Lauralton Hall is a sponsored ministry of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and is a member of Mercy Education.
ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY,
LAURALTON HALL’S MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by the Mercy Tradition, Lauralton Hall empowers young women to pursue their highest potential through lifelong learning, compassionate service, and responsible leadership in a global society.

Our Core Values are the hallmarks of a Mercy Education. These are the ideals we stand up for and strive to live up to. We hold ourselves to these standards as an institution, as a community and as individuals. Each value is interconnected and necessary as we take Mercy into the world.

CORE VALUES

The Hallmarks of a Mercy Education

THESE ARE THE IDEALS WE STAND UP FOR AND STRIVE TO LIVE UP TO.
WE HOLD OURSELVES TO THESE STANDARDS AS AN INSTITUTION, AS A COMMUNITY AND AS INDIVIDUALS.

Mercy students, in the spirit of our founder Catherine McAuley, are steadfastly determined to take Mercy into an interconnected world. Our shared sense of social consciousness is fortified by universal empathy and a conviction that all are worthy of God’s mercy. This deep awareness and compassion move us to take principled action and serve the needs of others.

Mercy students welcome the challenge of pursuing their full potential in a culture of excellence, critical thinking and curiosity. Their multifaceted journey builds character while it builds essential skills. Our holistic program expects engagement, a thirst for knowledge and personal responsibility, while preparing students to thrive for a lifetime.

Mercy students become living models of faith and forceful advocates for Gospel values. Grounded in our Catholic identity in the Mercy tradition, we welcome all faiths and are strengthened and shaped by these relationships. As we pursue a personal relationship with God, we strenuously follow Jesus Christ’s example of social justice, love and service.

Mercy students are poised to lead with their unique gifts. Prepared with an ethical and moral compass, we put Mercy values into action and work assertively for what is right. We’re equipped to make difficult choices, learn from our mistakes and develop high emotional intelligence. As an international community, we’re confident in our ability to make a positive difference and push for systemic change.

Mercy students honor the intrinsic value of the individual and recognize God’s presence in each person. We embrace a global vision and value differences of opinion, and are unafraid to confront hostile or hurtful attitudes. By standing up for those who can’t, we go beyond acceptance to help make sure everyone feels recognized and heard.
CLUB CATALOG

This catalog of student clubs and organizations does not include all activities in which Lauralton Hall students are involved. Information on the school’s many extracurricular activities including athletics and more can be found on the Lauralton Hall website, www.lauraltonhall.org, in the Student Life section or by contacting Jennifer Casceillo, Dean of Student Development at jcasceillo@lauraltonhall.org.

CLUBS
• All Things Considered
• American Sign Language
• Art
• Book Club
• Campus Ministry Club
• Chess
• Coding Club
• Debate (virtual)
• DICE (Diversity Inclusion Culture Equity)
• Drama
• Engineering Team
• Environmental
• Female Empowerment
• French
• Irish
• Italian
• Key
• Latin
• LH Spirit Club
• Milford United Percussion Ensemble
• Mock Trial
• Poetry/Creative Writing
• SADD
• Science
• Scrabble
• Space
• Spanish
• Stock Market Club
• Yoga
• Youth and Government(YAG)

ARTS
• Arts Festival
• Musical Concerts
• Theater (fall musical & spring play)

ORGANIZATIONS
• French National Honor Society
• Latin National Honor Society
• Spanish National Honor Society
• National Honor Society

STUDENT GOVERNMENT BY ELECTION
• Student Council

PEER PROGRAMS
• Peer Mentors
• Peer Tutors
• Student Ambassadors

DANCES
• Homecoming
• Freshman/Sophomore
  Semiformal Junior/Senior Prom
• Junior Ring Dance
• Mixers
• Senior Dance

SPIRITUAL EVENTS
• Class Retreats
• Mercy Day
• Prayer Services
• School Masses

OTHER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES
• Assemblies
• Junior Ring Ceremony
• Spirit Week
• Trips—Field, Class, International

