

## Mercy Alumni Newsletter



Dear Mercy Alumni,

We hope you are "springing forward" into a season full of renewal, joy, and warmer weather ahead! This season is also time for prayerful reflection as we observe Lent and Ramadan.

To our Catholic alumni, we hope you have a blessed and meaningful Lenten season. May this Lent be a time for spiritual devotion, growth and healing.

### Mercy Gives Back



The Mercy community came together for the annual Pink for Peg Fundraiser in memory of Mrs. Peggy Hillman, beloved Mercy teacher and wife of Mr. John Hillman. Proceeds from the

To our Muslim alumni, we wish you Ramadan Mubarak, which means blessed Ramadan. We hope that you experience the blessings that come from prayer and fasting this holy month.

**Thank you to everyone who attended our first Alumni Meeting & Social on March 12th, either in-person or virtually!** Alumni logged on from as far away as Alabama and Indiana! The highlight of the night was no doubt our incredible seniors – Madison, Anthony, Malakye, and Tyler – who spoke about their experiences on co-op. We are so proud of what they have accomplished at Mercy!

Charles '89 summed up the meeting when he emailed the next day saying, "I enjoyed every minute of it, recapturing a part of my past and seeing the future of Mercy. The young adults last night during the presentation were awesome. The shops they are in are amazing to hear about and totally different than the shops that were available in my era. I was totally blown away hearing and seeing their profile. I look forward to future alumni meetings."

**Mark your calendar now for the next Alumni Meeting & Social to be held September 30th!**

In the meantime, here are some highlights of what's been happening at Mercy this month:

- Congratulations to Mercy's boys varsity basketball team for winning the Penn–Jersey White Division Championship!

fundraiser support a scholarship for a rising senior who lost a family member to cancer.



Mercy is collecting money until April 16th to benefit Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl. Proceeds provide lifesaving support for families experiencing hunger around the world.



Students geared up for a fierce competition during the [Business program's annual March Madness Tournament](#) held last week with proceeds benefiting [City Athletics](#).



Senior basketball players with Coaches Carlton Payne '97, Eric Gunter '18, and Ben Pagent

- Students took a break from their studies to practice self-care during our annual Wellness Day on March 7th. Students chose from activities that included sand art, origami, yoga, puzzles, board games, and creating vision boards.
- Mercy celebrated Catholic Sisters Week March 8th-14th. Thank you [Sister Susan](#), [Sister Barbara](#), [Sister Marta](#), and [Sister Marianna](#) for your support for Mercy and dedication to your vocations.
- **Applications are available for the [Taste of Mercy Summer Camp](#)!** This week-long summer camp is for rising 7th and 8th graders interested in learning about Mercy and experiencing our career programs. Please contact [admissions@mercycyte.org](mailto:admissions@mercycyte.org) with any questions.

You can reach the Alumni Relations Team at [alumni@mercycyte.org](mailto:alumni@mercycyte.org) or call 215-226-1225 ext.102. We're here to assist and support you!

Best wishes for the spring season ahead,

The Alumni Relations Team

## SOLES4 SOULS

Mercy is collecting gently worn shoes for Soles4Souls, a nonprofit organization that distributes shoes and clothing to those in need in developing nations. The drive ends April 15th.

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### Field Trips

- The Environmental Club went to the [196th Annual Philadelphia Flower Show](#).
- Sophomore and senior Culinary & Pastry Arts students [spent the day at Aramark](#) to learn about shipping & handling as well as food cost management.
- Advertising and Design juniors and seniors [visited LaSalle University](#) for a tour of the campus with a few stops, including La Salle TV, their art museum, and the Digital Arts department.

- Seniors embarked on a [trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture](#) in Washington, DC to learn about extraordinary trailblazers and pioneers in social justice, art, sports, and culture.



### **DO YOU PAY TAXES IN PENNSYLVANIA?**

Individuals and businesses can have their PA tax dollars redirected to Mercy to be used for financial aid. This program provides 70% of the financial aid needed to keep Mercy affordable for our students' families. It's not hard to participate. Check out [our website](#) to learn more, or contact Director of Advancement Nancy Green at 215-226-1225 ext. 146 or [ngreen@mercycte.org](mailto:ngreen@mercycte.org).



### **FOLLOW OUR PRESIDENT HOWIE BROWN**

Want to learn more about what our new President is up to at Mercy? Make sure to [follow him on Instagram](#). You'll see exciting updates about the school, our wonderful students, and our community partners!

