



THE STANNER

— MOLLOY'S HOME FOR STUDENT NEWS & OPINION —

VOLUME LXVIII

ISSUE NO. III

SPRING 2025

Molloy's Musical Renaissance

by Kristina Raevsky '28

Around the world, no matter the country or the culture, music is our universal language—it is something we can all enjoy together. Recently, on May 1st, the night after the successful Junior/Senior Chorus concert on April 30th, Stanner musicians provided just that for their audience by putting on a lovely show with the theme of “around the world.” Clad in various cultural symbols, Stanners in the Band, Freshman Chorus, D-Limitz African Drum Club, and string ensemble performed numerous songs from various genres (from jazz to pop to gospel) and cultures that students, parents, and faculty alike all enjoyed. Some notable performances included a unique collaboration of African drums, Korean drums, and Mr. Cameron on the bagpipes all in one song. Another favorite was Michael Jackson’s “We are the World” in which the chorus opened its segment of the show with the perfect song for the theme. None of this would be possible without the talented and dedicated students and teachers who make up Molloy’s music program!

For singers and instrumentalists alike, being part of the music program takes a lot of effort and sacrifice. For the band, that means being at school at 7:15 AM for daily morning rehearsals and for singers in Mr. Jim Sheehan’s Junior/Senior Chorus, giving up a free period or spending Tuesday afternoons rehearsing. Furthermore, the performances require a lot of



Mr. Jones and the band take a bow at the Spring Concert. Photo by Camila Cabrales '25.

teamwork and collaboration to execute cohesively, as well as building confidence to overcome stage fright.

However, music certainly pays off in the end with not only successful performances for the whole Stanner community to enjoy, but also the relationships built through music. As Mr. Sheehan puts it, “Music brings out the best in people. When they work together they form a community.” As for the students themselves, many feel similarly, with music being a creative outlet where they work together with others for the love of music. “It’s very warming to know that we all come in to do something we love with someone as bright and fun as Mr. Sheehan,” says singer Camila Burga-Alcon '25.

With everyone having different skills and experience, each student brings something to the table and is needed to make the performance happen, which is why Mr. Jones believes our music program is thriving. Students notice this as well, with freshman chorus member Fortunato Aliperti '28 appreciating how “Mr. Jones can make each [voice] work together in good harmony.”

For those who don’t know, Mr. Daniel Jones is the latest amazing addition to Molloy’s music department. In leading the revitalized Band, Freshman Chorus,

Sophomore Chorus, and the D-Limitz African Drum Club, Mr. Jones has earned the appreciation of many students and faculty. Mr. Sheehan compliments his colleague, saying Mr. Jones has “done a terrific job introducing a different style to our instrumentalists,” which Mr. Jones attributes in part to the flexibility his colleagues, including Mr. Sheehan, Mr. DaGrossa, and Mr. Smallwood (who also serve as his mentors), have given him to turn the music program around. As drummer Dana Seo '26 describes it, “This year we have more freedom in our playing. Mr. Jones allows each and every one of us to be able to contribute our own special talent to every song we do. The band in previous years were great! However, there’s something more lively and exciting to our playing this year.”

Mr. Jones aims to choose meaningful songs that students and parents can also relate to, such as “Livin’ on a Prayer” or “What a Wonderful World.” Additionally, Mr. Jones creates a very welcoming, fun, and encouraging environment, something that certainly does not go unnoticed by his students. Dana goes on to say, “I have had many music teachers. However, Mr. Jones stands out from every single one. I admire his leadership, support, talent, and genuine love for every single one of his students.” Mr. Jones constantly demonstrates his care in various ways, including getting to know all of his students and helping his students grow both as singers and as individuals. When Mr. Jones was asked what one word he would use to describe music at Molloy, admittedly a tough task given how many positive things there are to say, he came up with a whopping eleven saying, “This is a unique experience, this is a vibe, this is home, this is growth, this is transformation, this is improvement, this is accountability, this is creativity, this is freedom, this is service, this is purpose.”

Mr. Jones is clearly heavily invested in everything he does and is giving everything his all. He is truly using music to, as he put it, “change the world one beat at a time.”



D-Limitz Band. Photo by Aiden Valerio '28.



Freshman Chorus. Photo by Enda Connolly '27.

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Dress Downs, Games & More: Spirit Week 2025

by Anya Satyanarayana '27

Molloy's Spirit Week 2025 was a huge success! The week of March 24-28 was fun-filled with activities and dress down opportunities every day! To start off the week, Monday was a "dress your grade" dress down theme, with all grades dressing as their designated stage of life. Freshman were newborns, sophomores were toddlers, juniors were middle aged, and seniors were senior citizens. Tuesday brought along the "anything goes" dress down, with Stanners dressing as anything from TV show characters to representing their favorite sports team. After school, a Lip Sync Battle was held as students gathered in the Jack Curran Gym to watch the competition – including a cameo by Mr. Auer!

