

THE WORD

WINTER 2022

INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY MAGAZINE

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN OUR FORENSIC
SCIENCE CLASS

LEAVING A LEGACY

Our 609 Giving Society helps us
build for the future





THE WORD

WINTER 2022 | VOL. 17 NO. 1

MISSION

Incarnate Word Academy provides young women with a Catholic college preparatory education helping them grow in their relationship with Jesus the Incarnate and live according to His values. Our cornerstones are academics, values and spirituality.

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ON THE COVER

Julia Fisher '23 analyzes a hair sample in our forensic science class.

Photo by Desiree Rodriguez '99

PHOTO CREDITS

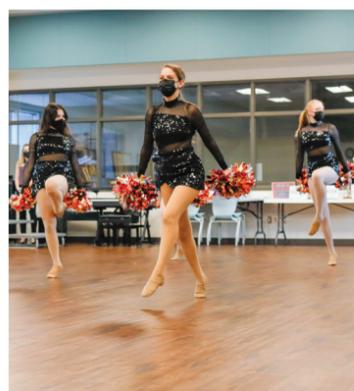
Holly Beretto, Sue Blackmon and the Margil yearbook staff, Stephen Comer, Kirk Hawkins, Hannah Koepp '22, Desiree Rodriguez '99



34 MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE Students in our forensic science class learn analytical skills studying real-world cases and track evidence to find the truth.



04 FALCON NEWS Beach cleanup, IWA students receive national recognition, The Falcon newspaper launches, see what life in the band is like, our community gives thanks — and more!



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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

"Full speed ahead" are the only words that I could think of to describe our first semester as I was reviewing this issue of The Word. Entering the fall semester, as a school, we continued to face difficult medical questions brought on by Covid. We could have buckled in fear, canceling everything, including on-campus learning, to go to a "safe zone." While staying safe is of utmost importance, we chose to take the high road and follow the core values our students learn daily in their leadership classes: stand up to fear, take risks, plan, work as a team and don't give up. It paid off!

Within the covers of this magazine you will find examples of academic success at the highest levels—students being recognized as National Merit semifinalists and commended students. In addition, I am so proud of the many students who have achieved the honor of being on the President's and Principal's honor rolls. All of our students have worked hard to expand their knowledge and navigate their challenging curriculum. They demonstrated respect for God's creation by beautifying beaches. They took what they learned in their leadership classes to go out and help empower middle school students to gain much needed self-confidence for the journey ahead.

During the semester, our students took to the stage and delighted audiences with amazing choral and band performances while also winning recognition in competition. Other students did a smash-up job of performing the Broadway musical "Annie." Our visual artists expressed their talent on fabric and canvas with amazing insight and skill. Our impact dancers also entertained us with great spirit and technique.

Our students hit their stride in our fall and winter sports, volleyball, basketball, cross country, soccer and swimming, breaking records and, in some instances, soaring to the state level. Our IWA cheerleaders are standouts on the St. Thomas High School cheer squad, spurring the Eagles on to many victories.

Wouldn't you think everyone would be exhausted—students and the dedicated faculty and staff who work tirelessly to help students realize their dreams? Hardly. There is so much more that they've all done that could be listed, but I'll just let you read the magazine yourselves and see all the good that's happening.

On a personal note, I couldn't be more proud of our students' resilience in facing school and personal challenges, their genuine care for one another and their desire to help others. I admire their academic focus, creativity, spontaneity, and most importantly, their basic goodness and reliance on God. For all of this and more, I am extremely grateful for what has been and for what is to come.

And yes, it is still "Full speed ahead!"

Praised be the Incarnate Word!

Sister Lauren Beck, C.V.I.
President



COASTAL CLEANUP: IWA Environmental Club Helps to Beautify the Beach

Summer is over, and, more than 17 billion pounds of waste have been left behind on Galveston beaches. To minimize the growing pollution, the IWA Environmental Club, along with St. Thomas High School's Environmental Club, took part in the coastal cleanup hosted by the Adopt a Beach program.

Students headed to the beach Saturday, Sept. 18, for the service project.

On arriving at their destination, students were sent off in pairs, with gloves and a trash bag, and instructed to search on a designated piece of beach for any waste that had been left behind. Along with finding large amounts of recyclable plastic, cigarettes and disposable masks, they also discovered articles of clothing buried underneath the sand. The collected waste was placed in several decorated bins in order to be disposed of properly.

"I had a very fun time being able to be with my friends, while also knowing that I was doing something impactful for our planet," said Mary Flaherty '23, the club's vice president.

This is the first of many events the club plans to host, and the group hopes to be able to make a greater impact within the community.

"We rarely get the chance to actually be a part of something like this, so we plan to incorporate many more hands-on exercises for everyone to get involved and to truly be a part of this change," said Sarah Douglass '23, Environmental Club president.

— Anna Galan '23





Makynzie Kitzmann



Ann Nguyen



Colleen Sontheimer



Julia Fisher



Nicole Cross



Emily Quin

IWA STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Twelve IWA students have received national attention from the College Board. Two are National Merit Semifinalists, three are National Merit Commended Scholars, four are National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars and two are National African American Program Scholars.

Nicole Cross '22 and Emily Quin '22 have been named National Merit Semifinalists. The ranking places them as top scorers on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. They have both elected to pursue becoming National Merit Finalists, which is the next step toward a prestigious National Merit Scholar designation and comes with a scholarship.

Makynzie Kitzmann '22, Ann Nguyen '22 and Colleen Sontheimer '22 are National Merit Commended Scholars. Their recognition showcases them among the top 50,000 scorers on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

Julia Fisher '23, Mary Flaherty '23, Iman Haddad '23, Leila Khan '23 and Xiomara Salinas '23 are College Board National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars. Anthonia Ogbo '23 and Mackenzie Peugh '23 are College Board National African American Program Scholars. All earned the distinctions based on their academic achievements and performance on the PSAT.

"These are tremendous honors for these students, individually and for Incarnate Word Academy," said Andrea Smith, IWA's principal. "They are all outstanding students who have thrived in our academically rigorous curriculum. We are so proud of their achievements!"



Mary Flaherty



Iman Haddad



Mackenzie Peugh



Anthonia Ogbo



Xiomara Salinas



Leila Khan



COLLEGE COUNSELING LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAMS
IWA Initiatives Help Demystify the College Application Process

The week before school started, a dozen IWA rising seniors were clustered in the library, hunched over laptops. They were looking up colleges, working on their essays and planning how to navigate the busy fall admissions season.

That session was the first of several IWA college counselor Mrs. Lesley Watkins set up this year to give students a communal place to work on their college applications. She hosted another during the first week of school, and offered sessions nearly every Falcon Friday in October and November for students to work on essays, shore up personal statements, get assistance on how to fill out myriad college forms and more.

"This is a way for them to see that they are all going through the same thing," said Watkins. "They were all somewhere in this process."

This process can be daunting, for students and parents alike, and Watkins believes the workshops and advising sessions take some of the mystery out of it all. In addition to these student-centric activities, IWA this year increased its offerings for families, hosting nights

with college representatives and giving parents the chance to schedule sessions with Watkins to discuss their daughters' college search.

"I really appreciated the support we have gotten from Mrs. Watkins by sending multiple essay links, scholarship opportunities, and how she's hosted multiple college advising sessions," said Lauren Trahan '22. "It is so special to know that we have someone in our corner during what can be a stressful and overwhelming time."

Providing assistance like this is part of Watkins' role at IWA. Since she became college counselor last year, she's worked to enhance her department's ability to prepare every IWA student to apply to, be accepted at, and select the best colleges for each young woman's needs and interests. IWA's small size means Watkins can know each senior individually, allowing her to provide tailored information and assistance.

One thing is certain: As college acceptances start coming in and students make decisions about their futures, Watkins will be with her Falcons, every step of the way.

**READ ALL ABOUT IT!
IWA Launches Student
Newspaper**

Vera-Faith Huddleston '23 and Sarah St. John '23 saw something was missing at IWA: a student newspaper. So, they launched one.

