Peter Frederick to **Jane Lachat '99**, her  
husband, John Walsh, and big brother, Jack

Baby Nora to **Will Cummings '01** and his  
wife, Bridget



Twins Brooke and  
Brynne to  
**Courtney Fox '01**  
and her husband,  
Brian Peters

Jason Charles to **Matthew Spencer '01** and  
his wife, Lauren



Lucy Carmella  
to **Christine  
Tuliazewski '01**,  
her husband,  
Brad McNamara,  
and brother,  
Benjamin

Fletcher Panzer to **George Walters '01**, and  
his wife, Kathryn

Benjamin Sherwin to **Chris Agnew '02**, and  
his wife, Casey

## MARRIAGES



**Phil Hughes III '93** married Kimberly  
Dickstein in September 2019. They're  
seen here with (from left) Greg Curci,  
**Chrissy Hughes Curci '91**, **Erin Curci  
'29**, **Joseph Curci '24**, Phil Hughes,  
Rita Hughes, **Veronica Curci '29**,  
**Colleen Hughes Frens '97**, and Basel  
Frens.

## NEW ARRIVALS

David Tran Kelly  
to **Kevin Kelly '85**  
and his lovely wife,  
Theanna



Kalani Jewell  
to **Kimberly  
Lambert  
Gastauer '90**,  
her husband,  
Keith, and big  
brother,  
Preston

# Alumni News

Baby George to **Aidan Crofton '02** and his wife, Cara

Stella Maria to **Matthew Kay '02** and his wife, Cathy

Emmett Reeland Bell to **Kaitlin McDonald '02** and her husband, Aaron

Baby Justin and foster son, Isaiah, to **Kevin McNamara '02** and his wife, Julie



Michael Jonathon to **Angela Minetti '02**, and her husband, Sean McBride, and big brother, Sean

Megan Kathleen to **Kevin Burke '03**, and his wife, Courtney



Maxwell Jacob to **Sarah Weyand '03** and her husband, Tony May

Julian Ahmed to **Angelica Hicks '04**, and her husband, Nafeez Kleineweber

Nora Stephanie to **Gabrielle Curcillo '05** and her husband, Adam Bidas



Alfie Ace to **Bridget Dunne '05** and her husband, Jarrett Cherico, and big sister, Poppy.

Henry Clifton to **Maricclair Vaillant '05**, and her husband, Owen Mims

## GRADUATE GREATNESS

**Cassandra Phillips Doyle '85** was featured on "Bizzy Mamas" on FOX 29. Cassandra is an expert in travel planning and has been the top sales agent three years in a row with her worldwide company, Must Love Travel.



YOUTUBE.COM  
**DR WALLS AND FRIENDS 2020**

**Dr. Kathleen Walls '85** was one of the Executive Producers of "The Bench," which was screened at the Piton International Film Festival. She also serves as Visiting Professor at Webster University in Ghana. You can find her on YouTube's Blog talk radio show, "Dr. Walls and Friends," where she also interviewed her friend and fellow alum, **Cassandra Phillips Doyle '85**.

**Todd Wrubel '86** is the CEO and Founder of Rittenhouse Payment Solutions in Brentwood, Tenn.

**Kieran Jordan '88** is the Owner/Director of the Kieran Jordan Dance Studio located in Hyde Park, Mass.



**Kim Koschineg Stefan '90** was a guest lecturer for Oncology Rehabilitation and Lymphedema at Gwynedd Mercy University.



**Justin Pizzi '93** is Vice President of Strategic Implementation at "Visit Philly," the region's official tourism marketing agency. Justin was one of our speakers for our NFA Alumni Career Day this spring. Check out Justin on his podcast, "Love + Grit."

**Kim Nolen**

**Condon '95** is Co-Owner of Modelo Design Group, a specialized interior design service. She is pictured here with brothers, (from left) **Michael '92** and **Kevin '93**, as they participated in the Pier to Pier Swim in Manhattan Beach, Ca.!

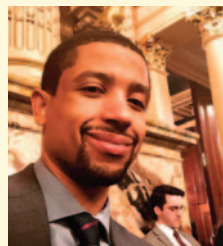


**Chris Pizzi '98** is an Executive Producer and Director at Haunted Steel Mill, a film and television finance and production company. He is also the Executive Producer and CEO at Pizzi Bros. Lawn Maintenance & Media, a production services and media consulting company.