On Wednesday, each grade dressed as their own color: freshmen dressed in green, sophomores in pink, juniors in red, and seniors in blue. After school was the Stanner Spirit Games, where each grade participated in grade-wide activities from relay races to tug-of-war. In the end, the seniors came away with the tug-of-war win against the juniors. This competition was definitely fun

to watch and participate in!

Thursday's theme was Cultural Day, and Stanners dressed up in clothes representing their culture. After school was also a cultural celebration with the Festival of Cultures held in the gym. Each of the many cultural clubs came out with food and decorations so students could come and look at all the tables, and learn about the culture of each while eating good food! To cap off Spirit Week, Friday ended with Pajama Day and the Dodgeball Tournament in the gym! Later on in the day, the annual Seniors vs. Faculty Basketball Game was held, and the atmosphere was electric! In the end, while the faculty won the basketball game 67-63, ending their 5-year losing streak, the seniors were the victors of Spirit Week, beating out all the other grades in participation points.

Organized by Ms. Murdocca, Spirit Week is a great week for Stanners in all grades to come out and show their school spirit, earning points for their grade to win their grade a dress down day. Emily Lampman '27 says, "Spirit Week was so fun! I enjoyed dressing up with

my friends and competing in the Spirit Games. It was so fun to see each grade come together and show their spirit!" Helen Gonzalez '27 also adds that she enjoyed "how everyone came up with creative ideas on how to make the best of Spirit Week."

Throughout the week, there were also so many activities. For example, the Battle of the Bins was a lunchtime activity to see which grade could produce the most recyclable bottles to win this portion of Spirit Week! The Faculty Parent Match was a game challenging students to match different faculty members to pictures of their respective parents, and it was a fun activity for students to try to during their lunch periods.

Overall, Spirit Week was a very fun week that many got involved – making it truly amazing! It is a tradition that occurs every year, and always shows the competitiveness, fun, and creativity of each grade. The week goes so well thanks to the avid participation of each grade, and the hard work from all the faculty. We look forward to Spirit Week next year, as we know it will definitely be an event students won't want to miss!



A Festive End to Spirit Week: The Festival of Cultures

by Elizabeth Canty '26, Associate Editor

Few Spirit Week events gather as many students, faculty, and staff as Molloy’s annual Festival of Cultures. Held in the Jack Curran Gym after school, the festival includes an arrangement of tables monitored by different cultural groups, entertainment on the stage, and bustling students and staff exploring all the event has to offer. After opening with a prayer from our new chaplain, Fr. Nick, the Junior and Senior chorus performed an acapella rendition of “Look for Me in Lowly People.” The Dance Team, First Ladies Step Team, Cheer Squad, ASL , and the new D-Limitz Drummers led by Mr. Jones, all performed on stage, in addition to some cultural displays. The Italian Club took the stage to describe the cultural significance of soccer to native Italians, the Spanish Club sang and danced to different songs in Spanish, and the Greek Club performed cultural dances, led by seniors Nick Vlachos, Eleni Psyllos, and Michalis Latoussakis. Finally, the festival closed with a fashion show, where students from many different backgrounds wore outfits that are significant to their family’s nationality. These included a wide variety of everyday outfits, party dresses, and even Carnival attire. Each part of the show was more memorable than the last, and students stopped to watch on their way to the different tables.

The cultural tables displayed art, designs, and food related to their respective nationalities and a few had activities as well. The Indian Club, for example, offered henna, a dye used for temporary tattoos. The Eastern European Club allowed students to try on a large fur coat of Romanian sheepskin, used by shepherds to keep warm in their mountain climates. Mr O’Relily, leader of the Eastern European Club, noted that he loves

the Festival of Cultures particularly because “it’s such a great reflection of Queens, which is the most diverse place in the world, and the food is unparalleled.” The “unparalleled” food was present at every table, and a wide variety of dishes were available to try, each made or brought by students from each club.

Not only did the students enjoy the Festival of Cultures, but teachers did as well. moderators helped their groups set up the tables, and faculty organizers of the events felt the afternoon went very smoothly. Ms. DeNoto, who worked in collaboration with Dr. Mangar and the club leaders to put the festival together, commented that “the Festival of Cultures is the perfect end of the week activity, as so many different events were going on and now we’re all together as one. Just seeing how happy the students are makes it so worth it with all the work that goes on behind the scenes to get this to happen.” Dr. Mangar felt a similar way, that “it’s a good celebration of school spirit and the diversity that’s present in the school. It brings everybody together, and there’s free food!” The students put in a great amount of effort too, and weekly meetings were held to practice the dances and divide the preparation among the members. Great care was taken to ensure that the food was made on time and that each culture was represented to the fullest.

