OREVIEW

OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL













The Impact of

LEGACY





AT OC, THE WORLD IS Our Classroom.

Our students attend lectures at CMU, Pitt, and Duquesne.
They participate in data workshops at the Pittsburgh
Supercomputing Center down the street. They work in robotics, science, and summer programs sponsored by area universities.

They run at the **Schenley Oval**. Teachers offer interactive excursions to the **Carnegie Museum Complex**, **theater productions**, **Phipps Conservatory**, and the **medical centers**.

Only here, in the heart of Pittsburgh's educational and cultural center, can you be **this close to it all**.





CREVIEW

OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL | WINTER 2023

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The great legacy of all-girls Catholic education in Pittsburgh resides Only Here, at Oakland Catholic High School. The fruits of this legacy—a compassionate and supportive community, a rigorous and respected academic program, an empowering sisterhood, and lives guided by faith—benefit current students the way they impacted the alumnae of former bastions of all-girls education, Mt. Mercy, Cathedral, and Sacred Heart.

Pictured on the cover: Erin Freyvogel Leland OCHS'96 & Kate Leland OCHS'24; Kim Pavlick CHS'89, Veronica OCHS'23 & Meghan OCHS'21; Melissa McAllister McKoy OCHS'91 & Amara McKoy OCHS'23; Jennifer Thorsen Friday OCHS'91 & Hannah Friday OCHS'23; Jennifer McPeak SHHS'89 & Grace Kaczmarek OCHS'23.

Pictured to the right: Eliana Akar OCHS'23 & Angela Tolomeo Akar OCHS'99.

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OUR MISSION

Oakland Catholic High School is a Christ-centered, college preparatory school for young women of diverse backgrounds. The Oakland Catholic community is committed to an environment that promotes spiritual formation, excellence in education, a wide range of activities and athletics, and service to others. Formed under the patronage of St. Joan of Arc, Oakland Catholic is dedicated to teaching young women to lead lives of faith, courage and commitment as they lay the foundation for their future as responsible and respected global leaders.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Winter's darkness is punctuated, intentionally, with so much light—physical lights at home, at work, at school; the joyful and decorative lights of Christmas and New Year's; the light that emanates from events and gatherings like January's Strategic Planning workshop, February's OC Career Symposium, and our upcoming OC Give Day; and the symbolic lights of the candles on the altar that remind us of Christ's presence, despite the darkness, in all that we think, say, and do.

As I contemplate this winter and my last semester at Oakland Catholic, I note the symbiotic relationship of darkness and light, always walking hand in hand.

The former highlights our aloneness in a murky and unclear world; the latter connects us to a vast community that brings clarity to our vision. It is this community of light and love that sustains us in times of darkness; that provides direction to what we think, say, and do; and that propels us toward a greater understanding of what it means to bring the Kingdom of God to our life here on Earth.

As the Board moves forward with its important work of setting a strategic vision for the future of Oakland Catholic, as the OC Faculty and Staff strive daily to fulfill their commitment to educating the young women who are our future, and as we all grow in knowledge during this year of 2023, may we experience God's light, clarity, and love—ever present in the Oakland Catholic Community.

MARY CLAIRE KASUNIC



Only Here.

OC REVIEW EDITOR IN CHIEF

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VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MARY CLAIRE KASUNIC
PRESIDENT

LYNN BROWN

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

ADVANCEMENT OFFICE

KAREN MARNER
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BELOW ARE JUST A FEW ACTIVITIES OR EVENTS IN WHICH PRESIDENT MARY CLAIRE KASUNIC HAS PARTICIPATED SINCE OUR LAST OC REVIEW.



40 UNDER 40 EVENT

On November 18, 2022, Mary Claire attended the 40 under 40 event where Ayisha Morgan Lee OCHS'01 was honored. Pictured with her OC contingent: Bria Goldsmith, Cindy McNulty, Ayisha, Mary Claire Kasunic, Kiera Lee OCHS'10.



HESBURGH LECTURE ON OCTOBER 5

President Kasunic attended the Hesburgh Lecture in the JOA Theater on October 5, held in partnership with the Notre Dame Club of Pittsburgh. Associate Professor and Executive Director of the Keough School of Global Affairs, Maura Policelli, presented with her ND colleague Laura Parker McAleer, Associate VP for Federal and Washington Relations on the topic of Bridging the Divide.



MILAN, ITALY EXCHANGE PROGRAM

President Kasunic with **Dr. Katia D'Addona** who visited OC in November with five exchange students from the Milan, Italy Exchange Program.







CARLOW LAUREATE LUNCHEON ON NOVEMBER 10

Mary Claire attended the Carlow Laureate Luncheon where she reunited with alumna **Gail Fleckenstein CHS'75**. At the luncheon, **Sabrina Saunders Mosby** was named as a Carlow Laureate who lives the Mercy values. Mary Claire also reunited with Young Carlow Laureate **Jasmine Cho,** who presented at last year's OC Career Symposium for her work in "bake therapy" and as a "cookie arriviste."

YWCA EQUITY LUNCH

President Kasunic attended the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh Equity Awards lunch on November 4. YWCA Greater Pittsburgh's 2022 Creativity and Innovation Award went to **Ayisha A. Morgan-Lee, EdD OCHS'01**, Founder, CEO, and Artistic Director of Hill Dance Academy Theatre.



VISIT WITH CARLOW UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Oakland Catholic welcomed Carlow University President **Kathy Humphrey** to campus for a visit on November 14.

OAKLAND CATHOLIC INVITATIONAL

Mary Claire attended the September 9 Oakland Catholic Invitational for Middle Schools and is pictured with Lori Bednarz OCHS'91, who was with her son, who was running in the Invitational. Bridget Deasy Mahoney SHHS'86 was also in attendance with her son and daughter who were both running.





ALUMNAE NIGHT GAME

President Kasunic with some OC Basketball alumnae at the January 3 Alumnae Night game recognizing the 20th anniversary of the 2022-23 Championship OC Basketball Team.

The Impact of

A legacy is something that endures. It has value. It gets passed from generation to generation, like a coveted treasure that only increases with worth over time.











The great legacy of all-girls Catholic education in Pittsburgh resides Only Here, at Oakland Catholic High School. The fruits of this legacy a compassionate and supportive community, a rigorous and respected academic program, an empowering sisterhood, and lives guided by faith—benefit current students the way they impacted the alumnae of former bastions of all-girls education, Mt. Mercy, Cathedral, and Sacred Heart. Built on these sister schools, Oakland Catholic continues to flourish, and the legacy grows. Since 1989, over 4,000 Oakland Catholic graduates have been added to the ranks of a strong and far-reaching network of competent, confident, faith-filled, global leaders. The significance and power of a legacy like all-girls Catholic education is frequently overlooked by students immersed in the experience. Even recent graduates remain too close to the familiarity of campus and the daily requirements and expectations of a student to truly recognize the unique gift of being part of such a legacy.

Reflecting on her all-girls Catholic educations at both Carlow University and Mt. Mercy Academy, Eileen Reutzel Colianni OLOMA'60, Carlow graduate, noted journalist, committed counselor, educator (among other accolades), commented on this sense of "delayed gratitude". In a speech she delivered at Carlow, Eileen shared insight on her ability "to see and then to appreciate the many gifts" she received from her all-female, faith-based educational experience, admitting that the realization didn't strike her until 15+ years postgraduation! At the time, her new-found awareness of being part of a legacy led her to recognize how these "gifts kept on giving into the present", informing decisions she made and paths she pursued.

Pictured: Kasia Sudol MD SHHS'87 & Adela Holland OCHS'23; Eileen Reutzel Colianni OLOMA'60 & Elena Colianni SHHS'82; Dani More Folino OCHS'91, Toni OCHS'25, Nica OCHS'25 & Gabi OCHS'23; Christina Uhrin Palladino OCHS'95 & Gina Palladino OCHS'23; Shawna McClary OCHS'98 & Najai McClary OCHS'26.

We frequently hear OC alumnae in their 30s and 40s express a similar sentiment of gratitude. Perhaps, with age, distance, experience, and acquired wisdom, they become more keenly aware of how this all-girls, faith-based experience shaped them, provided them with tools to navigate life, empowered them to think bigger, encouraged them to serve, taught them to lead, grounded them in the universal truths of faith...they come to realize that they share in a legacy that stretches across time and generations.

The photos surrounding this piece are of current Moms who graduated from Oakland Catholic and our legacy schools and passed this legacy to the next generation—their daughters.

This is only one way the legacy is passed, and these are only a few of the many current students with whom this legacy has been shared.

Before long, they will graduate, and it will be incumbent on them to decide how to pass the legacy on to a new generation of young women.

How do YOU live the legacy of OC that was given to you? How has this experience shaped who you are today? How do you pay it forward to future generations?

Share your stories, your photos, your testimony to the importance of this unique educational experience at www.oaklandcatholic.org/shareyourstory. Whether you passed the legacy to your daughter or granddaughter; shared it with a sister, cousin, aunt, or niece; protected it through support of a scholarship or by returning to campus to speak to current students, we want to hear from you! We look forward to highlighting in future issues and on our website how the legacy of Oakland Catholic and all-girls Catholic education in Pittsburgh lives and thrives through you, from you, and for the future!







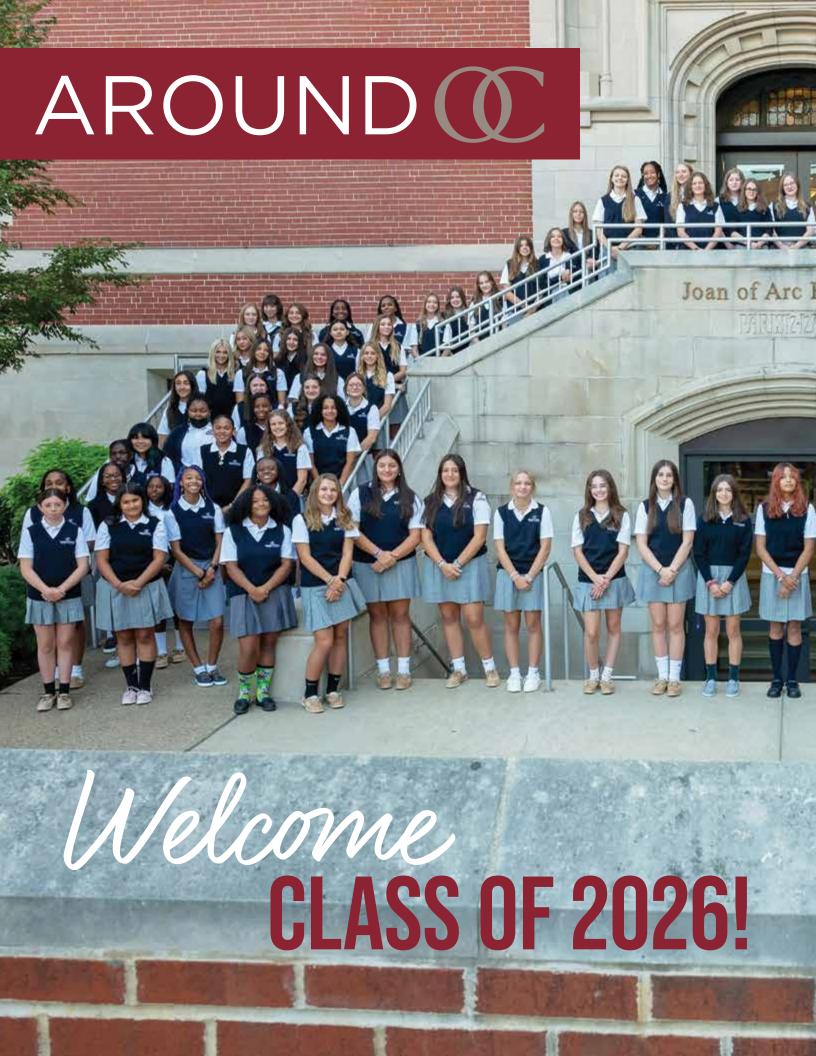








Pictured: Trisha Marner Murphy SHHS'82 & Marigrace Murphy OCHS'23; Catrina Mauler OCHS'19, Frances Quirin SHHS'81, Ireland Mauler OCHS'17, & Monique Mauler OCHS'23; Joan Givens OCHS'02 & Natalia Fazio OCHS'26; Wendy Fusco Barth SHHS'83 & Juliette Barth OCHS'24; Addy Fandray OCHS'24 & Jennifer Koehler Fandray SHHS'88; Nicole Johnson Richardson OCHS'95, London Richardson OCHS'24 & Nataya Richardson OCHS'17; Autumn Hudson Byrne OCHS'97 & Cassidy Byrne OCHS'25





Each new academic year brings a new crop of students to our school community. The Class of 2026 hails from all corners of Allegheny County and beyond. Coming from over 35 elementary and middle schools, this lively and engaging class brings experiences from our diocesan elementary schools, suburban and city public schools, charter schools, independent private schools, and home school settings. Their rich diversity in background and experience has fueled enthusiasm for new friends, new beginnings, and new endeavors. Now in their second semester, they have moved beyond learning the ropes and are immersed in life at OC! Some have already graduated to Student Ambassadors-in-training as they share their new love for OC with prospective students for next year!

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION CEREMONY

On November 17, 2022, OC inducted 12 seniors and 59 juniors into the National Honor Society in the Donahue Pavilion. Following the prayer led by President Mary Claire Kasunic, NHS Moderator, Latin teacher Ms. Heather Day, opened the ceremonies with the Advisor's Address. Senior NHS members Lily Tinker OCHS'23, Jaylee Witcher OCHS'23, Isabel Doshi OCHS'23, and Marissa Noe OCHS'23 offered reflections on the four pillars of the National Honor Society—Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character. As Ms. Day called each new member to the stage, President Kasunic placed the NHS stole around their neck. After inductees recited the NHS pledge, President Kasunic closed the ceremony with congratulatory remarks. All adjourned for a reception and more congratulations in the concession area of the Donahue Pavilion. Members of the OC community look forward to witnessing the achievements and insights that the newly inducted NHS scholars will share with the OC Community for years to come!



CLASS OF 2023

Alessia Castellone Sherdina Davis Hannah Friday Adela Holland Lakin Kelly Myka Lichius

Julianna Page-Daughtry Jenna Smith Avery Stephens

Alexa Washington Mia Westfield

Mia Zarroli

CLASS OF 2024

Madison Adams
Caroline Atteberry
Juliette Barth
Eliza Bell

Megan Bender Emily Bonavita

Channing Brook Katie Carney

Nova Davis

Caroline Diegelman

Deirdre Doyle Alannah Enfield Elena Esquivel

Addison Fandray

Mia Flaherty

Carley Freeman Diamond Fullard Annagrace Hall

Katherine Hallett Alexis Hammerling

Raygen Hintemeyer

Molly Hower

Janiyah Johnson

Arianna Kelly

Jessica Le

Sabrina Leffler

Katherine Leland

Sophia LoPresti

Elizabeth Maentz

Olivia Marche

Mia Maurizio

Sophia Mlecko

Madeleine Ng

Christine O'Toole

Jayla Olson

Adriane Orbin

Annelies Palombi

Taylor Pauley

Amelia Perri

Lillianna Peterson

Anastasia Piacentini

Erin Price

Ella Reed

Abigail Santora

Alannah Scabora

Julia Seng

Boa Seo

Maeve Shaughnessy

Katherine Smith

Evelyn Sorg

Keira Steitz

Sydney Sword

Constance Tompkins

Róisín Tsang

Margaret Valentine

Michaela William

Angelina Wilson

Grace Windfelder

Kaylee Wiser

INDUCTION PLEDGE

I pledge myself to uphold the high purposes of the National Honor Society to which I have been selected. Striving in every way by word and deed to make its ideals the ideals of my school and of my life. I pledge to maintain high scholastic standing, to endeavor intelligently and courageously to be a leader, to give of myself freely in service to others, and to hold as fundamental and worthy an untarnished character. In so doing, I shall prove myself worthy of a place in the National Honor Society.





MODEL UN

On October 26, eighteen Pitt Model UN students attended the University of Pittsburgh Model United Nations Conference, which was held in person on Pitt's campus for the first time since 2019. Our students discussed topics such as promoting literacy, biological weapons, sustainability, social media, and historic crises. It was a productive day of learning, collaborating, and debating global issues with over 250 high school students present.

Oakland Catholic students succeeded in writing exceptional position papers, with five students winning awards in their committees. First place awards were presented to Melina Bui OCHS'26, Giovanna Herron OCHS'26, and Maia Ramirez OCHS'25. Jamison Murphy OCHS'26 and Lauren Osth OCHS'25 earned second place awards.



On December 7, fourteen students from the Oakland Catholic Model UN club participated in the University of Pittsburgh European Union Simulation Conference. These students represented European Union countries and debated timely issues surrounding NATO, the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, and global food and energy security. Our students were able to experience the process of diplomacy, negotiation, and resolution writing all while learning about the European Union.

Several of our students came away with awards for their room's simulation. The team of Maia Ramirez OCHS'25 and Lan Ahn Nguyen OCHS'25 won first place position paper while representing Belgium. Charlotte Devlin OCHS'23 and Briella Lucadamo OCHS'23 won the first place position paper award while representing Germany. The team of Meghan Pohl OCHS'23 and Olivia Pretto OCHS'23 won first place position paper representing the Netherlands and the team of Marley McFarland OCHS'23 and Lauren Rajasenan OCHS'23 won an honorable mention for their position paper representing Sweden.