PUBLICATIONS
• Lauralton Highlights (school newspaper)
• The Lauralton (yearbook)
• The Looking Glass (literary magazine)
**All Things Considered**  
Contact: Dr. Cavar  
E-Mail: scavar@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Thursdays @ 2:20 pm  
Where: S215  
Description: *All Things Considered is a club meant to spread awareness of different and exciting elements of contemporary culture such as anime and manga, fantasy and renaissance, science-fiction and gaming. All Things Considered members welcome the opportunity to dispel the stereotype of these being male-dominated genres. Goals are accomplished through discussions and activities, excursions to events in the tri-state area, movie nights and a wonderful website featuring student art and links to interesting sites.*

**American Sign Language**  
Contact: Ms. Wieciorkowska  
E-Mail: awieciorkowska@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First and Third Thursday  
Where: SB 8  
Description: *The American Sign Language (ASL) Club gives students the opportunity to learn basic sign language gestures. This will allow students to be capable of interacting with the portion of the deaf community that cannot communicate via speech. Many occupations actually prefer to hire people with knowledge of another language, and ASL, as it is not taught in many schools, is in high demand. It is the goal of the ASL club that students will be able to form grammatically correct phrases as well as be able to watch and understand movies in sign language.*

**Art Club**  
Contact: Mr. Rossetti  
Email: mrossetti@lauraltonhall.org  
When: first Monday and third Wednesday  
Where: S214  
Description: *This is a club dedicated to fostering and promoting visual arts at Lauralton. Anyone is welcome, even if she does not make art on a regular basis. Join to appreciate and create art together with others!*  

**Book Club**  
Contact: Mrs. Gallagher  
E-Mail: cgallagher@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Third Wednesday  
Where: Library  
Description: *Club members will be able to collaboratively decide on a book. The club members will read the book in preparation for each meeting. At the meetings the club will discuss themes and characters from each book. All different kinds of books will be read. There will be a theme each month and have about 5 different books that fit that category that people will be able to choose from.*
**Campus Ministry Club**  
Contact: Mrs. DaCosta  
Email: edacosta@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Second & Fourth Thursday, 2:20 p.m.  
Where: Dining Hall  
*Description: The Campus Ministry Club performs a variety of ministerial and services tasks through two separate committees: the Mission Team and the Catherine McAuley Committee.*

Members of the Mission Team seek to bring the Mercy Girl Effect Mission to life at Lauralton Hall. Each year a new mission is chosen. Previous years’ missions include: the environment, water, and human trafficking, among others. Members raise awareness and funds for the year’s chosen issue.

Members of the Catherine McAuley Committee exemplify the spirit of mercy by participation in community outreach projects in service to the poor. Each week an assigned team of club members prepares bag lunches to be delivered for distribution by the Beth-El Shelter in Milford.

**Chess Club**  
Contact: Erin Chamberlain  
E-Mail: echamberlain@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Second and fourth Tuesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: MH 212  
*Description: The Lauralton Hall chess club is an opportunity for all girls to be able to learn how to play chess and grow their skills. Girls will be playing matches against each other at all meetings all girls are welcome to ask questions and make suggestions. Girls will be encouraged to find competitions to play in and will be advised where to start. This is a friendly environment for girls to be able to learn and make friendships with other who are interested in chess.*

**Coding Club**  
Contact: Miss Kratter  
E-Mail: dkratter@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First and third Tuesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: Innovation Lab  
*Description: The Coding Club provides an opportunity for students to explore programming and computer science with their classmates. No prior experience required as we will break into smaller groups based on ability and collaborate on topics of interest.*

