

Winter 2024

JAGWIRE



Community Partnerships:

Mercy's relationship with GE Appliances allows students to explore career opportunities.

MERCY ACADEMY

LETTER FROM MERCY'S STEM COORDINATOR

Dear Friends of Mercy,

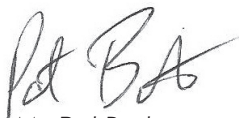
Growing up in Southern Indiana, I would have to admit that I knew very little about Mercy Academy. I believe I was aware of Mercy as a small high school, located "across the river," and I knew that I never competed against them at sports. This should have been my first clue that their student body was all girls, but I'm not so sure that I even made that realization during my own time as a student.

But when I joined the faculty at Mercy back in 2008 and began to accumulate several shirts that put the familiar "M" on my chest, something strange started to happen. Everywhere I went, whether I was in Louisville or back home in Indiana, people had a connection to Mercy. One day, it was the lady walking her dog in my neighborhood, who had graduated from the Academy in the 1980's. Then, the elderly gentleman in line with me at the grocery, whose mother, sister, daughter, and granddaughters were all women of Mercy. Even a plumber that did some work at my house saw the Mercy sticker on my laptop and started to chat with me about following our sports teams because of his beloved niece.

One of the things that makes Mercy such an amazing institution is its connectedness with the local community. Genuine partnerships, such as our STEM program's long-standing relationships with GE Appliances, the Kentucky Science Center, and the National Park Service, are a proven feature of a highly effective organization. Productive collaboration, in any setting, can increase the odds that a goal will be achieved by tapping into the unique skillsets of others. At Mercy, one of our most important goals is to educate and prepare our students for the real world, and our partners in the community help us to make that goal a reality. Not only do these connections allow us to provide great opportunities for our young women both in and out of the classroom, but they also give us the chance to model these collaborative skills for our students on a daily basis. Personally, I am grateful for the opportunity to be a member of Mercy's fantastic faculty and staff, and to engage with so many incredible community partners in my role as STEM Coordinator.

As you can see from our cover story, much of this issue of the JagWire will highlight some of the partnerships that make Mercy Academy a truly remarkable place for our students to grow and learn. I'm proud to represent our school everywhere that I go, because - as you may have noticed yourself - everyone seems to have a connection to Mercy Academy.

All my best,



Mr. Pat Burton

Science Department Chair & STEM Coordinator



MERCY EXTENDS A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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JAGWIRE

Winter 2024

The *JagWire* is published by the Advancement Office of Mercy Academy.

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Comments and submissions for the *JagWire* or any change of name or address can be made at mercyacademy.com/jagwire.

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02 Mercy and
GE Appliances

04 Financial
Report

06 Mercy Day
Scholarships

10 Reunion
Weekend

12 Alumnae
Updates

17 Current
Happenings



In This Issue...

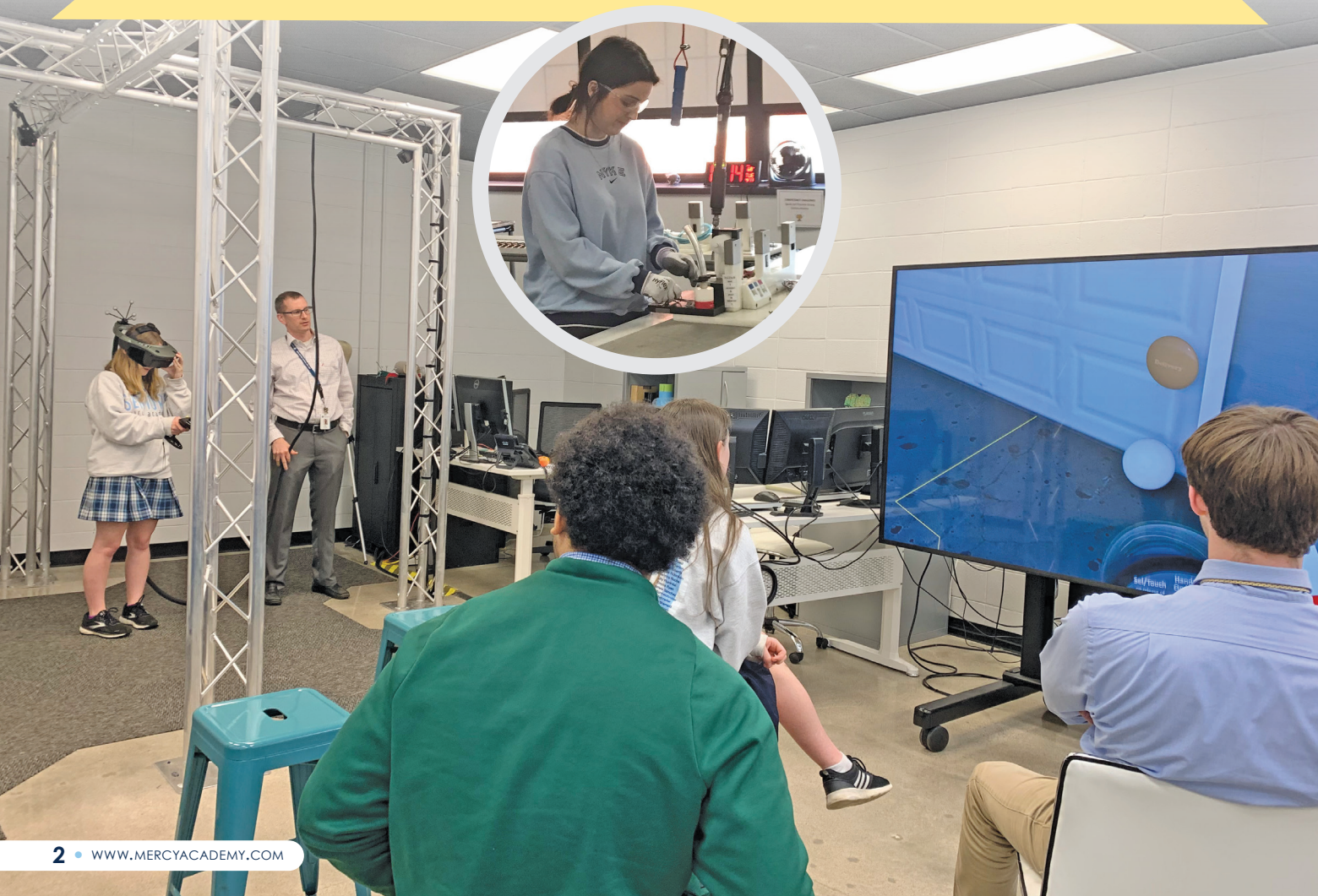
On the Cover:

When Mercy moved to Fegenbush Lane, we knew that we had a special opportunity with our neighbors across the street. For over a decade, Mercy students and educators have built a partnership with GE Appliances, making the most of our close location.