CARNEGIE MELLON WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION (CMWMC)

The Carnegie Mellon Women in Mathematics Competition (CMWMC), was held October 29. OC Team One was represented by students **Boa Seo OCHS'24**, **Anna Nguyen OCHS'25**, and **Abby Santora OCHS'24** and OC Team Two was represented by students **Emma Yang OCHS'25** and **Sydney Sherman OCHS'25**. This was the first time CMU ever held this competition so there were no sets of practice questions to study from and other teachers present shared that their students had been to many other math competitions before. The OC students persevered with a desire to compete and they all expressed since the questions were so challenging they will be prepared for future competition!



ROBOTICS TEAM COMPETITION

On Saturday, December 3rd, The FTC Robotics Team #13873 competed in the Southwestern PA Red & Green Scrimmage. The girls adapted their robot on the fly in-between matches and scored 63 points in one match! They beat out Upper St. Clair High School as well as North Catholic High School in the final rankings. **Trinity Abate OCHS'26**, **Francesca Hoh OCHS'25**, and **Naho Fukasaku OCHS'25** placed 15th overall. The team moved on to compete in the Southwestern Pennsylvania qualifier on January 14. The Robotics Club worked hard in the OC Innovation Lab building the team robot for competition.

HEALTH CLASS GUEST

Susan Koeppen, WPXI news anchor and current OC parent, talked to OC students during Mrs. Bielich's Heath class. She retold her experience of being saved by CPR and how she then saved someone by using CPR. OC students shared their experience of saving someone by doing CPR. The Health class also practiced and learned CPR.



OC GARDEN CLUB

The OC Garden Club hosted **Mrs. Andrea Jackson**, a Master Gardener from Phipps who shared her extensive knowledge and love for gardening, plants and especially herbs.





WORLD LITERATURE ENGLISH 10

Students in English 10 World Literature created sculptures to represent their theme statements. The statements were written to match their selected topics for the novel "Purple Hibiscus."





FLAME TEST LAB

This past fall, students in all Chemistry classes did a flame test lab. They learned how electron movement in the atom gives rise to unique colors (wavelengths) of visible light.



BLOOD DRIVE

Special thanks to 30 OC students who donated blood at the annual fall Blood Drive on November 16. Thank you to **Mr. Palmer** for coordinating this effort for OC to participate.



ENGLISH FESTIVAL

Five OC students attended the English Festival Ceremony October 1. Their accomplishments included receipt of a certificate, a book, and a monetary award. Gianna Kennelly OCHS'25, Kayla Rembert OCHS'25, Maria Koltas OCHS'25, Maia Ramirez OCHS'25, and Kiersten Olesinski OCHS'25 are looking forward to the competition next year. Congratulations OC students!



Mr. Scholle's

Calculus students had fun with the "eight queen" problem, and solved it!



HONORS PHYSICS

Honors Physics 2 powered lightbulbs and speakers with circuit red boards, making for an interesting class!

LATIN

The Latin 2 students created and presented their Roman monument projects this fall. The students each chose a different monument and created a model from either clay, cardboard, or pipe cleaners, while other students used the computer game Minecraft to design detailed monuments from the ancient world.

E3 LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

In 2021-2022, in keeping with the mission of the school, Oakland Catholic introduced a 2-year certificate program specifically designed to cultivate leadership.

This OC Leadership Initiative, E3—Engaged, Empowered, Empowering, was created to cultivate leadership development across a diverse cohort of students via opportunities that engage them in the process, empower them to put new skills into practice, and provide opportunities for them to empower others in the Oakland Catholic community.

This fall, **Honorable Kelley Streib**, a judge for the Court of Common Pleas in Pennsylvania, spoke to the sophomore cohort of OC's E3 Leadership Initiative. In addition to sharing her educational and professional experiences, Judge Streib taught the leaders about imposter syndrome.



On Friday, November 11, the Asian Cultures Club hosted an event called Asian Women in STEM. The club leaders, **Annalies Palombi OCHS'24** and **Abigail Santora OCHS'24**, provided an insightful presentation about the influential Asian women scientists and talked about their contributions to the world of science.

The presentation was followed by a guest speaker **Anna Li**, the CEO and founder of Korion Health who also holds a PhD and is a medical student at the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. Anna talked to students about her experiences as an Asian/American woman in STEM, as well as her challenges and successes and shared how a close friend from high school, who lives with cystic fibrosis, inspired her to go into the field of science and find ways to help fight the disease.

52ND ANNUAL WORLD AFFAIRS INSTITUTE FOR STUDENT LEADERS

On November 16, six GCI students traveled to the University of Pittsburgh to attend the 52nd annual World Affairs Institute for Student Leaders. This year's event, organized by the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh, focused on creating a more welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

HESBURGH LECTURE

The Notre Dame Club of Pittsburgh partnered again with OC and hosted its Hesburgh Lecture in the JOA Theater on Wednesday, October 5. Associate Professor and Executive Director of the Keough School of Global Affairs, **Maura Policelli**, presented with her ND colleague **Laura Parker McAleer**, Associate VP for Federal and Washington Relations on the topic of Bridging the Divide.

This lecture was attended by Notre Dame alumni, OC faculty/staff, and Oakland Catholic and Central Catholic students.













ROBOTIC DISCOVERY DAY

Mr. Graner and Ms. Dean organized a field trip to the David Lawrence Convention Center for the Robotic Discovery Day and had a lot of fun with the 11 students who attended. There were 40 booths set up showing advanced robotics and how they are used in the industry NOW! Students had an opportunity to be exposed to everything from the latest speed walking shoes, to robotic welders as well as an opportunity to utilize self-driving cars, drones, high imaging cameras, 3d printers, humanoid robots, dog robots, and automatic Amazon pickers just to name a few. On the other half of the convention center there were more educational things to explore like Lego robots, girls of steel, and battle bots.



BUILDING CAPACITOR PIANOS

Students in **Mr. Graner's** class built Capacitor Pianos where the goal was to create four touch sensitive keys out of tin foil that would play different frequencies when pressed. The keys were created from tin foil and mounted on a cardboard backing with glue. Wires were then connected to the keys and plugged into a circuit breadboard. The girls used resistors and wires to connect that circuit to an Arduino (tiny computer) which was pre-programed to measure the capacitance of each "key". Since the human body is electrically charged when a key was pressed it changed the capacitance of the key and the Arduino picked up that change in electrical capacitance. Then depending on which key was pressed it sent the signal to play a certain tone or frequency through the speaker! If one uses their fingers it worked great, but if one pushed it with a pen or anything else that would not be conductive and the screen was unresponsive. It was a fun and interesting class!



BUILDING LEGO ROBOTS

Students in **Mr. Graner's** class finished building and programming Lego Robots for the "Obstacle and Avoidance" lab. The robots used a sensor to detect obstacles in their driving path, and students write code to stop, back up, and change directions to avoid obstacles in the way.





Igniting curiosity. Inspiring success.

YOUNG WOMEN IN BIO EVENT

In December, students had the opportunity to learn from a company who makes great TikToks for a living at the Young Women In Bio (YWIB) Pittsburgh with Built Different Creative. They had a chance to understand what makes a great TikTok, why they are important, and how to create a professional TikTok for personal use.

RMU HEALTHCARE MENTORING PROGRAM

The RMU Healthcare Mentoring Program gives students a chance to learn about a different aspect of the healthcare profession each month. The program is held virtually and focuses on topics including health administration, nursing, advanced medical imaging, psychology, health science, and population health. Fifteen Students attended the virtual mentoring session in November and had the opportunity to learn more about healthcare career options.



BIOLOGY CLASSES

Mr. Weiss' students investigated the formation and disruption of hydrophobic interactions in lipids to begin to understand the chemical basis of cell membrane formation. **Ms. Grob's** Biology classes completed a macromolecule escape room!

HISTORY CLASS

Mr. Paul Richard, uncle of Junior **Rayegn Hintemeyer**, spoke about his experience at the Pentagon on September 11 to **Mr. O'Neil's** American History classes.

CCW

The mission of the Collaborative Community Wednesdays is to come together, students and teachers, in different learning environments, offering students opportunities to succeed and time necessary to develop their full potential.

In the first CCW of this school year, held in September, faculty and staff were invited to showcase their special interests. **Mr. Matis** shared some of his favorite card games and students had a great time away from technology using this 'old school' means of entertainment. Another session featured **Ms. Johnston** as the women's rugby coach at Saint Vincent College who was able to share her knowledge and taught the basic rules of the game to OC students.

October's CCW focused on Mental Health Awareness month. One session included an opportunity to take a yoga session with a certified yoga instructor, **Jenna Smith, OCHS'23**, who led a Vinyasa class focusing on relaxation and core. Students also had an opportunity to make stress balls with **Mrs. Anselmo** using balloons filled with flour, rice, and water beads.

The November 16 CCW was themed Heritage Month. Mrs. Valescant-Shaffer and Mrs. DePasquale took a group of students to see and learn about the Nationality Rooms at the University of Pittsburgh. The Rooms represent the cultures of different nationalities and ethnic groups that settled in Western Pennsylvania and the field trip offered students an opportunity to explore the beauty of the rooms during a CCW session.

In December students were offered opportunities to participate in holiday themed activities. **Ms. Johnston's** CCW created Christmas cards for employees and patients at UPMC Mercy who were not able to be home for the holidays. **Kendall Stack OCHS'24**, **Kate Bauer OCHS'24**, **Grace Pawalek OCHS'24** and **Diamond Fuller OCHS'24** delivered more than 120 Christmas cards to UPMC Mercy on December 21 to spread Christmas cheer.

Mrs. DePasquale offered a Christmas craft session where students made beautiful snowflakes while listening to Christmas carols. Ms. Dopico, Religion teacher, invited Katie Mirt, the Youth and Family Coordinator for the Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh, to speak to the students about how the non-profit hosts tutoring after-school and how they could volunteer with BCAP and support students, especially English language learners.











ROCK THE STREET, WALL STREET

OC is excited to partner this year with Rock the Street, Wall Street, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping female students learn more about financial literacy and investing directly from diverse women in the finance industry themselves. Rock The Street, Wall Street's programming is designed to bring both gender and racial equity to the financial markets and works as a positive force for students across the country.

This program was implemented in **Mr. Scholle's** Financial Literacy course in partnership with female mentors through BNY Mellon. These volunteers joined Mr. Scholle's Financial Literacy class November 10, 2022 for their first in-person Rock the Street, Wall Street lesson! They spent time learning about budgeting, then did presentations on writing a budget for a woman in her mid-twenties. Sixteen students then attended a field trip to BNY Mellon with Mr. Scholle.







AP & CE SPANISH FIELD TRIP

On December 12, OC's AP and CE Spanish classes, led by Mrs. Gretchen Anselmo, visited the newly-opened Latin American Cultural Center, a global organization headquartered in Pittsburgh with the mission to "celebrate Latin America through compelling programs dedicated to fostering a heightened understanding and appreciation for Latin American arts, history, and culture". The students explored paintings and artifacts of the Center's temporary Maya Spirituality exhibit, guided by Billie DeWalt, a Senior Advisor to the Center and grandparent to current OC freshman Olive Cooney OCHS'26. By engaging with the artwork, OC students gained knowledge of history, traditions, and cultural practices of the native Maya in Guatemala and how art reflects the public identity of a community.



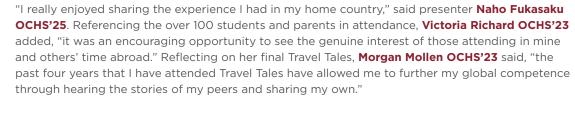


TRAVEL TALES

With travel restrictions in the rearview mirror, the OC Global Competence Initiative's annual *An Evening of Travel Tales* took place on December 1. In front of a standing-room audience, eight students and seven faculty members presented on their summer journeys to Ecuador, Italy, Japan and beyond. Stories ranged from vacations with family to experiences attending international summer programs.



Explaining the purpose of the evening, presenter **Maia Ramirez OCHS'25** said, "there is so much culture and so many viewpoints that become evident with travel, and our journeys boundlessly broaden our understanding of the world."





WELCOME ITALIAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS!

In November, Oakland Catholic and five OC families (all with students who take Italian) hosted five high school girls and one teacher from Istituto Leone in Milan, Italy. As part of this mini-exchange, these five students followed their host sisters' schedules all day throughout their stay. The week kicked off with a welcome breakfast at OC and other times were filled with activities and exploration of Pittsburgh and around the Oakland area.



"It's a great cultural experience, it's been so nice to have a bonus sister."

- TAYLOR PAULEY OCHS'24 HOST OF LUCIA

"I had a lot of fun, I liked showing them around Pittsburgh. I'm excited to see places that Ms. P has taught us about in Italian class when we go to Milan in the spring."

- JULIA SENG OCHS'24, HOST OF A 10-DAY STUDENT



PINATAS

Mrs. Anselmo's Spanish classes made pinatas in the OC Innovation Lab! Students used cones that represented the seven deadly sins and candy that represented the salvation of Jesus' love to make their pinatas!



CANDY MODELS

Ms. Doyle's Psychology students made candy models of the neuron and synapses as they studied the nervous system and how it affects human behavior.



INNOVATION LAB

Margaret Friday OCHS'26 and Lily Tinker OCHS'23 work on building a robot in the John McGonigle Innovation Lab.

LATIN CLUB

In October, the OC Latin club hosted a tour of the Greco-Roman underworld. Visitors fed Cerberus, the three-headed guard dog, showcased their talents to the judges of the underworld, had their fortunes told via a game of MASH with the fates, played games such as rolling Sisyphus' rock uphill, met the queen of the underworld and checked out the Elysian Fields (the Roman version of heaven).







CE CHEMISTRY-BACK AT PITT!

Mrs. Sforza's CE chemistry students walked to Pitt on November 21 for their first in-person lab since March 2020! These 24 students had a lot of fun and successfully identified six unknown solutions by studying their reactions with each other. CE Chemistry students completed their second Pitt lab on December 12 where they learned how to prep standardized solutions and performed a titration to determine the balanced reaction at play.



ANTIGONE

Ms. lacobuzio's Honors World Literature students put Antigone, from the play by Sophocles, on trial for treason against the city of Thebes.

SENIOR SUNRISE

Seniors arrived early to school on October 21 to enjoy coffee, donuts and conversation as a class before school started and as the sun was rising! This is just one of many senior events being planned for the Class of 2023 to enjoy together!



MEDALLION BALL

The 59th Medallion Ball was held by St. Lucy's Auxiliary on Friday, November 25 at the Wyndham Grand Hotel-Pittsburgh. Over 900 guests were present to celebrate with the 99 Medallion honorees, who volunteered a total of 17,000 hours of service to charitable organizations. They were each presented at the formal event, and received their St. Lucy's Medallion from **Bishop David Zubik** of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh in honor of their service. This year's Ball chair was **Bonnie Bagay**. She was joined by St. Lucy's Auxiliary President **Michelle Lantz Echnat** in the receiving line during the general reception.

Congratulations to the 24 Oakland Catholic High School Medallion Ball participants who received the St. Lucy Medallion. The mission of St. Lucy's Auxiliary to the Blind is to encourage and inspire a lifetime commitment of volunteer service in young women. Each year the Auxiliary honors qualified candidates, who have completed a minimum of 150 hours of volunteer service, with the Joan of Arc Medallion while raising funds for the visually impaired.



The Medallion Ball Bishop's Tea, chaired by **Anna Marie Rheingrover**, was held on Sunday, October 2 at The Pittsburgh Field Club. **Bishop David Zubik** greeted the candidates and their mothers in a receiving line before addressing the candidates at the formal Tea and thanking them for their volunteer service.



ELIANA AKAR



JILLIAN GALLO



BRIELLA LUCADAMO



AVA MAGLIN



MEREDITH MCCALMONT



ELIZABETH MILES



OLIVIA PRETTO



ELLA-JO REINHART



QUINNLIN STANEK



ELISABETTA TOLOMEO



ISABELLA CARABIN



CHARLOTTE DEVLIN



GABRIELLA FOLINO



HANNAH FRIDAY



GRACE KACZMAREK



MEREDITH KISSANE



MADELINN KUBISKA



MIA LOWRY



MARIGRACE MURPHY



MARY NAGY



REGINA PALLADINO



GABRIELLE POILLUCCI



GRACE ULRICH



HANNAH WERNER



ISABELLA WHITE



THE ARTS AT (1)



CHAMBER SINGERS SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER

The Oakland Catholic Chamber
Singers were the first school group
to perform for Little Sisters of the
Poor since the start of the pandemic.
They sang a selection of a cappella
carols, as well as songs from their
recent Christmas Concert. Senior
Elena Mazariegos OCHS'23 also
performed a stunning rendition
of "O Holy Night."

The senior citizens dressed in their festive best and had a blast singing along. It was a delightful sharing of holiday cheer enjoyed by all!



PAINTING CLASS TOUR

Artist Ron Donoughe, Pittsburgh plein air painter best known for his "90 Neighborhoods" series, gave Mrs. Koroly's painting classes a tour of his spacious studio and taught the girls a lesson about color mixing and painting a landscape.



INSTRUMENTAL & CHORAL CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

The OC Chamber Singers performed beautifully at the December 13 Christmas Concert with the Central Catholic Choirs. The student-run a cappella group *FreeVerse* also performed. Congratulations to all performers, **Ms. Morgano**, and **Dr. Mackey**! It was a musical delight.

The Instrumental Christmas
Concert took place on Thursday,
December 15 at Central Catholic's
McGonigle Theatre. Holiday musical
selections were performed by the
members of the Oakland Catholic
and Central Catholic band and other
musical performing groups.



BAND MEMBERS SENIOR NIGHT

Congratulations!

