

GENESIS

The St. Ignatius College Preparatory Magazine • SPRING 2025



NLC CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

GENESIS

SPRING 2025

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SI President Edward A. Reese, S.J., uses holy water for a blessing at the New Learning Commons groundbreaking ceremony.

"The New Learning Commons is the work of many hands. We are grateful for all the effort that has already gone into this project, and we look forward to welcoming more members of the SI community joyfully contributing to building our future forward."

— Fr. Reese

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On the cover: SI students visit the New Learning Commons construction site.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear SI Community,

Every day, when I arrive at SI, I pass the construction site for the New Learning Commons, and from my office, I can look out my window to see workers laboring on the foundations. Being that close to it on a regular basis, and getting a sense for the workers' steady progress, I am awed and humbled by the NLC's enormity — not just physically, but for what it will mean for how students and faculty will relate to school, and how it will create opportunities for them to tap into creative student-centered education.

In this issue of GENESIS, we are sharing stories of just a few of the people who have stepped up to bring the NLC to life. If you have not already, you will have the great pleasure of learning about Charlton Buckley '55, who through decades of tremendous success in the business world maintained close ties to his classmates and recently gave an exceptionally generous gift toward the NLC.

We have also profiled Liz Goodrow and Chuck Higuera '74, a parent of alums and an alum, respectively, who are teaming up to help manage construction. We are extremely lucky to have these two, with their extensive professional experience and deep knowledge of SI, on campus every day and working hand in hand with architects and contractors.

Plus, we have stories about several alums and parents of current students who have not only donated generously to SI, but are rallying their peers to support Jesuit education.

A school like SI, and a project the magnitude of the NLC, necessarily cannot be built by just a few people — it requires all types of contributions from all corners of our community. We are grateful for the efforts of those who have already given their support to SI, and we share these stories because we hope you will see how you can be a part of building a legacy for generations of Wildcats to come, in whatever way makes sense for you.

Blessings,

Edward A. Reese, S.J.
President, St. Ignatius College Preparatory



THE DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Hi, SI Alums and Friends,

Let's be real. Our alumni association is not just one of the best; it is the Bruce Springsteen of alumni associations. Why? Because we do not just throw events — we create experiences that make you want to RSVP, “heck yes,” faster than you can say, “Go Cats!”

This year at SI has been a tornado of activity. Our alumni calendar is more packed than a lift line on a powder day, and like The Boss, we're not slowing down. Whether you join us for reunions, networking, or just the great bites (no judgment), we have something for you.

We host more than a dozen reunions annually, bringing together 1,000-plus alumni — from fresh-faced five-year grads to legends celebrating their 70th reunion. But class reunions are just the tip. We are innovating, constantly dreaming up new ways to connect Wildcats and reach every corner of our community.

Take Catsgiving, a new gathering inviting young alums from the Classes of 2018, 2019, and 2020 to kick off the Thanksgiving holiday with each other at an alum-owned bar. More than 50 Wildcats showed up at The Wreck Room, creating a blueprint for us to continue reaching younger classes.

Then there is Downtown Cats, where we teamed up with Mintz law firm to showcase SI alumni leading the AI revolution. It was such a hit, we followed up with a networking mixer at The House of Shields. These events have spoken to and energized a cohort of alums working in these industries that we weren't reaching before.

Looking forward, we are planning a golf tournament at MacKenzie's Green Hills CC on May 19. Plus, we are visiting our New York, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles chapters, cities with major alumni presence. Because Wildcats don't just roam — we build community wherever we land. We will close out the year with the Red & Blue All Class Celebration on June 7 here on campus.

Here's the thing: SI is not just a school — it is a lifelong community. For many in our community, the friends they make during high school become family. Four years to become an Ignatian, bonds for life.

All that is to say our school is evolving to meet the future while staying true to the values that shaped us. It is why we are a leader in the Jesuit network of secondary schools. Cue the track to “Glory Days.”

So, thank you for being part of this incredible community. Now, check our calendar of events, bring out your SI gear, and get ready to connect, because WE ARE SI!

Tom Hsieh '83
Director of Alumni Relations,
St. Ignatius College Preparatory



See all our upcoming events
at [ALUMNI.SIPREP.ORG](https://alumni.siprep.org)



NEWSFROMSI

VOCES DEL PASADO Y PRESENTE: A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

In October, the annual Association of Latin American Students Latinx Showcase was an evening filled with delicious food, music, dance, and storytelling. A celebration of the rich history and vibrant culture of our students' communities, and showcasing performances that honored ancestors, their struggles, contributions, and achievements both past and present, SI students, families, and friends had a great time in the Student Center and Wiegand Theatre.



CHORAL SINGERS PERFORM WITH ALL STATE CHOIR

This year, six SI students auditioned and were accepted into the Coastal Honors Regional Choir, one of three regional California honors choirs. The accepted students, Jodie Rivera '25, Emma Kiehn '25, Gabby Blas '26, Ellie Lee '26, Anna-Sophia Gruzman '27, and Connor Herrmann '27, performed in the Coastal Honors choir concert at Santa Clara University in November as members of the SSAA and SATB choirs. Subsequently, Gruzman, Herrmann, and Rivera had scores high enough to qualify for the CA All State Choir where they performed with accomplished choral students from around the state. This choir performed in Sacramento in January at the California All-State Music Education Conference. (Pictured, left to right: Blas, Lee, Kiehn, Herrmann, Gruzman, and Rivera)

MALIGAYANG PASKO!

Continuing tradition, SI held its annual Pasko event, this time in Cowell Pavilion and the Student Center. The Christmas celebration highlighting Asian cuisines and cultures always draws a large crowd, and both spaces were filled with joy and fellowship.



SI SENDS DELEGATION TO POCC CONFERENCE

Seven adults and four students attended the NAIS People of Color Conference and concurrent Student Diversity Leadership Conference in Denver. This was the first time SI students participated in SDLC. Both students and adults reported it was an enriching and inspiring experience. Pictured, left to right: Mauricio Diaz de Leon, Dr. Tasia Davis, Jordan Liu '26, Dr. Selene Zander, Camila Limo Fernandez '26, Giovanni Gonzalez '26, Jacyln Lewis '26, David Arnott '01, Maricel Hernandez, Ray Orque '03, and Phyllis Tonna '14.



TRADITIONS AND FOOD OF LUNAR NEW YEAR

To celebrate Lunar New Year, the Chinese Culture Club hosted a dumpling-making party in the Student Center. All students were invited to participate in learning about the traditions attached to the Lunar New Year, playing mahjong, and, of course, making and eating dumplings and other wonderful food. Many thanks to the parent volunteers who helped make this afternoon a success!



BUILDING AND TESTING CARNIVAL GAMES

Engineering students designed and built carnival games in the school makerspace. As part of the testing phase of the design process, the class invited Fr. Sauer Academy students to play the games and provide feedback.



JESUITS AFFIRM SPONSORSHIP OF SI AT ALL-SCHOOL MASS

Earlier this school year, SI undertook a Jesuit sponsorship self-study. Subsequently, the provincial, Sean Carroll, S.J., came to SI to celebrate an all-school Mass and affirm the Jesuits' ongoing sponsorship of SI as a Jesuit institution. Pictured, left to right: Provincial Assistant for Secondary and Pre-Secondary Education Tim Caslin, Jesuits West Provincial Sean Carroll, S.J., SI President Eddie Reese, S.J., SI Principal Michelle Nevin Levine, and Jack Mitchell, S.J. '58.



SI LAUDS NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR FINALISTS

Five SI students were named finalists in the prestigious National Merit Scholar competition. (Pictured left to right) Wilson Chen '25, Ciel Duffy '25, Luke Miller '25, Caden Huang '25, and Adrian Liu '25 were among 15,000 students to achieve the honor nationwide out of about 1.3 million entrants. National Merit Scholars are selected on the basis of exceptional standardized test scores and an application for recognition, which includes an essay, school endorsement, and more.

COACHES PRAISED IN MAGAZINE

The March 2025 issue of Olympian, the magazine for the Olympic Club, highlighted Gina Castagnola '07, Kandis Canonica '07, Carla Tocchini '13, and Julia Cesnik, all coaches for SI's women's water polo team and club members, for their dedication to youth sports. Coach Castagnola was quoted extensively speaking about her coaching philosophy and giving advice to athletes, parents, and other coaches. Among many pieces of advice, she told the magazine, "It's so important to find joy in your sport. You are more than your sport, more than any mistake you made."

Read the Olympian here



ROBOTICS REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

At the start of March, SI's Team 5924 - Golden Gate Robotics placed second in the Pinnacles Regional in Hollister, CA. Not only did the team reach the highest seed in its history, it also received the Team Sustainability Award. At the end of March, SI once again hosted a robotics competition in McCullough Gymnasium, welcoming teams from around the country, plus teams from Taiwan and Turkey.

LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM: CITY ARTS LECTURE

In March, 50 students, accompanied by English and social science teachers, attended a City Arts lecture featuring Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Anna Malaika Tubbs. Adichie shared insights on her novel, "Purple Hibiscus," which our English students were reading at the time.