**Debate Team**  
Contact: Ms. Chamberlain  
E-Mail: echamberlain@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First and third/ fourth Tuesday @ 2:20  
Where: MH210  
*Description: Members are highly motivated and interested in debating current events and public policies. The communication and research skills developed through Debate can be applied in the classroom, college, career and personal life. Debate Team members will develop valuable speaking, listening and analytic skills. The Team meets two Tuesdays per month from 2:30 – 3:30 to prepare for a public policy debate. The Team competes approximately in 6 – 8 Connecticut Debate Association tournaments held Saturdays across southern Connecticut. Other details can be found at ctdebate.org.*
**DICE (Diversity Inclusion Culture Equity)**
Contact: Mrs. Duran and Mrs. Korman
E-Mail: gduran@lauraltonhall.org, lkorman@lauraltonhall.org
When: Friday @ 2:20 pm
Where: Internet Café
Description: Racial and cultural awareness is one of Mercy’s Five Critical Concerns. The goals of the Diversity, Inclusion, Culture and Equity Club (DICE) are: to embrace diversity, to spread awareness of social issues, to celebrate and explore racial and ethnic diversity, to provide Lauralton students of all races and cultures with opportunities to discuss issues of racial and cultural importance, to share racial and cultural accomplishments, and to organize a school wide multi-cultural celebration event, all for the purposes of enriching student life at Lauralton Hall and preparing them for life in a global world.

**Drama**
Contact: Mrs. Khan
E-Mail: skhan@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second Monday and Fourth Tuesday @ 2:20 pm
Where: MH210
Description: The drama club’s mission is to bring theater into the life of Lauralton girls and inspire them to explore the craft of acting by educating them in a variety of techniques and improvisation styles. During the club, we discuss theater news, bring in guest speakers, and do acting and improvisation games. We also hope to attend a few live shows. This club ultimately strives to be a fun, inviting place for Lauralton girls to explore expression through acting.

**Engineering Team**
Contact: Mrs. Napolitano and Ms. Kratter
E-Mail: tnapolitano@lauraltonhall.org, dkratter@lauraltonhall.org
When: Wednesday 7:30 am and Monday, Thursday @ 2:20 pm
Where: S315
Description: Everyday activities depend on engineered products to function, but many people are not aware of the engineering techniques and practices that have developed the technology and infrastructure on which they rely. Moving beyond the blackboard – a whole new dimension exists beyond the 2D world experienced in physics courses. This club provides the environment where the world of sciences collides to apply scientific understanding to the creation, design and construction of multiple projects. Engineering skills are developed on all levels as they are put into play through projects. The club is open to all students – freshmen to seniors. This club serves to introduce engineering opportunities in the community, and inspires students to pursue a career in engineering.

**Environmental**
Contact: Mrs. Kelley
E-Mail: akelley@lauraltonhall.org
When: Third Wednesday and Second Thursday @ 2:20 pm
Where: Innovation Lab
Description: Club members represent a very active and diverse group of students. The club hosts several school-wide events each year including: Trash-free Lunch/America Recycles Week, Trash the Runway Fashion Show, and Earth Day Celebrations. This club has something for everyone concerned about “living green”: designing monarch recovery habitats, making eco-crafts, jewelry, and organic beauty products, taking photos, writing for the newspaper/radio station, building bat and bird houses, and more! Club members also email legislators and companies about environmental issues and concerns. Members are also responsible for the paper recycling program at Lauralton Hall. Each year, members plan one fieldtrip or guest speaker. They are constantly looking for ways to make the school more environmentally sustainable.
**Female Empowerment Club**  
Contact: Ms. Wieciorkowska  
E-Mail: awieciorkowska@lauraltonhall.org  
When: first and third Wednesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: SB 8  
*Description:* The Female Empowerment Club where students can all come together to talk about important issues that we will face as women in America. We will also be addressing issues that are happening around the world.

**French (Le Cercle Francais)**  
Contact: Mrs. Hawes  
E-Mail: mhawes@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Second and fourth Wednesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: Auditorium  
*Description:* French Club students expand their knowledge of and appreciation for the traditions and cultures of France and French-speaking countries. Typical events include celebrating French holidays, watching French movies and singing French songs, sampling of French foods, and activities for National French Week. Students are required to maintain regular attendance at meetings and be active participants to be eligible for acceptance into French Honor Society.

**Irish Club**  
Contact: Mrs. Lazarus  
E-Mail: alazarus@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First Thursday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: Athletic Center Classroom  
*Description:* The Irish Club seeks to explore and experience the culture and traditions of Ireland in a variety of ways.