Community Partnerships:

MERCY ACADEMY & GE APPLIANCES, A HAIER COMPANY



When Mercy moved to Fegenbush Lane, we knew we had a special opportunity with our neighbors across the street. For over a decade, Mercy students and educators have built a partnership with GE Appliances, making the most of our close location.

Beginning in 2009, Mercy students were encouraged to apply to the annual SWIFT (Students With Futures in Technology) program. Each year, GE Appliances hosts students from Louisville high schools for a multi-week program that gives students hands-on experience in the technology field. While the involved schools have changed, Mercy has participated in the program since its inception!

We are honored to have a close connection with the founder of the program: the Class of 1988's Christy Smith Marin, Senior Director of Digital Technology Governance & Strategy at GE Appliances. Early in Christy's career, she was responsible for recruiting students for IT internships, but the number of students enrolled in related degrees was low - especially in Louisville.

"Through conversations with local high school students, it was clear they had a very limited understanding of the various types of roles in IT to even consider those degrees. Not all IT roles are helpdesk or coding/development work." Seeing this gap, Christy advocated for the creation of SWIFT to expose students to these many different career paths in IT and provide mentorship opportunities between leaders in the field and students.

These hands-on opportunities are transformational for students. Christy explained, "The types of STEM careers are limitless. The earlier the exposure, the more time there is to explore and experiment with various disciplines to discover and develop one's ultimate area of passion." Christy knows firsthand how transformational these experiences can be: "When I attended Mercy, I participated in the Accelerated Math & Science program. Experiencing that type of curriculum gave me confidence in my abilities and ultimately led to my decision to select a STEM-related college degree. That confidence carried me through many of my college classes where at that time I was often the only female in the room."

As students continue to express their interest in the fields of science, technology, math and science, Mercy has

partnered with many organizations across the state to allow students the opportunity to explore their interests and talents.

Partnerships like these help our students to be successful in postsecondary educational pursuits and the workforce. GE Appliances' convenient location makes them a perfect and mutually beneficial partner. Our students gain valuable experiences, and they gain perspective from potential future employees. Christy shared that, "This perspective can help guide and influence everything from job opportunities to offerings we provide in the future."

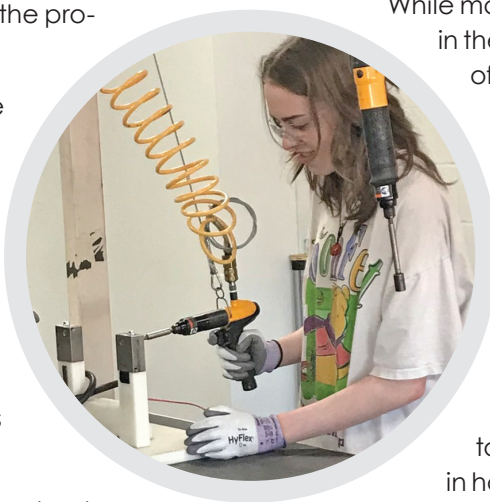
While many Mercy students have participated in the SWIFT program since 2009, even more of our students benefit from our partnership with GE Appliances during our classes and engineering programs.

Faculty member Dr. Eric Wong has found GE Appliances to be an invaluable resource for his Engineering and Design class, utilizing high school curricula they have developed. His class is invited to visit GE Appliances for a day, where they tour the assembly lines and participate in hands-on activities in the training facility and metrology lab. They work with the tools and see the process and management of projects.

Dr. Wong explained the value of taking students on-location: "This is where they see the connection with what we do in school. In class, we use 3D printers. The metrology lab is the reverse of that. Students see how a physical part can be scanned in or digitized and reversed into a computer model. We do the opposite in class; we create a computer model and then print it into a real part."

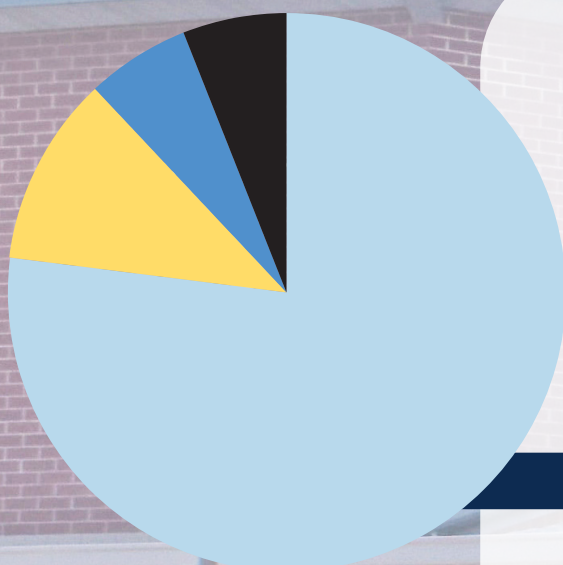
Student Savannah Steier, Class of 2024, agreed that going on location was a full circle moment with what they did in class. The opportunity to see the factory and take part in a mock-assembly line gave her a greater appreciation and understanding of lean manufacturing: "This experience showed us how much work and preparation goes into every part of the process."





Savannah, who plans to work in aviation safety, shared how important these kinds of experiences have been for her. "Both my classes at Mercy and the opportunities offered by our community partners have exposed me to so many different fields within STEM. I've been able to develop my goals and passions before even graduating high school." ●



FINANCIAL RESULTS FY 2023 *(ending June 30, 2023)*

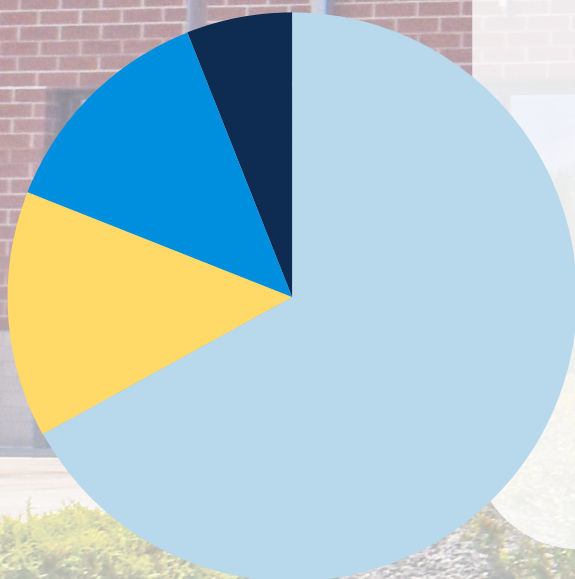
REVENUE






-  Tuition & Fees **\$7,317,727 77%**
-  Net Fundraising & Donations **\$1,019,810 11%**
-  Student Services **\$531,227 6%**
-  Investments & Other Revenue* **\$612,229 6%**

