

# GENESIS

The Quarterly Magazine of St. Ignatius College Preparatory, San Francisco, Winter 2018–2019



**A  
COED  
SI**

*25 years & counting*





**TOP:** The Winter Dance Concert, directed by Emily Shick '10 with production and light design by Meredith Galvin Cecchin '97. **MIDDLE, FROM LEFT:** The Playwright Festival (directed by Ted Curry '82), the Winter Concert (orchestra conducted by Gillian Clements and jazz band by Galen Green) and the Winter Choral Concerts (directed by Sid Quinsaatt). **BOTTOM:** Ted Curry also staged *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* for the fall play. Written by Neil Simon about his days as a writer on Sid Caesar's *Your Show of Shows*, the performances featured three separate casts of talented Ignatians. Credits: Sara Ritchey, costumes; Katie O'Reilly '05, stage crew moderator; Katie Wolf, scenic artist; Denise Guterrez, wig design; Nancy Hess '05, graphics; photos by Ariel '02 & Sam Soto-Suver of Bowerbird Photography.







# GENESIS

**A Report to Concerned Individuals**  
Volume 55, Number 4, Winter 2018-19

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## First Words

In its long history in San Francisco, SI has seen many changes, including five moves to different campuses and, most recently, an expansion of our mission to teach middle school students through the Fr. Sauer Academy.

No change, though, has altered our school as much as the decision to enroll young women. The first group of girls arrived in August 1989 and graduated June 5, 1993. Thus, 2018 marked the 25th anniversary of the latter event and 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the former. We celebrate both anniversaries in our feature section, which was guest-edited by Devi Zinzuvadia '95, a remarkable writer and editor.

I encourage you to read reflections and recollections by current faculty and administrators, by alumnae — including Devi — and by Mario Prietto, S.J., the principal of SI who led the way for coeducation. Fr. Prietto, one of four SI trustees in the 1980s, found an immediate ally in the move to coeducation in Ray Allender, S.J., the superior of SI's Jesuit Community. He worried, though, that the two remaining trustees — SI President Anthony P. Sauer, S.J., and Executive Vice President Harry Carlin, S.J., would be tougher to persuade.

In *Spiritus Magis: 150 Years of St. Ignatius College Preparatory*, Fr. Prietto recalled walking into Fr. Carlin's office to sound him out. "After I carefully reviewed our staff discussion and recommendation, [Fr. Carlin] looked at me from behind those thick glasses and very calmly responded, 'That seems like a good thing to consider. Let's see where it goes.' You could have knocked me over with a feather!"

Of course, these four men had strong and dedicated counterparts in SI's founding female leadership. Sister Glenn Anne McPhee, O.P., was a valued partner in her role as superintendent of archdiocesan schools, and all the women faculty and staff at SI were critical to the success of the school's historic transition. There are too many to name, but SI owes much to two of my closest friends — Kate Kodros, the first female assistant principal in the entire province, and Rita O'Malley, now SI's director of Adult Spirituality. Donna Murphy, SI's first female administrator, reflects on this pivotal time in an essay for our feature section. We also hear from

our current assistant principal for academics, Carole Nickolai, on the legacy of these efforts.

In 1987, the entire school community — alumni, faculty and students — debated and discussed the move to coeducation and sent letters and reports to Fr. Prietto, including one from the English Department, which argued that "segregation of the sexes no longer fits the social matrix of our world. When SI was founded, and in the subsequent decades, the world was segregated socially. That situation simply has passed; we must assume our place in that new situation, and we must prepare men and women to work in that world with skills and attitudes that can foster Christian and reflective social values."

The four trustees eventually went on a retreat to pray over the decision. They came back unanimously in favor of the change. It took a bit longer to persuade Archbishop John Quinn and the other Catholic schools, and the details of those turbulent times can be found on the SI website under the "Our History" section.

Over the years, most of those opposed to the decision were swayed by the success of this move, one that may have been an experiment at first, but now it is a clear success story. My wife and I sent both our daughter and son to SI, and we were delighted by how each benefitted from the diversity of their circle of friends. Single-sex education certainly has its place, and no one system is right for every child, but as the first school in the province to go coed, we broke new ground in Jesuit California and saw immediate benefits.

We continue to see those benefits as our graduates enter a society that no longer accepts sexual harassment or workplace inequity as status quo. The #MeToo movement and the growing number of women in Congress — 23 in the Senate and 85 in the House — are the results of a societal sea change. Clearly, much work lies ahead if we hope to move to real equity, authentic power-sharing and true justice for all, but I like to think that when the women and men of SI debated coeducation and made a wise choice, we became part of something larger than just ourselves.

— Paul Totah '75

*Below: Members of the Class of 1993 gathered Nov. 10 at SI for their 25th reunion. On hand to greet them were SI President Edward Reese, S.J., and former SI Principal Mario Prietto, S.J., who spoke to them about the impact they had on the SI community as the pioneer coed class.*







ABOVE: The core team that hosted the JCL Ludi Novembres convention at SI for lovers of Latin. [Story on page 33.](#)

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## President Eddie Reese, S.J., thanks donors and outlines SI's future

At SI's annual President's Cabinet Dinner on Dec. 1, Eddie Reese, S.J., thanked more than 400 President's Cabinet level supporters and Fr. Carlin Heritage Society members for their extraordinary support of SI last fiscal year and for their partnership in SI's mission of forming Ignatian leaders.

Also, Fr. Reese updated attendees on his three key strategic initiatives:

SI has retained Mark Cavagnero Associates architects and Devcon construction to design SI's New Learning Complex that will replace McGucken Hall, the Orradre Chapel and Carlin Commons. Fr. Reese's ambitious plan is to provide adequate space to meet the learning needs of 21st century students, an experience that incorporates the latest in technology with SI's traditional college prep curriculum.

Fr. Reese's second initiative is to build the Scholarship Endowment Fund to a level that covers 100 percent of annual financial aid need, allowing SI the ability to enroll admitted students regardless of family income and to retain excellent teachers with a competitive salary. His goal is to build SI's \$75 million Scholarship Endowment Fund to \$100 million in order to provide a secure, predictable and sustainable revenue stream to educate future Ignatian leaders.

Finally, Fr. Reese updated our partners on the Fr. Sauer Academy. Two years ago, he announced that SI would open a full scholarship middle school for low-income scholars. Today, the Fr. Sauer Academy has 50 scholars in 6th and 7th grade, and last year's class of inaugural scholars grew by more than 2.2 years on average in their standardized testing. He specifically thanked the Yvonne and Angelo Sangiacomo family for their transformative contribution to make this vision a reality. ∞

## Greg Bonfiglio, S.J., honored at the President's Cabinet Dinner for service to SI

Greg Bonfiglio, S.J., the pastor of St. Ignatius Church in San Francisco and the former president of Jesuit High School in Carmichael, Calif., received the President's Award — the highest honor SI bestows upon a non-graduate of the school — at the Dec. 1 President's Cabinet Dinner.

At the dinner, which the school holds to honor President's Cabinet level donors and Carlin Society members, SI President Edward Reese, S.J., recognized Fr. Bonfiglio for his service to SI, including serving as chair of SI's Board of Trustees for the past four years. He stepped down from that position in July and continues to serve on the board.

In his time helping to lead SI, Fr. Bonfiglio hired Fr. Reese "in part because we knew Eddie would bring with him the model of the successful middle school program he began in Phoenix, where he served as president of Brophy College Preparatory," he noted. "It's a dominant priority for me and the Board of Trustees that Jesuit education be accessible to socio-economic groups that can't easily afford full tuition. The Fr. Sauer Academy became a way of making that tangible in a broad and powerful way."

Fr. Bonfiglio's commitment to education began with his parents, Joe and Kathy, both teachers in the South Bay. His faith flourished thanks to CYO and Search retreats that brought teens together to pray and reflect. After attending his first retreat, he became a member of the retreat team and then a retreat director.

After graduating from Camden High School in 1977, he attended a local community college before transferring to Santa Clara University, where he majored in business and rowed crew. His eight-man

boat was so successful that SCU enrolled Greg and his 1982 crew into the university's Athletics Hall of Fame.

His exposure to Jesuits led him first to spend a year with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Rochester, NY, before entering the Society of Jesus in 1983. Ever since high school, he wondered if he might have a vocation and first thought of becoming either a diocesan priest or a Franciscan. "Reflecting on my experience of Jesuits at SCU and the Society's commitment to justice and the marginalized, I decided to enter the Society of Jesus."

While a novice, he worked in Los Angeles with youth in detention at juvenile hall before coming to SI in the spring of 1985, when he worked in the Admissions Office, taught with Peter Devine '66, coached crew and assisted in campus ministry with Robert Walsh, S.J. '68, and Chip Libbey, S.J.



**ABOVE:** Fr. Bonfiglio with his parents, Joe and Kathy, along with his brother and sister-in-law, Ron and Barbara. **TOP LEFT:** Madalyn Fitzpatrick (left) Fr. Reese and Alicia Silvia at the President's Cabinet Dinner.





Following his studies at Gonzaga University, he taught as a scholastic at Brophy College Preparatory, helping freshmen learn geography and juniors understand morality while also serving as a swim coach and launching the school's freshman retreat program.

"While my year in the JVC was likely the most important of my young adult life, my three years at Brophy were the most fun," he noted. "I tell scholastics that if they want to change a life, then they should go to a high school!"

After four more years of study at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, he was ordained in 1994 and sent to East Los Angeles to serve as associate pastor of Dolores Mission Parish. He asked to be assigned there as he wanted to work with marginalized people, and "I felt called by Jesus to find him in the least of my brothers and sisters." He also hoped to follow in the footsteps of some of his Jesuit heroes.

From 1999 to 2011, he worked at Jesuit High School in Carmichael, first as superior of the Jesuit community and as sophomore morality teacher before being appointed president in 2002. He raised money for a new chapel "as I wanted a place on campus for students to pray." He was most appreciated for being the de facto pastor of his community. He met monthly with a dozen staffers to ask them where they experienced God on campus. "That was our way of attempting to notice what God was doing in our school in tangible, yet not quite graspable, ways."

His friend John McGarry, S.J., praised Greg for being "an effective and charismatic leader. Part of what made Greg such an outstanding president is that he has the heart of a pastor. When you are in Greg's presence, you know he cares about you. Greg is passionate about bringing the message of Jesus to others. I am grateful to have worked with Greg, but even more grateful to call him my best friend for the last 35 years. I am thrilled that SI is honoring him with the President's Award."

After a yearlong sabbatical, he returned to San Francisco to serve as pastor of St. Ignatius Church, where he found that he loves being a parish priest. "This is the best fit of all the jobs I've had, even though one of the most important works the Society does is secondary education, where we leave indelible marks on young people. Someday, maybe,

I'll go back to that work."

He did return, in part, five years ago when he joined SI's Board of Trustees, becoming its chair a year later. He worked with Claude Perasso '76, then SI's chair of the Board of Regents, and with Jack Peterson, an outside consultant, on restructuring SI's two boards into one and better defining its purpose. "Claude was my hero throughout this process, as he cares deeply about SI and wanted to make sure we moved forward in ways that were respectful of those on the two boards and their generous commitment to SI. He trusted that God was somehow in the mix, which wasn't easy."

Fr. Bonfiglio's main job, however, is serving as priest to parishioners "often at the most vulnerable times in their lives — when they need someone to anoint the sick, bury their loved ones or hear their confession. Being a priest at this parish is an extraordinary privilege and one I'm so grateful for."

He also works to build bridges with the City's LGBTQ community, inviting the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus to give a concert at St. Ignatius Church, an honor they were denied 37 years ago. "I had no idea of this history when we invited 35 different choruses to consider using our church as a venue. But this has done so much toward healing those who were so hurt by what happened long ago. One of the greatest gifts of being a Jesuit has been that, through Ignatian Spirituality, I was given the lens through which to look for and find good in all things and to believe that because of the incarnation, everything and everyone is sacred."

Even though there has been a St. Ignatius Church in San Francisco since 1855, the church is celebrating next year its 25th anniversary as a Jesuit parish. "In that quarter century, parishioners have built a long tradition of outreach to the homeless and immigrants and worked to stop human trafficking. Those efforts, I hope, will continue no matter who replaces me thanks to our strong lay leaders. They take responsibility alongside

me in doing the business of the parish, and I am so grateful to them."

He is also grateful that he "ended up in the Society of Jesus. We are all offered an invitation to follow, and our responses are unique. In the end, we are all called to become the fullest human beings we can be, and for me that's serving as a priest in the Society of Jesus. It's a great life." ∞

## A tribute to Fr. Bonfiglio from Fr. James Gartland, S.J.

Long ago before my mother's passing, she was insisting on how God has been good to me in sending me good friends. I replied that all of her children had been blessed in this way. She insisted that I had been more blessed because she saw how my Jesuit brothers loved me so well. I know she was referring to Greg, who had spent some time with my family and my parents. My family wants to include Greg in everything! I think they enjoy seeing him more than me! They see how good he is.

When I think of Greg and his many attributes, the word that comes to mind is kindness. Greg is the kindest Jesuit I know. He teaches me to see the goodness in everyone, not to be afraid of those at the margins. He is disarming in his genuine care for others. When I think of Pope Francis encouraging us to be servants of joy, going out into the streets to reveal the compassion of Jesus to others, I know of no other Jesuit who does it better than Greg.

Greg is alive and well in San Francisco. He was a kind, loving presence at SI during the transition of presidents. He rocks the community of St. Ignatius Parish with his joy, fun and love for parishioners. As a Jesuit friend, Greg is always consoling, nurturing and inspiring. My mom was right. I am lucky to have a few people like Greg who love me so well. I know many others think the same. In this season of gratitude and angels, I thank God for Greg's compassionate presence pointing me to the reality that God is with us. ∞

*Fr. Gartland is the parish administrator at St. Mary Student Parish at the University of Michigan.*

## Correction

The Fall 2018 edition of *Genesis* magazine, our annual report, listed two scholarships as partially endowed that are, in fact, fully endowed. They are the The Class of 1955, Dave Dawson Scholarship and the Tom Landers '85 Scholarship. Our apologies for these errors. ∞



# Help future generations of students join our family.



We thank those alumni, parents and friends who have joined the Father Harry Carlin Heritage Society by remembering SI in their estate plans. Anyone who has made a legacy gift to SI, such as naming SI as a beneficiary in a will or trust or of a retirement plan or other account (regardless of the size of the gift), is welcome to join this special group. We especially welcome our newest members whose names are bolded.

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When Amir Sarreshtehdary '92 was 3, his life and that of his older sister were in the hands of their parents, Fereydoon and Jila, who had to flee Iran once the Revolution of 1979 occurred, as Fereydoon had served as Chief of Protocol for the Shah.

Years later, his parents put their financial lives in the hands of their son, who had just graduated from UC Hastings College of the Law.

"I remember vividly them placing their estate plan binder in front of me. They told me that I was now their family attorney, so I had to tell them what was in it," said Sarreshtehdary.

"Even though I knew little about estate law at the time, I agreed to roll up my sleeves and dive in. When I saw how much they paid for it, my eyes popped out. They had signed it in a hurry because their attorney had to rush out the door. That lesson stuck with me. Now that I do estate planning and trusts for a living, I promise never to rush clients through the process. I make sure that when they leave, they understand what they have signed and the overall bearing of their documents."

Sarreshtehdary now focuses exclusively on estate planning, trust administration and probate as part of Thompson Welch Soroko and Gilbert LLP, working out of an historic Jackson Square law office. To his clients, he preaches the benefits of estate planning. "Many times, people can enjoy tax benefits by naming nonprofits, charitable organizations or schools in an estate plan or a retirement plan. The government is sitting, waiting to tax whatever it can, but if you act on a donative impulse, you get to enjoy some tax breaks while seeing an institution like SI use the money to help future students."

He knows this personally, as he recently included SI in his own estate plan, making Sarreshtehdary a member of the Fr. Carlin Heritage Society, a group that honors those who have remembered SI in their estate plans. His involvement with that group goes back to 2013, when he offered a free estate planning workshop to SI parents and alumni at the school. Around that time, he also joined the Planned Giving Advocacy Committee.

Even then, he discovered one myth surrounding estate planning. "I thought the Carlin Society only accepted a limited number of people, and that members first had to receive an invitation before they could join. When Annie Reilly, who heads SI's planned giving efforts, corrected me of that notion, I amended my estate plan to give back to a school that had given me so much."

Sarreshtehdary knew Reilly from her days as his student at Golden Gate University, where he teaches tax and estate planning to students pursuing a Master of Laws degree in Taxation, Estate Planning or both.

"I encourage grads to contact Annie because SI has shaped so many of us for the good. We are so impressionable during our high school years, and most of us have turned out pretty well. I run into classmates all the time who are wonderful people, such as Chris Stecher '92, who works downstairs from me. Adrian Sawyer '92 and George Rush '92 are also great colleagues who work in the area. I'm lucky to have former SF Mayor Mark Farrell '92 and Kami Moghtaderi '92 as classmates. The sense of community extends to keeping in touch with classmates not so close geographically, such as Harout Gostanian '92, who is in Las Vegas. I feel wonderful running into so many SI friends. It's hard to quantify the special bond that the school creates."

While studying to become an attorney, Sarreshtehdary worked as a youth counselor in Marin. "I credit that to SI, which inspires us to give back and help those less fortunate than ourselves. Working with troubled youth made me appreciate having my parents around. They laid my foundation, as did SI, which provided me with mentors such as Fr. John Murphy, S.J. '59. As big a school as SI is, I've always been impressed by its family aspect. The joy I feel now on a daily basis with my wife and daughter stems back to my four years at SI. The least I can do is leave a small portion to the place that helped me become the person I am today."

He also shares his wisdom with people who challenge the notion that estate planning is only for the wealthy. "I had a friend tell me that he doesn't have an estate. I told him that if he only owned a pen, then he has an estate. You don't need great wealth or a lavish lifestyle to plan. I've worked with working-class individuals who only owned a few things, but they wanted to make sure their belongings ended up in the right hands. The right distribution of his assets gave him peace of mind."

Others, he added, "confuse probate with other estate planning concepts. Some tell me that because they own less than \$11 million in assets, they are OK and don't need to plan. But probate kicks in over \$150,000, and they are confusing probate with the estate tax exemption amount."

To help people overcome the hurdles of finalizing an estate plan, Sarreshtehdary has done workshops along with financial advisors at public libraries as well as for employees of various companies. "At one workshop, 80 people came, and we completed statutory wills, Powers of Attorney and Advance Health Care Directives on the spot with three notaries on hand. Many of those people would never have put pen to paper without that event."

His workday, followed by his teaching load and workshops, add up to long hours away from his home in Novato. "People tell me I must be paid well to teach, but that's not really true nor is it the driving force. When I was a student, I reached out to my mentors for guidance. Now I have a chance to share something with students who need guidance. Many of my former students still email me when they need advice."

Sarreshtehdary started doing estate planning in 2007 while working for Brayton Purcell, LLP, a toxic tort litigation firm in Novato. There he helped terminally ill clients with their last-minute estate planning needs. "I had to think quickly on my feet, as many of my clients were dying. I would visit their homes — where several were hooked up to oxygen — and help them take care of unfinished business."

While Sarreshtehdary focuses on his clients' future needs, he never forgets his own past and the journey taken by his family. After fleeing Iran, they traveled to London, where Amir's father worked in the Persian carpet trade. "That business was on the maternal side of my family for generations. But I was always a sickly child, and the London weather didn't agree with me, so we moved to San Francisco."

He and his wife, Parisa Sadeghian, make sure their daughter, Delara Grace, appreciates her Persian background. "But we did legally change her last name to Dary," said Sarreshtehdary. "So many people have botched my last name that we wanted to make it easy for our child."

**If you would like to learn more about the estate planning process or how to join the Fr. Carlin Society, contact Amir Sarreshtehdary at [amir@twsglaw.com](mailto:amir@twsglaw.com) or SI Planned Giving Coordinator Annie Reilly at (415) 731-7500, ext. 5122, and at [areilly@siprep.org](mailto:areilly@siprep.org).**

## Fr. Carlin Society Spotlight: Amir Sarreshtehdary '92

*The Sarreshtehdary family with former San Francisco Mayor Mark Farrell '92*





## Ignatian Guild fashion show SING hits a high note with audiences and raises scholarship funds

If the Ignatian Guild's annual fashion show SING were a contestant on *The Voice*, buttons would be pressed and chairs would be turned, given the quality of the musically themed extravaganzas.

Nearly the entire senior class strutted the catwalk, sang or danced during the Sept. 29 dinner gala and the sold-out Sept. 30 lunch show. Both SING shows began on a high note with students crooning Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" for grace.

This annual event, one that will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year, brought in more than \$250,000 to benefit SI's scholarship fund and treated guests to a basket raffle and dancing for the Saturday show and marketplace shopping before the Sunday show.

Guild President Angela Koros came up with the SING theme based on the title of an Ed Sheeran song, and it resonated with the women who chaired the event — Marilyn Enos, Denise Rich, Robin Rodi, Amy Wooler and Miriam Sweeney.

"When Angela shared it with us, we loved it," said Mrs. Rodi. "We saw so much potential in it and watched it evolve over time from a show featuring classical vocal hits to one that featured what makes our students' hearts sing."

The theme was also a good fit "because it had SI in the word," added Mrs. Enos. "As soon as I heard the theme, I had a hundred ideas of what could be done. It also offered us a chance to think outside the box and be more creative."

The success of the two shows came about thanks to the generosity of so many volunteers, added Mrs. Rodi. "It just reaffirmed for me what an amazing group of parents we have supporting the school. From volunteering to underwriting and donating, to supporting the kids and problem solving, our parents were willing to sacrifice and go the extra mile to make it happen. The moms I worked with had such a can-do attitude that nothing got in their way."

Mrs. Wooler also praised SI's faculty and staff who "were huge in helping out with the fundraising, designing the logo and forms, marketing and communicating to the families and students and planning all of the meetings and gatherings. This is a beast of an event and would be difficult to pull off without the SI advancement and communications teams as well as campus security, the kitchen crew, the buildings and grounds staff, faculty, coaches and

administrators. Everyone responded to requests with a 'yes,' and usually they would just offer to pitch in without being asked."

She also praised the volunteers, many of whom "signed up for two or more volunteer positions and made it fun and possible to get all the work done. This is truly a tribute to this very special place we call SI. I am humbled by what goes on here every day."

For Mrs. Rich, the shows were "an amazing undertaking thanks to the SI community, which came out in force to help. I am honored to be a part of such an awesome group."

For Mrs. Sweeney, "partnering with the kids themselves was wonderful. I'm blessed every year to have the opportunity to get to know these young men and women. Participating in the fashion show is a big commitment for these hard-working students. They juggled co-curriculars, college applications, SATs, personal responsibilities and more to be part of this time-honored tradition. I'm so impressed and proud of each and every one of them."

For Mrs. Enos, one highlight included the way students brought their passion for social justice to the event when they walked on stage wearing painted t-shirts touting their causes. She also loved the large video monitors that showcased interviews with students answering the question, "What makes your heart sing?"

Each of the chairs thanked Ted Curry '82, who served as creative director, and production manager Gary Brickley '71. They also praised veteran SI costumer Sara Phillips-Ritchey and dance instructor Emily Shick '10 for their help with the show as well as Rick Yang for feeding 1,500 guests during the two-day event.

The chairs also thanked those who underwrote the event and those who donated items for the gift baskets, including tickets for *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* and for a Warriors' game. "This is the Guild's biggest fundraiser, and we are so appreciative of the incredible generosity shown by the school community," added Mrs. Rodi.

"It was a labor of love working with each of the chairs," said Mrs. Koros. "These generous, talented women worked tirelessly to lead a team of devoted volunteers and worked with SI staff in creating an amazing event. The passion and dedication of our incredible SI community coming together for SING was wonderful, and I am grateful to all who made this event so successful!" ∞







**LEFT:** Ignatian Guild president Angela Koros (third from left) led a team of talented fashion show chairs, including, from left, Marilyn Enos, Amy Wooler, Denise Rich, Robin Rodi and Miriam Sweeney.





A  
COED  
SI  
25 years  
counting

It's a place we can call home / Maybe it's not four walls with solid foundation / But it's an unspoken love that runs

## 25 years of men & women with and for others

We're a quarter century into SI's grand experiment, the ultimate act of inclusion for an all-boys school: to admit and enroll girls. We now have three decades of women graduates who are full members of the St. Ignatius College Preparatory community. It seemed like the natural time to celebrate our own achievements, listen to each other's stories and examine where we still have room to grow, no less urgent given the current moment rising and roiling around us.

There's a lot of good talk now, in our school community and elsewhere, about intentionally working toward equity and inclusion. One of the great moments of SI walking the talk around these goals was the decision to welcome girls to its student body, and thus women to its alumni corps. Now we could do as our fathers, grandfathers, brothers, uncles and cousins had done before us, and we would be a part of a community that could one day welcome our daughters and granddaughters. That is no small thing. You only need to page through the school's history, *Spiritus Magis*, to see that women have contributed to SI since its founding, really since before the beginning in 1855. But in the spring of 1993, at St. Ignatius Church, as a few hundred young people received their diplomas at graduation, we saw something that for many was utterly unimaginable not very long before: There before us was a principle — men and women for others — in practice. And since then, to my knowledge, we've never looked back.