**Italian Club**  
Contact: Mrs. Amore  
E-Mail: jamore@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First Thursday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: MH 211  
*Description:* The Italian Club is where Lauralton students can learn about the Italian customs and culture. It is a place where LH students wind down from the busy school day and taste Italian food, learn the language and participate in Italian traditions.

**Key Club**  
Contact: TBA  
E-Mail: TBA  
When: First and fourth Tuesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: Auditorium  
*Description:* Key Club International is the country’s oldest and largest service organization for high school students. It was created by its parent organization, Kiwanis International. Key Club gives back to the community through service to others. The Key Club motto is shared by thousands of other chapters across the globe: “Caring - Our Way of Life.”
Latin (Societas Puellarum Quae Regunt)
Contact: Mrs. Khan
E-Mail: skhan@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Wednesday @ 2:20 pm
Where: SB-7
Description: The Latin Club, Societas Puellarum Quae Regunt, is affiliated with the National Junior Classical League. The purpose of the club is to enhance studies of the Roman culture through a variety of activities. The club sponsors the Lauralton Hall chapter of the NJCL Honor Society.

LH Spirit Club
Contact: Ms. Casceillo
Email: jcasceillo@lauraltonhall.org
When: first and third Wednesday
Where: Athletic Center Classroom
Description: The LH Spirit Club is a student run spirit club that ignites school spirit, encourages participation at school events and highlights accomplishments of our student athletes while promoting the feeling of community among Lauralton students.

Milford United Percussion Ensemble
Contact: Mr. Allen
E-Mail: mallen@lauraltonhall.org
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm (December-May)
Where: C-1 and Athletic Center
Description: MILFORD UNITED PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE is a competitive percussion ensemble comprised of students from all Milford high schools and beyond. The group allows students to play on various traditional and non-traditional percussion instruments with thematic shows, including the music of James Bond, Queen, Prince, and Phantom of the Opera. From its inaugural season, the ensemble has won multiple championships, winning 5 out of the last 6 years. In addition to performing at several local competitions in the Musical Arts Conference (MAC), the group also will perform at the Lauralton Hall Spring concert and at Discover Lauralton. All students are welcome to join regardless of their musical skills. In addition, the group also receives school credit. The ensemble runs from December through May. Competitions are on Saturdays from mid-March through early April. Check out many of our performances on YouTube.

Mock Trial
Contact: Miss Hutchinson
E-Mail: khutchinson@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second Tuesday and Third Wednesday @ 2:20pm
Where: S111
Description: The Mock Trial club was formed so students could better understand the American legal system and practice public speaking in a fun, competitive setting. Students learn from a local lawyer, research cases and ultimately argue against local high schools.
**Poetry/ Creative Writing Club**  
Contact: Mrs. Amore  
E-Mail: jamore@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First Tuesday and Third Wednesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: MH 211  
Description: The Poetry/Creative Writing Club cultivates and supports the craft of poetry and creative writing. This club invites writers to discuss the writing process and technique in order to strengthen the writing of its members. Students who would like to submit work to the Looking Glass, wish to publicly share their works-in-progress, or desire to sit, reflect, and create in an encouraging environment are welcome to join!

**SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions)**  
Contact: Ms. Wieciorkowska  
E-Mail: awieciorkowska@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Second and third Monday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: SB 8  
Description: SADD members pledge to end the tragedies resulting from underage drinking, alcohol-related crashes and other destructive decisions, and to create positive change in our lives.

**Science Club**  
Contact: Dr. Cavar, Ms. Shea  
E-Mail: scavar@lauraltonhall.org, jshea@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Second and fourth Tuesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: SB 10  
Description: The Science Club is a combination of a Science Olympiad Club and a STEAM Club. You may join 1 section of the club, or both! The STEAM section is a fun club that will conduct many fun scientific experiments and activities. The club will meet once or twice a month to explore scientific concepts, real-world problems and engineering challenges, This sections will also participate in Science Olympics (outreaching to the community).