The idea first took shape at the end of the 2020-2021 academic year. Sarah and Vera-Faith put a proposal together and submitted it to the dean of students, Ms. Stacey Kornegay. As students were coming back to school this fall, the girls finalized their plans, met with the newly appointed adviser, Mrs. Xenia Murtaugh, and laid plans for publication.

The Falcon, whose staff is pictured above, launched on Nov. 1, covering topics such as how to avoid academic burnout, the first choir concert since 2019, a profile on cross-country runner Ellia Volf (see Page 19), the original comic strip "The Adventures of Flappy and Fawn," and more.

"It feels amazing to finally have the first issue out," said



Sarah. "Before now, it all felt so abstract. I will say, Vera and I didn't have much time to celebrate before we had to get to work on the December issue!"

The paper explores happenings both at IWA and in the wider world from the perspective of our students.

To read issues of The Falcon, please visit www.incarnateword.org/the-falcon.

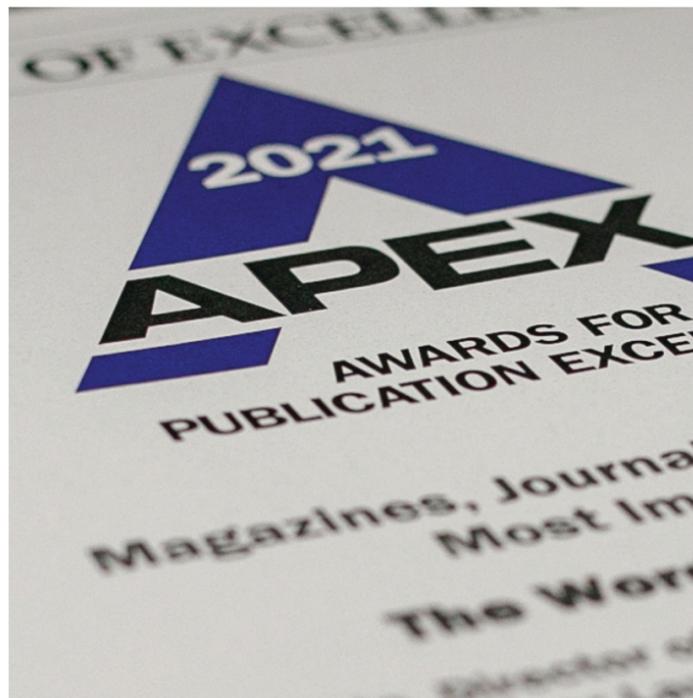
**AN AWARD-WINNING PUBLICATION
The Word is recognized for improvements,
storytelling**

We're delighted to share the news that this magazine has received a 2021 APEX Award for Publication Excellence. The awards, overseen by Communications Concepts, Inc., are based on excellence in graphic design, editorial content and the ability to achieve overall communication excellence.

The Word won a Most Improved Publication Award, charting the magazine's evolution from 2017 to the present. IWA entered the Fall 2016 and the Spring 2020 issues into the competition. (Issues for consideration had to be published prior to Jan. 1, 2017, and after Jan. 1, 2020; the deadline for applications was in September 2020.)

Frontline, published by Mediacorp PTE Ltd of Singapore took second place in the category.

We think readers will agree our magazine has made great strides over the last few years, and The Word team looks forward to continuing to share the stories of IWA students, faculty, staff and alumnae.



**GIVING A WARM WELCOME
Falcon Ambassadors Showcase the IWA Sisterhood**

The students who make up the Falcon Ambassadors are some of the most visible girls in our school. They lead tours and participate in special events such as Open House and New Student Orientation. The 124 young women who are part of the group had to apply and be accepted into the program.

In addition to leading tours, they answer questions about their experiences and share their thoughts on why IWA is such a special place.

"I was scared when I came here," said Ginelle Guerrero '24. "I didn't know anyone. But I made friends like that!" She snaps her fingers. "I want to show the eighth graders that you're never alone here."

"These students are so giving and lead with such a heart of service," said Ms. Melody Torno, IWA's director of admissions. "They have really embraced the changes we've made this year and brought this program to new heights."

Torno and her team revamped the tour and Shadow Day programs. Ambassadors were divided into teams. One heads up tours. Another coordinates events. Together, they are responsible for hosting prospective students and their families. They're encouraged to talk about what led them to IWA and what they're involved in. They've also been trained to offer a high-quality experience for guests to the school, including hosting prospective students at a group lunch and offering them a gift as they leave.

Thus far, the program has been a success, and many people who've taken our tours commented on the welcoming spirit of the ambassadors and the strong programs offered at IWA.



We Give Thanks for...

..... our studies. →

↓ moments we gather together. ↓



↑ celebrating school spirit. ↑



↑ space to pray. ↑



↑ caring faculty. ↑



↑ city views. ↑



↑ our creativity. ↑



↑ downtown field trips. ↑



GOING FOR GOLD
Alex Alvarez '22 Achieves Girl Scouts' Highest Honor

Fewer than 5% of Girl Scouts achieve the prestigious Gold Award, often likened to the Boy Scouts' Eagle Scout designation. It requires both dedication and passion. Alex Alvarez '22 has both.

She received the Gold Award in September, the culmination of nearly a year of work on a project that's very special to her: human trafficking.

"My grandfather is from Mexico and he was sold to a family in California in the 1930s to work in the fields," she explained. "Today, there are still an estimated 40.3 million victims who are trapped in modern-day slavery. And one in four of them are children."

Alex's Gold Award project was aimed at helping victims of human trafficking stabilize their lives, coaching them for job interviews and working to place them in jobs that allowed them to support themselves. Working with her mother, who is a human resources manager at a Houston hotel, and partnering with the Salvation Army, Alex was able to offer interview preparation and clothing to those in need.

"We were able to help a lot of people find jobs," said Alex. "And this means so much to me. I wanted to make a difference in my community. This will stay with me for the rest of my life."



EXPLORING JOIE DE VIVRE
French Students Share Their Love of French Culture

There's more to learning a language at IWA than simply mastering vocabulary and grammar. Our studies also emphasize exploring the culture of the languages our students are learning. That's part of what led French teacher Ms. Heather Frantz to celebrate National French Week with her students.

"It's a way to expose people to and promote French language and culture," explained Frantz.

Her French IV class created a banner with French phrases that hung in the cafeteria for the week, while French II students decorated the space with drawings of French flags and fleurs-de-lis. Students from all levels of French said a daily prayer and the American Pledge of Allegiance in French during our morning announcements Nov. 1-5.

"French is a really pretty language," said Isabella Ekeland '24, who began studying the language last year.



Part of her family is French, which is why she chose to study it.

Trinity DuBois '24 has similar French-speaking heritage, although her family is from Belgium. Her father speaks French, and she started learning it as a hobby on the Duolingo app. "It's a cool language," Dubois said.

H-TOWN LOVE
IWA Students Cheer on the Astros

It's just plain fun having Minute Maid Park as a neighbor. Last fall, our students shared their love for the Houston Astros, decorating our sidewalks for Game No. 6 of the American League Championship Series and Games No. 1 and No. 6 of the World Series. Multiple TV stations came out to interview the girls and showcase their artistic efforts. While the Astros would lose the World Series to the Atlanta Braves, Astros spirit at IWA endures. We'll be cheering on our home team when they open the season in April.

IWA SENIORS NAMED TO STRAKE, ST. THOMAS HOMECOMING COURTS

Homecoming is a time-honored tradition, marked with dances, pep rallies, football games and more. While IWA is an all-girls school, our students still have access to plenty of homecoming fun.

This year, Ellia Volf '22 was named to the Strake Jesuit High School homecoming court, and Eva Cheng '22, Carson Chesnut '22 and Alex Robey '22 were all named to the St. Thomas High School homecoming court. Alex was crowned homecoming queen. Congratulations to them all!



Ellia Volf '22, escorted by her father, at the Strake Jesuit homecoming game.



