



THE STANNER

— MOLLOY'S HOME FOR STUDENT NEWS & OPINION —

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The Senior Issue!

Congratulations
CLASS OF 2025!



Molloy Congratulates Its ‘25 Valedictorian

by RJ Mejia '25

After four years of academic rigor and spiritual growth, the Class of 2025 at Molloy emerges stronger and more united than ever. At the pinnacle of their achievements stands **Nikitas Vlachos '25** as the distinguished Valedictorian of the Class of 2025. His dedication exemplifies the rewards of perseverance, collaboration, and a true desire for knowledge.

Nikitas will join Purdue University's College of Engineering to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. He attributes his success to multiple decisions he's made throughout his time at Molloy, stating, "I'd say many of my successes came from the decisions I made, like the decision to take some of my favorite classes including AP Calculus and AP Physics." Making the leap into AP coursework has been challenging at times, as the journey toward excellence includes embracing both triumphs and setbacks. He recounts collaborating with his peers throughout his academic journey, experiences that have ultimately made the experience worth it. "I can look back fondly on many moments spent working together with friends," he says, "like when we worked hard to create study guides for World and US History and when we spent hours preparing projects and presentations for AP Seminar." Through these shared efforts, he discovered that mutual support turns challenges into achievements.



In the same way Nikitas appreciates the memorable experiences with his peers, he holds much appreciation for the way Molloy has nourished him. "Molloy has given me an incredible education that's prepared me well for everything the future has to offer, in college and beyond," he states. "Through Molloy, I've met all of my favorite teachers who have made my educational journey as rewarding as it could be. Most importantly, Molloy's given me a truly caring community that I'll forever cherish, and amazing friends who I know I can always rely on." He believes Molloy's motto, "Non Scholae Sed Vitae," can truly be found when one looks hard enough.

As he prepares to embark on the next phase of his journey, Nikitas aspires to build a career as a mechanical engineer. He's unsure what path he'll undertake as a

mechanical engineer, but he hopes to pursue a Master's Degree and to be a force for good in whatever industry he ends up in. Looking beyond college, Nikitas hopes to visit other countries and relish in the vibrancy of other cultures. "As a geography lover, I hope I can one day travel the world, exploring countries in Europe, Asia, and elsewhere to see and immerse myself in the many unique cultures of the world," he says.

For the rising seniors from the Class of 2026, Nikitas stresses to enjoy senior year. "I'd like to advise incoming seniors to make the most of their last year of high school because it really does go by faster than you think," he states. "There are so many things you can do and so little time to do them, so go to that event, hang out with that friend, and talk to that teacher while you still can." He believes it's important to proceed through life without any regrets, and to seize opportunities while they're still there. In that way, we can be content within ourselves.

As the Class of 2025 leaves Molloy to pursue new adventures, Nikitas leaves one last thought for his classmates: "I hope that my fellow seniors don't forget the memories they've made in high school; the good, the bad, and everything in between," he remarks. "The future may be a mystery, but if you carry your past experiences with you, it'll make the future feel a little less foreign." Nikitas Vlachos stands as a shining example of excellence, leadership, and heart: qualities we can all strive to emulate.

Molloy Congratulates Its ‘25 Salutatorian

by RJ Mejia '25

The Class of 2025 has accomplished much as they embark to college. One of the leaders in their journey of excellence is **Grantland Tighe '25**, honored as the Salutatorian of the Class of 2025. His achievements reflect perseverance, collaboration, and an enduring passion for learning.

Grantland will continue his academic pursuits at Cornell University's College of Engineering, where he plans to major in Chemical Engineering. He credits a multitude of experiences for his success. "It's really a combination of my high school experience that has allowed me to do so well," he states. "I'd say winning the Science Award for Chemistry in my sophomore year was very affirming for me." This affirmation provided him confidence and solace in the fact he could truly excel in a field he loved. Outside the classroom, Grantland has made incredible memories at Esopus by getting closer with his friends and encouraging incoming Stanners. "I look back fondly on my experiences at Esopus: being a senior counselor at Freshman Camp and participating in the November Senior Encounter." Grantland is also a Molloy student-athlete who has been on the basketball team since his freshman year. His involvement in sports has made him appreciate Molloy on a level extending past its academic offerings, as he sees the school spirit shine when he plays.



He especially acknowledges the transformative support of the Molloy community, and the vital role it played in his development. "Molloy has given me the perfect community in which I could feel comfortable enough to thrive in the way that I have," he explains. "I only ever had to worry about doing the best I could and being the best person I could be because the school community already limited so many negative influences and harmful aspects for me." Grantland holds a deep appreciation for the teachers that have supported him in his academic journey, noting that their cumulative efforts in educating students with care has truly pushed him far. Grantland believes Molloy has made his journey smooth-sailing, and is forever grateful for the support of the Stanner community.

