

A PUBLICATION FOR THE ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS OF FORDHAM PREP

RAMVIEW

WINTER 2023 | VOLUME 43, ISSUE 1

You're always from

THE



FAITH, SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVICE SINCE 1841



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

YOU'RE ALWAYS FROM THE BRONX

EVEN FOR A GUY WHO WAS BORN AND RAISED IN QUEENS, that phrase means a lot to me, having spent the last 34 years on the Rose Hill campus in the Bronx. I hear that phrase, always uttered with pride, from alumni living in faraway states today. It recalls fond memories of former neighborhoods and an appreciation of the survival skills learned “back on the block” and in Prep classrooms.

As Fordham Prep begins its 182nd year, it's worthwhile to consider why our school's Bronx roots... and Rose Hill... continue to mean so much to the Prep community.

As a community of faith, the Fordham University Church on the Rose Hill campus has been the Prep's spiritual home since our founding in 1841. What a blessing that our students throughout the generations share such a beautiful and sacred space.

As a community of scholarship, we are so fortunate to share the campus of one the most respected universities in the country and to be amongst some of the treasures of the Bronx. In past years, biology teacher Pierre Chavez has taken classes to the Bronx Zoo to study primates up close. Dr. Martin Carney from our Religious Studies department, a noted amateur birder, engages colleagues and students with regular trips to view some of the spectacular specimens who make their home at the New York Botanical Gardens. Our Bronx home affords so many ways for our students to learn and grow.

As a community of service, our faith calls us to support and care for those who live on the margins. Unfortunately, because the Bronx houses the Congressional District with the highest poverty level in the U.S., many of our neighbors live on the margins — in need of basic necessities of food, clothing and shelter. We can be proud that our Prep community partners with Part of the Solution (POTS), Concourse House, St. Ignatius School, and so many other local organizations. In November, our community raised over 60,000 pounds of food during the Great Ignatian Challenge to support our Bronx neighbors. The generosity of the Prep community knows no bounds!

As I reflect back on some of our local highlights of the past year here in the Bronx and at Rose Hill, I think fondly of our Christmas Mass in the University Church, recall a fantastic evening in November inducting our latest Hall of Honor class at the New York Botanical Gardens, and celebrate the return of our home athletic events to the Fordham campus.

Yes, we are indeed blessed to be “from the Bronx” and to be members of the Fordham Prep community. For that I am personally thankful and I will continue to keep you, all of our alumni, benefactors, and friends in my prayers during this new year.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Carney
Interim President, A.M.D.G.

RAMVIEW

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 1

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JOIN US AT OUR ANNUAL BENEFIT

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **IGNITE UNDER THE 2023**
BIG TOP ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
IN THE BRONX

Saturday, March 4, 2023

7:00 PM – 11:00 PM

★ Open Bar with Specialty Drinks ★ Hors d'oeuvres & Strolling Dinner ★
Silent Auction ★ Live Music & Dancing ★ Coffee Bar & Dessert

Ringmaster: Bruce Beck, NBC Lead Sports Anchor

To purchase tickets online and
for more information on raffles,
sponsorships and underwriting visit
[Ignite2023.givesmart.com](https://ignite2023.givesmart.com)



All proceeds from the evening will benefit the new Fitness & Wellness Center
and the Ignite Scholarship Program to carry forward the mission of
Fordham Preparatory School.



JESUIT EDUCATION IN THE HEART OF THE BRONX

A Q&A with Joseph A. Petriello, PhD '98

i love
The Bronx

Q: Being a Bronx school is a vital part of the Prep's identity. How does that manifest itself in the student experience?

A: When we speak about Fordham Prep to prospective students and families, we proudly share our mission of "Jesuit education in the heart of the Bronx." After 181 years on the Rose Hill Campus, you really can't separate Fordham Prep from the borough in which we have taken root and grown for almost two centuries. A substantial number of our students, faculty, and staff live in the Bronx. Many others (like myself) grew up in the Bronx and will always call it home. For our students, their experience of Catholic, Jesuit education is one that invites them to better understand the rich history of our neighborhood and local context. I think fondly of Lou DiGiorno '88 and his talk at freshman orientation in the University Church that opens their eyes to the wonders of Fordham in relation to the Bronx. I also would highlight the call to be men for and with others in local community partnerships like our longstanding ministry with Part of the Solution (POTS) on Webster Avenue. When our school community celebrates our place in the broader Jesuit apostolate of the Bronx — alongside Fordham University and St. Ignatius School — we realize our commitment to neighbors is at the heart of who we are and who we are called to be.

Q: You are a proud son of the Bronx. Where did you grow up? How did you commute to the Prep? Why is commuting an important part of the Prep experience?

A: I grew up on Fenton Avenue between Allerton and Arnow. It's about a ten-minute drive from the Prep, depending on the traffic. My parish was Holy Rosary Church on Gun Hill Road and I am a proud alumnus of Catholic schools from my earliest years at Holy Rosary School. Both sides of my family were raised in the Belmont neighborhood — Little Italy of the Bronx. In fact, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church is where my parents were married and where my brother and I were baptized, in "the neighborhood," as many Italian-American families from this area would say. During my high school years, I commuted a few different ways to the Prep: taking the Bx26 bus down Allerton Avenue, getting a car ride from my mom before she dropped off my younger brother at school, and finally driving on my own to campus as a senior. Commuting is such an important part of the Prep experience because it invites our students to build social relationships and community with one another in ways that are unique from the classroom or athletic experience. Whether it is the bus, subway, or Metro-North, public transportation allows our young men to present themselves as Prep gentlemen to the wider world. They realize very quickly that they are not only representing themselves on the train or bus, but they are carrying the history and good name of the Prep with them wherever they go.

Q: The Prep's connection to the Bronx also includes its neighbors on the historic Rose Hill Campus, Fordham University. What is one unique way students can take advantage of that relationship during their time at the Prep?

A: Our relationship with Fordham University is a special one. Our early years as the Second Division of St. John's College and long history recalls that we are part of the larger shared Jesuit apostolic community of the Bronx. It's difficult to pinpoint one unique way our students can take advantage of this relationship. First, they are blessed to be able to call the University Church their spiritual home on campus. From school-wide liturgies to reconciliation services to retreats, this sacred space is a formative one for our young men. Second, there is no other high school in the Bronx in which students can take advantage of college athletic fields and facilities. Our scholar-athletes are privileged to practice and compete on amazing grounds, from which they get a real taste of what college may be like after graduation. Lastly, the opportunity for qualified seniors to enroll in undergraduate academic courses during their final year is another tremendous benefit of their Prep education. In recent years, our seniors have studied computer science, economics, philosophy, and sociology at the University, expanding their knowledge and skills alongside college students in the same classroom. We are sincerely grateful to our colleagues at Fordham University for our ongoing and deepening partnership in mission.

Q: You must have a favorite place to eat on Arthur Avenue. Which is it?

A: You clearly saved the most difficult question for last... How can I choose one? For a special occasion, I would say Roberto's without a doubt. The food, wine, and ambiance are exceptional. I also enjoy excellent meals at Zero Otto Nove, Fiasco, Emilia's, Enzo's, and Mike's Deli. But you only asked for one, right? You usually can't go wrong anywhere on Arthur Avenue. *Mangia bene, ridi spesso, ama molto!* ■

“We are thrilled to announce that Anthony will be the first full-time lay president in the Prep’s long and storied history. His experience as a leader in Jesuit education convincingly elevated him within an incredibly deep and diverse pool of candidates.”

– Mario Ciampi ’78
Chairman of the Fordham Prep
Board of Trustees



PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH CONCLUDES

FORDHAM PREPARATORY SCHOOL is excited to announce the hiring of Anthony I. Day as the 37th president in its 181-year history. Day will begin his tenure on July 15, 2023.

The appointment of Day was made with unanimous approval of both the search committee and the Board of Trustees. This comes at the end of a national search that included a deep pool of educational leaders from both secondary schools and higher education.

Mario Ciampi '78, Chairman of the Fordham Prep Board of Trustees, shared, “We are thrilled to announce that Anthony will be the first full-time lay president in the Prep’s long and storied history. His experience as a leader in Jesuit education convincingly elevated him within an incredibly deep and diverse pool of candidates. With the Prep in an extremely strong position, Anthony is the perfect leader to help us build on that position both inside and outside of the classroom. Recognizing his deep commitment to our Catholic

Jesuit mission of Faith, Scholarship and Service, the Board and I are excited to partner with him to further every aspect of that mission. I am also very grateful to the members of the presidential search committee for their tireless efforts these past months to help identify such a remarkable Ignatian leader.”

Day’s appointment by the Fordham Prep Board of Trustees was unanimously ratified by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) East Province Office. Rev. Joseph Parkes, SJ, Provincial Assistant for Secondary Education (PASE), and former Fordham Prep president, praised the decision stating, “I have known Anthony since my own days in the president’s office at the Prep. I have followed his career in Jesuit secondary education closely. He has distinguished himself both as a teacher and administrator at Regis and Loyola Blakefield. Fordham Prep is blessed to have this great Ignatian leader as its first full-time lay president.”

