



*Catherine Fields '07*

During her time at SMA, Catherine was able to take advantage of many opportunities. She was part of the basketball team and played lacrosse her senior year. Catherine was also involved in Campus Ministry and Service (CMS), Link Crew, the One Acts and Theater Club and was an SMA Ambassador. After graduating in 2007, Catherine attended Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA, majoring in History and French. After she returned to Portland, she started her career in HR at The Portland Clinic. In 2019, she received her MBA from Syracuse's Whitman School of Business. She currently works as a Regional HR Manager with Acreage Holdings. Catherine and her fiancé got engaged last October; they currently live in Milwaukie, OR with their two pets. She serves on the Council because of her wonderful time at SMA. She writes, "My time at SMA gave me confidence to try new things, acknowledge my successes and be okay with failing. Being an SMA grad truly is a unique experience that I was extremely fortunate to have. Serving on the Council allows me to continue that connection I hold so dearly."



*Courtney Cooper '13*

Courtney graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 2013 and went on to the University of San Diego before returning home to Portland. She now works at OMSI, where she volunteered during her days at SMA. Science education is one of her passions, which she cultivated in her SMA classes, Science Olympiad and Sci-Fi/Fantasy Club. Her connection to the "amazing and supportive community" was furthered in Courtney's participation in Model United Nations, Writers' Club and golf at St. Mary's. Her favorite memories of high school are the Frosh Lock-In and Junior Encounter because they were tremendously fun and emotionally encouraging. Serving on the Alumnae Council, she hopes to help strengthen the connections between alumnae, current students and other members of our community. Courtney's advice for current students is to "take advantage of the leadership and self-expression opportunities that St. Mary's provides in order to learn how to make your voice heard. That will make you stand out in college, career, social, and other life situations."



*Denise Auld '09*

Denise was a graduate of the St. Mary's Class of 2009. At SMA, she participated in Mock Trial and Science Olympiad. This past year she received her Bachelor's of Science in Psychology from Eastern Oregon University. She is currently pursuing a Masters of Library and Information Science at Drexel University. For the past eight years, Denise has worked in our beloved public libraries. Her favorite part of SMA was the strong, loving community and it is why she wanted to serve on the Alumnae Council. Denise's advice to current students is to "try and not get upset when plans go awry or road blocks appear. Sometimes those detours put you in a better spot than your original plan."



*Elizabeth Fournier Potts '86*

Elizabeth graduated from St. Mary's in 1986 and received her Bachelor's degree in Mass Communications from Linfield College. She is a career mortician and owns Cornerstone Funeral Services in Boring, Oregon. Some of her career highlights are speaking at a TEDx event, narrating the autopsy exhibit in the National Institute of Health and rescuing goats and sheep with her husband and daughter. Her favorite memory at St Mary's was the honor of being the PE aid for Rick Lorenz her junior year. He entrusted her to jog with the freshman class up to Duniway Park, and she was able to create a friendship that still exists to this day. She shares with the current students, "to the young women of St Mary's is to absolutely be true to who you are. You will find your way, and life truly is beautiful."



*Mary Hrkac '86*

For her first two years of high school, Mary attended another local school, but after her second year, she told her parents that she only wanted to attend St. Mary's Academy. She knew there was more for her at SMA: more opportunities, more encouragement to explore, more academic challenge and spiritual fulfillment and more to achieve than at her previous school. At SMA, Mary was involved in the Science Club, swim team, and Pep Club. After she graduated in 1986, Mary went on to Portland State University, majoring in Business Management and was a part of the water polo team. After PSU, Mary lived abroad and traveled throughout Europe for a year. Throughout her life she has lived in Utah, Alaska, and most recently the Bay Area. In the last few years, Mary returned to Oregon to care for her elderly parents. She often reflects on her time at SMA and how her education and experience influenced certain life decisions, the value of being a "St. Mary's Girl" and the inspiration that SMA instilled. To this day, her St. Mary's friends are still very close and dear to her.



*Mo Clifford Atchison '77*

At SMA, Mo was involved in athletics and student government and graduated in 1977. Thereafter, she attended University of Portland, earning degrees in Finance and Marketing. Mo served nearly 40 years in the financial services industry and retired in 2018 as a Credit Administrator/Senior Vice President at Umpqua Bank. She deeply believes in the St. Mary's mission, which inspired her to serve on the Council. Her favorite memory from SMA was being a part of the first State championship volleyball team in 1976. Her advice for students is "whatever you pursue professionally, always aim to serve others."