The Central Catholic Band recognized senior band and color guard members on Friday, October 28 at halftime of the football game. Seniors **Katie Helwick** OCHS'23, Erin Gurtner OCHS'23, Marigrace Murphy OCHS'23, Maggie Rooney, OCHS'23, and Isabella White OCHS'23 were recognized with their families on the field.



AP ART STUDENTS VISIT CMU

Mrs. Koroly accompanied AP Art students on a wonderful visit to CMU's Art School where they had a presentation on Applying to Art School and a private tour of the art department studios and facilities.

OC Students enjoyed the experience, asked great questions, were very engaged and learned so much!



THANKSGIVING CEREAL PARTY

Mrs. Koroly hosted her annual Thanksgiving Cereal Party in Honors Pottery.

Students spent time together eating cereal from their hand-made pottery bowls while celebrating friendship!







"MUSIC, MAYHEM, AND MYSTERY"

The Central Catholic - Oakland Catholic Masque was excited to present "Music, Mayhem, and Mystery" on October 22-23 at Central Catholic High School! The show was a chilling musical revue for all ages, featuring music from The Nightmare Before Christmas, Sweeney Todd, The Addams Family, The Phantom of the Opera, and Little Shop of Horrors, along with scenes from William Shakespeare's Macbeth and Karl Garner's comedic one act, A Murdered Mystery.

Congratulations to Oakland Catholic - Central Catholic Masque's cast and crew on their fantastic performances of "Music, Mayhem, and Mystery"! Audiences were frightfully delighted to hear an array of songs for all ages.



Congratulations to the cast and crew of the OC Theatre Group who performed Empowered: How One Girl Scout Nearly Destroyed the World's Economy! in the JOA Theatre November 3-5. Audiences loved the performances!







MASQUE CAST AND CREW

CAST

MADDI ADDAMS ANTHONY ARSHOUN LUCA ASSANDRI CHLOE BAKER **COLIN BRADY CASSIDY BYRNE** KEZBAN DUZENLI-CETIN LUKA DEPASQUALE MATTHEW EVANS **SOPHIA GLOSSER** HEATHER HELWICK LOUISA JEN **GIANNA KENNELLY** MARIA KOLTAS CHRISTOPHER KUSK

MARY KATE MALNIGHT **ROBERT MALNIGHT** THEODOR MERTZ **RAMON MILAND** MIA MAURIZIO KAITLYN NACE AIDAN NICHOLAS DANIEL PATTON MARCO PETRUCCI ALEXANDRA PRICE KENNELLY PUGSLEY CALLI RAJASENAN MAIA RAMIREZ XAVIER RAMIREZ **ELLA-JO REINHART WILLIAM SCOTT**

AMARI SMITH CHRISTINE URSINY MARGARET ACE VALENTINE FRANCESCA VEONI ANDREW WALLANDER **KAYLEE WISER**

CREW

TRINITY ABATE AAMIRA ADBUL-WAALEE ETHAN BELL **VIVIAN BUI** HANNAH CONTI JP DANIELE MADELINE EDMONSTON **ALANNAH ENFIELD**

JOHN FLAHERTY QUENTIN HAYES FRANCESCA HOH DJ JOHNSON FINN KINIRY HENRY LEAVITT CHRISTINA LEE **CHRISTIAN LEWAND CALEB LEWIS** SOPHIA LOPRESTI CAROLINE MCELROY MARLEY MCFARLAND **ARII METZ CECILIA MILLER** NIKO MIYAKI KIERSTEN OLESINSKI

GINA PALLADINO DANICA PEIRCE FRANCESCO PORCO JONATHAN RIVETT **MILAN SEMINATORE BAYLIE SHROPSHIRE** LINDSEY SMATHERS **ADA TONGUZ** KAITLYN WHITE MILES WIENAND KENDRA WILMER MARY ZAGROCKI

O ACCOMPLISHMENTS



LAUNCH: A WOMEN'S STEM PROGRAM

Boa Seo OCHS'24 completed a women's STEM program entitled LAUNCH. Boa pitched her idea for entrepreneurship in front of mentors from different companies (Google, Sheetz), GCI and parents.

She received a certificate of achievement and a \$250 reward.

Congratulations, Boa!



2023 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Seniors Margot Haller OCHS'23 and Briella Lucadamo OCHS'23 were named Commended Students in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2023 competition by taking the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit.



ST. FRANCIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE COURSES

Constance Tompkins OCHS'24 kept busy in June, taking two courses at St. Francis University.

She completed the Psychology and Neuroscience Academy on June 24 and Pre-Med Academy on July 1.

Constance recaps, "The main skills that we learned in both programs were communication skills and critical thinking skills. These skills will support me in college and beyond."



PITTSBURGH MUSICAL THEATER'S YOUNG ARTIST PRODUCTION

Ella-Jo Reinhart OCHS'23

performed the role of Ursula in The Little Mermaid, November 3-6 at the Byham Theatre!

This show is part of the Pittsburgh Musical Theater's young artist production in collaboration with the CAPA orchestra. Congratulations, Ella-Jo!



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Adelaide Kreutel OCHS'25 and Madeline Sclichter OCHS'23

volunteered at the Catholic Charities Pickleball Tournament on Saturday, October 1.

Abigail Santora OCHS'24 served as a volunteer during the afternoon session.



WEST VIRGINIA
STARTALK EXPERIENCE

Congratulations to **Lillianna Peterson OCHS'24**! Lily was chosen to participate in the West Virginia STARTALK experience.

She will receive college credits for the *Teleportation from West Virginia, the Mountain State, to the Chinese Red Dragon: A STEAM Comparison* course.





COCA-COLA SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

Charlotte Devlin OCHS'23 and DaLvnn Moore OCHS'23 have been named Semifinalists for the 2023 class of the Coca-Cola Scholars Program, moving to the next round of the selection process to become a Coca-Cola Scholar and receive a \$20,000 college scholarship. The Coca-Cola Scholars Program is the largest corporate-sponsored, achievement-based scholarship program in the United States. These students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success. Congratulations, Charlotte and DaLynn!



STUDENT COMPLETES COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL PROGRAM

Caroline Diegelman OCHS'24, recently completed Columbia Business School's program entitled "The Business of Sports", which focuses on methods to value sports franchises, the impact of changing fan demographics, and building/financing new stadiums.



STUDENT PERFORMS THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Michaela William OCHS'24 was chosen to sing the National Anthem for the 6A Championship football game at Norwin High School on Saturday, November 19.

Vincent Sortino, Chief Operating
Officer of the Western PA
Interscholastic Athletic League
extended a special thank you to
Oakland Catholic for taking the time
to recommend an OC student to sing
the National Anthem at the WPIAL
Football Championships.



SCHOOL OF VISUAL ART PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAM

Maya Wanamaker OCHS'23

spent a month this past summer in New York City at the School of Visual Art's Pre-College program.

She successfully completed this fast-paced program earning a 4.0 GPA and three credits in Comic & Cartooning in this program.



TRIB OUTSTANDING
YOUNG CITIZENS AWARD

Morgan McCray OCHS'25 was one of 20 teenagers who learned how to create podcasts in the RADcast program (Regional Asset District), through the Youth Media Center in Pittsburgh. This program not only showcases stories from the teens, but is a way to prepare them for the multimedia work world we live in today.

When asked about the power of storytelling, Morgan said, "It's just amazing the way that these stories can impact somebody."



NATIONAL GIRLS
COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

Maddy Ng OCHS'24 was a panelist on the National Girls Collaborative Project's panel at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center this past fall. She shared her experiences in STEM programs and also encouraged girls in the audience to pursue STEM programs.

O ACCOMPLISHMENTS



STUDENT JOINS ASPINWALL COUNCIL

Aspinwall Council recently added three young members as a way to get teens more involved in local government, one of which was senior

Madeline Edmondston OCHS'23

who was sworn in as Aspinwall junior council members by Mayor Joseph Noro on November 2. "I think it's fantastic that three students are engaged to make Aspinwall better and to learn the inter-workings of what makes our community special," Noro said after the meeting.

Aspinwall Council began its Junior Council Program four years ago as a way to get teens more involved in local government. Maddie says, "I never really appreciated my small town until about three years ago where I really felt a connection with everyone around me and recognized how much of a community Aspinwall really is." Madeline is involved with community group Aspinwall Neighbors and assisted in its mural project.



SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Alonie Ashley OCHS'24 accepted a summer internship at FINCA in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). FINCA helps small business owners and entrepreneurs obtain loans and other financial services. FINCA is also associated with 40 other nations spread over five continents.

During her internship, Alonie worked in the Marketing Division and gained knowledge of the strategies employed in both remote rural communities and developing urban areas. Alonie had the opportunity to observe the working conditions and arduous labor of many African employees throughout her summer at FINCA.

She said, "it was a terrific lesson overall to observe the industrious people's daily routines since it offers you a glimpse of other worlds outside your own. I'm grateful beyond measure that I had this chance."



2022 CHENGDU—U.S. SISTER CITIES YOUTH DEBATE CHALLENGE

Briella Lucadamo OCHS'23 and Mia Flaherty OCHS'24 won the bronze medal in the 2022 Chengdu—U.S. Sister Cities Youth Debate Challenge that invites eight teams from China and six teams from across the United States to compete in an annual event intended to unite the two nations in a virtual tournament that brings together some of the best debaters from both

Representing the east coast, the Oakland Catholic team of Lucadamo and Flaherty debated for two days to claim 3rd place, marking the school's highest achievement since joining the competition three years ago.



YOUNGARTS MERIT WINNER

Congratulations to **Madeline Sclichter, OCHS'23** who was named a 2023 YoungArts Merit Winner in the category of Voice/Singer-Songwriter. YoungArts receives roughly 7,000 applicants yearly for competition in ten artistic disciplines.

YoungArts is more than an award, it's a chance to grow as an artist. Madeline joined a remarkable community of artists with whom she will continue to learn from, collaborate with, and explore a life in the arts. Congratulations, Madeline!



YOUNG WOMEN IN BIO (YWIB) AMBASSADOR

Congratulations to **Annelies Palombi OCHS'24** on her selection as a Young Women in Bio (YWIB)

Ambassador!

Annelies is one of 23 young women who will champion and support YWIB initiatives in their local chapters.



INAUGURATION CEREMONY

On January 17th, Maia Ramirez OCHS'25 and other members of the Pittsburgh Youth Chorus, were selected to perform at the Pennsylvania State Governor's Inauguration Ceremony in Harrisburg, PA!

Congratulations, Maia!



JUNIOR MENDELSSOHN CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Maia Ramirez OCHS'25 is a member of the Junior Mendelssohn Choir and performed beautifully with the choir on November 20 at the Third Presbyterian Church in Shadyside. A competitive choir, it is an honor to be selected as a member and a wonderful way to develop and display your voice and performance skills.

Congratulations on being part of this choir that speaks to your talent and commitment to singing, music, and performance.



1,000[™] CAREER POINT

On Saturday, January 7, OC Senior **Alexa Washington OCHS'23** scored her 1,000th career point! Alexa had a great steal and drove to the hoop for an easy layup to hit this milestone.

Congratulations, Alexa!



COLLEGE BOARD NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Congratulations to several students who have been selected as a College Board National Recognition Program awardees! Students earned this recognition for their academic achievements in school and outstanding performance on selected College Board Exams. The following students have been awarded recognition: Seniors:

Charlotte Devlin OCHS'23, Isabel
Doshi OCHS'23, Elena Mazariegos
OCHS'23 and Paris Reynolds OCHS'23
and Juniors: Elena Esquivel OCHS'24
and Michaela William OCHS'24.



GIFTMAKING IN THE INNOVATION LAB

Twas the season to make cool things in the John McGonigle Innovation Lab. Londyn Craighead OCHS'26 took advantage of the opportunity to make gifts for her family.



BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

September's Back to School Picnic took place on September 9. After a few classes and Mass in the Donahue Pavilion, students, faculty and staff enjoyed a picnic lunch in the open dining hall and courtyard, followed by outside competitions, including a dunk tank!

HALLOWEEN

Students, faculty and staff were able to highlight their costumes in the annual Halloween competition held in the Donahue Pavilion during the Halloween Parade. Special thanks to Student Council for organizing this fun event.

FRIENDSGIVING AT OC

On Thursday, November 17 Friendsgiving was held at OC. Thanks to the culinary skills of our AVI Food Service staff, students, faculty, and staff, enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving meal with OC friends, reflecting on what they are grateful for during one of the special annual traditions here at Oakland Catholic—Friendsgiving!

BSU CHRISTMAS DRIVE-A SUCCESS!

Thanks to the tremendous coordination efforts of the Black Student Union, Oakland Catholic held yet another successful Christmas Gift Drive to benefit children from families across the region who were in danger of not having presents under their trees on December 25.

OC's BSU provided gifts to over 30 students at St. Benedict the Moor and St. Bede schools. Students, faculty and staff selected a gift tag from the giving tree and also contributed monetary donations to ensure each student received the five to six wonderful gifts on their wish list. St. Benedict and St. Bede schools were grateful for the generosity of the OC community.

CHRISTMAS AT OC

Student Council planned holiday fun for all with various dress down days including a red/green and Santa hat dress down day and a Christmas sweater day. The spirit of Christmas was alive at OC despite the sighting of a Grinch!





















"Thank you for such a lovely morning. I have enjoyed each year I have attended. I am so impressed by OC and the student body. It was a joy to meet some of my granddaughter's teachers."

GRANDPARENTS

When you bring generational families together there is a feeling of support and love in the air! And that is exactly how you could describe the traditional celebration of OC Grandparents' Day 2022.

The November 1 event began with granddaughters joining their grandparents in the *Rhodora J. Donahue Chapel in Honor of St. Joan of Arc* while **Maddy Ng OCHS'24**, serenaded the group with beautiful background piano music. After meeting, they walked the short distance together to St. Paul Cathedral. The Mass was con-celebrated by **Fr. Dan Walsh** who was assisted by **Deacon Bill Hahn**. The Mass was a beautiful tribute to both All Saints Day and Grandparents, and one where our talented student musicians and readers graced us with their gifts throughout the liturgy.

Following Mass, families were excited to tour the school, interact with teachers, enjoy some refreshments, all while spending time with their granddaughter. OC enjoyed hosting nearing 250 family and OC community members to share in this special day!

Thank you to our OC Grandparents who were able to attend OC Grandparents' Day 2022. We hope you enjoyed your time with your granddaughters on OC's campus. Review and order pictures at SimplySistersPhotography.com, Client-Login, Oakland Catholic High School, using 'OCGrandparentsDay2022' to login.

"Thank you for planning the most wonderful Grandparents Day!

Having the opportunity to attend Mass and spend time with our granddaughter, visit her classrooms and learn about her day was just awesome. We were even able to meet some of her friends.

Everything was perfect and your efforts in planning this special day are very much appreciated!"









(CAMPUS MINISTRY

CLASS RETREATS

Each year in the fall, the classes at OC have the opportunity to come together as a community and enjoy a day of recollection and retreat with their respective class members. Mass, Reconciliation, praise and worship as well as small group discussions, speakers and leisure time to spend with one another are just some of the experiences each unique class of young women enjoyed during their retreat.

THE PITTSBURGH MISSION

The fall 2022 Pittsburgh Mission was a success when 43 OC students spent November 19 and 20 serving locally at various work projects throughout the weekend. Students worked hard together with our mission partners at The Red Door, Propel Food Pantry, The Nest, Second Harvest, Brother Andre's Cafe, and Urban Mission.

VIRGINIA BURKLEY
KATIE CARNES
EMILY COOKE
LONDON CRAIGHEAD
SHEA COUGHLIN
MAREN CROWLEY
KENNEDY DALTON
KEZBAN DUZENLI-CETIN
GIGI EASLY
LUCIANA EASLY
ANABELL EVANCHO

ANTONELLA FOLINO
JOSEPHINE FONTANA
AVA FRANK
MAGGIE FRIDAY
IZZIE GALLO
EMMA GOMPERS
ANNAGRACE HALL
GRACE HALL
ALEXIS HAMMERLING
SEPTEMBER HASTON
BRYNN HUFFMYER

MARY HUTCHINSON
ELENA KRUMMERT
KATE LELAND
CAROLINE LETTIERI
CORINNA MARTELLA
CAMERON MAY
SOPHIA MLECKO
RORY O'CONNELL
JAYLA OLSON
HADLEY O'SHANE
REAGAN O'TOOLE





GABRIELA PALMIERI
TAYLOR PAULEY
THERESA MAS PECINA
ELLA-JO REINHART
MARINA RIPLEY
CHLOE SHOVLIN
ISABELLA SIEGEL
ELIANA SMITH
CAROLINE TERRY
REBECCA URIBE
ANGELINA WILSON



BIRTHRIGHT BABY DRIVE

In October OC students, faculty and staff collected items to donate to Oakland Catholic's neighbors at Birthright who is celebrating 50 years of helping moms in need before and after they have their babies. Over 100 babies were served by the Oakland Catholic community through the Birthright Baby Drive! Many were part of the solution to aid mothers who are desperately in need of supplies to support their babies.



THANKSGIVING MASS AND FOOD DRIVE

A Mass of Thanksgiving was held in the Donahue Pavilion on November 22 in conjunction with the annual food drive. The OC community donated over 400 items and \$300 dollars in gift cards in partnership with St. Paul Cathedral and the food pantry. OC's Class of 2026 totaled the highest number of donations! Thank you to all for your generosity.