Science Olympiad section would be a group of students who are interested in science, and wish to learn more about science, experience more and compete against other schools. There are 23 different topics/events at the CT Science Olympiad, from anatomy, forensics, chemistry lab, to astronomy, geology, physics and so on. Preparation would begin in September for the Olympiad, which takes place in April. We also wish to attend invitational of Science Olympiad such as M.I.T., Harvard, or Yale Invitational during the school year. We need a minimum of participants interested to participate in the Olympiad. (Each member can participate in one or more events in the Olympiad). This section of the club would have to meet very often (approx once per week, more as the Olympiad approaches).

**Scrabble**  
Contact: Mrs. Gallagher  
E-Mail: cgallagher@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First and third Friday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: Library  
Description: Learn high level skills to play better Scrabble. Play against friends and bring your game to the next level. No experience needed and all skill levels welcomed!
**Space**  
Contact: Mrs. Khan  
E-Mail: skhan@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Second and fourth Tuesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: MH212  
*Description: Space Club is a window into learning about the beauty of space to inspire and engage interests in science and engineering. Research and collect information about topics that the girls, collectively as a group, want to learn about. Some activities may include: myth busting in sci-fi movies, research and discovery of life on other planets, designing space suits, creation of light-up constellations, and launching bottle rockets. There are so many creative ideas and activities which will make this club a blast!*  

**Spanish I & II**  
Contact: Mrs. Hawes and Mrs. Milazzo  
E-Mail: mhawes@lauraltonhall.org, emilazzo@lauraltonhall.org  
When: Second and fourth Wednesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: Athletic Center Classroom/ Dining hall (back)  
*Description: The purpose of the Spanish Club is to expand knowledge and appreciation of Hispanic culture. Club activities include holiday celebrations, preparation and sharing of typical dishes, dance lessons, arts and crafts projects, movies, service programs and games.*  

**Stock Market Club**  
Contact: Ms. Kratter  
E-Mail: dkratter@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First and Third Tuesday @ 2:20 pm  
Where: S215  
*Description: The Stock Market Club was formed so that students might participate in the Stock Market Game. Students form teams consisting of three to five players. The team begins the game with a credit of $100,000 which they use to “invest” in the New York, American or NASDAQ Stock Markets. They can buy, sell, buy on margin, or sell stocks short. They are charged commissions and interest exactly as if they were trading in the real market. At the end of the year, the team whose stocks are worth the most money is declared the winner. The purpose of the game is to have fun while learning the mechanics of investing in the Stock Market. The game accurately simulates investment opportunities available in the stock market and allows students to experiment with options they might not ordinarily use when real money was at stake.*  

**Yoga Club**  
Contact: Mrs. Fracker  
Email: sfracker@lauraltonhall.org  
When: first and third Tuesday  
Where: Athletic Center Classroom  
*Description: Yoga club where we come together to meditate and relax to get away from all the stress in life and promotes being mentally healthy.*
Youth and Government (YAG)
Contact: Mr. Allen
E-Mail: mallen@lauraltonhall.org
When: Thursdays-first, third and fourth @ 2:20 pm
Where: Auditorium
Description: Youth and Government members learn the fundamentals of debate, bill writing and basic parliamentary procedure in preparation for the Connecticut YMCA Youth and Government Conference held each spring in Hartford. During YAG Conference weekend, students from high schools throughout the state function in a mock state legislature at the Connecticut Capitol and Legislative Office Building. In addition, students are given the opportunity to participate in the Youth in Law mock trial competition, and can also learn all the steps to creating a newspaper in the YAG Press Corps. There is a separate fee for the club due to the YMCA membership, transportation and hotel stay during the conference. Members also receive 1/4 school credit for participation.

Highlights (school newspaper)
Contact: Mrs. Gorman
E-Mail: kgorman@lauraltonhall.org
When: As needed
Where: MH307
Description: Highlights is Lauralton Hall’s online student newspaper which is published quarterly and available to students, faculty, staff and the general public via a link on our LH home page. The goal of the Highlights staff, who write, edit and publish the paper, is to ensure that the paper is (and continues to be) widely-read at LH; the paper will continue to focus on and around the school and its community, introducing new features: videos, a sports beat, surveys, more interviews, etc. in each issue. Meetings will be held every second Monday of the month; articles are due the first Monday of the month. Prior to making the Highlights link live (in other words, publishing a new issue) on the LH website, all content must first be approved by Highlights faculty moderator, Mrs. Gorman and by Dean Casceillo.