Students loved participating in the festival and seeing themselves represented in such unique ways. Senior Sofia Marlouis sang in the choir, and felt that she was able to celebrate her culture in a way that represents it best. She further explained how a small group of Greek students allows them to shine when celebrating their culture at the festival. Other students felt similarly, such as Claudia

Whitmore, a member of the junior chorus, who enjoyed bringing part of her family life to her Molloy family, especially through food. Claudia’s family traditions include family Sunday dinner, so she connected with the festival in a special way. Yosef Naser, a junior, described the festival as his favorite event, because of all the food, music, and community connections.

The festival show also featured Katherine Sit ‘25, who performed “Kick Back” from the anime Chainsaw Man. With extensive preparation over the past year, she delivered an outstanding performance, which she also exhibited at the Lip Sync Battle. This way, Katherine was able to record the first performance and correct her errors, making sure that she executed her choreography perfectly during the festival. She reflected on the experience, saying “I had a lot of fun, just seeing everyone chanting my name after my performance made me smile,” and that that performing like this was a new experience for her, as she chose a different type of music for this year’s show, in contrast to the Taylor Swift medley she danced to last year.

Dr. Prince, Molloy’s Director for Community and Belonging felt that the festival was phenomenal and one of the highlights of her time at Molloy. “To see all of our families and communities come together and celebrate who they are, it’s just so amazing.” The overall consensus by the student body and faculty was that the festival was a phenomenal success, and Molloy students look forward to next year!

The Lightning Thief Shines Bright in DeChiaro Theater

by James Vanegas-Molina '27 | Photos by Krystal Valentin '25



This year, the Stanner Players set a new standard with their spring production of The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical, a high-energy, heartfelt show that lit up the theater and left audiences roaring with applause. With its Saturday and Sunday night shows completely sold out, it’s safe to say this production was more than a success.

Under the direction of Ms.Winters ‘06 and the guidance of a dedicated creative team, The Lightning Thief brought together one of the biggest casts in Stanner Players history, a record-breaking achievement that filled the stage with life, energy, and passion. Every moment reflected the hard work and countless hours the students put in, both onstage and behind the scenes. It was evident how much time and effort everyone put in, from the actors to the crew working behind the scenes. It was obvious that people cared about making the show as good as it could be.

Leading the way was Michael O’Neill ‘25, who delivered a standout performance as Percy Jackson. Michael captured Percy’s sharp wit, stubborn spirit, and vulnerability with a natural charisma that had the audience rooting for him from the very first scene. As Annabeth Chase, Isabella Fortunato ‘26 gave a poised and powerful performance, balancing Annabeth’s fierce determination with a touching emotional depth. And rounding out the heroic trio, D.J. (Julianna) O’Keeffe ‘26 charmed the audience as Grover Underwood,

bringing humor, heart, and an unforgettable stage presence to the role.

The chemistry between the leads was undeniable, and it made Percy’s quest feel real and urgent. Their performances anchored the fast-paced, fantastical story and gave the show its emotional core.

Beyond the main trio, the ensemble cast, one of the largest Molloy has ever seen, shined in every scene. From Greek gods to monstrous foes, each performer added color and excitement, making even the smallest roles feel essential to the story. The group numbers, like “CampFire Song,” “D.O.A.,” and “Bring on the Monsters,” were full of energy and precision, showcasing how deeply the cast connected with the material and with each other. Notably, Saturday night’s performance was designated as Alumni Night, further highlighting the strong community spirit that defines Molloy’s theater tradition.

The stage crew members also deserve high praise. The sets cleverly transformed simple spaces into Camp Half-Blood, the Underworld, and everything in between, often relying on creative lighting and multimedia effects to build a world where monsters and magic felt completely real. Costume choices, from winged shoes to terrifying furies, were playful, imaginative, and incredibly effective.

All of these elements came together to create an



unforgettable experience — not just a school play, but a truly amazing production. From the hilarious comic timing to the moving emotional moments, The Lightning Thief had something for everyone. It’s no wonder the theater was packed with proud families, alumni, and classmates, all eager to cheer on the Stanner Players’ latest masterpiece.

Congratulations to the entire cast, crew, and creative team on a heart-stealing production. The Lightning Thief proved that with enough heart, talent, and teamwork, lightning really can strike, and at Archbishop Molloy High School this spring, it absolutely did.



Happiness Inspires Hope: Give Kids The World Mission Trip 2025

Op-Ed by Deborah Murphy '26

During winter break, six students, Elias Benitez '25, Mackenzie Clarke '25, Tiffany Esquen '25, Aine Harkins '26, Christian Schmidt '26 and I, volunteered at Give Kids The World Village in Kissimmee, Florida. Give Kids The World (GKTW) is a nonprofit resort specifically for children with critical illnesses and their families. It offers them a week-long, cost-free vacation with many unforgettable experiences. They partner with over 250 organizations to grant a child's wish to visit Florida and its attractions.