Carson Chesnut '22, Alex Robey '22 and Eva Cheng '22 at the St. Thomas High School homecoming game.

A Day in the Life of a Band Girl

Denise Walsh '24 is one of several IWA students who play in the St. Thomas High School Band. She offers a glimpse at what juggling band practice and studies looks like.

5:45 a.m. I take a fast shower, quickly get dressed and pray time isn't slipping away as it always is.

6:30 a.m. Time to leave.

7:05 a.m. The band starts playing. Everything sounds amazing, even though it's only 7 a.m. There's something magical about music practice in the mornings. Honestly, I think it's the best way to start the day.

7:30 a.m. That's a wrap on practice. Doing band at an all-boys school means we have to leave practice early so we can get to IWA on time. We grab a doughnut and run out the door.

7:45 a.m. Time for school. I take challenging classes and try to grow in our pillars of academics, values and spirituality. I engage with teachers and socialize with friends, while trying to maintain my GPA so I can get into a good college. It's the hardest and most rewarding part of my day.

2:45 p.m. The bell rings and it's a mad dash down four flights of stairs. Band girls congregate in the cafeteria before heading out. We jam to Disney tunes and stop at Starbucks to fill up on necessary caffeine before heading to the game. We're creating bonds that will last a lifetime.

4:15 p.m. Arriving at St. Thomas High School, band costumes are passed out. Whether we're wearing Hawaiian shirts and leis, cowboy hats and jeans or our full military uniforms, we put them on, do our makeup and braid each other's hair.

4:30 p.m. Dinner.

5:30 p.m. We board the band bus. At our destination, we grab our instruments and wait for the drummers to unload.

6:15 p.m. We arrange ourselves into proper formation and play typical game songs. We heckle the umps and cheer on the team with the cheerleaders.

8:30 p.m. Halftime. We play the three songs our band director introduces, then scatter the field mob-style.

10 p.m. We play the fourth quarter then reboard the bus for home. A day in the life of a band girl is long and hard, but I wouldn't have it any other way!

This story was adapted from Denise Walsh's '24 "A Day in the Life of a Band Girl," originally published in The Buzz magazine; used with the author's and publication's permission.



BREAKING RECORDS IWA Swim Team Chases Excellence

As this issue went to press, the IWA swim team had broken four team records, besting school efforts in the 400 freestyle relay, the 200 freestyle, the 200 IM and the 100 breaststroke. Three of those were broken by team newcomer Claire Fischbach '25.

"Claire's really fun," said head swim coach Rachel Boyle. "She'll be in the middle of practice, working hard and she'll tell me, 'I'm having fun.' And I'll tell her, 'Good. That's what I want for you.'"

In her second year coaching for the Falcons, Boyle's excited to bring stability to the team and looks forward to seeing the team grow.

In addition to the four records they've already broken, the team has its sights set on the 500 freestyle, and junior Olivia Hill '23 is chasing a record of her own, looking to best her time on the 100 butterfly — a school record she broke twice last year (see The Word Spring/Summer 2021, Page 25).

"The girls are pumping each other up and performing for each other, not just in meets but in practices, too," said Boyle. "They do such a great job in a team environment. They see what they're capable of, and sometimes when someone calls you out, it helps you believe in yourself a little more."

Boyle loves watching her swimmers cheer each other on, and seeing the faith they have in each other is something she appreciates as a coach.

"I want them to see how wildly capable they are, not just as swimmers, but as human beings," she said.

Boyle also expects great things from the team this year as they head into the regional meet at the end of January and the state meet in February. We'll be following the team and look forward to sharing more accolades in the next issue of The Word.



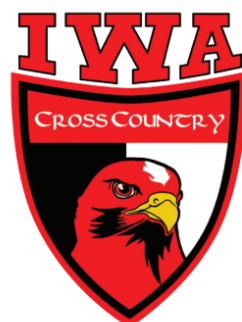


CROSS COUNTRY FINISHES IN THE TOP 10
Falcons Excel at State Meet

As fall came to a close, IWA celebrated the continued excellence of our cross-country team. Both the JV and varsity teams had a tremendous season, with varsity heading to the TAPPS State Championship in Waco Nov. 1, where the team ranked seventh.

"It was a great season," said cross-country coach Bryan Gonzalez. "The girls ran great as a team, and we're looking forward to another successful season next year!"

While seniors Emily Chaires '22, Sarah Olmos '22 and Ellia Volf '22 are graduating, Gonzalez says the team's top five runners are returning next season, giving the program a strong foundation for the future. We're looking forward to seeing what next fall brings!



FALCON SPOTLIGHT: ELLIA VOLF '22

Senior Ellia Volf '22 is a very busy student. Not only is she involved in the Falcon Ambassadors program (see story, Page 9), National Honor Society and the Campus Ministry Team, she also plays a sport every single season. Volf is part of the cross-country, soccer and track teams at IWA.

She just finished cross-country season, her first on the team.

"I like playing a sport at the beginning of the year because all sports make me feel more productive," she told Hannah Koepp '22 of The Falcon student newspaper (see story, Page 8). "If I know I have practice, I won't push everything off until the last minute."

Sports, as Ellia said, can be very motivating. Being a part of a new sport this year gave her the chance to be around a new group of people in a brand-new atmosphere.

"I really like the social elements of cross-country," she said. "Being on a new team with new teammates lets me make new friends and meet new faces."

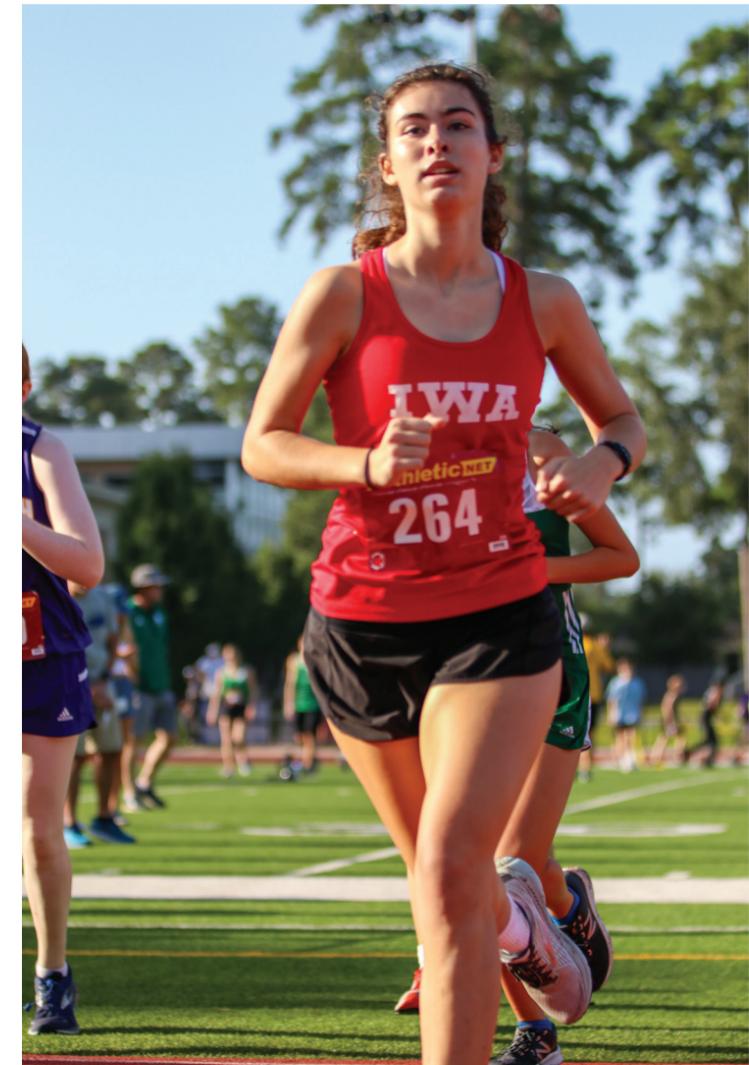
As cross-country wound down in October, soccer season began. Soccer has always been Ellia's favorite sport and she was looking forward to a great season.