HOLOCAUST REFUGEE SPEAKS WITH SI STUDENTS

At the invitation of social science teacher Eileen O'Kane '97 and SI's Jewish Affinity Group, Annemarie Yellin, one of the last surviving Holocaust refugees, shared her powerful story with SI students in Bannan Theatre. Ms. Yellin, who fled Nazi Germany to Belgium and found refuge in a Catholic convent during World War II, spoke about the profound importance of acceptance, love, and gratitude, especially in life's darkest moments.

Members of JAG and moderator Kerry Schwartz (right) with Ms. Yellin

JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE BUILDS BONDS WHILE COMPETING

In October, SI Junior Classical League attended Ludi Octobres, the NorCal Convention, participating in a variety of contests: academic, artistic and just-for-fun, including pickleball and spike ball. They also had the opportunity to hear workshop presenters who addressed topics like "Monsters in the Ancient World," "Strong Females of the Roman Empire," and "The Ins and Outs of Roman Toilets." Among the award winners were Keoni Liwanag '25, Margot Rodgers '25, Rini Saha '25, Maddie Dela Rama '27, Connor Herrmann '27, Georgia Parr '27, Gia Song '27, Michael Fong '28, and Radhika Saha '28.

In February, students competed in regionals, and in March they attended the state convention in Irvine, which included semifinal rounds of competition, where SI JCL took second place in catapult, second place in girls' chariot, and third place in boys' chariot. Liwanag, who also served as a coach this year, said, "The March convention was probably the most hectic, laugh-inducing, enjoyable, and memorable thing I have ever done at my time in SI, and I am so glad I got to experience it in my senior year, with all of the camaraderie, spirit, and love that JCL and SI have to offer. I am proud of all our team's accomplishments, and seeing our bonds develop over the years was spectacular to experience."



SI STUDENTS TAKE THE STAGE IN D.C.

The Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice is an annual social justice conference organized by the Ignatian Solidarity Network. The IFTJ was founded in 1997 to commemorate the Jesuit martyrs of El Salvador and two laywomen, Elba Ramos and her teenage daughter Celina Ramos, who were assassinated in 1989 for their work with their communities. Their legacy of faith-based activism continues to inspire the event.

IFTJ brings together students, educators, parish members, and advocates from Jesuit and other Catholic institutions to engage in social justice education, advocacy, and faith-based action. This year, SI sent a delegation of 12 students and two adults to Washington, D.C.

Two of our students, Evelyn Conboy '26 and Kate Ozaeta '26, were invited to speak at this year's IFTJ, with a talk titled, "Redefining Youth Advocacy: Unity Beyond Barriers."

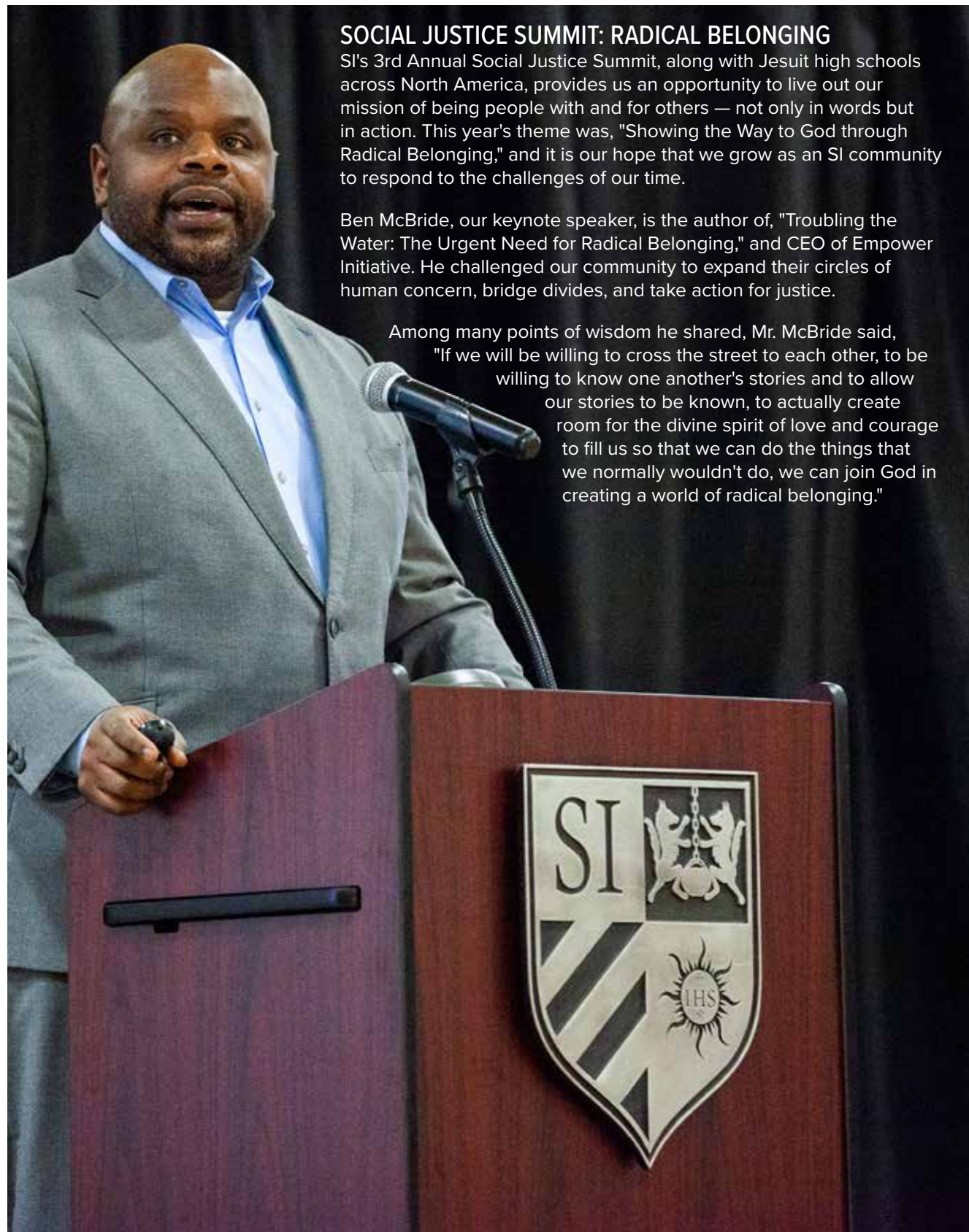
Chosen for their leadership in advocacy and engagement through the Arrupe Social Justice Council, Conboy and Ozaeta became student leaders advocating for state-level legislation to support more just and humane policies. Their dedication to this cause led to their selection as Ignatian Network Speakers, where they shared their journey and encouraged others to engage in legislative advocacy for communities facing injustice.

"Our many identities, values, and dreams all converge toward one greater path — toward justice, toward peace," shared Ozaeta as she reflected on their mission. Conboy added, "I have come to realize that my mixed identity is a strength, not a barrier."

The two have been mentors at a civics and leadership camp, empowering middle schoolers to find their voices and take action. They challenged the IFTJ audience to do the same: "Whoever you are, be bold, have faith, and embrace your identity. Together, let us be advocates for our future. Let us be changemakers."

Watch Evelyn Conboy '26 and Kate Ozaeta '26 speak at IFTJ





SOCIAL JUSTICE SUMMIT: RADICAL BELONGING

SI's 3rd Annual Social Justice Summit, along with Jesuit high schools across North America, provides us an opportunity to live out our mission of being people with and for others — not only in words but in action. This year's theme was, "Showing the Way to God through Radical Belonging," and it is our hope that we grow as an SI community to respond to the challenges of our time.

Ben McBride, our keynote speaker, is the author of, "Troubling the Water: The Urgent Need for Radical Belonging," and CEO of Empower Initiative. He challenged our community to expand their circles of human concern, bridge divides, and take action for justice.

Among many points of wisdom he shared, Mr. McBride said, "If we will be willing to cross the street to each other, to be willing to know one another's stories and to allow our stories to be known, to actually create room for the divine spirit of love and courage to fill us so that we can do the things that we normally wouldn't do, we can join God in creating a world of radical belonging."

BSU SHOWCASE SHINES BRIGHT

After many years in the Carlin Commons, the 2025 edition of the annual Black Student Union Showcase was held in Cowell Pavilion. Embracing the challenges of a new space, the BSU put on a spirited and spectacular event with a Harlem Renaissance theme, featuring performances and speeches by students, with food provided by SI kitchen staff.



BSU Co-President Jaiden Marx '25 explained that the showcase is for all of SI to come celebrate. He said, "It is important that this event be for the whole school community. Looking forward, I hope the BSU is able to build upon this and welcome even more people to see the passion we have for our different cultures and experiences, especially friends and other people who may be simply curious to see why this is such a big deal."

BSU Co-President Jadyn Lewis '26 added that younger students played a big role in the event's success this year, saying, "Many of the performances at this year's showcase were by frosh students. They are a talented group. I was so happy to see frosh that I first met at the Black applicant evening participating in the showcase. They are inspiring."

In addition, SI Alumni Board President Leon Metz III '96 was given the school's Black Excellence Award, reflecting his extensive commitment to the development and success of Black students at SI. Mr. Metz is the third recipient of the award, following Jerome Williams '75 and Leah Pimentel '00.