The organization was founded in 1986 when Amy, a little girl with leukemia, wished to visit the Orlando theme parks. Henri Landwirth, a Holocaust survivor and hotelier, tried to plan her trip but it took too long to arrange; and by the time everything was finalized, Amy had passed away. Inspired by this, Henri founded GKTW to ensure that children with serious illnesses never miss the chance to have their wishes come true.

The village grew to become a 79-acre resort welcoming thousands of families each year. Resort activities include a pool, spa, rides, and a castle where kids can personalize their own star. The resort is run by more than 200 volunteers a day who help make every family's visit special. I was grateful to be one of those volunteers, playing a small part in creating unforgettable moments for these children and their families.

Our mission began with a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, where we enjoyed a peaceful service. Afterwards, we played mini-golf to build teamwork and have some fun before our first evening shift at the village. Upon arrival, we were given a tour of the village and all it offers. That night, I worked at Café Clayton, the village's main dining hall, serving food to the guests. It was amusing to see kids consistently skip the broccoli for chicken nuggets. This shift gave me a great opportunity to interact with families for the first time.

The next morning, I was assigned to the Rockin' Spa, which became my favorite job. We provided children with a relaxing experience including nail painting, hairstyling, and glitter tattoos. One memorable moment was when twin girls, who only spoke Spanish,

came into the spa. With the help of Google Translate, I communicated with them as I braided their hair and colored their nails. This experience really highlighted the diversity of the village and how welcoming it is to everyone.

Our evening shift was volunteering at the Winter Wonderland Party. Each week, the village hosts themed celebrations, filled with fun activities for the kids. The room was fully decorated for Christmas, while the kids met with Santa and received gifts. I served cookies and hot chocolate, while interacting with new families. The village has created a unique space for children to enjoy their holidays, making it truly remarkable.

The following day, I was thrilled to return to the Rockin' Spa for another morning shift and that evening, I was assigned to the Castle of Miracles, the most iconic place in the village. Here, children can personalize their own stars and place them in the Star Tower, alongside hundreds of thousands of others created by kids before them. Each star becomes a symbol of their wishes, creating a lifelong memory that they can carry with them. Inside the castle are many interactive activities, notably the ability to create personalized pillows. During my shift, I greeted and spoke with many families. The Castle is a beautiful place to see just how many families have visited the village over the years.

On our second-to-last day, we visited Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom as a break from our volunteer work. Throughout the day we enjoyed a variety of rides and ended the evening with the fireworks at Cinderella's Castle. The fireworks symbolized the trip's theme, "Happiness Inspires Hope," reminding us that even during tough times there is always hope.

To conclude the trip, I worked my last shift at Henri's Starlite Scoops, the village's ice cream parlor. Opening at 7 a.m. daily, it offers ice cream—even for breakfast. The parlor has a wide selection, including allergy-friendly options so every child can enjoy it.

After our final shift, we had an in-depth conversation about the entire trip, reflecting on how meaningful the experience was for all of us. Overall, I want to thank Ms. Haslbauer and Mr. Van Winkel for organizing the trip, making it a memorable and enjoyable experience, and for giving me the opportunity to volunteer at such an incredible place.

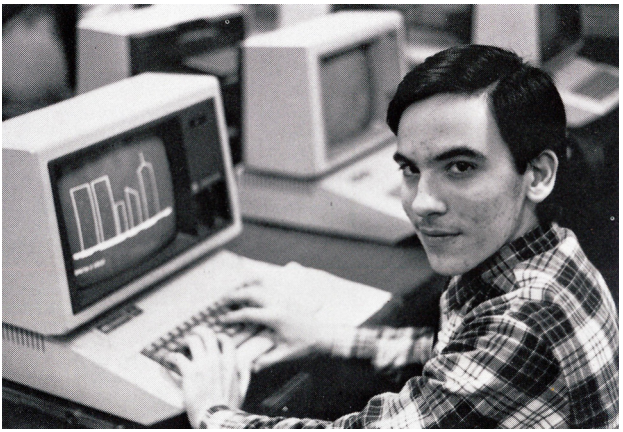


Through the Years: The Changes Our School Has Experienced

by Michael Seibert ' 28

Over its many years, Archbishop Molloy High School has become much more than a school. The home of the Stanners has a rich and vast history, and the school has changed in many ways over the years. The things Molloy has today are not what they had yesterday, and they won't be what they have tomorrow. The Science Department's Mr. Sheldon is one of many who can testify to the changes Archbishop Molloy has undergone. Originally graduating from the school himself in 1988, he quickly came back to the school as a teacher just four years later, hoping to "do for others as the people here had done for me." He pointed out several things that have changed from the school, saying, "When I was a kid, there was no senior trip to Disney or anything like that. When I was a kid, there were no dress down days. That never happened." He also made sure to mention a key part of Molloy's history, which was that the school was not always open to girls. Mr. Sheldon said, "When I was here as a student, the school was all boys. Even when I was a teacher for the first 8 years, the school was all boys."