Although he's still uncertain what the future may

hold for him, Grantland remains committed to upholding his academic standards and living in the moment rather than stressing over something very distant in the future. "All I know for sure is that I'm dedicating myself to keep excelling academically in college and not wasting this amazing opportunity afforded to me," he emphasizes. "Basically, I just want to be the best I can be right now, in the moment." That said, Grantland has a general direction of where he could see himself heading, particularly in what he'll do after graduating Cornell. "Professionally, I want to work in some field of chemical engineering," he states, "whether it be consulting for a company, pharmaceuticals, or something more niche that I have an interest in: vaccine development." As his interests evolve and the path becomes clearer, he's certain he will go down a path that makes him happy.

Speaking to the Class of 2026, Grantland urges the next group of seniors to say yes to new experiences, to challenges, and to stepping outside one's comfort zone. "Seize every opportunity you can," he explains, stating that any embarrassment you might feel is far outweighed by the thrill of actually taking the leap. "Senior year is your chance to explore and mature, and it goes by way quicker than you think." With his blend of excellence, leadership, and compassion, Grantland inspires us all as we look ahead to what comes next.



Magical Moments Made At Senior Disney Trip

by Emmi Bisono '27

For the Class of 2025, the Senior Disney trip was more than just a couple of days off from school; it was a chance to make memories, new friendships, and celebrate the exciting road ahead. From Thursday, March 13th, to Sunday, March 17th, the seniors experienced a once in a lifetime opportunity to spend the weekend with their peers in “The Happiest Place on Earth.”

The trip is so iconic that you have to sign up almost nine months in advance, at the end of junior year. Once senior Melanie Brosi '25 heard about the trip in junior year, she knew she had to sign up right away. Melanie said, “I saw the seniors from previous years go on it, and I wanted to join in on the senior tradition and experience the fun for myself.”

The seniors went to Disney Springs, Animal Kingdom, Epcot, Magic Kingdom, and Hollywood Studios. On day one in Disney Springs, they ate delicious food, shopped for souvenirs, and watched live music while having a waterfront view. The next three

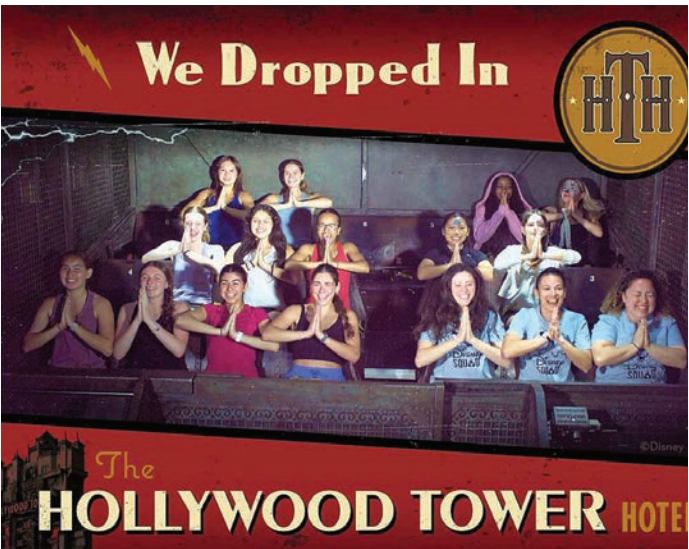
days were filled with long walks and memories as they visited all four theme parks.

Day two was spent in Animal Kingdom and Epcot. At Animal Kingdom, they went on thrilling rides such as Expedition Everest and Avatar Flight of Passage. Epcot offered a glimpse into different cultural foods with its World Showcase, along with attractions such as Spaceship Earth and Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind. Senior Mia Bruno '25 reminisced about her favorite part of the trip, saying, “I loved my experience at Epcot and going on the Guardians of the Galaxy ride with a huge group of seniors taking up every row of the roller coaster. Waiting on the 2-hour line, I got the chance to talk to people I wouldn’t normally talk to, and it felt very full circle singing on the ride with the people I have grown up with over the last four years.”

Day three was spent in Magic Kingdom. While there, the group enjoyed classic Disney magic: they met their favorite characters such as Woody, Buzz Lightyear, Mickey, Goofy, and the different Disney Princesses;

watched the famous fireworks above Cinderella’s Castle; and went on rides like Space Mountain, Tron, the Seven Dwarfs Mine Train, and Tiana’s Bayou. Their final day of the senior trip was spent in Hollywood Studios, where they experienced the different worlds of Star Wars, Toy Story, and old Hollywood cinema, with many students getting an iconic picture on the Hollywood Tower of Terror.

With the excitement from roller coasters and great food, the trip was the catalyst for bringing the Class of 2025 closer together. This was especially true for senior Josh Chariah '25, who went to Disney for the first. He said, “It was my first time going to Disney, and being there with my friends allowed laughter while waiting in lines to flow lighter than air. My friends and I danced in parades of memories I didn’t even know could be made. There’s nobody I would’ve rather spent my first Disney experience with than the friends I made at Molloy.”



SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS



by Liliana Win '28

Aoife Garvey '25 is one of those people you meet, that when you grow to know her, you can tell that she has lit up every room she has walked into. Aoife is a proud member of the Class of 2025, and throughout her four years as a member of the Molloy community, she has earned herself the title of a model student, athlete, and friend. Aoife has spent her high school career creating memories, inspiring others, learning about herself, and forming lifelong friendships.

Aoife is known to be involved in Molloy's Track & Field team, competing in Cross Country, Indoor, and Outdoor track, and the Varsity Swim team. Considering her participation in multiple sports, she explains, "Each sport has shaped who I am...the commitment and leadership I've developed have pushed me to grow as an athlete and a person." Aoife has qualified for states, eastern states, and nationals, and has broken a few school records in Track. In Swim, Aoife has qualified for Junior Olympics multiple times, and is one of the top scorers at championships. However, beyond the physical accomplishments, she says that "being a captain has taught me how to lift others up, manage responsibility, and stay driven even when things aren't going perfectly." Aside from team sports, Aoife has been involved in several different clubs, as well as volunteer camps. She explained how one of her most meaningful experiences was working as a counselor and lifeguard at a camp for kids with special needs. "It was so rewarding to make a fun and safe vacation and watch the kids open up and show their personalities. That experience really

shaped how I want to help others in my career," she recalled. Now, for more in her own words:

Q: Favorite subjects?

A: Definitely Anatomy with Mr. Lombardi or Forensics with Mr. Sheldon. Although Anatomy was tough, it confirmed my decision to major in nursing. Mr. Lombardi made the most complex topics something I looked forward to learning, and he always worked with us to make sure we knew the material. Forensics showed me how science can be applied in the real world, and Mr. Sheldon's energy made every class and lab entertaining. Both subjects were very hands-on and helped me discover what I'm passionate about.

Q: How has Molloy impacted you?

A: Molloy has pushed me to grow in ways I never knew I needed by making me more confident and in touch with who I am. Juggling AP classes and swim and track practices was overwhelming, but those moments showed me that I'm capable of more than I thought. Molloy has helped me become someone who can face challenges and still see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Q: What are your future plans?

A: I plan to major in nursing to become a nurse anesthetist. I'm excited to keep growing both academically and personally and one day make a real difference in people's lives.

Q: What about Molloy will you carry with you throughout your life?

A: The sense of service and compassion I've gained through retreats is something I know will stay with me forever. Molloy doesn't just focus on academics; it teaches you how to be genuine. Through Marist camps, retreats, and special camps, I've learned the value of being there for others, showing up for others, and leading with your heart. Wherever I go in life, I'll always carry those values with me.

Q: Advice for underclassmen?

A: Don't be afraid to take risks and get involved. Even if it's intimidating at first, whether it's joining a team, going on a retreat, or signing up for a club, just try it. When everyone says, "The more you put in, the more you get out of it," they mean it. Some of my best memories came from doing things that scared me a little. It's normal to feel scared; just don't let it control you.

by Nicholas Seibert '25

Gurpreet Heir '25 has spent his time at Molloy excelling both in and out of the classroom. From his time in intense classes like AP Physics and AP Government & Politics, to his time as a leader in Molloy's Quiz Bowl Team, Rho Kappa Honor Society, and Robotics Club, he has shown his ability to balance an impressive daily schedule. He has also participated in Molloy's Science Research program, which saw him conduct research with NYU Langone Health and competing in the preliminary round of Terra NYC Stem Fair earlier this year. As a well-rounded leader in the Stanner community and an avid learner, Gurpreet hopes to continue on this path as he begins studying mechanical engineering at Purdue University in the fall.

Although Gurpreet has demonstrated a very busy and demanding schedule, he has also found plenty of time for leisure. He enjoys spending time with friends and family after a long week of working, saying, "It's nice to spend some time outside after a week of heavy workload to relax with close friends." One of his favorite memories was the Senior Disney Trip this March. When asked about what made this experience so great, he said, "It was nice getting to spend so much time with friends. It was incredible to see most of my classmates get on a line for the same ride together at the most magical place on earth, including waiting for Guardians of the Galaxy."

Although Gurpreet is excited for his future at Purdue University, he is also going to miss his time here in the halls of Molloy. He made many great memories here that he plans to carry with him to Indiana. Although he is going to miss Molloy, he is excited knowing that a new generation will get to make memories and have the same great experiences he did, and he wants to leave them with some advice to get as much out of their experience as he did. "Continue trying new things that may have not been tried by previous Stanners, and cherish any moment you can while being in high school, because time flies by fast."



by Jiah Patel '27

You'll find **Jackie Messer '25** making a significant impact wherever she goes. Whether she's guiding the soccer team on the field or achieving academic success in the classroom, her dedication and talent consistently shine through. As one of Molloy's outstanding student athletes, Jackie is captain of the Varsity Lacrosse team, has taken many honors and AP courses, and has demonstrated exceptional leadership as captain of the Varsity Soccer team since her junior year and throughout her time at Molloy.