**Lauren Freid '00** is now a Clinical Instructor in the Rheumatology Division at UCLA Health in Los Angeles.

**Matthew Stitt '01**

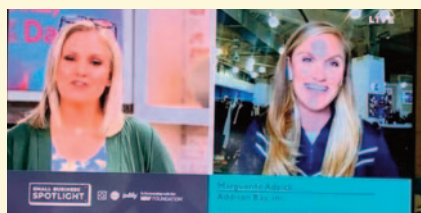
is the CFO for the City Council of Philadelphia. Matthew also sits on the board of Haverford College, Philadelphia Board of Pensions and Retirement, The Greater Philadelphia YMCA, and The Breathing Room Foundation.



continued

# Alumni News

**Aidan Crofton '02** is a Logistics Officer for the U.S. Marine Corps and Owner of Crofton's Gourmet Pretzel Company in Wilmington, N.C.



**Marghie Walters '02** was featured on QVC promoting her athletic wear company, Addison Bay.

**Kevin Kelley '05** is currently working for the 2019 World Series Champions, Washington Nationals.



**Emily Slawek '06** is currently a Reporter/Producer for NBC's "TODAY" show. Emily was also one of our presenters for the First Annual Alumni Career Day here at NFA.

**Alexandra Stewart '07** was featured during the 2019 summer series of "Love Island."



**Freddy Gerngross '08** is teaching students and making great music at Our Lady of Mercy Regional School in Maple Glen. He was also in the pit at Mount St. Joseph Academy's production of "Mamma Mia" last spring.

**Hanna Leonard '10** is excited to be working this summer for Project HEAL, an advocacy program run through John Hopkins Health System and the Kennedy Krieger Institute. The program works with disabled children and their families who may not have the resources to deal with problems that are encountered in public schools.



**Shane Davis '11** is attending Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

**Eliza Ewing '12** has been commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.



**Mari and Kara Kniezewski '15** are doing well. Mara is playing field hockey at Colgate University while Kara is finishing her first year at the United States Naval Academy.



**Helena "Laney" Volpe '15** earned the Spanish Excellence Award and was the Valedictorian of Mount Saint Joseph's Academy class of 2019. Laney was the recipient of an Army ROTC full scholarship to Lehigh University.



## Creating Welcome Relief for Area Healthcare Workers

When **Daniel Oldt '17** took a 3D printer design class a few summers ago, little did he know that he'd be able to help friends and family, healthcare workers, and the Sisters of Saint Joseph be a bit more comfortable wearing face masks.

Thanks to a 3D printer his parents bought him for Christmas, and an article he found online about a young man in Canada who was making ear guard bands with his own printer, Daniel jumped on the opportunity to help. The Canadian Boy Scout shared the guard template and challenged people "to fire up their 3D printers and donate these ear guards to hospitals and medical professionals!"

Daniel, who will be a senior at La Salle College High School this fall, churned out hundreds of ear guard bands, which relieve the friction against the ears, so the wearer can loop the mask ear bands around the flexible guard, and adjust them for the most comfortable fit. For healthcare workers who wear face masks for long hours, the guards were a welcome relief.

The Oldt family donated the bands to whoever needed them – family, friends, and over 100 for St. Joseph Villa, a healthcare facility for the Sisters of Saint Joseph. The guards were welcome additions to cloth face masks that Daniel's aunt produced. He also shared them with healthcare workers at Temple University Hospital, Pennsylvania Hospital, and other area hospitals. Norwood-Fontbonne Academy faculty and staff members have also shared them with family who are in the healthcare field.

"It's been great to help people who are doing so much for us," says Daniel. "I'm happy to play a small part in helping them be a bit more comfortable in these trying times."

Production slowed down a bit recently but as masks become a standard, Daniel is ready to fire up the 3D printer once again.

# Then and Now, **Always Proud!**

## CLASS OF 1969 RETURNS FOR THEIR 50TH REUNION



Last November, we welcomed a few of the gentlemen from the Class of 1969 to the Big House, as they celebrated their 50-year reunion from Norwood Academy. The group toured the Big House, telling story after story as they visited offices that were classrooms and bedrooms for the boarders. They ventured down to the White House, too, which is currently NFA's pre-k and kindergarten and looked over the field where they played so many games. It was great to meet with them and hear their treasured stories of life at Norwood Academy for Boys.



### Class of 1970, we are looking for you!

We're planning a 50th reunion for your class – either virtually or in person this fall. Reach out, if you haven't already, to Annmarie Greenberg, Alumni Relations Manager, at [agreenberg@norfon.org](mailto:agreenberg@norfon.org).