GIVEN CONFERENCE

Dorrie Donahue, Director of Mission Integration, attended the Given conference in Philadelphia this past summer. Given is a forum for young adult Catholic women ages 21-30 whose objective is to train young women in leadership, faith formation, and mentoring to better understand and pursue their particular mission and vocation. Dorrie spoke about "Healing through Prayer and Spiritual Direction" and also headed the certified spiritual directors, guiding them in how to support young women.



FIAT

Senior FIAT leaders joined Campus Minister **Sara Castellano** for Mass and a day of bonding activities, prayer and reflection on what it means to give their "FIAT" and walk the path of mentorship in August. They also learned practicalities of how to mentor, topics to be covered in fiat sessions, and how to lead discussions with the freshmen preparing the FIAT leaders for the Class of 2026! In December FIAT groups gathered and shared information about the importance of self-care and practiced it with a Christmas celebration on December 16.

ELIANA AKAR
SAMANTHA BAINBRIDGE
CHEROKEE BILLINGS
KEZBAN DUZENLI-CETIN
JILLIAN GALLO
MARGOT HALLER
KATHERINE HELWICK
HALENA HILL

COLLEEN KILPATRICK
TIAN LEGRANDE
MEREDITH MCCALMONT
MARLEY MCFARLAND
KATELYN MCGUIGAN
KORINA MIKHONIN
MARIGRACE MURPHY
MARISSA NOE

REGINA PALLADINO
OLIVIA PRETTO
LAUREN RAJASENAN
VICTORIA RICHARD
MADELINE SCLICHTER
BRIDGET SHAVER
AIBREANN SHOVLIN
CHLOE SHOVLIN

ARIES SIMONETTA
VICTORIA STOESSEL
ELISABETTA TOLOMEO
MIA WESTFIELD
ISABELLA WHITE
AIDAN WYNN
MARY ZAGROCKI





CRUCIFIX INSTALLED IN THE CHAPEL

A beautiful crucifix was installed above the altar in the *Rhodora J. Donahue Chapel in Honor of St. Joan of Arc* this past October with the generous support of an anonymous donor. It is a wonderful addition to a prayerful place on the OC campus for which we are most grateful.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AT OC

Students serve and interact with the women in the Red Door day shelter on Monday's after school. The students volunteer at the Red Door in downtown Pittsburgh at the women's homeless shelter by organizing donations, preparing dinner, and running fun activities for the women. On Wednesday's OC students provide after-school tutoring at St. Bede Elementary School. OC students provide tutoring on Thursday's after school to students at St. Benedict the Moor.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible study takes place every other Tuesday when students gather before classes begin to reflect on a scripture passage and share their faith over coffee and a snack.

© COLLEGE & SCHOOL COUNSELING

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

December 15, Mrs. Warden and Mrs. Kemmer hosted a Christmas celebration for the Class of 2023 in the College Counseling Center. In the midst of receiving their Early Decision and Early Action college admission decisions and while finalizing their Regular Decision applications, seniors enjoyed a few minutes to treat themselves to hot cocoa and snacks while playing Christmas bingo and making Christmas cards for friends and family.

ASK ME ANYTHING

Families of ninth and tenth grade students were invited to join our college and school counselors for an "Ask Me Anything" Q&A session on Monday, December 12 on the topic of college admissions. It was a successful event for all participants.

I'M ACCEPTED

Seniors are invited to ring the acceptance bell as they learn of college acceptances. **Giavanna "Gia" Lachina OCHS'23** rang the acceptance bell at the College Counseling Center on October 28 to celebrate her acceptance into the University of Pittsburgh Johnstown location. Other members of the Class of 2023 continue to ring the bell as they learn their good news!

HBCU FAIR

On October 12, six seniors attended the HBCU Fair with support from the Black Student Union and the College Counseling Center. Seniors were able to share unofficial transcripts with over 20 HBCU schools and received several offers of admission on the spot. Attending schools included Tennessee State University, Fisk University, Hampton University, and Clark Atlanta University.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES HOSTED AT OC

Oakland Catholic hosted close to 100 college visits during the fall semester. Representatives visited in person in the OC College Counseling Center with groups of students, or virtually if travel was prohibitive, via the drop-down screens in the College Counseling Center. The visits permit Admissions Officers from a wide variety of colleges and universities to speak directly with interested students, and OC students have the opportunity to connect with individuals from the college of their choice that may be someone who actually reviews the student's application.

#WIN AT SOCIAL

Oakland Catholic began a partnership with The Social Institute last January with the guidance of School Counseling. Since then, our students have participated in a different #WinAtSocial lessons each month surrounding The Social Institute's seven social standards: Play to Your Core, Protect Your Privacy Like You're Famous, Strike a Balance, Cyberback, Find Your Influencers, Use Your Mic for Good, and Handle the Pressure. Our students are learning to work together through discussions, debates, and interactive questions to spark conversations about social media, building and keeping friendships, and being a positive role model!













CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to OC Seniors Meghan Pohl OCHS'23, Elena Mazariegos OCHS'23, Adela Holland OCHS'23, Mary Nagy OCHS'23, Olivia Jana OCHS'23, and Bridget Shaver OCHS'23 who were recognized September 27 at the Schenley Oval for their senior night celebration.

CREW

Cherokee Billings OCHS'23, Channing Brook OCHS'24 and Margaret Kepler OCHS'23 competed in the Head of the Ohio on October 2 for Three Rivers Youth Rowing team.

One of the largest regattas in the country, the Head of the Ohio (HOTO) attracts rowers of all ages and abilities including Juniors, Masters, Adaptive, and Collegiate rowers. Rowers race a 3.2 course along the Ohio River. Congratulations to Channing, Cherokee, Lauren and Margaret.



The Volleyball team celebrated OC Faculty on October 7. It was a great night for the OC community to recognize our faculty during their game. Junior, **Michaela William OCHS'24**, led the National Anthem.

BASKETBALL CLINICS

Middle school girls in grades 5–8 were invited to join OC Head Coach **Eddie Benton** and the OC Basketball Team on December 18 to tune up their basketball skills for their Christmas Tournament, and they were invited to cheer on the OC Eagles as they took on Mt. Lebanon on December 22 in the Donahue Pavilion.

CHEERLEADING

The Oakland Catholic competitive cheerleading squad excelled at the UCA Regionals competition against teams from all over PA. The team placed 12th in the largest division and earned a bid to the UCA High School Nationals competition. This is the first time in OC cheer history a team has earned a bid to this selective competition. Many of the girls on the team have worked for this bid their entire high school careers.

The Oakland Catholic cheerleading squad shared their expertise with the kindergarten-fifth grade cheerleaders from Sacred Heart Elementary School this past fall. Our Eagles worked hard to teach these young athletes' teamwork, good sportsmanship and proper cheerleading technique.

There was a plethora of fun to be had by all! Because of the athletes' service to a local school, they were awarded service hours for their efforts.

VOLLEYBALL PINK OUT

A fantastic night took place at the Volleyball Pink Out at OC. **Madison Belko**, a representative from Hillman Cancer Center was on hand for Breast Cancer Awareness. Gift baskets were coordinated by the volleyball team.













STUDENT ATHLETE KICKOFF PICNIC

A Student Athlete Kick-off Picnic was held for the first time this fall in preparation for the upcoming season!

SOCCER

Congratulations to Gabi Folino OCHS'23—Senior Forward, Mia Lowry OCHS'23—Senior Midfielder, and Nica Folino OCHS'25—Sophomore Goal Keeper on earning their recognition as all-section. In addition, Mia Lowry OCHS'23 also made the 2022 All-WPIAL Girls Soccer team.

TENNIS

Congratulations to Adelaide Kreutel OCHS'25, Abigail Santora OCHS'24, Madeline Sclichter OCHS'23, and Naho Fukasaku OCHS'25 who competed in the WPIAL Sectional Tournament this past September.

Addie Kreutel OCHS'25 played in the Sectional Tennis tournament at Fox Chapel this fall. She had a great match, showed amazing sportsmanship throughout the tournament, and placed second in the tournament.

GOLF

Congratulations to Gina Palladino OCHS'23 and Paige Meyers OCHS'24 who advanced at the WPIAL Section Qualifier for Individuals this past September. They were two of only nine players who qualified at Diamond Run Golf Course. Way to represent Oakland Catholic!











OAKLAND CATHOLIC INVITATIONAL

Oakland Catholic welcomed over 400 middle school runners to the Oakland Catholic Invitational on September 10 at Schenley Park. Runners hailed from north to south and east to west. Congratulations to the top runners in all categories!







READY NUTRITION

Oakland Catholic is now a "Ready" school! Come Ready Nutrition, founded by Pitt basketball alum Pat Cavanaugh in 2012, will supply OC student athletes with protein infused sports drinks and all natural "Ready" bars. Come Ready Nutrition is not about where you start, it's where you finish!





NCAA LETTER-OF-INTENT SIGNING

On November 9, Oakland Catholic congratulated four Fall Scholar Athletes who signed for NCAA Division I and II programs on NCAA Letter-of-Intent signing day—Gabi Folino OCHS'23 (Northern Kentucky University for soccer); Maddy Cigna OCHS'23 (Stony Brook University for volleyball); Alexa Washington OCHS'23 (University of North Florida for basketball); and Bridget Shaver OCHS'23 (Lafayette College for cross country).

Congratulations Gabi, Maddy, Alexa and Bridget!



Congratulations to **Riley Samuel OCHS'24** (First Team) and **Maddy Cigna OCHS'23** (Second Team) for making the WPIAL 3A All-Star Teams in Volleyball!
Special congratulations to **Riley Samuel OCHS'24** on her selection to the WPIAL all-state Class 3A team by the Pennsylvania Volleyball Coaches Association (PVCA).

Oakland Catholic had four players selected for the 2022 WPIAL Field Hockey All-Stars and Honorable Mention: **Fiona Elste OCHS'23**—2A All-Star & All-WPIAL, **Eve Majewski OCHS'24**—2A All-Star, **Caroline Miller OCHS'25**—2A All-Star, **Gabby Poillucci OCHS'23**—2A All-Star.



Maddy Cigna OCHS'23, Oakland Catholic (5-7, Sr., L) was selected for the WPIAL Class 3A - 2nd Team on November 15. **Elena Esquivel OCHS'24** was named WPIAL Class AAA Volleyball Player-of-the-Week in September. Congratulations Maddy and Elena!

NCAA NIGHT AT OC

On November 15 the Athletics Department and the College Counseling Center hosted for the first time an NCAA Night for OC student athletes and their families to gain insight into preparation for continuing your athletic career at the collegiate level. Special thanks to **Dr. Hall, Jennifer Warden** and **Kammy Kemmer**.

WPIAL SPORTSMANSHIP SUMMIT

Four OC Student Athletes attended the WPIAL Sportsmanship Summit in November at the Heinz History Center: Mia Lowry OCHS'23 (Soccer), Maddie Sclichter OCHS'23 (Tennis), Bridget Shaver OCHS'23 (Cross Country), and Aibreann Shovlin OCHS'23 (Volleyball).









© FACULTY NEWS

DR. KAREN HALL DAY

City of Pittsburgh **Mayor Ed Gainey** presented **Dr. Karen Hall** a Proclamation Celebrating a Life Full of Service and for Establishing a Legacy of Excellence. The Mayor's Proclamation was declared on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 as Dr. Karen Hall Day in the City of Pittsburgh.

MR. GRANER'S PHYSICS CLASS

Mr. Graner's Physics Class was featured as the cover story in the most recent OC Review, thanks to their "Shark Tank" presentation to fund their weather balloon project. The framed copy hangs outside Mr. Graner's classroom as a tribute to the class' work and this teacher's dedication to learning and his students.

GCI EDUCATOR SUMMIT

OC teacher **Mr. Williams** was accepted to the Global Citizens' Initiative Educator Summit 2022, held in Scotland this past July. As Director of Oakland Catholic's Global Competence Initiative certificate program, he was excited to grow in his knowledge and leadership through travel and professional development.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE EDUCATION

Congratulations to OC Science Teacher, Mr. Jamie Weiss for being awarded a scholarship to attend the NCSE (National Conference on Science Education). Mr. Weiss is excited to attend the NCSE in Atlanta this spring and said "I consider myself blessed for the opportunity to "level up" my teaching practice to best support the young scholars at Oakland Catholic, especially their studies of science. I see this as an extension of OC's mission: to enable our students to study God's creation, to understand it, and to empower our scholars to live lives of service, especially those who choose to pursue academic scientific research or careers in the field of the health sciences."

CROATIAN PRIME MINISTER TOUR

OC's Mrs. DePasquale was honored to give a tour to the Croatian Prime Minister through St. Nicholas Croatian Church in Millvale this past fall. She says, "It was a tremendous honor and privilege to give a tour of St. Nicholas Croatian church to Prime Minister of Croatia, Andrej Plenkovic. His excellency, Mr. Plenkovic, was very gracious and personable and very impressed with the work of Croatian Fraternal Union and Croatian community in Pittsburgh."

OC PIRATE GAME

OC staff and family members enjoyed a night out for a Pirate game at PNC Park on July 28th. Fun was had by all.















EQT PITTSBURGH 10 MILER WINNER

Congratulations to OC Math Teacher, **Mrs. Elaina Tabb** on completing the EQT Pittsburgh 10 Miler on November 6. Mrs. Tabb finished the race in 55:49 earning her the first-place spot as the Women's Champion. "The race was so much fun," Tabb said. "The weather was a lot warmer than last year, and I felt the humidity. I'm a teacher at Oakland Catholic, and I noticed one of my students who was also running right before the race. It was awesome."



SPEECH & DEBATE HONORS

Congratulations to **Ms. Jennifer Schmidt** who stepped up in her first year at OC to moderate the Speech & Debate Team, as well as **Ms. Jane Jeffries** who continually steps up to support and lead the English Department, OC Theater Club, and OC students. The National Speech & Debate Association awarded Oakland Catholic with the 2021-2022 Leading Chapter Award, a very prestigious award in the speech and debate world. The framed letters announcing the award now hangs outside each teacher's classroom as a visible sign of the success of OC Students in Speech & Debate. *Additional thanks*



to **Mr. Ryan Roccia** of the English Department who stepped up in the team's time of need this school year to serve as the Speech & Debate coach! Mr. Roccia has demonstrated a genuine commitment to OC and his students this year, and we are grateful to him for his dedication.



STAFF UPDATES

Dr. Anthony Merante is serving as an Interim Administrator for Oakland Catholic during the recent maternity leaves of Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Kumar, and will remain at OC for a while longer after their return to ensure smooth operations. Dr. Merante worked closely with

Principal Powell and Assistant Principal Kumar prior to their departures and consults regularly with President Kasunic during his time on campus. We are excited to bring someone of his expertise and experience to campus.

NEW STAFF



SARA CASTELLANO



SAMANTHA CONLEY



KAREN DOPICO



EGNIT



FR. MATTHEW HAWKINS



CECILIA



GINA JOHNSTON



JARED



GINA MORGANO



LAURA ROBINSON



RYAN ROCCIA



ELENA RUSSIN



ROBERT SCHOLLE



SARA SPALICK



ALEXI



FACULTY EVENTS

On Friday, August 19, OC faculty and staff gathered for a Welcome Back Happy Hour in the dining hall and in the campus courtyard. Then in August, new faculty gathered for lunch and orientation at OC. Faculty and staff were invited to pick up a thanksgiving apple or pumpkin pie on November 22 courtesy of PTG!

BABY NEWS AT OC!



Congratulations to **Anna Beckler** and her husband on the speedy and healthy delivery of their new baby girl **Eliza Rae Beckler**! Eliza was born on August 3, weighing 6lbs, 11oz!



Sarah Butterfield Kumar and her husband, **Troy**, welcomed their first child, **Allison Marie**, on October 12. She weighed in at 7lbs, 15oz.



Congratulations to **Nikki**, **Robert**, and **Gia Powell** on the arrival of Gia's new baby brother! **Renato Eduardo Antonio** (Ré for short) arrived
November 11 at 5:19pm
weighing 8lbs, 7oz.



Bob O'Mara and his wife Stephanie welcomed lucky number seven, Charles (Charlie) Benedict O'Mara, on December 31st!



Congratulations to **Jeff and Erin Patrizio** on the birth of their fifth child, **Stephen David Patrizio**.

Born January 5 at 8lbs, 6oz.



(1) ADMISSIONS

EAGLE FOR A DAY

On October 14, prospective students got an insider's perspective on this unique educational experience at OC by talking to students, attending different teacher presentations, and meeting other 8th grade girls from across the region.

Thank you to our student ambassadors who led our future eagles around campus for the day!



Over 250 people toured Oakland Catholic's impressive facilities and spoke with faculty and administrators at Open House! Enthusiastic Student Ambassadors shared their experiences while conducting the tours with families!







BECAUSE ACADEMICS MATTER

COME TO OAKLAND CATHOLIC ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 9AM-2PM AND HAVE A BLAST! OPEN TO ALL GIRLS ENTERING GRADES 6-8.



TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

DATES: JUNE 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 & 29

COST: \$75 PER SESSION PICK 3: \$200 | ALL 6: \$400

For more information or to register, visit oaklandcatholic.org/admissions.

HIGH SCHOOL IS HERE!

Start Your Journey Now.



Only Here.







6-8TH GRADE ADMISSION EVENTS

Acceptance Week

Monday, March 13 – Friday, March 17, 2023

Accepted Student Social

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

Explore OC — For Grades 5-7

Thursday, April 20, 2023

"I feel so blessed and so grateful to be able to have sent both of my girls to such a top-notch school and to be part of a wonderful, supportive, and faith-filled community that truly lives its mission in developing global leaders."