I've been bugging my friend Paul Totah '75 about this special section in a way that

reminded me of Abigail Adams writing to John Adams during the Continental Congress, imploring him to "*Remember the ladies.*" My hope is that we can reflect on the way SI's experiment in inclusion was itself an extraordinary act and upon the degree to which it has resulted in weaving girls and women into the fabric of our school community. The big joke in my family, when I decided to attend SI after graduating Convent Elementary, was that I'd be going from an all-girls school to an all-boys school. Back then, we were all still navigating the path of what SI would eventually become. Girls and boys, of course, are different. Girls dress differently than boys. (The required collared shirts were a particular challenge in the early '90s, one we largely met by wearing boys' flannel button downs and rugby shirts; SI girls of the 21st century seem to have a far better handle on the dress code.) We also interact differently in class discussions, usually raising our hands for a go-ahead to contribute rather than jumping in or shouting out; we typically collaborate on projects differently, approach leadership differently. Not better, not worse; just differently. There were moments in the early days when it was clear SI, despite very best intentions, simply did not yet know what to do with us. I quote Tina Fey very, very often, and reflecting on the old days of a newly coed SI made me think of her describing an early career as one of the only women in the room: "Sometimes they just literally didn't know what we were talking about."

Many SI students, faculty and grads are familiar with the Ignatian Solidarity Network



ABOVE: From left, Gabby Schmidt '18 and Devi Zinzuvadia '95 at the May Awards Assembly.

and their annual Ignatian Family Teach-in for Justice, an advocacy and social awareness summit held in D.C. each November, near the anniversary of the assassinations of the Jesuit martyrs. This year there was an excellent breakout session led by a Georgetown Preparatory faculty member, which she entitled "Men for Others in the Age of #MeToo." I ducked in a few minutes early and, just weeks after now-associate justice Kavanaugh's Senate confirmation hearings, it was already standing room only. One student at the back offered me a seat she and her friends had been saving, and I gratefully accepted. She asked me where I was from, and I replied St. Ignatius Parish in San Francisco. "Oh! We're from San Francisco, too," she said. "From SI." Of course they were! I told them I was a grad as well. For the next hour, we sat through the presentation, just a row of SI girls, six young, one old: heads up, taking notes, murmuring observations, occasionally nodding; a group of women for others considering one of the most important questions for our wider community of Jesuit schools. It was, for me, an absolute highlight of an always inspiring conference.

I've been wondering a lot, working on this *Genesis* section, what my late granddad





Coleman Kane (Fordham Prep '30) would have thought of all this. I imagine he would have approved; he attended what was then Fordham College High, SI's brother Jesuit school in the Bronx (all-boys since 1841), on scholarship after his father died suddenly when Coleman was around 13, and he always looked out for ways to look out for others, to include and lift up those who might otherwise be excluded. We remember that Jesus sought always to welcome and to include, even when — especially when — it was a scandalous or provocative choice for the place and time. The Gospels serve to push us to the margins and edges of our comfort; they can be helpful to acknowledge our true work and charge as a Jesuit Catholic faith community: to be welcoming and inclusive — sometimes radically so. No community is perfect, and there's never a moment that's right to stop considering, assessing and breathing new life into the conversation by including voices previously absent.

I should also say this: I love SI. SI played an essential part in who I am today and my pathways in career and in life. It's where I committed to centering my choices around service and social justice, learned how to be a discerning and critical thinker and, most importantly, where I met some of my dearest lifelong friends. Some of the best moments from my time as a Summer Prep and SI student are thanks to incredible educators such as Steve Bluford '84, Fr. Paul Capitolo, S.J. '53, Art Cecchin '63, Deirdre Deasy McGovern, John DeBenedetti '83, Br. Douglas Draper, S.J., Bob Drucker '58, John Grealish '79, Paul Hanley '63, Leo La Rocca '53, Dave Lorentz, Jan Mullen, Steve Phelps, Mike Shaughnessy '67, Barbara Talavan, Paul Totah '75, Joe Vollert '84, Katie Wolf and Julius Yap '74. But I do think you can love a community and still be clear-eyed about the areas where it could grow and improve.

I believe this to be one of the more active parts of love, actually — to push and to question — and I know my Jesuit high school is where I learned that to be so.

Also on my mind as I consider this quarter-century milestone is a moment from a few years ago. A wonderful family friend was receiving the Christ the King Award, SI's highest honor for a graduate for his service to the school. I was next to another friend in Orradre Chapel during the service, and at one point she leaned over to me and asked, "How long do you think it will be before a woman is given this award?" And I had absolutely no answer; I was totally stumped. It was, and is, a really good question. All women and girls can tell you that it's being at the table and in the room, raising one's hand and adding to the discussion, bringing one's perspective where before it was absent, that makes all the difference, both to the individual contributors and to the wider community. I was thrilled, for example, when Alexa Contreras '05 was named alumni director this past spring; she's a phenomenally qualified choice for our school community who's already making her mark, and she will be a woman with and for all SI alumni. I also cheered the news this summer when Kristy Cahill Jacobson '98 was named admissions director. Both women join Marielle Murphy Bos '93, longtime development director, in leadership roles at SI held by alumnae (and, held for the first time ever by women). They join their sister faculty members, department chairs, counseling office leads and campus ministers, many of whom are also SI grads. These women represent more "firsts" for our community, somehow simultaneously notable and unsurprising. We know representation is important, we know our voices matter; here we are contributing.

I don't have any daughters, but my brother Andrew (Zinzuvadia '97) and his wife do, and so I see all the time how the

choices we make, in nurturing and educating our young people, matter: the words we use to encourage, the expectations we set. My sweet niece, not yet 3 at the time of this writing, has no idea that the world might have different expectations for her than it does for her three big brothers. At the moment, she is brilliantly fearless, totally without worry or limitation, unencumbered by any nonsense and noise that might await her; the world belongs to her.

In the pages ahead, you'll read reflections from alumnae representing three decades of a coed SI, as well as perspectives from parents, faculty and school leadership past and present, along with dispatches from current SI students and grads detailing how they're making their mark. We strived for a diverse collection of contributors that mirrors the complexity of our group, but of course, there are voices I wish were present; as with any project, this effort is not a perfect one. Missing is a vignette from an alumna who does not work outside the home, and we hear little from alumnae now living far from the Bay Area. Our most recent grads are busy with college and building their next chapter, but the wait for their stories will be worth it.

So, the conversation will continue. Please join us in celebrating all we've accomplished over the past 25 years of men and women with and for others, as we look ahead to what's to come for the SI community. ∞

A.M.D.G.  
Devi Zinzuvadia '95

*Devi Zinzuvadia '95 is director of engagement at a youth development nonprofit in the Western Addition, where one of her many joys is welcoming SI volunteers to service. Earlier in her career, Devi worked in TV news; she holds degrees from USC and Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.*







## Alumnae reflect on why a coed SI matters

BY EMMA DUNBAR '95

I have my grandfather's framed copy of the Prayer of St. Ignatius hanging by my front door. It is a daily reminder of the call to be a *woman for others* that was instilled in me as a student at SI. SI helped shape my determination that all people have the opportunity to seek positive life choices as a result of their educational experience. Being a student at SI while the school was learning to be coeducational fostered in me the realization of the power of self-advocacy; changing culture to become more inclusive — and listening to the voices of students, teachers, and staff — takes time. The time my teachers at SI spent listening to me, helping me develop my own voice and sense of agency, had lasting value. After graduating from SI, I went to a university deeply rooted in traditional Western, white, male perspective; as a freshman I appealed to my department for greater diversity of voice, and significant changes were made to the curriculum as a result. SI gave me the foundational knowledge and confidence to launch such an appeal.

Donna DeBenedetti, Paul Totah '75, Stephen McFeely '87, and Fr. Tony Sauer, S.J., pushed me as a reader and a writer. They all went out of their way to show interest in my pursuits and support the projects I was involved in outside of their classes. I

do remember being very frustrated with Mr. Totah when we were reading Dante's *Inferno*, I can't remember why, and writing a frustrating "fictional" English teacher into one of the special levels of hell. It is only appropriate that I went on to spend seven years teaching English and grading essays for hours at a time myself.

As a non-Catholic, non-City, public school kid, transitioning to SI was difficult. The strong, supportive education and mentoring I received at SI instilled in me the foundational knowledge central to my life and career. During my college summers, I returned to SI and taught 7th grade at Uplift (now Magis). I have remained an educator since and at the core of my philosophy is the determination to create collaborative, creative communities where students and teachers develop the skills to more successfully communicate with the world around them on multiple levels, in order to effect positive change.

*Emma Dunbar '95 is a lifelong educator, mother of three and resident of San Francisco. She holds master's degrees in Education from Stanford University and in Educational Organization and Leadership from USF; she earned her undergraduate degree in English at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.*

BY ANNIE LEE '05

As a Chinese-American, I grew up navigating Chinese customs, American culture, Mandarin, English, collectivism and individuality. While many of the factors that shaped me into who I am seem contradictory, the two most powerful are actually complementary: my parents and my education at SI.

My parents, like many monolingual immigrants, personify hard work. They are realists, hardened by their life experiences during the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution, and they have faith only



in the labor of their own work. My sister and I grew up watching them seize every opportunity to work overtime, and we knew they made these sacrifices so that we could have an easier life.

SI reinforced my parents' emphasis on hard work. Prior to law school, I had never been as intellectually challenged as I was in ninth grade English class. The hours of poring through text not only improved my skills, but also led to self-discovery. Mr. Peter Devine '66 introduced me to *The Joy Luck Club* in sophomore year English. Until I read Amy Tan's writing, I did not know a book could articulate the intensity of identity and culture, which my 16-year-old self could feel deeply but could not express. The book spoke to my soul, and still does.

Beyond helping me understand myself, SI shaped my understanding of the world around me. SI nurtured my inherent sense of fairness. Growing up in San Francisco, I saw inequality everywhere, and my high school teachers and their conscientious curriculum helped explain the root causes of these disparities, including the legacy of anti-Black racism. In addition to educating me about the world, SI also challenged me to act on





the injustice I saw. This notion of service *with and for others* is core to my identity.

I took the hard work I learned from my parents and the importance of service I learned at SI and ran with it. After college, I chose to teach in the Bronx, where I co-developed from scratch a multicultural U.S. history curriculum for my 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. For two years during law school, I served as a legal aid student-attorney representing low-income families facing eviction, and I co-led a weekly eviction defense workshop for the hundreds of families our clinic could not represent directly. After law school, I served young people, primarily foster youth and students mired in discipline and special education proceedings. These career choices, and my current work as a civil rights attorney, stem from a fundamental belief that I must use my work ethic to serve others. This sense of duty is not surprising given my parents and four years at SI, where every day I said the words “men and women with and for others.”

*Annie Lee '05 is a civil rights attorney at the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, where she enforces federal laws that protect students from discrimination. Prior to her legal career she was a public high school classroom teacher in the Bronx. Annie graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School; she holds a master's degree in education from Fordham University and a bachelor's degree in political science, summa cum laude, from the University of Pennsylvania.*

#### BY CAITLIN CALLAGHAN '99

I believe — I hope — that I am a more empathetic and conscientious person because I attended SI, and I believe that I have a stronger capacity for perseverance and for resilience because I attended SI. Some combination of these inner capabilities;

a greater understanding of the complexity of the world around me; and a sense of my responsibility to the men, women and children with whom I share the world — these all make up the legacy of my SI education.

I feel fortunate that I had so many wonderful teachers and coaches, and made so many wonderful friends, at SI. The sum total of these relationships has made my life a very happy one, and I'm grateful for that happiness. Since I can't share every special memory I have from my time at SI, I'll share two. The first is of rowing on Lake Merced every afternoon in the pouring rain, for four straight months, in the El Niño spring of 1998 in a boat we called “the Magic 8.” I think we medaled at both the San Diego Crew Classic and the State Championship in Sacramento that year. I don't remember exactly where we placed, but I do remember how fun the SI women's crew team was that season. The second memory is of Michael Shaughnessy '67, Michael Gilson, S.J., (now Fr. Gilson), and Peter Arvantly congratulating me in person on graduation day at St. Ignatius Church. Those three teachers were among the best teachers I've ever had, and I still remember how meaningful it was for me to see them on that day.

I'm certain that the rigorous liberal arts education I received at SI gave me the foundation to succeed academically in college and set me up for an intellectually enriching graduate education. I probably would not have pursued a doctorate in medieval languages and literature — a pursuit that ultimately shaped my life's course in a powerful way — without eight semesters of strong English language and literature instruction at SI. (Thank you, Bill Isham, Simon Chiu '88, Eleanor Ohleyer, and Fr. Sauer!)

*Men and women for others* is a creed that still guides me in my life today — not only in the professional world and as a volunteer

in my community, but also as a parent. These days I find myself thinking a lot about the broader lessons of service I learned at SI as I try to raise my daughter to be a conscientious and compassionate citizen.

*Caitlin Callaghan '99 is founder of Coast Range Communications, a speechwriting and strategic communications firm in San Francisco. She holds a Ph.D. from Cornell University, a master's degree from Oxford, and a bachelor's degree from Stanford. Prior to building her own company, she served as the lead speechwriter for Janet Napolitano, president of the University of California. Caitlin lives in the Richmond District with her husband, Mike, and their daughter, Marina. She is pictured below right with her sister, Larkin Callaghan '01.*



#### BY LARKIN CALLAGHAN '01

I made lifelong friendships at SI, which have proved quite grounding; the number of weddings, new baby celebrations and family events during the 15 years since graduation is countless, and I'm always so grateful to have relationships with whole SI families that have spanned half my life. Two of the things that drew me to SI immediately as an adolescent was the spirit of and dedication to social justice and the importance of solidarity that permeated throughout the school — our classrooms, campus ministry, sports teams and artistic endeavors were







flooded with a sense of contributing to and understanding justice and equality, and that has stayed with me ever since. It's also always fun to meet other San Francisco natives who went to SI over the last few decades — the connection is immediate and makes the community seem even tighter and stronger.

I have so many touchstone experiences from SI. I am exceptionally grateful for the mentors I gained while there — I was always learning from Michael Shaughnessy '67 and Jim Dekker '68 (and still am, as I'm lucky to have maintained these relationships) directly and indirectly. Working on the *Quill* for two years with Dekker as faculty advisor, in meetings and editing sessions after cross-country practice or theater rehearsal, was a rewarding and challenging experience that sticks out in my mind; it showed me I had more focus than I thought! Dress rehearsal week for plays and musicals were so fun, and I still have many friendships from those bonding experiences — we basically lived at 2001 37th Avenue those weeks. I vividly remember my Kairos, and the one I subsequently led; the openness to vulnerability and personal explorations of those retreats were monumental in the year before I left home.

Most importantly, through all curriculum and activities, SI deftly wove in the idea of perseverance in the face of adversity, and that's something I really took to heart — the idea of finding the internal resources to move through periods of struggle. Knowing that one is better for it in the end is a concept I came back to many times over the last 15 years as I

moved through graduate school and grew in my field. I also frequently return to the idea of social justice and learning how to be women and men for others. From my immersion experience (in East Los Angeles, led by Michael Shaughnessy), to my work in campus ministry, to classes focused on morality and justice, returning to this theme truly shaped my life perspective and professional goals. My work in international development and public health is largely driven by motives of equity and human rights, and I know one of the reasons I kept moving forward in these fields is the foundation that SI laid with regard to their importance — and why it's so essential for us to be persons for others.

*Dr. Larkin Callaghan '01 is Director of Research Strategy, Communications and Partnerships at UCSF's AIDS Research Institute. Larkin has spent her career in HIV research, global health and international development and has led clinical research interventions, trainings and government partnerships in 20 developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. She earned her doctoral degree and post-doctoral training from Columbia University and her bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California.*

**BY MIRANDA TSANG '05**

Being a student at SI opened me up to the possibilities of the world. I learned that life was bigger than my neighborhood of Glen Park — that there was the whole world to explore. If it weren't for SI, I may never have left the Bay.

My English teacher Ms. Carole Nickolai saw something in me and helped me get my first real job, working for her husband's valet company; she also encouraged me to apply to become president of Rally Core. Having people believe in me throughout



my time at SI — many other teachers and coaches included — allowed me to realize my potential and strive for more.

There were struggles along the way. I'm certain I was mistakenly placed into honors math my freshman year. That misalignment led to four years of tears and hours of persistent knocking on my calculus teachers' doors during office hours. I didn't get A's, but I did earn B's rather than fail, which taught me that I could succeed through hard work. I began to see in myself a quality I hadn't before — that if I wasn't great at something by nature, I could work hard and improve. I now know that's called *grit*.

I have to say that my career is highly Ignatian. I work at 826LA as Programs Manager, overseeing programs staff and curricular goals of the 826 student writing and publishing center in Echo Park. I create partnerships with local organizations and museums to offer students new avenues into writing and publish the words of young people. For five years I worked in various programs and communications roles at 826 Valencia in the Mission District. All of the 826 locations nationally provide free writing, publishing and tutoring services for students





who qualify for free or reduced lunch. I'm very proud to help even the playing field for these students and their families. Please consider volunteering at an 826 near you!

*Miranda Tsang '05 is a writer and educator. She has served in various roles at 826 Valencia, a writing and tutoring center for under-resourced children and youth and within the wider 826 National network, including her current work at 826LA. Miranda contributes to Oakland's New Life Quarterly, edited 642 Things to Write About: Young Writers Edition, and has been widely published elsewhere. She earned her MFA from UC Riverside and her undergraduate degree from Middlebury College.*



#### BY LEAH TAYLOR PIMENTEL '00

SI showed me the importance of the commitment to community, grit and giving back. I would not be where I am today if it were not for SI. SI equipped me to become a thoughtful leader who realizes the importance of faith and community and the need to give back to both.

Ms. Wolf's art class has had a lifelong impact in my life. I pursued a minor in Art and incorporated creativity in all aspects of my life. She taught me to see the world through the lens of creativity and to turn anything I touch into a work of art. Because of Ms. Wolf, I am now able to see my son's creativity and help him flourish through the arts. Volunteering at the Martin De Porres homeless hospitality shelter, I was able to hear the residents' stories, struggles and dreams of hope. From that moment, I knew I wanted to give back and make positive contributions to the San Francisco community. I also recognize that my struggles made me stronger; SI taught me that by working hard, by doing the work, you can achieve success.

I will always remember hearing on that first day of SI, "Look to your left, look to your right — the person next to you may become the mayor or a CEO; foster your relationships." SI showed me the overlap between friendship, community and faith. As someone who has served in elected office and has a strong faith, I know friendship and community foundation were instrumental to my success. My first exposure to community engagement was from SI, and it led me through my career path to my current work as assistant director of community relations at UCSF. Before taking that role in July 2018, I served as chief customer officer for Credit Sesame, spearheading their community relations efforts to help the underserved.

Motherhood is my most challenging and rewarding job, but through my relationship with fellow SI parents, I have become a strong leader for women, children and families, receiving acknowledgments including the *Chronicle's* "Bay Area People to Watch" and the Jefferson Award for Service from KPIX. My love for the arts, community, faith and hard work exist because SI provided me a chance to experience a wide variety of opportunities.

*A third-generation San Franciscan from the Bayview District, Leah Taylor Pimentel '00 has worked to advance policies that help women and children thrive in the City, including the 2013 passage of the Family Workplace Ordinance by the Board of Supervisors. She was elected to the Democratic Central Committee in 2012 and named by Mayor Ed Lee to San Francisco's Commission on Community Investment and Infrastructure in 2015, among many other public service and civic appointments. She holds an MBA from Dominican University and a bachelor's degree from Sonoma State.*

#### BY REBECCA UNRUH '08

First things first: Hats off to the women of the class of 1993. It is difficult to express the difference you made. None of what has happened in my life would have been possible if you had not had the audacity to be that first group of fearless women in an institution that had been dominated by men for over a century. As a woman and an SI graduate, I am so proud to have followed in your footsteps. All of you made a difference in the lives of others, just by bravely daring to match the men of SI in strength, wisdom, courage and heart.

SI means so many things to me. I think it is safe to say that high school is a crazy time

and there are loads of things to be learned in those pivotal four years of life, countless mistakes to be made and made again, all of which help create the person who proudly holds up that SI diploma on graduation day. There are things I learned at SI that I have cherished in my years following and have shaped the woman I am today. SI taught us that we are not one person roaming the world alone in search for success; we are all connected in our humanity.

I am a teacher. I have spent the last six years teaching students from underserved communities who deserve the highest quality education, just as we SI grads experienced — even if their race, culture, ethnicity, socio-economic status, gender and identity put them at the margins. But I'm not just a teacher; I am someone who truly cares for my students, and SI taught me that: to care about others and to dedicate myself to what I believe inspires change in the lives of the people I care about. As a woman who listened to the messages of social justice at SI, I've carried those messages with me throughout my life. In the words of St. Ignatius, we must *fight and not heed the wounds*. My fight is making equity in education a reality and not just a dream.

In order to look toward our future, it is important to recognize where we stand today and what we stand for as people. To all those who have graduated from SI or who are there today: Always remember who you are and be true to that self in every possible way. It is certainly not easy being a woman at SI, and it hardly gets easier after high school. But that fight inside of us is what drives us to be the best possible women we can be and to inspire in others the strength, courage and resilience that is needed to make our mark on history and to shed our light on this world.

*Rebecca Unruh '08 is the academic resource specialist at DeMarillac Academy in the Tenderloin District. An educator, she has taught at opportunity schools in the San Francisco Unified School District, including Bret Harte Elementary, and at Mission Dolores Academy. Rebecca holds a master's degree in education and a reading specialist credential from USF and a bachelor's degree from UC Santa Barbara. Like all true San Franciscans, she is a die-hard Giants fan. ∞*





## Faculty notes on a coed school

BY CAROLE NICKOLAI  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR ACADEMICS

When I attended high school back in the mid-1980s, St. Ignatius was an all-boys school. Although my dad had attended SI and my brothers planned to apply there for high school, it never crossed my mind that I would have the opportunity to be a member of the amazing SI community. When SI went coed in 1989, however, the possibility for young women to experience a Jesuit high school education opened up, and this has had a tremendous positive impact not only on the school itself, but also upon so many other areas in our world today.

I began teaching English at SI in 1995, two years after the first coed class graduated. The English Department already had begun reviewing its curriculum to ensure that both our male and female students were able to see themselves in the literature we discussed; in addition to reading Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald, our students discussed the works of Kate Chopin and Toni Morrison. We hoped to provide students the opportunity to encounter a variety of perspectives, knowing that these types of experiences would prepare them for college and beyond. Although I did not know back in 1995 that I would one day have a son who would graduate as a member of SI's class of 2015, I am grateful now for those efforts. My son's experience was enriched by being able to learn with



many different kinds of people, including young women.

In my current role as assistant principal for academics, I have a somewhat broader view of the school. Like so many of our female faculty and staff, I try to model for our students what it means to be a strong, intelligent, loving person. And, I see the impact of this through the many ways our female students have contributed to all areas of SI — in the classroom, on the athletic field, on the stage and in student government. Because our female students have gained self-confidence in our high school setting, I have hopes that they will be able to strive towards promoting gender equity in our greater society as well.

Over the last almost 25 years, I have worked with so many young people — both men and women — who have lived out the Ignatian principles of serving others and leading with humility. I am grateful that so many women who have entered through the doors as freshmen at SI have gone on to become artists, lead companies, start families, engage in politics and work in non-profit organizations. These talented women, inspired by an SI education, are able to touch so many individuals, extending the reach of our San Francisco school around the world. What a joy it has been to be able to participate in this effort.

*Carole Nickolai is now in her 10th year as assistant principal for academics at SI. A past English department chair*

and faculty member, Carole has taught hundreds of Ignatians and supported her faculty colleagues in their development as educators during her 23 years at SI. She holds a bachelor's degree from UCLA and a master's from SFSU, both in English. Carole is a proud mother, daughter, sister, aunt, niece and cousin of SI grads.

BY DONNA MURPHY  
PERSONAL/ACADEMIC COUNSELOR  
& WELLNESS TEACHER

I am living proof that time flies, or as Shakespeare offered, "the swiftest hours, observed as they flew."

Recently I attended the 25th reunion of the first coeducational class, the class of 1993. It's hard to believe so many years have gone by. It seemed like yesterday when I last saw so many familiar faces, though these women and men are older, and all our lives have changed immensely.

This event gave me pause to think about the start of coeducation and the impact it had on my life and the history of SI. I was hired in 1988 as part of the admissions team with Art Cecchin '63 and Kevin Grady to assist in enrolling this historic class. It was a curious time, going out to grammar and middle schools and promoting SI as an option to 8th grade girls, after such a longstanding history of educating only boys. This presented its challenges, but it was also an exhilarating time to be part of this monumental change. This was the "first" of many firsts for me and my colleagues as my SI career began to unfold.

Clearly, there was a lot of work to be done during the 1988-1989 academic year to prepare for this change. A transition team was formed with a mix of faculty and administrators to discuss and decide on such items as dress code and ways to support the first girls. I recall some very lively conversations about whether to have







uniforms or a dress code. I fondly remember a wonderful mentor of mine, Phyllis Molinelli, wisely stating that whatever we decided, it had to be the same for both the male and female students. The school decided that if the boys had no uniform, then neither would the girls. However, to this day, I don't know who decided to paint the girls' locker room pink! As I recall, the girls were not happy with that decision.

The female faculty stepped up in helping with the transition, as each of us had a group of girls from the inaugural class to mentor throughout the year. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet in small groups to discuss and support each other throughout the transition that welcomed approximately 150 female freshmen students to a student body of about 1,300.

Personally, the most challenging, engaging and initially uneasy "first" for me happened four years later when I was hired to serve as associate dean alongside Br. Douglas Draper, S.J., thus becoming the first female administrator to work with President Anthony P. Sauer, S.J., Principal Mario Prietto, S.J., Assistant Principal for Academics Tom Murphy '76, Assistant Principal for Student Affairs Charlie Dullea '65, Campus Minister Boom Martinez, S.J., and Business Manager Mike Silvestri '67. Those administrative meetings could have been quite intimidating, but the men in that group were open and responsive to my opinion and the work I was doing on behalf of SI. Br. Draper, in

particular, invited me into his long-standing role as dean of students with compassion and friendship. We made a great "good cop/bad cop" team, switching roles depending on the situation. I will forever be grateful for that opportunity to grow and understand the new SI tradition of educating men and women with and for others.