"I've been playing soccer forever... It's my family sport," she said.

You can catch Ellia and her teammates on the soccer field through February. Be sure to read our season preview on Page 21.

A version of this story first appeared in the November 2021 issue of The Falcon newspaper. It is reprinted with permission and has been edited from its original format. www.incarnateword.org/the-falcon.

— By Hannah Koepp '22



CHEERING THEM ON

Ten IWA students are part of the St. Thomas High School Cheer Team, seen here performing at homecoming. Led by head cheer captain Carson Chesnut '22 (see story, The Word Spring/Summer 2021 Page 24), the squad performs at all St. Thomas football and basketball games. IWA is always well-represented on the team, which also includes students from St. Agnes Academy and Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart.

**FALCON SPOTLIGHT:
MARY TURNER '22**

Senior Mary Turner '22 began playing club volleyball when she was 9. By 15, she'd stopped playing at the club level, concentrating instead on playing varsity for the Falcons, which she's done since freshman year. She served as team captain for the 2021 season.

"The most fun thing about playing for The Falcons is the strong friendships built within the team," she said. "I will forever cherish the daily car rides to Chick-fil-A and Chipotle before practice."

Mary also said that being on the volleyball team helped her grow her time management skills, balancing practice and games with her rigorous course load. She's learned how to prioritize, and along the way, found out that she is a hard worker.

"Being a captain this year was a challenge, especially because of the difficult district IWA is in," she said. "IWA is one of the underdogs in the district, and I learned many new leadership skills to help our team to stay positive, specifically learning how to be constructive and encouraging at the same time."

Mary helped her team realize that sportsmanship isn't always about the points on the board; it's about playing together and learning how to improve. She knows these are the kinds of lessons she'll carry with her the rest of her life.



BUILDING BACK

Falcons Volleyball Team Shows Progress, Promise

Falcons volleyball coach Vanessa Toomer told her team this year to be confident in each other. While IWA has three volleyball teams — freshman, junior varsity and varsity — she wanted them to think of themselves as being in it together.

"Together as one has really been our motto," she said. "Having that connection will help build a strong athletic foundation."

Finishing her first year as head coach, she is proud of what the team accomplished, growing in athleticism and techniques.

"Our biggest game was Legacy Prep, I think," Toomer said. "They are a talented, very highly skilled program. We won in five. I just really think it showed them that we can do this."

While the team finished 2-10, Toomer knows the future looks bright. Her players have mastered pattern plays and learned the value of trusting each other on the court. Next season should see the team getting even stronger.



**SOCCER SEASON PREVIEW
Falcons Gear Up for a Great Year**

By the time this issue lands in your mailbox, soccer season will be in full swing. The Falcons bring back 15 players from last year, along with nine newcomers. At press time, head soccer coach Bryan Gonzalez said he was excited for what was to come.

"My focus for the team is to have them stay together," he said. "That was something that was great about last year and really helped them get to the playoffs, that spirit of togetherness. Our motto is to start strong to finish stronger."

He said that key games to look out for include those against St. Pius X, The Village School and St. John XXIII. "Soccer is really a sport that brings everyone together, and I know our players appreciate that," said Gonzalez. "We're ready for what's next."



**BASKETBALL SEASON PREVIEW
Falcons Head Coach and Players Look Ahead**

When you've got seven seniors returning to your basketball team, you've got cause to be excited. Varsity basketball coach Fernando Villasana is.

"We have high expectations for success this season," he said. "Those seven seniors bring their knowledge to their teammates. They'll be the core of the team. I'm expecting them to show that experience on the court."

Senior Kati Rzasnicki '22 agrees. "I'm looking forward to our potential," she said. "I'm excited to see how far we can go."

The way the schedule is set up this year, they'll play each district team at home in the Falcons' Nest Gym and away. Villasana's looking forward to the match-ups between district rivals St. Agnes Academy and St. Pius X.

"Our number-one goal is that our players have fun and enjoy themselves," he said. "But we're still going to go out there and compete to win."

— Isabella Terracini '22 contributed to this story.

SHARING SONGS OF HEALING AND PEACE

Fall Choir Concert Marks a Milestone

When the Incarnate Word Academy and St. Thomas High School singers sang together for IWA's fall choir concert, it was the first time in nearly two years that a live performance with a full audience was held here at the 609.

"Two years is a long time for musicians to go without sharing what they do with an audience," choir director Joshua Wilson, told the audience of parents, IWA faculty and staff, and friends who attended the event.

Titled Songs of Healing and Peace, the concert was an evening of selections that hewed to those themes, with poem and Bible verses interwoven between the songs. The concert also featured harp solos by Nora Navarro '23 and Miranda Rinaldi '24.

One of the concert's highlights was "In Paradisum," a new work by composer Z. Randall Stroope. Written last year, it was composed as a tribute to all those families who lost a loved one to the Covid-19 pandemic. Its lyrics drew from the Latin requiem Mass and Psalm 23.

"Choral music really brings together all the parts of the human experience," said Wilson. "Its emotion can enhance our prayer life and spirituality. And singing together has an aspect of wholeness and community that cannot be experienced in any other way or to the same extent."

The two choirs also joined together this winter for a Christmas concert and are at work on selections for their concert this spring.





Iman Haddad '23



Elise Potier '22

HITTING A HIGH NOTE
IWA students make All-State Choir

Two IWA choristers have been named to the 2021–2022 Texas Private School Music Educators Association All-State Choir. It's the third time both students have held this honor.

Iman Haddad '23 (Soprano 1) and Elise Potier '22 (Alto 2) auditioned Nov. 8, 2021. Being named to the choir means the students are among the top 25 singers in their section from all participating private schools in the state.

"I can't express how proud I am of each of the young women who auditioned, and especially these two who made the All-State Choir," said choir director Joshua Wilson.

As our issue of The Word went to press, Iman and Elise were heading to Richardson, Texas for the TPSEMA All-State Choir clinic and concert, Jan. 27–29. We know it will be a great experience for them!

ON STAGE THIS SPRING

APRIL 13, 2022

Impact Dance Team Spring Show
6 p.m.

APRIL 29-30, 2022

Student-directed drama production
"Grimm's Fairy Tales"
7 p.m.

MAY 6, 2022

IWA Spring Choir Concert
6 p.m.

Dates may change; check the school calendar on our IWA website for up-to-date information.



THE SUN'LL COME OUT
Falcon Theatre Presents "Annie"

When the show debuted on Broadway in 1977, "Annie" blew onto the Great White Way with a fresh optimism for a country weighed down by the shadows of Watergate and Vietnam. The musical about the plucky orphan who believed it would always be better "tomorrow" was an instant classic.

Falcon Theatre presented the show in December, with sophomore Flinn Burrell '24 in the title role. This is her second time playing the famed orphan; she starred in the role in her third-grade production of the show.

"My favorite thing about my character is her ability to keep up a positive attitude," said Flinn. "No matter the circumstance, she's always got a smile on and something good to say, and I think she sets a really good example for how everyone should look at life."

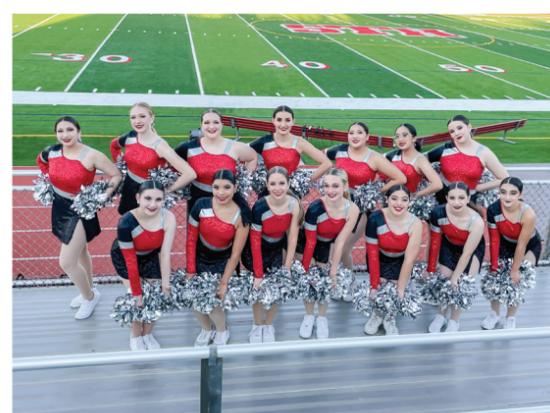
Flinn also acts with HITS Theatre and on the St. Thomas High School stage. She's been involved with Falcon Theatre since she started at IWA last year.