INSPIRED BY PERSONAL JOURNEY, SOPHOMORE WRITES BOOKS TO HELP OTHERS

When she was a young child, Alaia Cha '27 was diagnosed with the skin disorder vitiligo, and in looking back at the experience wished there had been more resources to help her deal with her insecurity about the condition. To help other children in a similar position, she wrote and illustrated a pair of children's books called, "Magic Spots and Me," and, "It's Okay to Not be Okay."

"I have always enjoyed making art," Cha said. "But creating books is a newer thing. After I told my doctor about it, they asked to see it, and they have started giving copies to children at their practice. I am really grateful to be able to help kids feel less insecure with themselves in whatever way I can."

The books are available on Amazon, and Cha is considering new projects she might pursue.

"I like making books, and in the process of making these I have learned a lot about children's social-emotional needs, so if I make more, I want to help kids in some way and apply what I have learned."

MEET SI'S NLC PROJECT LEADS

Liz Goodrow and Chuck Higuera '74
know the school from a variety of angles



Chuck Higuera '74 grows especially animated when talking about how the New Learning Commons will fundamentally differ from most schools.

"The basic unit of design for schools throughout the 20th century was the classroom," he said. "They were generally about 960 square feet, and whatever needed to be taught was taught within that space — your space was your space and you had to make it work. In the NLC, teachers will not be bound by the classroom. There will be all sorts of spaces, and pedagogy will drive the type of environment in which they provide instruction and where learning occurs."

After decades of experience as an architect specializing in educational environments, Mr. Higuera is working for SI helping manage the NLC project. He smiles as he talks about the sheer number of people working to bring the facility to life.

"Outside of the administration, faculty, and other staff at SI, there are the architects, Mark Cavagnero Associates, and the contractor, DevCon Construction," he said. "There are also a host of specialty consultants and subcontractors who are engaged with helping us pull all this together. Liz and I represent the school, helping coordinate and communicate among all partners so that work is done in as organized and thoughtful a way as possible."

"Liz" is Liz Goodrow, SI's NLC project manager. A parent of four alums — Corgan '18, Izzy '20, Brendan '21, and Eve '23 — Ms. Goodrow brings her knowledge of SI and her professional background as a systems engineer and then a lawyer to this job. While her days are largely occupied with management and organizational matters, she was quick to emphasize that what drives her is anticipation of what the NLC will do for daily life at SI.

"I already have a sense of what the energy is going to be in the new building," she said. "There will be so many places, big and small, for students to study and get work done, but also simply be around their friends and hang out. Not to mention, there will be so much natural sunlight, I feel that when you walk in, you are going to feel positive, wonderful, happy energy."

Having an alum and a parent of alums working closely on the project is invaluable because they have knowledge of SI's physical layout and an intimate sense for the emotional tenor of the school, including which elements are particularly important to our community.

"Chuck graduated from SI, so I did not have to explain to him why it is a big deal that we are replacing the Carlin Commons," Ms. Goodrow said. "He also understands why the new chapel we are building is essential, and he understands the message of continuity we are sending by incorporating the marvelous glass windows from Montserrat Chapel, that was in McGucken Hall, into its design."

She expressed special gratitude for Mr. Higuera's partnership throughout the NLC design and building process.

"Chuck is a gift. From the beginning, he was a part of the team that helped find the architect and identified our builder. It was a rigorous process in which we interviewed a number of firms, and through that process I was regularly awed by his knowledge — not just of architecture, but of navigating government permitting processes and more," she said. "I am grateful for the level of respect and kindness we have for each other."

Mr. Higuera was equally effusive about working with Ms. Goodrow, saying, "Liz is amazing. Her background is not in design or construction, but I am amazed by the quickness with which she has come up to speed with what she needs to know. She has no problem asking questions, and she always has great questions, which is an invaluable skill. I think we complement each other very well."

When speaking about how they anticipate the SI community will take to the NLC, they are united in their belief that it will be a dramatic change for students, faculty, and staff, almost on a visceral level.

"Take the Hub," Mr. Higuera said, referring to an open space with terrace seating which people will encounter immediately after moving through the new main entrance. "That is an example of a very community-oriented space. The same goes for the new Commons, the large open space on the ground floor of the NLC. Even before demolition, there was precious little space on campus to have an incidental meeting, stop, and interact without a feeling of being moved along. After this is built, there will be abundant space for those kinds of interactions."

“I already have a sense of what the energy is going to be in the new building...”

— Liz Goodrow

"The main reason I said yes when Fr. Reese asked me to work on this project is that I think SI is magical," Ms. Goodrow said. "When each of my children graduated, I saw that they were 18-year-olds with a keen awareness of the needs of others and what it means to be with and for others — I love that my kids still reference being with and for others when talking about experiences in college and as young adults, whether it is their faith or anything else. And for that, I credit the education and formation they received at SI. That relates to the building because this is the future of SI. We want to keep it relevant and a place where parents are excited to send their children so they can also have that magic."

As for the construction process, there is a long way to go, but Mr. Higuera and Ms. Goodrow are both pleased with the progress so far.

Ms. Goodrow said, "We are on time and we are under budget. I think we will stay on that path, and we could not have done it without the hard work and cooperation of every employee on campus."

Read the profile of Chuck Higuera '74 published in the Summer 2011 issue of GENESIS



CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS LEADING BY EXAMPLE

SI's *Building Our Future Forward* Campaign Cabinet members are leading by example, making gifts and actively inspiring others to join them, in particular by hosting events where people can learn more about how we are carrying out our Jesuit mission and building the New Learning Commons.

The commitment and generosity of our Campaign Cabinet members — including current families, alumni, parents of alumni, and friends of SI — are fueling incredible momentum behind our shared vision. Thanks to their leadership, the dream of a transformative new space for our students is quickly becoming a reality.

As of April 3, 2025, their inspiring example has encouraged others to step forward, growing the Campaign Cabinet to an impressive 136 members, and counting. We are blessed to have such a dedicated group of donors who support the important work we are called to do. Join them in shaping the future of Jesuit education.

If you would like to host an event in support of our campaign, please reach out to VP of Advancement Joe Vollert '84 at jvollert@siprep.org.

CHARLTON H. BUCKLEY '55: A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE

Few alumni have matched the extraordinary contributions to his alma mater as Charlton H. Buckley '55, and none in his class have surpassed his dedication.



A St. Emydius graduate, he dominated track at SI for four years, setting a school long jump record that stood unbroken for 35 years.

When Mr. Buckley assumed leadership of his father's Smith Roofing business after graduating from UC Berkeley, he demonstrated remarkable business acumen. By merging his Bay Service Company with the family enterprise, he transformed the roofing company into an international corporation, primarily securing contracts with the United States government.

In 1983, Mr. Buckley sold the business and launched Henry Broadcasting Company — named after his father — which operated 18 radio stations across eight cities during broadcast radio's golden era. Recognizing the shifting landscape of traditional radio, he strategically sold HBC at its peak value in 1996 and retired to Lake Tahoe's eastern shore.

While achieving remarkable business success, Mr. Buckley and his wife, Susan, built a family legacy during their 57-year marriage, raising two children, Sarah and Sean. Their family tradition continues at SI through grandsons Henry Stuart '20 and Oliver Stuart '22.

For the Class of 1955's 55th reunion in 2010, Mr. Buckley hosted classmates and their spouses for a weekend in Tahoe, continuing a tradition of connection that includes annual Christmas lunches in San Francisco and monthly gatherings at Original Joe's on first Fridays. These enduring rituals have forged some of the strongest bonds among any SI class.

Former California Governor Jerry Brown '55 said of his classmate, "Charlton is a very smart guy who did incredibly well in business. But more to the point, he stands out, uniquely, in his loyalty and unbelievable generosity to SI and to the Class of 1955. I really appreciate how he has made sure that everyone — whether classmate, wife, or widow — can enjoy our monthly gatherings at Original Joe's on the first Friday of every month. It is a long tradition that keeps alive a very particular brand of the Ignatian spirit. Charlton has been instrumental in making sure this all keeps happening, even into the seventh decade after graduation."

In late 2024, recognizing SI's need for relevant and innovative facilities for future Ignatian leaders, Mr. Buckley contacted Vice President of Advancement Joe Vollert '84 to make a seven-figure donation to the New Learning Commons, joining over 1,000 other supporters of the Building Our Future Forward campaign.



*Members of the Class of 1955
gather in Tahoe in 2010*



DREW WILLIAMSON AND JILL JARRETT “FUTURE LEADERS, WITH AND FOR OTHERS”

Drew Williamson and Jill Jarrett, parents of Rex '27, and Ivy '29, had no prior familial connection to SI when their eldest child started attending the school in the fall of 2023. They realized early on that their family's values were aligned with the school's. Mr. Williamson and Ms. Jarrett joined the Campaign Cabinet at a Benefactor's Council Level and made a multiyear transformative investment in the New Learning Commons in order to support Jesuit education in San Francisco. They felt there was no better time than right now to support the New Learning Commons. The new campus would have a profound impact on the much deserving current and future SI students. They are visionary leaders.