At the same time, female representation and impact were quickly progressing. When Kate Kodros and I came to SI, the number of female teachers and staff rose to 11. Out of that group, only Kate, Katie Wolf, Barbara Talavan and myself are still at the school, and my colleagues have graced SI with their intellect and presence. Kate later became the first woman to serve as an assistant principal for academics in our province, I became the first woman to serve as assistant principal for student affairs, Barbara was the first woman to serve as director of summer programs, and Katie pioneered innovative art classes.

By the time the first coeds reached their senior year, the number of female faculty had reached 26. Those still at SI include Marla Bottner, Deirdre Deasy McGovern, Carol Kaden Quattrin, Jan Mullen, Sandy Schwarz and Rita O'Malley. Their longevity and commitment are inspiring because these women have made an undeniable impact on the SI community we have today.

There were many firsts for our coeds as well. In student government, for instance, Cassandra Carracher '93 became our first female student body officer when classmates selected her as student body secretary in 1991-92. Mary Dolson '94 served as student body secretary in 1992-93 and Mayah Curtis '94 as student body vice president in 1993-94. Bridget Scott '94 became student body treasurer in 1993-94, and Laura K. Jones '97 served as the first female student body president in 1996-97, a year that also saw SI elect the school's first all-girl student council.

The young ladies of SI were breaking barriers in the classroom, on the fields and courts, in the theater and through their work in campus ministry and community service, both within and outside the walls of SI.

SI has thrived because of the diversity, intellect and talents both young women and men bring to campus and beyond. I never would have stayed for more than 30 years if it had not been for my remarkable colleagues, past and present, and the incredible students I have been blessed to work with over the years. Even through our greatest challenges — and there have been many — I have found a career at SI that I am proud of. Coeducation has forever changed St. Ignatius College Preparatory and me for the better.

*In her 31 years at SI, Donna Murphy has served as associate dean, algebra and wellness teacher, volleyball coach, counseling department chair and assistant principal, as well as moderator of Student Council and the Cancer Awareness Club, among many other roles. She holds a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's College and a teaching credential and master's in secondary education, counseling emphasis, from SFSU. Donna's SI roots are deepened by all the grads in her family: dad Donald Castagnetto '53, uncle Bob Drucker '58, husband Steve Murphy '78, brother Paul Ravetti '83, and children Alexandria '06, Joey '08 and Julia '14 Murphy.*

**BY MICHAEL SHAUGHNESSY '67**  
RELIGIOUS STUDIES TEACHER

I like to think that I was committed to SI going coed as a justice issue before fathering two girls — though if I'm honest, I wasn't raised with that perspective. I grew up with memories of my dad telling stories of the "Old School" before moving into the Stanyan Street campus his junior year. I enjoyed both the camaraderie of my male mates and friendships with girls from the all-girl Catholic schools in the City, mostly through parish-based Teen Clubs.

Though I clearly recognized that SI was a "kinder, gentler" place when I returned to teach a dozen years after graduating, it was mostly the outside world that challenged sex discrimination as a justice issue. My university, Notre Dame, went coed as I graduated, as did many colleges where women were demanding an answer to the question, "Why do you refuse us entry?" If I really believed that SI offered a unique combination of opportunity for academics, co-curriculars and spiritual growth, then I





# A COED SI

25 years to count my

couldn't justify limiting that to males, even if the rest of the California Province could. I tried to be aware of hubris and of the existential threat this decision would mean to some of the girls' high schools, but I couldn't get beyond the justice question.

The fact that I had two daughters along with a son could be seen as compromising my motivation, but I prefer to think of it as clarifying my perspective: Was SI



the right school for them? Would they bring gifts to make SI better? I was able to answer Yes to both of those questions for all three of my children.

Having taught at an all-boys SI for 10 years, and now a coed SI for almost 30, I am convinced we made the right decision, even if it was painful for some people. Bringing the perspective of women into class

conversations has clearly added a previously missing dimension. Specifically looking at issues of privilege and discrimination is much more complete when young men and women are able to engage each other respectfully. Additionally, young women have embraced leadership roles in the retreat program at SI as well as the Immersion/Service Trip program. All three dimensions of the school — academic, co-curricular and spiritual — are enriched, and the world gets the benefit of men and women having been educated to be *with and for others*.

*Michael Shaughnessy '67 is an alumnus of St. Ignatius as well as the son and father of SI grads; his children Megan '95, Martha '97 and Ira '00 were students during the first years of a coed SI, while his dad, Bert Shaughnessy '31, graduated from the Stanyan Street campus. A faculty member and past chair of the religious studies department, a 10-year member of the campus ministry team and the 2014 recipient of the Charles T. Murphy Ignatian Educator Award, Shag retires this school year after four decades of service to SI.*

## Fr. Mario Prietto, S.J., on the importance of coeducation

SI's Director of Community Service and Social Justice Jocelyn Sideco '95 sat down with Mario Prietto, S.J., in his office at Bellarmine College Preparatory this past spring for a wide-ranging discussion. Fr. Prietto, St. Ignatius principal from 1981 to 1994, currently serves as superior of the Bellarmine Jesuit Community and as a campus ministry staff member. He shared with his former SI and SCU student memories of the move to coeducation and reflections on the first few years of an SI that shaped men and women with and for others as well as thoughts on how inclusive and welcoming our community, and our wider world, is today. (This interview has been condensed and edited for clarity.)

**Q: Preparing for our conversation and reflecting on SI's transition to coeducation, the words Jesuit and feminist kept coming to my mind. Would these two labels accurately describe you?**

**A:** My Jesuit identity is central to who I am, like being a Prietto and a priest. With respect to being a feminist, I don't know how any man could completely call himself a feminist because I believe that there is something about being a male that works against that. I am of the opinion that there is no group, from the Garden of Eden to present day, that has been more discriminated against than women. I feel that very strongly. People of color, people from different countries, people of different religions have all been discriminated against in different times in the history of the



world and certainly in the United States. We need only think of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was assassinated 50 years ago this year, and what he gave his life for. But women, in my opinion, are the most discriminated against on every level. I would like to think that I am someone who is strongly supportive of women's rights.

**Q: Is this how you felt when you were part of the transition to coeducation at SI? Or what helped you move into that direction yourself?**

**A:** Well, nobody taught us more about what it meant to be a coed school than the young women themselves. We did what we could to prepare for it, but the young women, as well as their male classmates, were the ones who taught us in a very real way what we needed to do to become a coeducational school. We were so very fortunate to have had such a talented, high-energy group of young women and men in our pioneer class. The discussion about going coed began with a question someone asked at our year-end debriefing with the principal's administrative team in June 1985. Someone asked, "Where is SI going to be in five years?" With no hesitancy another answered, "We're going to be coed." I had never really thought





about that. To say the least, this captured my attention. So, as the principal, I said to my staff, “Well, we better get planning.” In 1986, Steve Lovette ’63, then the assistant principal for academics, was commissioned to write a five-year plan, and we took it from there. In November of ’87, we planned to announce our decision to go coed after having consulted with our various constituencies — students, parents, faculty, alumni, the Jesuit community and the girls’ Catholic schools — over what turned out to be a year-long discernment process. We informed Archbishop Quinn, who had been apprised of our process six months earlier, that our decision was to go coed. At that point, he vehemently said, “You need to enter into a discussion with the girls’ Catholic schools first.” With Sister Glenn Anne McPhee, O.P., the new Archdiocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools, we entered into a six-month process of more discussion and discernment with the other schools. We valued Sister Glenn Anne’s leadership so much that we gave her the President’s Award when the class of 1993 graduated. Sister Glenn Anne gathered all the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, and we entered into a second semester of weekly meetings. I attended, in that single semester, more meetings with the Catholic schools than all my predecessors combined! Chuck Murphy ’61, then the math department chair, and Steve Lovette were my two *consiglieri*. They went with me to these meetings. To be honest, I took a beating with all the questions, the criticisms and the resistance toward SI going coed — and not without good reason. Eventually we got to the point where the other schools said, “All right, we’ll let you go coed, but you can only go year by year.” That was May 1988. I called SI President Tony Sauer immediately after that historic meeting to inform him that they gave us the green

light. Shortly thereafter, we made the formal announcement that SI was going coed, and we enrolled the first class in the fall of 1989.

**Q: With the initial resistance from your own constituents as well as the leadership from the all-girls’ schools, why were you still convinced to go coed?**

**A:** Because I felt like it was the right thing to do. Truth be told, the driving motivator at the beginning was the demographics of San Francisco at that time. The number of applicants was decreasing because of young Catholic families’ inability to afford to live in the city of San Francisco, a situation which is even worse now. In order to maintain a Jesuit Catholic college preparatory, you need to have applicants. So, we decided to go coed, and it doubled our applicant pool. That was the pressing demographic reason. But I do believe strongly in the philosophical reason: to offer young women the option of going to a Jesuit high school. We call ourselves educators of leaders — so, why not include women? I would say this to people during the transition process: “We’re not requiring that girls attend. We are just making this another option for young women. I don’t think everyone should go here, but I do think it should be an option.” I used to tell the alums, “Maleness is not the essence of Jesuit secondary education. Maleness is a historical accident.” It just so happened that when Ignatius started our schools in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, only men attended school. It wasn’t until centuries later that women — again, the most highly discriminated-against group in education — were accepted at both Santa Clara University and the University of San Francisco. Those colleges didn’t go coed until the 1960s. They were all-male. And as for our traditional Jesuit high schools in the U.S., some 20 are coed. Most of them are

all-boys. I’m not against all-boys schools. I’m not against single-sex education. I think we’re doing a very good job here at all-male Bellarmine.

**Q: Could you name an anticipated benefit or surprise consequence of your decision while it was happening? How did it impact the young men?**

**A:** In all-male Jesuit schools 25 years ago, the sexist attitudes were much stronger than I believe they are now — you know, treating women like objects, speaking down to them, considering them inferior. I think our boys in this generation are pretty good when it comes to treating women with respect and as equals. Here at Bellarmine, we have a Justice Summit each year. One of the summits we had a few years back was on masculinity, where it was asked, *What does it mean to be masculine?* You can’t be masculine without considering what it means to be feminine. You can’t be a full man without being aware of and respectful of women, including your mothers, sisters, grandmothers, nieces. Not to mention the Catholic Church’s exclusion of women from positions of leadership! I personally am of the opinion that women would make very good priests because of their compassion and great listening skills. For example, I am blessed to have a female spiritual director for the first time in my 56 years as a Jesuit. She’s a grandmother whose life experience and knowledge of Jesuit spirituality only helps to shed light on my world. She’s wonderful!

**Q: You were at the helm of something amazing. Now, 25 years later, what do you hope graduates would be disrupting, just as you had contributed to interrupting the elitism that came with all-boy environments?**





**A:** The #MeToo movement is alive and very strong in 2018 because of continuing sexist attitudes and behaviors. Discrimination against women still exists. We are currently commemorating 50 years of everything that happened in 1968 — the Vietnam War, the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Bobby Kennedy, as well as Pope Paul VI's encyclical on birth control. There are moments in history when people congregate to find some kind of solidarity, some purpose and support. There are some very important things going on there, I believe: *I'm a person, and I'm operating in the world; this is me.* This is what I hoped to do as principal, as person, as Jesuit. And so now, students are studying the entire context. They are beginning to understand that we live in these systems, ones that people argue need to be dismantled because there are groups like women and people on the margins who have been systematically discriminated against and excluded over time.

**Q: So where is the moral voice, and what is the mantle that we carry here now, 25 years later? We're coed; now what?**

**A:** The beat goes on. The battle continues. *La lucha continua.* By our nature, we are flawed human beings, limited and prejudiced. Dealing with the impact of our limitedness will be something we're going to be working on until the end of time.

**Q: What are milestones that will prove we are on our way?**

**A:** First, a woman president of the United States. Female priests. I think of the strength

women have. Really, I think women are stronger than men. In fact, I think women are superior to men. Tell me, what man is strong enough to bear children? I am eternally grateful for my four older sisters, who continue to keep me honest and in my place. For example, when I went to my sister Gloria's house to celebrate her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, I wore a pair of my comfortable pants that were frayed at the bottom. The first thing she says to me is, "Where did you get those pants? What's your size now?" I said, "Happy birthday, Gloria. These are my relaxation pants." I love my sisters. Nobody loves me like my sisters. They tell me the truth. These wonderful women are critical of me and love me unconditionally.

**Q: You and your brother grew up surrounded by four sisters, and then you joined the Jesuits. Where are you in terms of finding the integration of the masculine and the feminine experiences of the world? And has your image of God changed or shifted because of the last 25 years since the development of the decision to move to a coed SI? Or by your very being as a Latino Jesuit, with your particular eyes, sensitivity and placement in this world?**

**A:** All of the above. We are all human. We are all equal. The reality of God is a mystery that is beyond us. We can only speak of it analogously. I remember Joe Powers, S.J., my favorite systematic theologian when I was at the Jesuit School of Theology from 1970 to 1973, who said, "Theologians posit that God is incomprehensible, and then proceed to comprehend the hell out of him." My experiences in the ministry during my years as a Jesuit have led me to expand and deepen my image of God. As a Latino blessed with a Mexican mother, devotion to *La Virgen de Guadalupe* and respect for women is in my bones. With respect to God's "identity," I would regularly quote my Peruvian father to

my students: *Dios es Grande* — God is big. God is not Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Buddhist. God is not, in my thinking, male or female. And, thank God, He or She is not Jesuit!

**Q: Let's imagine we are at a meeting with a number of SI people. Now that we've done 25 years of coeducation, what do you think SI will look like five years from now?**

**A:** Always better. Always growing.

**Q: Is there anything in particular? For example, is there a marginalized group right now that needs our attention? Is there a social justice issue that our Jesuit schools ought to be opening our hearts to?**

**A:** People on our borders. We are a country of immigrants, period. Read the inscription on the base of the Statue of Liberty. We have this talk, this narrative, calling the people coming up from our southern border criminals and drug-dealers. So, I say: the poor first. The marginalized first. The needy first. That's what the Pope tells us. That's what the Scriptures tell us. That's what the Lord taught. It's just outrageous, scandalous really. As one who is proud to be first generation, all of this anti-immigrant rhetoric is beyond insulting. When my father applied to USC in 1924, the application asked, "Are you American?" He responded in the affirmative. When the Dean of Admissions called him in and asked how someone born in Peru could respond in that manner, he pointed to a globe in the Dean's office and said: "There's North America and there's South America. We're all *Americanos!*"

**Q: It might have been an accident of time that you were the principal in that moment when someone on the staff predicted, "We're going to go coed," and it didn't fall on deaf ears. You made a space to be open and curious with a collection of people. I**





**don't think it's an accident that you came from the family you came from and you heard it in that way.**

**A:** Thank you, Jocelyn, but SI going coed was not about the principal at that time, but really about all the good faculty, staff, parents, students and board members who worked together.

**Q: Well, part of me wonders: How do we get out of the way and allow that truth you mentioned of the marginalized first to be emboldened in the hearts of anyone who gets educated in our Jesuit schools?**

**A:** At the founding of the original Jesuit Secondary Education Association in 1970, one of the first pamphlets published was entitled "Sowing Seeds of Faith and Justice." In the high schools especially, we do sow these seeds of faith and justice. The service of faith and the promotion of justice are at the heart of contemporary Jesuit education. They are two sides of one coin. I personally believe that nobody does Jesuit education like the Jesuit high schools. I learned that when I went from SI to Santa Clara in 1995 and then to USF in 2006. In Jesuit high schools, you are in control of the curriculum and of hiring for mission in a way the universities cannot be — four years of religion, community service requirements, immersion trips, Kairos Retreats. All these experiences over those critical four years of high school sow seeds that will bear a rich harvest. Some seeds may fall on the rocky ground, but the seeds get in there and, in time, bear fruit.

**Q: You talk about being a product of your generation. Thinking of the reality of the individual and the social, I look at leadership. It was really important to have female leadership during a time when you are trying to integrate the school. How do**

**we do the work of opening up more doors to leadership in our Jesuit high schools? Where is this opportunity, and what can we make happen?**

**A:** It's a *lucha*. It's another battle. There's always something that needs to get done. There's always something that can be better. But we move forward. We look for the opportunities, the openings, when they happen. One of our highest priorities when we went coed was to hire more female teachers and hire women for the administrative team. We were blessed beyond measure by great women like Phyllis Molinelli, Barbara Crudo, Katie Wolf, Kathy Purcell, Donna Murphy and Kate Kodros.

**Q: If you could tell the graduating classes from the last 25 years anything — because they bear this legacy of people's efforts of trying to work towards gender equality and equity among all types of people — what would it be?**

**A:** Keep at it! Don't get stale! Grow! Of what you're afraid, do! You're a work in progress. Don't think you have all the answers. Be open to other perspectives. Be good parents first and foremost. Raise your kids right. Be a good spouse. Don't isolate yourself from the world. Don't live with a gated-community mentality, shutting the world out by putting up fences. Build bridges!

**Q: So, what do we need to teach the children in our Jesuit schools now? What do we need to teach differently or in a new way?**

**A:** We just have to keep at it. We have to grow. Those first young women and their male classmates taught us what it means to be a coeducational school. As I would say back in the day, we made a very good school even better. It's like being a Jesuit or married or single. What do you understand

25 years later? Well, it has only expanded. And if you're half humble and honest, you know there's a long way to go. Earlier you asked me, "Are you a feminist?" I said no. Like I said, what man can be a feminist? Really, I cannot completely understand what that means because I'm not a woman. You're Asian, and I'm Latino. I have a sense of what that means, and I'm growing in it. For those who think we've arrived at gender equality just because we've celebrated 25 years of offering coeducation — no, we haven't arrived. We're still in progress, in process. We're better than we were 25 years ago, but we still have a way to go. Always.

**Q: One last thing: What do you think the challenge is now? And if somebody could put your name on something, what would it be?**

**A:** I would tell people to go to the margins. Look at the people at our borders. As I said earlier, we are a nation of immigrants. My parents, who came here from Peru and Mexico around 1918 looking for a better life, were so, so proud to be citizens of *Los Estados Unidos*. I believe our greatness is rooted in our diversity. So whatever we can do to welcome the stranger is, I believe, what the Gospels are all about. At this time in my life, as I contemplate being "on the back nine," I am more and more convinced that God does not expect us to be perfect or sinless or to never make mistakes. All God asks of us is that we be human, like Jesus. That we be forgiving, merciful, non-judgmental, welcoming of the people who need us the most — the poor, the sick, the lonely, the elderly, the dying, those folks on the margins. Therein lies our lasting greatness and where we will find true and lasting happiness. ∞





## Laura Owens '08, part of mother-daughter duo, has top-rated self-help podcast in U.S.

Laura Owens '08 seemed destined for a life in broadcasting, given the success her parents had in radio. Her father, Ronn Owens, and mother, Jan Black, are both well known for their years of broadcasting on both KGO and KCBS radio.

Both mother and daughter now have the top-rated self-help and health iTunes podcast in the world and among the top 25 podcast shows overall. *Nobody Told Me!* has had over 1 million downloads since its launch in February 2018 and is one of the most downloaded news shows of 2018.

They have interviews with inspirational figures including Mastin Kipp — one of Oprah Winfrey's all-time favorites — Olympic gold medalist Nastia Liukin and Elizabeth Smart, who survived nine months of captivity and sexual abuse before gaining her freedom.

Smart's story resonated with Owens, who suffered violence at the hands of a former boyfriend. "I now have one of the strongest restraining orders against him that anyone can have," she said. Owens found healing from podcasts she listened to, ones that reminded her "that there are so many good people in the world who aren't violent pathological liars."

Both mother and daughter credit SI with inspiring students "to dedicate their lives to serving others and keeping a healthy body, mind and spirit," said Black. "Those are the same themes that we try to approach in the interviews we do."

"Mentors like Justin Christensen, Fr. Jerry McCourt, S.J., John Grealish '79 and Jim Bjorkquist '65 also taught me that there is more to life than getting good grades for college," added Owens. "We need to live for more than ourselves. Without SI, going to high school would have been a self-centered thing. SI taught me to see beyond myself, and that's what we're trying to do with the show."

Given the podcast's success, both Owens and Black have no trouble bringing in sponsors, including Starbucks and Xfinity. In addition to the podcast, another portion of their income stems from buying, selling and leasing horses.

Owens and her mother operate Quartet Farms LLC together, buying and selling investment horses, and have produced and sold several national champion hunter/jumper horses.

Since she was 8, Owens was a competitive horseback rider. She was first drawn to the sport after her parents took her to the SFPD's Mounted Unit stables in Golden Gate Park. As a student at SI, she would drive to

Petaluma to train and care for her horse, and she bought her first investment horse at 16.

As unrelated as the two seem, Owens sees common ground between the equestrian and self-help worlds. "The connections I have with those animals have gotten me through the toughest times in my life. Those horses are so genuinely good that you never wonder what their angle is. Now I try to match horses with people who will take good care of them. I have seen horses help so many children get through hard times."

Even before launching her podcast, Owens was no stranger to broadcasting. Her father interviewed her and Laura's sister, Sarah Owens '06, to get millennials' perspectives on issues surrounding relationships and social media.

Laura and her mother also knew that to make their podcast a success, they couldn't broadcast a handful of shows and then wait weeks before airing another one. Thus, between November 2017 and February 2018, they recorded 50 shows before posting the first one to iTunes. As of this writing, they have posted more than 100 episodes on iTunes and expect to double that number in the coming months.

Their topics deal with financial, mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health. "If someone has a good lesson to impart, we want to hear it," said Owens. The show has earned praise, including a stellar review in *The Daily Californian* at Cal, which named the show one of the top seven podcasts for students to listen to over their summer break. The hosts, the newspaper noted, "talk with friends, writers, doctors, businesspeople and car enthusiasts in casual, cozy interviews to uncover pieces of knowledge that will teach you something about the world you didn't know before."

Both women search out experts for their interviews and then prepare their questions separately. During their interviews, they take turns asking prepared questions, but they also know the value of going off-script. "After years in the industry, I've learned that some of the best responses come from follow-up questions," said Black. "That means we have to really listen to the answers."

The spontaneity and conversational quality of the show is only one reason for its success. "The other is that we come at topics from our two generational perspectives," said Owens. "That helps us appeal to a wider audience."

Their fans let both women know how much they appreciate them by writing on the show's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram



pages. "People will tell us how much a show has helped them get through tough times or inspired them. We did one show on the importance of grieving after losing a pet, and that got a lot of response on social media."

The topic of self-help is big with millennials, added Owens, "because so many people my age are obsessed with wanting to make a big impact on the world. Being in tune with yourself helps you be a good person, which, in turn, allows you to help others. People want to be the best versions of themselves they can be by repairing what might be toxic in their lives and finding their purpose."

Each woman has also learned valuable lessons during their interviews. "Nobody told me how much life would change despite my best efforts at keeping it the same," said Black. "So much is out of my control. But what is in my control is my ability to help others, and doing so helps me feel successful."

For Owens, producing a podcast "isn't what I thought I'd be doing at this point in my life. I thought I was going to be all about horses. But this helps me satisfy another need — helping those who feel lost."

The show has also deepened Owens' relationships with her best friends, including her SI classmates. "My friends love asking me about the show, as it brings up struggles they themselves are having. It's so refreshing for them and for me to share these challenges and get past the persona of women with no doubts, who have it all together. I hope these podcasts can start more conversations for people during times when life isn't going so great for them." ∞

**ABOVE:** Laura Owens (right) and her mother, Jan Black, are the hosts of *Nobody Told Me!*



## Colleen McHugh '05 keeps New Orleans resilient through innovative green spaces

In late October, strolling along New Orleans' Crescent Park, Colleen McHugh '05 pointed out the semicircular Piety Bridge, fashioned from rusted steel and designed by Tanzanian architect David Adjaye.

"This was a place I loved coming to when I lived near here," she noted about this Bywater neighborhood landmark, one that gives joggers, dog-walkers and bicyclists a place in the sun along the Mississippi River.

Metaphorically, the Piety Bridge spans two cities — one pummeled by Hurricane Katrina and one trying to build its resilience to face future challenges. New Orleans is a coastal city surrounded by water, but much of it is hidden from daily view behind canal walls and levees and in underground culverts. Crescent Park is just one place that allows the public to see visible signs of this connection.

McHugh didn't design this park, but she worked on several others in New Orleans with a similar purpose — to help New Orleans residents enjoy green spaces when the sun is shining and help the city stay above water when it's not.

For her work, MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning — McHugh's alma mater — honored her with an Excellence in Public Service Award in 2016 for her efforts advancing a strategy for a more resilient city and implementing nature-based solutions for water management in New Orleans. McHugh worked on the *Resilient New Orleans* plan, which won a National Best Practice Award from the American Planning Association. Another project she worked on won an award from HUD that led to a \$141 million grant coming to the city.

Even though she's a long way from her San Francisco home, she is true to her disaster-preparedness roots. A fourth-generation San Franciscan, McHugh's grandfather, great uncle and uncle were members of the SFFD, and her cousin is in the department. "I still remember my father, grandfather and uncles all going to Lotta's Fountain before sunrise to commemorate the anniversary of the 1906 Earthquake and Fire," she recalled. "I was 3 when the Loma Prieta Earthquake hit my preschool, and I dove under my mat. These sorts of disasters frame my understanding of the city."

McHugh first came to the Big Easy to work for the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority as a resilience planning fellow for three years before working for the city as a resilience design manager. She now works for the Water Institute of the Gulf as a

senior adaptation planner, helping this non-profit prepare coastal communities for an uncertain future.

Rather than creating a canary in the coal mine to warn cities when disasters have reached a breaking point, McHugh hopes her efforts will help cities adapt to change so that they thrive and then share that knowledge with other at-risk communities.

