



Upcoming Events

- Mar 1 Women's History Month begins
- 2 Ash Wednesday, Lenten kickoff
- 4 Spring Fling 9th-10th
- 8-12 Senior Trip
- 11 Mid-Semester Grades Due
- 14-18 Spring Break
- 25 NJAIS Meetings 1PM dismissal
- 31 Class of 2023 Ring Mass

OLMA's Unsung Heroes

On February 3, OLMA held its annual "Unsung Heroes" assembly as part of our It Takes A Village celebration. Students and faculty/staff were honored for being kind, giving and dedicated. Students and teachers nominated other students and teachers for these awards. When each student and teacher was presented with their Unsung Hero award, the description of each recipient reinforced the fact that OLMA is made up of some really outstanding individuals. And when each name was called, the crowd exploded into cheers, which is a reminder that the entire OLMA community is really special. What a fantastic assembly!

Congratulations to this year's Unsung Hero Award Recipients:

Samantha Bottino, 10th Grade
Jessica Haddad, 12th Grade
Kaitlyn Kirk, 9th Grade
Samantha Mazzone, 10th Grade
Kami Thomas, 12th Grade
Mrs. Bartleson

Avery Dortu, 11th Grade
Riley Hudson, 11th Grade
Kealeigh LaGamba, 9th Grade
Maggie McMahon, 12th Grade
Sara Weiss, 9th Grade
Mrs. Stanzione



an awesome teammate great student

KINDNESS
 brightens my days



FRIEND
 goes above and beyond

ROLE MODEL



generous makes me **KIND** genuine
SMILE enthusiastic

reliable CARING

Catholic Schools Week

February is a busy month in the life of a school! In addition to celebrating Black History Month, OLMA celebrated its Catholic identity.

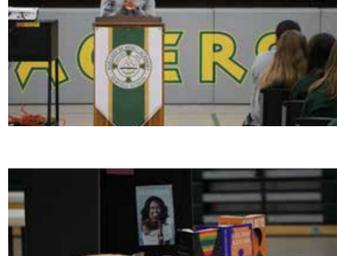


In honor of Catholic Schools Week, Campus Ministry organized and hosted a "baby shower" in early February after they collected baby-related items for the Jersey Shore Women's Center. What an amazing site! There were so many items donated (thank you!), and the Campus Ministry team put on a great event! Thank you to all involved!



HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In honor of Black History Month, OLMA hosted several events, many of them student-organized. In early February, four students, Anaya Hines-Williams, Alaia Carney, Destiny Ragsdale and Allisa Orr organized an all-school assembly to share information about the African-American community. The girls focused on hair, music, art and literature. We are grateful to this group of students for using their time and talents to share information on these topics with the OLMA student body.



In addition to our student-led assembly, OLMA welcomed Dr. Daisy Century to campus, who did a live re-enactment of the experiences of Bessie Coleman, the first African-American and Native American pilot. This one-woman show made history come alive, and our students learned more about the life and accomplishments of Coleman.



Cards for Caring Club

Each OLMA student has the opportunity to sign up for a club, which meets during the academic week. Clubs range from debate to gardening to fitness. This year, English teacher Mrs. Fortis introduced a new club called Cards for Caring. This club has more than 30 members who spend their time making handmade cards for all different occasions. Most recently, the Cards for Caring Club created birthday cards for a Vineland resident who turned 101 in February.



As one of the oldest living WWII vets, Mr. Zukovsky has been celebrated by the community with well wishes and even a parade. OLMA's Cards for Caring Club was happy to send cards to honor Mr. Zukovsky's birthday as well as his service.

Now Accepting Applications for The Class of 2026 and Transfer Students!

OLMA student Ambassador, Lexi Stefano, delivers an acceptance to one of our newest Villagers!



Amani Malikel • Bianca Galelli • Cat Wentzell • Allisa Orr

OLMA's DECA Team Heads to AC

DECA is an international business-oriented club that boasts more than 250,000 members. In the state of New Jersey, DECA chapters from various high schools compete against each other in business related fields. OLMA's DECA team is currently spending a few days in Atlantic City at the 61st Annual State Career Development Conference where they will attend different workshops and compete in various DECA competitions. In order to attend this level of competition, students had to qualify by placing in preliminary competitions earlier in the school year. Amani Malikel, Bianca Galelli, Cat Wentzell, and Allisa Orr are representing OLMA at the conference. We cannot wait to hear how the girls do!

2022 Super 50/50

The 2022 Super 50/50 was virtual and was Live Streamed. It was an exciting night of calling numbers, and OLMA supporters were hoping their number weren't called until one of the last 10. The last 10 numbers called were the winners of the cash prizes with the very last number called winning the grand prize of \$10,000. Thank you to all of our supporters who bought tickets to raise \$20,000 for OLMA.



\$10,000 Winners
Frank & Maria Conicelli

[Watch Recording](#)

If you missed the big event, the recording is on our website.

If you are ready to reserve your number(s) for 2023, please note that the full \$100 ticket price must be paid by May 31 and the form is on our website.

[2023 Form](#)

Alumnae "Leading a World of Change"

Atira Smith '19

Atira Smith '19 was a fantastic student when she was at OLMA, and she continues to make her mark at Spelman College, an all-women HBCU (Historically Black College or University) in Atlanta. Atira graduated as salutatorian from OLMA and is now on the pre-med track at Spelman. We caught up with Atira to see how she is doing her part to lead a world of change.

Q: What is your current major?
 AS: I am currently a third-year Biology major on the pre-med track.

Q: What clubs, activities etc. are you involved in outside of your classes?
 AS: Outside of classes, I work on campus. I am involved in an outreach program called SpelReads, wherein Spelman students travel to local middle schools and help the students practice and improve their reading abilities. Additionally, since my first year, I have been a member of the Spelman chapter of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW). The organization, founded in 1896, is dedicated to advocating for education, equity in healthcare, and more for Black Women in America and around the world. On campus, the organization holds service and social events to give back to the community and help Spelman students bond and feel more connected.

Q: What is the most exciting/enjoyable event you have been a part of recently and describe it?
 AS: During the Fall 2021 semester, I volunteered for our class council during Spelman's "Mister Junior" Pageant. A few of my close friends are on the council. Seven Morehouse juniors ran in the pageant to represent Spelman as Mister Junior. The event was incredible. The theme was "Decades" and the candidates opened the pageant with a choreographed musical performance. The event also consisted of the traditional introductions, followed by the talent portion and the question-and-answer section. They are all extremely talented and did a spectacular job, and the audience engagement made the night so much more enjoyable.

Q: What did you learn at OLMA that has helped you in college?
 AS: One of the biggest ways that OLMA prepared me for college was in time management. It sounds cliché, but it's true. I learned to properly balance my academics and extracurricular activities at OLMA, and I use those skills every day.



Atira recently held a Zoom session with current OLMA students to talk about the college search process as well as Spelman College in particular.



We want to hear from you...

[Submit your story here](#)