Jackie started playing soccer when she was four years old, saying that she loves the passion and the team camaraderie. She carried her love of soccer with her through high school, playing on the varsity team since her sophomore year, and becoming captain the following year. When asked what the most impactful part of being captain of the soccer team was, she said, "being able to help and encourage the girls and being a safety net for them has really meant a lot to me because when I was a sophomore on the team, the captains helped guide me and it means a lot that I can help the girls on the team the same way I was helped." Adding to her impressive athletic resume, she has been named All-League in soccer three times, as well as MVP, and also serves as one of the captains of the Varsity Lacrosse team. Not only does Jackie lead on the field, but she has led underclassman retreats and was a camp counselor at Freshman Camp as well. As a junior, she experienced her first retreat by leading the sophomore retreat, stepping into a leadership role for an experience that was also entirely new to her. When asked about her experience at Esopus, she said "I was able to guide and help the sophomores self reflect, and that also helped me reflect."

Along with her incredible involvement at Molloy, Jackie excels tremendously in the classroom. She has taken a wide range of AP courses, including AP English Language, AP Physics, AP Statistics, and AP Calculus BC, in addition to being a Science Research student. She is a member of the National Honor Society, and an AP Scholar with Distinction. Her favorite courses that she has taken this year are AP Calculus BC with Ms. Pizzo, saying that although challenging, the coursework is very enjoyable, and Science Research with Ms. Mallia. In Science Research, she competed in the Terra NYC STEM fair



and the Regeneron STS competitions. She was also a Murphy Scholar, and did her project on an ultrasonic assessment of bones with osteoporosis at Hofstra University. She plans to continue her research in college.

Jackie says that her biggest inspiration is her mother, and she would not be where she is today without her. She says that "my mom just does so much for me and my siblings. She is a single parent and has worked so hard to raise my brothers and I. She has always made time to bring me to practice and games." The bond with her mother is clearly a cornerstone of Jackie's life. Outside of her school and sports activities, she also enjoys travelling and exploring nature. Her most memorable trip was Hawaii because of its beauty and culture.

Jackie already has plans for what she is going to do after graduating from Molloy. In college, she plans on majoring in mechanical engineering, and her top choice is Georgia Tech. At Georgia Tech, she received the Provost Scholarship, which is awarded to only 40 first year, non-resident students. Students selected as Provost Scholars are those who demonstrate extraordinary academic achievement in the classroom. When asked what she is most looking forward to after Molloy, she said "I am looking forward to exploring new places and taking new classes in subjects that really interest me. Georgia Tech is in the south, which is a totally different environment than New York, so I am definitely excited to explore life there." Some advice that Jackie would give to her freshman self is "not to stress as much over the little things because you will end up where you are meant to be."

In every sense, Jackie is an athletic, extremely driven, and bright senior who embodies the best of Molloy's student body. Whether it is on or off the field, she is a leader and an inspiration to anyone who is fortunate enough to know her. We eagerly anticipate the great things Jackie will undoubtedly accomplish!





by Emily Mussalli '28

Senior **Caleb Lokey '25** embodies a Stanner through his school spirit and dedication to academics, athletics, and other extracurriculars. He has had a very rigorous schedule, and has taken eight AP classes, including AP Calculus BC and AP Chemistry. Despite taking such difficult classes, Caleb has always maintained a high average and enjoys pushing himself academically. Athletically, Caleb has been very involved since his freshman year as well. He played

soccer for four years, and spent three years on varsity soccer serving as goalie. As a sophomore, he led his team to victory in the Brooklyn-Queens Championships. For his senior year, Caleb also served as captain of the team. Caleb is currently co-president of the Sports Management Club. He has dedicated himself to bettering our school community. He is a peer tutor, a member of the Student Advisory Board, and also volunteers at the Marist Brothers' Center at Esopus as a retreat leader and Freshman Camp counselor.

Although Caleb has always been very involved in Molloy, especially as a freshman he stepped out of his comfort zone in several different ways. Before coming to Molloy, he was homeschooled in Texas. Moving to New York and going from a school of two to a school of almost 1,600 students was a culture shock. Caleb originally only expected himself to be more involved in athletics, but he has branched out in so many other ways. For instance, he has been a tour guide at Molloy's annual

Open House and is an announcer at Molloy basketball games. Most recently, he also acted for his first time ever in the Senior Show as Mr. DeSarno. When asked what his advice would be for underclassmen, Caleb said he encourages them to get involved and branch out in the way he did; trying a new club or sport or even taking more difficult honors or AP classes.