Brian Carney, a 30-year veteran of the Prep’s faculty and administration, who is currently serving as Interim President, also remarked, “Anthony and I started our careers in Jesuit education together and I am thrilled to welcome him back to the Prep as a colleague once again. He is a leader who is deeply grounded in the rich spiritual tradition of St. Ignatius and a leader who I know will advance the Prep’s mission in extraordinary ways.”

Day is a long-tenured educator and experienced leader in Jesuit high schools having held positions as Assistant Principal of Regis High School and Principal of Loyola Blakefield. For the last nine years he has served as president of Loyola Blakefield (Towson, MD). During his tenure Day led Loyola to its most successful fundraising initiative in school history — a \$32 million capital campaign that resulted in the construction of St. Ignatius Hall, enhanced the school’s scholarship endowment, and bolstered annual giving. He was also instrumental in crafting and implementing the strategic vision that has guided the school’s growth over the past decade, including the addition of innovative academic and co-curricular programming and the expansion of spiritual formation and service offerings.

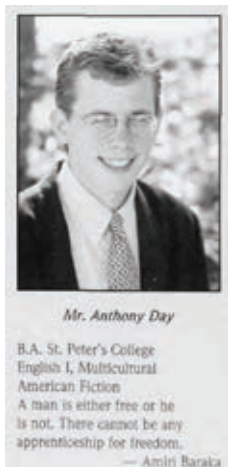
This marks the return of Day to the historic Rose Hill campus, where he was a

member of the English department from 1992 to 1999. While teaching, he also coached baseball, founded the Prep’s volleyball program, and co-moderated the school’s Asian-American cultural club. Day also participated in the school’s Emmaus retreat program as a faculty leader.

“As an Ignatian educator who began his career at Fordham Prep, I am excited to return to a place that ignited my passion for teaching.”

– Anthony I. Day (above)
Incoming Fordham
Prep President

LEFT:
Day's collection
of short stories,
Kaleidoscope: Five Views of Life, was the
Class of 1998's
favorite book.



RIGHT:
Day teaching
a class during
his time at
Fordham Prep.

“I have known Anthony since my own days in the president’s office at the Prep. I have followed his career in Jesuit secondary education closely. He has distinguished himself both as a teacher and administrator at Regis and Loyola Blakefield. Fordham Prep is blessed to have this great Ignatian leader as its first full-time lay president.”

– Rev. Joseph Parkes, SJ, Provincial Assistant for Secondary Education (PASE), and former Fordham Prep president



Day holds a Master of Letters from the Caspersen School of Graduate Studies at Drew University, Madison, NJ. He also has a Master of Science in Education from Fordham University Graduate School of Education, New York, NY, as well as a Bachelor of Arts from Saint Peter’s College, Jersey City, NJ. He attended Christian Brothers Academy in Middletown, New Jersey.

Upon his appointment, Day remarked, “As an Ignatian educator who began his career at Fordham Prep, I am excited to return to a place that ignited my passion for teaching. I have been fortunate enough to maintain relationships with those I either taught or worked alongside. I’m eager to renew those relationships and dedicate time toward getting to know my new colleagues as well as our students, alumni, families, and benefactors.

“Because it centers itself on faith, service, and intellectual inquiry, a Catholic, Jesuit education remains the most powerful educational journey one can experience. I look forward to being part of the transformational mission of Fordham Prep as we collaborate in ways that enhance student life, foster community engagement, and chart a course for an exciting and prosperous future.

“I’m incredibly grateful for this opportunity and would like to express my gratitude to all those who were part of the search process, including trustees, faculty and staff, alumni, families, students, and benefactors.”

Fordham Prep is proud to welcome Day, with his wife Laura, sons Aaron and Ethan, and daughter Olivia into its vibrant community of students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni. ■

“I look forward to being part of the transformational mission of Fordham Prep as we collaborate in ways that enhance student life, foster community engagement, and chart a course for an exciting and prosperous future.”

– Anthony I. Day
Incoming Fordham
Prep President



Anthony Day taught English at Fordham Prep beginning in the fall of 1992 and ending in the spring of 1999.



LEFT TO RIGHT: The Day family — Ethan, Anthony, Olivia, Laura, and Aaron.

You're always from

THE



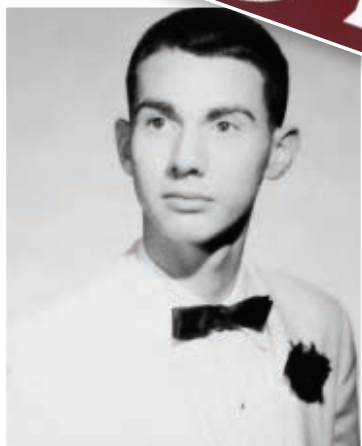
“

You're always from the Bronx,” says a bumper sticker that came to be during Robert Gomprecht's '65, P'89, '94, GP'20, '24 time as Principal at Fordham Prep (Headmaster from 1994–96, Principal until 2015).

Rumor has it that 10,000 of these bumper stickers were printed, though the details surrounding their production are a bit fuzzy for Gomprecht. School archivist Louis DiGiorno '88, P'26 is also unsure of the details regarding their inception.

FORDHAM PREPARATORY SCHOOL





Here's what Gomprecht does remember: The sticker was originally part of a poster that he came across sometime in the late 1980s or early 1990s while visiting an employee of a marketing company that was working with the Bronx borough president at the time.

Intrigued by the poster, which at first only had the words "You're always from the Bronx" written on it in all caps, Gomprecht asked for permission to use it for Fordham Prep. The marketing company was happy to oblige, turning it into a bumper sticker adding "Fordham Prep" in all caps along the bottom as well as the school's seal on the left side.

"They were given to students who received an honors card after an academic quarter," Gomprecht recalls. Interim President Brian Carney noted that he would use the stickers to mark the pole vault poles used during track practice.

Gomprecht does not remember how many cars he saw sporting the bumper stickers, though. "It was another century," he laughed.

When asked if Fordham Prep would be the educational institution it is if it were not situated in the Bronx, Gomprecht noted that the school was once offered to relocate to Westchester.

When Fordham University decided to shut down its campus in Tarrytown, NY (Marymount College of Fordham University), they asked if the Prep wanted to trade its space at Rose Hill for it. This would give the Prep a larger space and the chance to consider offering a boarding option for students.

ABOVE LEFT: Gomprecht senior yearbook photo.

ABOVE RIGHT: The 2009 yearbook was dedicated to Gomprecht and included an image of a bulletin board featuring one of the bumper stickers he commissioned amongst the other items and photos of the former Prep principal.

However, the Prep reportedly did not entertain this idea. Rev. Kenneth Boller, SJ, former Fordham Prep president and former member of the Fordham University Board of Trustees, stated that "(Fordham Prep's) 'mission' was to stay in the Bronx." Boller, a member of the 2022 Hall of Honor induction class, mentioned in a report that the conversation about moving never went anywhere.

There is no question that certain aspects of the Fordham Prep experience would be missing if the school was not located in the Bronx. The school's rich history would only be seen through photographs, students taking courses at the university would need to take two trains to get to class, and where would we find another harmonica player like our friend at Pugsley's Pizza?

Interested in acquiring one of the famous "You're always from the Bronx" bumper stickers?

Visit the Prep Shoppe at Rose Hill or order one online at bit.ly/yourealwaysfromthebronx.

OUR FAVORITE BRONX SPOTS



1

EMILIA'S

2331 Arthur Avenue

Traditionally, each cohort of new faculty and staff experience Italian cuisine for dinner at Emilia's with Prep administrators a few days before the school year begins.

New faculty and staff dinner at Emilia's on September 1, 2022.



4

POTS (PART OF THE SOLUTION)

2759 Webster Avenue

One of Fordham Prep's Great Ignatian Challenge food drive beneficiaries.

Students delivering food collected during the Great Ignatian Challenge to POTS.



2

BORGATTI'S RAVIOLI & EGG NOODLES

632 E 187th Street

Fordham Prep and the Ursuline School's Italian Clubs went on a shopping trip in Bronx Little Italy during Italian Heritage Month in October 2022.

Members of the Prep community flock to Borgatti's for housemade cheese ravioli, flavored fettuccine galore and more.



5

SIS NATIVITY: ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOL

740 Manida Street

A feeder school for Fordham Prep. Their students have visited Rose Hill on several occasions, on one of which they were gifted an aviation simulator after a demo from science teacher Raymond Gonzalez, PhD.

Students from SIS Nativity: St. Ignatius School journeyed to Fordham Prep in January 2022 for a flight simulator lesson from Raymond Gonzalez.



3

MURPHY FIELD FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

Many of the Prep's sports teams utilize Murphy Field for sports practices.

The Prep's JV soccer team on Murphy Field in the fall of 2022.



6

BRONX ZOO

2300 Southern Blvd

The Bronx Zoo is an indispensable resource to science classes at the Prep

Pierre Chavez's science class on a field trip to the Bronx Zoo in October 2021.