# Bear Country: Sports Wrap Up

FOREVER



Although our 2019-2020 sports seasons were cut short, the NFA Bears had much to celebrate! Many thanks to our dedicated junior varsity and varsity student-athletes and coaches, and to our parents and guardians for their support.



Varsity girls field hockey went into the Catholic Academy League (CAL) Championships against Villa Maria Academy, with an undefeated record last fall. Ending the season as Season Champs, this talented team of young women, coached by Anne Porter, NFA's Gym Teacher, lost 1-0 in a heartbreaker to Villa Maria.



NFA's varsity football team won the CAL Championship in November, at LaSalle College High School. The Bears bested Holy Child School at Rosemont, to win its fifth CAL title in six years, with a score of 13-0. The Bears' overall season record was 6-1, with the only game loss to Rosemont earlier in the season. "We knew it was going to be a tough game since Rosemont was the one school that beat us, 21-13. It was probably the hardest game of the season," says Head Coach Jim Rockenbach. "Our players did an amazing job. I'm so proud of our student-athletes this season. They played with dedication and pride all year."



## New Athletic Director

Grade 4 to 6 Science Teacher, **Jim Rockenbach, M.Ed. '94**, was named as Athletic Director this winter. He has been a member of the NFA community as a teacher for 17 years teaching science and serves as the Head Varsity Football Coach.

Jim is very familiar with NFA's athletics program, as he previously served as Athletic Director, and has coached JV and varsity basketball, as well as varsity softball. "I'm excited to once again be the Athletic Director at NFA," says Jim. "I'm dedicated to upholding the rich tradition in which NFA athletics is rooted, and I look forward to serving the NFA community as AD. Go Bears!" Welcome back, Jim!



Coached by Nick D'Orazio, Grades 4 and 5 Teacher, NFA's swim team garnered 15 first places, 20 second places and nine third place ribbons at the CAL Meet at Germantown Academy this winter.

# Annual **Snowball** Tournament



*Always fun to see our alumni who participated or just say hello at Snowball. The Gold team got the win in the Alumni Blue v. Gold game this year!*

**For the 47th year**, NFA's Annual Snowball Tournament brought basketball teams from area schools to NFA for five days of non-stop basketball. The gyms in Sister James Anthony Hall and the Commons at Fontbonne were hopping with hoops. Teams included Mother of Consolation, Holy Rosary, St. Eleanor, Germantown Friends School, St. Genevieve, Penn Charter, St. Philip Neri, and Springside Chestnut Hill Academy, as well as NFA's junior varsity and varsity Bears. At the end of the tourney, championship trophies went to Germantown Friends School and St. Eleanor. Congratulations to all of the teams, and we'll see you in 2021!

Many hands make work light, so we offer thanks to all who made this annual event possible – players, coaches, clock keepers, announcers, café volunteers, and the many fans in the stands.

## Thank you to Our Sponsors!!!!



*Thanks, too, to our Snowball Tournament co-chairs (from left) John and Sharon Donovan, and Colleen and Tim Howard.*



*NFA's JV girls team members waiting for the rebound as they play St. Genevieve*



*Thomas Donovan '20 getting ready to make his move against St. Eleanor's varsity team*

# The Arts at NFA

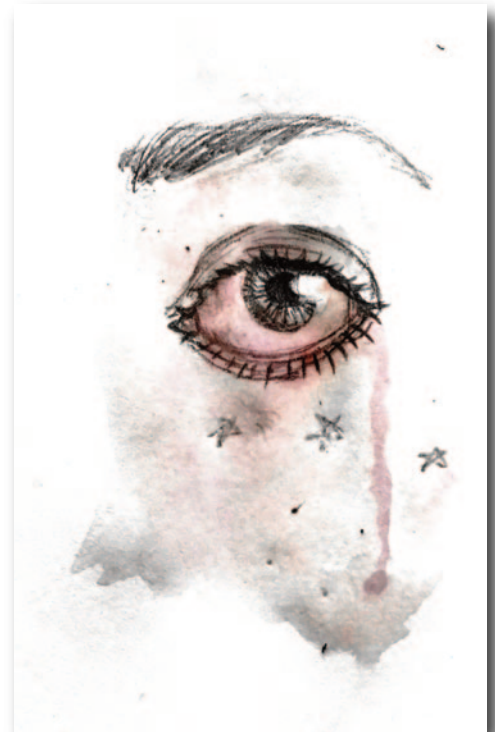
Every year, NFA students work on artwork, practice their music pieces, or rehearse scenes for months, and look forward to sharing them with an audience. When restrictions were put in place, we took a look at how to safely present visual and performing arts this spring and summer, so a larger audience could enjoy our talented students.