To that end, she returned to San Francisco this past summer to take part in the Global Climate Action Summit hosted by Gov. Jerry Brown '55, making connections at the Water Pavilion exhibit and speaking on a panel on climate equity. She also met with officials in Oakland who deal with issues of sustainability and resilience.

McHugh's passion for the outdoors was fueled at SI both through her athletics and classes. She was part of the historic girls' varsity golf team that won the NorCal championship in her junior year, and she fell in love with her art and photography classes, including Katie Wolf's Art in Nature weekend intensive and the Nature/Nexus course that taught her about the importance of stewardship.

At UCLA, she majored in Global Studies and minored in geography, a subject she found valuable "as it taught me to understand a space through social and cultural lenses. Seeing these layers helps you understand why things happen in certain places and what drives some people to live in riskier environments."

She also studied international law in the Netherlands, where she saw first-hand how this nation, which is below sea level, protects itself from floods. "I also saw how cities like Amsterdam think about bicycle infrastructure. It's far different than the way we manage our urban areas in the U.S."

Later, while studying in Washington, D.C., and Shanghai, she saw how cities deal with globalization, housing and gentrification. When she returned to San Francisco, she interned at SPUR (the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association), diving into urban planning and policy issues. She spent another two years at MIT for her master's degree, with the summer between the years spent working for the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority helping the city recover from Hurricane Katrina by looking at how vacant land can benefit communities by providing spaces for gathering, growing fresh food and absorbing floodwaters.

For New Orleans and other cities, the idea of resilience means "facing shocks that all cities may face, including terrorist attacks, hurricanes, earthquakes and on-going stresses, such as crumbling infrastructure, deteriorating environments or heavy traffic," said McHugh. "We also look at the ongoing social and economic challenges that cities face, including income inequality and public health. We address the whole gambit of these issues and attempt to understand how they relate to each other and recognize that none of these problems or threats exists in a vacuum."



Hurricane Katrina, for example, affected a city that was also racked by unemployment, poor schools and limited access to transportation. "These problems are exacerbated when disaster hits," she noted. "We try to approach solutions that address these pieces holistically. That's why parks that mitigate flooding can also be designed for open space for communities and for workforce development."

McHugh has devoted her career thus far to helping New Orleans adapt to a changing environment, including learning to live with the water that nearly surrounds it and that comes pouring down during heavy rainstorms. "We route rainwater to our sewers as quickly as possible, but that has the unintended consequence of backing



## McHugh, continued

up the sewers and sending it back to the streets. We're hoping that more open spaces, including vacant lots, can capture this rain while also serving as trails and parks. Many other cities have done this, including Houston's greenways."

Houston, New Orleans and several Bay Area communities are just a few involved in the 100 Resilient Cities project, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. Through this consortium, McHugh supports the work done in Houston "to help that city develop a comprehensive resilience strategy and to think through water management strategies in a holistic way. I'm working on research projects, too, to help quantify the concept of resilience, to map and measure what it means for different communities across the coast of Louisiana. We are working to develop a Resilience Lab to serve as a regional hub and accelerator of innovative solutions to these complex challenges through research, capacity building, best practices and knowledge exchange."

McHugh loves the interdisciplinary aspect of her work "as I'm asked to connect the dots among environmental, social and economic issues. I also work with people from various backgrounds and skillsets, linking scientists, engineers, policy makers, designers and communities. Climate change and other factors have led Louisiana to experience a huge land loss — a space the size of Delaware since the early 1900s — that requires an interdisciplinary team to come up with solutions. We also need to figure out ways to translate the science of climate change into solutions and partnerships. There can be a divide between understanding the science and putting it all into practice. Some of the best solutions are happening not on a global level but on local ones, in places like New Orleans and Oakland — cities that are actively preparing to adapt to climate change while also addressing equity."

For McHugh, this all goes back to what SI taught her about social justice and issues of equity. "I truly believe in being a woman with and for others. My Nature/Nexus course, for example, stressed the connection between social justice, religion and the environment. It made me want not so much to be an environmentalist but someone who wants to make people's lives better." ∞



Camila Mize, left, along with company co-founders Matt Kursh and Andrea Hoban.

## Camila Mize '06 hopes program will boost emotional intelligence

Camila Mize '06 has seen up close what happens when people lack a certain kind of education.

"When I was an intern, my boss had an office next door," she recalled. "When he wanted me to come to his office, he would bang on the wall to summon me. On my first official day of work, he publicly berated a fellow intern for making a simple mistake. She burst into tears, and he fired her on the spot."

The director of partnerships at the San Francisco start-up Oji Life Labs, Mize is working to help everyone increase emotional intelligence and other critical tools she and other professionals refer to as "universal skills."

The company, whose scientific co-founders include the heads of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, launched in November with mobile-based products that are designed not to be a quick fix or a one-time solution but a choreographed learning experience that can help individuals and teams improve the soft skills involved with good communication, relationships, personalities and emotional intelligence.

"I'm not a fan of the term 'soft skills,'" added Mize. "These are essential skills to having a high quality of life at home and at work and everywhere in between."

She pointed to a LinkedIn study that showed the biggest gap between the skills job seekers had and available jobs involved these skills, including written and verbal communication.

Her company's first product, the Emotion Life Lab is a digital learning system that helps individuals build emotional intelligence skills that lead to improved performance, better collaboration, lower burnout and higher engagement. The firm already has customers among corporations and businesses eager to see their employees and managers learn skills that will improve well-being and overall business results.

"The Emotion Life Lab does more than just dispense information," said Mize. "It's a system for building lasting habits. By exploiting advances in learning science and digital technology, we can deliver better outcomes without the workplace disruptions of traditional training approaches."

The Emotion Life Lab involves a 50-step learning sequence, "which will deliver 5- to 10-minute bite-sized learning experiences that you can enjoy at your own pace," she added. "This also provides superior retention that comes from iterative learning that includes live video discussions led by a coach, both in groups and one-on-one."

Company CEO Matt Kursh also pointed to "decades of research that have shown that emotions have a big impact on our decision-making, concentration, memory, creativity, relationships and health — physical and otherwise."

Later, the company plans to offer other Life Labs, all stemming from evidence-based theory, to help users improve skills beyond emotional intelligence. "Each Life Lab is like a place you can step into to explore concepts and tools that are most



useful to you and then transfer those skills to your life,” Mize added.

She isn’t the only SI grad in her family involved in improving lives. Her sister, Isabel ’99, works as a marriage, family and child therapist in San Rafael.

Camila credits her time at SI for helping her grow in her emotional intelligence, though not in the ways one might think. She suffered from depression and anxiety through most of her time in school. “High school can be tough, especially when you are among such high achieving peers. I lacked the confidence to step into my potential and try out for things like crew or theatre, both of which appealed to me. I don’t think I was alone in that experience.”

That experience, though, “helped deepen my compassion for others.” She was drawn to social justice work led by Mary Ahlback and spent time helping the homeless and hungry at the Martin de Porres House of Hospitality. She also found loving mentors in Charlie Dullea ’65, Eric Castro ’92 and Grace Curcio and “developed friendships that still lift me up today. Plus, the foundations of Jesuit education are important to me.”

Those foundations led her to Fordham University, where she earned degrees in psychology and economics and where she spent two years as a research assistant for the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, whose director, Marc Brackett, and associate director, Robin Stern, would later figure into her story.

The Center was studying the impact of social and emotional intelligence training, dubbed RULER, on Catholic school fifth and

sixth graders in the Diocese of Brooklyn. Mize conducted surveys with two groups of students — those who had the training and a control group that had no training. “Going into a school, I wasn’t supposed to know which schools had received training and which ones hadn’t.” said Mize. “It didn’t take long to figure out which was which. I became curious how a program around emotions could lead to such big differences. Years later, the published research study showed the impact RULER training had on schools. Today, millions of students across the U.S. have been through the program.”

Shortly after starting college, the Great Recession hit, with its epicenter in New York. Mize, who had plans of pursuing a doctoral degree in neuroscience and decision-making, switched gears and earned a second degree in economics. She took a job at a major brokerage to help pay her college loans and later established a macroeconomic research firm with economist Bernard Connolly.

After returning to the Bay Area in 2015 to work in asset management, she had a meeting with a client that changed her life. “Have you ever felt like you’re just going through the motions and not actually present? I had that feeling at the start of our meeting. I asked him if it was OK for us to take a mindful minute — something unconventional in the financial world. After the one-minute meditation, he admitted that it helped him be present too. He later invited me to an event that his company was sponsoring.”

Unknown to Camila, that event featured Brackett, the director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence — the organization Camila had collected data for as an undergraduate.

After his talk, Mize spoke with Brackett and asked him what he was doing to focus on emotional intelligence in the business world. He encouraged her to meet Kursh, which led to Mize joining his startup.

Even before Oji Life Lab’s November launch, it had piloted its service and signed up clients in the financial service and health care sectors. “Companies know that having employees become more emotionally intelligent is bound to have positive effects on collaboration, relationships and performance. I’m excited to see what this program will bring out of people at work and at home.”

Mize believes her company’s program has an advantage over reading books or attending one-day training workshops on emotional intelligence. “Once you’re done reading a book, you’re done. Then what happens? How do you integrate meaningful information and concepts into your daily habits? Our program helps empower people to be their best selves and better navigate the complexities that come with being human.” Her experience coming from a background in psychology and working in the world of finance “made me realize how much adults could gain from these tools. Whether at the macro scale or down to the individual level, emotions impact our decisions, and the more we know about how they work, the better off we’ll be.” ∞

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## Sasza Lohrey ’08 keeps connection and communication at center of new venture

Sasza Lohrey ’08 will soon launch a new online and app-based business, one born from loss, pain and recovery.

The pain and loss came after a 2016 skiing accident that killed her mother, Elizabeth Danel, leading Lohrey to suffer both severe anxiety and depression. A year later, she was diagnosed with a disease — one that required surgery to remove a large mass of blood — as well as the worsening of a crippling back injury.

What helped her recover the most were her relationships with family and friends. “The vast majority of our happiness and wellness in life come from close relationships, as does our sense of fulfillment,” she noted.

She coupled that experience with work she had done in college to create BBXX

— a startup that will soon launch with podcasts and online content intended to help subscribers improve the ways they communicate, deepen their understanding of themselves and others and see their own sexuality and relationships in a healthy and fulfilling light.

Lohrey just finished a trial run of her company in Santiago, Chile, which she prepared for by way of Stanford Ignite — a four-month program sponsored by Stanford’s Graduate School of Business — and Blackbox Connect, a Google program for entrepreneurs.

Used to pushing herself even as a young girl, Lohrey swam competitively for North Bay Aquatics in Marin County and was one of the youngest to swim from Tiburon

to Angel Island — a stretch known as the Tiburon Mile. She also competed in “almost every sport you can think of,” she said.

At SI, she swam for both her club team and for the school and played water polo. No fan of authority, she was voted “teacher’s worst nightmare” by her classmates but found support from Art Cecchin ’63, her history teacher.

At UCSB, she majored in psychology and Spanish and minored in Art, Media and Photography. During her personal narrative class, she researched relationship issues facing her classmates, “including the unhealthy impacts of a lack of education about sex and relationships. Some people had no information on important issues, and it all stemmed back to an unhealthy culture of miscommunication.”



Her research led to a report that she presented in a cookbook format — a project that became the basis for her current venture.

She also spent nearly a year studying abroad, traveling with a cohort of 30 students to Tanzania, India, New Zealand, Mexico and Guatemala to focus on issues surrounding development and globalization. “We couldn’t get away from each other, and we learned a lot about how much you need to know and understand in order to communicate well, and that comes from knowing and understanding the way that you have been shaped by your life experiences.”

Her passion for digital media led her to a career in Los Angeles, where she worked as a photographer and in digital media production. She also hoped to get her MBA, but while studying for her GMAT, she learned of her mother’s death in an accident on the slopes near Lake Tahoe while skiing with Lohrey’s sister, Rachel ’03. (Lohrey also has a brother, David ’01, and another sister, Meredith Chandler ’07.)

“No words can describe the pit of despair I fell into,” said Lohrey. “I pulled out because of those close to me, and that experience showed me that our closest relationships matter most in our lives, as they define us.” Also helping her recover was her discovery of a four-month program for entrepreneurs at Stanford — Stanford Ignite. She toured the campus and learned that the deadline for application for the next session was the following day. She worked all night to finish her application and was accepted into the next program, one held in Santiago, Chile.

Before traveling to South America, the students accepted into the program all pitched various business ideas to each other, and they voted to advance Lohrey’s idea for BBXX. In Santiago, her team researched the market opportunity and refined the idea for the company. Before the program ended, though, she fell sick and returned to the U.S. After weeks of tests, doctors discovered a large mass that required surgery to remove and months to recover.

After this difficult year, she returned to Chile and launched BBXX in 2017. She billed her company as “a digital media platform for everything about intimacy, sexuality and communication that you didn’t learn at home or at school. This isn’t just for young people, as we all need to improve our intimacy and well-being.”

Her company gained the support of Start-Up Chile, a seed accelerator funded by the Chilean government. She piloted online



content, courses and events, all of which drew coverage from some of Chile’s largest media outlets.

While her company was making money, Lohrey saw it as a pilot for a venture that she would later launch in the Bay Area. To prepare for that launch, she applied to and was accepted by Google’s Blackbox Connect program. She was one of 15 founders from 13 countries who spent two weeks in a home in Alamo Square. She and her cohort attended workshops, met with mentors and attended seminars. “I learned even more than I could have expected from my fellow founders,” said Lohrey. “We all believe that vulnerability is not only a vital part of life but also important for running a company. I also learned the value of taking care of myself.”

Her company will launch soon and offer “content, community and capability,” she added. “We’ll have podcasts, videos and articles that can be personally curated to meet each subscriber’s goals. We want to be your personal guide to intimacy. You can think of our app as similar to Headspace, but for intimacy. We also want to build community so that people can go online to ask experts questions and connect users to each other. Finally, we don’t just want our users to learn theory. We want to help make them more capable so that they can actually

enjoy healthier, happier relationships. We’ll send push notifications with actionable advice that will encourage them to practice what they’re learning on the app and act it out in their everyday lives.”

Lohrey knows the value of her work thanks to reports from early users as well as friends, “Someone called me after listening to one podcast and told me that after following BBXX for the past year, it had changed her life. She told me that she had been in a toxic relationship and was never willing to admit it to herself. Without BBXX, she never would have had the courage to leave and couldn’t imagine what her life would have become.” ∞

**ABOVE:** Sasza Lohrey did a trial run of her app BBXX in Chile before bringing her company to the U.S.

## EMT Reilly Riordan '17, represents Syracuse University at Flight 103 Lockerbie memorial

Reilly Riordan '17, a sophomore at Syracuse University, hopes to be a doctor one day. Right now, she is serving as a healer through her work as an EMT for the school's ambulance service.

She also helped heal as one of her school's representatives at the 30-year anniversary of the Lockerbie bombing, one that killed 243 passengers aboard Pan Am Flight 103, including 35 Syracuse students whose lives were cut short by a terrorist bomb.

Riordan applied to Syracuse in order to take part in Syracuse University Ambulance, which, since its founding in 1973, has responded to more than 1,500 emergencies each year.

She applied in her freshman year to serve as an EMT and was one of a dozen students accepted out of 200 candidates. "It had nothing to do with my skills," she noted. "They wanted people who really wanted to help and not just have something that looked good on their resumes. I always wanted to do this because I like helping people."

Riordan loves being the first person on the scene dealing with young adults who may not know what's going on and are anxious. "I calm them down by telling them what we're going to do and that they will be OK. More often than not, this is such a rewarding job."

She started in her freshman year following six weeks of training and is now a licensed EMT for New York State. Some semesters she puts in 100 hours of volunteer time, though this semester she's on track to complete twice that number responding to emergencies that take place within a 5-mile radius of the school. "Given how small the city is, that's about the entire town," she added.

Riordan never feels off duty and recalls one incident that happened while she was walking home one night. "I saw two people, one clearly intoxicated and the other whom I assumed to be her friend. I ran over and saw that the individual had a head injury. I couldn't do much without an ambulance, but because the individual was falling in and out of consciousness, I stayed with the individual and made sure they were OK until the ambulance arrived. It was such a small thing, but I felt good helping two people that night."

Given her reputation and success, her supervisor recommended her as one of two of the school's first responders to attend Lockerbie's 30-year commemoration of the bombing.

She wrote an essay that helped her land a role representing the university in Scotland

between Oct. 9 and 14, when she met townspeople and listened to stories of how the crash impacted their lives.

When the plane exploded over the town on Dec. 21, 1988, it also killed 11 residents on the ground who were struck by debris. Since then, given how many students it had lost — young men and women on their way home for the holidays after studying abroad — Syracuse University has reached out to locals by offering one-year scholarships for two Lockerbie high school graduates to study in New York.

"Many people in Lockerbie hope that that can be extended to four years," said Riordan. "I was able to report back to my administration, and they are now considering expanding that scholarship program."

She also met with six men from Lockerbie — all first responders like Riordan — who took part in a 3,238-mile bicycle ride that, done in stages, represents the distance between Lockerbie and Syracuse. "They practice the town's new motto, one formed

after the bombing, of looking back and acting forward," said Riordan. The last stage of their ride was a 600-mile stretch from Washington, D.C., to the university.

Riordan found Lockerbie residents happy to welcome her. "It's a very small town, and I was welcomed because of the work both the school and town had done to maintain a relationship."

The experience also reminded Riordan "how much of an impact you can make on someone's life even if you don't know them. We lost 35 students 30 years ago. Now it's our turn to do something to honor their lives. I flew the same route back that they were planning to take. It was scary to think that so many people my age didn't make it home. It's now a responsibility I feel to do something with my life to honor them and make up for the terrible loss. In fact, what I feel is more a blessing than a responsibility, as this was a life-changing experience, and one that I'm so grateful for." ∞





## Maggie Baglin '19 one of few girls in Irish Pipers Band

Maggie Baglin '19 doesn't like to toot her own horn regarding her accomplishments, but she has no problem playing her bagpipes while also combatting myths that surround the instruments that some folks love to hate.

Baglin has been playing since she was 10 alongside her younger sister Maura, a student at SHC. The two are the youngest women who perform with the mainly male Irish Pipers Band of San Francisco, based at the United Irish Cultural Center.

She's the first to tell you that the instrument isn't just for old men in kilts. "My sister and I are honored to be able to break this stereotype," she noted. "Wherever we play, people tell me it's nice to see female pipers."

The second myth revolves around the bagpipe's unique sound. Her father, SFPD's Mike Baglin '90 would sometimes tell his daughters to play their bagpipes in their backyards "whenever he wanted to annoy one of our neighbors," said Maggie. "The trouble is that the neighbors loved hearing us play. I love it, too, because the songs reflect our Irish heritage and culture."

Baglin wasn't always eager to play the instrument. She and her sister loved Irish dancing and often marched with their dance troupe in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Eight years ago, when their mother showed them a flier advertising free bagpipe lessons and suggested her daughters sign up, Baglin laughed at the idea. "My mother was serious, however, and while I didn't love my first lessons, I didn't hate them either. I thought my interest in bagpipes would die out over time, but the opposite happened, as I fell in love with the music and the instrument."

Since then, the Baglin girls have competed with their group at the Scottish Highland Games held in Pleasanton each Labor Day weekend. They even opened for the Chieftains at the Mondavi Center and regularly play other venues, including the UICC, the San

Francisco St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Novato Fourth of July Parade and the San Jose Veterans Parade as well as numerous Giants' games.



The girls also traveled to Yonkers, NY, to play at the grand opening of a cousin's bar and restaurant. Closer to home, they have played at the Westborough Royale, an assisted living facility where her great aunt

lived. Both girls later played at funerals of family friends and other relatives.

Baglin recalled, too, playing for her grandfather. "He's my absolute favorite person to play for. He asked me one day to bring my bagpipes into the living room and play for him while he sat in his recliner. As I started playing, I saw him sitting with his eyes closed, humming and rocking back and forth. He then asked me to play the song again. It was a nice moment, as it showed me how much he appreciates our culture and music. It made me happy to make him happy."

She also loves playing alongside the older men in her band — both the bagpipers and the drummers. "Some are in their 30s, but most are in their 60s. It was weird playing with them at first, but you get to form unique friendships. Now I look forward to seeing them, as they are a different friend group than I have at school. I'm no longer shy around them, and we make jabs at each other and joke around. My sense of humor has improved because of them."

While her favorite song to play is the traditional "Dawning of the Day," she also likes "picking my own route and playing 'We Will Rock You' by Queen and Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah.' I like to have my own direction and own spin on the bagpipes."

As the only bagpiper at SI, Baglin gets her share of attention from classmates. "When I first tell people I play bagpipes, they are weirded out, but my friends all love it now and accept it as part of who I am. They enjoy the videos that I send to them and support me."

Baglin hopes to study psychology, perhaps at Gonzaga University, and she plans to continue playing bagpipes while in college and beyond.

When dressed for the part, she wears her Wexford tartan kilt and a furred sporran "that's like a little purse. I use it for my brush, lip balm, credit card and some food. Some of the older guys use it to hold their flasks. I don't." ∞

## Four SI surfers collect honors at Big Chill Out surf contest

Four SI juniors took part in the Big Chill Out surf contest at Pacifica State Beach Sept. 22, and all four placed at the longboard event in the women's 19-and-under category.

Tessa Daroza '20 took first place, improving from her second-place finish last year. Angie McAdams '20 finished second, Maddie Hauscarriague '20 came in third, and Solia Mayo '20 took sixth.

The four girls also happen to be great friends and avid environmentalists.

Pacifica residents Hauscarriague and McAdams grew up next door to each other and have been friends since second grade. Hauscarriague was the first to venture into the water at age 4 with McAdams hopping onto a board at 9. Daroza started surfing at 6 and Mayo at 10.

Of the four, Mayo's surfing lineage goes back the farthest, as her grandfather Skip Mayo created the Pedro Point Surf Club, which sponsors the Big Chill Out contest. Mayo's father, Stefan '89, often surfs with Maddie's father, Tom Hauscarriague '84, and with the fathers of the other two girls.

"That's what I like best about surfing in Pacifica," said Solia. "I've lived near the ocean all my life. I love growing up in a beach town. Every time I surf, I run into people I know, including my friends from SI."

Each girl said they enjoyed surfing because of the sport's mix of relaxation and thrills. "There's no pressure when you're surfing," said McAdams. "And every wave you get up on presents you with a new challenge." For Hauscarriague, "there's nothing as rewarding or intense as catching a big wave and shooting down it."

She and McAdams both learned the sport at a summer surf camp in Pacifica, the same one which now employs them as instructors. All four girls also belong to the SI Surf Club and the Half Moon Bay Surf Club, where they will compete as a team in additional tournaments.

They also stressed how surfing made them more aware of environmental issues, especially surrounding the health of the oceans. Hauscarriague is learning about these issues in her Environmental Science class and hopes to further her studies in college. For her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, she asked her parents for reusable glass straws given the environmental problems caused by plastic straws.



Mayo hopes to find a way to apply her love for ocean ecosystems to art, and Daroza hopes to find a career combining oceanography and design.

"I'd never know this much about the oceans if I didn't surf," said McAdams, who also plays on the SI basketball team.

Each of the other girls also excels beyond the waves. Daroza and Mayo are dancers in Dance Workshop and on the Dance and Drill Team, and Hauscarriague plays third base for the softball team.

For them, the surfing competition was more fun than competitive, said Daroza. "It was more about bringing community together than winning." ∞

**ABOVE:** From left are SI juniors Angie McAdams, Tessa Daroza, Maddie Hauscarriague, Solia Mayo and their friend, Caity Brower.

## Two clubs offer girls a way forward in the STEM sector

Jennifer Gaspar-Santos, SI's director of Educational Technology and Innovation, reports that while the statistics of women, particularly women of color, in STEM can be discouraging to girls, especially those eager to major in the field, the student leads of two clubs — Girls Who Code (now in its third year) and Girls in STEM Pathways (in its first year) — use this as motivation to push forward.

Both clubs provide speaker events, programming opportunities and field trips to local STEM organizations and companies to invite students to have conversations on campus around empowering more girls in STEM.

"These clubs are important because girls deserve just as many opportunities as guys," noted Girls Who Code Lead Abby Lam '20. She and her programming team (Andrea Torres '20, Kailey Sjaufwoekloy '20 and Stephanie Gilbert '20) created an app in Xcode called Motivators and pitched it to a Silicon Valley tech firm for a national competition called Technovation. They developed a business plan and spent hours working on programming and debugging. "Girls Who Code has helped me do something I never thought I would do," added Lam.

Liza Lange '20, Amanda Burns '20 and Sophie Treanor '20 also created Girls in STEM Pathways, SI's first ever all-female club dedicated to empowering more girls to break down barriers and pursue careers in STEM.

"While 80 percent of girls are interested in STEM fields, only 13 percent say that it is their first-choice career, and their interest declines by graduation," said Lange, who hopes to initiate change at SI "by creating a community for female students to learn about, engage with and confidently pursue exciting and fulfilling STEM careers."

Gaspar-Santos, who moderates Girls Who Code along with SI's Client Systems Analyst Alan Siu, added that "junior high school girls interested in STEM can lose that interest in high school due to a lack of social support and fear of failure. We tend to see that even more with girls of color. We hope to make a dent in those statistics here at SI."

"It's great to see a space in which girls can explore coding," added Siu. "Some of them dabble and pick up some basic skills. Others go on to major in computer science. Regardless of how big a role coding ends up playing in their lives, I'm confident this weekly club will help them in future endeavors." ∞



**LEFT:** Students in both Girls Who Code and Girls in STEM Pathways along with Jennifer Gaspar-Santos (center, who moderates both clubs) and Alan Siu (right, who moderates Girls Who Code with Jennifer).