They said, "Nothing is more important to us than educating and equipping children to become our future leaders, with and for others. We believe in the way that St. Ignatius goes about doing that, and supporting the creation of the New Learning Commons was a perfect opportunity for us to support that mission."



JUSTIN AND MICHELLE HUGHES “PAY IT FORWARD FOR THE NEXT 150 YEARS”

Justin and Michelle Hughes are parents to three SI students, Brady '26, James '26, and Hudson '28. From the early stages of the campaign, they have been enthusiastic supporters and have championed our Jesuit mission. Their commitment goes beyond their own philanthropy. In January, they hosted a Building Our Future Forward Campaign event at their home to encourage others to join them in leader-level giving. They are inspiring others to support the campaign and help ensure that SI continues to provide the very best for our students, faculty, and staff.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes said, "We have chosen to join the Campaign Cabinet and support the NLC project to create a lasting legacy for generations to come. We know the bricks and mortar project is something that all students can benefit from and enjoy. This is our way to pay it forward for the next 150 years of Ignatian students."

**“We know the bricks
and mortar project is
something that all
students can enjoy
and benefit from.”**

— Mr. and Mrs. Hughes

“We are blessed that our alumni community is ready and willing to invest in a school that has had such a profound impact on them.”

— Fr. Eddie Reese



TERESA BRIGGS AND MIKE QUACKENBUSH
“WE BELIEVE IN JESUIT EDUCATION”

Some of the most enthusiastic supporters of SI and our mission are parents of alums who stay engaged with the school after their children have graduated. As cabinet members, Teresa Briggs, parent of Cole '18, and Mike Quackenbush, parent of Charlie '22 and Nicole '26, hosted an event for alums, parents of alums, and other interested families, emphasizing that supporting the Building Our Future Forward campaign is a perfect way to honor their child's SI experience.

They said, "We believe in Jesuit education and supporting the greater San Francisco community. It is important to us that talented students who otherwise could not get a Jesuit education receive that opportunity."



TRIPP JONES '99, KELLY TURBIN '00, AND MEGAN TURBIN
“WE ARE COMMITTED TO OUR IGNATIAN VALUES”

Tripp Jones '99, Kelly Turbin '00, and Kelly's wife, Megan Turbin, are dedicated supporters of SI, the Fr. Sauer Academy, and the Building Our Future Forward campaign. To inspire more of their peers to join the campaign, themselves, in March 2025, Mr. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Turbin hosted an event at Piatti, a restaurant in Mill Valley. About 20 alums and friends of SI attended and heard from SI President Eddie Reese, S.J., and SI Principal Michelle Nevin Levine about how they can help ensure SI continues offering a top Jesuit education in San Francisco.

"We are so fortunate to have all of you gathered here," Ms. Levine said. "SI, at its core, is the same place you attended. We are committed to our Ignatian values and carry on many of the traditions that you remember. At the same time, we have also grown tremendously in many ways." She then went on to describe a focus on individual and community well being, school spirit, and active engagement in the classrooms.

"We are blessed that our alumni community is ready and willing to invest in a school that has had such a profound impact on them," Fr. Reese said. "Our alumni's support for SI and the Fr. Sauer Academy is essential to our mission, forming women and men with and for others. We're so very thankful that you want to ensure that future students will have the quality SI experience that you enjoyed." 

The Hands and Hearts Building the NLC

The New Learning Commons is the most ambitious project in SI's history, a massive overhaul of our Sunset campus, introducing facilities that meet the demands of modern teaching and learning while ensuring that SI will continue providing a quality Jesuit education in San Francisco well into the next century.

It is also ambitious because it requires so much effort, energy, resources, and sacrifice from the entire community.

Faculty and staff have graciously shuffled offices and classrooms around during construction. Students have adjusted to new accommodations, including temporary classrooms in The Village on the south side of campus. Parents volunteer their time and services and alums have selflessly written checks and donated to the NLC at all levels.

But, of course, a building does not arise from the ground on its own — it requires labor. Hands and voices. Ideas and services. People preparing the current campus for transformation. And many Ignatians have already answered the call, truly making the NLC a community-wide project.

Walk through the halls at SI during a school day and your ears are likely to be met with music coming from the piano just inside

the main entrance across from the security desk, a pleasant new addition to the atmosphere at SI amidst construction.

Talented students take turns tickling the ivories during breaks, breathing new life into a piano that has sung for so many Ignatians. The piano in the main lobby once lived in Orradre Chapel and was relocated ahead of demolition last summer, one of the many moving pieces around campus.

Golden Gate Moving Co., owned by Cherie and John McGee, parents to Hayley '26 and Danny '27, offered their services to SI, gently transporting the piano and creating a new experience for students, and becoming an example of the collective lift this school is embarking on.

In November 2023, seventeen students from SI and the Fr. Sauer Academy traveled to San Francisco City Hall to speak before the Planning Commission, explaining the need and excitement for the NLC to city leaders. The students, most of whom will have graduated from SI before the doors to the NLC open, provided the most powerful testimonies, earning praise from the commissioners and, most importantly, securing approval and the future of SI for generations to come.





Olivia O'Neill '24 speaks to the San Francisco Planning Commission

Olivia O'Neill '24, now a student-athlete on the rowing team at the University of Texas, was a part of the delegation at City Hall.

"Speaking in front of so many people in such an official setting was definitely intimidating. I had never done anything like that before, but I felt incredibly proud to share what SI has meant to me. It was a chance to help others see how improving the facilities could make a difference for so many future students, just like SI did for me," she said.

Ms. O'Neill added, "It felt great to play even a small role in helping get the New Learning Commons approved. Of course, SI has always been more than just buildings — it's about people, community, and shared experiences. But having a new space ensures that SI can keep creating the kind of incredible experiences I was lucky enough to be a part of."

With the project approved and traversing full steam ahead, things at SI began to move, including the robotics lab, a delicate space that calls for careful planning and relocation. Enter Lawson Drayage, a family-run transportation company led by George Lawson '71 and his son, Patrick Lawson '01.

The elder Lawson is no stranger to periods of transition at SI: he spent his first two years of high school at the Stanyan Street campus and his final two in the Sunset.

Watch the 2023 San Francisco Planning Commission meeting where O'Neill and others spoke in support of the NLC



"Coming from a traditional environment on Stanyan Street, the overall experience of a new school was very exciting," he said. He advised current students to be patient, "It'll be worth it when it's all said and done."

Reflecting on his involvement in preparing our school for this chapter, Mr. Lawson said, "It's quite rewarding. We have had some great times at the campus and looking forward, it's all going to be a thrilling adventure with a very large reward at the end."

Thirteen months after that meeting at City Hall, SI's McGucken Hall, Carlin Commons, and Orradre Chapel were all demolished. Standing in the rubble was Brent Wheeler '82, an environmental consultant with Golden Gate Environmental, Inc.

He performed daily inspections on the site, monitoring dust and consulting on the environmental aspects of this stage. This job, for Mr. Wheeler, had a special significance.

"It is very rewarding to return to campus and be associated with the new NLC construction project. The new design by Cavagnero

Associates and proposed usage of the new three-story building structure, including the new commons, is truly amazing and signifies a major step forward for SI, enhancing its academics — although the several food fights in the old Commons with Br. Draper in the middle will surely be missed," he said.

He reflected that, "As an SI alum for 43 years still maintaining a very strong and lasting friendship with several of my classmates, I hope that the new NLC addition to SI will help carry on this tradition for years to come."

The NLC is for Ignatians, by Ignatians.

The SI community's fingerprints are all over this project, an endeavor emblematic of the values generations of Wildcats have been taught. To be people with and for others means to go out in the world, beyond the classroom, and make an impact in your community.

St. Ignatius prepares the leaders of tomorrow, teaching them Jesuit values and arming them with skills and curiosity and they come back to push their school forward. This is only just the start of this push and we are excited to see how our alumni and more give to the next era of SI.



Brent Wheeler '82 on the New Learning Commons construction site



Lasting Friendships, Lasting Impact

Class of 1999 group donates to the Fr. Sauer Academy

A close-knit group of friends from the Class of 1999 joined together for a gift to the Fr. Sauer Academy endowment, which has been commemorated with a plaque near the FSA main office. The T.R.U.E. Friendships '99 Scholarship was made possible by the generosity of Jeremy Brady, Chris Byrd, Sheila Clifford, Ryan Feeney, Tom Kazarian, Giselle (Talkoff) Linnane, John Pellegrini, Tre Sayle, Joe Skiffer, Miko Suarez, and Mario Urquilla.

Mr. Sayle said making the gift felt rewarding, and the group took special pride in ensuring future students can benefit from a quality Jesuit

education as they did. He added, "We are a diverse group with different backgrounds and collectively appreciate the mission of the Fr. Sauer Academy. If alumni feel as though SI played a role in creating lasting friendships, perhaps other groups will feel inspired to support one or more of the many initiatives at SI.

"SI is so much bigger than a high school and means much more to its community than a diploma. SI can make a tangible impact on San Francisco and beyond, and programs like Fr. Sauer Academy are one way the school can do that. As alumni, we continue to be men and women with and for others and look forward to SI's additional initiatives that carry forward that mission."