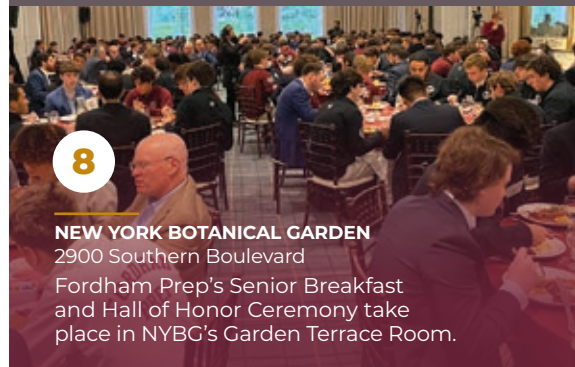
7

MERCY CENTER

377 E 145th Street

One of Fordham Prep's Great Ignatian Challenge food drive beneficiaries.

Fordham Prep students dropping off food collected for the 4th annual Great Ignatian Challenge food drive competition between Jesuit schools.

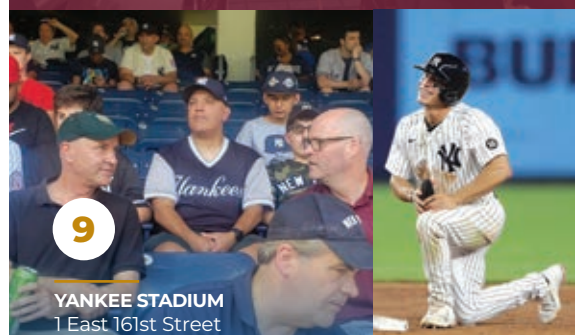


8

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

2900 Southern Boulevard

Fordham Prep's Senior Breakfast and Hall of Honor Ceremony take place in NYBG's Garden Terrace Room.



9

YANKEE STADIUM

1 East 161st Street

Fordham Prep's Fathers' Club frequents the stadium for club outings. Alumnus Andrew Velazquez '12 played for the Yankees in 2021.



- 10. BRONX LITTLE ITALY**
2396 Arthur Avenue
- 11. MIKE'S DELI**
2344 Arthur Avenue
- 12. FRANKIE & JOHNNIE'S PINE RESTAURANT**
1913 Bronxdale Avenue
- 13. KRISPY KREME**
371 East Fordham Road
- 14. CONCOURSE HOUSE**
2751 Grand Concourse

- 15. FORDHAM PREP**
441 East Fordham Road
- 16. PUGSLEY PIZZA**
590 E 191st Street
- 17. ROCCO'S PIZZA**
397 Bedford Park Boulevard
- 18. VAN CORTLANDT PARK**
Broadway & Van Cortlandt Park South
- 19. DOWNEY'S BAR & GRILL**
5790 Mosholu Avenue

- 20. ROBERTO'S**
603 Crescent Avenue
- 21. ZERO OTTO NOVE**
2357 Arthur Avenue
- 22. FIASCO**
2376 Arthur Avenue
- 23. ENZO'S**
2339 Arthur Avenue



More of Principal Petriello, PhD '98's favorite restaurants
(The list continues, but we don't have enough room to list them all!)

DAVID GRECO P'15



David Greco P'15 is the current owner of Mike's Deli on Arthur Avenue.

IF YOU'RE A CURRENT STUDENT OR ALUMNUS OF THE PREP, you may have visited Mike's Deli on Arthur Avenue at least once — but most likely dozens of times.

Owned by alumni parent David Greco P'15, Mike's Deli produces fresh mozzarella, delicious meats, and specialty sandwiches named after public figures such as Sophia Loren and films like *A Bronx Tale*.

The restaurant was previously owned by Greco's father, Michele "Mike" Greco, a hard-working immigrant from the Calabria region of Italy. He was very well known in the Bronx's own "Little Italy." He appeared in a Ronzoni commercial filmed on Arthur Avenue and had a cameo in the 1993 film *Six Degrees of Separation*. Mike Greco was also the subject of the play, *Behind the Counter with Mussolini*, by Greco's brother, Marco.

Greco inherited the business in the 1990s. He adapted to present-day commerce by launching an online store and opening a nearby cafe at 2329 Arthur Avenue. Mike passed away in 2019, but his legacy lives on through his son's ownership.

We stopped by Mike's Deli to chat with Greco about being the owner of one of the most famous places to eat in Bronx's Little Italy.

Q: What does operating a restaurant in the Bronx mean to you and your family?

A: A lot of hard work. It's never easy, but the satisfaction level is totally different than anywhere in New York City. People from all walks of life are so excited to come into this market. And that's a great feeling. Everybody who comes here is grounded, whether they're coming in to have a dish of pasta or sandwich, or if they're coming to take stuff home to the kids that are not coming to the block every day. The Prep and the University bring people from all over the tri-state area. But when they come here, they're on the same level.

We ground them, and they feel their parents or their grandparents. People come here and get emotional. I remember when my grandmother used to shop here — you can't buy that. And that's where

I feel we're very fortunate. One of our slogans is, "Some things never change." We try to keep things the same. Even though we'll add specialties like Italian nachos because it is on TikTok and my daughter wants me to do it, they are just truffle chips. But people love that it's creative and innovative. We try to be on that next level but at the same time, some things don't change. We keep everything the same. The best-quality parmigiana and the best bread in the neighborhood.

Q: How do you feel knowing that your restaurant is on Principal Petriello's list of favorite places on Arthur Avenue?

A: I knew the principal loved us. I did not know we were on his top list. That makes me happy. I've been taking care of the Fordham community for over 25 years. I feel like the faculty really cares

about a quality education. They have high standards for their students. I think we are alike in that way. I believe that with the highest quality of service, you'll always have happy and loyal customers. And I also like that the Prep recognizes that there is a lot to what is right outside its doors.

Q: What comes to mind when you hear the words "Fordham Prep at Rose Hill"?

A: I've always been a part of the Prep community. Fr. Joe Parkes, SJ convinced me that my son should go to the Prep. He was the greatest. I've been behind the counter 45 years — since I was 12 years old. I was living in the Bronx, and then, in my high school years, I moved to Rockland County. And now I feel like the Prep is on another level. When my son attended the Prep, he was a kid from Westchester who really didn't grow up in the Bronx.

He'd come to work on Saturdays a little bit and I'd make him sweep and clean. He was around 13-14 years old when he would walk from the Prep to Mike's Deli. He enjoyed the neighborhood. And he'd bring friends. They'd walk here, I'd feed them and then drive them home afterwards. The Bronx was the treasured part of the relationship with my son, and so they'd walk here with him. This was their backyard. In the end, a relationship with the neighborhood helps all the businesses here, not just mine. Students realize that in their backyard are famous little businesses like mine, that are family-run for almost 100 years or more. And it's amazing that we still exist, because without the right customers you can't.

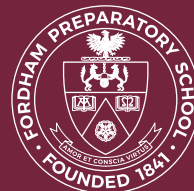
Q: Thinking about 100 years with all the changes and these new products and things you've come up with in response to the changing times, we have to ask: what is your favorite sandwich? What is your favorite dish that you create right now?

A: My favorite hands-down classic is the Michelangelo. We call it that because it is a work of art. With prosciutto, fresh basil on it, maybe the roast pepper or tomato depending on the season, that's my favorite even when I travel. I get it to go to travel — wrapped it up and it goes in my knapsack, for my plane ride. It's simplicity and it feels like Italy. ■

See David Greco at Mike's Deli in the Netflix series **Chef's Table: Pizza Season 1 Episode 1**.



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Fordham Prep would like to offer sincere gratitude to Rev. Mario Powell, SJ, Marc L. Flamino '85, and Rev. Mark Bosco, SJ for their service to the Board of Trustees. Thanks to their outstanding leadership, the Prep is positioned to continue its Catholic Jesuit mission for years to come.



Rev. Mario Powell, SJ



Marc L. Flamino '85



Rev. Marc Bosco, SJ

We would like to welcome our new board members: Rev. John J. Cecero, SJ (Vice President for Mission Integration and Ministry at Fordham University), Charon D. Darris '94 (Executive Director at Columbia Business School), William M. McGlone Esq. '78 (Retired Partner at Latham & Watkins LLP), and Alexander Richard Russo '75 (Executive Chairman and Co-Founder at XChangePoint LLC). Our new members began their board term on July 1, 2022.



LIVING THE DREAM AS HEAD COACH

“IT BECAME A **DREAM SPOT** FOR ME TO START COACHING AGAIN.”

— Brian Downey '95

BRIAN DOWNEY '95

Double Ram, Firefighter,
Coach and Restaurant Owner
in the Boogie Down Bronx

Brian Downey entered Fordham Prep in the fall of 1991. He commuted from Riverdale each morning with many other Prep students who lived in that area of the Bronx.

“All the way through (my time as a student at the Prep), it just became a home away from home, especially after playing sports,” Downey remembers. “There was no going home after school. You just seemed to stay there and it became another family,” he continued.

ABOVE: Brian Downey '95 (on left) was named varsity basketball coach in 2014 and sat for an interview with News12's Pat O'Keefe.