TOTAL REVENUE: \$9,480,993

EXPENSES



-  Instruction & Administration **\$6,288,627 67%**
-  Operations **\$1,351,903 14%**
-  Scholarships & Financial Aid **\$1,192,584 13%**
-  Student Services **\$543,645 6%**

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$9,369,055

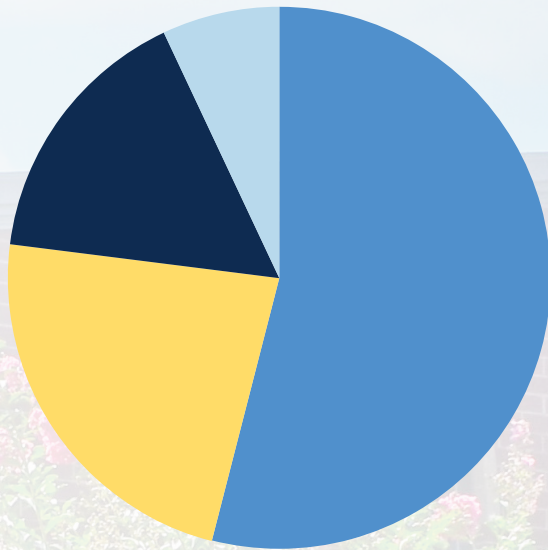
**Including Grant Income*





SOURCES OF SUPPORT

NET FUNDRAISING AND
DONATIONS: **\$1,019,810**

TOTAL NUMBER
OF DONORS: **3,083**

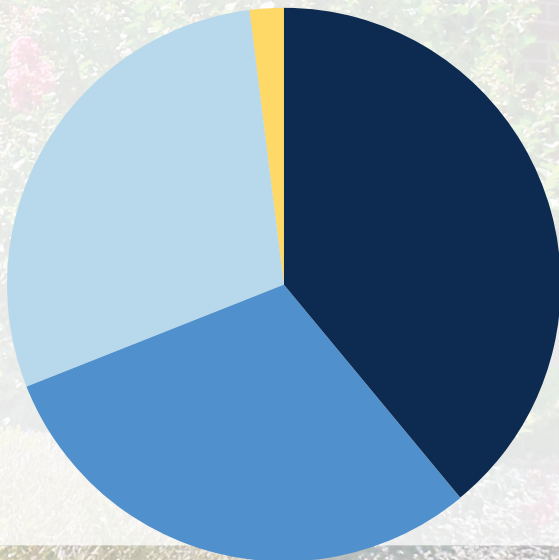
DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS



-  Tuition Assistance and Scholarships : **54%**
-  Mercy Fund : **23%**
-  Endowment: **16%**
-  Restricted Gifts: **7%**



SOURCES OF SUPPORT



-  Alumnae: **39%**
-  Parents & Grandparents: **30%**
-  Faculty, Staff & Friends: **29%**
-  Corporations & Foundations: **2%**

MERCY DAY Scholarships

Establishing a Mercy Day Scholarship is a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one, while providing financial assistance to a current Mercy student. Many thanks to our Mercy Day sponsors listed below! If you would like to establish a Mercy Day Scholarship, please contact Leslie Hibdon at (502) 671-2010 or lhibdon@mercyjaguars.com.

SCHOLARSHIP NAME:

- Adams Family
- Albertus Magnus
- Beth & Frank Craven
- Brian "Big Dog" Walsh Memorial
- Brooke Nicklies Memorial
- Carlton Family Mathematics
- Drew Wilson Memorial
- Eleanor Rose Roberts Norton Memorial
- Emily Convery Memorial
- Flaget Alumni Association
- Helen Dillon Mazzoli Memorial
- Jane Conboy
- Jennifer N. Harris Class of 2010
- Joe Nash Memorial
- Karen Ramser Filcik
- Kramer Family Service Learning
- Laura Schulz Memorial
- LaVerne Schlaug Gregory Memorial & Susan and Terry Meagher
- Lily Strange Memorial
- Love of Reading
- Margaret Kotich Merker Memorial
- Martin Napper Memorial
- Mary Alice Gregg Byerly 1922 Memorial
- Mary Jean Schulz Memorial
- Montgomery & Blazis
- Nancy J. & Phillip O. Akers
- Nancy Kunderl Ackerman Memorial
- Natalie Thompson Memorial
- Norma Gerwing Bender & Mary Ann Gerwing Cundiff
- Norma Russell Ragsdale Memorial
- Perry Memorial
- Roalofs Spirit of Mercy
- Schlosser Family
- Scott "Scooter" Kremer Memorial
- Sheri Applegate Memorial
- Sisters at Mercy
- Sister Louise Marie Simms Alumnae
- Sister Mary Carmel Performing Arts
- Sister Mary Prisca Pfeffer Memorial
- St. Romero Fund
- Sue Knabel Memorial
- Tricia Banta Amburgey "Carpe Diem" Memorial
- Twyla Gollar Memorial
- Walsh Family

New Scholarships This Year

JULIE BROWNING ICE MEMORIAL MEMORIAL

This scholarship was established to honor the life of **Julie Browning Ice '89**. Julie was a tireless advocate for Cystic Fibrosis patients and a proud Mercy Alumna.

PATRICIA ANN "PATSY" HARTIGAN MEMORIAL

This scholarship was established by Jim Hartigan in memory of his sister, **Patricia Ann "Patsy" Hartigan '63**. She demonstrated tremendous courage and grace throughout her life and life and battle with Leukemia.

PATRICIA HIGGINS MEMORIAL

This scholarship was established in memory of **Patricia Higgins '55** by her daughter, Jan Newcomb. Pat was forever grateful for her Catholic education and the values it instilled in her.

A Legacy of Faith, Hope, Love and Courage

A LETTER FROM JULIE'S HUSBAND, ROY ICE:

Julie Browning Ice (Mercy '89) adored Mercy Academy. In Mercy, she found a home filled with love. In May of 2023, at the age of 52, Julie passed away leaving a legacy of faith, hope, love and courage.

