

THE 2021 WANSBORO AWARD RECIPIENT



“Unfailing gentleness with all, patience in bearing annoyances which arise in every direction, trust in God which does not allow us to doubt God’s protection on any occasion that we fear; these are the fruits of fidelity to the Holy Spirit.” St. Madeleine Sophie Barat’s words resonate today as we honor Kay King Mayer ‘71, the 2021 Wansboro Award recipient.

Kay’s strong commitment and dedication to Academy of the Sacred Heart education and community is radiant. Kay has had many roles at our school: Student, Alumna, Parent, Teacher, Middle School for Girls Dean of Students, and Enrollment Associate, all while being an active participant in every aspect of Sacred Heart life. Her dedication to the Academy of the Sacred Heart is constant and sincere.

Kay is a fourth-generation alumna of the Academy of the Sacred Heart. She has demonstrated her trust and confidence in the Sacred Heart of Jesus through a nearly life-long commitment to the Sacred Heart community. As a student, she felt that Sacred Heart was a second home, and she didn’t hesitate to become involved in athletics and student government. She fondly recalls being President for Human Relations her senior year. This was a forerunner to today’s community service program, developed because she and her classmates wanted more outreach activities.

As Kay walked these halls in Upper School, the *Goals and Criteria* of Sacred Heart were written, “to help guide and create young women who are thinking human beings, who question in order to learn and strengthen their own intellectual, spiritual, and emotional intelligence.” She grew up with women who, even though they were in school before the Goals were established, were already living proof of what the community was striving to achieve. Her authenticity, heart, and loyalty are the embodiment of the *Goals and Criteria* of Sacred Heart education.

In each role she’s had at Sacred Heart and in life, Kay’s teaching and leadership ensured that the Sacred Heart mission was not only understood but truly felt by her students and colleagues. Her love of teaching was palpable. She was there because it was a true passion. Kay’s confidence in her students, her fellow teachers, and in the Heart of Jesus never dwindled. When asked what she believes to be her biggest accomplishment in her time at Sacred Heart, Kay replied, “Building relationships. I always worked to build positive relationships with Sacred Heart students, parents, and colleagues. That is my strongest achievement.” Kay continues to work to make the Sacred Heart mission known and accessible to each and every person she encounters in her daily life.

The Alumnae and Alumni Association proudly recognizes Kay King Mayer with the 2021 Wansboro Award.