Downey has had a passion for basketball since the age of seven. Before attending Fordham Prep, he was the manager for his second-grade JV basketball team and then joined the JV team in fourth grade at St. Margaret's.

"I'd been playing competitive basketball pretty much ever since then until college," he noted.

For college, Downey remained in the Bronx as a commuter student at Fordham University where he got a degree in Communications. Staying at Rose Hill has its perks, as he was able to begin coaching at the Prep in 1995 while studying at the university.

Downey also coached baseball (circa 1997), another sport he enjoyed playing as a student. Before becoming Head Coach at the Prep in 2014, he taught for five years at a private school in Manhattan and then became an assistant coach for All Hallows'



Downey graduated in 1995. His younger brother, Michael Downey '99 and three younger cousins also attended the Prep.



Downey (seventh from left) was named CHSAA "A" Division Coach of the Year in February 2022.

basketball team. When he found out that the position of Head Coach was available at the Prep, "it became a dream spot for (him) to start coaching again."

"I wanted to get back into the building," he recalled.

His Prep basketball teams hit their stride in 2017, advancing to their first CHSAA "A" Division finals. Unfortunately, they lost that game and subsequent finals in 2018 and 2019. However, in 2020, a mere 10 days before Fordham Prep shut down due to the Covid pandemic, the team won its first CHSAA City Championship in 83 years. The pandemic canceled the 2021 season, but a number of key members of that historic team remained. In March of 2022, they again captured the City Championship. While separated by a year, Downey still considers his 2020 and 2022 CHSAA titles "back to back."

When Downey learned that he was named CHSAA "A" Division Coach of the Year in February 2022, he couldn't help but reminisce about all the legendary coaches he had looked up to since beginning his journey as a coach in 1995.

"To be even in the same group and the same kind of classification with these Hall of Fame legends in my eyes — it's



an honor," he said. "When you really think about all the other coaches that were in the CHSAA basketball league, it's in my opinion — and in many other opinions — some of the best basketball in the country. So it was a huge honor and I was humbled by it," he added.

When he's not running up and down the court with his players, Downey is helping to keep the Bronx safe as a member of the New York City Fire Department. He started out on Ogden Avenue in 2003 at Engine 68/Ladder 49 (also known as "Yankee Bombers"/"House on the Hill") and is now over on Randall's Island helping to train probies. ■



TOP LEFT: Downey pulls up for a jumper at a Prep basketball game.

ABOVE LEFT: Downey at his restaurant, Downey's Bar & Grill, in the Bronx.

ABOVE RIGHT: Downey (front) is also a firefighter with the FDNY.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

A return of home games back to campus made for a busy and successful fall season at the Prep. Read more about the highlights of our four fall sports teams.

Cross Country

At the Manhattan Invitation in early October, Sean Reidy '23 became the 100th Fordham Prep athlete to break the elite 14-minute barrier over the famed 2.5-mile course, a team achievement spanning 75 years. The Freshman team claimed first place in their race, led by individual winner Paxton Reyes, marking the first time a Prep team has ever won a Freshman race at the Manhattan College meet.

The Varsity Cross-Country team took third place out of 19 teams in the CHSAA Championship Meet. Sean Reidy '23, Jack Gallagher '23, Lucas Chrostowski '23, Gabe Kramer-Griffith '25, David Rosado '24, Adam Benson '25 and Ryan Noll '23 defied expectations and took the bronze, which was also good for second in the Archdiocese. The JV team, led by Andrew Whealan '23, Robel Wondwosen '23 and William Marx '23, and the Freshmen team led by Paxton Reyes '26, Charlie Zast '26 and

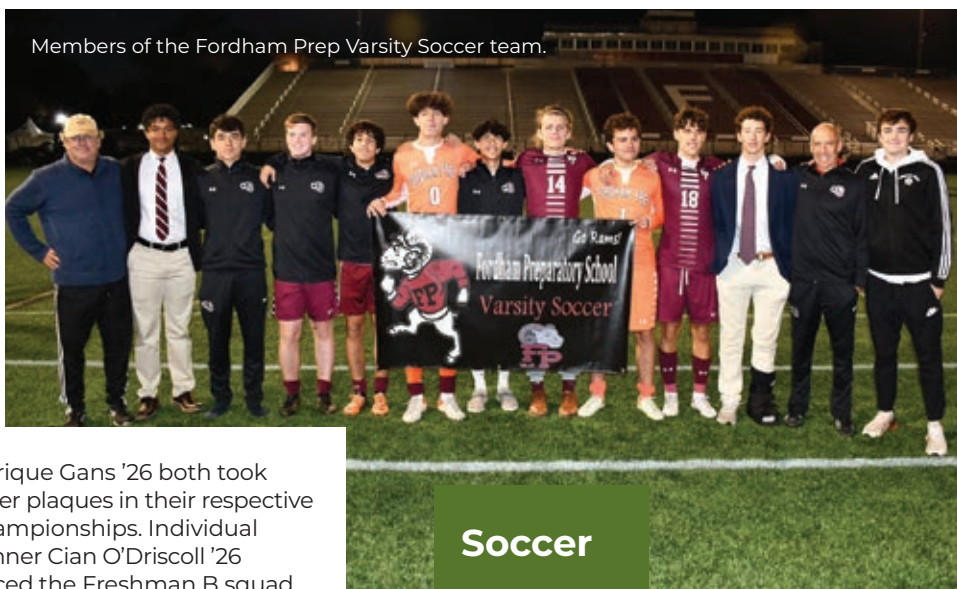
Enrique Gans '26 both took silver plaques in their respective championships. Individual winner Cian O'Driscoll '26 paced the Freshman B squad to first place.

The Freshman team later ended their season with a third-place finish at New York State Freshman Catholic Championships. Paxton Reyes and Enrique Gand earned All-Star Freshman status, and Shoni McNally, Charlie Zast, Chris Bustamonte, Amir Thalappillil and Cian O'Driscoll rounded out our State Bronze Medalists. The Freshman B team also took third thanks to Finn Evans, Tom Spellman, Manny Montilla, Alex Longridge, Colin Howley, Michael Romita and Alex Mendoza. All-State Sophomores Gabe Kramer-Griffith and Adam Benson led their classmates to a fifth place finish aided by Christian Quiambao, Charlie Moran, William Dillon, Andrew Mayer and Brandon DeMelo.

Members of the Cross Country team at the CHSAA Catholic State Championships in Van Cortlandt Park.



Members of the Fordham Prep Varsity Soccer team.



Soccer

The Varsity Soccer team cruised to another Archdiocesan title with an overall record of 13-3. They defeated Regis 4-1 in the Quarter-final round of the playoffs, but lost 3-1 to Monsignor Farrell in the Semi-final game at St. John's University. Tiernan McLaughlin, Alberto Molina, Leo Pelizzari-Astle, Gabe Smith, Jorge Gonzales and Will Casson were selected to the NY City CHSAA "AA" division All-League First Team. JV Soccer finished the season with an overall record of 9-1-6 before losing 3-1 to Xavierian in the Quarter-final round of the playoffs. Notable individual highlights of the season include hat tricks by Jorge Gonzales '24 against Monsignor McClancy and Gabe Smith '24 against St. Francis Prep on the Varsity level, as well as Giovanni Capellini Bozzo '25 against Stepinac on the JV level.

Football

The Varsity Football team finished the regular season with an overall record of 3-5, including a 2-0 start and a thrilling 27-24 Friday night victory over St. Peter's Boys on Senior Appreciation Night at Coffey Field. In the first round of the playoffs, the Rams defeated St. Joseph by the Sea High School in Staten Island by the score of 28-14.

They now face Holy Trinity in the Semi-final round. Charlie English '23 won the honor of NYCHSAA Player of the Week both in the first and last weeks

of the regular season. After the playoffs, the Rams will get ready to face Xavier in the 99th Annual Turkey Bowl at Aviator Field on Thanksgiving Day.

The JV Football team finished the regular season with an overall record of 2-5, with wins coming over Xavier and St. Francis Prep. The Rams once again beat the Knights by the score of 17-8 in the first round of the playoffs. They face St. Joseph by the Sea in the Semi-final Round. The Freshman finished with an overall record of 1-6 with a win against Kellenberg.

99th Annual Turkey Bowl

In the 99th Annual Turkey Bowl, the Rams defeated Xavier 41-25 at Aviator Sports and Events Center. Quarterback Matthew Moorehead '24 threw for five passing touchdowns, while Charlie English '23 took home the Turkey Bowl MVP trophy while contributing an interception and a game-sealing 70-yard touchdown run.

Crew

The FP Crew team showed up big time for the Overpeck Fall Classic, where Max Grambling '25 and Ryan Palumbo '25 won second place in the Novice 2x race. They also attended the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta in Philadelphia, where the Junior Varsity 4x team placed 14 out of 48 competitors with rowers

Robert Romani '24, Cameron Drew '23, Luca Tarricone '23, Griffin Shea '26 and coxswain Jayden Carvajal '24. On the Novice doubles race, Max Grambling '25 and Ryan Palumbo '25 placed 8 out of 20 while Cole Elliott '25 and Sebastian Sencion '25 placed 10 in the same race. ■

TOP: Members of the Fordham Prep Varsity Football team.