Janet Kershner's piano students' performances and Laura Colussi's students' art and photography pieces were featured on NFA's social media in its "Virtual Music and Arts Festival" each evening during a week in May.

The Arts



ANNABEL TORNETTA PERFORMING  
"LOOKING-GLASS RIVER"



ART PIECE BY LYDIA MOY '22



PHOTOGRAPHY BY BLAKE BROWN '20



STONE STEFAN '22 PERFORMING  
"L'ARABESQUE"

## NFA's Drama Club Presents "The Lion King Jr."...Finally

One of the big songs in "The Lion King Jr." is "Hakuna Matata," which translates to 'no worries.' It was hard for Kim Williams, longtime director of NFA's shows, and the Drama Club participants not to worry, with the show's cancellation this winter, and the uncertainty if their months of hard work would ever come to fruition. However, they made the decision to continue, rehearsing via Zoom throughout the spring, and perform "The Lion King Jr." for families of the cast whenever they could.

Even those plans weren't without a hitch, with date changes and a last-minute venue change to ward off July's recent heat wave. However, the show evolved into something magical, and showcased the perseverance and commitment of the performers.

Staged outside at Mt. Airy Performing Arts, the cast gave an amazing performance. Their voices were clear and strong, and the outdoor area added a whole different dimension to the show.

As Dr. Killeen said as he congratulated the performers, they will be known as "a part of the first NFA Drama Club production to perform outside, and to have both current students and alumni in the cast." Just one more first in 2020 for our students!



*The cast of "The Lion King Jr." with Kim Williams, Director*



*Rafiki (Cameron Holmes '21) presents Simba, with Mufasa (Jeremiah Conyon-Peterson '21) and Sarabi (Jane Hohenleitner '20) looking on*



*Nala (Susannah Hughes '20) dances after performing "Shadowland"*



*Scar (Paddy May '20) reveals his plans to the hyenas*



*Young Simba (Radek Cohen '21) with Timon (Addison Tornetta '21) and Pumbaa (Makayla Taylor '20)*



*Simba (David Mendte '21) and Rafiki*



*Zazu (Rosie McNamee '21) chats with Scar*

# Faculty & Staff News

## Welcome

### Karen Cavacos,

Coordinator of Advancement Services, joined NFA with more than 10 years of experience in fundraising and event planning. In addition, she has experience in marketing, sales, and community engagement.



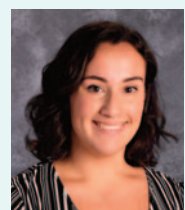
**Rebecca Gober**, our fourth grade Teacher, brought her passion for teaching and her love of the SSJ Mission with her to NFA.



**Megan Griffin-Shelley '10, M.A.**, joined us as fifth grade homeroom and religion, and sixth grade ELA Teacher.



**Kendall Ireland, M.A., R-DMT**, joined us as NFA's new Counselor, with experience in counselling youth, and as an expressive therapist and crisis counselor.



**Maria Cilio**, began her new role as Spanish Teacher for students in grades 6, 7, and 8 in October. She has studied in Buenos Aires, Mexico, and Madrid,

### Mary Furey

joined us as a Montessori Assistant this winter. She has her Montessori certification, and also teaches at Chestnut Hill College.



**Steve Wood '03** joined NFA as a grade 7 Teacher in March. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Education at Chestnut Hill College.



Faculty and staff volunteered to surprise the Class of 2020 with lawn signs this spring, congratulating them on their graduation. **Annmarie Greenberg**, Alumni Relations Manager, was among the volunteers providing some fun!



*Celebrating Montessori Education during Legacy Week were some of our faculty who were in the Montessori program at NFA. Art Teacher Laura Colussi created the oversized Pink Tower and other pieces that were displayed throughout Fontbonne. (from left) Carrie Lapworth O'Donnell '87, Taylor Stabler '06, Megan Griffin-Shelley '10, and Laura Colussi '04*



NFA received a Two-Leaf Award from the Chestnut Hill Business Association's Green Business on the Hill initiative and Boyer Sudduth Environmental Consultants this spring.

Faculty and staff came back in January to a brand new look to the school van. See you on the Avenue!