Even outside of Molloy, Caleb constantly works hard to be involved and to help others. He volunteers with kids in need at the LeFrak City Apartment Complex in Elmhurst. Here, Caleb runs food and clothing drives for children in need. He also helps plan and run holiday parties. At these parties, he serves as entertainment for the children and has dressed up as festive characters like Santa Claus or the Easter Bunny.

In his sophomore year, Caleb had decided he wanted to help in an even bigger way and serve his country in the Air Force. He wanted to be surrounded with other hardworking, like minded people. Now, he's making that dream come true. After he graduates, he will be attending the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado, majoring in Chemistry. He plans to commission as an officer and later go to flight school and train to be a pilot. Caleb has always had a love for traveling and exploring which led his desire to become an Air Force pilot.

Caleb has put in a lot of time and hard work into his success both in academics and in extracurriculars. When asked how he stays motivated to work hard, he said he tries to, "surround [himself] with friends who also have a good work ethic, so we can motivate each other to achieve our goals."

As graduation approaches, Caleb's hard work, dedication and talents will be missed at Molloy, but his success and good spirit will continue to make him shine in the future. We wish Caleb and all other seniors the best of luck in college and throughout life.

by Helen Gonzalez '27

Kristen Mussalli '25 is an outstanding senior in the Class of 2025 who has truly made the most of her time at Molloy. She dedicates her time to balancing academics, athletics, extracurriculars, and leadership roles. Kristen has made her mark at Molloy in numerous ways, primarily by being a passionate leader and an enthusiastic, active member of her school community.

Kristen is very involved in so many clubs and activities at Molloy. She is part of GERLL Club, Intramurals, Pre-Med Club, Peer Tutoring, and has been inducted into the Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society, as well as the National Honor Society. She is a Campus Ministry volunteer, a co-president of the Sports Management Club, and is a Spirit Leader for Ms. Murdocca. Kristen doesn't just participate in extracurriculars; she is also very passionate about athletics, and is a competitive member of the Varsity Swim Team as well as a fierce leader and captain of Varsity Track & Field.

While balancing her many clubs and teams, Kristen has also taken challenging courses at Molloy, including AP Biology, AP Statistics, and AP Psychology. Her favorite classes are Christian Marriage, Peer Groups, and AP Psychology. All of these have allowed her to explore her interest in faith and personal growth. Through her time at Molloy, she has demonstrated her leadership skills and school spirit every single day. When

asked what her favorite memory of Molloy was, she said her time at Freshman Camp in Esopus, explaining, "I was nervous at first, especially when everyone sang 'Hakuna Matata,' but by the end of the week, I felt at home. I truly loved the canteen snacks, the river, and Camp Wars. The experience left me feeling refreshed, and my faith began to grow stronger."

Kristen is described by her peers as smart, compassionate, supportive, and committed. Her favorite teachers and coaches are Deacon Kramer, Ms. Christie, Ms. Krische, Ms. Greene-Wresch, Ms. Jones, Mr. Power, Ms. Staiano, Ms. Wagner, and Ms. Winters, each one a person who helped shape her high school experience. Outside of school, Kristen loves to travel, and she "hopes to visit as many places as possible," which she was able to start at Molloy by attending Ms. DeNoto's European Adventures! As she prepares to graduate, Kristen reflects on the community experiences, and lessons she learned at Molloy. We can't wait to see where her faith, commitment, personality, and passion will take her next.



by Marilena Fillos '28

One of Molloy's most outstanding Stanners is none other than **Gia Shinas '25**! Throughout her time here at Molloy, Gia has participated in many activities, including Model UN, GERLL Club, and Greek Club. In addition to this, she has been a dedicated student-athlete, serving as a member of the Track & Field team coached by Mr. Power.

Gia's favorite classes at Molloy include Biology with Mr. Attard and English 9 & 10

with Mr. O'Reilly. She says, "I enjoyed how engaging they both were to the class and the fun activities we would do. In Biology, I enjoyed the labs and in English, I enjoyed acting scenes from books such as Scythe and Lord of the Flies." Her favorite activity during her senior year was Spirit Week, because she loved dressing up and matching with her friends. "It was nice to be gathered as a grade trying to gain as many points so we can win together," she exclaims. Moreover, when asked about her best memories at Molloy, Gia said that she loved bonding with her classmates and teachers, and building a strong relationship with God at during the retreats at Esopus.

After graduating in June, Gia plans on attending Binghamton University. She wants to major in Biology and minor in Psychology, and plans on spending her freshman year in college studying abroad. Her career goal in life is to become a Physician Assistant. However, even though she's excited about her future, she says she is going to really miss Molloy. "I'm going to miss the teachers I have formed bonds with, who have gotten the chance to not only see my academic progress but also how I've evolved as a Stanner," Gia explains, continuing, "I'll miss stopping by their classroom and checking in with them, but I know their lessons will stick with me forever!"

Finally, Gia reminisces about her time at Molloy and has one important piece of advice for underclassmen. She encourages, "Be kind to everyone and never take anything for granted, even the classes you might find boring. You should still enjoy every moment, because it truly goes by so fast."