Diagnosed late in her life with Cystic Fibrosis (age 23), Julie would learn why she was always ill. She'd reached deep within herself, relying on the values instilled in her from Mercy Academy. A shortened life expectancy of 29 years was given to her. She didn't cower. She held firm in her fight to help others find a cure. Her battle inspired cystic patients across the world to believe in themselves and fight hard until a cure was found. Julie's efforts would help expand the life expectancy of all Cystic Fibrosis sufferers from 29 years of age to 44.



Blowing past her life expectancy prognosis, Julie lobbied the U.S. Capital on behalf of the CF Foundation. Early intervention and treatment is the secret to longevity in cystic patients. My beautiful wife, the tiniest of people, did something few could. She relied on her larger than life heart and her ability to fight like a Mercy Girl to help others.

In 2011, Julie received the life-saving gift of organ donation. Two donor lungs would carry her, enriching our lives beyond measure, as she journeyed to fight for a cure for others. Those lungs would sustain her for 11.5 years!

Julie's story of courage inspired generations. In 2013 her story, "Julie: The Courage to Breathe" was published. She raised millions for CF research. In her lifetime, she would see an incurable disease find a containment. Her efforts directly helped deliver breakthrough medicines that help Cystic Fibrosis patients live.

As her husband of 29 years, it is my honor to share her life with you. Julie believed strongly in empowering young women. It is my greatest wish that her story inspires you to never give up.

We all face adversity at times. Those that never quit have the greatest chance of success. My Julie would always want you to believe in yourself and remember that during the darkest of times it's important to have the strongest of faith. **Always believe in yourself!**

Respectfully Yours,

Roy E. Ice - Husband to a Mercy Girl

We Love You All! God Bless



WE CELEBRATE THE *Life* OF...

MERCY ALUMNAE:

1944 Jean Marie Stelzeg Kuchenbrod Jackson

1945 Cecilia Hennessey Pierson

1946 Bettye Ann Block Sherrard

Sister: Patricia Block Powell '54

1947 Mary Jane Mueller Cochran

Sister: Nancy Mueller Hoskins '51

1947 Rose Mary Mattingly Mullaney

Cousin: Carol Schwoeppe Olliges '55

1947 Martha Zinner O'Hara

1948 Sr. Mary Frances Lueke, RSM

Sister: Margaret Lueke Scheurich '61

1949 Carolyn Roberts Ormerod

1950 Barbara Hendrix Sauer

Granddaughter: BriAnne Sauer Eliason '06

Granddaughter: Kayleigh Sauer Barnes '08

1951 Martha Jean Noon Busby

Sister: Julie Noon Metzler '53

1953 Rosemary Graf Lewis

1955 Jean Huber Jaeckels

Sister: Verna Huber Wright '58

1955 JoEtta Benningfield Trusty

1956 Beverly O'Hara Flanery

1957 Martha Schank Wimsatt

Sister: Barbara Schank Stewart '55

Sister: Mary Schank Wilson '60

Sister: Bea Schank Orkies '62

Sister: Suzanne Schank Dugan '65

Sister: Kathleen Schank Cashon '67

Sister: Ann Schank Wallace '73

Niece: Penny Wilson Luckett '81

Great-Niece: Samantha Wilson Elam '06

Great-Niece: Jessie Wilson Herberth '13

1958 Judie Mitchell Dicken

1958 JoAnn Norris Mackey

1961 Sharon Herbig Netherton

Sister: Karen Herbig Banta '65

Sister: Linda Herbig Redmon '68

Sister-in-Law: Carol Roberts Herbig '71

Niece: Shannon Banta Dauenhauer '85

Niece: Kelley Banta Christopher '86

Great-Niece: Elizabeth Dauenhauer '17

Great-Niece: Abby Amburgey '18

1963 Beverly "Bobbie" O'Neal Eck

1964 Diana Gripp Davis

1964 Sandra Matte Mullins

Sister: Connie Matte Ohlemacher '67

1966 Jean Kaelin Cahill

1970 Cathy Caulk Weber

1973 Martha Pfalzer Brothers

Sister: Theresa Pfalzer Weber '77

1975 Donna Poll Hardin

Sister: Brenda Poll Secor '77

Sister: Diane Poll Stemmler '84

Niece: Jordan Stemmler '13

1975 Diana Coffman Wainscott

Sister: Judy Coffman Dahl '64

1989 Julie Browning Ice

2003 Stacey Thomas

FAMILY:

Bob Adams

Daughter: Brigid Adams Morgan '94

Granddaughter: Cheyenne Morgan '24

Granddaughter: Brittany Morgan '27

Betty Barnes

Sister: Sherry Peabody '53

Albert Barth, Jr.

Granddaughter: Jennifer Giangarra '15

Granddaughter: Megan Giangarra Marsden '15

Tom Becker

Daughter-in-Law: Deanna Baisch Becker '94

Granddaughter: Ashley Krumm Dawson '09

Granddaughter: Katelyn Becker '20

Granddaughter: Caroline Krumm '24

Granddaughter: Addyson Becker '25

David Bowling, Sr.

Daughter: Sophie Bowling '22

John Buschermohle, Sr.

Daughter: Marcie Buschermohle Viers '78

Joe Costelle

Sister: Verna Costelle Carr '58

Ken Crawford

Daughter: Kathy Crawford Williams '80

Bruce Dauenhauer

Daughter: Megan Fremdling Deem '94

John DeVoy

Granddaughter: Leah Edgerton '13

Granddaughter: Amy Edgerton '16

Son-in-law: Tracy Edgerton - former staff

Mary Rose Fante

Granddaughter: Megan Fante Nunn '11

Granddaughter: Kristen Fante Blankenship '13

Granddaughter: Lexi Ernsperger '20

Jamie Lynn Farmer

Aunt: Elizabeth Hamilton Cox '53

Aunt: Patricia Hamilton '60

Aunt: Frances Hamilton Gross '62

Mother: Charlene Hamilton Farmer '64

Wanda Marie Feller

Sister-in-Law: Rosemary Lichtefeld Feller '55

Daughter: Theresa Feller '74

Daughter: Mary Feller Keswani '78

Daughter: Michele Feller Bryant '80

Gayron Ferguson

Daughter: Kimberly Ferguson Harrington '96

Granddaughter: Kylie Harrington '27

George Gast, Sr.