-Ann Moats, OC Parent

We are here to help! Contact us at admissions@oaklandcatholic.org or visit oaklandcatholic.org/admissions

ONLY HERE, WILL YOU FIND:

GCI: The Global Competence Initiative certificate program is unique to OC and underscores the global focus of our mission.

Speech & Debate Team: Our competitive club has achieved National Charter Status recognition for their success!

Joan of Arc Society of Scholars: An

invitation-only honors program for students who push their education to the highest levels every year.

Mission Forward: This 1:1 laptop program allows us to work on one platform, as one community, unified in a common learning experience.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE unique components OF AN OAKLAND CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE.

1989 YEAR OCHS WAS **FOUNDED**

450

100% ARE COLLEGE

Athletics, Clubs & Activities

ATHLETICS & ATHLETIC CLUBS

Basketball

Cheerleading

Crew

Cross Country

Fencing

Field Hockey

Golf

Lacrosse

Soccer

Softball

Step Team

Swimming

Tennis

Track & Field

Ultimate

Volleyball

CLUBS & **ACTIVITIES**

Black Student Union

Campus Ministry

Asian Cultures Club

Color Guard

Data Jam

English Festival

Environmental Club

Female Empowerment

Union

Film Club

Forte (Literary Magazine)

French Club

FTC (First Tech Challenge)

Global Competence

Initiative (GCI)

OC Garden Club

Guatemala Club

Italian Club

Latin Club

St. Benedict the

Moor Club

Masque/Stage Crew

Model United Nations

National Honor Society

Newspaper (OC Eagle Eye)

OC Theatre Group

PA Jr. Academy of Science

Pittsburgh Mission

Prom Committee

Radio OC

Science Fiction and

Fantasy Club

Speech/Debate

Stand Together

Student Ambassadors

Student Council

Yearbook

TUITION ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

50% of the students attending Oakland Catholic receive tuition assistance. Visit our website to review opportunities.

Find your voice. Let it be heard. ONLY HERE AT OAKLAND CATHOLIC

ADVANCEMENT

The annual appeal, the Oakland Catholic Fund, is a vital component of support for Oakland Catholic High OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL School. A gift to the Oakland Catholic Fund supports

many aspects of the school, including enhancement of our curriculum and increases the tuition assistance made available to our students. All alumnae, parents, and friends of Oakland Catholic are invited to make a gift to the Oakland Catholic Fund. Show your support by making a gift online, and/or sign up for a recurring gift TODAY! GiveToOC.com. Together we can make an impact!

MONTHLY RECURRING GIFTS

Monthly recurring gifts to Oakland Catholic High School have been positively transforming the lives of students since 1989. Our alumnae often attribute their success to the foundation they received at Oakland Catholic High School. In order to provide our current students with opportunities to learn and grow in the values of Spirituality, Scholarship and Service, we ask that you join our call to action by making a recurring monthly gift to the Oakland Catholic Fund. Your recurring gift will ensure that Oakland Catholic High School remains an educational cornerstone in the lives of our students for many years to come. Gifts to the Oakland Catholic Fund support overall growth, enhanced curriculum, increased tuition assistance and much more. A gift in any amount is greatly appreciated, as your participation alone signifies your support of the mission of Oakland Catholic High School! Sign up today online at GiveToOC.com-support OC-and your gift will be automatically received every month to support OC.

YOUR OFUND







RAINY DAY DRESS DOWN DAYS

When the OC Community "pays" to dress down on a Rainy Day Dress Down Day, they are really donating to the Rainy Day Fund. This fund is used to assist current OC families who encounter an emergency situation that affects their financial stability. Dress down dollars supplement the school's ability to support your classmates whose families are managing sudden changes or tragedy, so that they can remain at Oakland Catholic. OC gets a comfortable dress down day while paying it forward to help a fellow OC student. \$3 Dress Down Days for 2023 are January 6, February 10, March 3, April 7, and May 5.

MATCHING GIFTS

As an educational, non-profit organization, Oakland Catholic High School is eligible to receive matching gifts from companies that match their employees' charitable donations. You can potentially double your gift to Oakland Catholic by participating in a matching gift program. Visit oaklandcatholic.org/donation-page/other-ways-to-give/ to search for the Matching Gifts List to see if your company and you can double your impact! Thank you to the following Matching Gift companies who have supported OC with a gift.

ABBOTT LABORATORIES

AT&T

BLACKBAUD GIVING FUND

CHEVRON HUMANKIND

DOMINION FOUNDATION

DUQUESNE LIGHT

EQT FOUNDATION

GOLDMAN SACHS

MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM

GOOGLE

HIGHMARK MATCHING FUNDS

JOHNSON & JOHNSON

LINCOLN FINANCIAL ADVISORS

NEW YORK LIFE

NISOURCE POLITICAL **ACTION COMMITTEE**

PEPSICO FOUNDATION

PFIZER FOUNDATION

PNC FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP, INC.

PPG INDUSTRIES, INC.

REFINITIV

STATE FARM

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON

THE COMMONWEALTH FUND

THE PITTSBURGH FOUNDATION

UBS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.



VISIT OCGIVEDAY.ORG TO LEARN MORE!

We're excited for our ninth annual OC Give Day! So excited that we set the bar high with a goal of \$125,000. Over 850 donors helped us meet our goal last year raising over \$134,000. This year, we're counting on YOU!

Donate on March 9 at OCGIVEDAY.org with a one-time or recurring gift. Afraid you'll miss your chance to participate because of your schedule? **Pledge your gift in advance!** In 2022, the many \$1,000 gifts we received in advance put us over the top. Help us meet our ambitious goal with a signature gift of this nature!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 9 to share in the excitement!







EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDIT (EITC) AND OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP TAX CREDIT (OSTC)

Did you know that your state taxes could help support Oakland Catholic High School? EITC and OSTC are Pennsylvania state programs that give business owners and corporations the opportunity to allocate a portion of their state taxes to a non-profit organization. As a 501(c)3 organization, Oakland Catholic qualifies for these programs and is grateful to the businesses for their support.

To learn more about how you and your business can participate in these important programs, please contact **Diane Totten**, Director of Constituent Relations at 412.682.6633 x1263 or e-mail dtotten@oaklandcatholic.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT SUPPORTERS!

ANONYMOUS (2)

MICHAEL AND LISA ANSELMO

THOMAS H. AYOOB, III & ASSOCIATES, LLC

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

KAREN AND JOE DIVITO (PAPE LLC)

GARY AND MEGAN DOYLE

EXTREME RESTORATION

FATHEAD'S SALOON 1805 EAST CARSON ST. CORPORATION

FEDERATED ADVISORY SERVICES

FIRST NATIONAL BANK (EITC AND OSTC)

DIANE AND JOHN FISHER

GLIMCHER BROKERAGE

LINDA AND DANIEL HALLER

KELLY REALTORS, INC

PETER AND ALICE LEONE

MAHER DUESSEL CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

DOUG AND CAROL MACPHAIL

TOM AND KELLY MCDONNELL

JIM AND COLLEEN MEYERS

NEXTIER BANK

HANK AND TINA RICHARD

TIM AND KRISTIE STEITZ

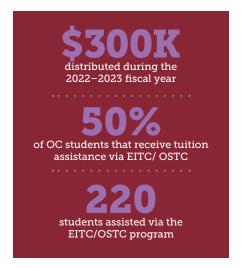
FRANCESCO AND NATALIE TIRONE

WASTE MANAGEMENT (VIA BRIDGE FOUNDATION)

BLAIR AND RUBIA WILLIAM

Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC)

are PA state programs that provide qualified individuals and business owners with the opportunity to allocate their state taxes to a non-profit organization.



412-682-6633 ext. 1263



dtotten@oaklandcatholic.org







SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BRIDGE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Bridge Educational Foundation invited school officials, local legislators and business officials who donated EITC and OSTC scholarships to families in Allegheny County to come together for a photo opportunity on October 13 at Imani Christian Academy. Thank you to the Bridge Educational Foundation and its donors, for their generous donation in scholarships to Pittsburgh families this school year!

OOPS! - OC REVIEW SUMMER 2022

In the Board of Directors listing, **Jennifer Smith Pannill's** title and company were incorrectly listed in the OC Review Summer 2022 issue. The listing should have read Jennifer Smith Pannill, Head of Talent Acquisition & Employer Branding, Covestro LLC.



Every year, hundreds of students are given the gift of an Oakland Catholic education thanks to the generosity of people like you.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Each year, Oakland Catholic identifies students with significant financial need and builds financial aid packages to the best of the school's ability. Unfortunately, need is frequently greater than the resources available.

By identifying a sponsor who supports a young woman across all four years of her OC education, we close the gap and provide her the chance to thrive and succeed in this unique educational environment. Sponsors connect with their students via updates from both the school and the student. In a very personal way, sponsors impact our world, one student at a time.



HOW DO I BECOME A SPONSOR?

Scan the code for more details about the program, or contact Karen Marner, Vice President of Advancement, at 412.682.6877 or kmarner@oaklandcatholic.org.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Sponsorship is a 4-year commitment. Upon your student's graduation, you will have the opportunity to recommit to this program by sponsoring a new student.

\$15,000 • \$10,000 \$5,000 • \$3,000

Sponsorship contributions can be made with a one-time payment in full or an annual recurring gift for the pledge level selected. All contributions are taxdeductible as charitable contributions.





PLANNED GIVING: REMEMBERING OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN YOUR WILL

While you are planning for the future needs of your family and reviewing your assets, keep in mind the needs of Oakland Catholic so that FUTURE generations of OC students can be impacted by your thoughtfulness and generosity. Consider joining the OC Legacy Society. Membership includes loyal visionaries and generous benefactors of Oakland Catholic High School who plan to include OC in their will or estate plan.

These benefactors make their giving a perpetual legacy for themselves and an example for alumnae, friends, and families to follow. It also creates a means of support that makes Oakland Catholic stronger and better prepared to thrive for generations to come. Gifts may be designated through Wills, Retirement Accounts, Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Trusts, and/or Life Insurance Policies.

If you already have Oakland Catholic High School in your estate plans, or if you have any questions, please scan the code or contact **Karen Marner SHHS'76**, Vice President of Advancement at 412.682.6877 or kmarner@oaklandcatholic.org. You can also visit our website and give the ultimate gift today at **www.oaklandcatholic.org/support-oc/make-a-gift/planned** for more information or to include OC in your planned giving.





SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 · 6-10 PM ACRISURE STADIUM IN THE UPMC EAST CLUB LOUNGE



SAVE THE DATE

Plan to join Honorary Chairs Derek and Rebecca OCHS'00 Mousseau and the OC Community on Monday, May 8, 2023 at the Pittsburgh Field Club. For more information, contact Karen Ferrari at 412.682.6633 x1233 or kferrari@oaklandcatholic.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 SPONSORS!

The 19th Annual OC Eagle Classic Golf Tournament was held on May 9, 2022 at the Pittsburgh Field Club. Honorary Chairs, Derek and Rebecca Mousseau welcomed golfers to this year's event and hosted over 80 golfers all who were present to support the students of Oakland Catholic.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

GOLFER GIFT SPONSOR

A Friend of Oakland Catholic

LUNCH SPONSOR

John C.R. Kelly Realty, Inc.

BIRDIE SPONSORS

A Friend of Oakland Catholic Coghill Investment Strategies J. Christopher & Ann Donahue

19th HOLE COCKTAIL SPONSOR

Falcon Drilling Company, LLC

George V. Hamilton, Inc.

Joseph & Judy Doyle

FOURSOMES Avison Young-Pittsburgh

McDonnell Family Derek and Becca Mousseau OCHS'00 Move a Mountain Missions PNC Bank John & Michael Shovlin The Law Office of Matthew Mlecko

TWOSOME

Fagan Sanitary Supply

Tudi Mechanical Systems

Willman & Silvaggio, LLP

GOLF BALL SPONSOR

Joseph & Judy Doyle

GOLF CART SPONSOR

Peter & Alice Leone

SKILL PRIZE SPONSORS

Paul & Penny McKenna

BEVERAGE HOLE & **CART SPONSORS**

Joseph & Judy Doyle **Estocin Property Services**

HOLE IN ONE SPONSOR

Henne Jewelers for Life

SCORECARD SPONSORS

Central Catholic High School Thomas H. Ayoob III & Associates, LLC

INDIVIDUAL GOLFERS

Thomas H. Ayoob III & Associates, LLC Jim Fanning. Northwestern Mutual Bill Garrison

DRIVING GREEN SPONSORS

Joseph & Judy Doyle Michael & Linn Swanson

PIN FLAG SPONSORS

A Friend of Oakland Catholic Avison Young - Pittsburgh Beltz Performance Coghill Investment Strategies David Vento Remodeling, Inc. J. Christopher & Ann C. Donahue **Estocin Property Services** Falcon Drilling Company, LLC Jim Fanning, Northwestern Mutual Flooring Contractors of Pittsburgh John C.R. Kelly Realty, Inc. Joseph & Judy Doyle Kevin Fink & Karen Preston Mullaney's Harp and Fiddle OC PTG Paul & Penny McKenna Pittsburgh Irish Festival R. Curtis Waligura, D.O. Steelers Pro Shop

Willman & Silvaggio, LLP

TEE SIGNS

A Friend of Oakland Catholic Central Catholic High School Coghill Investment Strategies Falcon Drilling Company, LLC Feeney Agency Flooring Contractors of Pittsburgh Gloria Brashear Koehlinger, OCHS'03 Henne Jewelers for Life J. Christopher & Ann C. Donahue John C.R. Kelly Realty, Inc.

Joseph & Judy Doyle Lamanna Landscape & Fertilizing Company Metro Fence Company Michael & Linn Swanson R. Curtis Waligura, D.O. Paul & Penny McKenna Peter & Alice Leone The Quinn Family The Tedesco Family The Thomasmeyer Family The Zotter Family Thomas H. Ayoob III & Associates, LLC

DONATIONS

Sister Patrice Hughes Dr. & Mrs. John McCarthy Paul Svirbel, Jr. R. Curtis Waligura, D.O.







CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 WINNING TEAMS!

1st Place: Pat Brady, Joe Gartner, Peter Kohelis, and Derek Mousseau.

2nd Place: Peter Leone, David Regan, Brad Totten, and Gerry Totten.

3rd Place: Russell Brown, George Kerestly, Harry Kiutcher, and Joseph Silvaggio.

SIMPLY SISTERS PHOTOGRAPHY

Throughout the year, Simply Sisters Photography is there to capture moments at our Oakland Catholic events. Photography used in this publication and throughout the year is courtesy of Simply Sisters Photography. Our exclusive photographers—Lynda Scahill and Stephanie Green document all major events at Oakland Catholic to capture all of the special moments throughout the school year.



Please support Simply Sisters as they photograph and document our school year and honor copyright laws by purchasing photos as keepsakes. Pictures can be purchased from their website. A 4x6 photograph is reasonably priced, and a portion of all sales comes back to OC.

To view the photos in each gallery, visit **www.simplysistersphotography.com**. Click on Client Login. Type the password into the empty box below Oakland Catholic High School. Click on Open My Gallery. Please call 412-657-7375 with any questions.

PASSWORDS

OCSoccer2022

OCGolf2022

OCVolleyball2022

OCFieldHockey2022

OCCrossCountry2022

OCPicnic2022

OCBand2022

OCFreshmen2022-2023

OCSophomores2022-2023

OCJuniors2022-2023

OCMasqueMusicMayhemMystery

OCHalloween2022

OCTennis2022

OCGrandparentsDay2022

OCTheaterEmpowered2022

NHS2022

OCCheerleading2022

OCGCIEveningofTravelTales2022

OCBasketball2022

OCChristmasConcert2022

OCSwimming2022-2023







"We love how our daughter, Gretchen, has flourished in her time at Oakland Catholic and look forward to where it takes her in the future."

-MICHALE WARUSZEWSKI, OC PARENT

IN MEMORIAM

The time it takes to heal from a great loss is different for each of us. God knows our hearts and always walks with us at the perfect pace of His comforting grace. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the families of the following alumnae:

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL

Rosemary H. D'Ascenzo SHHS'43 Mary Joan VonHoene SHHS'44 Jeanne W Brown SHHS'45 Joanne W. Foley SHHS'46 Marv H. O'Connor SHHS'46 Doris M. Sypud Liberatore SHHS'46 Lois Mueller Goodman SHHS'47 Moira J. O'Donnell Savage SHHS'48 Marian A. Butcher SHHS'50 Mary Ann Owens SHHS'52 Joanne M. Neff Zuri SHHS'53 Virginia Schott Cutler SHHS'54 Mary Murray Bruner SHHS'54 Pat Hoban Fusco SHHS'54 Sally A. Mulcahy Micire SHHS'54 Jane Helbling Mischler SHHS'54 Mary E. Connolly Rothermel SHHS'54 Mary Romaine Semonick SHHS'54 Joan C. Sinkenbring Larkin SHHS'56 Gail Britanik, SHHS'60 Barbara Muck Scharfenberg SHHS'60 Teresa Brown Mudry SHHS'63

ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL

Doris Wagner Springer CHS'44 Mary A. Messineo CHS'45 Rosemary Rooney Hazel CHS'47 Josephine Spinelli CHS'49 Sr. Margaret O'Neill, RSM, CHS'50 Gertrude Blotzer Nash CHS '50 Julia A. Butch Henning CHS'52 Mary Diulus Rapp CHS'52 Mary Frances Costello CHS'53 Patricia McCarthy Kelty CHS'53 Helen Mahoney Lansing CHS'53 Flora Fronzaglia Velarde CHS'53 Carolyn F. Delesio CHS'55 Rose Margaret Sciulli Lamanti CHS'58 Frances Mobrey Burke CHS'59 Diane M. Cook Conti CHS'63 Linda L. Jackman CHS'65 Kathleen M. Powell CHS'71 Dorothy Giampolo Williams CHS'72 Patricia Kimmell Bradley CHS'72 Laura M. Rosato CHS'76

Laurene Kolos CHS'76

OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY

Marjorie McMahon OLOMA
Andrea Mariani Freeborough OLOMA
Jacqueline C. Ellis OLOMA
Rhodora Jacob Donahue OLOMA'43
Audrey Turlick Fusco OLOMA'47
Dorothy Mellits Gloninger OLOMA'47
Suzanne M. Steitz OLOMA'52
Sr. Georgine Scarpino, RSM, OLOMA'55
Carole Finelli Ladik OLOMA'55
Joanne Andiorio OLOMA'55

OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Alice Barr Loughnev OLOMA'68

Loma Gaines OCHS'96

In Memoriam as of February 13, 2023



Joanne Kruszewski Bondarenka SHHS'71

The Oakland Catholic Fund keeps this all-girls Catholic educational opportunity accessible to young women of this region. Your gift in honor, or in memory, of an alumna provides an opportunity to a future alumna.