Following a similar path as Mr. Sheldon would be Brother Roy, who currently is a Chemistry teacher. He first graduated Archbishop Molloy in 1962, eventually coming back 20 years later as the Assistant Principal. In this position, he "took care of attendance, took care of behavior, and things like that." When asked about what



is different today, Brother Roy said, "Well there's a lot more things to worry about these days than way back in the eighties. In the end, we wanna make sure that we have an atmosphere that's good for learning here at school, that is the key." Today as a Chemistry teacher, Brother Roy noted that, "I don't have to worry about the schoolwide situation or latenesses or other people and schedules. I just concern myself with making sure that I prepare my classes and do a good job in the classroom."

Further speaking on Molloy's past was Edward Seibert, a graduate of the Class of '87 who is now a Stanner parent. He pointed out several things that were different, specifically mentioning, "We had to stand to eat lunch. The tables had stilts on them, which would occasionally knock over, causing the entire table to



collapse." Seibert also spoke about a senior lounge, saying, "I enjoyed going into the senior lounge where we could play arcade games, shoot pool, and joke around with friends." This former senior lounge is now the dance studio under the Jack Curran gym. Seibert also mentioned his enjoyment of the monthly dances Molloy would have, saying, "We would get live bands in the main gym to perform and girls from other schools would come join us."

Our school has experienced many changes in its time, and looking back at the past can always give us a new perspective of the present and the future. Whether it be who is allowed in the school or how you eat your lunch, changes always have and always will happen at Archbishop Molloy High School.

Molloy’s 2025 Stanner-A-Thon - A Day of School Spirit

by Joshua Roca ‘27 | Photos by Molloy’s Communications Department

The Stanner-A-Thon has been Archbishop Molloy High School’s student fundraising event for the past 30 years, and this year was just as memorable as the others. The event took place on Friday, April 4th, and was fun for lots of students.

As in previous years, seniors participated in a variety of activities throughout the school. These activities included the Art-A-Thon, dodgeball, trivia, Zumba, meditation, board games, and the Track Team participated in their own event, spending the day running laps around the track. Everyone else that was involved received their Stanner-A-Thon 2025 t-shirt and walked several miles around a predetermined route. The Stanner-A-Thon was not only a great fundraising activity, but also a good way for students to interact with each other and have a fun day off from school. Alex Robinson ‘27 said, “The Stanner-A-Thon was a ton of fun. I got to hang out with my friends knowing

I supported my Molloy family.”

One of the main events of the day was the 12-mile Br. Leo Memorial Walk to the World Trade Center. This walk is a yearly tradition, where senior Stanners walk all the way to Manhattan. Dedicated to Brother Leo Richard, the founder of the S.M.I.L.E. back in the year of 1964, the volunteers embarked on the journey to the city, walking over bridges and taking in the sights of the city and enjoying the company of others. It is truly one of the most important and inspiring events of the day, as a walk all the way to Manhattan is quite obviously a very physically challenging experience. Everyone was still able to complete the walk, and although it was difficult, they were still able to complete the walk as a team.

All of the money raised will go towards improvements to Molloy. In the past, the money raised supported improvements to the art studio, the

strength and conditioning center, and the classroom air conditioning units. The school plans on using the money raised this year to renovate the locker rooms and purchase new equipment for the computer labs and the video production studio.

In the end, the 2025 Stanner-A-Thon was another major success. Everyone had a good time, whether they were a senior doing activities with their friends or a track member running along the track. All the students enjoyed their time off and had fun walking with their friends, enjoying the nice weather and company of their classmates. Every person that donated supported a great cause. The money raised is going to help make Molloy a better place for learning and teaching, and help make Molloy a second home for students. Molloy is truly grateful for each and every person that contributed.



Seniors at the end of the Br. Leo World Trade Center Walk.



Stanners Travel Europe During Easter Break

by Emily Mussalli '28 & Marilena Filos '28

On Wednesday, April 16th, after more than two extensive years of planning, the largest international trip in Molloy history began. 72 students left from JFK airport for 12 days of traveling, learning and making memories while visiting Bosnia, Croatia and Italy with a quick tour stop in Slovenia. The trip was very successful thanks to the hard work of Ms. Denoto and the chaperones. During the 12 days, our Stanners truly experienced new cultures and places in new, unique ways. The most important part of the trip was visiting the sacred site of St. James Cathedral in Bosnia, where the trip truly began.