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE
FORWARD**

SI'S NEW CHAPEL will be in the northwest corner of the New Learning Commons. Designed to take advantage of the quiet end of campus and the natural views of the Pacific Ocean, our new chapel will be the cornerstone of our community, reinforcing our Jesuit mission to form men and women who see God in all things. Larger than our previous chapel, it can be opened up to seat more than 1,000 attendees.

President's Gala

Nov. 16, 2024

As the school prepared for the demolition of McGucken Hall, Carlin Commons, and Orradre Chapel, we moved our Annual President's Gala downtown to The Conservatory at One Sansome. This celebration is our way of thanking the parents, alums, and friends who had generously contributed leadership levels of financial support to SI during the previous fiscal year, Lifetime Members of the 1855 Society, and Fr. Carlin Heritage Society members.



GENESIS ONLINE EXTRA

In February, we published and emailed Genesis Online Extra, a digital addition to the printed magazine. We still aim to publish and mail the magazine twice per year, in the spring and fall, but Genesis Online Extra is another way to update the SI community about how our Jesuit mission continues to shape leaders who excel in a wide variety of fields.



How Grief Blossoms into Tradition and Camaraderie for Mike Carroll and the Class of 1958

Wildcat Alumni Network: Keeping the Faith



What Do SI Students Think of the New Learning Commons?



Alumni Department Celebrates Leon Metz III '96 with the 2025 SI Black Excellence Award

[ALUMNI.SIPREP.ORG/GENESIS-EXTRA](https://alumni.siprep.org/genesis-extra)

Scan the QR code or visit the URL to see Genesis Online Extra, which includes these stories and more.



BRIGHT LIGHTS BIG CITY

March 1-2
SI 2025

This year we gave our parent clubs an enormous challenge: combine the Annual Ignatian Guild Fashion Show and Fathers' Club Auction into one event and hold it at an off campus location. The result? The BIG Event, which was held over two days at Ft. Mason Festival Pavilion.

Saturday night was a dazzling auction and senior show attended by more than 1,000 people. "Bright Lights, Big City" was the theme for both guests' attire and students' fashion show segments. Our live auction featured spirited competition for dining and vacation items, and a paddle raise for our Scholarship Fund. Guests who attended on Sunday experienced a shopping marketplace of specialized vendors before sitting down to lunch and the senior show. The weekend was a wonderful celebration of the Class of 2025 and raised more than \$1.75M for the New Learning Commons and our scholarship program.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped SI Go Big! Extra big thanks to Ignatian Guild President Kerry Honey, Fathers' Club President Marty Murphy '84; Show Chairs Kelly Anderson, Holly Couden, and Jocelyn Sandler; Party Chairs Jeannine Cranston and Marina Hegstrom; Auction Chairs Josh Shaskan, Bryan Spaulding '89, and Karl Doerner; and the countless volunteers who helped make The BIG Event a weekend to remember.



PERFORMINGARTS



PIANO RECITAL



WINTER DANCE

WINTER CHORAL



WINTER SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA



NEIL SIMON'S RUMORS



WINTER JAZZ BAND



THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

Previously "Untapped" Talent on Display in SI's Spring Musical



Left to right: Jack Bennett '28 and Sami Halteh '26

SI's 2025 spring musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone," had multiple roles with extensive tap dancing. Two students, Sami Halteh '26 and Jack Bennett '28, took on the challenge despite limited or no previous experience with tap, learning incredibly quickly.

Halteh had been in several SI productions, including the musical, but he had no prior tap experience before "The Drowsy Chaperone."

"I have done other forms of dance," he said. "The first time I ever put on tap shoes was in Bannan Theatre. At first, it was difficult, because there was so much more to it than I thought, but I feel like I have made a lot of progress building my skills from the basic steps up to different combinations."

Unlike Halteh, Bennett had worn tap shoes before and had some basic experience, but nothing approaching what he was asked to do for this show.

"On the first day of rehearsal, we watched the video for the 'Cold Feet' dance number, and I thought, 'This is insane. There is no way this is going to happen,'" he said. "But the more we rehearsed, the more confident I was that we could do it, and I am proud of all the work we have done for this show. It was hard, with some late nights working on it in the theater, but also lots of fun."

Both actors spoke of the mutual respect they developed and how rewarding it was to work with each other.

"Because Jack has a little bit of tap experience, and because he's such a great partner, whenever I got lost or confused, I knew I could ask him for help," Halteh said.

"Sami is a great actor," Bennett said. "I think we have a really strong connection, not just with our characters, who shared a lot of stage time, but as actors. I think we worked really well together and I hope audiences saw that connection when we were tap dancing together."

SIATHLETICS



FALL 2024

Football
V: 10-3 WCAL + CCS
Open Division Champions
JV: 4-6
F: 3-7

Women's Cross Country
V: 3rd WCAL
JV: 5th WCAL
F/S: 2nd WCAL

Flag Football
V: 6-9
JV: 7-3

Women's Volleyball
V: 23 - 12
JV: 10-5
F: 19-3 WCAL
Champions

Women's Tennis
V: 20-6
JV: 13-2

Women's Golf
V - 10-2
JV - 8-4

Field Hockey
V: 18-4-1
SCVAL + CCS Champions
JV: 12-0-1 SCVAL Champions

Men's Cross Country
V: 2nd WCAL
JV: 2nd WCAL
S: 4th WCAL
F: 3rd WCAL

Men's Water Polo
V: 9-14
JV: 8-9-2
F/S: 1-9

Women's Water Polo
V: 2-16
JV: 10-12



WINTER 2025

Men's Basketball

V: 22-9
JV: 20-4
F Blue: 19-4
F Red: 18-6

Women's Basketball

V: 16-12
JV: 14-2
F: 13-7

Women's Soccer

V: 11-8-4
JV: 12-3-1
F: 4-6-3

Men's Soccer

V: 10-6-5
JV: 13-4-3
F: 4-12-2

Rugby

V: 3-6
JV: 3-3

BRUCE-MAHONEY BASKETBALL 2025



Scenes from Chase Center on Jan. 14, 2025. SI's women's basketball team clinched the Bruce-Mahoney trophy with a 58-48 win over SHC. In the second game of the double-header, SI's men's team defeated SHC, 78-42.



Fr. Carlin Heritage Society Update

In an effort to inspire others to support SI's future by including the school in their estate plans, several generous members of SI's Fr. Carlin Heritage Society helped launch SI's first-ever Legacy Challenge. For each new legacy gift we were notified of before June 30, 2025, SI would receive a \$5,000 contribution from these supporters (while funds lasted). We are excited to announce that we reached our goal ahead of schedule and have welcomed 14 new Carlin Society members this year — so far! A heartfelt thank you to all who participated!



The Fr. Carlin Heritage Society also hosted a webinar titled, "We Never Thought It Would Be Our Family: Trust and Estate Planning Issues Relating to Capacity." A special thank you to our presenters, Amir Sarreshtehdary '92 and Alexandra Banis '04, for sharing their time and expertise.

In addition, the Fr. Carlin Heritage Society and 1855 Loyalty Society hosted a reception for members before attending SI's Spring Musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone." Attendees learned more about the exciting progress of the New Learning Commons and then enjoyed the show. It was a wonderful evening at the theater!



SIALUMNISPOTLIGHT

FATIMA YUSUF WRIGHT '96

WORKING HARD FOR A GREATER PURPOSE

Fatima Yusuf Wright '96 had been singing all her life, an entertainer comfortable in her own skin, when she walked through the doors as a frosh at SI, eager to audition for the musical. What followed was a performance that, she admits now, did not reflect her true self and, instead, was an imitation of what she thought she needed to be.

She was told to find her voice before auditioning again. The lessons she learned from this pivotal moment — about authenticity, work ethic, faith — shaped the path she would follow for the rest of her life.

Mrs. Wright landed a lead role in every subsequent musical, a notable bullet point on a long list of co-curriculars with which she was involved, from choral programs to chamber choir, the Asian Student Coalition, and more. In addition, she traveled extensively on weekends, entertaining and performing all over the country before flying home for class on Monday. It is no surprise, then, that she has evolved into an entrepreneur who pours her creativity into her community.

"Being a woman of color, of Pakistani-Filipino descent, meant you rarely saw yourself in singers and actors at that time," she said. "For SI to be out-of-the-box and give me a platform to be my authentic self was different, and I'm so grateful for it. It allows me to do what I do now, motivating our community and people of color to find their niche so they may shine as well."

These days, her plate is full. She is the founder of her own media production company, part-owner of an events planning business, a board member for three nonprofits, an SI class representative for the Class of 1996, mother to a current SI student, Diorel David '26, and on top of everything she has an album coming out in October.

Mrs. Wright said, "When I was at SI, I learned how to work hard no matter what, but especially working hard for a greater purpose. With the unyielding support of my parents, it was the inspiration and the mentorship of the teachers and staff that motivated me to understand I could do whatever I wanted, that the world was my oyster."

If her talents are the vehicle, Mrs. Wright's faith is the GPS, guiding her to the destinations where she can make the most impact.