Daughter-in-Law: Doris Gast - former faculty

Debbie Genovese

Husband: Sam Genovese - former faculty

Timmy "Gip" Gibson

Sister-in-Law: Maureen Corrigan Gibson '83

Niece: Elise Gibson Kenney - current faculty

Stacey Hardt

Niece: Taylor Etheridge '17

Alverna "Pat" Hourigan

Daughter: Sherry Hourigan Massey '72

Marshal Hunt

Wife: Debbie Blackwood Hunt '70

Bill Jaworski

Daughter: Kristin Jaworski Meyer '86

Granddaughter: Amanda Jaworski Mathieson '14

Granddaughter: Allison Jaworski '16

Granddaughter-in-law: Olivia Young Meyer '16

Granddaughter: Abigail Jaworski '18

Eva Kinser

Granddaughter: Fallon Lanham '21

Steve Kraemer

Wife: Karen Krebs Kraemer '75

Cousin: Susan Kraemer Masden '75

Leonard Krebs

Wife: Kathy Egan Krebs '62

Granddaughter: Sophie Krebs '16

George Lavenson

Granddaughter: Kelsey Lavenson '10

Daniel Magruder, Sr.

Former Cross Country Coach

Sister: Cheryl Magruder Myers '58

John McVey

Granddaughter: Abbie McVey '25

Mary Helen Meiman

Granddaughter: Sara Herp '96

Granddaughter: April Scoggan Wimborg '96

Dr. Steve Merker

Former Chair of the Board of Directors

Betty Ann Merilatt

Granddaughter: Marissa Merilatt Spurlock '15

Granddaughter: Kalei Merilatt '17

Granddaughter: Kelsie Merilatt Bearden '17

Ray Moore

Step-Daughter: Cherie Taylor Kopp '82

Step-Daughter: Dorothea Taylor Lyvers '93

Barbara Newton

Granddaughter: Alex Forst '13

Granddaughter: Christina Forst '16

Mary "Lou" Nicklies

Granddaughter: Vicki Richardson Robinson '05

William Osborne

Daughter: Wanda Osborne Reck '67

Larry Parrish

Granddaughter: Genny Wiggins '16

Granddaughter: Alysa Wiggins '19

Brent Perry

Sister-in-Law: Jennifer Hatton Wittenauer '93

Wife: Juliet Hatton Perry '99

Doug Powers

Daughter: Audrey Powers '24

Daisy Sample

Daughter: Amy Sample '94

Barbara Schoen

Daughter: Laura Schoen '80

Daughter: Christina Schoen Alexander '81

Granddaughter: Ashley Alexander Baurle '02

David Smith, Sr.

Daughter: Denette Smith Grider '91

Loretta Steffen

Granddaughter: Emma Steffen '21

Kay Thomison

Granddaughter: Jaimie Thomison '18

Amanda Turner

Aunt: Cathy Batovsky Veasey '70

Mother: Barbara Batovsky Turner '80

Cousin: Heather Batovsky Mucci '94

Ted Vowels

Granddaughter: Emma Hague '21

Daughter: Lisa Hague - former faculty

Martha Watson

Granddaughter: Abby Herp '16

Vernon Weickel

Daughter: Amy Weickel Smith '94

Daughter: Melanie Weickel Martin '98

Patsy Whitfill

Great Granddaughter: Meredith Lucas '18

Great Granddaughter: Brenna Lucas '19

Great Granddaughter: Hope Lucas '22

Jean Wizer

Daughter: Denise Wizer '80

Jeanne Woodburn

Daughter-in-Law: Tammy Bahm Woodburn '80

Granddaughter: Susan Woodburn '09

Granddaughter: Emily Woodburn '16

Phyllis Yates

Granddaughter: Michelle Yates Liesinger '06

Granddaughter: Makayla Wathen '25

Dick Yocum

Sister: Kitty Yocum Darst '53

Obituaries in the JagWire are based on information provided by members of the Mercy community. Please send information concerning the death of an individual to the Advancement Office by calling (502)671-2010 x2302 or by sending the information to Candace Cox at ccox@mercyjaguars.com. Please note that the deadline for the Spring 2024 JagWire is April 1, 2024.

Ensuring the Mercy Legacy

After graduating from Mercy in 1998, **Becca Walker Stadelmann** has carried the values and confidence instilled in her through her Mercy education into every part of her life. It's why she gives back to Mercy each month - she wants to ensure that other women have the opportunity to experience that same one-of-a-kind education that she and her classmates received.

Directly after high school, Becca attended Xavier University, earning her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration - Accounting and Finance. She started her career as a Tax Specialist at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Cincinnati before moving to Procter & Gamble, where she has remained for the past 17 years! Outside of her professional career, Becca is also the proud mother of two boys, Walker (9) and Jacob (6).

When thinking of her time at Mercy, Becca has countless fond memories. From her involvement in athletics, playing golf and managing other sports teams, to her leadership as class treasurer, planning proms and junior ring ceremony, Becca loved being involved. She also looks back fondly on her classes at Mercy, remembering, "I loved the creative energy our teachers fostered - so many skits and songs were written and performed in class. It brought me out of my comfort zone and helped me gain so much confidence."

What Becca thinks of most of all when she thinks of Mercy are the lifelong friendships she formed. Classmates like Melanie Weickel Martin, Amy Grayson Cutter, Kim Brohm, and Kathy Robinson Dreyer are just a few of the women that Becca notes have turned into lifelong friends. One of their favorite things to do is travel together, with their favorite trip being their time out west visiting cities in New Mexico and Colorado.

Becca gives Mercy Academy credit for shaping her into the woman she is today: "The Mercy education is rooted in developing compassionate and generous women who understand the importance of service and giving back to the communities in which they live and work. My time at

Mercy had such a positive impact and helped me develop into the kind, selfless and honest woman I am today." She says that she donates to Mercy because she wants to give back to the community that had such a major impact on her development.

There is another essential reason Becca donates each month to Mercy: "Giving in memory of Rachael is an important way for me to keep her memory alive and to give back to the community that was so supportive when she was ill."



Becca's sister, Rachael Walker McCutcheon '97, became ill with a pulmonary illness at the beginning of her sophomore year. At just 16 years old, Rachael was put on oxygen full time, bringing an oxygen tank with her everywhere she went. Despite the challenges she faced, Rachael was still able to do the activities that she loved, such as participating in Mercy's choir. Becca remembers, "Our family had such a supportive, faith based community in Mercy, and the school administration was so accommodating with her illness, making sure she was able to be successful."

Rachael passed away on July 22, 2011 but never stopped fighting even until the end. Becca describes her as, "generous and one of the most courageous people I have ever known. She was such an inspiration to me." By giving to Mercy each month in memory of Rachael, Becca has found a way to help other women achieve their dreams in Rachael's honor. ●

"It's very easy to donate and giving monthly makes it more budget friendly. For example, I find it easier to plan to give \$20 a month instead of giving \$240 once a year.