## Block Club blood drive now in fourth decade of giving gift of life

BY ANNE STRICHERZ  
GENESIS SPORTS EDITOR

Jack Kerrigan '75, now a neurosurgeon practicing in Phoenix, began a medical tradition in his senior year at SI that continues to this day.

As a member of SI's Block Club, he helped launch the school's first blood drive, and current members are serving both as organizers and donors to help the nation's hospitals meet the need for 7,000 units of blood each year.

Kyle Adelmann '19, Block Club sergeant-at-arms, donated blood along with more than 30 other students and faculty for SI's fall blood drive on Nov. 6, when Vitalant, one of the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit transfusion medicine organizations, came with its bloodmobile.

A first-time donor, Adelmann noted that his club's primary function "is to give back to the community. I don't think there's any greater service than potentially saving another person's life with a blood donation."

(Students 18 and older can donate without parental permission. Those who are 16 and 17 may donate with one parent's OK.)

He added that "giving blood is difficult for student athletes, especially those in season, but everyone should be able to sacrifice one day in order to have a greater impact on someone else's life."

Varsity field hockey player and Block Club member Mary Carol Phelan '20 gave blood the day before her team's playoff game against Los Gatos. "I figured I can, so why not give?" she noted, and she followed the advice she had read to stay hydrated to help her body replace the unit she donated.

Julia Kelly '19, captain of the varsity field hockey team, Block Club vice president and another first-time donor, added that her actions helped her understand the need for blood donors to help those receiving cancer therapy or organ and tissue transplants, as well as those requiring transfusions.

Bob Vergara '76, Block Club moderator, thanked the 31 people — including two Italian exchange students and eight faculty and staff — who donated blood. "In a world with so much conflict, here is a way to make a positive statement."

Assistant Principal for Formation Chad Evans, who also coaches cross country, and his former student Joaquin Turek '19 sat inside the bloodmobile for a little longer than the average donor as they opted for Double Red Cell Apheresis, a process



that produces enough blood for two transfusions.

Evans noted that the bloodmobile staff "jumped for joy when Joaquin came in because his blood is O negative." His universal blood is found in only 6.6 percent of the population and can be used by nearly any patient in need.

Even donations from those with more common blood types does a world of good. After blood is broken down into its component parts, "it has the potential to

positively affect the lives of three patients," said one of the Vitalant nurses who came to SI. "This means SI has contributed to helping save the lives of 87 people."

The Block Club will host another blood drive in the spring. For students and parents interested in giving, Vergara sends out calls for donation and reminders weeks in advance. ∞

Mads Sroat '21, **ABOVE**, and Chad Evans and Jeannie Quesada, **BELOW**, were among those who donated blood at the annual Block Club Blood Drive.



## Grace Frazer '19 leads SI in hosting JCL convention for lovers of Latin

Grace Frazer '19, who led SI in hosting a regional gathering of 540 Latin students on Nov. 10, does get tired of the same old question: Why study a dead language?

"You have to answer that question hundreds of times, as a lot of kids will shame you for taking Latin," said Frazer. "But the truth is that being in the Junior Classical League and making friends through it has been one of the best things I've done at SI. I'm passionate about taking Latin now, and the question 'Why take Latin?' isn't a big deal any more."

Frazer is also grateful for JCL for giving her leadership experience. "Bringing the community together has been so uplifting and rewarding."

As a sophomore, Frazer assisted Carina Leung '18 in hosting the statewide Latin convention at SI in 2017. That experience led her to serve as president of SI's JCL Club this year and, over the summer, attend a gathering of JCL student board members, where fate led her to an even larger role.

"In the fall of 2017, Grace announced her intention to run for the office of editing California JCL *Nuntius* — the organization's newsletter," said Grace Curcio, who along with Lana Sum, teaches Latin at SI.

"However, at the fall state board meeting, Lana and I learned that no school would field a candidate for the office of northern representative because no student or teacher felt able to host the annual *Ludi Novembres* — JCL's annual regional gathering for Northern California. We contacted Grace and asked her if she would be willing to tackle the responsibilities associated with northern rep instead of *Nuntius* editor. She did not hesitate and immediately said yes."

That position involved planning activities for 540 students who came from 18 schools that stretched from Redding to San Jose, along with 100 teachers and parents who came to SI for a day filled with tests, competitions, fun and games.

One of those competitions, the Certamen, is a *Jeopardy*-style quiz that has teams of students answering Latin trivia questions about grammar, culture and history.

Frazer knows this contest well because, as a freshman, she took part in the Certamen at the JCL state convention. The following year, Curcio and Sum invited her to be part of the student group that planned and ran the state convention that SI hosted.

She ran all the testing for the convention and oversaw the grading and awards, an experience "that came in handy for this year's *Ludi Novembres*," she noted.

Frazer signed up for Latin after studying French in middle school. "I wasn't very good at French and wanted to try something new. I also thought Latin would be easier. It was manageable for the first two years, but got so much harder in Latin 3H. Still, I fell in love with it thanks to both Latin teachers."

Now in AP Latin, Frazer has read Ovid and is about to tackle Virgil's *Aeneid*. She also appreciates "the rich history we get to study and the blend of language and culture. We also get to read first-hand accounts, such as the journal Caesar kept during the Gallic wars. We get to see the conflict from his point of view and learn about his biases."

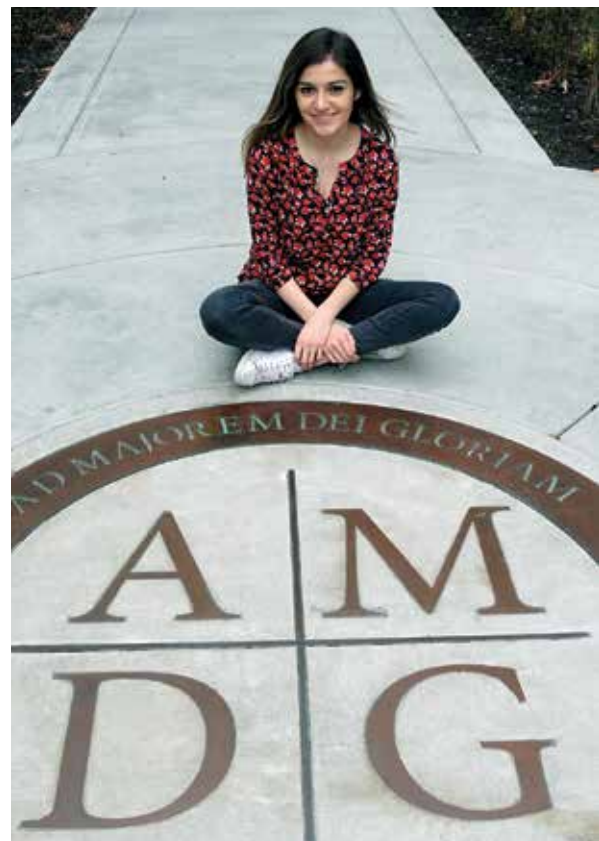
While studying Latin and all of her other subjects, Frazer began planning for the convention as early as April along with fellow students Daniel DiLena '19 (registration), Kerri Lyons '19 (carnival and food), Lucas Laughlin '19 (sports and communications), Carolyne Ikeda '19 (art), Margaret Dresselhuys '20 (academic testing), Maeve Kelly '20 (awards), Nader Shihadeh '20 (Certamen) and Starlette Khim '20 (community service).

Frazer's team met weekly and then biweekly right before the event to gear up for the hordes of convention goers, each of whom needed a name badge, a program and lunch. "So many people registered past the deadline or at the last minute that this step proved a challenge," Frazer noted. "Thankfully, the committee heads and all the volunteers were amazing. On the day of *Ludi*, I was able to do so much because each person knew his or her role so well."

The day began with a general assembly and a battery of tests followed by the *Ludi* games, including an obstacle course, jumpy jousting, giant Jenga and face painting. During lunch, students took part in a Roman rap battle, with college students serving as emcees. "Each rap had to have references to Latin or Rome or mythology," added Frazer.

The afternoon continued with talks by college professors and high school teachers, including SI's Jennifer Gaspar-Santos, as well as contests and games, such as the Certamen and basketball, a tug of war and a three-legged race. The day concluded with a scavenger hunt, Bingo, a raffle and an awards ceremony.

"I don't know how I could have done any of this without the help of Ms. Curcio and Ms. Sum," said Frazer. "They encouraged me to get leadership experience, even though it meant a lot of work for them, too. I couldn't be more thankful to them. They are truly



compassionate teachers who care about their students."

Frazer, who hopes to study at UCLA or Cal, will attend the March JCL convention along with many of her classmates from SI.

She earned praise from Sum, who noted that "we could not have asked for a more earnest, hardworking and responsive student leader. When she got up there to give her speeches, she spoke with such confidence and poise. I'm so proud of her!"

Curcio added that Frazer "carried a generosity of spirit and can-do attitude throughout the planning process, which began last April. When she stepped up to the microphone and officially opened *Ludi*, I was moved by her poise, leadership and confidence. Grace was exactly the right student to take on this massive project."

SI Principal Patrick Ruff, who also attended the gathering, added his praise for Frazer, noting that "she represents the best of SI, and we are so proud of her." ∞

**ABOVE:** Grace Frazer '19 led a core team of students in hosting *Ludi Novembres*, an annual gathering of the local chapter of the Junior Classical League.



## SI dad DJ O'Neil teaches a whale of a lesson about the dangers of plastics in the ocean

When a dead blue whale washed on shore at Agate Beach north of Bolinas in May 2017, DJ O'Neil took his two daughters — Finn '17 and Macie '19 — to see an example of the largest species ever to roam the earth.

"From a quarter mile away, the image didn't make sense to my eyes," said O'Neil. "It didn't seem possible that an animal could be that big. It messed with my scale of things, as if I saw a mile-long spaceship that had crashed-landed in a sci-fi movie."

O'Neil recycled that shock and that image when the Monterey Bay Aquarium hired his firm, Hub Strategy & Communication, to come up with a high-concept idea to inspire people to do something about plastics in the oceans.

The Hub team contracted with artists and negotiated with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy to create a life-size blue whale out of recycled plastic to sit on Crissy Field between October and December 2018 as a way of teaching passersby of the dangers of plastics in the ocean.

"A blue whale can easily weigh as much as 300,000 pounds, which is how much plastic goes into the ocean every 9 minutes," said O'Neil, who hopes the display will travel the world after it leaves Crissy Field. "In the not-so-distant future, the weight of plastic in the ocean will be higher than the combined weight of all the animal life the oceans contain. All that plastic is damaging our health and the health of the entire planet."

The Monterey Bay Aquarium hoped that Hub Strategy, which O'Neil founded in 2002 in San Francisco's Presidio, would showcase its scientific and research efforts and inspire a love of the oceans so that people would be motivated to protect them. "They also wanted people to be stopped in their tracks by whatever we created, and we were fortunate enough to do just that. I'm amazed how many bike riders and joggers stop just to take pictures."

To find the right artists for the job, O'Neil and his team approached folks he knew from Burning Man, and they put him in touch with 10 artists. From that list, they narrowed it down to Joel Dean Stockdill and Yustina Salnikova. Those two, and their associates at Building 180, assembled a crew of workers and volunteers — including O'Neil's daughters — in the Agapolis artist-in-residence program in Portola Valley. The team started work in February and ended in early October, crafting the whale from recycled plastic donated by local recycling centers.

"China has stopped buying our recycled plastic," said O'Neil. "As a result, bales of plastic

are just piling up here or ending up in landfills. Only 9 percent of all plastic gets recycled."

To create a sculpture that could withstand the elements that buffet Crissy Field, the artists first separated plastic by color and then hand-cut pieces before washing them. "Even the washing was environmentally sound," said O'Neil. "Joel and Yustina used a gray-water filtration process so that the water ended up with no impurities."

The artists then put the plastic into a wood chipper to form ribbon-like strands, which they melted and placed in wooden forms before squeezing them into high-density plastic rhombus-shaped tiles. The 745 multi-colored pieces that emerged were hard enough to serve as the skin of the whale and be attached to a steel armature that weighed 15,000 pounds — one designed and created by Brisbane's Finline Metals.

Despite the size and weight of the piece, the design had to allow for it to be modular and moveable. It is on Crissy Field through January, but the team hopes it will travel the country and the world to spread the message about the problem of plastic.

That the whale made it to Crissy Field at all was a dream come true for O'Neil. "When we first pitched the storyboard to folks at the Aquarium, the artist placed it on Crissy Field. I told the Aquarium team that the site was a long shot, but things started rolling the right way."

Helping the process along was Bill Grayson '76, vice chair of the Presidio Trust board, whose daughter Caroline '19 is a friend of O'Neil's daughters. "Bill was able to introduce us to the right people, and soon enough we met with Kate Bickert and Sabrina Bedford at the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy," said O'Neil. "They told me not to worry and that they felt confident they could make it happen."

When O'Neil saw the whale finally take shape on Crissy Field, he almost cried, moved once again by a blue whale's sheer size. The 26,000-pound piece, which stretched 82 feet as it faced the Golden Gate Bridge, is now under review by the Guinness Book of World Records to determine if it's the largest plastic sculpture in the world.

O'Neil added that Crissy Field "was our dream location, one right next to a place where whales were returning to the Bay. The whole process was an act of faith. Somehow, I never doubted it would happen."

Another act of faith for O'Neil is the effect the piece will have on children. "When I was a kid, I was taught that smoking was bad for



your health. I would come home and harass my parents, and my mother eventually quit smoking. I hope little children who see this whale will go home and start looking for unneeded plastic packaging and educate their parents in the same way. I heard about one little boy who asked his parents why there was plastic on the inside of a tissue box. All consumers need to put pressure on companies to move away from single-use plastic. I also hope some large retailers put pressure on their vendors."

This attention to the environment goes hand-in-hand with the education O'Neil sees SI offering his daughters. "You can't be a man or woman with and for others and turn a blind eye to the destruction of the planet that we all live on. Those in the U.S. should be leaders in the environmental movement. One Jesuit motto is to 'go forth and set the world on fire.' That's just the way the artists live who created this whale. They started where they live, and they went out and set the world on fire with their message. I wonder if their process of recycling plastic into hard panels can be used in lower-income nations to make durable building material. That would be another dream come true." ∞

**ABOVE:** DJ O'Neil, pictured next to the plastic blue whale on Crissy Field, came to SI to speak with freshmen about this project and the problem with plastic waste in the oceans.

## SI students assist doctors on medical mission to the Philippines' province of Palawan

It's not unusual for young people to consider careers in medicine. Four SI students have a head start on this, having assisted in surgeries over four days this summer in Narra, a municipality in the Philippines' province of Palawan.

They were accompanied by Dr. Thomas Feeney '81 and Dr. Hermenegildo Angeles, Jr. — both of whom are parents of students who went on the trip.

The two men brought Nicole Feeney '19 and Kerri Lyons '19 (Dr. Feeney's daughter and niece, respectively) and Enzo '20 and Halle Angeles '22 (Dr. Angeles' children).

They traveled 7,300 miles to work between July 14 and 18 in one of the poorest regions of the Philippines, where their team of 15 surgeons performed 161 procedures to remove cysts and lipomas and treat other soft tissue injuries.

The students received training before they left the U.S. as surgical assistants. They learned proper techniques for washing their hands, putting on gloves, handling instruments, following instructions, cutting sutures and clearing blood for surgical sites. "They learned how to reposition patients and figured out the ebb and flow of the surgical day," added Dr. Feeney, an interventional cardiologist associated with Seton Hospital, where he works with Dr. Angeles, who specializes in internal medicine.

The students, said Dr. Feeney, "were uncomfortable at first seeing physical abnormalities and the removal of fatty tissues. A few had to leave the operating room for a few minutes to collect themselves, but each came back. Later, they told me that they became more comfortable as the first day progressed. One told me that 'every minute I was outside the operating room worrying about my personal issues, I was wasting time for someone who needed my help.' I was pleased to see how well they did, entering into a new arena to witness physical manifestations of a disease and surround themselves with blood, scalpels and needles in order to work to help others."

Dr. Feeney wasn't worried about having teens in a surgical unit. "In places where you don't have enough help, this makes perfect sense, as long as you're able to train a person how to perform as an assistant and as long as they behave responsibly."

Enzo, a junior at SI, assisted in a 40-minute procedure to remove an abscess from the upper left side of a man's back. "When it was removed, the man said that he no longer felt any pain. Ever since I was



young, I wanted to be a part of the medical field. The experience made me want to become a medical professional even more."

The experience gave Kerri an even stronger passion for medicine than she had before the trip. "It was rewarding to have an opportunity to make a significant and positive difference in the world simply by finding my passion and using it to serve others."

Nicole also felt "blessed to have been able to go on the mission to work with doctors and be graciously welcomed into a new community. Throughout the trip, I felt the spirit of hospitality and strength with everyone I met."

Halle noted that this "eye-opening experience" made her eager to return in the coming years. "It was such an amazing feeling being able to help."

The students were also surprised by the level of poverty they saw, including "unpaved roads, homes with neither windows nor sanitation and children with little food," said Dr. Feeney. "This island is the farthest from Manila, and despite its rich natural resources, it has little development."

It does, however, have a chain of hospitals thanks to the Jose. C. Alvarez Foundation, which also sponsored the medical mission. Dr. Feeney has gone to this island 10 times since 2005, and he has brought his older children — Jordan '12 and Colin '15 — to several missions, along with Nicole, who has now accompanied her father three times.

The volunteers worked 12-hour days to help patients with their physical and emotional needs — the latter involving gifts

of teddy bears, which SI students donated during a drive last spring.

"Kids are anxious about surgery," said Dr. Feeney. "For many, this is the first time they have been away from their parents. Studies have shown that using teddy bears or other comforting toys helps with post-surgery and separation anxiety. Patients markedly improve, too, thanks to these teddy bears. For many of our young patients, they will return to homes with no toys but with one under their arms."

Dr. Feeney praises the Jesuit education offered by SI. "I'm probably the only one in my class who has ever read the *Ratio Studiorum*. It shows you the value of being a person with and for others, though most kids don't fully understand what that means. It percolates through your soul as you age, and the lessons you learn at SI start to gain new meaning. The four students who came with us to the Philippines are now thinking about medical careers thanks to their growing understanding as well as their experience of service. They conducted themselves in amazing ways. They had fun and a sense of accomplishment working with patients. What a powerful experience for them to have." ∞

**ABOVE:** SI students celebrate a successful day with patients and families in Narra, Palawan, in July. The medical mission and Teddy Bear Project helped 160 patients in the Philippines thanks to 15 physicians, 51 nurses, 98 service personnel and four SI students at Narra Municipal Hospital.





**ABOVE:** Yolanda Medina Zevas '94, and her daughter, Nia, performed a Mexican ballet folklórico dance at the first-ever LatinXcellence Showcase, sponsored by the Magis Center for Equity and Inclusion and AALPA, SI's African American and Latinx Parents' Association. The evening, a celebration of Latin American heritage month, also featured contributions from students in ALAS, the campus Latinx affinity group. Photo by Yosup Joo.



**LEFT & BELOW:** SI's Asian parents' association, SIPAC, organized the 10th annual Pasko festivities, which featured student dance and music performances to mark the Filipino-themed Christmas celebration.







## Exchange programs give students a window on the world

SI students each year have a chance to host foreign exchange students and study abroad in Barcelona and Milan, with the Barcelona program celebrating its 20th anniversary this summer.

The moderators of these programs all tout the value of having SI students go overseas to learn from peers from other countries. SI also supported exchanges in Paraguay and Australia, though those programs have been phased out. This year, a new exchange is happening with students in Chile.

Since 1999, when Spanish teachers Barbara Talavan and Carlos Gazulla launched the Barcelona exchange, more than 200 students from both SI and Jesuïtes Sarrià, Sant Ignasi have spent one month living with host families. The program is now moderated by Spanish teacher Pedro Cafasso, and past chaperones have included Katie Wolf, Jack Izzo, S.J., and Chad Zullinger as well as Gazulla.

"I recall persuading Charlie Dullea '65, our principal at the time, that the program would work," said Talavan, who served 13 years as moderator and who spent hundreds of hours along with Gazulla interviewing students, making classroom presentations, advertising the program and meeting with students and families.

She and Gazulla also organized day-long and weekend excursions to take the Spanish students and their host families to tourist destinations such as Yosemite National Park, Pismo Beach, Morro Bay, Monterey, Carmel, Sacramento and Sausalito.

"Spanish students attend classes at SI like everyone else," added Gazulla. "They learn what it's like to study at an American high school, and they discover what living with an American family entails."

In Spain, SI students visit famous Barcelona landmarks, such as the Sagrada Família and Parc Güell, both made famous by architect Antoni Gaudí. They also travel

to the Monastery of Montserrat and the caves in Manresa where St. Ignatius lived for 10 months. On occasion, they also travel by bullet train to the town of Figueres to visit the Dalí Theatre-Museum.

"One summer, I was brave enough to take the group to Pamplona to experience the wild Fiestas de San Fermín with the running of the bulls," said Gazulla. "On that trip, we also visited my hometown of Zaragoza and San Sebastián in the Basque Country."

English teacher Paul Bourke is now in his sixth year as moderator of the Italy Exchange Program. (Past moderators and chaperones have included Donna Murphy, Katie Peterson and Jen Curtin '04.) Bourke illustrates his program's value through two stories.

The first involved an SI grad who took part in the exchange five years ago. "She emailed me this past summer to tell me that she was back in Rome, traveling with the person she stayed with during her exchange," said Bourke. "Many others spend a summer abroad in Italy while studying in college. They never forget what a great experience this has been for them."

The second is what typically happens to SI students while in Italy. "We go to the Academia in Florence every year to see Michelangelo's David. The students never seem all that excited by the trip. Then they turn the corner and see the statue for the first time. Everyone is blown away. They never expected to be so affected by the sight of that amazing statue."

Students from Italy hail from Milan's Instituto de Leone XIII school and come to SI for two weeks in November to live with host families and attend classes at SI. Then, right after final exams in May, the SI host students — typically sophomores — travel to Italy to begin their part of the exchange.

While at SI, the Italian students shadow their SI hosts while honing their English.

They also spend some time touring San Francisco, the Bay Area and parts beyond.

"It helps our students to see a school in a foreign country," said Bourke. "They see some similarities, as Leone XIII is a Jesuit school, but they also see some key differences, such as the five-year duration of high school in Italy. Also, one of the best teachers is travel, as our students come to realize. Students at Leone know this, as nearly all their students take part in exchange programs throughout Europe, Australia and the U.S."

In addition to touring Florence, SI's contingent also takes a trip to Venice by bullet train for a day trip. They made good use of bullet trains, too, in the first year of the exchange, when Pope Francis met with students from every Catholic school in Italy that year.

"Leone XIII chartered a train to take all their students, along with those from SI, for an audience with the Pope," said Bourke. "Pope Francis tossed aside the pre-arranged schedule and spent the entire time taking questions from students."

In the U.S., Italian students experience a different style of education at SI compared to teachers back in their home who prefer lecturing to discussions and projects.

The main advantage of the exchange, Bourke added, "is that it takes students out of their comfort zones. Not all our students are great at finding opportunities to do that. Once they do, however, they discover they get so much from the experience, including becoming more mature." ∞

**ABOVE:** Students who studied abroad in Milan took a tour of Venice.



## Athletics Department creates mission and community with Fellowship Meetings

BY ANNE STRICHERZ  
GENESIS SPORTS EDITOR

Most know about the professional development workshops teachers attend; however, few know that coaches gather regularly too, thanks to the efforts of SI's Athletics Department.

In addition to end-of-the-year gatherings to reflect on the successes of each season, the department held this past fall an annual Fellowship Meeting, which 40 coaches attended.

"Although each of our sports is different, we are under one mission coaching at a Jesuit college preparatory," said Athletic Director John Mulkerrins '89. "That mission should be interwoven in our coaching, from practice planning to post-game speeches. Fellowship nights offer time to discuss when, where and how we can do this."

Following an informal dinner, Haley Scott DeMaria, a D1 swimmer, parent of two high school athletes and the author of *What Though the Odds*, spoke to SI's coaches on themes of faith and triumph.

DeMaria's message came from her personal story, one of surviving a bus crash while a freshman swimmer at the University of Notre Dame. That crash killed two of her teammates and paralyzed her temporarily, though she was told at the time that she would never walk again. Less than two years later, she was back in the pool swimming for her team. Her book, she hopes, is a way for this "life-changing event to serve as an invitation for coaches to think more intentionally about the role and purpose of athletics," she noted.

She quoted Notre Dame football coach Lou Holtz, who once said, "Show me a leader, and I'll show you someone who has overcome adversity."

"These words challenge every coach, as every team needs leaders," said DeMaria, who then asked coaches to consider how they work with and through adversity throughout their seasons to develop leaders.

That goal of leadership can also be found in SI's "Graduate at Graduation: Profile 2020," which calls for students to "become aware of and begin to practice basic skills of leadership and collaboration."

DeMaria shared with SI's coaches the mission statement of Notre Dame Coach Tim Welsh, who told her that "the purpose of Notre Dame swimming is to pursue athletic excellence with self-discipline and love for one another." At 18, I knew that the pursuit of



athletic excellence was a given. The second half of his mission, however, required some deconstruction."

DeMaria eventually came to understand the importance of self-discipline both in and out of the water. "Student-athletes are familiar with the demands of balancing training, competing and being a good teammate with studying, meeting deadlines and working with teachers. Coach Welsh named self-discipline in his mission statement to speak to its primacy. Athletic and academic excellence is deficient without it." Student athletes, she reminded SI's coaches, "are figuring this out through your sport, your expectation and the culture of your team and this school."

DeMaria also spoke of the value of "love for another" and invited coaches to reflect upon how they do that with and for their athletes.

