

Empowering young women since 1927

TEPEYAC TIMES

OPPORTUNITY. UNITY. SERVICE. EXCELLENCE



Our Lady of Tepeyac
High School

est. 1927

Renovation Complete

Tepeyac students are thrilled with the newly renovated Student Center named in honor of our beloved principal Sr. Kathryn Wojcik, who served the St. Casimir/ Our Lady of Tepeyac community from 1985-2003.

Complete with comfy couches, swivel chairs, booths, tables and highboys, the renovated space is perfect for gathering before and after school, mentoring, college fairs, class projects, student meetings and so much more. Caffeine and snacks are available with our high tech coffee station and vending machines.

The College Readiness Center has been upgraded with comfortable seating, highboys, tables and chairs lending the space to more collaboration, senior seminar class, parent meetings, help with FAFSA, and college admission visits. The College Readiness Center serves as an overflow space when the Student Center is packed with girls.

Both spaces were renovated thanks to an anonymous donor and OLT's Day of Giving last year.

Every year, the school strives to create upgraded facilities for the students. As OLT celebrates 95 years of empowering young women, we are grateful for the new Student and College Readiness Centers.



OUR LADY OF TEPEYAC HIGH SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE

04.28.23

Honoring the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, Chicago

Join us at our new venue for a night of celebration

iCreemos! We Believe
28th Annual Benefit for Scholarships

Friday, April 28, 2023 6:00-11:00 PM

Chicago Union Station
225 South Canal Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606

ourladyoftepeyac.org/creemos-23

A Successful Alumnae Reunion

We opened our doors to over 60 alums on a Saturday evening this past November at our St. Casimir and Our Lady of Tepeyac High School Alumnae Reunion. What a great way to celebrate 95 years of educating young, resilient women. They were thrilled to be back at their alma mater; for many, this was their first time back since graduation.

We loved seeing so many familiar faces and the wide variety of graduation years that were represented, 70's, 80's, 90's and the '00's. It was definitely a great time - an evening of laughs, memories and connections. The alums enjoyed an amazing program that included a warm welcome from our school President, Mrs. Thompson, words from a current student and the opportunity to go on tours and explore the building.

The fantastic reunion was planned and led by the Alumnae Committee of the Advisory Board; Irene Tapia '86, Estela Cervantes '88, Dalia Almanza '04 and Stephanie Rodriguez '06. Alumni are very important to the school because they provide a vital link from the past to the present. We are so proud of the strong alum representation that we continue to cultivate.



FACULTY FEATURE:

Jim Katula



Meet Jim Katula, Tepeyac's newest multi-talented teacher. It is often said that we "wear a lot of hats" here at OLT, and Mr. Katula certainly embodies this phrase. Between his time serving as a deacon at St. Damien's Church, volunteering at Make-A-Wish, acting in local theater companies and television shows and spending time with his wife and nine foster kids and pets, Mr. Katula teaches Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences to Tepeyac students. He has been working in schools for over 30 years, 19 of them teaching.

Jim has jumped into his new position with two feet. Tepeyac is his first experience teaching in an all girls school. Wanting to learn more about his newest endeavor, Jim attended a conference this past October, presented by the International Coalition of Girls Schools giving him the opportunity to dive into a variety of topics about single gender education and connect with other colleagues from around the country.

Jim will be offering a Drama Club next semester, hoping to present Tepeyac's first ever, play in 95 years (as far as we know!). We are thankful for all of the creativity and talent that Jim is sharing with our faculty and our young women and all that he adds to the Tepeyac community.

STUDENT FEATURE:

Ariana Mendez, Class of 2023



Ariana Mendez was anxiously waiting to begin her senior year of high school. She was most excited about the Big Sister Little Sister tradition at OLT where a senior is paired up with a freshman. She enjoyed her experience so much as a freshman that she couldn't wait to be on the other end and be a big sister! Ariana has enjoyed getting to know her assigned freshie. She shares, "I have bonded with her because of everything that we have in common."

Currently Ariana is a part of the National Honor Society, Student Ambassador Organization, the Campus Ministry Leadership Team, a Kairos Leader and was on the Volleyball team this past season. Over the four years, Ariana has become more confident. **"Attending an all-girls school has allowed me to be myself and have fun. It was easy to make friends and also ask my teachers for help. What helped me the most was attending the Summer Bridge Program before I began as a freshie. I felt prepared for the 1st day of school,"** says Ariana. When asked what she will miss the most after graduation? Ariana shared, "I will miss all of the teachers; they have helped me tremendously. Ms. Kaluzny especially has always been there for me to offer support."

We are very proud of Ariana and all that she has accomplished at Tepeyac. She is a great example of a Tepeyac girl; ready and willing to jump in and always up for the challenge. We can't wait to see and hear all of the wonderful things she will continue to do throughout her last year at Tepeyac. Ariana is the eldest in her family and is excited to be the first to attend college. She plans to stay in the city and attend UIC to study Orthodontics. We are rooting for her!

Moving Forward

It is not too late to donate to the Annual Appeal. The Annual Appeal funds:

- Needs based financial aid
- Campus Ministry
- College Readiness
- Athletics
- Classroom resources



Give Today

You can give by visiting our website (scan code) or mailing in your donation today.

Big News!

Thanks to donor support for the Annual Appeal and the IL Tax Credit Scholarship Program as well as several generous foundations, Tepeyac is excited to announce that we have met our goal of raising \$50,000 in new or increased funds. This 50K will be matched by a generous Chicago area foundation. Thank you for your support and belief in our work!

IL Tax Credit Scholarship (TCS) Program

By making a TCS donation, you receive a credit on your Illinois State taxes of 75% of your donation. For example, if you donate \$1,000 for a tax credit scholarship, you will receive a credit of \$750 on your Illinois taxes the following year. That's only \$250 out of pocket for you, but \$1,000 for Tepeyac tuition assistance!



LEARN MORE:



CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Meghan Murray
Director of Development
773-522-0023 x211



1920's celebration



A stroll back back in time



Cupcakes to kick off the year of celebrations



More treats



Fashion show

CELEBRATING
95
YEARS
+ YEARS +
Our Lady of Tepeyac
High School
est. 1927



Tepeyac will always "be there for you!"



Fun Together



School wide birthday party

Cheers to 95 years

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