"The best thing about Falcon Theatre is all the friendships that are formed," she said. "We're a pretty tight-knit group and I think it's awesome how close we get during productions."



IMPACT DANCE TEAM GEARS UP FOR COMPETITION

They bring energy and enthusiasm to every performance. Whether they're kicking off an IWA pep rally or lighting up the St. Thomas High School football field at halftime, the IWA Impact Dance Team brings artistry wherever they go.



"We perform stand dances during all four quarters of the football games," said IWA dance teacher and Impact Dance Team coach Ms. Cloe Leppard. "Elizabeth Drake '22, Devin Gold '24 and Abigail Waggoner '22 have done a great job choreographing those!"

The team is currently preparing for a spring of competitions, practicing three days a week to perfect the six routines they'll perform. Leppard said the routines are a combination of jazz, contemporary, musical theatre and pom.

"These girls continue to commit to improving their technique," she said. "And they push themselves with strength and conditioning to grow with the high demands of this sport."

We'll be keeping an eye on their progress and look forward to sharing their future success.



Isabel Mejias shows her sculpture, modeled after Andy Warhol's multiples and decorated in bright colors, an homage to the artist's Marilyn Monroe series.

FALCON PROFILE: ISABEL MEJIAS '22 Discovering Her Future in Art

While Isabel Mejias '22 has always liked art, it wasn't until she came to Incarnate Word Academy that she discovered it could be more than a hobby.

"IWA helped me see art in a more long-term way," she explained. "This is where I decided that this is what I want to do in my career."

She's planning to pursue fashion design in college next year, minoring in business or merchandising, with the hope of creating her own label one day. She has dreams of creating gowns and dresses like Vera Wang.

Here at IWA, she's progressed through art teacher Ms. Josie Postel's electives, Fundamentals of Art, Textile Art and Advanced Art. Isabel describes herself as "definitely more of a painter," and said that Postel's art classes forced her out of her comfort zone.

"We've worked with watercolors on wood and papier mâché, and that challenged me," she said. "But the classes have made me see art in new ways. I didn't realize clothing could be art, that buildings could be art."

She's looking forward to the next steps in her growth as an artist, and we can't wait to see what she does.



WOMEN OF SERVICE

IWA Students Share Skills With Middle Schoolers

Being a servant leader is as much a part of the Incarnate Word Academy DNA as teaching our students to be bold, authentic servant leaders. Those values were on display this fall as several members of our Leading With Service class headed seout to Catholic middle schools for a day of workshops.

They visited with students at Northside's Assumption School and St. Mary Magdalene in Humble, where the led sessions on confidence-building and anti-bullying. The program was entirely student-driven, with IWA students creating the activities, scheduling the schools and leading the sessions.

"I'm so proud of them," said theology and Leading With Service teacher Mrs. Ann Marie Montalbano.

"They did such a great job engaging the middle school girls. I think it was helpful for the younger students to do activities with girls who were closer in age to them, and I think the Leading With Service students realized that they could make a tangible contribution to the middle schoolers."

Leading With Service is one of four courses offered through IWA's Young Leaders Program, and one of the requirements for the class is that students must perform service to the greater community. The session with the middle schoolers included activities such as writing positive affirmations about their classmates, learning how to be supportive of each other, and discussions about how to practice self-care and confidence.



LEADERSHIP IN ACTION
IWA and PwC Team Up

They came in business casual, trading their plaid uniform skirts and sneakers for blazers and heels, their backpacks for handbags. The Class of 2022 filed into the IWA auditorium, ready to learn from the wisdom and experience of the dozen women from PwC executives, who came to our campus to host the Young Women’s Leadership Conference.

The annual event is designed to help IWA students understand what it’s like to be a female executive and see what opportunities exist for female leaders. In years past, our students have visited PwC’s downtown campus; this year, since the professional services firm is still working partly remotely, the executives came to IWA for a morning of resumé writing and mock interviews.

“We wanted to give the students the feel of going to a real, professional conference,” said Mr. Eric Kerr-Herally, IWA’s director of leadership.

The morning featured a keynote address and smaller break-out sessions hosted by women from PwC.

“My group was amazing,” said PwC managing partner Jodi Probst. “There were some great stories. I wanted the girls to be able to understand that making decisions about college and career can seem overwhelming, but that they will make the right decision. Whatever college you go to, it will be great.”

The timing of the conference and its content were deliberately chosen to coincide with the busy college application season, helping students to better craft their resúmes and grow in confidence when talking about themselves.



POP-UP SHOP
What’s Poppin? Is a Success

One of the most-anticipated activities at IWA is the debut of the Leading With Business class’s school business. Each semester the students develop a company from scratch, launch it and donate the profits to a charity.

The fall semester brought What’s Poppin?, a popcorn company that features multiple flavors of the crunchy stuff, including Cookie Monster, made with crushed Oreos and white chocolate, Buffalo Ranch, Butter and Cheddar. The students presented their business plan to IWA faculty and staff in advance of the business’ launch. That process allowed them to group test the flavors and work

through other ideas for the business. The original business plan called for offering drinks, an idea that was jettisoned because of logistics.

What’s Poppin? proved to be a hit with students, faculty and staff alike. The large bags of popcorn sold for \$2 or \$3, depending on the flavor, and the IWA cafeteria was crowded after school with customers clamoring for the tasty treats. The Office of Admission even asked the What’s Poppin? creators to make individual bags to give out to prospective students at Experience IWA, our fall open house.

The business raised more than \$1,000 and the funds will be donated to Casa Juan Diego, a Houston shelter that helps immigrant families.



A NEW APPROACH
Leading With Character Class Gets A Revamp

IWA'S Young Leaders Program is one of the school's hallmarks. The four-year curriculum allows students to not only identify the kind of leaders they can be, it also helps them see that there are different ways to lead. The program's gateway course is Leading With Character, which all incoming freshmen take.

The class got something of a makeover with the start of the 2021-2022 academic year and is now Leading With Character and Academics. The newly imagined course keeps the tenets of integrity, courage and empathy that were central to Leading With Character and adds in a component specifically designed to help foster academic success.

"Because of the challenges we faced from the Covid-19 pandemic, we wanted to create more space to give students the tools they need to adjust to life after the pandemic," said Mr. Eric Kerr-Herally, IWA's director of leadership. "This class provides the organizational tools students need as a foundation for high school success."

Students learn time management, how to organize assignments and more. The idea is that they'll use those skills not only in their freshman year, but throughout high school and the rest of their lives. During the second semester, Kerr-Herally said the class will include a unit on adaptability, another trait that is useful in and out of the classroom.

"The new approach to this class and the topics we're introducing really do make a complete picture of how we want students to look at ways they can take ownership of — and lead within — the responsibilities in their lives," said Kerr-Herally.

IWA TEACHER IS A FINALIST FOR LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Dr. Earl Reum Award recognizes individuals for their work in training adults who oversee student leaders. IWA's Ms. Antoinette Hernandez, who teaches Leading With Character and Academics, was named a finalist for the prestigious award.

"Ms. Hernandez's dedication and creativity are impressive, and she is unafraid to roll up her sleeves to do whatever it takes to complete a task," said Andrea Smith, IWA's principal. "Whether she is helping students chalk the sidewalks to cheer on our Astros, decorate for school dances or coordinate schoolwide activities, she embodies what it means to be a leader. We are thrilled to see her honored in this way."

In addition to her work with IWA students (she's also co-advisor to our student council), Hernandez routinely



shares her knowledge of leading student organizations with others who oversee student councils and school activities. She's hosted training sessions via Zoom and at conferences around the state and the country.

While she is pleased to be recognized as a finalist, she is quick to shine the light on IWA students as true leaders.

"It's refreshing to see so many girls here on campus who are academically strong and global thinkers," she said. "They're thinking beyond themselves and asking important questions about how

they can impact the people around them. That's a sign of true leadership."

Hernandez was recognized as a finalist for the award at the National Conference on Student Activities in December. She received a plaque acknowledging the designation.