BOTTOM: Members of the Fordham Prep Crew team.

AROUND THE PREP



The front of Shea Hall, named for Fr. Arthur V. Shea, SJ, Dean of Students and Athletic Director at Fordham Prep during the early and mid-1900s.

Shea Hall's First Half-Century

by Louis DiGiorno '88, P'26, Archivist

It was the decade that brought you prog-rock and disco and funk. There were bell bottoms and *The Brady Bunch* and gas lines and Pong. It was the Steinbrenner Show at the Stadium, and yes, the Bronx was burning — at times literally and at times metaphorically. And no, not even the green oasis of Rose Hill was immune to the many changes — societal, economic, technological, and otherwise — of the 1970s.

A few years earlier, by the start of Lyndon Johnson's second term in the White House, it had become painfully apparent that Hughes Hall — the home of Fordham Prep since the fall of 1890 — could no longer meet the needs of a late 20th-century high school. Plans were made. Funds began to be raised. Then at the Alumni Dinner in February 1967, anonymous donors offered \$500,000 towards the construction of a new Prep building. Not anonymous for long, Robert Abplanalp '39, inventor and president of Precision Valve Corporation, and his wife, Josephine Sloboda Abplanalp, would give another \$500,000 to the building fund in honor of Fr. Shea.

But in 1968, the discussion of new facilities for the Prep took on a new urgency when Father Provincial held a conference on the fate of the Jesuit high schools in the area. The Province's report — which would ultimately lead to the closing of Brooklyn Prep — contained the following remarks regarding Fordham Prep: "The school is already doing outstanding work in educational experimentation and in providing quality education. But it also has serious problems in terms of physical plant. If its present drive to finance a new plant succeeds, and a new facility is made available, it will continue to be an important part of our apostolate in this area. If this condition is not fulfilled, we can see no realistic future for Fordham Prep." To quote an old familiar song: it was "do or die."

The rest, as they say, is history.

In June of 1970, Fordham Prep kicked off the new decade by becoming a legally separate entity from Fordham University, and Walter Higgins '31 would chair the school's first independent board. Construction of Shea Hall commenced the following February; students would enter the Prep's new premises for the first time in September of 1972 — fifty years ago this school semester.

Much has evolved at the "New Prep Building" in the last half-century. Classrooms have been reconfigured. The movable walls — all the rage way back when — have largely been removed. The Leonard Theatre was added in 1993. The Library and Computer Center were reconfigured a few years later — and then a few years later, again. A fourth floor? When did that happen? (2009, actually.) There is a new lobby now —

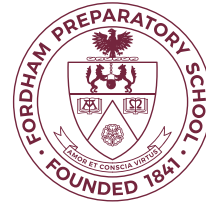
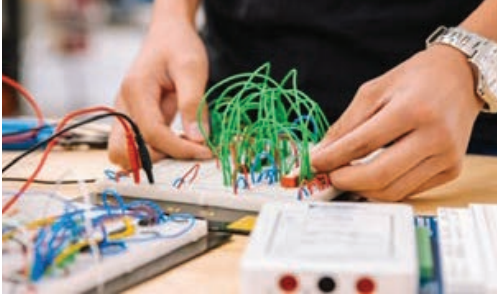
the Rowen Lobby to be precise — and glass walls in the Administration. If you were wondering, our lunchroom is still called the Commons, and likely always will be, though it was never supposed to have been called a Commons at all: just an accident of financial fracas and logistical legerdemain. ("Commons Knowledge," *Ramview*, Summer 2015.)

And — to give just a bit of chronological context, a then-future alum and two-year-old at the time of Shea Hall's grand opening now serves as the Prep's Assistant Dean and teaches in the Social Studies Department: Patrick Deane '88. Moreover, one of his toddler-contemporaries wrote this article.

But, of course, as much as things have changed, what is important has endured, because — as we all know — whether at Shea Hall, or Hughes Hall (or the Second Division Wing before that [or even the Second Floor Room of the Old Manor House before that!]) Fordham Prep has always been more than just four walls: it is an experience, an experience that has been brought about — day after day, year after year — by the thousands of individuals who have lent their time and talent to our Catholic Jesuit mission since 1841.

So here's to the next half-century at Shea Hall, Fordham Prep. Fifth floor anyone? How about that long-promised video-production studio? Any takers? And, folks, as they used to say back in the '70s: have a nice day!

(You know, Mr. Deane, with a little elbow grease, you and I could theoretically be around for Shea Hall's centennial. Friendly wager, buddy?) ■



Meet the 2023 Arredondo STEM Scholarship Winners

Fordham Prep is proud to announce the 2023 recipients of the Angeles T. Arredondo (ATA) Foundation STEM Scholarship: Gianluca Voli '23, Cameron Drew '23, and Nicolas "Nico" Nuño '23.

Through the generosity of the ATA Foundation, this marks the second year that the Prep has awarded three scholarships to students from a pool of diverse candidates who are interested in pursuing a college degree in STEM.

"We are excited about the Angeles T. Arredondo Foundation STEM Scholarship winners being identified much earlier this year as it's a victory marker for college decisions," said Assistant Principal for Academics Chad Broussard. "The scholarships, ranging from \$10,000–\$50,000, may broaden the scope of attending a college or university for our students and it is our hope that each winner pursue a STEM career or contribute to the field," he added.

The ATA Foundation's commitment to Fordham Prep, the iSTEAM program and the students totals a staggering \$425,000 over the duration of the grant. A new group of qualified students is chosen every year.

The scholarship, which is based on academic performance, requires candidates to take at least two advanced STEM courses, such as AP Biology, Geometry Honors and AP Physics. The students with the highest GPAs at junior year are considered for the scholarship.

Students can use their scholarship award during their first year of college or distribute it throughout their matriculation. The three seniors awarded will receive their award certificates later in the academic year.

To learn more about iSTEAM at Fordham Prep, visit www.fordhamprep.org/academics/isteam.



1ST PRIZE WINNER
Gianluca Voli '23
(\$50k Scholarship)

Voli thoroughly enjoys getting hands on with iSTEAM at Fordham Prep during project-based labs where he is able to use the microscopes to investigate various plant cells on the molecular level, compare DNA sequences to understand evolutionary relationships with the computer program BLAST and create flying pigs using the principles of uniform circular motion.

Voli is interested in majoring in Biochemistry in college.

"All the iSTEAM projects I have done at Fordham Prep have made me more intellectually curious and trained me on how to solve real-world problems using experimentation and the scientific method," Voli said. "iSTEAM has also given me a passion for scientific research, especially in the biochemical field," he continued.

Voli '23 is a member of Varsity Cross Country and Track & Field, Vice President of the Italian Club, and a member of the 3D Printing Club (FP3D). He also

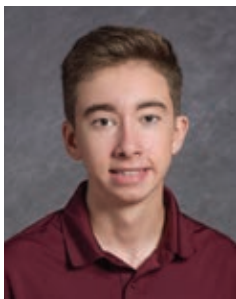
tutors students in Pre-calculus and other subjects in the Academic Support Center. He was a Freshman Retreat Leader for the Ministry Leadership Team during the 2021–22 school year. In the summer of 2022, he traveled to Tennessee for the Appalachia Habitat for Humanity service trip.

"If I had to choose one word to describe Gianluca it would be 'authentic,'" said Jennifer Muller from the Prep's Science Department. "He is authentic in everything he does. He is honest, genuine, trustworthy and a very hard worker. He is a wonderful role model for others. Gianluca's authenticity is probably one of the main reasons he stood out in my class. He is an extremely bright young man that is going to do wonderful things in the world," she continued.

continued...

“He is authentic in everything he does. He is honest, genuine, trustworthy and a very hard worker. He is a wonderful role model for others.”

– Jennifer Muller,
Science Teacher



2ND PRIZE WINNER

Cameron Drew '23
(\$25k Scholarship)

Cameron Drew '23 is one of the many seniors who has taken advantage of Fordham Prep's new Computer Science A course, which he notes is a subject he didn't have prior experience with. He has since developed a passion for the field.

Drew wants to study Computer Science in college. "The iSTEAM program at Fordham Prep has allowed me to figure out what I am interested in and has given me opportunities that I had not previously considered," he said. "I look forward to continuing these studies in college," Drew added.

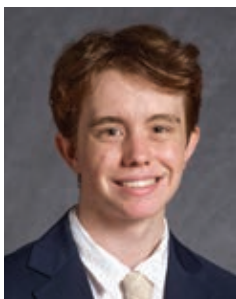
Drew is a member of the Crew team at Fordham Prep. He also went on the Christian Service Immersion Trip to the Working Boys Center in Ecuador during the summer of 2022.

"Cameron is an extraordinary young man," said math teacher Lauren Zefran. "Cameron possesses so many of the qualities Fordham Prep hopes to instill in their graduates. He is respectful, open to growth, intellectually curious and honest. His intelligence, diligence and work ethic served him well in Calculus and will continue to serve him well in the future," she continued.



Cameron is an extraordinary young man. He is respectful, open to growth, intellectually curious and honest."