*Olivia Paradis '09*

Olivia was a graduate of the St. Mary's Class of 2009. At SMA, she was a part of the TIES program, Mock Trial team, the CMS Green Team and spent hours serving at the Blanchet House, Jean's Place, Raphael House and Providence Center for Medically Fragile Children. After SMA, she attended Oregon State University where she earned her Bachelors of Science in Public Health with a focus in health promotion and health behavior and a certificate in medical humanities. In 2013, she moved to Argentina for a social medicine internship. Shortly after, Olivia moved back to the States and started her career at Kaiser Permanente, serving as a Community Health Navigator (CHN) on an interdisciplinary intensive case management team. She has held many roles on the CHN team and is currently supporting the launch of a new evidence-based CHN model in primary care as the Program Coordinator. Olivia chose to serve on the Alumnae Council to donate time and energy to an organization she is passionate about. Her advice to current students is to "stay curious and never underestimate the power of a quality thank you note."



*Teri Bowles-Atherton '93*

Teri is a third-generation Oregonian and a graduate of the class of 1993. While attending SMA, Teri was active in student body leadership and also played sports, including basketball and track and field. She went on to Vanderbilt University where she received her Bachelor's degree, and later pursued a Masters of Public Administration/Healthcare Administration degree from Portland State University. She began her career with the American Red Cross in Portland. In 2008, Teri joined Providence Health & Services and moved up through the ranks to become the current Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Providence Medical Group - Oregon Region. During her years at St. Mary's, Teri recalls her Senior Retreat and "Hands Full of Hearts" days as some of her fondest memories. As an adult, and perhaps imprinted by her early childhood Rose Festival parade float experience, Teri began volunteering with the Portland Rose Festival Foundation in 2008. In 2009, she was invited to join the Board of Directors, and in October of 2018, she was elected President of the foundation, a role she served in until fall of 2020. Teri's continued engagement in the Alumnae Council stems from the rewarding experiences she had during high school. She wants to reach out to current students, especially students of color, to build community and expand their network of supporters cheering them on through high school, college and throughout life. The advice Teri would give any current student is "that you get out what you put in. To work hard, never give up on a dream, strive to be your best version of self, and learn something from every success and challenge that comes your way. Don't be afraid to follow the path less traveled and write your own story. Always consider your legacy...it's already in the making!" In 2010, she married Jermaine Atherton. Teri Bowles-Atherton now makes her home in Vancouver, Washington with Jermaine and his daughter Jaiden. When not working or volunteering, Teri enjoys traveling and spending time with family and friends.



*Teri Mariani '70*

Teri graduated from St. Mary's in 1970 and has many great memories from her time as a student. She looks fondly back on the ease of school uniforms, especially when hiding a radio in her blazer to listen to the World Series during class. Though she thought she was pretty sly, at the end of class one day Sister Mary asked what the score was! After SMA, Teri attended Portland State University, graduated, and started working immediately as a coach and athletic administrator at PSU where she coached softball for 29 years. Though retired, Teri continues to broadcast the women's volleyball, basketball and softball contests at her alma mater. She chose to serve on the Alumnae Council because of her passion for SMA and wanted to give back to the school that had such an impact on her life. Teri loves being among other alumnae who graduated from different periods of time who also love SMA. "It is like no other experience," she shares. Teri also finds the opportunity to collaborate and share ideas on how to engage other alumnae very exciting.



*Tifani Jones Parrilli '82*

Tifani was part of the SMA Class of 1982. Thereafter, she attended Santa Clara University for her undergraduate degree and went on to Willamette University for Law School. She currently practices employment-based immigration law in Portland as a partner with Parrilli Renison, LLC. Tifani works with hospitals, universities, renewable energy companies and religious organizations for temporary work visas and permanent resident status. She has studied and lived abroad in Italy and is fluent in Italian and speaks basic French. Tifani loved her time at SMA! It provided her with a challenging academic climate, and the all-girls environment gave her a place where she felt comfortable becoming a strong, independent and community-minded woman. She adds, "I feel that St. Mary's was so important to me, that I want to continue to give back so it remains a place where young women can develop into successful women of the future, whatever that success may be!"



*Vicki Ford Dieringer '69*

Vicki is a member of the Class of 1969 and part of several generations of St. Mary's alumnae - her mom was student body president in 1945, her five sisters and two daughters all attended SMA and she currently has two nieces enrolled. At SMA, Vicki was involved in a variety of activities, but her favorite memories were the many plays and musicals she participated in. She served on the costume crew where she formed lasting friendships, as well as developed sewing skills under the direction of Sr. Ignatia Anne. After graduating, she attended University of San Francisco and University of Oregon - earning degrees in math and computer science along with a teaching certificate. She taught 7th & 8th grades at St. Charles in NE Portland for three years. For almost 42 years she served as the Director of Religious Education and then Pastoral Associate at Holy Family Parish. Last September, Vicki retired from this role, yet remains active in several ministries. She and her partner have four wonderful children and seven grandchildren. Vicki continues to be part of the Council because of the well-rounded foundation that she received and the spirit of service that became central to her.