The Lauralton (yearbook)
Contact: TBA
E-Mail: TBA
When: Thursdays-second (December -March)
Where: Library

The Looking Glass (literary magazine)
Contact: Ms. Boynton and Mr. Rossetti
E-Mail: pboynton@lauraltonhall.org, mrossetti@lauraltonhall.org
When: As needed

French National Honor Society
Contact: Mrs. Hawes
E-Mail: mhayes@lauraltonhall.org

Latin National Honor Society
Contact: Mrs. Khan
E-Mail: skhan@lauraltonhall.org
Spanish National Honor Society
Contact: Mrs. Milazzo
E-Mail: emilazzo@lauraltonhall.org

National Honor Society
Contact: Mrs. Napolitano and Mrs. Bowman
E-Mail: tnapolitano@lauraltonhall.org, tbowman@lauraltonhall.org
When: Fourth Monday at 2:20 p.m.
Where: Dining hall
Required: The National Honor Society is comprised of students who have achieved a weighted GPA of 92 or above. Students are nominated for admission into the society during the early fall of their junior year. Nominees are assessed by a faculty panel on the merits of their academics and their character, service, and leadership abilities. The NHS induction, a time-honored ceremony, takes place in November. The organization works throughout the entire academic year to sponsor both service opportunities and social activities within the school and the greater Lauralton community. The NHS annually assists local food pantries and homeless shelters through their canned goods and winter coat drives. Sponsorship of the school-wide Spelling Bee and the cookie-cupcake giveaway are anticipated events on the school calendar.

Student Council
Contact: Mrs. Korman
E-Mail: lkorman@lauraltonhall.org
When: First and Third Monday @ 2:20 pm
Where: auditorium
Description: Student Council promotes and provides leadership development opportunities to prepare and empower student leaders to serve the school and their communities. Student Council sponsors several activities and events throughout the school year.

Peer Mentors
Contact: Mrs. Miller
E-Mail: cmiller@lauraltonhall.org
When: as needed
Description: The mentors help run events and activities such as freshman orientation, project adventure and HR parties. Meetings are held to discuss topics and interventions used to make the freshman transition into the first year of high school a smooth, fun and happy experience. The mentors also help support the sophomores in becoming confident upper-classmen.

Peer Tutors
Contact: Mrs. Bowman
E-Mail: tbowman@lauraltonhall.org
When: As needed
Description: This is a requirement of the National Honor Society to give back to the Lauralton community. Tutors meet weekly with a student in a one-on-one setting for four sessions either before or after school. A tutor is reliable and responsible and takes the initiative to keep in contact with the student and arrange weekly meetings. Peer tutors are friendly but persistent and help students get organized and develop good study habits. Tutors have a good grasp on the subject to be studied and are able to explain it to the student in clear terms. Tutors report progress to the Dean of Student Development.
**Student Ambassadors**
Contact: Mrs. Khan  
E-Mail: skhan@lauraltonhall.org  
When: First and third Tuesdays @ 2:20 pm  
Where: SB-7  
*Description:* This group of students represents Lauralton Hall at open houses on and off campus, parent nights, and greets our guests. The ambassadors are trained to give tours around campus and answer questions about Lauralton. They are very important to us because they represent our entire student body wherever they go.

**CLASSES**
Class meetings are held several times throughout the school year during the school day. The meetings are scheduled by the administration and posted to the school calendar.

Senior Class  
Contact: Mrs. Dwyer  
E-Mail: cdwyer@lauraltonhall.org

Junior Class  
Contact: Miss Hutchinson  
E-Mail: khutchinson@lauraltonhall.org

Sophomore Class  
Contact: Mrs. Hawes  
E-Mail: mhawes@lauraltonhall.org

Freshman Class  
Contact: Mrs. Miller  
E-Mail: cmiller@lauraltonhall.org