To start, the Stanners flew east to Istanbul, Turkey, where they would then catch a connecting flight to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Sarajevo is known for its ornate mosques and churches, as well as its mouth watering street food, like Burek and Baklava. The students spent two days here and students explored the city through locally-guided tours, walks through the bazaars, and the Trebevic Mountain Cable Car rides. Nearly three days later, the students traveled to the spiritual city Medjugorje. Here, they visited Our Lady of Medjugorje, the main highlight of the trip. This holy place is well known in the Catholic community for its claimed apparitions of Mary by its many visitors. The religious pull of the city was strong and could be felt all throughout, especially as they hiked up Apparition hill while praying the rosary. The students were able to see the exact spot where Mary was believed to have been. Then, they were lucky enough to spend the night in Medjugorje and attend the Stations of the Cross. Later that evening, they attended Easter Vigil Mass, which was performed in Bosnian, with English translations available!

Then, they went to the Game of Thrones filming site, Split, Croatia. Here, they went on a guided walking

tour of the town, especially focusing on the famous but persecuting emperor Diocletian's ancient palace. Through this, the students could genuinely see and understand what it was like during his time and see a local's perspective. After spending the night in Split, they traveled to the Plitvice National Parks area via two cities, Trogir and Zadar. In Trogir, the students walked on the promenade and shopped. While in Zadar, they ate traditional Croatian lunch and visited the famous Sea Organ. Finally, the students arrived at the National Park, where they enjoyed a scenic hike through the lakes and waterfalls. A day later, they left the countryside for the hustle and bustle of Croatia's capital, Zagreb.



Pictured: All students and chaperones who went on the trip!

After traveling all throughout Croatia, the students departed for their 3rd and final destination, Italy. They stopped in Slovenia on their way to see some of the biggest and most biodiverse caves in the world, the Postojna Caves. Stanners first entered the cave on a minecart before doing a walking tour where they were just inches away from some of the largest all natural stalagmites. Students learned both the scientific process of cave formation and the historical importance of these caves, especially in World War 2, before enjoying a delicious pasta lunch and driving to Florence.

After a long day of traveling and visiting Slovenia, the Stanners arrived in Florence for a private Tuscan Dinner show with live Italian music. Some Molloy students even performed! The next day, they enjoyed a visit to the Accademia, Leonardo's Leather Workshop, the Uffizi Art Gallery, where they found original works of famous artists, such as Michaelangelo's David. They also had a guided tour of St. Anthony's Basilica and were able to see St. Francis of Assisi's robes and what is believed to be a piece of the cross Jesus was crucified on. In the evening, the students went to an authentic cooking class where they learned to make a full homemade meal, Italian pasta and bolognese sauce.

After a busy day in Florence, the Stanners concluded their trip in Venice. In Venice, they were able to experience a Venetian glass blowing demonstration, visit Doge's Palace, decorate their own Venetian masquerade masks, and go for a Gondola ride. Then, after a long day, the Stanners enjoyed one last dinner and show before flying home the next day.

Through travel, the Stanners were truly able to learn in a new way. Ms. Denoto, the trip's organizer, stresses the importance of traveling. "Our students were fascinated by all that they experienced. From the reverence and spirituality they had at Our Lady of Medjugorje, to the creativity of mask painting, everything they embarked upon was done with exuberance and excitement." She explains. "So many people would come to us and tell us how well the students behaved and how polite they all were. We were proud to represent Molloy! We were all true Marists, sharing this journey with love for all who we met." Ms. Denoto's extraordinary trips do not end here! In April of 2026, students have the opportunity to go to South Korea and Japan and in 2027, they can visit Morocco, Spain, and Belgium!

The Stanner Word Search - Spring Edition

by Sandra Goncalves '27

U	U	S	I	M	T	S	C	T	P	L	I	I	H
U	N	P	N	R	U	R	U	L	L	A	U	R	S
Y	P	I	U	A	S	W	A	M	P	C	P	S	P
R	G	R	I	P	R	T	R	A	S	I	K	T	R
R	S	I	C	U	L	T	U	R	E	S	E	A	I
M	U	T	R	I	S	P	N	G	R	U	U	N	N
H	E	W	T	A	I	E	H	O	V	M	R	N	G
T	O	E	E	S	P	P	S	R	I	S	O	E	S
P	Y	E	G	P	S	R	I	P	C	L	P	R	P
T	A	K	U	E	R	A	I	C	E	O	E	A	O
A	L	U	M	N	I	L	E	I	T	T	T	T	R
N	P	S	U	U	U	L	E	S	R	I	R	H	T
R	R	R	T	W	E	Y	T	U	I	V	I	O	S
V	O	R	U	C	A	U	I	M	P	T	P	N	R

WORD SEARCH
ANSWERS
CULTURES
SPIRIT WEEK
ALUMNI
EUROPE TRIP
SPRING SPORTS
STANNER-A-TION
MUSIC PROGRAM
MUSICAL
PEP RALLY
SERVICE TRIP

The Stanner - Volume
LXVIII - Issue No. III

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Molloy History Made: First-Ever Pep Rally!

by Emily Bisono '27 & Emily Mussalli '28

On Thursday, March 20th, Archbishop Molloy High School hosted its first ever pep rally. Students gathered in the Jack Curran Gym to witness Molloy history being made. Members of Fall, Winter, and Spring sports were selected to represent their teams and celebrate their achievements with the student body. They also wished luck to and congratulated specific track and field athletes as they prepared for and left for the prestigious Adidas Nationals in Virginia. Our MC and host, Ms. Wagner, brought attention to all of Molloy’s athletes’ hard work and impressive wins.