– Lauren Zefran,
Math Teacher



3RD PRIZE WINNER

Nicolas "Nico" Nuño '23
(\$10k Scholarship)

Nicolas "Nico" Nuño '23 is fascinated by the wide range of topics he has been able to explore in the realm of science, technology, engineering, art, and math, as well as the possibilities that are open to him because of it.

"iSTEAM at Fordham Prep has helped me focus on my interests because it has allowed me to try a number of different iSTEAM-related classes, such as AP Physics or Calculus 2 Advanced Honors, which in turn have helped me find out which specific disciplines I'm interested in within the wider world of iSTEAM," said Nuño. "It has also exposed me to classes that I had never before considered taking, such as Computer Science A, a class that I now love," he added.

Nuño is interested in studying Economics, Politics, or Philosophy in college here in the United States or abroad.

Nicolas Nuño '23 played tennis at Fordham Prep and traveled to Ireland in November 2022 with the Global Education program.

"'Conscientious' is one word to describe Nicolas Nuño," said science teacher Brian Sullivan '96. "He provided a very dynamic presence in class and was a very focused and engaged learner. He had a natural comfort and confidence with the AP Physics 1 curriculum. His work was always completed in a neat and meticulous manner, especially his solutions to lengthy problems. He was a natural leader in class, especially during labs and other group work exercises. It was common to observe Nicolas helping his classmates derive equations, interpret data, and guide them to the correct answer to a challenging problem. He helped his classmates in a very friendly and encouraging manner. It was an absolute pleasure having Nicolas in class," he continued. ■



He was a natural leader in class... helping his classmates derive equations, interpret data, and guide them to the correct answer to a challenging problem.

– Brian Sullivan '96,
Science Teacher

Prep Alumnus Builds Prayer Garden for Eagle Scout Project

If you're a resident of the Scarsdale area or a parishioner of the Annunciation Church – Our Lady of Fatima Parish, you may have noticed the new Saint Padre Pio Prayer Garden. The garden, located outside of Breen Hall, is the product of Christopher Iori '22's Eagle Scout project.

His service work with Scouts BSA is in addition to the Christian Service requirement at Fordham Prep that he fulfilled in order to graduate in June 2022. Students begin learning how to design and implement their own service project in freshman year, run a social justice-themed project in sophomore year, and then spend 15 hours responding to needs that exist at Fordham Prep. By senior year, students are well prepared to complete their capstone service project, which requires 70 service hours.

For his senior capstone project, Iori spent 20 hours helping with the school's Campus Ministry Hunger Awareness Month initiatives and writing morning prayers. In the remaining 50 hours, he worked with special needs children in Ardsley Middle School's Challenger Sports Program and helped bag, sort and hand out food to clients at OLMC-Elmsford Food Pantry. In completing several years of Christian Service during high school, Iori demonstrates one of the core Jesuit qualities that the Prep seeks to bring out in all its students: *men for others*.

Iori was able to share his Eagle Scout ceremony with another Prep alumnus, Andrew Sciacca '20.

While the garden honors its namesake, Saint Padre Pio, the project also pays tribute to Iori's mother, who passed away in May 2022.

"I would like to dedicate my project and Eagle Scout accomplishments to my mother, Lorena Iori," he said. "My mother was my number one supporter throughout my entire life, especially with achieving Eagle Scout. She was always willing to help me with anything I needed, even during her fight with cancer. I will forever appreciate her love and guidance and remember all the great memories I had with her for the rest of my life," he added. ■



LEFT: Christopher Iori '22 (Clemson University '26) transformed an empty space at Annunciation Church – Our Lady of Fatima Parish into the new Saint Padre Pio Prayer Garden.

BELOW LEFT: Westchester County Legislator James Nolan declared a day in July 2022 "Christopher Iori Day" in honor of completing his Eagle Scout Project.

BELOW RIGHT: Iori (right) and fellow Eagle Scout Andrew Sciacca '20 (left) celebrated on the same ceremony date.



Iori received the following awards and recognition at his Eagle Scout ceremony:

U.S. flag with a Certificate of Authenticity stating it was flown over the U.S. Capitol

Letter of congratulations from Charles E. Schumer, United States Senator

A proclamation signed by Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano that July 24th, 2022 is Christopher Iori Day on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout

Eagle Scout Award signed by the National Chair, Honorary Chair, Chief Scout Executive/President and CEO, and the National Commissioner

Recognition from the Greater Hudson Valley Council Boy Scouts of America Executive Board signed by Mark Schivley, Algonquin District Chairman, and GHVC Board Member Br. Thomas Leto

Proclamation for exemplary service awarded by Senator Shelley B. Mayer of New York State's 37th Senate District

New York State Assembly Citation recognizing his service to the people of Yonkers, awarded by Hon. Nader J. Sayegh of the New York State Assembly (Yonkers)

Westchester County Board of Legislators Proclamation that July 27th, 2022 (displayed on the jumbotron on July 28th) be named "Christopher Iori Day" in Westchester County

Two Certificates of Achievement signed by Westchester County Executive George Latimer

Letter of congratulations from Benjamin R. Mills, Board Chair of the Boy Scouts of America Greater Hudson Valley Council

A letter of congratulations from National Chair Dan Ownby, President and CEO Roger C. Mosby, and National Commissioner Scott Sorrels of the Boy Scouts of America National Service Center

A letter of congratulations from Richard Stockton, Scout Executive/CEO of the Boy Scouts of America Greater Hudson Valley Council

Certificate of Recognition presented by Mike Breen, 5th District Chairman from the Yonkers City Council

Certificate of Appreciation signed by Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, President of Yonkers City Council

American Legion Ernest Pasqua Post #1506 Crestwood Good Citizenship Citation (signed by the Commandant and Adjutant)

Marine Corps League Good Citizenship Award (signed by the Commandant and Adjutant)

IGNITE

The Annual Can't-Miss Event at the Prep Funding Jesuit Education Since 1818



Guests at IGNITE 2022: An Evening in Spain on April 9th, 2022.

Since 2018, current and past parents, as well as alumni spanning classes from 1960 through 2015 and their guests have gathered on campus for the annual Igniting Our Mission (now IGNITE) benefit, the most prominent of Fordham Prep's annual events.

The popular party at the Prep, which has raised \$2.2 million to date, features a live auction with MC and NBC sportscaster Bruce Beck, a strolling dinner, open bars, whiskey tables sponsored by Tony Russo '57 of Aries Wine & Spirits, specialty cocktail stations, live music, and dancing. Each year, the benefit's festive atmosphere makes for an event filled with special moments for members of the Fordham Prep community and friends to enjoy.



Funds raised at the annual event help the Prep to continue providing its students with a quality Jesuit education in the Bronx in enhanced learning environments. Funds have gone to support iSTEAM and other educational programs, Global Education, IGNITE Scholarships, and capital improvements such as the East Wing Project and the Adlerman Makerspace.



"The IGNITE event at Fordham Prep is known as the best party of the year!" said Co-President of the Past Parent Association Joanne Aventuro P'15, '18, '21. Her husband, Chris Aventuro, agrees. "Each year the Commons is transformed into a festive party venue where more than 500 guests celebrate being part of Fordham Prep. It is a special



night where the community supports the school's Jesuit mission," she continued.

While the pandemic canceled the in-person benefit in 2021, the Virtual Igniting Our Mission celebration with viewers at home still managed to break records. The event, which traditionally attracts a crowd of over 500 people, won two CASE Circle of Excellence



Awards in the Special Events/ Online Fundraisers category and another in the 2022 Best of District II category.

In 2020, the science-themed benefit allowed guests to explore the iSTEAM program at Fordham Prep by trying their hand at the flight simulator, experimenting with the laser cutter, and speaking with student demonstrators. By popular demand, the recipe for the drink of the evening (an Electric Blue cocktail named Full Steam Ahead) was sent to guests after the event.

"The February 2020 benefit right before the world shut down was my favorite," said Dario Martinez '87, P'22, an alumnus and Prep parent who has attended every benefit since its inception.

The two-hour online event in 2021 honored Fordham Prep's faculty, past greats, and current heroes. Alumni and parent volunteers delivered gift bags and Fordham Prep Party Boxes filled with antipasti from Mike's Deli and rosé to guests in advance of the virtual event. Viewers were treated to an exciting cameo during the livestream from alumni parent Liam Neeson P'15 while he was

on the set of a film in Bulgaria. He issued a warning to viewers in the style of his character, Bryan Mills, from *Taken*, as he stated jokingly, "If you tune out before the program ends, I will look for you. I will find you."

Rebranded as IGNITE, 2022's benefit was a fiesta! The Ignatian Spain-themed event in honor of the 500th year of Ignatius' conversion featured delicious Spanish food, a wine pull, and more. FPTV premiered its short "BIG," starring now-retired Assistant Principal Dennis Ahern '63, P'01, during the event. "We learn, we share, we support, we give, and we grow. That is who we are," said trustee Rose Caiola P'22 looking back at past Prep benefits she has attended.