Looking Ahead

Leadership Live is Back!

This popular series brings interesting local leaders to campus to present on a variety of topics. Past speakers have shared stories with our students about finding a career path, overcoming adversity, managing crises and serving the community. We are currently finalizing our list of speakers for the spring semester.

Look 'n' Lead

Our YLP juniors and seniors are currently planning this session for seventh and eighth graders. Slated for March 5, the workshop will allow participants to reflect on the qualities that make them good leaders. They'll also participate in activities designed to bring out those leadership traits.

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

IWA's forensic science class gives students an up-close look at how little details make a big difference.

Crime scene tape isn't anything you want to see on a school campus. That is, unless, that crime scene tape is covering the door of a third-floor office space that science department chair Ms. Christine Westman has commandeered for a lesson.





The door to Room 318 is covered in yellow and black crime scene tape. One floor below, Westman is giving her forensic science class a last-minute briefing.

"When you go upstairs, you'll show your badge and you'll enter the crime scene," she said, handing the students a box of gloves so they could take a pair and pass the box along. "A CSI never enters a crime scene without gloves. Why? CSI Nwora?"

"So we don't leave our DNA," replied Kambili Nwora '23. "Exactly."

The group breaks from the classroom and heads to the third floor. The room Westman has taken over is usually a group work space for IWA faculty. Today, it serves as a crime scene for the class. A phone is off the hook. A blue outline of a body is on the floor. There's an overturned chair and a coffee mug.

And it's up to the students to sketch the scene and try to sort out what's happened.

"This is the sixth year we've offered the class," said Westman, who was integral to the course's creation and has taught it since its inception. "We'd wanted to offer a new science elective, and we asked the student body what they'd like to see. This was an overwhelming choice."

The class definitely wins points from the students for being fun. They not only sketch crime scenes, they also do fingerprint and hair analysis labs, and learn about botany and discuss forensic cases. But, it also introduces them to rigorous science and analytical thinking.

"We go over toxicology, which has its basis in chemistry," explained Westman. "And bullet trajectory has components of physics. Analyzing hair asks them to know something about anatomy and biology. It's a fascinating class and gives them a really rich experience."

Before a student can take the course, she must have taken biology and chemistry. That means most students enrolled in the class are juniors or seniors. IWA requires

students to take four years of science, and the forensics class, while an elective, counts toward the requirement. Many students take it along with another science class.

One of them is Emily Green '23, who is taking forensics and physics this year.

"I've always watched 'Criminal Minds,' but I didn't know the why behind it," she said about why she enrolled in the class. "This class is so hands-on. I liked the fingerprint lab we did, and how we learned you could collect DNA from the prints."

"I'd watch 'Law & Order' and I got tired of not knowing what they did to solve the cases," countered Julia Smith '23. "I was confused, so I decided to do something about it and take this class."

Westman goes from group to group in the crime scene, checking their work and challenging them with questions.

"This is the first specific procedure they do in class," she noted. "And they get so excited. This teaches them not to make assumptions or jump to conclusions. They have to base their decisions on solid scientific evidence."

Westman loves that the class asks the girls to do high-level thinking. They have to be able to collect and analyze data, using the skills they've amassed in prior science classes. They then need

to see where that information leads them. Westman uses real cases in her lesson planning. So, students have talked about everything from the JonBenet Ramsey case to a murder in a small West Texas town in the 1940s that was never solved.

"It's so cool to be able to solve a crime," said Clarissa Flores '23. "We did an electrophoresis lab, looking at the DNA of the suspects and the victims. I want to do that again!"

Sarah Edwards '23 took the class because her older sister did and raved about it. She enjoyed having to sketch the crime scene.

"It was stressful because we were pressed for time," she explained. "But it forced us to go over the steps we'd discussed in class. The way Ms. Westman teaches the class is so great!"

Westman herself has enjoyed teaching the course and likes that forensics is an emerging field. It's allowed her to help students understand that science isn't static; it grows and changes as we learn more about technique and develop new tools to study things like DNA.

"Ms. Westman will tell us, 'this is a new technique, and there might be errors, but you can master it,'" said Clarissa. "It's just great to be able to blend all the scientific concepts together and see how something small like a plant can give you so much information."

That's exactly the kind of reaction Westman wants from her students. And she's been thrilled when the course either encourages them to take another science class, or leads to a college major. Lilian Laughlin '20 is currently studying criminal psychology at Utica College and Bridget Arellano '17 is majoring in forensic science at Sam Houston State University. Katelyn Blade '21 is now at Texas A&M University, majoring in forensic science.

"What I learned at IWA fits in nicely with my college courses," she said. "There have been some forensic topics we've brushed over in college and I've been able to say, 'I know that' because we learned it at IWA."

With stats like that, the IWA community can expect to see crime scene tape on classroom and office doors well into the future, knowing our students are on the case.



Alumnae from the 1970s to the 2010s spent a Saturday morning in November at the Target Hunger Community Garden. The group rolled up their sleeves and helped clear weeds from the garden, which helps feed the community of northeast Houston.



Sasha Rodriguez '11 married Refugio Ruiz at the Hard Rock Hotel Riviera Maya Sept. 23, 2021, the exact day the couple met 10 years ago. *Photo: Sasha Rodriguez '11 shares a first dance with husband Refugio Ruiz.*



Marcelyn (Santopolo) Jackson '50 looks forward to celebrating her 89th birthday in October 2021. *Photo: Marcelyn (Santopolo) Jackson '50 enjoys a meal with family.*

Class of '48

Seven **members of the IWA Class of 1948** met via Zoom over the summer to celebrate the group's 73rd reunion. The meeting provided an opportunity to catch up with one another and honor those who have passed on.



Members of the class of 1962 gathered together for Mass at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in downtown Houston in July 2021. *Photo: (Back row, left to right) Lena (Schuttee) Tomasino, Lillian (Cegielski) Kozel, Teresa (Medina) Martinez, Loretta (Prazak) Kasowski, Felicia (Caporina) Cox, Maria (Villagomez) Buzek, Janet (Hamala) Huber (Front row, left to right) Judy (Carrabba) Sanders, Peggy Schulin, Christine (Micklitz) Womack*



After a successful career as a legal administrator and fulfilling a lifelong dream of becoming an entrepreneur as a bridal store owner, **Frances (Sanchez) Reed '66** is enjoying retirement with her ever-growing family. *Photo: Frances (Sanchez) Reed '66 and her family, which includes her loving husband, three children, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.*



Regina Masters '11 married Daniel Gray Jan. 30, 2021. The couple lives in Austin where Daniel works as a writer and Regina is finishing her master's in counseling. *Photo: Newlyweds Daniel and Regina (Masters) Gray '11*



Cristobella Durette '17 recently celebrated her graduation from the University of Houston — Honors College, Summa Cum Laude, with University Honors. She began school at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism last summer.

Camille Anigbogu '20 is staying busy as a liberal studies major in the Honors College at the University of Houston. Over the summer, she was selected to participate in the Mickey Leland Environmental Internship Program at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and was recently awarded a fall internship with the Mayor's Office of Trade and International Affairs. *Photo: When not busy with schoolwork or internships, Camille Anigbogu '20 enjoys playing the organ and piano for her church.*



Emily Hall '12 celebrated her graduation from the University of Houston Law Center in May 2021. She began working at MD Anderson Cancer Center as an assistant privacy legal officer in the Office of Institutional Compliance. *Photo: Emily Hall '12 graduates from law school.*



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Katherine (Connery) Kinney, Class of '56

Martha A. (Fischer) Kubicek, Class of '56

Marian (Maresh) Williams, Class of '63

Jack Giacona Jr.