This addition to the school’s long history of sporting events boosted Molloy’s morale and family spirit, as it brought the school together to honor these students. The school’s band, led by Mr. Jones, performed a few newly learned songs during the pep rally. Some of the songs included “Rock With You” by Michael Jackson, “Seven Nation Army” by The White Stripes, and “Not Like Us” by Kendrick Lamar. The Dance Team and the First Ladies Step Team also performed. Sophomore Seoul Otopa '27 said, “As a member of the Step Team, we usually perform at every home basketball game; Freshman, JV, and Varsity— so we are always moving and giving our all during half time. It’s fun but can be exhausting. The pep rally was different though. Instead of just performing during a game, we got to be a part of a school-wide event. Having band, cheer, dance and us all in one place made it feel bigger, like it wasn’t just about sports but about school spirit overall. It gave us a chance to connect with everyone, not just the crowd at a game. It was a fun change and definitely something I think we should do in future years.” Additionally, for the first time ever, the brand new Cheer Squad, created this year by Ms. Espinal and Ms. Laureano, performed for the first time. Freshmen Camila Aguillon '28 and Arianna Pacheco Vasquez '28 explained how, especially as a newer club, they had to do a lot to prepare. The



Stanley and the Cheer Squad hype up the First Ladies. Photo by Mr. Sommo.

team began practice at 6:30 every morning leading up to the pep rally, with even more practice after school as well. Camila and Arianna explained how even though practices were sometimes tiring, it was fun to prepare. Although they were nervous to perform, it was exciting and they hope to perform at other pep rallies in the future.

To top off this day of exciting events, the 2025 Sassy Seniors performed a small bit of their routine, to preview their full performance that is done at the Senior-Faculty Basketball game. For the entirety of the pep rally, the crowd was very enthusiastic and energetic. Their cheering supported our athletes, musicians

and performers and allowed Stanners to bond in a fun and exciting way. Therefore, this pep rally didn’t just support our athletes, but also our school overall, creating a new meaning of the Marist pillar of family spirit at Molloy. Some of the event coordinators who made this special day come to life included Ms. Gerold, Ms. Murdocca, and Ms. Mallia. Molloy hopes to host more pep rallies in the future, where they can showcase more performances from the Dance team, Step Team and Cheer Club, all while celebrating Stanner athletes in a new, special way.



A Very Broadway Chorus Concert

by The Stanner Staff

In April, Molloy’s talented musicians offered back-to-back evenings of exciting performances, as our Junior-Senior Chorus, Band, Chorus Ensemble, and String Ensemble presented our annual Spring Concert Series! Night one featured the Junior/Senior Chorus, directed by Mr. Jim Sheehan '75. Many of the songs were from popular Broadway shows, including “Memory” from Cats, “All Good Gifts” from Godspell, “I Dreamed a Dream” from Les Misérables, and numerous selections from West Side Story, Sweeney Todd, Little Women, Oklahoma!, and Wicked. The evening spotlighted many outstanding soloists and duet performances, as well as a set performed by Mr. Ken Farnum’s MultiQuire, which featured singers from Fordham Prep, Fordham University, and Molloy. The evening concluded with a medley of popular tunes by The Beatles. Thank you to Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Farnum, and all our performers for a wonderful evening!

In Memoriam: Derek “DJ” Southerland ‘13

The Stanner remembers Derek “DJ” Southerland, Class of 2013, who passed away suddenly on April 18, 2025. Derek was a beloved member of several school communities including Molloy, Msgr. Scanlan High School, and St. John’s University. For many years, Derek worked closely with numerous Molloy teams as an assistant manager. He also worked as a substitute teacher and public address announcer at Msgr. Scanlan and with SJU’s TV production team. He also enthusiastically volunteered at many school and alumni events at Molloy.

Derek is remembered as a kind-hearted and generous person, an inspiring presence in the lives of so many, a loyal friend, and a devoted supporter of the student-athletes of Molloy, Msgr. Scanlan, and SJU. Molloy’s coaches and student-athletes were truly blessed to work with Derek, and we were all better for knowing him. Derek was a wonderful person and a friend to all, and he will be deeply missed. Please keep Derek and his loved ones in your prayers.



by Robert Shalhoub ‘27

Winter Recap

Molloy’s winter season ended with many exciting wins. The JV basketball team ended their 23-2 season with a City Championship win against St. Peter High School 69-45. Their hard work has paid off and brought home the championship for Molloy. Members of the Varsity Bowling team were invited to Buffalo New York for the state championship. MJ Sim ‘27 finished in first place twice, making him the CHSAA NY State Champion! Great job to the entire team and coaches to end off a great season. Swimmer Sean Green went to Ithaca New York to represent Molloy in the 200 and 500 freestyles. He not only won both events, but also shattered both event records in New York State! Overall, an amazing winter season for all sports and we look forward to the same in spring!