JV Girls' tennis coach Jonas Statuto appreciated the talk, noting that "it was empowering. Haley's story helped me to understand how impactful my interaction with the players can be."

Varsity girls' field hockey coach Haley Sanchez noted that she does have a program mission statement "on our syllabus, but I need to be sure to share it with my team on the first day of practice."

Tennis coach Craig Law '84 also liked hearing from an athlete who competes both as an individual and as a member of a team. "We often hear from coaches of traditional team sports, yet many sports, such as tennis, golf, swimming and diving, require a

leader to work with a group of individuals to become something more."

Varsity girls' softball coach Chris Jordan appreciated DeMaria's story, "which is a testament to working hard and keeping the faith. I am poised to use her lessons in our upcoming season." ∞

**ABOVE:** Haley Scott DeMaria (center) with Campus Minister Jennifer Roy (right) and members of SI's swim program. **BELOW:** Haley Scott DeMaria. Photo by Michael Bennett, Lighthouse Imaging.



## SI's athletes learn teamwork through service in the community

BY ANNE STRICHERZ  
GENESIS SPORTS EDITOR

The SI community aims to be “men and women with and for others,” and the path to get there is paved with service.

However, finding organizations that can accommodate the schedule and size of SI's sports teams can be challenging. Fortunately, tapping into local networks and social resources through the Office of Community Service and Social Justice has yielded opportunities to give and receive, to serve and to be served for football, girls' water polo, cross country and girls' golf.

Quite often, folks in need aren't isolated or that far away. There is a great need within our own communities — sometimes at places we pass every day. As the junior varsity girls' golf team discovered, one such place is the Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center and Pool.

SI has a long-standing relationship with the center, where many students fulfill their core service requirements, helping it provide recreational, vocational and educational opportunities for people with disabilities through programs and services that encourage self-expression, promote personal achievement and lead to greater independence.

Every spring, SI faculty member John DeBenedetti '83 organizes the student and faculty basketball game against the center. Although the Wildcats have yet to win, this is a popular and spirited event, which begins with warm-up exercises that include the “Hokey Pokey.”

This October, the center contacted DeBenedetti for help after a sting operation discovered a child trafficking operation run through senior and child-care facilities. After they were shut down, eight residents, including three of the Pomeroy Center's clients, found emergency housing at the center.

DeBenedetti then contacted the SI community and faculty looking for meals for the displaced adults for one night a week until they could find new homes. More than 40 faculty cooked meals as did the JV girls' golf team.

This group of seven golfers planned their meal while driving to their match against St. Francis. “Rather than divide up the list of ingredients, we went shopping at Trader Joe's together,” said Miya Chan '21. “It was good for team bonding.”

Team members had a general knowledge about the center's mission but knew little else, including its location by the San Francisco Zoo. “We drive by this place every time we go to practice,” said team captain Milla Kohil '21. “I can't believe I didn't know it was here. We did a good bit of team building this season, but none of it compared to our experience working together in service of others.”

Courtney Yee '21 added that “we don't always see people like those the center serves. I'm so glad there is a place they can go and have fun.”

All the girls were impressed that a select group from the center ventures to Harding Park on Fridays to play golf through the First Tee program.

As the team's coach, I wrote to each girl, thanking them for their “willingness to jump in and serve. When we first arrived, I'm sure you were wondering where your coach had taken you. New visitors sometimes find themselves out of their comfort zone, as communication with folks can be challenging, and we don't know how others will react. As you were able to see in our time there, it's an important place for those with developmental and/or physical disabilities to grow and find their independence. In the same way that we are seeking to do things on our own and cultivate a community, the center does this for a population we see too infrequently.



“I hope in our time together you learned a few things about your teammates and about yourselves. As I heard a number of you say, we had fun too.”

“At SI, coaches and athletic programs are encouraged to make the effort to serve as a team. What we see, hear, taste and feel when working with the poor and marginalized affirms another core teaching in Jesuit education: God can be found in all things.”

Other teams have also worked together on service projects this semester, including the varsity football team, which served Habitat for Humanity; the freshman football team, which helped out at the San Francisco Food Bank; and the girls' water polo team and the boys' and girls' cross country teams, which helped in a comfort run, delivering sandwiches to those who line up early at St. Anthony's Foundation.

These service projects help students learn do more than help teams bond; they remind students that service to others is something they will be called to do long after their seasons are over. Whatever our win-loss record may be, this was our team's proudest moment. ∞

**ABOVE AND BELOW LEFT:** The girls' and boys' cross country teams made sandwiches for the comfort run. **BELOW:** The JV girls' golf team at the Pomeroy Center and the football team at the Food Bank.





# SPORTS WRAP

PHOTOS BY PAUL GHIGLIERI



## Field Hockey

**Coaches:** Haley Sanchez, assisted by Caitlin Beatty (JV & assistant V).

**Records:** V: 13-8-1.

**Highlights:** Finished 4th in SCVAL, 3rd in CCS, making the CCS semifinals for the first time ever.

**Awards:** SCVAL Junior of the year: Elle Van Giesen; SCVAL Goalkeeper of the year: Olivia Schuman; all-league first team: Rachel Harvey, Kaitlin Kelly; all-league second team: Alex Marquez, Chyler Espino; SI Wildcat Award: Ciara Dunne; Attacking Player: Rachel Harvey; Defensive Player: Elle Van Giesen.

**Graduating Seniors:** Brittany Mason, Kelly Connolly, Amanda Varni, Alex Marquez, Julia Kelly, Kaitlin Kelly.

## Girls' Tennis

**Coaches:** Craig Law '84, assisted by Ed Grafilo, Greg Home, Jessica Ruth (JV), Jonas Satuito '87 (JV).

**Records:** V: 18-6 overall; 9-1 league, WCAL Co-champions; JV: 8-4 overall; 5-3 league, 3rd place.

**Highlights:** WCAL Co-champions with St. Francis; reached the quarterfinals of CCS before losing to eventual CCS champion Los Gatos.

**Awards:** WCAL Player of the Year: Claire Galerkin; WCAL doubles team of the year: Emma Pell and Martha Qin; All-league first team: Claire Galerkin, Gabriella Perich,



Tiffany Boudagian; All-league second team: Angelica Aksdal-Jansen, Emma Pell, Martha Qin; All-league HM: Rori Carlin; Brother Lee Award: Claire Galerkin; Magis Award: Martha Qin; Wildcat Award: Michelle Conte.

**Graduating Seniors:** Rori Carlin, Martha Qin, Katie McCluskey.



## Boys' Water Polo

**Coaches:** Tommy Corcoran, Josh Bruce, Will Grant.

**Record:** Overall: 17-6; League: 3-3.

**Highlights:** The Wildcats finished with league wins against St. Francis, Mitty and Serra and non-league victories over Las Lomas, Menlo-Atherton, Mountain View, Leland and Soquel. Finished with our highest CCS ranking and first CCS Open Division Qualification.

**Awards:** All-league first team: Alex Peterson; all-league second team: Paul Gouchon, Gianluca Caltagirone; all-league HM: Colby Paine; Wildcat Award: Paul Gouchon; Most Inspirational Award: Gianluca Caltagirone; Most Improved Award: Billy Barry; Coaches' Award: Connor Simpson.

**Graduating Seniors:** Paul Gouchon, Gianluca

Caltagirone, Colby Paine, Ben Zovickian, Payne Fama, Alex Peterson, Kris Johnson, Connor Simpson, Steven Tocchini.



## Girls' Water Polo

**Coaches:** Carla Tocchini '13, assisted by Sydney Baba and Ella Catacutan

**Records:** Overall: 4-19; league: 0-5.

**Highlights:** Win in double overtime against Menlo Atherton at the St. Francis Invitational. Loss in shootout against Sabrato High School near the end of the season and a valiant 6-4 loss to Presentation in our last game of the season when that team had beaten us by a measurable amount earlier in the season. Overall there was incredible growth and the girls came a long way.

**Awards:** All-league first team: Betsy Wooler; all-league second team: CeCe Paine, Lucia Sarimsacki; all-league HM: Katie DeBenedetti.

**Graduating Seniors:** Claire Cruse, Katie DeBenedetti, Maddy Hagan, Maidson Syufy.



## Girls' Volleyball

**Coaches:** Jennifer Curtin '04, assisted by Nick David '08 and Teddy Niemira '12.

**Varsity Record:** Overall: 27-15; league: 5-5.

**Highlights:** WCAL playoff win against reigning champion Archbishop Mitty;



WCAL Tournament: 2nd Place; CCS Open Division: 2nd Place; made it to NorCal Open Division playoffs.

**Awards:** WCAL Co-Player of the Year and All-league First Team: Lizzie Fleming; All-league Second Team: Megan Lucey and Sierra Tyson; All-league HM: Megan Yu. Most Improved: Kelly Ferrero; Coaches Award: Sierra Tyson; Fighting Spirit Award: Lizzie Fleming.

**Graduating Seniors:** Kelly Ferrero, Lizzie Fleming, Liz Held, Mackenzie Honey, Megan Lucey, Emily McCarthy, Alyssa Perotti, Sierra Tyson, Vanessa Van Norman, Christina Wong, Megan Yu.



## Football

**Coaches:** John Regalia '93 assisted by Chris Crowley '12, Julian Gunter '15, Gabe Manzanares '10, Gustavo Manzanares '05, Reggie Redmond, Chris Saunders (Head JV), Marcel Thompson '05, Dominic Truoccolo '12, Osa Aigbuza, Chris Dunn '88 (Head Frosh), Tim Caraher, Rob Loftus '06, Brian Keaney, Matt Stecher '93.

**Varsity Record:** Overall: 3-8; League: 3-4 (tied-4th WCAL).

**Highlights:** Playing the toughest rated schedule in the section, the varsity team finished the season with wins against Archbishop Mtty (38-21), Archbishop Riordan (35-0) and Bellarmine (34-0) to qualify for the CCS Open Division III playoffs.

**Awards:** All-league first team: Mark Biggins, Teddye Buchanan, Jack Dyke, Ethan Mann, Lance Sell; All-league second team: Bryan Blake, Siaki Gallegos-Hunkin, Beau Gardner, Zachary Taylor-Smith; All-league HM: Will Burkett, Declan Elias, Cormac Gallagher, Jahsai Shannon, Mark Stephens; WCAL Junior of the Year: Zachary Taylor-Smith;

Journeyman Player of the Year: Bryan Blake; Most Outstanding Back Award: Teddye Buchanan; Robert Unruh '64 Most Outstanding Lineman Award: Jack Dyke; Senior Leadership Award: Lance Sell; J.B. Murphy Award: Mark Biggins.

**Graduating Seniors:** Lance Sell, Mark Biggins, Mark Stephens, Marcus Sweeney, Topher Bligh, Kailey Chan, Bryan Blake Jr., Matt Rosen, Jack Hagfeldt, Christopher Carlton, Jack Castiglione, Alex Ayerdi, Nate Washington, Dominic Fernandez, Cormac Gallagher, Will Burkett, Jordan Darian, Najel Alarcon, Jackson Burns, Jack Dyke, Declan Elias, Ethan Mann, Maxton Lenox.



## Girls' Golf

**Coaches:** Julius Yap '74, assisted by Anne Stricherz (JV).

**Records:** V: 6-4; JV: 6-4.

**Highlights:** Finished third place in league.

**Awards:** All-league first team and CCS finalists: Grace Bettis and Camilla Chung.

**Graduating Seniors:** Grace Bettis, Camilla Chung, Monique Nguyen, Mariana Murphy.

## Boys' & Girls' Cross Country

**Coaches:** Nicholas Alvarado '06, assisted by Robert Alvarado '06, Daniel Baxter, Chad Evans, Jamie Lundy '06, Jeffrey Mendenhall, Brian Rhodes.

**Records:** Girls' V: 3rd; JV: 3rd; Fosh/Soph: 2nd; Boys' V: 7th; JV: 4th; Soph: 4th; Frosh: 4th.



**Highlights:** CCS: Girls Division III champions, qualifying for state meet for the 4th year in a row. Senior Evan Year placed 9th individually in his race. CIF State Meet: Girls Division III placed 14th, their highest team finish since 2010. Individual highlights are Evie Cohen placing 34th and Isabel Lozito 36th overall.

**Awards:** All-league first team: Evie Cohen, Isabel Lozito; all-league second team: Clare Milby. Most Outstanding: Evie Cohen; Most Improved: Maya McKinney; Julius Yap Award: Isabel Lozito; Wildcat Awards: Jack Lum, George Hollister, Alex Hall; Riley Suthoff Award: David Barajas.

**Graduating Seniors:** David Barajas, Enzo Lucich, Evan O'Reilly, Evan Yee, Jack Lum, Jared Quesada; Alice Canapary, Caroline Worthington, Chaylene Tran, Cora Morrison, Elle Boyden, Erin Louie, Isabel Lozito. ∞



**ABOVE:** SI Varsity Boys' Soccer Coach Alan Downey was named California Soccer Coach of the Year in the fall by the United Soccer Coaches Association in part for leading SI to the first-ever NorCal championship last March and earning a #2 ranking in the U.S.





**ABOVE:** Members of the Class of 1987 at their Christmas lunch. **TOP LEFT:** Members of the Class of 1969 gathered to celebrate their campaign to name the Cowell gym court after their class. Coach Bob Drucker joined the last graduating class from the Stanyan Street school in the festivities. **MIDDLE LEFT:** The Class of 1983 at their reunion. **BELOW:** A remarkable number of '83 grads returned to SI in late November to take photos with their sons and daughters who are currently at SI.







**LEFT:** The Class of 2008 celebrated its 10-year reunion in the fall. To honor two of their own who have passed away, Noah Orme and Marjan Brown, classmates brought winter clothes and other critically needed items to donate to St. Anthony's Foundation. "We had an incredible response and were able to honor two of our amazing fellow Wildcats in a true Ignatian fashion," said Ilana Black. "Their spirits were with us!"



**ABOVE:** The Class of 1960 celebrated its Christmas lunch at Original Joe's Westlake. **Below:** The Class of 1986 at Original Joe's on Union Street.







**ABOVE:** The Class of 1975 celebrated its Christmas lunch at John's Grill. **RIGHT:** The Class of 1949 at their Christmas lunch. **BELOW:** The Class of 1982 had their gathering at Original Joe's Westlake.







ABOVE, LEFT & BELOW: Graduates from the 1940s and family members came to SI for a Christmas party on Dec. 8.



## Off the Gridiron comes to SI

The SI Alumni Association brought food trucks to SI for its first Off the Gridiron event Oct. 13, following the varsity football game against Mitty. The event featured the Roadrunners, an all-SI alumni band comprising Jim Lawrie '75, his sons Dan '07 and Nick '12, and drummer Victor Flaviani '75. More than 100 attendees joined in the fun of this family-friendly event, which was a terrific day for past, present and future 'Cats!







ABOVE: The Class of 1992 at their Christmas party. BELOW: The Class of 1985.  
BOTTOM: The Class of 1969.



ABOVE: The Class of 1974. BELOW: The Class of 1962.





## Ageism and why language matters

BY JEANNEE PARKER MARTIN

Earlier this year, my mom, Ann Parker, died at age 99. She was spirited, lived alone, drove a tractor until she was 92, loved to talk politics and was always engaged in world events.

People used to say to her, “You look good for your age. You are so spry.” She used to muse, “What am I supposed to look like or feel like? I don’t feel old.”

Think back, too, to what you might say from time to time: “She’s a little old lady.” “I’m having a senior moment.” “Your grandparents are so adorable.” “I’m 75 years young.”

This kind of language is evidence of “ageism,” which, like other “isms” around race and sex, has destructive effects on morale and health as these words characterize an older person as someone who is no longer valued. We tend to send messages that “old is bad, and young is good” and that aging always signifies a decline. Some of us also assume that older adults can’t master new skills, aren’t creative, can’t handle the stress of new activities, are slowing down or must retire at 65.

These assumptions, and how we give voice to them, can infantilize and negate the value of aging or being old. A national conversation has started to break down this last “ism” to help change our focus from loss and fear regarding aging, to one of opportunity for living well.

Nearly 5 million Californians — one in five of us — are 65 or older, and of those, a million live in the Bay Area. Many of these men and women are forgoing retirement to work longer to stay engaged and active in their careers. Clearly, others need assistance with daily activities due to mobility or cognitive changes. New organizations and companies have cropped up to address the needs of older adults, from retirement communities such as the SF Towers, HumanGood, and The Forum, to housing communities like Bethany Center and tech companies like ElliQ, Honor and Rendever.

The next time you think of a “little old lady” or “a little old man,” and conjure up words like “senior,” “wrinkled” or “old bag,” think of that person as an “older adult” with whom you might have an interesting conversation. He or she is “not spry” but rather still active and engaged. Take an interest in the person in front of you and don’t concern yourself with how they look or how you think they should feel.

Many resources exist to help you begin the conversation at work or with your family. LeadingAge, a national association with a vision of an America free of ageism, has partnered with the University of Massachusetts to study the needs of older adults and has developed resources to guide your discussions.

Additionally, LeadingAge California has partnered with the *San Francisco Chronicle*, SI and other high schools and universities

explore our website at [www.leadingageca.org](http://www.leadingageca.org) to learn more about providers and business partners in senior care and the variety of occupations that are available.

*Jeannee Parker Martin is the President & CEO of LeadingAge California, a state association with more than 625 members, which focuses on non-profit providers of housing, care and services for more than 150,000 older adults. Previously, Jeannee*



in the Bay Area to sponsor a Career Day on April 8 at the South San Francisco Conference Center. The event will give students, job seekers and potential employers an opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge about opportunities in housing, care and services for older adults in the Bay Area.

Please consider coming and listening to nationally renowned speakers, providers with job openings and business partners looking for interns and new talent. It is a great opportunity for students searching for summer positions and internships as well as volunteer and community services hours. Some of you may even find full-time employment as you ponder career opportunities.

The reality is that senior care is one of the fastest growing job sectors. Take a minute and

*was a pioneer in AIDS care and services, and owned an internationally renowned consulting company centered on home care and hospice providers. She and her husband, Michael, are the parents of Maria '06, Christopher '08 and Theresa '11. She is pictured above with her mother and with Michael and Maria. ∞*



## Original Joe's owner and basketball coach John Duggan '59 receives Christ the King Award

*The citation, below, was written and read by Alumni Relations Director Alexa Contreras '05 at the Christ the King Mass Nov. 18.*

The Christ the King award is presented annually to honor graduates who have distinguished themselves in their professions, who have shown a commitment to the SI community and who best exemplify the ideal of service to God and fellow man. It is the most prestigious award voted on by alumni for alumni. Today we celebrate Coach Duggan, John, Sr., Mr. D, Dad, Boss and a man best known as Grandpa. We might have different names for him; however, the magic that one feels after crossing paths with this mentor, model and friend is unanimous.

What does it mean to be an Ignatian? It means responding courageously to the opportunities and challenges of our time. Born to a proud and loving Irish Catholic family whose parents immigrated to San Francisco in the late 1950s, John is the son of a grave digger and a housekeeper. He is an inherently proud Mission District boy, having attended St. Paul's School. "The one thing my parents gave my sister and me was a wonderful cozy house. I'm so proud to say we were not aware that we didn't own a car or rented all our lives because we had such a wonderful upbringing. You have to know where you came from," he says. Love of faith, family and hard work is what shaped teenaged John to be the man we know today.

John completed his education at SI at the Stanyan Street campus. The time was post-war with a lot of laughter and not a lot of tension. You played on the cement when you got to school, you struggled with your classes, you attended the dances and games. Overall, life at SI was a jovial time for John and his classmates of 1959, despite John completing junior and senior year in an upper body cast.

As young John focused on studies and community in high school and college, he worked around not being able to play ball by sharing his love through coaching. Through his own commitment to education and his experience commuting on three buses all the way from the Mission District, John would one day become a bridge for inclusivity, diversity and equity at SI as he discovered the big adjustment it took to be a new student at an unfamiliar school. John didn't originally want to come to SI, but says it was the best decision his father ever made on his behalf to pursue the best education.

He has come a long way from those initial jitters entering the campus. John has since ensured that other students have a similar opportunity to excel. Following a successful career in investment banking, John chose to establish three scholarships named after his parents, Catherine and Richard Duggan. He has provided more than 40 students coming from St. Paul's, the Mission District and first responder families with access to an SI education.

What else does it mean to be an Ignatian? One is called to be a lifelong learner who develops his or her talents for the greater glory of God. With a commitment to intellectual excellence, leadership and service to others, Ignatians strive to be with and for others. Consistently described as a life-changing leader, Coach Duggan has served as a mentor to numerous youth in the Bay Area basketball community.

His love of basketball started as a young boy. Just like the restaurants, basketball is a lifelong love and part of the family. John's invaluable participation with the CYO community was celebrated in 2017 with his induction to the CYO Hall of Fame. After coaching at St. Paul's, John went on to St. Stephen's for more than two decades, followed by 11 years at SI and then at the collegiate level at City College of San Francisco. He still coaches his granddaughters' teams today and loves to see them compete. This means Coach D has been running the courts of the Bay Area for more than 60 years!

Some think of athletics as mere entertainment, just moments in time of great suspense, adrenaline and camaraderie. But, it is so much more than that. For starters, Coach D might say there is nothing without a little bit of competition, and boy does he mean it. The beauty about John's way is that training for the court or the concrete playground of our everyday lives is one and the same. John ignited a powerful flame by coaching and mentoring young students through his unique ethos, one that they took to heart and practiced all their lives. Be competitive, not combative. Work hard every day and thank the Lord at night for the gifts given to you. John says that education is everything, which it is, even in applying our best to the game of life. He also says that we are not on earth for ourselves; we are here to give back selflessly.

The biggest lessons that John offers to his athletes can best be observed by his

example. There is no I in team; one must understand teamwork; and above all else, the home team — family — must come first. John will celebrate 50 years of marriage with his wife, Marie, this year. Their daughter, Elena, and son, John '92, are their pride and joy along with their six grandchildren, all of whom John tearfully describes as an "amazing and passionate group." The joy John receives from such deeply rooted family ties radiates most brilliantly in his ability to share this energy with multiple communities. You have likely experienced the joy of John directly or indirectly through the multitude of people whom he has inspired and mentored. Who is he loyal to? All of us. Who does he love? Each and every one of you, so much so that now three generations of his family safekeep our memories, our hearts and our friendships under the roof of two highly coveted city "club houses" — Original Joe's.

Original Joe's opened in the early 1930s, when owner Tony Rodin partnered with Louis Rocca to create the first restaurant on Taylor Street. In the 1980s, Louis sold his share to Tony's daughter and son-in-law, Marie and John. Marie held down the fort, driving the business for 25 years until 2007 when a disastrous fire in the hotel above destroyed the restaurant. Undaunted, young Elena and Johnny were determined to restore the vision of their grandfather's business. Five years later, Original Joe's in North Beach rose out the ashes, and in 2016 we were blessed once again with the reopening of new and improved Original Joe's Westlake. With full acknowledgement of how the Duggans and these restaurants have impacted our city and sense of home, Mayor Ed Lee declared Jan. 26 Original Joe's Day.

Friends such as Frank Allocco say, "If you're having a bad day, go down to OJ's, and John will pick you up." In great support of their beloved classmate, John's class of 1959 also comes to Joe's twice a year to break bread together. Classmate Neal McGettigan says, "Who would have thought a nice Irish Catholic boy from the Mission District would be running the best Italian restaurant in North Beach!" This is better than any Yelp review, as it speaks to John's humanitarian effort at creating a place where everybody can be heard, well fed and feel as if they belong.

For all of his endeavors, John has been honored numerous times. He is a member of the Golden Gate Restaurant Hall of Fame,





John Duggan and his family gathered in Orradre Chapel for the Christ the King Mass.

a Triple-I Man of the Year and a recipient of the Jim Brovelli Lifetime Achievement Award from USF Basketball.

Ladies and gentlemen, I welcome you today to the Sea of Duggan. Please stand up if your life personally has been touched by our honoree.

John, please take a look around and believe us when we say we are here to love and support you in gracious return and

follow your example by loving others. We are all here this morning, one grand team of 'Cats spanning multiple generations, all of us striving to be agile athletes taking on the challenges of our time by caring for ourselves and others in the way you have exemplified through your ongoing kindness, generosity and compassion.

To the man who is a fisher of men, thank you for being a true man for others and a

life-giving guardian of our community. On behalf of the SI Alumni Board and the entire Association, we all stand together here today with you, for you and because of you.

St. Ignatius College Preparatory is proud to bestow its highest honor, the Christ the King Award, upon distinguished graduate John J. Duggan, Class of 1959.

Congratulations and a very Happy Birthday to you today. ☺



### Honoring Dan Linehan '83

Members of the Class of 1983 gathered for the annual Dan Linehan Tommy Bahama Golf Tourney to raise money for the SI Scholarship Fund. The group plays at Gleneagles Golf Course in McLaren Park, which classmate Tom Hsieh '83 operates.



## Phil Kearney '76 & Matt McCarthy '94 safeguard future of Hunters Point

Thanks to Assistant U.S. Attorneys Phil Kearney '76 and Matt McCarthy '94, generations of future homeowners in San Francisco will rest easier knowing that the soil below and around their homes won't poison them.

Both men, while working within a U.S. Attorney's Office headed at the time by Brian Stretch '82, directed an investigation that led to felony convictions of two radiation control supervisors charged with clean-up efforts at the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS). The defendants, Stephen Rolfe and Justin Hubbard, were employees of Tetra Tech, Inc., a multi-billion-dollar consulting and engineering services firm based in Pasadena.

For decades, developers have hoped to build hundreds of new homes on the EPA Superfund site adjacent to San Francisco Bay. The U.S. Navy had hired Tetra Tech to remove radionuclide contaminants from the site, including radium-226, plutonium-239, strontium-90 and cesium-137.