Fordham Prep is hard at work planning the upcoming benefit, IGNITE 2023: Under the Big Top in the Bronx. The benefit on March 4th is poised to be an extraordinary event featuring food, dancing, and surprises. Funds from IGNITE 2023 will benefit the IGNITE Scholarship Program and the new Athletic Strategic Plan, which includes the construction of the Prep's new Fitness & Wellness Center. This year, sales will be capped at 525 tickets to ensure that guests will enjoy the full experience of this year's theme and festivities. ■



To learn more about IGNITE 2023: Under the Big Top in the Bronx, visit ignite2023.givesmart.com.



THE BRONX IS IN HIS BLOOD.

Febles won Mike Byrnes Coach of the Year in 2020 at the New Balance National Indoor Track and Field Championship at the Armory. The award honors Febles longtime coaching career during which he has had an enduring effect both on Fordham Prep and the high school track and field community.



George Febles P'15, '22 is a long-time and beloved member of the school's Social Studies department. He is also well known, both at the Prep and around the nation, for his outstanding track record as a cross-country and track and field coach. His extraordinary service to the Fordham Prep community both inside and outside of the classroom was recognized on Friday, November 18th, 2022 at the New York Botanical Garden when he was inducted into the school's Hall of Honor.

Febles grew up nearby Rose Hill on Sedgwick Avenue and West Fordham Road in the late '60s and early '70s. He was baptized at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, also nearby Rose Hill, and attended St. Simon Stock – St. Joseph Church on Valentine Avenue as a child. At around age seven, he and his family moved a few miles north to Yonkers, but Febles migrated closer to the Bronx (Mount Vernon) after college.

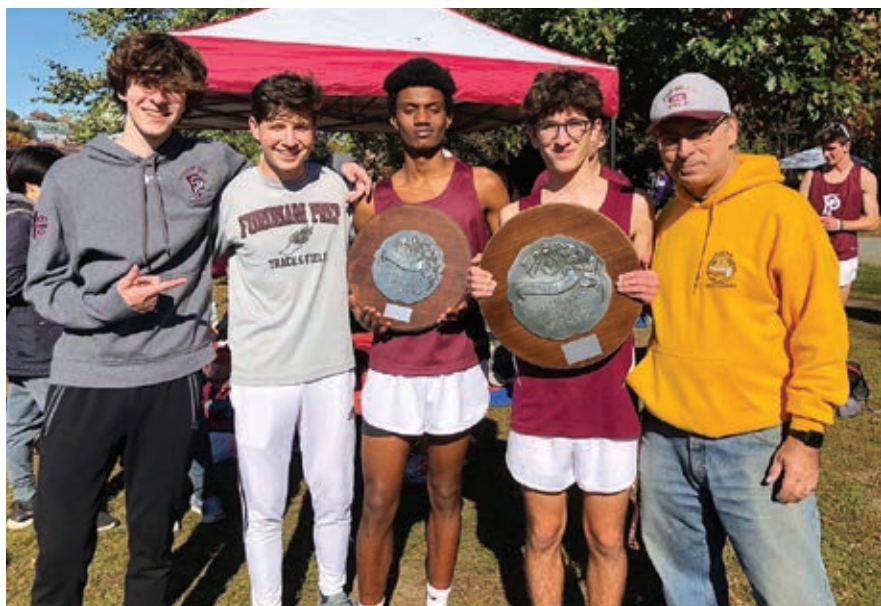
After living in Mount Vernon for three years with his wife, Nelsie, Febles made his return to the Bronx (Riverdale) in around 1995.

"It was always about finding a nice place to live," Febles said. "We were kind of committed in that we didn't want to live far away from the city," he continued, noting that he and his wife also didn't want to live too far away from their family members in Manhattan and Yonkers.

As luck would have it, the Febles ended up finding their house through a photographer that took pictures for the track meets he attended with his team. Febles and his wife saw the house that the photographer's parents were selling and ended up falling in love with it. They took a liking to the Country

Club neighborhood, and the home fit their criteria as far as being close to work and their families.

When it comes to teaching and coaching at Fordham Prep, Febles claims that it was never the plan. "It's in my blood," he laughed, stating that his father was a coach at Xavier and Regis — two other Jesuit high schools in New York City. After graduating from Fordham University with a degree in Political Science, Febles taught and coached at what was formerly Aquinas High School (now closed), an all-girls school in the Bronx. He joined the faculty and coaching staff at Fordham Prep at the recommendation of former Coach Joe Fox, and the rest, as they say, is history.



Febles poses with student-athletes on the Cross-Country team in Van Cortlandt Park after winning the CHSAA Championship in the fall of 2022.



Social studies teacher and coach George Febles P'15, '22 is a member of the 2021 Hall of Honor class that was inducted at the New York Botanical Garden this school year.

On Febles' watch, the Prep's Cross-Country and Track and Field teams have earned 13 CHSAA state titles. He has also coached 17 national champs, and 93 All-Americans. During the 2021–22 school year, both Varsity Cross Country (in the fall) and outdoor Track and Field (in the spring) won the CHSAA NY State Catholic titles, with Myles Hogan '22 winning the outdoor 2-mile run.

Febles is grateful to work on a campus that provides so much space for his Track and Field student-athletes to train on. There is Van Cortlandt Park just three miles away, the serene grounds of the New York Botanical Garden, and the Rose Hill campus itself.

"We may be in the Bronx but we are pretty lucky," he said, smiling. "Most suburban schools actually have to do most of their running on pavement," he noted, adding that he doesn't have to worry about students having to cross the streets while running during practice.

Two of Febles' sons attended Fordham Prep, a decision that was made due to his love for the Jesuit mission as a Xavier High school alumnus himself. "I wanted my boys to have a similar experience," he stated.

Febles associates Fordham Prep with the term "authenticity."

"There's no pretense here," he said. "We do our best to know where we are and where we came from, and to honor those traditions and the locality." ■



REMEMBERING DENNIS RIORDAN '66

Dennis Riordan '66, a tenacious and remarkably persuasive San Francisco appeals lawyer, passed in August 2022 after a seven-year battle with cancer.

Dennis dedicated his life to representing people who had been convicted of serious felonies and repeatedly won their freedom by finding new evidence proving their innocence and exposing flaws in previous trials.

Born into a Catholic family in the Bronx in 1948, Dennis graduated from Fordham Prep in 1966 where he was President of Student Government, a Maroon Key Member, and a member of the Track team. Dennis was an avid Prep Track fan and inducted Wayne "Buzz" Carroll into the Prep's Track Hall of Fame in 2006.

He went on to receive his law degree from New York University in 1974 before moving to San Francisco to begin his criminal defense career. There he built a reputation as someone who would take on the hardest criminal appeals and stick with them the longest. He took on cases that he found legally interesting, and especially cases that he believed in — ones where it seemed obvious that the legal system had fallen short and a person had been wrongfully convicted.

A few of his high-profile cases included: Johnny Spain, a Black Panther; Damien Echols, one of the "Memphis Three";

and Hamid Hayat, a young Muslim man with false conviction charges. Despite the many challenges of the cases he took on, Dennis deeply cared about his defendants and never gave up when he felt that justice was on his side, even if that meant working for free. Colleagues describe Dennis as someone who blended passion, knowledge, and a sense of humor into an incredibly effective legal method that kept judges and prosecutors on their toes and helped to level the playing field for his incarcerated clients, many of whom were non-white and blue-collar.

Dennis's daughter, Lisa, shared that when questioned as a child, "How can your dad defend murderers?" she would respond, "It's about justice, it's about the law." From a young age, she saw that her dad cared about more than just the person he represented, but about the precedent that was set for all things carrying forward. Dennis was known for his charisma and enthusiasm in the courtroom, constantly making people question the law and reevaluate what justice looks like. Despite his cancer diagnosis in 2015, Dennis did not slow down and continued to litigate and write hundred-page briefs throughout treatment. In his final interview with the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Dennis said, "It means an awful lot to know that I helped innocent people get their lives back; they all resonate." ■

TOP LEFT: Riordan was an appellate attorney and legal giant in the Bay Area. He was best known for freeing clients who had been wrongfully incarcerated.

TOP MIDDLE: Riordan's Fordham Prep graduation photo from 1966.

TOP RIGHT: In 2002 Riordan argued for a new trial for Marjorie Knoller, a notably difficult case, proving his passion for taking on tough cases.



LEFT: (left to right) Len DeLucia P'09, Neil Paladino P'17, Ernie Ferrigno, and Mike Avenzzano at Fordham Prep's 2022 Golf Outing. DeLucia passed away on July 4th, 2022.

RIGHT: DeLucia (second from right) after leading the Prep's lacrosse team to win the 2013 CHSAA Championships.

BELOW: Members of the DeLucia family at Rose Hill on James' graduation day.

REMEMBERING LEN DeLUCIA P'09

By James DeLucia '09

THOUGH I TECHNICALLY GRADUATED FROM THE PREP IN 2009, IN TRUTH, MY FAMILY AND I NEVER LEFT.