# Faculty & Staff News



Faculty, staff and administrators attending the 2019 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Conference, presented by the Association of Delaware Valley Independent Schools last fall. This group forms the core staff representatives of NFA's DEI team. (from left) **Dan O'Sullivan**, Campus Minister, **Erin Wallin**, Director of Admissions, **Nancy Peluso**, Principal, **Ally Monteiro**, STEM and Grade 6 Teacher, **Shannon Craige**, Director of Curriculum and Integration, **Lindsey Sachs**, Technology Integration Specialist, **Kendall Ireland**, Counselor, **Marianne Finnegan**, Principal, Upper School, **Ryan Killeen, Ed.D.**, President, and **Angelo Milicia**, Director of Institutional Advancement



**Lindsey Sachs**, Technology Integration Specialist, served as keynote speaker at Chestnut Hill College Teacher Education Program Annual Dinner and Speaker Event this winter, and presented "Effective Technology Integration in the Montessori Classroom."



Fourth grade teacher **Alison Montemarano** was part of the "Trading Spaces" renovation crew this winter, as they gave the first-floor faculty break room in Fontbonne a makeover.

## Best Wishes to our Retirees



**Marianne Finnegan, M.A.**, has decided to retire from her role as Upper School Principal. Her commitment as an educator and love for the NFA community over the

five years she was with us fostered great growth and a spirit of collaboration among faculty and staff.

**Jeri Fox**, Grade 5

Teacher, has decided to spend more time with her beautiful family. She will be deeply missed for her talent, creativity and dedication as a teacher and her tireless spirit of collaboration with colleagues.



**S. Pat Hagan, SSJ, M.A.**, retired from her part-time classroom teaching role. However, she will continue in a new role providing academic support to

individual students. We all are happy to have Sister Pat's presence continue!

**Terri Hutsell**, Associate Director of Donor & Community Engagement, will spend more time with her family and do more travel in her retirement. Over the past 15 years,

Terri has worn many hats in her work in the Campus Ministry and Communications Office, and Mission Advancement Office as Director and Associate Director. Her deep passion for the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph and her generous commitment to always support NFA's mission remained a constant. Terri will continue to help with our 100th anniversary celebration this academic year.



# Faculty & Staff News



**Lindsey Sachs, Shannon Craige**, Director of Curriculum and Innovation, and **Ally Monteiro**, Grade 6 Teacher, (shown here) represented NFA at the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) conference in Philadelphia in February. They offered an innovative collaborative makerspace presentation and project for participants.



Thanks to their generosity of our families during our last days of school, **Dan O'Sullivan**, Campus Minister, and **Joe Rosowski**, Grade 7 Teacher, delivered 75 bags of canned goods to The Sisters of Saint Joseph Welcome Center in Kensington and the SSJ Neighborhood Center in Camden.



**Laura Colussi '04**, NFA's Art Teacher, has been working on her art while quarantined. One of her pieces has been accepted to Artblog, a Philadelphia independent online publication that fosters dialog and community through commentary and discussion about art and culture. (Shown are "Foxye Leaving" and "Big and Big Little Foxye.")



## Congratulations



**Shannon Craige, M.A.**, will expand her role as a member of our Senior Leadership Team as the Director of Curriculum and Innovation. In this new role, Shannon will

chair the Curriculum Council, design school-wide professional development, coach faculty, and lead the Novice Teacher Mentoring Program. She brings with her a wealth of expertise a commitment to a growth mindset, and passionate commitment to NFA.



**Nancy Peluso, M.Ed.**, Principal of Lower School will be expanding her role as she assumes the role of Principal of Norwood-Fontbonne Academy.

Nancy brings her vast experience in education, expertise in pedagogy, and passion for the mission and vision of NFA as she leads the academic journey of your children from three years old through eighth grade.



**Jeanine Walters', M.S.**, role at NFA expanded this winter as she was named Registrar. She oversees our student information system,

maintains academic records, facilitates the completion of high school transcripts, and supports the high school application process. Her proactive problem-solving and communication skills continue to be great assets in her new position.

# In Memoriam

*The Norwood-Fontbonne Community extends prayers and heartfelt condolences to those we have lost in recent months. May each of our dearly departed rest peacefully in the loving arms of God.*



*Joanne Baillie with Sonja Bjornson '15 and Patrick Mraz '15*

**Joanne Baillie**, former faculty and staff, went home to God on August 15, 2019. Up until her retirement in 2016, Joanne lovingly taught English language arts and also served as our Director of Admissions during her 30 years of dedicated service to NFA. Joanne was known for her passion for her students, her excellence in teaching, and for her great kindness and loving support of her colleagues. In addition to her colleagues, students, and families she so lovingly served, she is survived by her husband Joe and her children, Colleen '95 and Brian '97. She will be greatly missed by so many who knew and loved her.