With help from experts from the U.S. Navy, the EPA and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Kearney and McCarthy obtained pleas from Rolfe and Hubbard to violations of a U.S. Code related to falsification of records — in this case, falsifying soil samples taken in order to determine radiation levels, resulting in nearly a year in federal prison for each man.

Kearney noted that Rolfe confessed to telling his team to get “clean dirt from areas known to be clean and taken outside the marked survey unit areas to use as substitute samples for the dirt from the marked survey unit.” He told Kearney that his motivation came from pressure applied by Tetra Tech supervisors, one of whom told him on multiple occasions to “get the hell out of that area,” in reference to a particular survey unit that was not testing clean. “Rolfe stated that another supervisor told him on more than one occasion that Tetra Tech was ‘not remediating the whole goddam site,’” said Kearney.

Another branch of the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Civil Division, intervened in three “whistleblower” actions against Tetra Tech on Oct. 26 for the same misconduct. That litigation, which will rely in part on the criminal convictions obtained by Kearney



FROM LEFT: Assistant U.S. Attorneys Phil Kearney and Matt McCarthy helped put two Tetra Tech employees in prison for falsifying soil samples at the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyards.

and McCarthy, could result in massive fines against the firm.

Although Rolfe's and Hubbard's fraud occurred in 2012, the history of the shipyards goes back much further. Shortly before the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Navy purchased the 638-acre shipyard site on San Francisco's southeast corner. During the war, workers built Liberty Ships and serviced other vessels there, including the *U.S.S. Indianapolis*, which delivered parts of “Little Boy,” the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. (Fans of the movie *Jaws* will also remember the story of the ship's sinking and the shark attack that ravaged the crew.)

Along the way, HPNS became progressively more contaminated with radiological materials, including parts of observation ships used in the testing of nuclear weapons at the Bikini Atoll in the Pacific. Materials such as radio luminescent paint used to illuminate gangways and machine dials were common at the site. Later, HPNS also became home to the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory that, among other activities, tested animals by

injecting them with radioactive material. “The half-life of some of the materials used at the base is measured in the thousands of years,” said McCarthy.

In 1989, the area was designated as a Superfund site, given the high levels of toxicity in the soil and surrounding waters. The Navy closed the shipyard and later hired Tetra Tech to remediate the contaminated areas. Hubbard came on site in the 1990s, and Rolfe joined him later. Since then, homes have been built on parcels of the former base thought to be clean.

The first signs of trouble came when the Navy's Radiological Affairs Support Office (RASO) began receiving soil samples that “could not have come from the areas Rolfe and Hubbard claimed they came from,” said McCarthy, who serves as the Environmental Crimes Coordinator for his office.

“Both men worked with their teams to dig up dirt, tag it and test it,” said Kearney, who works in his office's Special Prosecutions and National Security Unit. “If it came back showing signs of radioactivity, they were supposed to remove all the dirt from that



## Documentary showcases legacy of Mayor George Moscone '47

area to a certain depth and test again until no harmful radioactivity was left.”

Scientists at RASO then “saw data that didn’t look right,” added McCarthy. “Patterns were repeating, and it was clear that the wrong dirt was being substituted.” Those scientists reported their findings to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and matters ended up eventually in the hands of the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

After Kearney and McCarthy confronted Rolfe and Hubbard separately with the results of their investigation, both men eventually confessed and agreed to plea deals — Rolfe on March 14, 2017, and Hubbard two months later. Both were sentenced earlier this year to eight months in prison to be followed by a three-year term of supervised release.

“The fraud cost the U.S. Navy — and by extension U.S. taxpayers — tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars and delayed the transfer of the property to the city by many years,” said Kearney.

In a victim impact statement filed in U.S. District Court, Laura Duchnak, the director of the Navy’s Base Realignment and Closure Program Management Office, likened the cost of the fraud “to the price of a littoral combat ship, which comes in at close to half a billion dollars,” said McCarthy. “It’s massively expensive. The Navy’s mission is to protect the high seas and keep the country safe. This level of fraud affects that mission, as it means they have one less ship of the line they can afford to buy.”

Both McCarthy and Kearney are grateful to the dedicated men and women from the various government agencies who first discovered the fraud and helped with the investigation. They are also pleased that they were able to obtain signed confessions of misconduct from both Hubbard and Rolfe.

“It comes back to our Jesuit training,” said Kearney. “At SI, we were taught to do what you say and say what you do, to tell the truth and to do your job well. SI instilled in us this worth ethic. These two men fell short of those goals. They cut corners and didn’t do their jobs.”

McCarthy added that he is “proud of the work we did. Their nefariousness would never have been found out had it not been for the whistle blowers and the RASO. Without them, developers could have built thousands of new homes on potentially unsafe ground. I’m as proud of this as of anything I’ve ever done.” ∞

A new documentary about the life of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone '47 hopes to shed light on a man whose life ended 40 years ago when an assassin’s bullets killed both him and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

Filmmaker Nat Katzman and writer Steve Talbot created *Moscone: A Legacy of Change*, which aired Nov. 23 on KQED and throughout the month on PBS stations around the country.

Katzman also came to SI in November to screen the documentary for students in the San Francisco Politics course taught by Bob Vergara '76.

Katzman, who has been producing films for TV since the 1980s, was program manager at KQED when Moscone and Milk were killed by former Supervisor Dan White. At that time, Katzman’s wife, Audrey Owen, was pregnant and working for Moscone as his assistant press secretary.

“I was at a staff meeting at KQED when someone came in and said the Mayor had been shot,” recalled Katzman. “It shocked and horrified all of us. My boss told me to go out and call my wife. Thankfully, she wasn’t at City Hall at the time.”

Four years ago, Katzman was contacted by Larry Simi of the George Moscone Institute for Public Service, which later donated all of its materials to The Moscone Collection at the University of the Pacific, Moscone’s alma mater. Simi asked Katzman to review more than 150 hours of interviews that had been recorded previously and create the documentary by doing research, obtaining new material and writing the film.

The institute was formed by close friends and colleagues of George Moscone as well as by his sons Chris Moscone '80 and Jonathan Moscone '82, all of whom wanted to showcase Moscone’s many achievements both in City Hall and in the State Senate, where he helped pass the school lunch program, ensured that public schools offered bilingual education and promoted gay rights.

He worked, too, for stronger gun control measures and stricter environmental laws, and he fought the death penalty and harsh laws for marijuana possession.

As mayor, he reached out to groups who historically had little access to City Hall, including women, Asians, African-Americans and members of the LGBTQ communities.

“We’ve been trying for many years to get this documentary done,” said Jonathan. “It took a lot of energy and commitment from family, friends and those who had known my father from working for him. So many



Mayor Moscone and his family.

of those who helped were young people in the 1970s and were inspired by my father. Now I hope this work inspires young people who may not currently see a route to power or feel agency. All they have to do is look at my father’s life, as he started with neither power nor privilege and figured out how to do so much good as a supervisor, as a state senator and as mayor.”

“We wanted to shed some light on who George Moscone was, what he did and where he came from,” added Christopher, who works as a partner in the law firm of Moscone Emblidge & Otis.

“My father was an only child raised by his single mother, who worked at the DMV for 40 years so that my father could go to school and play basketball before going to law school.”

Though his father’s time as mayor ended violently, “he did so much in his short life, including marching with MLK in Mississippi to register people to vote. He also taught prep classes for law students and graded bar exams.”

The documentary recounts the mayor’s time at SI, when he made a name for himself on the basketball court, and features comments by teammate Cap Lavin '48.

“My dad was just a kid who had to fight for a lot of things,” added Christopher. “He learned so much from the basketball court, including how to talk to people, how to





play fair and that skin color doesn't matter. He learned his ethics in many ways on the basketball court."

The film also tells the story of how George and Willie Brown became friends and political allies. "Willie Brown and John Burton had met earlier at San Francisco State because they were lined up alphabetically, and Burton later introduced Brown to Moscone," added Katzman. "George and Willie attended Hastings Law School together and paid their tuition by working there as janitors."

Christopher hopes the film will be used in high school courses to highlight his father's accomplishments and teach students about a tumultuous time in the city's history. "Many of his achievements were overshadowed by his death, which is why we hired people to make this film," said Christopher. "The project grew so big that we couldn't put our arms around it, so we hired Nat and Steve Talbot. I'm so proud of the work they did."

Jonathan hopes that Katzman may find a home for the documentary after its run on PBS. "Even if it doesn't, the film has been a huge success."

To narrate the documentary, Christopher approached his friend Peter Coyote. "We went out to lunch in Mill Valley, where we both live. It took about 20 seconds before he agreed to do the narration. He told me he would be proud to help."

Also motivating the documentary was the movie *Milk*, "which told part of my father's story, but not all of it," said Christopher. "My father had a lot to do with getting Harvey Milk to where he was, and he brought in other community members into City Hall, such as Doris Ward — men and women who never would have had a seat at the table without my father. City Hall was a downtown boy's club until my dad was elected. I'm proud that he bucked so many trends, including that one."

Jonathan added that "*Milk* was about Harvey and included my father, but our documentary is about my dad. *Milk* was a work of fiction based on fact, but ours is fact-based. Still, you can't tell the story of my father without including Harvey, as their lives and deaths are inextricably connected."

Katzman came away from the project impressed "by how much respect George had from all of his colleagues, including his political opponents. They knew that he always kept his word. Even former Republican Gov. George Deukmejian praised him. In addition to being a smart progressive, he was well liked and honorable."

For Katzman, Moscone's greatest achievement involved "coming from a devout Italian Catholic family in a world where the city was controlled by conservative Italians and Irish. He transitioned over time to someone who was



very inclusive in politics, race and gender. He fought against injustice by being an early proponent of inclusion. You can draw a line between his legacy and the city we have today. You have to wonder what the city would be like now had he survived."

Those who saw the film also praised it, including UOP President Pamela Eibeck, who noted in a *Sacramento Bee* op-ed column that "we must learn from Moscone's example and work to right the injustices that are still present in our world. With political bickering and gamesmanship flooding the national dialogue today, it is time for Moscone to be recognized for the statesman and voice for diversity he was."

Jonathan praised Eibeck for putting UOP's support behind both the Institute and the documentary. "Once she put her weight behind this, we suddenly had a real partner who helped us achieve our goals. My mother loved the movie so much, she called those at UOP who were instrumental and was effusive in her thanks. She was so moved by it, as the film made my dad come alive, even if just a little bit." ∞

**ABOVE LEFT (FROM LEFT):** Christopher and Jonathan Moscone lent their support for the documentary. Photo by Miss Bigelow 2013.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** Filmmaker Nat Katzman.



## Gianna Toboni '06 of HBO's *VICE News Tonight* to speak at Downtown Business Lunch

Gianna Toboni '06, the featured speaker at the Feb. 14 SI Downtown Business Lunch, has made a name for herself as a five-time Emmy-nominated correspondent and producer for HBO's *VICE News Tonight* for the past five years.

In 2015, Forbes named Toboni as one of its 30 people under 30 to watch, noting that she has "interviewed ISIS fighters in Iraq and covered disputed territories in the East China Sea. After taking her findings on sexual assault on college campuses to U.S. Senators, the Dept. of Education is now looking into the case."

With *VICE*'s sixth season about to wrap up, her last three stories to air focus on domestic violence, corruption in Mexico and skin lightening in Bollywood, India's entertainment industry.

She came to *VICE* after a stint as an Al Jazeera correspondent and an ABC News producer, and she has taken her insights beyond TV to a TEDx conference in 2014. For her online work, she won a Webby Award for Best Documentary Series for *The Real* and a GLAAD Media Award in 2017 for one of her HBO films.

The Newswomen's Club of New York also recognized her at the group's Front Page Awards ceremony for her story on transgender youth.

Her talk, which will take place in the Julia Morgan Ballroom of the Merchants Exchange Building, also commemorates the 25th anniversary of the graduation of SI's first coeducational class in 1993.

To register for the event, go to [www.siprep.org/alumni](http://www.siprep.org/alumni).

Submitted by alumni from her home in Los Angeles.



**Q. What pressures do you face to produce stories, both in terms of lining up what you would like to cover or preparing for stories that pop up organically?**

**A.** Our development process is pretty organic. Any member of the team, from producers and production assistants to correspondents, pitches a story and connects with colleagues to further develop it. Sometimes it's discovering an angle on a news story that no other media is digging into, and sometimes it's texting with a local producer in another country about a story they are seeing unfold. We have a pretty ambitious team, so there's usually no shortage of story ideas.

**Q. How do you manage your own safety as you cover these stories around the world?**

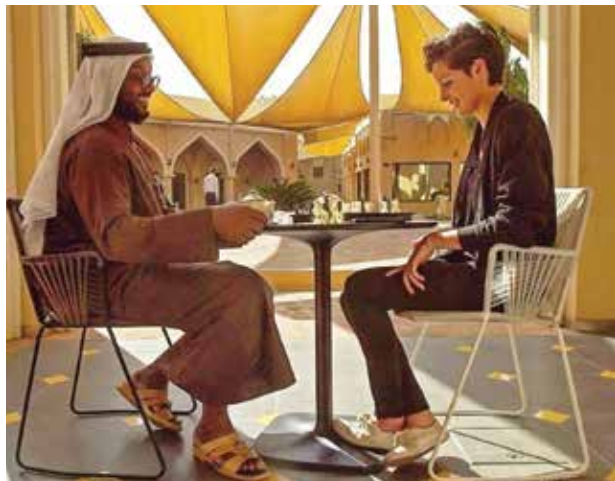
**A.** It varies from country to country, because the risks in each place are different. For instance, when we went to the ISIS frontlines in Iraq, we had a military unit protecting us. In Somalia, we had armored vehicles, an advanced security team and a safe house. In Mexico, you don't have military or law enforcement that you can trust to protect you. Often the good guys are the bad guys, and it's hard to tell the difference. Usually, the best safety measures are smart, calm local contacts who are well connected in their area and whom you can trust. Wherever we go, we do thorough risk assessments, and we prioritize safety.

**Q. How has SI's focus on Jesuit values and social justice shaped your work in the news industry?**

**A.** Our Jesuit education taught us to be people with and for others, which in part inspired my decision to pursue this type of work. I often think about Jesuit values when I'm in the field meeting Ethiopian refugees, American sexual assault survivors or Mexican mothers searching for their disappeared loved ones. It's our job to give a voice to the voiceless and to challenge authority when justice is lost. To me, that's a public service and in line with SI's values.

**Q. Who is the most interesting person that you met?**

**A.** Oh man! Tough one. Let's go with the most interesting person I've met recently — Olga Sánchez Cordero. She was just appointed Mexico's secretary of interior, which is similar to our vice president. Olga was a Supreme Court justice and senator and has always stood up for women's rights





and children's rights. Now she's focused on revamping the corrupted ranks of law enforcement and legalizing marijuana in Mexico with the goal of reducing violence.

**Q. Can you share a story of the most uncomfortable situation you've been in?**

**A.** We were walking into a prison in Piedras Negras, Mexico, that used to be run by one of the most ruthless cartels, Los Zetas. At this point, many of the prisoners were from that cartel. It was different from U.S. prisons; nobody was handcuffed, and prisoners were just sort of walking around the yard when we arrived. The guards asked the prisoners to form military style lines, and as the announcements continued, I started to see several men exchange looks and communicate something from afar. They slowly started moving out of their lines and walking toward us with their hands behind their backs. "Uncomfortable" would be a modest term for how I was feeling in that moment. Then all of the sudden, they pulled out musical instruments from behind their backs. It was the prison mariachi band! They serenaded us with love songs for the rest of that Tuesday afternoon.

**Q. Are you pleased with the changes at VICE that came about, in part, as a response to the #MeToo movement?**

**A.** VICE has been making changes for a while now, not only in relation to gender, but also regarding all kinds of diversity, and we're continuing to move in the right direction. As a young, female documentarian, I'm proud to work for the company and proud of the stories we tell. This cultural reckoning is incredibly important, and I feel strongly about being a part of the solution.

**Q. Any predictions for societal or political changes down the road as a result of the #MeToo movement?**

**A.** We just saw a record number of women elected to Congress! That's huge. Political strategists and politicians on both sides of the aisle, both men and women, have told me that women are better at reaching a consensus, which of course is a huge issue in Congress. Women also introduce and support legislation that helps women and children and that aims to solve problems that have been ignored for years. While

politics is ugly in our country right now, I do see change on the horizon.

The movement has also created a societal pressure, where workplaces are starting to understand how they can create a more equal environment. Businesses are paying closer attention to how they tolerate, or don't tolerate, bad behavior.

Girls and women are hearing a message loud and clear that they are equal to their male counterparts. To many of us from San Francisco, that seems obvious, but unfortunately it isn't to many others. This movement is aiming to correct that. The long-term effects of that widespread shift in people's mindsets are immeasurable. We'll continue to see change, but we have a long road ahead.

**Q. If you could interview any person on the planet, who would it be and why?**

**A.** Bashar al-Assad. I want to ask him about what he's done to his country. And my parents, because I think it's important to fully understand your own story. ∞

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## Darren Criss '05 wins Best Actor Emmy for *American Crime Story* role

When Darren Criss '05 won the Emmy Sept. 17 for Best Actor in a Limited Series or Movie for his stunning performance in *The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story*, he became the second youngest person to receive this award and the first Filipino-American to win a major Emmy. (He was also nominated for a Golden Globe for this performance.)

Criss, whose mother hails from the Philippines, played Versace's killer, Andrew Cunanan. He received his award over an all-star line-up of nominees, including Antonio Banderas, Benedict Cumberbatch, Jeff Daniels, John Legend and Jesse Plemons.

In his acceptance speech, Criss thanked his parents and his brother, Chuck Criss '03. "Unlike the character I played, I was lucky enough to be raised in a home that was very loving and that emphasized the values of hard work, compassion and not taking yourself too seriously. You are the root of why I'm here."

He also thanked his fiancée. In his speech, he told her that "you roll the windows down and pump the music up in my life. And I'm so thankful for you and so lucky to have you."

He praised his director, Ryan Murphy, who first cast him *Glee*, noting that "actors are

only as good as the moments they are given and the moments they are granted." Later, backstage, he thanked others, including his teachers and friends "who have enriched my life on this journey. I share this with them."

This wasn't the first Emmy nomination for Criss, who was a honoree in 2015 for his original music and lyrics for the song "This Time," composed for *Glee*.

His next role will be Lieutenant Eugene Lindsey in the movie *Midway*, due out in November 2019. He will star alongside Woody Harrelson, Aaron Eckhart, Mandy Moore and Dennis Quaid.

Criss is the founder of Elsie Fest, a New York City festival that highlights the music of Broadway and pop music artists, and he advocates for many causes, including LGBTQ rights, Amnesty International, UNICEF, Rock the Vote and We Day.

In the fall of 2016, Criss came to SI to take part in a Q&A session with his former director Peter Devine '66. The previous year, at the Tony Awards, Criss thanked Devine on camera for being an inspirational educator in his life.

Gianna Toboni '06 (see story above), was also nominated in 2018 for an Emmy



along with her colleagues at HBO's *VICE*, where she has worked as a producer and correspondent for the past five years. The award went to the late Anthony Bourdain, "who very much deserved it," said Toboni. This was her fifth Emmy nomination. ∞

**ABOVE:** From left, Chuck, Darren, Cerina and Charles Criss at the Emmy Awards ceremony.



## Spending a day in Navy Leaders to Sea Program

BY TOM LAGOMARSINO '72

As moderator of SI's Callaghan Club, which brings together students interested in military careers or who are eager to support SI grads in the military, I have long had a bucket-list dream of taking part in the U.S. Navy's Leaders to Sea Program.

The Navy accepted me into this program thanks to retired Nuclear Submarine Commander Dennis Murphy '77 — president of the Admiral Callaghan Society — and retired Rear Admiral Jim Shannon '77, both of whom nominated me for this day-long experience in the waters off San Diego aboard the USS *Harpers Ferry*, where I spent one day over the summer experiencing life on an amphibious landing ship.

The Navy established the Leaders to Sea Program to foster citizen awareness and understanding of its role and mission and to give participants “a rare first-hand look at life aboard a surface combatant and witness the pride and professionalism of our men and women who serve our country at sea.”

That was precisely my experience. After a while, I must have sounded just like a wide-eyed kid. While touring the ship, I said over and over, “This is amazing. This is so awesome!”

At 6 a.m., at the Naval Air Station on Coronado Island, seven in our newly-formed unit gathered for the first time. Our diverse group included men and women, both working and retired, who hailed from Northern California, the East Coast and San Diego. Among our ranks were a CEO, a real estate professional, a scientist working with the Navy on dolphin research and a teacher — me.

After being debriefed, we introduced ourselves and shared the reasons we wanted to participate in the LTS program. Everyone was excited about the day and also a bit anxious regarding our upcoming ride on a Seahawk helicopter. We met our Navy liaison and our pilots, were briefed about our schedule and checked our equipment for our 45-minute flight several hundred feet above the Pacific Ocean.

Although the ride was bumpy and noisy, I knew I was safe. Strapped in tightly, I felt almost part of the airframe. The vision from my seat was limited, but I occasionally caught a glimpse out the side window to the flight deck of our floating home for the day. After several circular approaches, we landed softly on the ship and were greeted by the commanding officer (CO), executive officer and two young ensigns who had recently graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy.

The CO possessed all of the personal qualities that one might expect — he was charismatic, decisive, energetic, engaging



and confident, all the while displaying his deep love for the country, the Navy and the sailors whom he led. His position comes with an enormous level of responsibility as he is in charge of a multi-million-dollar warship and the safety of 22 officers and 397 enlisted men and women.

I was impressed to see how he managed his day, one filled with multi-tasking with sharp precision and grace. Despite all his duties, he still spent much of his day with our group answering our questions and introducing us to his fellow officers and crew.

As we toured the ship's decks, he often stopped to compliment crew members on their work and told those upgrading their certification how proud he was of them. He both commented to us on his crew's youth and, at the same time, exuded confidence in their abilities.

We arrived on a day when the ship was participating in a multi-national exercise — RIMPAC — that takes place in and around the Hawaiian Islands and off the coast of Southern California every two years. It involves 26 nations, 45 surface ships, five submarines, more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel.

The *Harpers Ferry's* role in the exercise involved mine warfare, and the ship's decks were already bustling with divers, who assembled to check their vital equipment and discuss the day's operations; a refueling helicopter, which had just arrived; and a group of additional divers, who were being briefed at the portable hyperbaric (decompression) chamber.

Our first stop was a well deck large enough to house two massive hovercraft, each 88 feet in length, used to transport weapons systems, equipment, cargo and personnel from ship to shore. We saw underwater divers and support personnel practice launching and recovering Zodiac boats. Later, we toured the engine room and spent time exploring the main deck, escorted by enthusiastic ensigns, all the while climbing many ladders and passing through hatches and water-tight door frames

affectionately known as “knee knockers.”

My favorite stop on our tour was the navigational center of the ship — the bridge — where 20 men and women work to safely navigate a ship, which is done through a beautifully choreographed combination of spoken commands, visual observations and sophisticated instrumentation. This is no small feat!

As we spanned the channel on our return to San Diego, I spent about an hour on the bridge, wandering from station to station, peering over the shoulders of the personnel while trying to stay out of their way, fascinated by the entire process.

For lunch, the CO treated us in the officer's mess, where we saw many of the other officers. I dined with the ship's Chaplain and the Command Master Chief (the senior enlisted crew member on the ship) and listened as the CO welcomed us as new members of the *Harpers Ferry* family. He then introduced to us several enlisted personnel who were being honored that particular day and spoke fondly about his Master Chief. The admiration and respect of the one for the other spoke to their partnership as leaders.

As our day drew to an end, the CO invited us to his ward room to get off our feet and relax. We chatted with our ensign escorts and two divers from Australia as we waited for him to arrive, hearing time and again the passion and commitment they felt protecting their countries through military service.

When he arrived, the CO spoke once again of his career and of his beloved crew and then asked us to share our experience with the others. Continuing a long-standing military tradition, he then presented each of us with a ship's coin, one side of which displayed the ship crest and, on the reverse side, the ship motto “Guns Up.”

If you are interested in this program for yourself, go to the Navy's website or call (619) 437-2735 for more information. ☺

**ABOVE:** Tom Lagomarsino, pictured above left, has taught math at SI for more than 30 years.



## Judge William Newsom '51, father of California's governor-elect, dies at 84



**ABOVE:** From left, classmates Gordon Getty, Judge William Newsom III, John Mallen and Jim Hannigan during a trip to London.

Judge William Newsom III '51, father of Governor-elect Gavin Newsom and a longtime supporter of SI, died Dec. 12. He was 84.

Governor-elect Newsom's office issued a statement noting that Judge Newsom was "an avid environmentalist" as well as a "proud, lifelong Californian, a public servant of profound accomplishment and a powerful voice for individual rights and environmental protection."

A retired state appeals court judge, the administrator of the Getty family trust and a close friend of many of his classmates, including Gordon Getty '51, Judge Newsom has a long association with politicians. His father, William A. Newsom II, led Pat Brown's bid to be San Francisco's District Attorney. His son, Gavin, would go on to serve as San Francisco supervisor and mayor as well as California lieutenant governor before being elected governor earlier this year. His late sister, Barbara, was also married to Nancy Pelosi's brother-in-law, Ron Pelosi '52.

After attending SI, Judge Newsom attended USF and Stanford Law School. He began his legal career in 1962 and worked for the Italian division of Getty Oil before

becoming a tax attorney for the Gettys.

He later staged an unsuccessful run for the State Senate against Milton Marks. In 1975, Gov. Jerry Brown '55 appointed him to the Superior Court in Auburn and then to the State Court of Appeal in San Francisco, a post he held until he retired in 1995. He continued to manage the Gordon P. Getty Family Trust until his death.