Our support as alumnae is crucial to ensuring the Mercy legacy will continue for many years to come and gives so many more women the opportunity to experience the same community and value-based education that we were given."



To set up a monthly gift, visit www.mercyacademy.com/donate and select "Monthly Donation."



Mercy Academy Class of 1953
70-YEAR REUNION



REUNION *Weekend*



Mercy Academy Class of 1973
50-YEAR REUNION



Class of 1967



Class of 2003



Class of 2008



Class of 2013



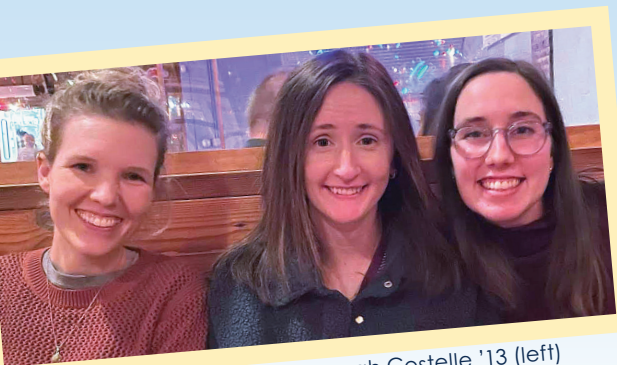
CIRCLE OF MERCY ALUMNAE AWARD

Each year, the Alumnae Association honors a Mercy graduate whose life is a reflection of the Mercy Creed. Congratulations to **Johanna Schneringer Wheatley '86**, the recipient of the 2023 Circle of Mercy Award!



Class of 2018





Pictured with friends Hannah Costelle '13 (left) and Courtney Ryan '13 (right)

CATIE FLAUGHER

Class of 2013
Senior Process Engineer,
Michelin



Catie Flaugher, Class of 2013, completed her Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from University of Louisville in 2017. She has used her degree in different capacities since that point - first, as a production engineer, and more recently as a process engineer focusing on reducing environmental footprint. Catie, currently serving as a Senior Process Engineer at Michelin, credits her Mercy education with providing the foundation for her career.

While she was a student at Mercy, Catie participated in GE Appliances' SWiFT (Students With Futures in Technology) program. At that point, she knew she loved her math, physics, and chemistry classes at Mercy, but she wasn't sure how to pursue that passion in college. She credits the SWiFT program with making careers in STEM seem more accessible: "I learned so many things - the most important being that a career in STEM isn't one size fits all. If you're thinking about STEM, people will tell you that all the time, but it's hard to fully understand until you see it for yourself."

Exposure to different career fields and options is essential for students to know what is possible in their future careers. Catie shared that as a teenager she didn't know any engineers and therefore never considered pursuing it in college. However, once her calculus teacher mentioned that it could be a good fit, Catie decided to study chemical engineering at University of Louisville: "As I went through the Speed School program and eventually completed a few rounds of co-op, things clicked into place for me to where I could see a future for myself in the field."

Catie's academic background at Mercy gave her the confidence to succeed in Speed School. While her chemistry, physics, and math classes were a favorite and clearly beneficial in her career, Catie credits her English classes as instrumental - more than she realized at the time. "I spend a large portion of my time communicating, and to be able to relay ideas clearly and concisely is critical for me. The teachers at Mercy helped me build that foundation." Ultimately, no matter the subject matter, Catie shared that, "Mercy provided a joy of learning for me in every class."

Beyond academic and career preparation, Catie's memories of Mercy are the relationships she formed. "I met some of my dearest friends at Mercy. My favorite Mercy memories are simply the times spent forming those relationships - from meeting before school to watch the International Space Station to making commercials for Green Team, I look back most fondly on times spent laughing with friends."

As Catie stated, it's hard to fully understand the options available to you until you see them for yourself! If you would like to help our students explore these many possibilities, we will be hosting our **2nd Annual Career Exploration Conference** on April 15, 2024. The conference will include panels of experts paired with others in similar fields as well as a traditional career "fair" style area for students to explore. If you are interested, please scan the QR code and fill out the interest form. Please contact **Emily Willis at ewillis@mercyjaguars.com** with any questions.





Working at **KYANA PACKAGING SOLUTIONS** is a Mercy affair! Pictured are Kyana Founder **Inez Barhorst White**, a 1950 graduate of Mother of Mercy in Cincinnati, **Annette Spears Cooke '80**, **Melissa White Gunter '81**, **Angie Bartley '92**, **Nicole White Anderson '03**, and **Jesie White Treadway '08**.

Class Ambassador **JUDIE MITCHELL DICKEN '58** recently passed away.

Her classmate **Sharon O'Brien '58** wanted to share with the Mercy community that, "Judie was the glue that held us together, and we will always be grateful to her. She made sure we were told about illness, deaths, and anything pertaining to our health and well-being as well as our victories and triumphs—all

that we needed or wanted known. She also notified us for get-togethers and Mercy events through letters, e-mails, phone calls, and faxes. While other Mercy ladies helped her, Judie was the overall driving force and accumulator of information. God bless Judie!"



KATHY CRAWFORD WILLIAMS '80

won the Outstanding Achievement in Print Media Award on October 12, 2023 at the Communicators for Women Religious Conference for the creation of the Sacred Heart Schools Heritage Room timeline. Kathy serves as the communications director for the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville.

DR. DEBBIE AKERS FORD '83

was named Chancellor of Indiana University Southeast.



ANGELA WHITE '83

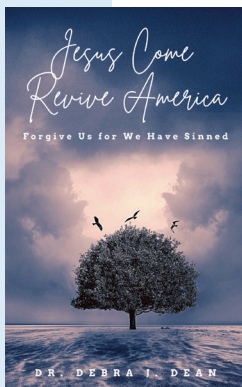
was proud to celebrate her daughter Madison's graduation from Stevenson University.



ANGELA MOON LANGENKAMP '81 celebrated 35 years of teaching at St. Gabriel. She and her husband, Mike, have been married for 32 years and have two grown children. They also welcomed their first grandchild in May!

DEBBIE TROXLE DEAN '94

published a book titled, *Jesus Come Revive America: Forgive Us for We Have Sinned*. The book discusses courageous Christians like Esther, Gideon, Paul, and Jesus and encourages readers to live a holy lifestyle.



AMY SAMPLE '94

was named a recipient of the 2023 Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership by the U.S. Department of Education. Amy, principal of Saint Xavier High School, is one of nine school leaders nationwide to receive the award.