**Sheila Dolan**, former faculty, her husband, Bob McIntyre, and their daughter, Julia McIntyre, tragically passed away on November 18, 2019. Sheila was a teacher in NFA's Montessori and primary education from 1999 until her retirement in 2013. She taught in the White House, was an assistant in JLC, and completed her time at NFA as the lead teacher in JLB. She was known and much beloved for her kindness, her peaceful spirit, and her love of children. In addition to her students and the families she served, she will be missed by many of her NFA colleagues, past and present. Sheila is survived by her son, Daniel McIntyre, and her brother, Daniel Dolan.



*Sheila Dolan with Sebastian Tilley '17*



**Matthew Hearn '13** went home to God on January 24, 2020, at the age of 20. He was the loving son of Jimmy and Regina Hearn and is reunited with his twin brother, Daniel. Matthew was known for his big beautiful smile and sincere kindness to others. He played Football and was a member of NFA's Community Service Corps for four years before graduating and attending St. Joseph's Preparatory School. Gabe Rizzo '13, shared that he was his first friend at NFA, something he will never forget about Matt. "A beautiful boy with a beautiful smile," he will be so terribly missed.

**Donald Kieser '48** went home to God on December 8, 2019. Don, a Norwood Academy boarding student, continued to be a faithful alumnus who generously supported the NFA Annual Fund for many years and stayed in touch with NFA. Our heartfelt prayers and condolences go out to Don's entire family, including Tom and Patti Hinchey. Don was Patti's uncle and great-uncle to Maddie Hinchey '09 and Audrey Hinchey '13.

**Rinda McGoldrick**, former faculty, passed away on November 16, 2019. Rinda worked in the Montessori Preschools from 1979 to 1986. Rinda was also the mother of Jim '86, Marcie '87, and Mark '89. She will always be remembered for her love of children and her creative and energetic spirit.



**Cecilia "Mickie" Sheehan**, former faculty, passed away on December 24, 2019. Mickie taught science and math, working with students in grades five through eight. She taught her many students during the 1990s and returned in 2002 through 2007. Mickie is also the mother of Brendan '91. She will be remembered for her zest for life in and out of the classroom.

**Sister Ann Sweeney, SSJ**, former volunteer, went to God on August 9, 2019. She was a volunteer in the Library on NFA's Fontbonne Campus before retiring to St. Joseph Villa in 2009. Community Service Corps students loved spending time with her when visiting the Villa. Always with a kind smile and joyful heart, we are grateful to Sister Ann for her years of loving service to NFA. May she rest in peace.

# Norwood-Fontbonne Academy's 100th Anniversary is around the corner!

[CLICK HERE](#) to volunteer for any of our 100th Anniversary events!

## Save the Date(s)

Everyone is invited to join us for our milestone celebration!

**Sunday, November 29, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**

### Founding Day Liturgy

Join us for liturgy to celebrate the date Norwood Academy was founded in 1920.

**December 2020**

**Chestnut Hill Holiday House Tour will feature The Big House on the tour  
(subject to COVID regulations).**

Don't miss this annual Chestnut Hill tradition! Details to follow!

**January 2021**

### 50th Annual Snowball Tournament

Join us as the Bears play area schools during our 50th annual tournament!

**Saturday, March 13, 2021**

### 100th Anniversary Gala

Committees are forming now, and we'd love your help! Our Gala Co-Chairs are Robin and David Comerford, and Jackie and Tim Woolley, parents of alumni.

**Spring 2021**

### Picnic

We'll be planning a picnic get together in the spring, so we hope you can make it!

### Would you like to help in the planning of these events?

Contact: Angela Milicia, Director of Institutional Advancement, at [amilicia@norfon.org](mailto:amilicia@norfon.org), or at 215-242-1611.

### Help share NFA's rich history!

Please send photos, yearbooks, vintage NFA memorabilia, etc., to the Advancement Office,  
c/o Karen Cavacos, Coordinator of Advancement Services.

We are asking students, parents, faculty, staff, and alums to create a prayer for our 100th Anniversary which would focus on what it means to live the SSJ mission of unity. We will say a prayer each morning throughout the school year. Our plan is also to compile the prayers and create a prayer book to commemorate our 100th.

[CLICK HERE](#) to submit your prayer to our Dropbox.



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