He served as the first speaker for SI's annual Downtown Business Lunch on Sept. 26, 1990, kicking off a tradition that continues to this day. More than 130 alumni and friends came to hear his talk in the Bank of America building. His son, then a city supervisor, would perform the same service to SI years later.

"Bill was a bright, articulate, charming guy with a marvelous sense of humor," said his classmate and friend Denis Ragan '51. "Nobody could tell a story any better. He will be greatly missed. May he be at peace."

He is survived by his son, Governor-elect Gavin Newsom, and his wife, Jennifer Siebel Newsom, and by his daughter, Hilary Newsom Callan, and her husband, Geoff Callan '85, as well as by six grandchildren. ∞



### St. Thomas More Society honors Tom Brandi '63

San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone presented Tom Brandi '63 (left) with the St. Thomas More Award at the San Francisco law society's annual Red Mass in September. Tom received SI's Christ the King Award last year in part for leading the school's Law Society. Pictured with Tom and the archbishop is Tony Phillips, president of the St. Thomas More Society.



## Richard Wall '52, Christ the King Award recipient and Callaghan Society founder, dies at 84

Richard Wall '52, a third-generation San Franciscan, the founder of the Admiral Callaghan Society and the recipient of the Christ the King Award in 2012, died Nov. 17. He was 84.

After his father died in 1945, his mother was left to raise five boys between the ages of 10 and 16. Richard credits the Jesuits, including his late uncle P. Carlo Rossi, S.J., for helping his mother carry them through some very difficult years.

At SI, he followed in the footsteps of four older brothers, including Dr. C. Allen Wall '46 — the only surviving brother — Peter Wall '47, Dr. John Wall '49 and Dr. Robert Wall '50. He served as student body president in his senior year and stayed a leader for his class for the rest of his life. In the 66 years since his graduation from SI, he has run hundreds of class lunches and numerous reunions and established the most class scholarships in the history of the school.

Richard earned his bachelor's and law degrees from Stanford University and served in the U.S. Army for two years before returning to the city. He started a successful career as an attorney, joining O'Donnell and Weiss in 1962.



In the intervening years, he served as a delegate in 1987 to the U.S./China Joint Session on Trade, Investment and Economic Law; on the West Point Board of Visitors in the early 1990s; on International Election Observation Missions in Cambodia in 1998 and in Mongolia in 2000; and on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in 2002.

He also served on the California selection committee for White House Fellows and as a member of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. He was also a member of the

Governor's Advisory Selection Committee of the Regents of the University of California.

He once said that service to others — specifically God and country — inspired him to work to make the world a better place and to establish the Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan Society at SI in 2010, not only to honor the Admiral and so many other SI graduates who have given their lives for their country, but also to inspire a new generation of Ignatians to embrace a life of service.

He was a lifelong parishioner in the parish of his youth, St. Vincent DePaul, and was co-founder and past president of San Francisco's Hibernian-Newman Club. An avid outdoorsman, he hiked and camped in all 15 of California's coastal counties, from Oregon to Mexico.

He was predeceased by his daughter, Rosemary, and is survived by his wife of 55 years, Denise; by his children Cindy (Kirk), Brick (Bill) and Sandy; and by numerous grandchildren.

The family requests that memorial contributions go to the Richard J. Wall Educational Scholarship at SI, the SI Admiral Callaghan Society or the California Coastal Trail Association. ∞

## Jean Summers Wolf, longtime SI costume designer and mother of Katie Wolf, dies at 102

Mary Jean Summers Wolf, a loving mother, gifted costumer and dedicated friend to many, died Sept. 9, 2018, surrounded by her family at UCSF Medical Center. She was 102.

Jean was born the middle of three daughters in 1916 in Hammonton, Calif., to Molly and Mark LaFore Summers, a mining engineer. The family moved many times following gold in California and Nome, Alaska, where Mary Jean was part of the diphtheria generation. Her father's dog sled teams were led by the famous dogs Balto and Togo, and these dog teams and their mushers defined the original Iditarod Run, transporting the serum from Anchorage to Nome to avert the diphtheria epidemic.

Jean attended Brigham Young University and delighted in the natural beauty of the canyons she loved. She moved west to marry Raymond Wolf, an engineer and a native of San Francisco, where she would raise her three children and live for another 80 years. Her children were the center of her life. Jean and Ray took them every summer to her beloved Blue Lakes, which provided the natural environment she so cherished and graciously shared with many generations, teaching the lessons of "the web of life."

For 18 years she created costumes for hundreds of students for the plays and musicals at SI starting in 1963. She was a consummate fabric artist creating hundreds of original needlepoint panels, vestments, woven fabrics and unique garments. She even created a set of sails that circumnavigated the globe with her son Stephen. Over the last 15 years, she prepared meals for hundreds of SI students who attended the Art and Nature Intensive



created by her daughter, Katie, SI's veteran arts teacher. Jean possessed a thirsty mind, a mechanical bent and an eye for beauty.

Her greatest gift was her ability to talk with, relate to and counsel those who sought her company. She befriended hundreds of people, many of whom needed someone to understand them, while others simply wanted a good companion. Her 102 years were fully alive as she responded to life with an extraordinary sense of grace, generosity, creativity and compassion.

Jean is predeceased by her husband, Raymond, and son Raymond. Her brilliant legacy lives on in her son Stephen '63 (Margo), granddaughters Malima and Violetta, and in her daughter Katie, granddaughter Cordelia '99, and great-granddaughter Charleigh Grace, and in all those she loved and mentored throughout her life.

A celebration of Jean's life was held on Sunday Dec. 2. In lieu of flowers, donations to honor Jean's work with young people can be made to help restore the Art and Nature Preserve devastated by the Mendocino Complex fires last summer. Checks can be mailed to Katie Wolf 2001 37th Ave. San Francisco, CA 94116. ∞



# keeping in touch

**1957 Tony Hanley** and his wife, Linda, have moved into the Heritage on Laguna Street. Tony is currently president of the Resident Council and is a member of the board of this retirement facility. The last Hanley, **John '18**, his grandson, graduated in June from SI.

**1958 Chris Monahan** and his wife, Sue, celebrated their 55 year anniversary in November. They are blessed with four adult children and nine grandchildren. Both are involved in numerous social and charitable organization in Santa Clara County, where they have lived for more than 50 years. Chris is retired with 47 years of Workers Comp experience, primarily in claims handling and consulting. Sue is a college career counselor and continues working part time for Notre Dame Belmont. She also appears as a guest piano artist twice monthly at Filoli Gardens. /

**Terry White** was inducted Sept. 13 into the Walnut Creek Senior Softball Hall of Fame. Terry has been playing senior softball since he retired in 1993. Over the years, he also played on two tournament teams: Direct Sales and Pace Drywall. He notes that besides traveling the world with his wife, Judy, softball has been the most enjoyable part of his retirement.



**1963 Jerry Borchelt**, after spending 50 years in the classroom, 48 of them at Hanna Boys Center, has retired. He notes that he “went from chalk and a slide rule to iPads and graphing calculators. It’s time to devote more time to our eight grandkids. It was a wonderful ride.”



**1964** Five members (and spouses) of the class of 1964 recently traveled together on a two-week vacation in Alaska, including, from left, **Ken Robinson, Ray Calcagno, Paul Schafer, Rob Urmini** and **Chuck Vanasse**.

**1971 Mark Wildermuth**, a 1976 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, retired from the State Department in May after 20 years as a foreign service officer. His postings included Rwanda, Côte d’Ivoire, Sudan, Iraq and Afghanistan as well as Washington, D.C. He makes his home in Phoenix.

**1973 Jonathan Ow** and his wife, Anna, are new grandparents to their first grandchild, Logan Joanna. Logan’s parents are **Amanda Ow Hibson '03** and Matt Hibson. Logan’s aunt is **Monica Ow '07**.



**1974** After over 30 years with the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department as a landscape architect, park planner, planning and real estate manager and park development manager, **Mark Frederick** will be retiring in December. There are many projects completed over the years that Mark can be proud of that leave a lasting legacy for the public to enjoy, including the historic Casa Grande, Bernal Gulnac Joice Ranch and Chitactac Adams Heritage Park. / **David Robinson, S.J.**, is on the faculty at St. Patrick’s Seminary as an associate director of spiritual life; he is a former member of the SI and Bellarmine faculties. He has served in Nigeria as well as in parishes and schools in Los Angeles, Phoenix and Sacramento. / **Bartlett Sher** was featured on *60 Minutes* for directing the first Broadway production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, written for the stage by Aaron Sorkin. / **Burl Toler** received the Seaborg Award from Cal, his alma mater. The honor, named after the former University of California chancellor and 1951 Nobel Prize-winning chemist, is presented annually to a former Cal football player for his career accomplishments who represents the honored Cal principles and traditions of excellence in academics, athletics, leadership and attitude. In Burl’s case, the award came as a result of his noted career as an architect, designer and senior project manager and his volunteer work as a mentor. He also served as a member of SI’s and Bishop O’Dowd’s Board of Regents, and he has served on the CYO Board of Trustees. He currently works as a director on the West County Waste Water District Board.

**1975 Jim Fanucchi** (right) once again served as president of the San Francisco Heritage Day Parade. He is pictured here with classmate and parade past president **Frank Billante**. Other SI grads involved in the fair included chairman **Steve Leveroni '69** and board members **Paul Tonelli '74, John Parente '67, Elisa Fanucchi '08, Molly Leveroni '04, Joe Parente '98, Tony Passanisi** and **John Warda**. This year’s Queen Isabella was **Mia Toracca '14**, who followed in the royal footsteps of past queen **Alexandra Cotroneo '13**. / **Kevin McDonnell** was elected to the Petaluma City Council.



**1976 Jon Leonoudakis’** documentary on gender discrimination in baseball, *Shutout! The Battle American Women Wage to Play Baseball*, was screened at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown for the 2018 Baseball Film Festival. Jon has seven films as well as a book, *Baseball Pioneers*, in the Hall’s permanent collection. His TV series, *The Sweet Spot: A Treasury of Baseball Stories*, can be streamed on Amazon Prime and Vimeo On Demand.



**1977 Jay Bechtel** was named the CoreNet Global Northern California Chapter 2018 Corporate Real Estate Executive of the Year. He was honored at the chapter's annual awards gala Nov. 15 at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco.

**1978 Jon Karesh** was elected the presiding judge of the San Mateo County Superior Court for a two-year term that began Jan. 1, 2019. /



**Joseph Totah**, the Associate Chief for Aeronautics Programs in the Intelligent Systems Division at NASA Ames, was the recipient of a NASA Honor Award for his "outstanding leadership, vision and advocacy enabling sustainable research investments advancing aviation vehicle autonomy technologies." Joe is pictured standing between Mark Geyer (Center Director for NASA Johnson Space Flight Center) and Dr. Eugene Tu (Center Director for NASA Ames Research Center).

**1979** After a long career at UPS, **Chip Meyers** is hanging up the Brown uniform and retiring. His career at UPS began in 1980 in SF, where he worked throughout his college years and beyond. He and his wife, Linda, first moved to Billings, Mont., in 1992, followed by stops in SoCal and Indiana. In 2004, the Meyers family landed in Washington, D.C., where Chip advanced to vice president for Global Public Affairs. The Meyers returned to San Francisco many times, including three visits so that Fr. Sauer could baptize their three daughters. He and his wife will stay in the D.C. area, where Linda works as a preschool director, so they can live close to their daughters. Chip remains an active leader in the SI Washington, D.C., Chapter. He reports that, "It's been a great journey, and UPS is a great organization. My Jesuit education, faith and family values aligned well with those at UPS, and now I have an opportunity to create the next chapter. I hope to make more frequent trips to San Francisco to visit family and friends."

**1982 Julio Bermejo** owner of Tommy's Mexican Restaurant, and **Josh Harris '00**, owner of Trick Dog, were both honored by *Business Insider* as owners of two of the 50 top bars in the world for 2018.

**1984 Chris Dobleman** was remembered along with his other



deceased Naval Academy classmates at a memorial service during the Class of 1988's 30th reunion. **RDML Rich Rodriguez '83** and **Perry McDowell** are pictured in Memorial Hall after the service.

**1988 John Cassidy** is a partner with Ernst & Young and recently moved to Detroit with his family.

**1989 Alfonso Rey** joined Gtmhub as Chief Sales Officer.

**1999** Both **Brian Hurley** and **Valerie Ibarra** presented during LitQuake. Brian showcased four of his authors from his small press, Fiction Advocate, and introduced three new books, and Valerie performed her poetry with live jazz accompaniment at Café du Nord.

**2000** *USF Lawyer Magazine* featured **Jonathan Kathrein** for his success in a variety of ventures, including his current work at Raghianti Freitas LLP.

**2003** **Nina Stellini** married Myles McMaster Oct. 6 at Mission Santa Clara de Asís. **Gianna Puccinelli '09** and **Francesca Puccinelli '13** served as co-maids of honor, and **John Stellini '10** served as a groomsman.



**2004** Sisters **Francesca (Fenili) Muccio** and **Daniela (Fenili) Greene '98** walked in honor of



their mother, Edwina Fenili during the annual Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation's Your Next Step is the Cure event at Lake Merced. Their team included SI alumni **Dana Armanino, Greg Callaghan, Andrea Garcia, Rosie Huddleston, Kelly Kennedy, Regina Moore** and **Madeleine Moore '07**. As one of the largest teams, they raised more than \$16k to help fund lung cancer research. / **Greg Wildermuth** (below left) and his brother, **Paul '02** (below right) met SI President Edward Reese, S.J., when SI's varsity football team traveled to Spokane to play Gonzaga Prep in September.







**2005 Maxine Ann Evangelista** married Jeremy DeHitta at Mission Santa Clara de Asis on July 14. Her brother, **Marlon '01**, was a groomsman and music minister. Bridesmaids included **Catherine Abalos, Eunice Bengco, Laurenmarie Reyes,** and **Donna Veridiano.** Also in attendance were former classmates **Jason Chan, Joey Chy, Alastair Gesmundo, JJ Jumoc-Casas, Matt Lai, Eli Lazaro, Elizabeth Santos, Darryl Sarzaba, Nathan Singhapok** and **Andrew Tio,** plus **Cherry Jumoc-Casas '02, Raquel Dayao '06** and **Hillary Tan '06.** Fr. Boom Martinez, S.J., was the celebrant.

**2007** Forbes' website featured **Andrew Dudum** and the success of his men's health startup Hims



**2010 Anjalee Behti** graduated cum laude from USF Law School in May 2018 and passed the July 2018 California Bar Exam. She took her attorney oath, administered by Judge Edward Chen, for whom she externed at the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California. Anjalee is currently an associate attorney at Saveri & Saveri, Inc., in the city specializing in multi-district and class action litigation.

**2011 LTJG Daniel Luciani,** a surface warfare officer with the U.S. Navy, drove the *USS Manchester (LCS 14)* under the Golden Gate Bridge for the start of Fleet Week. Later, on Oct. 5 as part of the Parade of Ships, he was announced as a "Hometown Hero" and an alumnus of SI. His ship moored at Pier 35, and Daniel led tours for visitors, including many Wildcats.

**2015** Four SI Lax alums met at Hofstra University on Oct. 13 to participate in the Headstrong Foundation Fall Classic. They included



**Mac Gates '18** (Hofstra), **Nick Clarke '17** (Bucknell), **Patrick Brosnan '17** (Bryant) and **Tim Baker '15** (Air Force).

**2016 Anne-Cecilia Byrne** is currently a junior at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. She was nominated and confirmed to be Elections Chair for the Student Union Elections Cycle 2018-2019. When she is not in her role as chair, she is a work-study student for three academic departments on campus. She has also received her second Rene Fabien Scholarship to study abroad in Spring 2019 to Montevideo, Uruguay.



**2017** USMA CDT **Lauren McNevin** and USNA plebe and fellow SI grad MIDS **Luke Phelan '18** (pictured at left) met in Philadelphia for the Army-Navy game after another crushing Army victory.

**2018 Alexander Lansill** scored the final goal to help USC's men's water polo team Win the NCAA Title against UC Irvine.

**2019 Lizzie Fleming** was featured in the *San Francisco Examiner* for her work bringing awareness to human trafficking.

**2021** The SI Debate Team sent nine students Nov. 11 to Diablo Valley College, where **Maeve Kramer '22, Moira Crehan** and **Ethan Liu** all won trophies.

## births

**1997 Ron Rolph** and his wife, Laura, a son, Dean Christian (right), born Oct. 18, 2018. He joins big sister Emma.



**1999 Dennis Mak** and his wife, Jeanne, a daughter, Mathea Zoe (below right), born Sept. 22, 2018. She joins big sister Maxine.



**2001 Jennifer Passanisi Rosko** and her husband, Alex, a son, Andrew (left), born July 24, 2018. He joins big brother Ryan. ∞



## in memoriam

1935 Francis P. Hopkins, K.M.	1954 Robert L. Bianco
1944 John D. Power	1955 Robert "Bob" Guddee
1946 John C. Clarke	1955 Michael Maffei
1946 John Franzoia	1961 William O'Keefe
1946 Larry Lawson	1963 George R. Ayoob
1948 Robert G. Ghirardelli	1963 Michael Peterson
(1948) John Savant	1965 Thomas W. Leach, MD
1949 Peter Arrigoni	1965 Ernest D. Vedovi
1949 John DeMattei	1966 Jerome F. Perez
1950 Robert E. Moore	1976 Leo J. Clarke
1951 Joseph Lautze	
1951 Robert E. Lee	Mike Mandala, S.J.: Taught physics and math at SI
1951 William Newsom III	1970 to 1973.
1952 Richard J. Wall	





# SUMMER PROGRAMS 2019

**ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 4, 2019 at 10am**  
Morning Extended Care 8-9 am & Afternoon Care Available 4-5 pm



**JUNE 17-JULY 19, 2019**

Academic Program for rising 6th, 7th, 8th graders

**JUNE 17-JULY 19, 2019**

Academic Program for incoming SI 9th graders only

**JUNE 10-JULY 19, 2019**

Sports Camps of all types for rising 1st-9th graders

**JUNE 17-JULY 19, 2019**

Cooking, Photography, Robotics, & more!

**CONTACT US AT**

[www.siprep.org/summer](http://www.siprep.org/summer)

[summerprograms@siprep.org](mailto:summerprograms@siprep.org) • 415-731-7500 ext 5288

**Join the SI Arizona-New Mexico Alumni chapter at**

# SPRING TRAINING IN SCOTTSDALE

Tickets for the **Giants vs. San Diego Padres** 1:05pm game are limited so register now!



**\$75** for an all-inclusive brunch and VIP Lounge game tickets with food & beverage. (\$250 value)

**[www.siprep.org/alumni](http://www.siprep.org/alumni)**





**Mike Mibach '94**, anchor for KTVU News, will be interviewing Gianna.

## SI DOWNTOWN BUSINESS LUNCH

*with guest speaker*

### **GIANNA TOBONI '06**

*Producer & Correspondent for HBO's VICE News Tonight*

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

**JULIA MORGAN BALLROOM**  
465 California Street, San Francisco

To sign up go to [www.siprep.org/alumni](http://www.siprep.org/alumni)  
Questions? Steve Laveroni 415-731-7500 ext. 5769

### **SPECIAL EVENT for New York!**

On **Friday, February 1, 2019**

Join Gianna for an in-depth conversation and cocktail reception.

See [www.siprep.org/alumni](http://www.siprep.org/alumni) for more information

Gianna came to VICE in 2013 after a stint as an Al Jazeera correspondent and an ABC News producer. A 2015 Forbes 30 Under 30 recipient, she has taken her insights beyond TV to a TEDx conference in 2014. For her online work, she won a Webby Award for Best Documentary Series for *The Real* and a GLAAD Media Award in 2017 for one of her HBO films. Recently, Toboni was recognized by the Newswomen's Club of New York at the Front Page Awards for her reporting on transgender youth. In one of today's most polarizing debates, she brought awareness to an unseen struggle as families made critical and life-altering decisions.



# CALENDAR

## JANUARY

3-4 Faculty Retreat, no classes  
 5 Entrance Examination 8:30am  
 7 School Resumes 8:20am  
 8 Bruce Mahoney Basketball Game (Cal) 7:30pm  
 15 Ignatius Guild Meeting (Faculty Dining Room) 6:30pm  
 16 Class of 50-51 Basketball Champion's Lunch noon  
 call Mic Kelly at 650-697-9376 to RSVP (Original Joe's, Union)  
 16 AALPA meeting (Student Center) 6pm  
 17 Parents Financial Aid Night for grades 10-12 (Commons) 7pm  
 21 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday & Parade 10am  
 24 Class of 1994 Holiday Dinner (House of Prime Rib)  
 RSVP to Brian.Murphy@opco.com.  
 25 Winter Dance (Commons) 7pm  
 25 Performing Arts Assembly 9:30am  
 26 Financial Assistance Day for new applicants (Library) 10am  
 27 Ignatius Guild Women's Retreat 9am  
 29 Spring sport tryouts begin  
 30 SIPAC meeting (Wilsey Library) 6pm

## FEBRUARY

1 Enrichment Program Fair Upper & Lower Lunches  
 1 Piano Recital (Choral Room) 3pm  
 2 Joey Alioto Crab Feed 6pm  
 4 Financial Assistance Applications due for new applicants  
 4 Middle School Summer School registration opens online 10am  
 4, 11, 25 Student Leadership Night 6pm  
 7 Latinx Applicant Evening (Commons) 6:30pm  
 11 High School Summer School registration opens online 6am  
 12 Ignatius Guild Meeting (Commons) 7pm  
 14 Downtown Business Lunch (Julia Morgan Ballroom) 11am  
 18 President's Day, no classes  
 19 Faculty In-Service, no classes  
 20 AALPA meeting (Student Center) 6pm

21 Sophomore Parent College Night (Commons) 7pm  
 22 Mother/Daughter Night (Commons) 6pm  
 27 SIPAC Meeting (Wilsey Library) 6pm

## MARCH

2 Fathers' Club Auction (McCullough Gym) 6pm  
 4 Financial Assistance Application due for returning students  
 6 College Night (Soph/Junior parents & junior students) 7pm  
 7 Applicant evening for African-American students 6:30pm  
 7-8 Cabaret (Wiegand) 7pm  
 8 Cabaret (Wiegand) 3pm  
 8 Mother/Son Night (Commons) 6pm  
 11-13 Midterms  
 12 Ignatius Guild Meeting (Faculty Dining Room) 7pm  
 13 Frosh/Soph Lock In 6pm  
 14-17 FIRST Robotics competition  
 14 Faculty In-Service, no classes  
 15 Quarter break  
 16 Bruce Mahoney Baseball Game TBA  
 20 AALPA Meeting (Student Center) 6pm  
 22 Spring Musical Alumni Night (Cowell Foyer) 6pm  
 22 Admissions notifications for Class of 2023 go out  
 23 Spring Musical Grandparents' Day (Student Center) 11am  
 23 Junior Prom 7pm  
 27 SIPAC meeting  
 28-30 Spring Musical (Bannan) 7pm  
 30 Spring Musical (Bannan) 2pm  
 31 Case Studies, Junior parents & students

## APRIL

4-6 Spring Musical (Bannan) 7pm  
 5 Golden Diploma Class of '69 Reception 6pm  
 6 Spring Musical (Bannan) 3pm  
 6 Class of 1969 Reunion  
 7 Golden Diploma Class of 1969 Mass & Reception 10am  
 9 Student Blood Drive  
 9 Ignatius Guild Meeting (Faculty Dining Room) 7pm

12 Easter break begins  
 17 AALPA meeting (Student Center) 6pm  
 23 Classes resume  
 24 SIPAC meeting (Wilsey Library) 6pm  
 25 Spring Dance Concert (Wiegand) 7pm  
 26 Spring Dance Concert (Wiegand) 3:30&7pm  
 28 Mother Student Breakfast 9am

## MAY

1 Spring Pops Concert (Bannan) 7pm  
 2 Father/Student Dinner (Commons) 6pm  
 3 Spring Pops Concert 3&7pm  
 4 International Food Faire 4pm  
 7 Ignatius Guild Meeting 7pm  
 7 Senior Breakfast (Commons) 8:15am  
 9 Ignatius Guild Installation Mass & Luncheon 11:30am  
 9 Transition to College (Orradre Chapel) 7pm  
 10 College Signing Day (Commons) 7:30pm  
 13 Returning students receive financial assistance notifications  
 15 AALPA Meeting  
 16 Fathers' Club BBQ (Commons) 5:30pm  
 17 Faculty In-Service (Holiday)  
 18 Senior Prom  
 22 Performing Arts Star Banquet 6:30pm  
 23 Transition Liturgy  
 23 Day on the Green (following liturgy)  
 24 Awards Assembly  
 27 Memorial Day Holiday  
 28-30 Final Exams  
 29 SIPAC meeting (Wilsey Library) 6pm  
 30 Baccalaureate Mass 7:30pm

## JUNE

1 Graduation 10:30am  
 8 Red & Blue Campus Crawl 5:30pm  
 10 High School summer school and camps begin  
 17 Summer School begins

*save the date*

# Red & Blue Campus Crawl

## Saturday, June 8, 2019

All Alumni (*age 21 and older*) are invited to join us for an evening at the Prep! Bring a guest and enjoy campus tours, an Alumni Restaurateurs' Tasting Pavilion, an Alumni Craft Brew Beer Garden, music and dancing.

Questions? email [slaveroni@siprep.org](mailto:slaveroni@siprep.org)





STRICTLY HARDLY  
RED AND BLUE GRASS



FATHERS' CLUB AUCTION  
MARCH 2, 2019

[WWW.SIPREP.ORG/AUCTION](http://WWW.SIPREP.ORG/AUCTION)

GET YOUR SHINE ON!