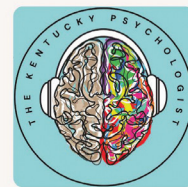
**MARISSA FOWLER
MARTIN '98**

was hired as the Chief Human Resource Officer for AgGeorgia Farm Credit.



STEPHANIE WALKER '02

welcomed Calista Marie to her family on September 28, 2023.



**THE KENTUCKY
PSYCHOLOGIST
EP 01**



WITH DR. PATTI WEITER

Dr. Patti Weiter is a native to Louisville, and completed her degrees at University of Louisville and Spalding University. She is a mother to 3 girls, lover of karaoke, and houseplant enthusiast. She owns a small practice, Shine Psychology, and loves bringing together groups of people to discuss positive psychology & job crafting.



**DR. PATTI REITZ
WEITER '04**

was featured on the Kentucky Psychologist Podcast. Patti is also president of the Kentucky Psychological Association!

MAGGIE NELSON KELTY '06

& Kevin Kelty - May 2022. All three of Maggie's bridesmaids were her friends from Mercy: Christina Hulsewede Johns '05, Jenny Riegling '06 and Sarah Faust Lovett '06.



**MEGAN ATKINS
THOBEN '07**

was promoted to Vice President of Operations and Customer Engagement for both Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport and Bowman Field.



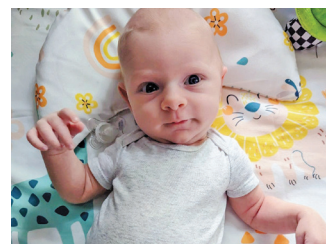
**JESSICA
BERRY
WIMSATT '10**

welcomed Lucas Michael to her family on June 25, 2023.



**LAUREN
LEONHARDT
MARTIN '10**

graduated from Bellarmine University in May with a Masters of Business Administration.



**VERONICA
THOMAS
STEWART '09**

welcomed Cooper Alton to the world on April 4, 2023.



NIKKI DOUGLAS

'13 is one of eight local woman artists featured in the Muhammad Ali Center's We Don't Withers exhibit. The exhibit explores the intersection of art and activism.



**ANDREA MATTINGLY
EBERTSHAUSER '12**

& Tim Ebertshauser - September 30, 2023



ALEXIS BODE GIBSON

'12 welcomed James Hunter to the world on December 14, 2022.

**HANNA
SPOELKER
BRUMLEY '13**

& Jonathan Brumley - June 3, 2023





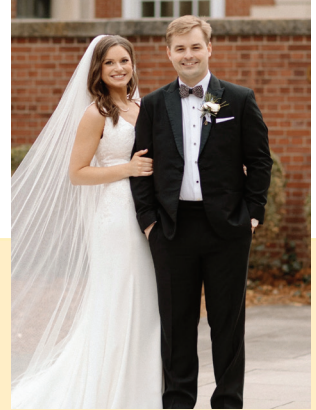
COURTNEY LUSH BAILEY '14
welcomed Harrison Bailey to her family
on October 14, 2023.



RACHAEL JONES '14 graduated from Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine and is now practicing as a mixed animal veterinarian in Southern Indiana.



CASEY FURLONG '14
welcomed Jade Palmer into the world on March 14, 2023.



JESSICA GILKEY DACUS '14
& Samuel Dacus - April 1, 2023



KAITLYN BALLARD STOLTZ '15
earned her doctorate in Physical Therapy in May from Bellarmine University.



MEGAN GIANGARRA MARSDEN '15
& Andrew Marsden - April 29, 2023



NIKKI KOVAL RUMORO '15
& Patrick Rumoro - October 28, 2023



BAILEY BARNETT DEARING '17
& John Dearing - June 17, 2023



JENNA KESSLER WELLS '17
welcomed Florence Rose to the world in Vicenza, Italy on February 25, 2023.



FAITH SIVORI PARDUE '17
& Michael Pardue - May 20, 2023

We would love to update your classmates on what is going on in your life.
Please submit updates at mercyacademy.com/jagwire.

Mercy Academy

CLASS OF 2023



Welcome to the newest Mercy Alumnae, the Class of 2023!
The Class of 2023 was offered over **\$12 million** in college
scholarships and contributed over **18,000 hours** of
community service.

School Events:



This August, we said a bittersweet goodbye to two of our local Sisters of Mercy: **Sr. Corinne Burt '52** and **Sr. Johnette Wiedmar '57**. As they settle into their new home in Nashville, we send them the best wishes and deepest gratitude of the entire Mercy community. They have left a powerful legacy for us at Mercy Academy!



We're excited to unveil Mercy Academy's **Spirit Pump**! 2 cents of every gallon purchased at our pump will be donated back to Mercy Academy. Thank you to our newest community partner, GAS-N-GO! Visit our Spirit Pump located at 6101 Fegenbush Lane, Louisville KY 40228.

Our tennis team won the Region 6 Championship for the third year in a row! **Grace Overton '26** was the Region 6 Singles Champion, and **Emily Clark '23** and **McKenna Miller '24** were the Region 6 Doubles Runners-Up.



Our **archery team** finished their season by competing at Worlds in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Our **3D team** placed 10th and our **Bullseye team** placed 12th!



Mercy had a full house as we celebrated our annual Grandparents Mass. This is such a special tradition for our students and their families!



Over the summer, many of our students traveled to England, Ireland and France.



After a wonderful time hosting exchange students in Louisville in February, now it was our students' turn to travel! Three of our students went to Argentina over the summer to stay with their host families, attend classes at Santa Ethnea and experience some of the highlights of Buenos Aires.

Our softball jaguars won the 6th Region Championship and went on to the state tournament. Kaden Dunlap, Class of 2023, was named the 6th Region Player of the Year!



In mid-September, our freshmen class participated in a "Freshman Activities Week." During this week they learned more about our Louisville community, the Sisters of Mercy, our school history and one another.



Our soccer team was the District 24 winner! They went on to the regional tournament where they were the Region 6 Runner-Ups. Senior **Nikki Burba** was named the 6th Region Player of the Year!



Our AP Government and Politics class had the opportunity to conduct an exit poll for voters at Seneca High School. After studying campaigns, elections and polling strategies, students designed a poll to collect data about demographics, the Kentucky General Election and the issues voters care about.