MRS. RHODORA J. DONAHUE

Mrs. Rhodora J. Donahue, a longtime philanthropist and staunch supporter of Oakland Catholic High School, passed away December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. She is the mother of Oakland Catholic's first president, Katherine D. Freyvogel and grandmother to the OC Director of Mission Integration, Dorrie Donahue. Many of her offspring number among our alumnae and current students.

Mrs. Donahue and her late husband Jack Donahue were instrumental in bringing Oakland Catholic to life. As noted in her obituary, she was a proud graduate of all-girls Catholic education and mother of 13 children—nine of whom were female. She always advocated for the importance of educating young women to be strong, faith-filled leaders in their families and communities.

Her commitment to this personal mission of uplifting young women and bringing attention to the tremendous value of Catholic education was not just an ideal she held, but a dedication she lived daily as evidenced in her generosity, the many notes of support and encouragement she sent to thousands over the years, and the daily prayers she conveyed to our Lord.

At 97, she lived a long, impactful, and beautiful life, surrounded by family, friends, and much love.







PIETRO RAIMONDI

The OC Community extended its deepest sympathy to the family of Pietro Raimondi, father of Paul Raimondi and Joanne Chesnos, grandfather of Maria Chesnos OCHS'14 and Sarah Chesnos OCHS'15, who passed away August 7, 2022 at the age of 93.

His great faith and generosity were demonstrated by his active membership of St. Joseph Church (Holy Family Parish) in Verona and his support of McGuire Memorial, Oakland Catholic, Central Catholic, and other worthy charities serving people in need. Pietro is the benefactor of the Oakland Catholic High School *Sarafina Spoltare Raimondi Scholarship*.

IN MEMORIAM FACULTY



SR. GEORGINE SCARPINO

Sr. Georgine Scarpino, former principal of St. Paul Cathedral High School, passed away at the age of 85 on September 27, 2022. She was a great educational leader and dedicated supporter of Oakland Catholic. She assisted Oakland Catholic as a consultant for Strategic Planning and other projects through the years.



ERIC HUBER

OC's former Chemistry teacher, Mr. Eric Huber, who taught at OC until last June, passed away on November 25, 2022 at the age of 71. He was a longtime educator and dedicated supporter of Oakland Catholic.

ALUMNAE **NEWS**



Oakland Catholic High School is eager to connect with our alumnae! Submit reunion information, career news, graduation updates and anything else you feel pertinent to **Diane Totten**, Director of Constituent Relations by sending an email to dtotten@oaklandcatholic.org or calling 412-682-6633 ext. 1263.

Patricia Howard CHS'67 has been busy since her high school graduation. She graduated from Ferris State University in 1973. Then taught at Columbus, OH City Schools for 32 years. Patricia has been an Adjunct Professor at Columbus State Community College and Indian River State College for 13 years at each college. She is currently subbing for St. Lucie County Schools, and holding a position at Palm Pointe Educational Research (K-8) for Florida Atlantic University, now in her third year.



St. Paul Cathedral '78 and '80 classmates and friends enjoyed celebrating a baby shower for Julia Anselmo Helwich OCHS'09 this summer. They joined Julia's mother-in-law Beverly Bruno Helwich CHS'78, mother of Natalie Helwich OCHS'05, for the festivities.

Those attending were **Donna Dicola CHS'78**, **Valerie Scatena Sullivan CHS'78**, and **Terri Decort Donnelly CHS'80**.



Trisha Marner Murphy SHHS'82 is a licensed Physical Therapist who currently works at the JCC in Squirrel Hill focusing primarily on aquatic therapy and treating patients with Parkinson's Disease. Trisha graduated from the University of Pittsburgh

in 1992, after also earning a Bachelor's Degree in Theology at Wheeling Jesuit University in 1986. Inspired by the charism of Healing Body, Mind and Spirit she began her career at St. Francis Hospital and went on to specialize in geriatric care working in several nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the Pittsburgh area. Enhancing her skill set over her 30-year career as a therapist Trisha also became a licensed Massage Therapist at the Pittsburgh School of Massage and a Certified Rolfer at the Rolf Institute in Boulder, Colorado. She is also a certified LSVT and PWR therapist/instructor guiding her patients and group classes for Parkinson patients with special treatment strategies to enhance their mobility, balance, hope and understanding of their condition.



The **Sacred Heart '89** state championship basketball team celebrated their 33-year-old victory in July. It was an evening of laughter and memories.



Robin Maher Maier SHHS'86 has served as the Director of Medical Student Education and the Clerkship Director for the Family Medicine Department at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine since 2010. She is a Family Medicine physician and is board certified in

Family Medicine by the American Board of Family Medicine. She works as a Family Physician at the UPP Family Medicine office in Squirrel Hill. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Physics-in-Medicine and English Literature from the University of Notre Dame, as well as a Master's Degree and is ABD in English and American Literature from the University of Illinois. Dr. Maier received her medical degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and completed her residency at the UPMC Shadyside Family Medicine Residency. Dr. Maier's clinical interests include full spectrum Family Medicine, including pediatrics, primary care psychiatry, gynecology, outpatient OB, dermatology, sports medicine and general medicine. She is a member of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine's Academy of Master Educators, the AAFP and the STFM. She is especially delighted when she gets a chance to teach Pitt Med students who are Oakland Catholic and Central Catholic alumni. She is a proud alumna of Sacred Heart High School, and lettered in the Central Catholic marching band.



Jennifer Smith Pannill OCHS'98 is the Head of Talent Acquisition and Employer Branding at Covestro LLC, one of the world's leading producers of polymers and high-performance plastics. In this role, she has oversight of the talent acquisition function and is responsible

for designing and implementing strategies to attract and hire qualified employees. Jennifer also serves as co-chair of Covestro's disability focused Employee Resource Group and aims to bring a voice to the challenges that people with disabilities and their caregivers face in the workplace. Her passion for educating employees on disability inclusion led to Covestro being ranked as a Top Place to Work for Disability Inclusion in the country. Jennifer is deeply involved in her community and has many professional affiliations. She is a member of the United Way Impact Cabinet as well as the Women's Leadership Council. Jennifer also serves on the Board of Directors for Oakland Catholic High School and Life's Work of Western Pennsylvania.

Prior to joining Covestro LLC, Jennifer worked in talent acquisition for DICK's Sporting Goods, Alcoa and U.S. Steel Corporation. Jennifer earned a Professional in Human Resources certification and is also a graduate of The Advanced Leadership Initiative and Carnegie Mellon University's Executive Leadership Academy. Jennifer holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Duquesne University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from Saint Vincent College.



Ayisha Morgan-Lee OCHS'01, Founder, CEO and Artistic Director, Hill Dance Academy Theatre (HDAT), was very busy in 2022. First, she was honored with the 40 UNDER 40 award. "I'd like to leave a legacy with the students that we've touched to be able to say they had the

opportunity to learn and study about themselves as Black girls and boys." Following this prestigious award, Ayisha was the recipient of the one of the YWCA's Equity Awards, which celebrate women whose work reflects the nonprofit's goal of addressing race and gender equity. Ayisha earned the *Creativity and Innovation Award* which honored her as a woman involved in the arts or social media initiatives that bring public attention to women's empowerment, especially women of color. *Photo courtesy of Pittsburgh Magazine.*



Ashley "AJ" Ross OCHS'01 joined CBS Sports and CBS Sports Network in 2018. She serves as a sideline reporter for THE NFL ON CBS, where she is teamed with Greg Gumbel and Adam Archuleta, as well as the Network's college football and college basketball

coverage. She also served as sideline reporter for the inaugural HBCU All-Star Game in 2022 and contributes to CBS Sports' WE NEED TO TALK. Prior to joining CBS Sports, she served as a news reporter with WABC in New York where she reported breaking news and human-interest stories across the Tri-State area and beyond. Ross first appeared on camera as an anchor and multi-media journalist for WMBF News in Myrtle Beach, S.C. She continued her television career at WSYX in Columbus, Ohio as both a news anchor and reporter before moving on to WTAE in her hometown of Pittsburgh, then to WKYC-TV in Cleveland, Ohio as a news reporter. Ross received a degree in broadcast journalism from Howard University where she graduated magna cum laude. Ross is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists and served as the director of Region IV from 2011 to 2013, and a member of Alpha Chapter Delta Sigma Theta. She currently resides in the New York area.



Fallon DeRiggi Schuck OCHS'01 was selected as a 2022 50 Finest Honoree for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Western PA. She raised over \$22,000. Fallon was recognized at the finale celebration in September.

Ever wonder why there are multiple updates for the '03 class? Thanks to Kate Oczypok Phillips who writes a quarterly update on her class and shares it with OC!



Krista Auchenbach OCHS'03 is currently serving as the Deputy Director for Decision Support to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense while detailed from her position as Division Chief for the U.S. Air Force Strategic Assessments Division, where she also served

on the transition team for Chief of Staff of the Air Force. Prior to joining the Air Staff in 2020, she worked in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy for twelve years, having joined the organization in 2008. Ms. Auchenbach served in several positions while in Policy, including as Senior Policy Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Affairs, and was one of the select strategists to support the development of the 2018 National Defense Strategy. She also held positions related to cyber and special operations, strategy, counterterrorism, and the Middle East and China; she also completed rotations with U.S. European Command, the Joint Staff, and U.S. Department of State. Ms. Auchenbach has a B.A. in International Affairs and a M.A. in Security Policy Studies from the George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs. She is also a 2020 Next Generation National Security Fellow at the Center for a New American Security and a Term Member with the Council on Foreign Relations.

Carolyn Donley Cole OCHS'03 opened an Etsy shop this year. She designs and sells bespoke wrapping paper. Check out Carolyn's shop, June Bird Paper Co.

Dezeree Hodish OCHS'03 is pleased to be selected to join the second class of the Medicaid Pathways Program. This executive training program, led by the Center for Health Care Strategies with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, bolsters the leadership capacity of senior Medicaid leaders across the country.



Meghan Vasilisin Hoover OCHS'03 and her family welcomed Cameron Paige on August 18. He weighed in at 6 lbs., 1 oz. and measured 19 inches long. Older siblings, Carson and Hayden, are thrilled.



Meg Zumbrun Krider OCHS'03 celebrated with her OC friends during a sprinkle for her daughter who was born in September.
Classmates Kate Swanson, Kate McMackin Reed, and Courtney Ceponis Murcko were there supporting Meg, almost 20 years later!

Julie Malingowski OCHS'03 wrote a paper, titled "Embedding Meteorologists and Hydrologists into Emergency Operations." This paper was published in the Homeland Security Affairs Journal.



Kate Oszypok Phillips OCHS'03 wrote a picture book using photos of her old dog, Moe, and finally decided to get it illustrated and published. Her publishing company is fellow classmate, Christina Hayes' company, J & I Publishing LLC. The book is available on Amazon.



Alison Smith OCHS'03 and her husband, Ed, welcomed a baby boy, Edward Anthony Ready IX at 9 p.m. on Sept. 9. Edward joins an older sister.

Caitlin Harding Chamberlain OCHS'05 was recently named Deputy Director of the Prisons and Justice Initiative (PJI) at Georgetown University. The PJI was founded in 2016 in response to the crisis of mass incarceration. PJI brings together leading scholars, practitioners, students, and those affected by the criminal justice system to tackle issues related to mass incarceration — one of the most crucial moral and political issues of our time. "My involvement in the PJI began at its very beginning when I served as the Graduate Research Assistant in the 2016-17 academic year while earning my master's degree from the McCourt School of Public Policy. Since then, I've remained centrally involved in the Making an Exoneree program for a number of years and served as Assistant Director of Program Management, playing a key role in restarting the MORCA-Georgetown Paralegal Program."

Brianne O'Rourke Kelly OCHS'05 was selected to the Pittsburgh Basketball Club Women's Hall of Fame. She was honored at the annual luncheon on November 5.



Jane Olszewski OCHS'05, has served as the Manager of Procurement and Planning at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank since the fall of 2020. After graduating with her B.A. from Tufts University in 2009 she spent the next decade working in the

food world. She has been an urban farmer, managed CSA's, sold sustainable seafood, and has worked as a food buyer for the past five years. At the Food Bank she leads her team in bringing in over 20 million pounds of food annually, almost half of which is fresh produce. Jane is passionate about getting high quality, healthy food to distribute to our neighbors in need.



Marie Marner Zeitler OCHS'05 and her husband, Brian, welcomed their son, Jackson James Zeitler into the world on January 4, 2023. He weighed in at 7lbs. 2oz. and was 19" long. Jackson joins his older brother, Brenton, who is three years old.



Maura McCool Cheatham OCHS'06 and Erin Cannon OCHS'10, were in Orlando together to kick off PwC's Start Program—the firm's diversity summer internship experience. While there as teammates, they discovered that not only were they both Pittsburgh natives but that they are

both Oakland Catholic alumna! "Two OC grads on the same National Planning Committee. This is what an all-girls education is all about! Thanks for teaching us everything we know, Mary Claire Kasunic," states Erin.

Updates with a burgundy border represent the alumna speakers at the 2023 OC Career Symposium.



Audrey Hickton Dégez OCHS'06 produced, co-directed, and acted in Slovo. Theatre Group, a unique artistic residency for Ukrainian artists from Kharkiv, which aims to fight back against oppression of Ukrainian culture by promoting the culture here in the United States. The group

presented their work "MotherMotherland" late last year on the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center, as well as in Pittsburgh for two performances at Point Park Playhouse's Highmark Theatre. Audrey's son was featured as well.



Sheila Grab OCHS'06 is currently working in clinical research as a regulatory specialist and a clinical trial manager. After teaching in Spain following completion of her undergraduate degree from Penn State, Sheila earned her PhD from the University of Pittsburgh in

Pharmaceutical Sciences. Her dissertation work focused on HIV prevention for women and the development of novel drug delivery systems. In her current role in the clinical research space, Sheila works with a wide range of biological, medical device, small molecule and combination products from early development through clinical implementation.



Carmela Breslin Weaver OCHS'06 and her husband, Josh, welcomed their first child on July 17, 2022. Their daughter, Breslyn, weighed in at 7lbs. 5 oz. and was 19.5". She and her husband are loving every minute of their baby girl.



Kate Lasky OCHS'07 owns and operates her restaurant APTEKA with her partner, Tomasz Skowronski. The pair opened their hyper DIY spot in 2016 as an exploration of Central and Eastern European food with an entirely scratchmade vegan menu. This year, the couple were

semi-finalists for James Beard Best Chef Mid-Atlantic and the restaurant was recognized by the New York Times as one of their 50 favorite restaurants as well as 25 favorite dishes of 2022. Kate graduated from University of Pittsburgh with a bachelors in history and a masters from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.



Felicity A. Williams, Esq. OCHS'07 is a racial and economic justice advocate, passionate about politics and community equity. In January 2022, she accepted the 61st Mayor of Pittsburgh's appointment to become his Deputy Chief of Staff. In her role, she oversees the Mayor's Office

teams on communications, workforce development and youth, neighborhood services, business diversity, immigrant and refugee affairs, financial empowerment; leads special initiatives focused on things like equity and tourism, assists the Chief of Staff on intergovernmental affairs and corporate/institutional relationships, and manages board and commission appointments. Prior to joining the administration, she led economic development programs, drove effective and strategic communications, and shaped regional equitable development policy for over four years at the Hill CDC. She also worked to increase Black voter engagement and turnout through a campaign for eight counties in Western, Pennsylvania, contributed to the development of a policy agenda for Black Pittsburgh, been published on issues

impacting the Black community, and engaged in both successful electoral and issue campaigns from criminal justice reform working with the ACLU of Pennsylvania to education reform. Felicity is admitted to both the Pennsylvania and Virginia bars.



Meghan Farley OCHS'08 was sworn in as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in September 2022. Meghan is a member of the Office's Violent Crime Unit, where she prosecutes

individuals in federal court in Philadelphia for violations of federal gun laws. Meghan's position as a Special Assistant United States Attorney stems from an effort between the Department of Justice and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, called Project Safe Neighborhoods, to address violent crime in Pennsylvania. Meghan previously worked in a boutique Philadelphia law firm and clerked at the trial court level in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for United States District Court Judge Harvey Bartle III. Meghan earned her J.D. from Villanova University School of Law in 2016, and her B.A. from Villanova University in 2012.