Through her involvement in the Molloy community these past four years, Gia has demonstrated what it means to be a good Stanner! I wish her the best in all of her dreams and future endeavors!



by Rinat Moshel '26

As the 2024-25 school year at Molloy winds down, it is important to acknowledge and put one of the most hardworking, multi-talented, and dedicated Stanners into the spotlight! **Madison Nunes '25** is an exemplary student with a variety of talents ranging from academic success to creative achievements.

Madison has spent her time at Molloy going beyond the surface as she has been involved in a multitude of activities in Molloy, most notably being part of the Dance Team. When she transferred to Molloy her sophomore year, she knew she wanted to get involved with the Dance Team as a way to channel her love for dance and hopefully spread that love to others. As a senior, Madison has achieved that goal and more. She has been able to find comfort and peace at Esopus, where she has been a counselor at the Kids 2 Special Camp, Deaf Camp, and the sophomore retreat. At Esopus, she was able to hone in on her Molloy spirit, which gave others around her not only a sense of comfort, but immense happiness and friendship.

Madison has also achieved academic goals such as being initiated into the National Honor Society, receiving an AP Distinction Award, and maintaining her high average and Principal's List standing. "Balance is key," Madison says. She is able to manage her time wisely with the help of a planner, which outlines when school assignments are due, what dance team responsibilities there are, and when studio practices are. While making sure to stay consistent with these priorities, she values time with friends and family. To her, the moments socializing with those she loves are some of the best in her life.

Madison's time at Molloy has significantly shaped who she is today. In Madison's words, "The support from my teachers and classmates really encouraged me to push my academic limits, and being a part of an amazing community has helped me grow as a person in my faith and in my service to others." At Molloy, Madison has learned what it means to be a Stanner and has been able to incorporate that into her everyday life.

In the fall, Madison will be carrying what she has learned at Molloy to Boston University where she will major in Health Science on a Pre-Med track while minoring in Dance. Her final piece of advice is, "To take every opportunity to learn inside and outside of the classroom, because those experiences are opportunities to make meaningful memories and will eventually shape who you will become." Good luck, Madison! You are undoubtedly capable of achieving great things!

SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS CONTINUED



by Emily Mussalli '28

Maria Badalamenti '25 is a senior who truly shines at Molloy through her academics, athletics, personality, hard work, and leadership. For instance, every year Maria has given her all to Molloy's Track & Field team. Before high school, she didn't participate in many extracurriculars, so joining track introduced her to a whole new level of discipline and camaraderie. Through countless hours of hard work and long practices and meets, she fully dedicated

herself and quickly found a second family through them. She not only played sports for the competition, but also to help herself grow as a person, learning perseverance, hard work, and commitment while supporting her teammates however she could.

In her sophomore year, despite having some doubts, with encouragement from her coaches, she joined Cross Country in addition to indoor and outdoor track. Maria has broken her own personal records several times as well as multiple school records. She has competed in prestigious meets all over the country and is a three-time All-American athlete. Academically, Maria also pushes herself as much as possible. She has tried to take AP or honors classes whenever possible. She has taken classes such as AP English Language and Composition, which she has used not just as a GPA booster, but also to truly better herself, allowing her to improve her writing abilities. She has also taken classes to further her interests such as AP Government and Politics, Forensic Science, Criminal Justice, and AP Psychology. She has also pushed herself in her language classes. As a first generation Italian immigrant, she is fluent in Italian, but she decided to expand her knowledge by taking AP French in her senior year.

Being a first generation immigrant, Maria has always been very culturally involved. Her parents were both born and raised in Sicily, Italy and she grew up learning both English and Italian simultaneously. In fact, growing up when she was learning English after visiting Italy for the summer, she would come back forgetting almost all her English. However, this wasn't a problem for her. She would visit her family and cousins who are almost like siblings to her, and it was worth the struggle of needing to practically relearn English. Through visits to Italy and her parents, Maria has always been in touch with her heritage and it has been such a big part of her

life. Maria even shares her culture with her friends who often come over with home cooked, traditional Italian meals. Maria has always been immersed in Italy's rich culture, food, music, and architectural history. Despite not living in Italy now, she continues to be proud to share her Italian culture with others and live it out.

In addition to her success in track, Maria also founded the Psychology Club with her friends Giselle Habibulla '25 and Shiloh Lin '25. Maria has always been interested in psychology and criminology, but as a freshman electives like that were restricted to upperclassmen. Therefore, Maria and her friends took their own initiative to form a club allowing underclassmen to experience psychology. At club meetings, run by Maria and her friends, the club discusses things such as the Stanford Prison Experiments, mental health campaigns, or fun games of psychology-themed Jeopardy.

Maria plans to take her interest in psychology and criminology past Molloy. She hopes to take on a career reforming criminal justice. Through law making, Maria hopes to advocate for important changes in our justice system and provide support to the incarcerated, especially youth, while addressing issues that lead to crime. Maria hopes she can make our system more equitable and help the convicted have more redemption and reentry into society after serving their sentences.