"I wouldn't be a singer or an entrepreneur without my faith because I know that God gave me my wonderful gifts to use in many ways, especially giving back to the communities that have supported me from the beginning. I truly bleed red and blue because of how SI set me up for success and, now, I see how my son has blossomed since he's been at SI. I give back because this community is a family. Being an alum and a parent instantly gives you an understanding and camaraderie with others you meet."



FINN ROLLINGS '20

A FORCE OF CREATIVE EXPLORATION

When Finn Rollings '20 began exploring his creativity as a student at SI, he had no idea that he was embarking on a journey that would eventually take him to a galaxy far, far away....

Mr. Rollings, a Radio/Television/Film and History graduate from Northwestern University, joined Lucasfilm, the company behind Star Wars, as an intern on the Franchise Content and Strategy team in summer 2024 and has since transitioned to a full-time role as a production assistant.

He said his role brings him to "the world of Star Wars and a little bit of Indiana Jones, from a franchise perspective. So it's a lot of reviewing scripts across animated TV shows, comic

books, publishing, video games, things of that nature, checking them for lore continuity and [asking] 'are they an entertaining story? Are they family-friendly? Are they properly targeting the demographic we're seeking to speak to at this moment?'"

He noted that Lucasfilm has put him "on the frontlines of the creative process," a space he is prepared for and excited to be in because of how he was able to explore his own artistry in high school and college.

During his four years at SI, he expressed himself in many ways — on stage, as a writer for Inside SI, in his Fiction Into Film class



taught by Jim Bjorkquist '65, and as a founding member of a garage band with an unlikely group of cross-country athletes who turned a class assignment into lifelong friendships.

In college, he moved from onstage to behind the curtain, helping him build a more robust understanding of his own creativity.

"All of my passions really just come back to storytelling and the different ways that can manifest itself. So while I'm not in front of the camera acting, it is still that same kind of passion for telling stories and being able to communicate with people."

Mr. Rollings encourages all — including incoming SI frosh — to stay open to new paths that reveal themselves, even if they are certain of what they want to do.

"I had a set idea of what I wanted to do midway through SI, and it totally changed. And then I had a set idea of what I wanted to do midway through college, and it totally changed. Be open to growth and be open to what comes next," he said. "Know what fuels you and know that it can come about in many different ways."

LISA NEVIN '03

FINDING GRACE IN A GREATER CAUSE



For Lisa Nevin '03, Grace takes on multiple meanings — an unconditional gift from God, a healing decency people extend to each other, and her daughter, a blessing who has changed Mrs.

Nevin's life and, by extension, countless others worldwide.

Grace has an older sister, Maeve, and a younger brother, Declan. She has a love for singing and dancing. And she has a superpower, one commonly misidentified as a weakness: Down syndrome.

Mrs. Nevin — who is in the third of four generations of her family to attend SI — is the director of programs and development for Jack's Basket, an organization that celebrates babies with Down syndrome, provides families with support and resources, and equips healthcare providers with the tools to communicate a diagnosis without bias.

Her path to the role began in November 2018, when she was 10 weeks pregnant with her second child. The genetic counselor called and, awkwardly and somberly, delivered the baby's likely diagnosis as bad news.

Mrs. Nevin recalls how alone she felt. The only resources she was given covered abortion or adoption and she felt her unborn baby had been devalued before anyone had met her. Taking matters into her own hands, she searched the internet for stories like hers.

She said, "I knew why God had given me Grace when I started reading the Jack's Basket website and knowing there is somebody out there who is not only ready and willing to celebrate Grace, but is doing something about it so that the next person doesn't have a diagnosis experience like Joey [Nevin] and I did."

Several months later, a Jack's Basket was delivered to her hospital room following Grace's birth, filled with baby gifts, including books and resources for families raising a child with Down syndrome.

"When we opened the box with the basket inside of it, I remember crying. I was crying tears of joy because it was the first time that I felt that someone, who I didn't even know, valued and wanted Grace. When we feared the world would not accept her, it gave us so much hope that our life was going to be OK."

Inspired by the validation that Jack's Basket offered her, Mrs. Nevin started volunteering with the organization and when a job opened up, she pursued it with the conviction that it was God's plan for her to leave her corporate career behind for this work.

"I believe that what started as a basket is now a movement, and if I can be a part of that movement by changing one person's diagnosis story each day then I know I've done my job," she said.

Grace set Mrs. Nevin on this path and, with the help of some Ignatian principles, continues to guide her to make her a better mother, neighbor, and professional.

"Being a woman of service is at the core of who I am. And because of Grace, my personal and professional lives have united in purpose. Knowing my faith guides me brings deeper meaning to our mission and what I get to do every day to change the narrative of Down syndrome.

In 10 years, Jack's Basket has delivered more than 10,000 baskets to families in all 50 states and 53 countries and, with Mrs. Nevin's leadership and passion, shows no sign of slowing down.

To learn more or to get involved, you can visit jacksbasket.org or contact Lisa Nevin directly at lisa@jacksbasket.org



2025 CHRIST THE KING New Venue, Same Great Celebration

Hundreds of friends, family, former students, colleagues, and Wildcats from all walks of life filled Holy Name of Jesus Church in the Sunset to witness Paul Totah '75 become the 2025 recipient of the Christ the King Award.

Mr. Totah was recognized with the highest honor the SI Alumni Department can bestow upon an alum for his more than 35 years of service to our school community in a variety of roles: teacher, SI's first director of communications, and longtime editor of GENESIS magazine.

SI President Edward A. Reese, S.J. and Deacon Brian McCaffery '75 presided over Mass. A Proclamation written by former SI alumni board officer Devi Zinzuvadia '95 was read and presented to the man of the hour, along with an impressive gold medal.

The SI Alumni Department premiered a mini-documentary on Mr. Totah featuring remarks from classmates, former SI colleagues, and his children, Lauren Totah-McCarty '07 and Michael Totah '10.

The Christ the King celebration, which takes place during the last Sunday before Advent, always brings SI icons to the table and this year was no different. Eleven former recipients processed in, CTK medals adorning them, to welcome Mr. Totah into this illustrious group of Ignatians.

Following Mass, the gathering moved to the Flanagan Center under the church for refreshments and a showing of community facilitated by an Ignatian who has left an indelible mark on generations of Wildcats.

Typically held at SI, this year's Christ the King celebration was moved off-campus due to the ongoing construction of the New Learning Commons. This will continue until the NLC, which includes a new chapel, is completed.

The SI Alumni Board will select the next Christ the King recipient in late May.

Paul Totah '75 (center) receives his Christ the King medal and written Proclamation from SI President Eddie Reese, S.J. (right) and Director of Alumni Relations Tom Hsieh '83 (left)

See the Paul Totah
mini-doc!



Wearing your school colors with classmates one more time.



Alumni of the Class of 1975, Golden Diploma

Reunions Are Priceless!

There Are Some Things Money Can't Buy

Reunions for 2025

Class of 1965 - 60th - May 10, 2025

Class of 1985 - 40th - September 27, 2025

Class of 1980 - 45th - October 3, 2025

Class of 1970 - 55th - October 25, 2025

Class of 1995 - 30th - October 25, 2025

Class of 2015 - 10th - October 25, 2025

Class of 1990 - 35th - November 1, 2025

Class of 2005 - 20th - November 8, 2025

Class of 2000 - 25th - November 15, 2025

Class of 2010 - 15th - TBD



alumni.siprep.org

Alumni Events

ALUMNI PREGAME HUDDLE

Few places in San Francisco were livelier and more exciting on a Friday night than J.B. Murphy Field during the Wildcat football team's incredible run to the CCS Open Division Championship game. To bring our team even more energy, the Alumni Department created the Alumni Pregame Huddle, a social hour in the Wilsey Library for alums to gather and mingle ahead of kickoff. Guests were granted access to the field, including special seating in the bleachers behind the endzone. Then-Coach Lenny Vandermade joined us for a brief pregame speech, setting a tone for an amazing night. Seeing alums in the stands is part of what makes this community special and we intend to continue evolving the Huddle for more games and events.



CATSGIVING

Nearly 50 alums from the Classes of 2018, 2019, and 2020 gathered at the Wreck Room for a new event called Catsgiving. Taking place the day before Thanksgiving, this gathering brought young alums together, many of whom were attending their first SI alumni event since graduation. We extend our gratitude to Roberto Borja '19 for imagining this event and for the entire co-organizing committee, including Lizzie McGovern '19, Cora Morrison '19, and Quinn O'Connor '19, for spreading the word. Thanks to the generosity of owner Chris Fogarty '94, the Wreck Room is becoming one of our go-to venues for off-campus events. We look forward to building on this and welcoming more young alums to future events.

LAW SOCIETY LUNCHEON

The Law Society Luncheon is one of the Alumni Department's most highly-anticipated annual events and the event on Feb. 7, 2025, raised the bar. We were excited to recognize Justice Peter J. Siggins '73 and the Hon. Kathleen Kelly for all of their great work in their profession and in the community. Nearly 150 guests were in attendance at the SF Italian Athletic Club, including 15 judges and three students who compete with SI Mock Trial. The students shared their experience winning the San Francisco County championship in 2024, SI's first year in the county-level competition.