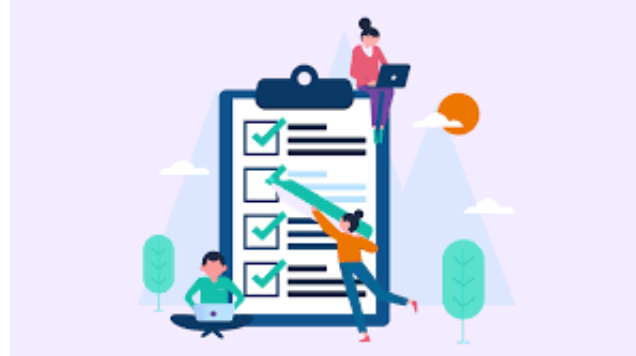




## MERCY ALUMNI PAGE

For the last few months, we have been making changes to our [Mercy Alumni Page](#). There, you'll find helpful resources to connect with classmates, plan a reunion, and be in the know of all things Mercy.

Stay tuned for updates!



## NEW ALUMNI SURVEY

Life moves quickly, and we want to stay in touch. Whether it's a new career milestone, a recent move, or a new addition to the family, we'd love to hear exciting updates from you since graduation.

New address or contact info? Take a moment to fill out our NEW [Mercy Alumni Survey](#)! This will now replace the previous Alumni Update Form.



## MERCY TECH JOB POSTING

Mercy Tech is searching for candidates for the following positions:

[Director of Guidance](#)

[English Language Arts Long-Term Substitute](#)

If you or someone you know is interested in either role, click the links above for the job descriptions.

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### Mercy Alum Spotlight: Brian Burke '20

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Brian Burke '20 credits his high school experience as the reason why he is where he is today in terms of his professional career. In four years at Mercy, Brian earned IT certifications and developed skills as a photographer. He graduated ready and eager to enter the technology industry as a young professional and entrepreneur.

Brian graduated from Mercy in the [Computer Technology program \(now called IT Solutions\)](#) with certificates in OSHA 10, CompTIA A+, IT Fundamentals, PC Pro, and Network Pro. Along with an array of certifications that allow our students to kickstart their careers, students in the IT Solutions program learn problem solving, network maintenance, programming, hardware and software problem diagnosis, as well as repair. Brian credits his teacher, Director of Technology & IT Solutions Instructor Sean Carchidi, "Mr. C.," for giving him and other students hands-on opportunities to

learn.

“Mr. C. taught me so much while I was at Mercy. He’d let me fail until I figured it out on my own.... I think that’s defined my character today.”

Instructors teach students how to take initiative to provide technological solutions in class and at their co-op placements – all before they graduate.

“Generally people say they started their 'career' at their first job. But I’d say I started my tech career at Mercy. Week after week, we got real life situations that helped me hit the ground running in the corporate world.”

For the last five years since his graduation from Mercy, Brian has been working at SEI Investments. He currently works as a Tier Two Support Specialist for their IT Department. Much of what he experiences there mirrors what he was taught at Mercy.

“A normal day in my department at SEI Investments primarily involves providing desk-side support to employees, ensuring that any technical issues are addressed promptly. I handle battery and screen replacements, as well as computer imaging, to ensure devices are properly set up for use. Additionally, I distribute computer accessories to staff and manage over 10,000 assets, including computers, printers, monitors, and other accessories. A significant portion of my day also involves configuring both Apple and Windows devices to meet company standards and user needs, ensuring that all equipment is ready for seamless use.”

Like many Mercy alumni, Brian has an entrepreneurial spirit, which led him to establish his business, [Brian Burke Photography](#). His love for photography started in high school when he was asked to capture school events for the yearbook. You may have seen him serving as the photographer at Mercy’s annual fall fundraiser. Now, Brian is a documentary wedding photographer working to scale his business to the next level.

Despite graduating during a global pandemic, Brian’s journey has led to triumphs and successes, and he remains grateful to Mercy for the community, lessons, and opportunities that the school granted him.

We wish him nothing but the best in the future!

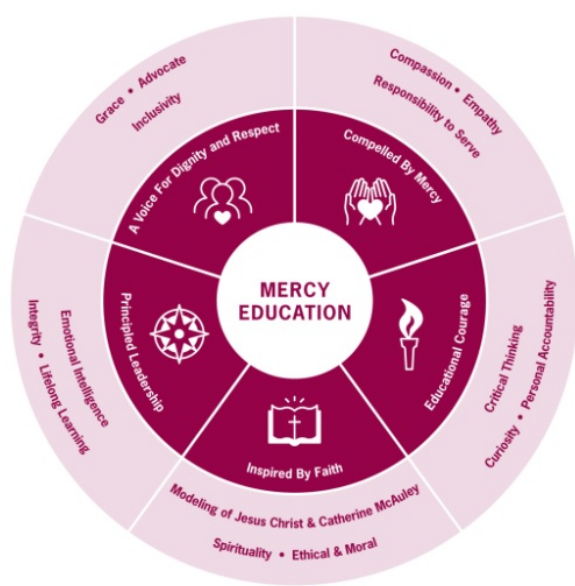


Brian's work as a wedding photographer

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**Our Core Values are the hallmarks of a Mercy Education. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.**





Mercy Education  
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Courageous Action. Selfless Spirit.™  
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