In addition to track, Psychology Club and Molloy retreats, Maria has also involved herself outside of Molloy. For example, she went to the NYC Youth Leadership Council. Here she worked at the National District Attorney's Association Juvenile Justice Division. She helped to build and improve the relationship between police and young people and planned creative, interactive activities like community gardening, art and crafts, and donation drives. Outside of Molloy, she also has a successful, self-run nail business. Through this, she works hard doing intricate nail designs for very affordable prices.

Maria has always worked very hard, and Molloy has allowed her to become more confident that her hard work will pay off through her many prestigious college offers and scholarships. Maria has said that her parents and coaches have often provided a lot of motivation, trusting in her even when she didn't trust in herself. They have helped Maria become more confident and have helped her become a more self-disciplined and hard-working person, which has translated to other parts of her life like academics and extracurriculars.

Through all this, Maria has become an inspiration to many and has become such a valuable part of the Molloy community. Maria is now looked up to by many of her peers as a source of inspiration. Good luck to Maria and the other seniors in their college journey! We know you will do great things!

Faculty End Their Losing Streak In A Thriller!

by Brandon Samaroo '27



On March 28, 2025 the annual Seniors vs. Faculty Basketball Game was underway in the Jack Curran Gymnasium and, as expected, it was one of the most memorable and enjoyable events of the year! The bleachers were packed with supporters and the overall atmosphere in the gym was electric. This event is a running tradition at Archbishop Molloy High School and it is a highly competitive and entertaining affair for both the audience and the players.

Culminating at the end of Spirit Week, the event was a sellout, as students from every grade came to see the spectacle. Before the game, only the best seniors made the team when they succeeded at the tryouts held in the gym. On the faculty side, 15 teachers, staff, and coaches were called up to represent the team. As students began to pack the bleachers, lineups were introduced and players were cheered on by Molloy's Cheer Squad. As expected, the game was played at the highest level from both sides, which made it an amazing

game from start to finish. Although the seniors had a lead for most of the game, including an 11 point lead in the third quarter, the faculty had a miracle comeback to secure their win. The faculty ultimately secured a 67-63 victory, stunning the Class of 2025 and ending what had been a five-year losing streak. Could this hard-earned win possibly pave the way for another win over the Class of 2026 next year?

Several outstanding performances helped make the faculty's comeback possible. Some highlighted performances included Mr. Quinn, Mr. Beaudet, Mr. Jones, and basketball coach Mr. White, who all had huge games and were key contributors to the great comeback win. Their leadership and experience showed, especially when the pressure was at its highest late in the game. The audience was not only captivated by the basketball game, but also the performances of the concert band, First Ladies Step Team, our Dance Team, the Sassy Seniors, and Molloy's new Cheer

Squad who started off the evening. At the start of the game, Molloy's Concert Band performed the National Anthem and also played throughout the game action. Between each quarter, the Cheer Squad and Step Team got the crowd energized. The Dance Team also put on a great performance which was a highlight during the event. At the halftime show, the Sassy Seniors from the Class of 2025 gave a memorable performance which was extremely enjoyable and entertaining.

A tremendous amount of dedication and work was put in by the performers, seniors, faculty, and audience, but most importantly by the event organizers. Special thanks are owed to Mr. Dougherty and all others behind the scenes who made this unforgettable evening possible. Thanks to everyone's efforts, this was easily one of the most entertaining events of the entire year!

Faculty & Staff Say Goodbye To Class of 2025

Dear Class of 2025, Congratulations on all you have accomplished these past four years. You are a truly special class of students and we cannot wait to see everything that you will go on to do for our world. Always remember that your Marist roots will provide a strong foundation for you as you continue to live out God’s calling. As our great founder St. Marcellin Champagnat once said, “It is not in men that we must trust, but in God who is everything and who does everything.” Congratulations once again and God bless the Class of 2025! - **Mr. Corrado**

To the Class of 2025, Ms. Hipkin believes in you! I am so proud of you and wish you above all else safety, good health, and happiness. Keep being yourself and making the world a better place! - **Ms. Hipkin**

Dear Class of 2025, It has been a pleasure getting to know you over the last few years. Whether you are heading off to college or pursuing another pathway, I wish you the best of luck and encourage you to stay in touch. - **Mr. Esgro**

Congratulations to the Class of 2025! I am so proud of each one of you and am grateful to have been able to encounter God through you. I know with certainty that you will be difference makers in the world and will accomplish amazing things. Please always remember you have a home in Molloy and that the door is always open for you to visit and say hello! - **Ms. Haslbauer**

Congrats to the Class of 2025! Four years ago, I began teaching at Molloy and you were freshmen. Look how far we’ve come! We’ve changed and grown, just like you will in this next step after high school. Like in physics- if you’re faced with a problem, just think of what you already know and apply the tools you have to get through it. Never forget how loved you are on this “pale blue dot” we get to call home. - **Mr. Autera**