Caroline Fitzgerald OCHS'08 is the CEO and Founder of GOALS—the first and only marketing agency that is fully dedicated to women's sports. Before jumping into GOALS full-time in August of 2021, Caroline worked for over a decade as a marketing and sales

professional across a variety of industries. Most recently, Caroline was the Senior Vice President of Partnerships at P3R and the DICK'S Sporting Goods Pittsburgh Marathon. In her role at P3R, Caroline was responsible for selling and activating partnerships with brands that include DICK'S Sporting Goods, FedEx, Brooks Running, Dunkin', PNC Bank, Barefoot, Panera, Nuun Hydration, Bank of America, and more. Caroline graduated from the Schreyer Honors College at Penn State University with dual degrees in Marketing and Women/Gender Studies, and holds a M.S. in Global Sport from the Tisch Institute for Global Sport at NYU. She lives in Pittsburgh, PA.

Carolyn Just OCHS'08 started a new position as Chief Communications Officer for Metamorphic Media/War on the Rocks. She looks forward to elevating voices that are provoking high-quality thinking, discussions, and decisions on strategy.



Danyel Coyne Grandstaff OCHS'08 married Tyler Grandstaff on November 5. The ceremony and reception were held at the Hilton Garden Inn SouthPointe. Danyel works at Wesco International where she manages the employee intranet.



Brady Totten Marchione OCHS'08 and her husband, Brendan (CCHS'08) welcomed their daughter, Marigold "Goldie" Marie Marchione on October 31. Weighing in at 8 lbs and measuring 20.5", she is the sweetest Halloween arrival. Goldie joins her big sister, Greta, who

loves being her big sister.



Andi Thieman OCHS'08, Founder of "Pennyloafer" was featured in PITT magazine. The online service has curated a collection of vetted nonprofits. "My main motivation was to create a place where donors can conveniently and intentionally turn their values into

meaningful action."



Rachel Dzombak OCHS'08 and Julia Anselmo Helwich 'OCHS'09 had a playdate together with their sons, Knox Frederick Dzomlack (three months old) and Jack Raymond Helwich (one month old).



Larissa Russo OCHS'09 is the Founder and Owner of The Refillery was honored with the 40 UNDER 40 award. The Refillery, in Squirrel Hill, is a shop where you can bring, borrow, or buy a container to reuse and refill with personal items and home essentials, i.e. shampoo, conditioner,

hand soap, laundry soap, etc. "I wanted to create a space that enabled people to come together to make meaningful change." Pittsburgh Magazine and PUMP annually recognize people whose career accomplishments, volunteer work, and commitment to the Pittsburgh region make them some of our best, young neighbors. Their annual list is a reminder of what it takes to make our communities great. Photo courtesy of Pittsburgh Magazine.

Liz Rieker Smith OCHS'09, spent a week this past summer supporting the Space team at the Farnborough Airshow for Lockheed Martin. She was able to experience the space café and see her first F35-B hover in action.



Grace Callahan OCHS'10 made her NYC debut in the Opera Ensemble group, Encanta Collective. While in grad school at MSM, she was a chosen participant in the summer of 2015, without an audition, for the prestigious International Vocal Arts Institute (IVAI) under

the Artistic Director, Joan Dorneman, who is the Assistant Director of the Metropolitan Opera and the Music Director, Maestro Paul Nadler, the distinguished Operatic Conductor which includes the Metropolitan Opera. Her singing partner in the program at IVAI was none other than John Cudia, who has played some of the biggest roles on Broadway and the only actor to play both the Phantom and Jean Valjean on Broadway. Grace's vocal teacher at MSM said she could have a contract at any of the number of opera houses in Europe. Signing a contract at a European opera house translates into not coming home for at least a year and often years. It was a sacrifice she couldn't make. Her family was too important to her and not seeing them for long extensive periods of time was not acceptable. With perfect pitch, her teacher recommended her for Contemporary Opera which was a sure thing, but not Grace's thing. Arts Administration not only gave her the opportunity to think about where or what direction to go, but they also gave Grace a paycheck for NYC high rent.



Abby Totten Bush OCHS'11 and her husband/high school sweetheart, JJ (CCHS'11), welcomed Polly Elizabeth Bush into the world on May 23. She weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz and measured 21 inches of pure perfection.

Aislin DeFilippo OCHS'11 started a new position as Senior Decision Support Consultant at Allegheny Health Network.



Lexy Orriola Rothert OCHS'11 BSN, RN, CCRN, graduated from Duquesne University with her bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree in December of 2015. She was hired as a staff nurse at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh in the Cardiac Intensive Care

Unit (CICU) in February of 2016. In this role, Lexy was responsible for the critical care of children and adults suffering from congenital and acquired heart disease. In March of 2019, Lexy was promoted as a Clinical Nurse Leader in the newly opened cardiac acuity-adaptable unit at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. In this role Lexy is responsible for assessing and assigning the staffing needs of the unit, serving as a liaison between physicians and nurses, patient advocacy, organizational flow, and serving as an expert resource for clinical staff. Additionally, she has obtained certification as a Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN), is a member of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) and is a long-standing member of the hospital's Unit Based Practice Council with a passion for New Nurse Preceptor Development.



Sarah Butterfield Kumar OCHS'11 and her husband, Troy, welcomed their first child, Allison Marie, on October 12. She weighed in at 7 lbs 15 oz.

Cara Kennedy Stone OCHS'11, Senior Vice President, Sustainability at JLL, had the privilege of hosting a Decarbonization Roundtable with non-profit, public, and private sector representatives together to discuss the challenges to retrofit real estate to be future proof.

Charlotte Lampenfeld OCHS'12 started a new position as Higher Ed Consulting Associate at Huron.



Cat Cutenese OCHS'13 has been busy building her entertainment career in Orlando, FL. Most recently she had the honor of singing a solo with Encore Performing Arts in their concert, Come Alive!, which was performed at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in downtown

Orlando last August. Cat has more exciting performances lined up for the remainder of the year, including the infamous Candlelight Processional choir at Epcot in Walt Disney World. "My time at OC will always be memorable, and I'll always be thankful for the teachers that believed in me and my dream of coming to Orlando to be a performer. I think choral singing will always be the root of my love for performing, and the Chamber Singers at OC helped cultivate the love that was always there."



Cassidy Petrigac Jenkins OCHS'13 married Bryson Jenkins in October. He is a Lieutenant in the Medical Corps for the US Navy serving as a general surgery resident physician, and training at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, VA. They were married at St. Paul Cathedral and

hosted a reception at Pittsburgh's Grand Hall at The Priory Hotel.

Cassidy's bridesmaids were all Oakland Catholic alumnae so a photo was taken on the Joan of Arc building steps.

Included in the bridesmaid's photo are Emma Jacobs OCHS'15 - ICU RN, Pittsburgh, PA; Charlotte Hardin OCHS'13 - Marketing Manager at Privy, Boston, MA; Amanda Gloninger OCHS'13 - RN BSN at UPMC Children's, Pittsburgh, PA; Julia Wroblewski OCHS'13 - Pharma Account Manager at Thermo Fisher Scientific, Raleigh, NC; Cassidy Petrigac Jenkins OCHS'13 - Pediatric Resident Physician at ECU Health, Greenville, NC; Allison Walker Milo OCHS'13 - Senior Product Implementation & Customer Success Manager at LeanTaaS, Charlotte, NC; Audrey Griffith OCHS'13, - Learning Behavior Specialist for Chicago Public Schools and Wedding Planner at Paris Events, Chicago, IL; and Andie Seabrooke OCHS'13 - Manager of Rider Operations at Uber, Washington, DC.



Leah Smith OCHS'13 was awarded the Perseverance Award at USA Swimming's Golden Goggle Awards event in New York City in December. The annual awards show celebrated the accomplishments of the USA Swimming Team in the world meet which was held in

Budapest, Hungary. Leah earned a gold medal as part of the 800-meter freestyle relay team, which won in meet-record time. She also earned a national title in the 200-individual medley, along with a bronze medal in the 400 freestyle in the world championships.

Megan Wasson OCHS'13 started a new position as a Consultant in the Chicago Office at Boston Consulting Group (BCG).



Carolyn Cost OCHS'14 is a fashion publicist at Shadow, a marketing agency in Manhattan, NY. The love story of her courtship and ultimately, her nuptials, with Patrick Sheehan, a Central Catholic alumnus, was featured in The New York Times in December. Photo courtesy of Chris Glenn.

Stephanie Kambic OCHS'14 started a new role as a Transportation Planner at Michael Baker International this summer. She looks forward to working on new transit and transportation projects both in Pittsburgh and across the country.

Kelly Vigliotti OCHS'14 was selected as a 2022 50 Finest Honoree for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Western PA. Kelly was recognized at the finale celebration in September.



Lucy Alexander OCHS'15 is a Cyber Security Strategy and Incident Response specialist at SAP. At SAP she works in the Customer Experience software products to protect and defend many of the websites and customer support systems we use every day. She also

volunteers in the community with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Every Child Inc., and Cinderella Women's Committee. Lucy previously worked for Booz Allen Hamilton in Washington DC doing Cyber Security Consulting. She received her Bachelor of Science in Management from Boston College in 2019 and also holds a CISSP certification.



Margaret Price OCHS'15 received her Bachelor's in Biology from IUP and received her state and national certification as an Emergency Medical Technician. She worked as an EMT for McCandless Franklin Park Ambulance Authority while studying for her

Master of Science in Nursing at La Roche University. She met her future husband, a Central grad, while there. Margaret is employed at West Penn's Medical ICU as a staff nurse. Their wedding is set for May 20, 2023.

Courtney Coghill OCHS'16 is currently serving as an Analyst at Summit Consulting LLC, a specialized advisory firm headquartered in Washington, D.C., where she is fortunate enough to unite her passions and her skills. As a graduate of George Washington University with a major in Political Science and minor in journalism, she is fascinated by the juncture at which legislative policy and grassroots advocacy meet to build relationships in the political sphere.



Abbey LoBello OCHS'16 celebrated her graduation from the Accelerated Development Program at Trane Technologies in August. "I am excited for what is to come and staying focused on enjoying the journey!"



Liza Wilson OCHS'17 conducted research for the University of Buffalo and with the National Science Foundation in Greenland this summer. The goal was to gather information and better understand the rise of global sea levels. "What's fascinating to me about polar regions is how

extreme they are, and how different they are from whatever I see on a daily basis."



Cecilia Cecconi OCHS'18 graduated from Lafayette College in May of 2022 with a bachelor's of science degree in chemical engineering. Since then, she has been working at the Pittsburgh based company, Kennametal, in their engineering rotational program called

the EMERGE Program. Cecilia's first rotation in the program sent her to Fallon, NV where she is working at one of the only tungsten carbide crystal production facilities in the world and supporting their process improvement projects with Lean engineering principles. These crystals and metal powders support many different industries like oil and gas, aerospace, transportation and infrastructure, general engineering, earthworks, and additive manufacturing. "I have Mr. Huber to thank for supporting my dreams of becoming a chemical engineer and helping me get to where I am now."

Zoya Domashnev OCHS'18 began a new role as a Product Engineer – Technical Writer at ESRI. "Anyone who knows me knows, I retain a strong love for all things maps and GIS, so kicking off my career at this amazing company is a dream come true."

Rozie Fero OCHS'18 started a new position as Creative at Apple. She is excited to pursue her passions for education, learning, and technology.



Brianna McDonagh OCHS'18 graduated from Duquesne University in the spring of 2022 and was exceptionally busy during her senior year. She developed research articles about oral hygiene practices among college students and generated a podcast relating to dentistry. Brianna

continued researching dental procedures by completing an independent research project about pediatric oral practices in developing countries. The goal was to see how to improve pediatric oral health with resources available for children, predominantly the lower class. As Vice President of Sigma Tau Delta, she assisted the English Second Language (ESL) students by teaching them the language through activities while learning about their language/customs. Brianna led Duquesne Women's Rowing team as Captain and Volunteer Coordinator. At the A10 Championship Race, she was named First Team All-Conference. At the end of the spring semester, she was on the Dean's List and Athletics Honor Roll. *Photo courtesy of Duquesne University.*

Tara Ponitz OCHS'18 started a new position as Project Engineer at Massaro Construction Group.

Molly Scotti OCHS'18 recently received numerous awards at The Pittsburgh Moving Picture Festival: Thriller Picture Show for her short film, The Christening. In the Student Horror Film category, Molly's film was awarded Best Horror Film, Best Director, Best Editing, and Best Cinematography. Molly graduated from Wesleyan University in '22 with a double major in Film and Italian.

Giovanna Tatananni OCHS'18 recently accepted a position as the Development Associate for International Development at Carnegie Mellon University. She is proud to be a third-generation Tartan, following in the footsteps of her great-uncle and mother, both CMU alumni.



Brianne DeJames OCHS'19 is a senior at Duquesne University. She spent the summer as an intern for the Pittsburgh Pirates as a Customer Service Representative and that internship will continue again this spring.



Mona Guo OCHS'19 is excited to join a team where they believe heavily in sustainability, and teaching their interns key knowledge to succeed. Mona was a Fashion Stylist this fall with the UpScaleIT Designer Consignment

Alex Ravano OCHS'19 started a new position as Policy and Advocacy Intern at Immigrant Food.



Grace Shepard OCHS'19 and Sarah Pritchard OCHS'20 had an opportunity to socialize at the Big 10 Championship Game on December 3 between University of Michigan and Purdue. They are both participating in the Marching Band at their respective schools.

Ellie Tiskus OCHS'19 is having an exciting year at Penn State. She was elected alongside two teammates to serve as Captains of the Penn State Women's Swimming and Diving Team for the 2022-23 season. Ellie is also a Grader for ECON 304 Intermediate Macroeconomics.

Anela Brown OCHS'20 started a new position as Client Data and Fund Administration Intern 2022 at Federated Hermes in August.



Taylor Cigna OCHS'20, a junior at Colgate University, played in the NCAA Volleyball Tournament at Pitt in December.

Casey Coldren OCHS'20 started a new position as Pharmacy Technician as SSM Health.



Jane Fusco OCHS'20 just completed an internship at CNN, working as a news intern on The Lead with Jake Tapper. Jane is a sophomore studying Broadcast Journalism at American University in Washington, D.C.

Sofia Llovet-Nava OCHS'20, a junior and Cisneros Scholar at George Washington University, double majoring in International Affairs and International Business, spent her summer as a Digital Marketing Intern at Oxfam America. Sofia joined a Vanguard Communications blog where she shared her passion of international development, hunger, and climate change.



Caroline McShea OCHS'20, a junior at Smith College, was named to the 2021 NFHCA Division III National Academic Squad, a program that honors student-athletes who have achieved a cumulative grade-point average of 3.3 or higher. She also won the 2022 Marly Pineda Award for

Smith Field Hockey. Photo courtesy of Smith College.

Maggie Storti OCHS'20 started a new position as Undergraduate Research Assistant at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

Maile Oravitz OCHS'21 played Lois/Ensemble in Pittsburgh CLO's production of A Chorus Line this summer. She was also the understudy for the principal roles of Connie, Maggie, and Diana.

Norah Ostin OCHS'21, a sophomore at Harvard, started a new position as Equity Research Analyst at BLK Capital Management, Corp. BLK, founded in 2017, is a 100% black-owned and student run nonprofit that focuses on education of its members by exposing them to the field of active investment management.

Olivia Smathers OCHS'21 spent this summer researching human rights and corporate privacy laws across Europe to put together the Topic A Background Guide on the European Court of Human Rights case, Halet v. Luxembourg. It was recently published by the International Model United Nations Association (IMUNA).

Annie Snyder OCHS'21 started a new position as VSB Davis Research Associate at Villanova School of Business.



Audrey Flanagan OCHS'22, Rachel Sweeny OCHS'22, Ella Maier OCHS'22, and Caroline Sarneso OCHS'22 found a moment to catch up together at Notre Dame. Once an Eagle, always an Eagle!

Oakland Catholic CONNECT

Oakland Catholic Connect allows you to re-connect with old classmates and enables you to utilize the trusted Oakland Catholic High School environment to expand your professional network. By fully integrating with social networks, and cultivating a culture of helping and giving back, you will be amazed by the vibrancy of the Oakland Catholic High School community.

For additional Alumnae news, sign up for
Oakland Catholic Connect—an exclusive resource
where Alumnae can seek career advice, mentor younger
alum, post job and internship opportunities, share
photos from reunions and more!

Enhance and strengthen Oakland Catholic's Alumnae Relations by joining Oakland Catholic Connect today at www.OaklandCatholicConnect.org!



RECONNECT

Find and reminisce with fellow graduates, see what they have been up to and stay in touch.



GIVE BACK

Introduce, employ, and offer to act as a mentor to our graduating students.



FXΡΔΝΠ

Leverage your professional network to get introduced to people you should know.



ADVANCE

Advance your career through inside connections working in top companies.



PROMOTE

Promote your business in the Business Directory and offer exclusive offers to your fellow alumnae.



REUNION NEWS

SHHS 1954

The Sacred Heart High School Class of 1954 met at the Homestead Bravo's Restaurant on June 4. It's always an enjoyable afternoon, reminiscing about our teenage years. Pictured are Sylvia Goda, Kay Patton DiPasquale, Pat Houston Bianco, and Lucy Romanello. God is good! The ladies plan on gathering again in 2023.

OLOMA + SHHS 1959

A few friends from Our Lady of Mercy Academy and Sacred Heart High School Classes of 1959 met at Gibson's in Chicago. They, and two husbands, had a glorious time! In the picture: Jeanne Clark Hayes SHHS'59, Jane Leach Wattick OLOMA'59, Clare Schano Donahue OLOMA'59, Blitz Friday Leahy SHHS'59 (and her husband, Michael), Lynn Haney Trowbridge SHHS'59; Leo with his wife, Bonnie Beinhauer O'Donnell OLOMA'59, and Peg Lehman Marshall SHHS'59.