Husband of Wanna (Slaid) Giacona, Class of '90

Calvin Kolar

Husband of Seraphine (Brotherton) Kolar, Class of '58

George W. Linkhart

Husband of Betty (Wellman) Linkhart '48

Elizabeth Meuser

Mother of Zoe Meuser, Class of '23

Richard J. O'Brien

Husband of Mary Theresa (Scherer) O'Brien '48

Richard Parsons

Husband of Peggy (Krengle) Parsons, Class of '63

William T. Snuffer

Friend of IWA

Bernice Trahan

Grandmother of Shelby '14, Kennedy '20 and Lauren Trahan '22

Thomas Wey

Brother of Mary Ann Wey, Class of '65



Joyce Ann Mendoza, C.V.I., known to many at IWA as Sister Timothy, died Aug. 15, 2021. Originally from Orange, Texas, she earned her B.S. and MBA from the University of Notre Dame, and her Master of Religious Education from the University of St. Thomas. She entered the Congregation of the Sisters

of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in September 1949 and made her final vows Aug. 15, 1955.

She served in the dioceses of Beaumont and Austin and in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, teaching elementary school in Port Arthur, Texas, as well as here in Houston at St. Vincent de Paul School. She was a teacher at both Incarnate Word and Marian High School, and her ministry also included serving as director of religious education, acting as a eucharistic minister, visiting the homebound, and teaching RCIA.

THE CRAWFORD CLUB

A Special Giving Opportunity for Alumnae

The IWA Crawford Club is open to all alumnae who give gifts of \$100 or more to the IWA Annual Fund.

HONORING A LIFE OF SERVICE IWA Gala Shows Love Is All You Need

The 2021 Incarnate Word Academy Gala and Auction was a record breaker for the school, raising nearly \$500,000. Co-chaired by Tracy and Jim Fish and Christi and Dean Quinn, and with a theme of "Love Is All You Need: REMIX," the event honored The Very Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, bishop of the diocese of Victoria, Texas. He received the Sister Agatha Sheehan Award, which recognizes an individual who has made a commitment to and impact on Catholic education. Bishop Cahill has been a tireless advocate for Catholic education over the course of his career, donating to the cause of Catholic education and supporting events at Catholic schools. The theme noted both Cahill's love for his vocation and was a nod to the fact that the gala for 2020 had to be reimagined as an online event due to the pandemic.

"The evening was a tremendous success!" said Sister Lauren Beck, C.V.I., president of Incarnate Word Academy. "I am so very grateful to our underwriters, our sponsors and all who donated to our school. We cannot do what we do without their support."

The money raised will provide for all aspects of education at IWA, including classroom needs, teacher salaries, fine arts supplies and more. The evening's Paddles Up appeal generated \$95,000 which will be used for scholarships and financial aid.

IWA's Office of Advancement is already planning the 2022 Gala and Auction, "An Evening in Dublin," which will honor Sister Virginia O'Donnell, C.V.I. It's set for Friday, April 22 at the Marriott Marquis in downtown Houston. We hope to see you there!



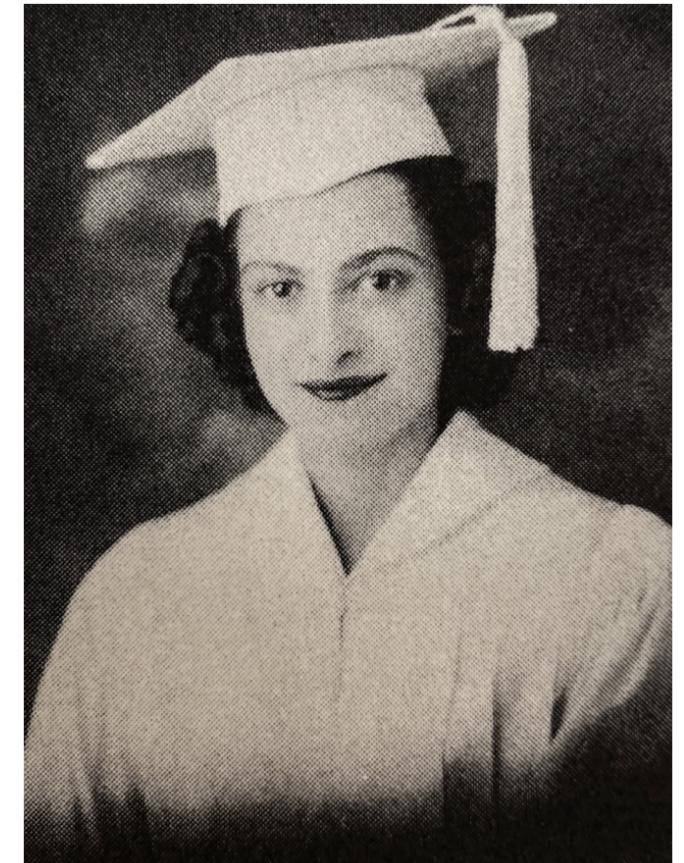
LEAVING A LEGACY IWA's Planned Giving Society Helps Build a Foundation for Future

When IWA alumna Anna Cecilia Merenda '41 passed away in 2017, she not only left behind a legacy as a pioneering woman in business, she left a gift to the Academy that lives on in the 609 Giving Society. The society allows people to include IWA in their estate planning.

Merenda left a piece of property to IWA and Texas Children's Hospital. The sale of it gave the Academy \$186,000, which has been used to further our mission of Catholic education. Merenda, a construction contractor known for her spirit and grit, spent more than 50 years working on sidewalk, sewer and foundation projects. She founded A.C. Construction and Supply at a time when very few women were in that industry. Merenda built the company from the ground up, employing 30 people and boasting a clientele of government and private entities.

She was always a tireless supporter of IWA, and part of our parking lot was completed by her firm. A.C. Construction shuttered in 2004, but it is entirely fitting that a woman who spent years building infrastructure would leave such an integral gift to her alma mater's foundation.

You can follow in Merenda's footsteps. The 609 Giving Society makes it easy for donors to designate IWA in their estate planning. Learn more by reaching out to our Advancement team or by visiting www.incarnateword.org/plannedgiving.



Anna Cecilia Merenda '41

IWA
609 GIVING SOCIETY
Her Future is Your Legacy

Become an inaugural member of our new 609 Giving Society. Your planned gift to Incarnate Word Academy allows us to continue our mission of providing a Catholic college preparatory education for young women, rooted in the values of Jesus, the Incarnate Word. If IWA has already been included in your will or estate planning, or to learn how you can make IWA part of your legacy contact Perla Herrera, director of advancement, at 713-227-3637 ext. 105 or pherrera@incarnateword.org.

ANNUAL REPORT

Throughout our nearly 150-year history, Incarnate Word Academy has been blessed to have the support of many generous benefactors who believe passionately in our mission to provide young women with a Catholic, college preparatory high school education, helping them grow in their relationship with Jesus, the Incarnate Word and live according to His values. They include our founders, the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, the IWA Board of Advisors, corporate benefactors, foundations, families, the IWA faculty and staff, our alumnae and friends. Each individual gift allows us to continue that mission, educating the leaders of tomorrow. We are so thankful for these gifts and are proud to recognize the donors who help our traditions endure. The following donors contributed to Incarnate Word Academy between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. We thank them for their support!