DOWNTOWN CATS — HOUSE OF SHIELDS

Following the great success of our Downtown Cats panel in September 2024, the SI Alumni Department partnered with the Mintz law firm for another gathering of alums and community members, especially those interested in tech and AI. Thanks to the organizing efforts of Mintz managing partner Steve Osborn '94, 50 Wildcats gathered at the iconic House of Shields to network and mingle. These Downtown Cats events have been extremely well-received and we look forward to continuing to activate members of our communities who either work or have interest in the tech, artificial intelligence, and venture capital spaces. Stay tuned for more information about further events.

CLASS OF 1960 — 65th REUNION

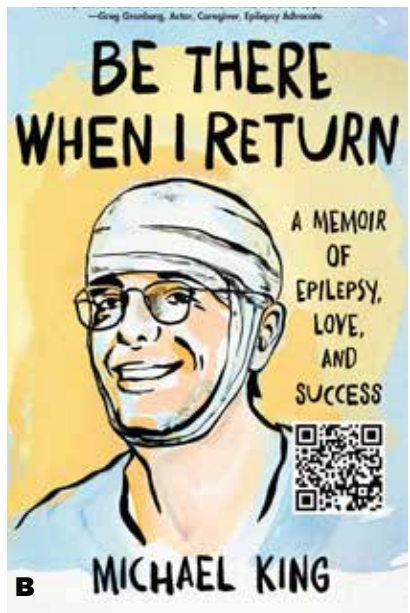
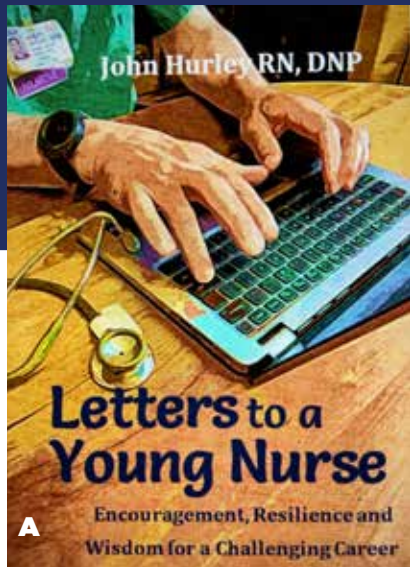
Reunions are the bread and butter of the Alumni Association and we kicked off the 2025 slate with a lively lunch for the Class of 1960 65th reunion on March 15. Over 50 classmates and guests sat down for lunch in the Student Center and continued strengthening the bonds they first forged over six decades ago. We were happy to recognize Mike Chase '60 with the Alumni Appreciation Award for all of his work in organizing and communicating with his class.



GOLDEN DIPLOMA

The Class of 1975 celebrated its Golden Diploma 50th Reunion on April 5 and 6. The entire weekend was a huge success, bringing the classmates together to reminisce on their times at SI, catch up on the decades since graduating, and create new memories. The class organized two events for Saturday afternoon — golf in Golden Gate Park and a hike at Land's End — before the entire group gathered together in the Student Center at SI for a classmate-only cocktail party. On Sunday, classmates and their families traveled to the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco for the conferral of diplomas, which featured all-new golden covers to commemorate the milestone. Ed McGovern '75, Deacon Brian McCaffery '75, and Tom Stack '75 all provided reflections throughout the weekend. Mr. Stack closed the festivities saying, "In this life, you have to find your people. SI was the right place to start!"





Keeping in Touch

1960s

Al Saunders '64 has been honored by the NFL in conjunction with Gilman Gear as the namesake for the annual tight end position "Coach of the Year" award. The initial recipient of the award for 2025 was Luke Steckel of the Las Vegas Raiders.

John Donohue '69 was featured by Inside Pitch magazine after being honored by the Irish-American Baseball Society with the Lefty O'Doul Lifetime Achievement Award.

1970s

Raymond Casabonne '71 has been honored by the town of Moraga as the Moraga Citizen of the Year for 40+ years of leadership and community service.

After 37 years as a staff nurse and 10 years as a professor at USF, **John Hurley '73 (A)** has published his book, "Letters to a Young Nurse," passing along life lessons learned at the bedside and beyond.

Michael King '78 (B) has written an inspirational memoir, "Be There When I Return," released on April 29, 2025. At 31, he was unexpectedly diagnosed with epilepsy, beginning a five-year battle to control his seizures. In a bold move, he opted for surgery at UCLA — a decision that changed his life. Seizure-free in 1998 and with a baby on the way, Michael shifted from a 15-year career as a bartender to eventually becoming one of Silicon Valley's top executive recruiters. You can learn more at MichaelTKing.com. To promote his book, he is on a tour with a number of stops including at Book Passage in the Ferry Building on May 17, 2025.

During shoulder surgeries at Sonoma Valley Hospital, the team realized their operating room team were SI grads: orthopedic surgeon **Dr. Paul Roache '78 (C)**, anesthesiologist **Dr. Siobhan Harrington '98**, and operating room nurse **Kristen Polen '05**.

1980s

Lou Alessandria '82 was honored as the 2024 recipient of the Olympic Club's Olympian Award for Athletic Achievement.

Jim Stofan '85 rejoined NASA as the Space Grant College and Fellowship Program Manager. Space Grant is a national network of colleges and universities working to expand opportunities for Americans to understand and participate in NASA's aeronautics and space projects by supporting and enhancing science and engineering education, research and public outreach efforts. Jim works with colleges and universities across the country to provide fellowships and scholarships for students pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, as well as curriculum enhancement and faculty development.

Craig Borders '87 (below) was sworn in as a California attorney in November 2024 at the Santa Barbara Historical Courthouse. With more than 30 years experience as a TV showrunner/director, he opened his solo practice, Law Office of Craig P. Borders, Esq., in Santa Barbara, California.



1990s

Twenty SI crew alums (below) representing graduating classes from 1990 through 2019 gathered at the Pomeroy Center in March for a dinner with current junior and senior rowers and coxswains. The alums in attendance were **Jamie Bonthron '19, Christian Tucker '18, Mike Gilson '06, Tim Larson '06, Rob Olsen '02, John Cranston '99, John Pellegrini '99, Greg Chiarella '98, Doug Kilroy '98, Danny Talavera '98, Jim Murphy '98, Brian Joe '97, Eric Tiret '97, Franco Arieta '97, and Brian Murphy '94**. The coaching staff is also comprised of alums: Head Coach **Dan McDonnell '02, Nick Love '19, Jack Hickey '19, Sam Nelsen '06, and Mike Bonpin '90**.

The alumni group shared some of their most cherished memories from their time at SI with the current athletes, encouraging them to make the most of this special chapter in their lives. This is the start of a new annual tradition for the SI Crew community.

If you submitted an entry for Keeping in Touch, Births, or In Memoriam after our last issue but do not see it here, and would like to ensure we have your news for the next issue of GENESIS, please let us know at alumni@siprep.org.

Terry Uyeda '99 and **Jason Quanico '13** (below), led by Jonathan Worthge (Serra, Class of '08), work together for the San Francisco Sheriff's Office Special Response Team. Their team was invited to participate at the Prairie Fire National SWAT competition from October 11-13, 2024. The event consisted of challenging shooting and fitness events. The event occurred on Terry's 25th High School reunion. Terry

and Jason's team placed 18th in the National competition.

Valerie Ibarra '99 celebrated five years as the Public Information Officer for the San Francisco Public Defender's Office and also served a second term on the San Francisco Poet Laureate Selection Committee.



2000s

Michelle Rivard Zimmerman '01 and **Mia Toracca '14** started The M Market which specializes in curated gift boxes and local gift baskets, perfect for personal and corporate gifting.

Ryan Aguirre '07 (right) married Daniel Milling on October 12, 2024 in Moorpark, CA. **Kevin Aguirre '06** served as Best Man, with **Alex Trembath '07** and **Cal Trembath '07** as groomsmen. Also in attendance were **Jamie Rey '06**, **Hannah Abarquez '07**, **Michelle Arguelles '07**, **Brendan Byrne '07**, **Shelly Capulong '07**, **Abigail Cortez '07**, **Marianne Hom '07**, **Jessica Lau '07**, **Scott Lensing '07**, **Gina Perlite '07**, **Evan Yates '07**, **Peter Cronin '08**, **Kristin Halsing '08**, **Connor Geraghty '09**, and **Christen Aguirre '15**.

Cal Trembath '07 married **Gina Perlite '07** (below) on July 6, 2024, at Deer Park Villa in Fairfax, CA. The wedding was officiated by **Ryan (Aguirre) Milling '07**, and multiple generations of SI grads were also in attendance. Pictured: **Hannah Abarquez '07**, **Austen Kim '07**, **Drew Lawson '07**, **Brendan Byrne '07**, **Brett Hansson '07**, **Michelle Arguelles '07**, **Evan Yates '07**, **Scott Lensing '07**, **Alex Trembath '07**, **Andrew Hooker '07**, **DJ Murphy '07**, and **Mia Salvemini '07**. Also in attendance were **Tom Perlite '72**, **Mark Perlite '80**, **Paul Perlite '86**, **Mark Perlite '01**, and former SI faculty Sheila Perlite and Claire Halter.