CHS 1967

The Cathedral High School Class of 1967 held a mini reunion on September 13 at Wildwood Golf Club. They pulled it together in one month and had a wonderful time!

SHHS 1965

Sacred Heart Class of 1965 recently held its 75th age reunion on September 10. The event was held at Bella Fruttelo restaurant in Wexford. Classmates attending from CA, NV, NM, FL and MI were welcomed by their local alums. Reminiscing about the good ole days and learning about each other's lives now kept the afternoon conversations lively. Laughter was abounding as classmates recalled memories of high school antics.

CHS 1972

Cathedral High School Class of 1972 celebrated their big 5-0 reunion this summer! The Pittsburgh Field Club hosted the gold and white "Golden Girls" themed event on August 13. More than 60 classmates and two teachers came from across the country, from Portland, Oregon to Massachusetts. From Texas, Florida, Ohio and all over Pennsylvania to commemorate this occasion. The daughter of a classmate was the photographer for the evening which allowed everyone to order a CD of her photos afterwards. A DJ played the cool music from their era and the dance floor was filled!

The Phil Collins song "You'll Be in My Heart" played as they remembered their Cathedral sisters who passed away. The reunion chairperson for their 55th reunion was selected and a summer uniform and winter uniform were passed along. *Continued on next page.*











The "traveling beanie" was awarded to a classmate for the seventh straight reunion. The Beanie Committee is comprised of the original owner and past winners. And at the end of the evening their voices joined together to sing their Alma Mater.

SHHS 1982

The Sacred Heart Class of 1982 had a great turnout for their 40th reunion weekend! The fun included axe throwing, a tour of Oakland Catholic with President Mary Claire Kasunic, a Ladies Night Out at Rock Bottom followed by an after party at Mullaney's Harp and Fiddle with the Central Catholic Class of 1982.

The festivities ended with a Mass at Sacred Heart and reception following. A generous donation was made to Oakland Catholic High School in support of tuition assistance.

OCHS 2002

The Oakland Catholic High School Class of 2002 got together to celebrate their 20th reunion on November 5. The event took place at Mario's on Walnut Street in Shadyside.



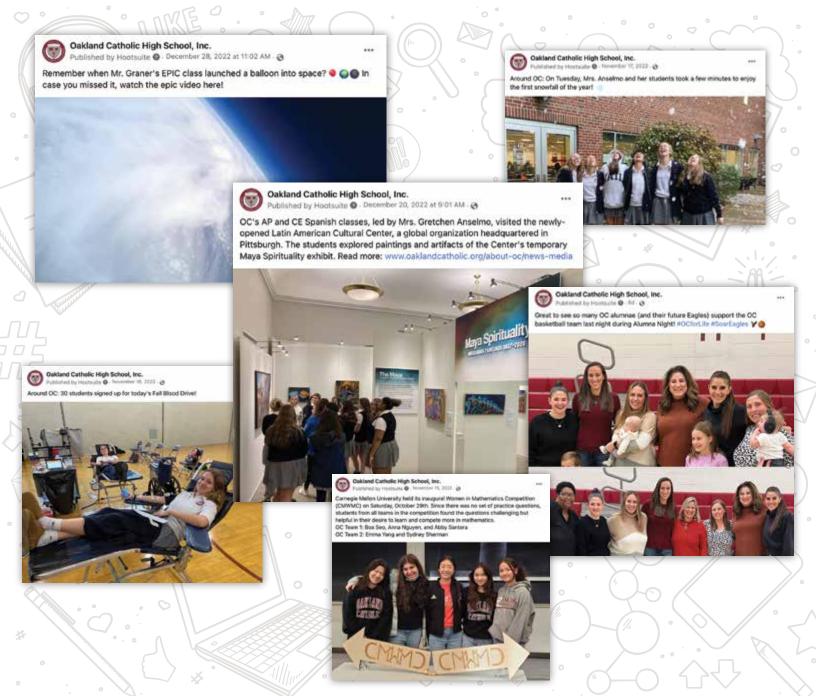




SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 · 6-10PM ACRISURE STADIUM IN THE UPMC EAST CLUB LOUNGE

The planning is coordinated on our end. The socialization and fun are on yours! For more information, visit www.oaklandcatholic.org/gala.

HONORARY CHAIRS: TIM & TRISH BELTZ, OCHS P'25 · MUSIC BY DJ DIGITAL DAVE



Trending at OC

Great news travels fast, but only to those who are connected.

So, when Mr. Graner's EPIC class **launches a balloon into space**, OC's AP and CE Spanish classes **visit the newly-opened Latin American Cultural Center**, OC students participate in the inaugural **Women in Mathematics Competition** at Carnegie Mellon University, OC hosts an **alumnae basketball night**, 30 students participate in the **fall blood drive**, or it's just the **first snow fall** at OC this year, those on OC social media got the news as it happened.

Add OC to your social. After all, this is your legacy at work—ONLY HERE!



DR. JANET M. CITRINITI WALSH-MCGEE ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL, CLASS OF 1969

This is such an honor to be selected for an OC alumnae spotlight. I have had many blessings and a successful career that all began at St. Paul Cathedral. I began as a first grader and graduated from high school in 1969. After graduation I attended Duquesne University and received my Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education, Master of Arts in Elementary Counseling, and my Doctorate in Educational Leadership. I earned my principal certificate and have a letter of eligibility for Superintendent from Youngstown State University. I was an elementary teacher in Hopewell and Moon School Districts before I became an Assistant Principal at South Park Middle School for three years, and then a Principal at West Allegheny Middle School for 18 years. After retirement in 2006, I married an amazing man, Commander William 'Steve' McGee and moved to Florida. Pittsburgh to

Oak Hill, a very small town in Florida near Cape Canaveral and New Smyrna Beach, was a cultural shock and after planting my own garden and cutting grass on a riding mower for the first time, I decided that I needed to do more and give back to the education community my knowledge and experiences I learned throughout my career so I became an Associate Professor at University of Central Florida (UCF) in their educational leadership department. I loved teaching teachers to be principals and helping students do research for their doctorate program.

In 2009 the Volusia County School District closed the school in our little town of Oak Hill. This was the heart of the community and the people banded together to save their school. After two years, the Oak Hill Community Trust found a benefactor and bought the school and ten acres of land. They reached out for my help and I could not resist the love and drive of this little town, so I helped them write a charter application and a startup grant, which was all approved and the rest is history. I served first as the chairperson of this little school and helped renovate and hire the first staff. I then became principal and director of this wonderful little school. In 2011 we opened the nonprofit Burns Science and Technology K-8 Charter School with 250 students. Today we have expanded to a K-12 Charter School with 960 students. We built a gym and a new high school. We were the first STEM accredited school in the state and have won various awards. This was the hardest I have ever worked but it was so fulfilling. We were an 'F' rated school when we opened with very low math scores. I knew we had our work cut out for us but building a great team we showed amazing gains by the third year an earned a 'B' rating. I am proud to say Burns Sci-Tech is now a high-performing 'A' rated school and has been for the last 7 years.

I have served on the Pennsylvania Middle School Association Board after my school received the Don Eichhorn Outstanding Middle School Award for Pennsylvania. I have received an Outstanding Principal's Award for both Pennsylvania and the state of Florida. I am very committed to stopping the bullying problems in schools, which was the topic of my dissertation so I hold a crisis prevention certificate and served as the crisis coordinator in West Allegheny School District for years. In Florida, I received the Outstanding Bully Awareness Award from the National Safety Association. During my short time at UCF, I was invited to the Women in Leadership Round Table Discussions at Oxford University in 2010, It was such an honor to share research and present to representatives from all of the world. My article was published in the Oxford Journal. I was the Florida Consortium of Charter School Leader of the Year in 2017 and also received the SEV (Southeast Volusia) Chamber of Commerce Master Business Award that same year. Charter schools are run like a business in order to succeed. I believe when you earn, you must give back. That is why I have been in education for the past 52 years as a teacher leader or administrator. This past year I was humbled in being selected through an international search for the Global Forum of Educational Leaders top 100 leaders in the world award.

I could not have done all of this without the skills I learned at St. Paul Cathedral. This is where I learned to be a leader. I was either the President or Vice President of my high school classes each year. I helped plan events and plays. We had awesome fundraisers, intra-mural games, big sisters, and learned to be a team. We were ninth graders in the old high school and I can remember the dances in the old gym. This school will always have a place in my heart. I also remember the sacrifices my parents, Victor (94) and Jennie Citriniti (91), made for my sister and me. Yes, we are blessed and thankful to still have them in our lives. They live in Monroeville and I love seeing the city lights as we go through the Fort Pitt Tunnels and cross the bridge when we get to visit Pittsburgh.

Yes, I have had many blessings and I have a lot to be thankful for. Two of my biggest blessings are my daughter, Jennifer Walsh Tracey, who lives in North Carolina with her husband Manny and my grandson Jack, and my son Michael Walsh, who lives in South Carolina with his wife Hollis and my two grandsons Charles and Victor. I also have a stepdaughter, Tracey that lives in Jacksonville Florida. Lastly, throughout the years my faith grew stronger. Where I saw negativity, doors opened and new opportunities appeared. God had a plan for me and led me to where I am today. I would have never found this little town of Oak Hill by myself. My motto has become "Leap and the net will appear," and it has. Thank you to the staff, sisters, and the girls at St. Paul Cathedral for the love and support through my years there. I had a dream early on to be a teacher to make a difference in lives of children. It has also made a difference in my life. What we overcome makes us stronger.

MARY KAY WALSH SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS OF 1982

High School is truly a time of self-discovery and that evolution for me was nurtured with the environment at Sacred Heart High School in the late 1970s and early 80's. I excelled academically but by no means was the ideal student. I tended to be a bit of a "jokester" for attention. I often annoyed my fellow classmates with my high-pitched singing / yelling in the cafeteria (I loved the echoes it made). After I hung a toilet paper roll dispenser inside my locker senior year as a joke, our patient and kind vice-principal Sister Mary Brenda assumed I had "TeePeed" the first-floor bathroom. (I did not and she finally believed me thank goodness). I was often late to school due to chronic sleep deprivation and unreliable city bus transportation (yes, no school buses back then for us), and was once locked out of frustrated Sister Marie William Kelly's 8am sophomore English class right as I was about to enter.



I had my share of disappointments including not being elected to student council and being cut from the track team (I forgive you George Rudolph), both occurring during my freshman year. The teachers who made a big impression on me include Marge Logsdon (Gym teacher turned English teacher), Jody Breen (Art), Father George Palick (Chemistry), Jean Anne Streiff (English), Sister Elizabeth Anne Stock (Religion) and Sister Pat Collins (Economics). I am happy to say the environment of Sacred Heart allowed for self-expression and confidence to grow in myself through the years.

After Sacred Heart, I attended the University of Pittsburgh and graduated with a B.S. in Physical Therapy in 1986. I have continued my education over the years with an M.S. in neurologic physical therapy from Pitt (1992), and a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Chatham University (2012) while working and raising a family. I have enjoyed over 30+ years as a Doctor of Physical Therapy and a board-certified neurologic clinical specialist. I am passionate about helping people overcome many impairments that impact their daily lives. Today, I work for UPMC Rehabilitation Institute in an outpatient clinic and treat folks with vestibular and balance disorders, vertigo, brain and concussion injuries, and other neurological disorders including, stroke, Parkinson's Disease, and Multiple Sclerosis. I love the feeling of making a difference in a person's quality of life and health. Over my career I have been involved in teaching in PT programs as an adjunct faculty at the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, and Chatham University. I have also presented professionally at the local, state, and national level physical therapy conferences. Working in healthcare can be rewarding, exhausting and difficult, and has helped me be grateful for every healthy day I have.

Although I am proud of my professional accomplishments, it is my personal life that brings me the most joy. My husband Joe Schreiber and I have raised three kind, strong, remarkable daughters (Audrey, Erin, and Claire Schreiber) who are contributing positively to the world around them.

The greatest influence on my life has been my mother, Carol Leightner Walsh (SHHS 1952, Seton Hill 1956). She raised me and my three brothers alone after my father died when I was eight years old. She worked two jobs as a physical therapy aide (a fulltime and a part-time job) and eventually went back to school to be a physical therapist assistant and graduated at the age of 60. She loved me unconditionally and taught me the value of hard work, good education, and independence as a woman. Her stories of her workdays inspired my career choice.

My advice to the young women of OC today is to find yourself and BE yourself. Don't let fear of failing keep you from trying. Some things in life are difficult but are worth the effort. Learn to take care of your spirit, mind and body. Also, get some sleep! It's good for your developing brain!



CANDACE KAIRIES-BEATTY OAKLAND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS OF 1992

Normally, I am a Professor in the Geoscience Department at Winona State University in Minnesota; my area of expertise is environmental geochemistry and hydrogeology. However, this academic year I was selected as an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Technology Policy fellow, a highly competitive and prestigious fellowship. I am currently serving as an executive branch fellow in the Office of Naval Research (part of the Department of Defense) in Washington, D.C. The fellowship provides a way to learn first-hand about the federal policy making process. It is an opportunity to apply my critical thinking and analytical skills and expertise as a broadly trained Earth scientist to

solving hard problems to advance evidence-based policy and transformative initiatives that benefit society and to challenge myself to reach outside my comfort zone beyond my area of expertise.

I have many great memories from high school; most notably I remember my time working as stage crew for productions at Central Catholic and the times spent hanging out with friends in Oakland after classes. I also remember the merger of St. Paul and Sacred Heart schools to form Oakland Catholic High School, which happened between my freshman and sophomore year. I remember being apprehensive as it felt like everything was going to be upended—as someone who was always introverted the thought of having to meet new people terrified me. Turns out I met some of my best friends because of the schools combining! While at Oakland Catholic I took advantage of multiple opportunities outside the classroom, including stage crew for the Central Catholic Masque productions, Amnesty International club, the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competitions, and the Yearbook club.

My teachers and professors from middle school through graduate school had the greatest influence on my career path.

My interest in science was initially sparked by my middle school science teacher, Linda Pricer. The science teachers at Oakland Catholic fostered this interest and are what led me to pursue a major in environmental science in college. I ultimately found myself on a path to geology after taking the one geology class offered where I attended college. I was hooked!

The personal qualities of which I am most proud would be my ability to be both empathetic and compassionate. On a higher level these qualities are what drive my work in the environmental geosciences and my desire to make the world a better place. As far as what people might be surprised to know about me—I could probably give you a list! I like old cop TV shows from the 1970s (most notably Police Woman—look it up!), I'm a fan of science fiction literature and film, I have two rescue greyhounds, and I used to write for an alternative music newspaper.

My advice to the young women at Oakland Catholic High School would be to not doubt who you are or your potential. I would have outright laughed and asked if they were kidding if someone told me in my senior year at Oakland Catholic that I would be a professor and a researcher and I certainly never imagined at that point that I'd be working in the science policy space in Washington, D.C.

MARY (KITTY) CARROLL VAGLEY OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY, CLASS OF 1971

I attended Our Lady of Mercy Academy from 8th grade to graduation, 1966 to 1971. The school provided me with experience in leadership and scholarship and nurtured my sense of the sacred. The school uniform was a gift: competition in dress was removed and daily decisions were reduced to essentials! Another great gift from the school was a lasting friendship with **Karen Schultheis**. We met as new 8th graders and remain friends more than 50 years later. Sports, Student Council and Year Book were the activities I most remember.



I pursued a law degree after college and added development work to my resume years later. I retired as Development Director of Pittsburgh Botanic Garden and have also pretty much retired from legal practice. Both avenues allowed me to help people and improve Pittsburgh. I am motivated by a sense of service and possibility. It is rewarding to work with others to increase the common good.

My most recent accomplishment is connected to volunteering at South Side Park. Working with a small volunteer group, we have made a significant impact on the neglected park—planting over 900 native trees and shrubs over the past five years.

I believe that Oakland Catholic High School allows its students more freedom to discover their strengths and interests than a typical high school. I sent my daughter, Sarah, to Oakland Catholic High School where she learned to write well enough to stun her college professors. It was at Oakland Catholic that she developed the initial strength to chart her own course. That is what I would urge all Oakland Catholic High School students to do: use the school's space and structure to build your spiritual center and intellectual and physical strength. It will prove to be a backbone in coming years.

My parents had the greatest influence on my life. They set high expectations and gave such a good example of generosity, service and discipline. They provided a rock solid and loving foundation. An overall sense of gratitude is my best personal quality. I believe it is a gift from my parents.

What would people be surprised to know about me? Given my general and life-long lack of coordination, I think it is a real surprise that I have learned some ballroom dancing.



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UPCOMING **EVENTS**

OC GIVE DAY Thursday, March 9, 2023

SENIOR LITURGY & LUNCHEON

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 St. Paul Cathedral & Oakland Catholic High School

OC EAGLE CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, May 8, 2023 The Pittsburgh Field Club

BACCALAUREATE MASS

Monday, May 22, 2023 St. Paul Cathedral

COMMENCEMENT

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall



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THE PITTSBURGH FIELD CLUB
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW IN SPRING 2023



1ST PLACE TEAM Pat Brady, Joe Gartner, Peter Kohelis & Derek Mousseau

2ND PLACE TEAM Peter Leone, David Regan, Brad Totten & Gerry Totten



Harry Kiutcher & Joseph Silvaggio