Track & Field

As the weather is getting warmer, the Molloy track family is continuing to put in the hard work needed to succeed. On March 5th, Antonio Hernandez ‘25 competed at the Nike Indoor Nationals representing Molloy. He placed 19th overall jumping at a height of 6’4.75. During the weekend of March 21st, many Molloy track athletes competed in the Adidas Indoor Nationals. Jamel Rankine placed 9th in freshman hurdles, the girls Distance Medley Relay team placed 6th, the boys Shuttle Hurdle Relay placed 4th, and the boys 1600 Sprint Medley Relay team placed 6th. Congratulations to all our athletes that competed at these events! On Saturday April 12th, the varsity track and field team competed in the New York Relays at Icahn stadium. Molloy came 1st in Boys High Jump and 4x110m Shuttle Hurdle Relay.

Congratulations to the members of the freshman

boys Track and Field team for their victory on Sunday, April 27th at the Brooklyn-Queens Championship! The team was led by champions Tim Hider ‘28, Jamel Rankine ‘28, Antonio Ramirez ‘28, Devin McBean ‘28, Martin Nieva ‘28, and the 4x400 Relay. Jamel Rankine ‘28 finished 1st in Freshman 100m Hurdles (17.06), Tim Hider ‘28 finished 1st in Freshman Boys 800, (2:06.79), Matthias Collins ‘27 finished 1st and Caleb Morgan ‘27 finished 2nd in Soph Boys 100m Hurdles (20.37 and 21.75), Michael Mulhall ‘27 finished 1st in Soph Boys 800m (2:09.29), Liliana Win ‘28 finished 1st in Frosh/Soph Girls Pole Vault (7-0), Madisynn Facey ‘28 finished 1st in Frosh/Soph Girls Shot Put (24-1.75), and Arnario Briggs-Garcia ‘25 finished 1st in Varsity Boys 200m (22.42).

At the 53rd Annual St. Anthony’s Invitational on May 2nd and May 3rd, Stanners placed well in several events. Brianna Polisenio, Saige Swift, Kirstine Perez, and Maria Badalamenti placed 2nd in the Girls 4x100m Relay (51.49), Arnario Briggs-Garcia placed 1st in the Boys 400m Dash (50.17), and Antonio Hernandez ‘25 placed 2nd in the Varsity Boys High Jump (6’2”). We congratulate all the student-athletes who participated in these events and look forward to a great rest of the outdoor Track and Field season!

Baseball

Varsity baseball started the season out right with a solid 11-6 win against Holy Trinity. This was a great first game for the team, which started very close until the top of the seventh inning. Stanners went on a run scoring 9 runs in a row, and with some great defense and pitching ended the game with no errors and a great start to a promising season ahead. They took this great start and ran with it, continuing with a shutout against St. Edmunds, another shutout against McClancy, a nail biting 4-3 victory against Chaminade, and a close 7-6 win against St. John the Baptist. Overall Varsity

is an impressive 13-2 in league play. Congratulations to Patrick DeSarno ‘25, who collected his 100th career varsity hit on April 16th! More recently, Ryan McMenamin ‘25 and Liam Brower ‘26 each reached the same milestone: striking out 100 batters in their varsity careers! JV Baseball has also made their stand with some great wins this season. They also started the season out right with a shutout 10-0 win against Holy Trinity. JV also had some great wins against McClancy, St. John’s Prep, and St. Francis Prep. JV has since gone 9-3 in league play. Good luck to both teams for the rest of the season and playoffs!

Softball

Baseball hasn’t been the only sport tearing it up on the field! Varsity Softball has achieved an amazing 13-0 in league play, and at one point they were ranked as high as 12th in New York State! JV Softball went 11-9 overall including 5-7 in league play.

Lacrosse

Girls Varsity Lacrosse wrapped up their season with a 2-4 record in league play while JV finished 10-2 in league play. As *The Stanner* went to print, JV was preparing for the City Finals! Boys Varsity Lacrosse went 7-0 in league play!

Golf & Boys Tennis

Both these teams have worked incredibly hard so far this season. The Boys Tennis team recently won against Iona Prep and St Francis Prep and have a 4-4 record so far. The Molloy golf team currently has a 4-3 record this spring. Both of these teams are working hard to excel everyday. We will continue to support these teams for the rest of their season and wish them good luck!

**Editorial Note: All information in this article was up to date as The Stanner went to print.*