New Faculty & Staff

Tate McCormick '18: Admissions Coordinator, **D'Arci Bubenich Freeland '99:** English Teacher, **David Winningham:** Art Teacher, **Lexie Lynch:** Math Teacher, **Stephanie McGarry:** Director of Learning Differences, **Susanne Firestone:** Art Teacher, **Anne Justice:** Spanish Teacher, **Jessica Melton:** Choral Music Teacher, **Coral Wilkerson:** Learning Specialist Coordinator, **Whitney Pendleton:** Science Teacher, and **Nikki Craddock:** Cafeteria Staff. Not pictured: **Graham Stocksedale:** Art Teacher, **Emily Willis:** Director of Annual Giving & Alumnae Relations.





Our volleyball team won the 6th Region tournament and advanced to the semi-finals of the state tournament! **Mady Yaden '26** was named 6th Region Player of the Year.



Sacred Heart hosted Mercy for our first interscholastic flag football game! While the game was intended for friendly competition, both schools came together to embrace the spirit of giving as the cost of admission was a canned good donation.



Norah Turner, Class of 2026, qualified to participate in the state meet. Her finish time at the Super Regional was in the top ten 5k times in Mercy history.

After receiving an outstanding score (188 out of 200 points) for **NASA's Growing Beyond Earth** program during the 2022-2023 school year, several of our students are participating in a new research project for the program this year. They are conducting research on the effects of low-level radiation on plant growth and health, simulating the conditions experienced during space travel. They'll report their findings back to NASA.



Over the summer, our theatre students had the opportunity to perform "The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane" at the **Fringe Festival** in Edinburgh, Scotland with the American High School Theatre Festival.



Mercy was thrilled to present **Clue** as our Fall 2023 theatre production! The production featured two different casts and brought audiences twists, turns, and laughter.



Our golf jaguars were the region team runners-up and qualified to the state tournament. Senior **Sam Stone** went on to the final round for the second year in a row!

Having the Time



We are excited to announce that the 2023 Walk-a-thon brought in a record **\$110,367.00** for Mercy's tuition assistance program! This is our highest total ever and the fifth consecutive year of raising more than \$100k. We are so grateful for everyone who contributed!

TOP FUNDRAISERS:

Our top three fundraisers collectively raised over \$10,000!

First Place: Josie Jacobs '27 - **\$5,210.60**

Second Place: Caroline Cronen '25 - **\$3,144.27**

Third Place: Brooklyn Smallwood '25 - **\$2,525.90**

GO-GETTERS:

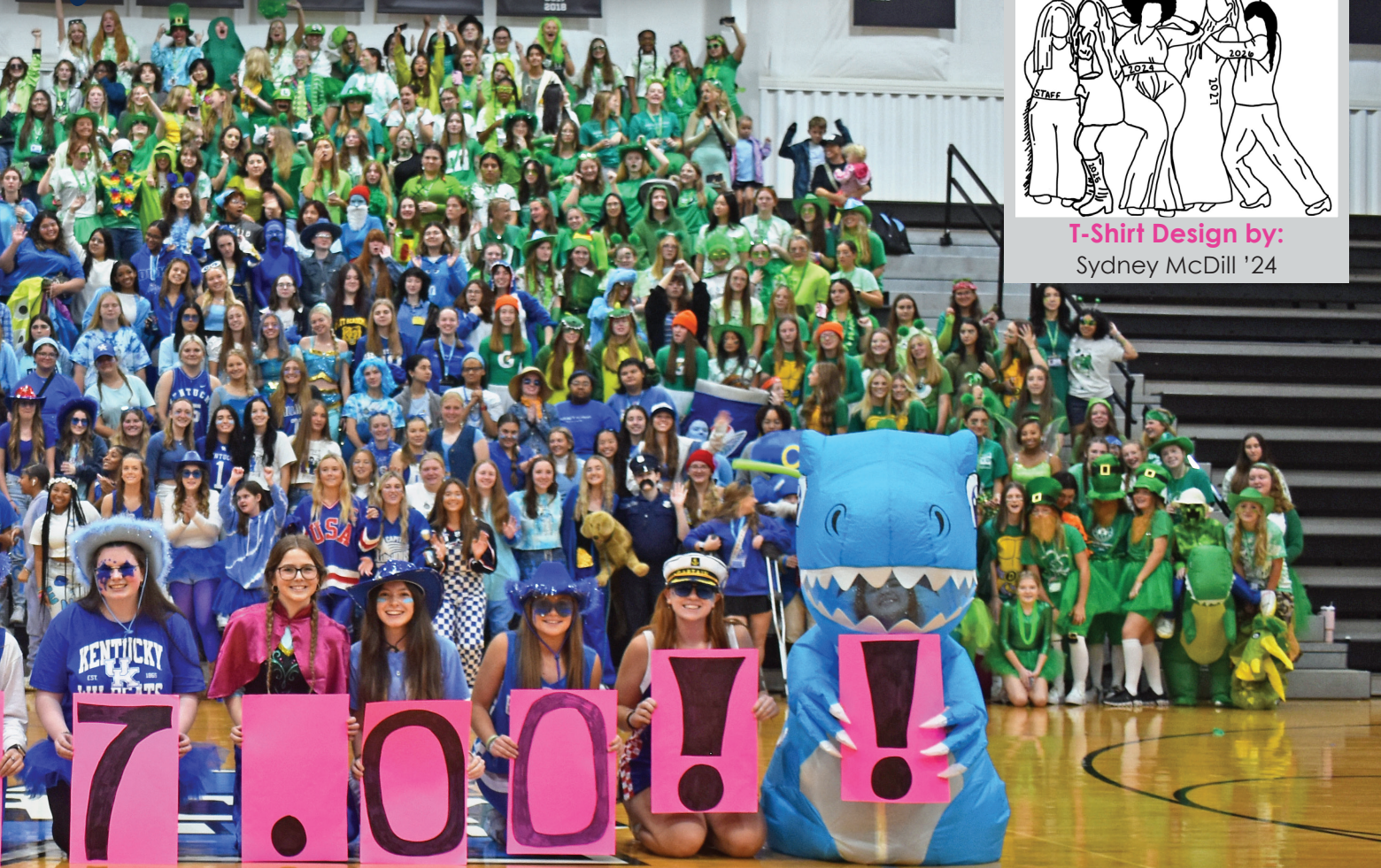
This year, we added a new award to our walk day celebration: the "Go-Getter" Award. This award recognizes the students with the most individual donors.

First Place: Mary Johnson '25 - 25 Donors

Second Place: Caroline Cronen '25 and Emma Rolfingsmeier '27 - 23 Donors



of Our Lives



T-Shirt Design by:
Sydney McDill '24

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If you are interested in event sponsorships at Mercy Academy, please contact Emily Willis, Director of Annual Giving & Alumnae Relations, at ewillis@mercyjaguars.com or 502-671-2010.