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Candice Hundl Tyrrell '72
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Ruth Bell
Carmen '67 and Frank Bello
Maria del Carmen Bello '20

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 Tony and Carol Beretto
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 Adrienne Bernard '42
 Annessa Boane '56
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 Debhora Woods Valdez '74
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 Emma and Glenn Welsch
 Carman West

Christine Westman
 Sue Clark Wheeler '59
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 Cathlyn Binder Widner '56
 Heather Wiederhoeft

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 Kathleen A. Kelly

Rachel Ray
 Desiree Mutia Rodriguez '99
 Joseph Schiller
 Lauren E. Schneider
 Kristan Siegel



Rosemary Bua Williams '67
 Mary Ann Zimmerman '58

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 Jorge Bonilla
 Erika Caldera
 Cynthia Candelario
 Austin Cruz
 Lorien Cuneo
 Karen and Robert Douglass
 Erika Eberhart
 Traci and Stephen Edworthy
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 Cristina Flores '10
 D'Arby and Christian Garza

Eric Kerr-Heraly
 Stacey Kornegay
 Cloe Leppard
 Rebecca Long
 Jennifer and Matthew Luke
 Priscilla E. Manrique
 Victoria Mastrangelo
 Flor Idalma Mejia de Gonzalez
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 Kelly Morrison
 The Moudry Family
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 Katy and Douglas Neaves
 Mr. Delnor Neufeld and Mrs. Kimberla Lawson
 Rick Perez and Patricia Trostmann Perez '84
 Ana-Paula Panzarini
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Andrea Smith
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 Jessica A. Umana
 Rachael and Michael Valka
 Binh Vuong
 Carman West
 Christine Westman
 Francesca Garcia Ybarra

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 Claudia Christin and Rob Lee
 Geralyn Collora

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 The York Family

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 Joy and Dan Eckelkamp
 Carmen and Eric Faust
 The Ferrel Family
 Kae and Carlos Fowler
 Susana and Daniel Garcia
 Kimberly and Cary Gentry
 Amy and David Hatten
 Nancy and Mitch Hosman
 The Koerner Family
 Denise and Jesse Longoria
 Claire and Ricky Lynch
 Edgar Cross and Adriana Massieu

The Mejias Family
 Christina and Fernando Navarro
 Amy and Andrew Nguyen
 Ida and Paul Potier
 Kelly and David Quin
 Amber and Luis Rabo
 Ariana and Steve Smetana
 Rhonda and Marcos Terracini
 Alison and Charles Turner
 Charron and Charles Uyenco
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 Emma and Glenn Welsch

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 Samantha and John Edwards
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 Guadalupe and Aristides Flores/ Familia Flores
 Kae and Carlos Fowler
 Jennifer and John Ganim
 Caroline and John Gardner
 The Gold Family Falcons
 Donna and Phillip Hunt
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 Kara Watkins Lenahan
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 Maria Roca
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 The Christensen Family
 The Cromeens Law Firm
 The Dickinson Family
 Daniela Enciso
 Amanda and Thatcher Focke
 Sonia and Gilbert Garrido
 Kimberly and Cary Gentry
 The Gold Family Falcons



The Gribble Family
 Deborah and Joseph Hall
 Rebecca and Paul Hanks
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 Joellen and William Hunter
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 Michelle Parham and Lance Tolson
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 The Salazar Family
 The Seaton Family

Marisa and Tim Taylor
 The Volf Family
 Colleen Walsh '90

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1940s

Adrienne Bernard '42
 Mitzi Pool Bridges '48
 June Nemece '49
 Mary Ann Weishaupt '48

1950s

Dolores Adlong '54
 Elizabeth Antell Anderson '58
 Mary Lois Heerensperger Baggett '58

Sandra Hicks '59
 Adrienne Kainer Hunsucker '57
 Mrs. Geraldine Skokan Hvizdos '51
 Dolores Kubeczka '58
 Louise Wright Lowry '54
 Sally Neilon Luna '57
 Lucille '55 and David Mitchell
 Irene Morello '58
 Jeanne Marie (Raney) '55 and Earl Morlan
 Sonja Novo '59
 Eleanor '57 & Douglas Olbrich
 Anna Jean Olexy '59
 Carolyn Malek-Weber Oursland '52
 Antoinette Luna Parigi '57
 Beth Lee Stockbridge '51
 Nelda Storrs Tamborello '56
 Bonnie Beaman Triolo '55
 Camella Benestante Turano '57
 Mrs. Margaret Daly Voelkel '51
 Sue Clark Wheeler '59
 Cathlyn Binder Widner '56
 Mary Ann Zimmerman '58

1960s

Linda M. Albright '65
 Mary Ellen Altenburger '62
 Barbara Atkins '68
 Joan '60 and Milton Beam
 Rosemary '60 and Joe Carrabba
 Mary R. Cashiola '62
 Mary Emerson Chesnut '69
 Roseanna Mendez Daly '69
 Dolores Davis '62
 Helen Riley Delome '67
 Marilyn '61 and Nat Hardee
 Terry '67 and James Hickman
 Barbara Ann Horn-Baldwin '66
 Frances Jasek '61
 Pamela Palmer Johnson '64
 Jo Ann Rao Johnson '69
 Elaine Steffek Jones '63

Mary Margaret Sheltz Keen '60 and Lawrence Keen
Rosalie Kessler '68
Carol King '60

Theresa Ditmars Clark '75
Rosalynd Rangel Coffey '76
Valerie '06 and Elizabeth '79 Guerrero

Gisela Blohm Cherches '81
Rachel '88 and Ted Clark
Annette Vasquez Delgado '80
Lanette Kowis '88



Lydia '67 and Ralph Knight
Lillian Cegielski Kozel '62
Sharon Linbeck '66
Patricia Lonchar '63
Cora Sue Mach '60
Linda M. Guidry Massengale '66
Sue Morello '60
Elizabeth Muegge '63
Barbara J. Nesser '61
Madeline Bullock Parker '69
Peggy Parsons '63
Angela '66 and Richard Kelley
Georgana Repal '64
Barbara Rybarski '62
Peggy A. Schulin '62
Josephine Flores Shaffer '65
Madeline Hamala St. John '66
Mary Ann Wey '65
Diane Whiteley '65
Bessie Adams Wilhelm '60
Rosemary Bua Williams '67
Charlene (Wolf) '68 and Stephen Wright

1970s

Mary '72 and Stephen Auzenne
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Rose Mary (York) Bowser '75
Theresa Webber Broomes '70

Lisa M. Hudanich '77
Deborah Freitag Jaska '75 and Curtis Jaska
Graciela Duran Juneau '74
Catherine McCann Knapp '73
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Renee '73 and David LaGroue
Patti '77 and Robert Lambert
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Annette Manuel '77
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Peggy '72 and Richard McWhorter
Jeanice '79 and Mike Netzel
Irene Demny Orr '74
Maria '78 and Danny Perales
Kathryn Roeder '76
Patrice Philips Sandoval '77
Marie Chiavone Sedita '71
Rosemary Sepulveda '71
Candice Hundl Tyrrell '72 and Ed Tyrrell
Debhora Woods Valdez '74
Darlene Hanks Villarreal '77
Debra '70 and Mark Wehrle

1980s

Viviane Valdez Castaneda '86

Gilda Mendoza '84
Michelle Roy '89
Juliette LaChapelle '83 and D. Martin Runciman
Margret '80 and Clayton Sonnier
Ouida Wolf Tuck '80
Lisa Mouton Wallace '83

1990s

Leticia (Gonzalez) Herrera '91
Aleida Hinojosa '91
Caroline Tennant Mack '98
Ann Marie Samperi Montalbano '98
Stephanie R. Putney '91
Desiree Mutia Rodriguez '99
Colleen Walsh '90

2000s

Daniella Gonzalez '09
Brianna Sandoval Ortega '02
Angelica F. Rillo '00
Christina Rodriguez '08
Sarah Sloan '08
Cristina Vaglienty '09

2010s

Olivia Bergeron '15
Cristina Flores '10
Cheryl Gingoyon '16

Patricia (Sass) '11 and Lincoln Jackson
Chrysta Joy Jaucian '17
Joi Moseley '11
Claire Theroux '19

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Maria del Carmen Bello '20

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Houston Elite Cheer & Tumbling
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Houston Museum of Natural Science
Houston Yard Art
Houston Zoo
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Hurts Donut Company
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 Amie and Brent Bell
 Sheila and Dan Berggren
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 Casey and Chuck Boettcher
 Venetia and Roger Boneno
 Nora and Richard Brooks
 Jenny and Daniel Bryant
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 Mary Flores Hernandez '56
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 Kelly McGowan
 Jane and Jim McMahon
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Steve Schwarzbach
 Carolyn and David Sears
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 Rose and Ellis Sink
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 Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament of Victoria, TX
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DÉCOR UNDERWRITER \$2,500
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 Tammy and Simon Seaton

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Sharon and George Ballas
Mary Jo '74 and Joe Montalbano

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