Best Wishes and prayers on your graduation. Enjoy College! You will be missed, and you are a friendly class. I thank my Peer Leaders for their excellent skills and mentoring. Sincerely, **Brother Eugene**

Congratulations to the Class of 2025! Thank you for all the love, light, and life you’ve given to me and to these halls. I am elated that you can now carry those gifts to a world that always needs them. Remember that a lot of life’s burdens are lightened in the company of a good book. When it all feels like a little too much, just take it “one step at a time.” You got this. - All my love, **Mr. O’Reilly ‘14**

Congratulations on your graduation, Class of 2025! I have to admit that while all grades are special in their own right, your grade has really shined through your career here at Molloy. When I think of all the students I interacted with over the years via the Admissions process, through Yearbook and Photography Club, and through the Senior Disney Trip (“D-Team!”), there are so many of you that have such charm, wit, and character. You will go far in life—I have no doubt about it! Cherish the memories and life lessons that you have made here at Molloy. You will be missed. DREAM BIG and best of luck in college and beyond! - **Mr. DiDonato ‘01**

Class of 2025, as this is the end of your time at Molloy, I am so excited about what the future holds for you. And, as you grow in your own participation in the world, I am excited about what the future holds for us. Just as you have made Molloy a better place, you will do it for the world as well. God Bless you in all you do! - **Mr. Costa**

Congratulations to the Class of 2025, especially to those who have been members of the Stanner Players! At the beginning of your freshman year, you experienced limited in-person audiences, a live-streamed fall play, and then ultimately restrictions were lifted in time for

the spring musical. You helped to rebuild our theater department with your commitment, tenacity, and passion! Seniors, you will be greatly missed, and I can’t wait to hear about all of your successes – carpe diem! - **Ms. Winters ‘06**

Best of Luck to the Class of 2025. This is a very special group. We will miss you and we are always rooting for you here at Molloy! - **Ms. Staiano**

Dear Seniors of *The Stanner*, We sincerely appreciate all the hard work you poured into Molloy’s student newspaper throughout your high school careers. You have done a wonderful job reporting on all things Stanner news, and we are proud of how far you’ve come as journalists, as students, and as people. We hope that you continue to take pride in your writing and research, knowing that your own hard work is a better representation of you than any AI could ever be. Please stay in touch with us and let us know if we can ever be of help to you. We wish you the best of luck in college and beyond and we look forward to hearing about your many successes in life. - **Mr. Sommo ‘03 & Ms. Basone ‘15**, Co-Moderators of *The Stanner*

Dear Seniors, On behalf of the Marist Brothers and our Administration, I congratulate you on your graduation from Archbishop Molloy High School. You have all worked so hard, and grown so much, but your work is just beginning. You will soon embark on the next phase of your educational journey, venturing off to top colleges and universities across the country. Embrace each new challenge that lies ahead, be confident, and know that you have been well prepared for this moment. Remember that you will always be Stanners, and that Molloy will always welcome you home. Please stay in touch with your teachers and mentors at Molloy, and keep us up-to-date on all of the many incredible achievements that are to come. God Bless you, and “God Bless All Stanners.” - **Mr. Richard Karsten ‘81, President**



**Correction: In the spring issue, The Stanner incorrectly listed one of the co-authors of the article “Molloy History Made: First-Ever Pep Rally!” The author’s correct name is Emmi Bisono ‘27.*

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STANNER SPORTS

Molloy celebrated Athletics Signing Day on May 8, 2025! Nearly 20 seniors signed a national letter of intent to continue playing their sport at their college or university, with family and friends in attendance to cheer them on! Each student athlete's hard work and dedication was recognized as they took photos with their families and coaches. Congratulations to our outstanding college-bound athletes!



Camille Munoz
U.S. Naval Academy | Track & Field



Patrick DeSarno
University at Albany | Baseball



Ariana Steele
Manhattan University | Golf



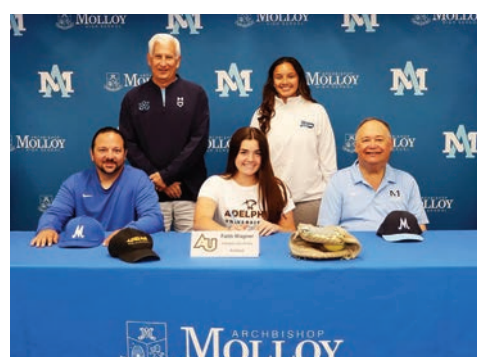
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Joshua Chariah
Baruch College
Swimming



Justin Munson
St. Joseph's University NY
Basketball



Marcella Polvere
Adelphi University
Softball



Sean Green*
University of Georgia
Swimming



**Sean Green committed earlier
in the 2024-25 school year.*