2010s

Since 2017, **Kristina Cullinane '12** (right) has been dedicated to building a successful career in real estate as a licensed broker with SC Properties, her family's firm. Over the past eight years, she has had the privilege of helping clients buy, sell, and invest in properties across Northern California, offering personalized service and exceptional results. In addition, she spent six unforgettable seasons as an NFL cheerleader — three with the Oakland Raiders and three with the Las Vegas Raiders — serving as captain during her final years. Today, she remains connected to the gameday experience as a Field Coordinator, where she continues to embrace the values of leadership, discipline, and teamwork instilled at St. Ignatius, qualities that have seamlessly translated to her real estate practice, where she aims to provide the same level of dedication and excellence.



We want to know what is going on in your life!

Submit your stories and update your information so we can keep you informed about reunions and other events

alumni.siprep.org

2020s

Colin Clifford '20 (right) finished an internship with the Cincinnati Reds last summer and is now in the Enterprise manager program.

Below: Kevin Connolly '23, James McFadden '24, Noah Hennessy '24, Ethan Hennessy '17, Cian Hennessy '15, Padraig Lyons '15, Cormac Lyons '20, Eoin Lyons '15, Kieran Manning '17, Jack O'Keeffe '21, Dylan Kenneally '17, Kiaran O'Keeffe '18, and Oisin Murphy '22 were all teammates on Pearse Og, which won a national hurling championship in their age division this summer.



Welcome!

Madeleine Moore '07 and Eddie Howe welcomed their second son, Frederick Joseph Howe, on Sept. 6, 2024. Big brother Edward is very proud and they are settling into life as a family of four in Amsterdam, where they live.



The 1947 Wildcats: Champions and Pioneers

For this year's Bruce-Mahoney basketball games, SI took on SHC in front of thousands at Chase Center, the state-of-the-art home of the Golden State Warriors.

The recently-elected mayor sat courtside next to the men's team. All of the local newspapers — and Sports Illustrated! — covered it. It was another successful chapter in the storied history of our schools' rivalry.

Today, Bruce-Mahoney basketball gameday feels like an unofficial holiday in the city, with two iconic San Francisco institutions adding to a tradition that has yielded so many great players, teams, and moments since the inaugural matchup for the trophy in 1947.

In the first trophy game, SI narrowly defeated SH in an exciting comeback victory. That team went on to win the AAA championship (St. Ignatius didn't join the WCAL until 1967).

In contrast to the hype that surrounds today's game, that team, as described by the late Joe Kelly '47 in a letter written to the SI Advancement Dept., "was neither celebrated nor respected."

Nonetheless, the squad, featuring eight seniors and one junior, became the first San Francisco team to qualify for the Tournament of Champions and guard Lawrence Rebholtz '47 was named to the All-City team.

Mr. Kelly noted that coaching was a true strength and defining feature of the '47 Cats. They were first led by Phil Woolpert and, briefly, USF's Pete Newell, who took the helm for several games while Woolpert dealt with a sickness in his family. Both coaches later won NCAA championships.

With Mr. Kelly's passing last November, the last surviving member of that historic team is Jack Ford '47, a forward on the team who later became an attorney.

Albert "Cappy" Lavin '48, Don Adams '47, George Moscone '47 (who would eventually become mayor of San Francisco), Thomas Theis '47, Neil Moran '47, Jim Latham, S.J. '47 rounded out the rest of the roster.

While they may have been unheralded in their time, it is undeniable that the 1947 St. Ignatius basketball team were pioneers who laid the groundwork for what this tradition would become and how SI would compete, leaving behind a legacy that would shape school and city history.

Justice Timothy Reardon '59:



1941-2025

In 2009, Justice Reardon was given SI's Christ the King Award, the highest honor our school bestows upon alums.

By Kate Reardon '14

To the world, he was Justice Timothy Reardon: a man of the law, an unbeatable southpaw, a pillar in San Francisco's Catholic community. But to me, he was just Papa. The man who wore perfectly pressed sweaters that always smelled faintly of laundry detergent and Marlboros. The one who smiled at our endless chatter at the dinner table. The one who wouldn't take a bite of his meal without a vigorous shake of salt. The patriarch of a truly tight-knit San Francisco family.

Papa had a quiet strength about him. He didn't have to say much to make you feel heard. I don't know how he did it — he could be in a courtroom all day, hearing complicated legal arguments, and still be all ears when one of us kids had a story to tell about some shenanigans on the playground.

It was easy to be in awe of him. A three-sport athlete and student body president at SI. A four-time middleweight boxing champ at Notre Dame. A devoted public servant and eventual appellate court justice who never lost his sense of fairness, humility, or humor. He made you want to stand up straighter, listen better, be better. He was a principled and serious man. And yet, the second you were around him, that stoicism melted away. He had that sly grin, that deep chuckle, that way of putting you at ease without saying a single word.

He taught us so much without even trying. He never needed to be the loudest in the room to command respect. He led by example. He was the moderator of the St. Cecilia's Youth Organization in the late 1970s, a lector at St. Cecilia's Church, vice president of SI's Fathers' Club, and a board member for Catholic Charities, the Salvation Army, and the Archdiocese of San Francisco's Detention Ministry. He was a mentor and inspiration to young attorneys, fellow athletes, his children, and, of course, his grandchildren.

Papa, you've left us with a lifetime of memories and a legacy that feels too big to carry, but we'll try. We'll "keep the faith" as you always said and did. We'll show up for each other. We'll strive to be gentle and strong, just like you. You were the best of us.

He passed on St. Patrick's Day, which feels right. If there was ever a day that matched Tim Reardon's spirit — joyful, loyal, full of faith, and full of fight — it's that one.

So yes, we'll mourn him. But more than that, we'll raise a glass. To Tim. To Papa. To Justice Reardon. To a man who led with integrity, ruled with compassion, and lived with deep, unwavering love.

We'll miss him dearly. Sláinte, Papa.

In Memoriam

- Joseph I. Kelly '47
William Francis Bohringer '48
John Goodwin '49
Raymond Joseph Owen '50
William C. Herup '50
Stanlee J. Buchanan '51
Dr. Philip Morrissey '52
Phillip Arnautou '52
Martin Moran '53
Miguel Balibrera '54
Lawrence Basso, Jr. '54
John A. Coleman, S.J. '54
Kenneth William Thomas '55
Michael A. Ryan '55
Martin J. Lanfranco '56
Donald Bruzzzone '56
Gary Francis Griffin '56
Michael T. King '57
James Macfarlan '58
Robert Kevin Drucker '58
Donald M. Ahlbach '58
Virgil Caselli '58
- Michael Gaffney '58
John F. Henning, Jr. '58
Joseph Douglas Malan '58
Thomas J. Dougherty '58
Robert B. Banchero '58
Guido John Bergman '58
Denis Polan '58
Robert W. Fardin '59
Justice Timothy A. Reardon '59
Raymond J. Mapa '60
James Johnston '60
Walter O'Dwyer '60
Peter Kisich '62
Michael Teutschel '63
James MacGregor Smith '63
John "Rock" Dekker '63
John Deschler '64
Andrew Grimstad '64
John Antonini '64
David Korn '65
Daniel Frederick Parrish '65
Thomas Neagle IV '66
- Thomas Mackey '68
Albert Paul "Bert" Keane '68
Natale Nobili '68
Dennis Warde '69
Antone L. Sabella '69
Stephen P. Borchelt '70
John A. Lynch '71
John L. Piombo '71
Wayne Tomei '73
Raymond Lee '75
James Michael Hickey '75
Francis Xavier "FX" Crowley '77
David Kenneally '80
Gregory Farr '82
Dr. Michael Shilaff '88
Marie Gonella '97
Andrew Zinzuvadia '97
Cesar Bucoy '98
Valerie Barrios '98
John Ellsworth Morse '01
Addie Fiscus '23



Stephan Leonoudakis: 1924-2025

Stephan Leonoudakis, father of Steve '66, Tim '72, and Jon '76, and grandfather to Dmitri '90, Kalyca '11, and Cory '13, passed away on April 1, 2025, at 100 years of age.

Steve was a visionary, leader, entrepreneur, civic leader, and community servant. He grew up in the Excelsior district and proudly served his country during WWII as a radio operator on B- 29s, flying 38 missions, receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross.

After the war, he received his law degree from USF Law School. He and his brother, Nick, started San Francisco Parking in 1953, growing it into the largest privately owned and operated parking enterprise in San Francisco, serving Candlestick Park, SFO, and Union Square among its many sites. In the 1970s, the company added SFO Airporter, which provided shuttle services to the major downtown hotels.

Steve served on the Golden Gate Bridge Board of Directors for 38 years, and was a leading advocate for the creation of a ferry boat fleet to alleviate congestion and pollution while providing a water transit solution for commuters.

He retired from his enterprises in 2001 to care for Rosemary, his wife of 60 years. His sons and daughters, Steve, Cathy, Tim, Jon, and Kristine, have been blessed to share the gift of his life to the end. Steve had thirteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Steve embraced many of the values we learn at SI, living a life of service and always willing to lend a hand or share a kind word.



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