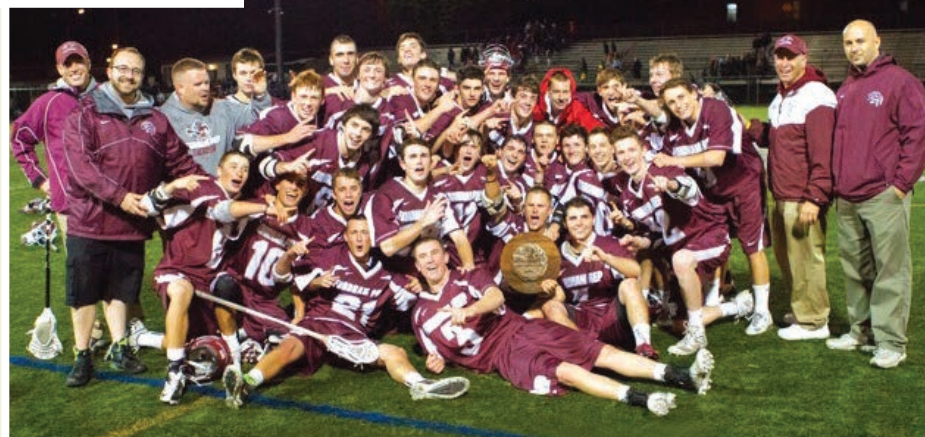
It wasn't long into my freshman year that my father, mother and sister began to appreciate that in many ways I was not the only one attending the Prep. From parent-teacher conferences to Track & Field weekends at the Armory to Thanksgivings at the Turkey Bowl, Fordham Prep events quickly filled up our family calendar.

Perhaps no one was as affected by the Prep's communal orbit as my dad, Len. It didn't take long for him to see that the Prep was a special place — one with ambitious young men embracing the "Men for Others" and *cura personalis* philosophy, and a faculty that devoted hours not only inside the classroom, but also in sports, service projects, and retreats, all coming well after school hours.

An athlete from a young age, my dad had a passion for athletics. An avid baseball, football, hockey, golf, and lacrosse fan (and participant over the years), you could frequently spot my dad catching a game — Prep or professional — on TV following family dinner.

When he heard that the Prep was looking for an assistant lacrosse coach in 2008, my dad chomped at the bit. Believe me, it was not my athletic ability that got him the job. It was his willingness to give hours away from his day job as a dentist and a sincere interest in coaching that earned him the spot.

Quickly, my dad saw the potential in my classmates, on and off the field, and in the power of the Prep community.



During his tenure, the lacrosse program won 72 games and two city championships in 2011 and 2013. He was also one of the founders of the Lacrosse Hall of Fame & Fundraiser Dinner. Beyond lacrosse, he regularly volunteered at home games for the varsity hockey team and went on to become a driving force and emcee at the Prep's annual Golf Outing.

In between the game days, my father and my mother, Patricia, supported the Prep in numerous ways, from attending Dramatic Society performances and the annual IGNITE benefit.

My dad's sudden passing in July was a gut punch. We were roiled as a family, uncertain of what lay ahead.

It didn't take us long, however, to find a light shining in the darkness. Without hesitation or delay, the Prep community from all walks of life — administrators, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and friends — extended Christ's compassion to us, an act my family and I will never forget.

Upon reflection, I've come to appreciate two important truths. First, you never really leave the Prep. And second, I was not the only member of my family to attend the Prep. My entire family did as well. The Prep uses the word "community" often, and the Prep is right. We are a community. I am proud to add my voice to the chorus that sings of the Prep's unwavering commitment to its students, faculty/staff, and alumni. This commitment has had a remarkable effect on my family, and is something we will be eternally grateful for. ■



CLASS Notes



Ten Prep Alumni traveled to Galway, Ireland in September to celebrate their friend's wedding: Aidan Camas '10, John Kilkenny '16, Kevin Dolan '10, Gus Menocal '14, James Gallo '10, Christian Doherty '13, Lloyd Bistany '10, Ryan Fink '10, Tommy Petriccione '10 and Tom McShane '10.



Interim Prep President Brian Carney made a trip to Philadelphia this past October, and got to catch up with many of our alumni in the City of Brotherly Love, including Vin Palermo '14 and Vin Sr., Greg Amato '00, Dom Catapano '98, Manus Chaorinuea '96, Jack Leitner '15, and John McCusker '14.



Young alumni from several class years joined us on November 3, 2022 for the Alumni Textathon to remind their fellow Rams to donate to the Turkey Bowl Challenge. Thanks to their efforts, we ended the 2nd quarter of the challenge with 89 donors!

1929

Vincent Leonard continues to receive *Ramview* publications 93 years after his graduation. He will celebrate his 110th birthday on May 12th, 2023.

1948

Bill Campbell is a co-founder of Our Lady of the Hills Catholic High School in Kerrville, TX. The school grew from double wides to a permanent building and from 15 to 125 students in just a few years. However, Covid has been hard on the small school and it only opened with 50 students this year. Please keep Our Lady of the Hills High School in your prayers.

1957

John Hoey has retired from his position of Chairman at Mundoro Capital, Inc. after serving in the role for 14 years.

Edward McAnaney enjoyed some quality time with his grandsons, Declan McAnaney '24 and Quinn McAnaney '26, this summer in Ocean City, NJ.



1958

The Honorable Joseph DioGuardi recently gifted the Prep with a copy of his book, *The Quest for Albanian Freedom and the End of*

Yugoslavia, which has been added to our alumni author shelf in McNamara Library.

1959

Edward Tucker graduated from the Institute for Integrative Nutrition as a Health Coach in 2013. He has lost over 150 pounds and teaches others how to lose weight.

1963

Kieran Darcy, son of Dwight (RIP 9/11/01), has been promoted to the position his father held as Assistant Director of Labor Relations Department at the Port Authority so now he manages the entire department, just like his Dad.

Jenik Radon recently gave an address titled "Lawful But Awful: Is the Lawyer the Cause, the Enabler?" at the 110th commemoration of the founding of Mexico's

Premier law school, the Escuela Libre de Derecho. Radon was featured in the documentary, "A Century of Estonia and US: an Unbroken Relationship," presented at Boston Study Group, a nonprofit dedicated to working towards a just and equitable society, and was quoted substantially in an article about OPEC's October slash in oil output and how it might affect Egypt. He continues to vie for the coveted Fordham Prep title of "Most Interesting Alumnus in the World."

1964

Robert Reid and other members of the class of 1964 held their annual Ascension Thursday get-together, organized by Bobby O'Donnell and Bernie Preisser. A class tradition for 58 years, 22 Rams enjoyed catching up over dinner at 25 North in Mamaroneck, NY.

1968

Tom McLaughlin has joined the Board of Directors for the Bronx Basketball Hall of Fame.

1973

Douglas Broderick sends his greetings from Mongolia.



1974

Edwin Bird celebrates the birth of his granddaughter, Kayleigh.



Tom Pedulla was the subject of a very nice write-up in *America's Best Racing*, reflecting on his life, career, and love of horse racing.

1975

Michael Gallagher marks the 20th anniversary of his founding of the Stevie Awards, widely considered as the "Business Oscars." Michael is also co-founder of ImageShield, a startup that helps people to protect the photos they share from being abused.

1979

Ken Jenkins is to chair a national subcommittee addressing transit and rail policies facing counties across the nation.

1983

Jim Salerno has been promoted to lead the Carvel brand as Chief Brand Officer. As you all know, Jim's dedication to the Carvel brand and franchise system is second to none. Jim has dedicated his career to Carvel, starting with the brand in 1998. Over the past 24 years, Jim has been an integral part of the Carvel franchise system and brand team, leading the brand in many capacities with a focus on upholding the longstanding tradition of Carvel Soft Serve.

1984

The Class of '84 gathered for a spring happy hour!

1987

David Culkin co-wrote a book called *OCD and Marriage*. Published in September 2021, this book is about people diagnosed with OCD in committed partnerships.

1988

Michael Curtin celebrates his new position as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment in Blind Brook Schools.



Tom Burger and other members of the 1988 class planned and organized a memorial gathering in memory of Valentino Vasi.

1995

Juan Carlos (J.C.) Polano, Esq. celebrates his new position as Chief Executive Officer at the Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO).

1997

Nicholas Junta has been a financial advisor with Northwestern Mutual for 21 years and has recently been recognized by *Forbes* as a 2022 Top Financial Security Professional and was placed 18th out of all advisors in New York.



Mark Jennings celebrates his new position as Managing Director and Head of Partnerships at Bite Investments.

2000

Sean O'Keefe visits the Fordham Prep Track Team.



2004

Vijay DaCosta celebrates his new position as a Theology Teacher at Fairfield College Preparatory School in Fairfield, CT. "I'm excited to serve in a Jesuit school again!"

2004, 2008

Dan Altenau '08 and Joe Altenau '04 ran the Chicago Marathon.



2007

Chris Palicka was a member of the engineering team that opened Moynihan Train Hall in January 2021.

Assistant Principal John Mercorella joins the Fordham Prep Business Club for Student Life. The group was hosted by Professor Kelly Ulto and six current Fordham University Gabelli School of Business students.



2008

Nicholas Figueroa's Latinos Urbanos Book Club had the chance to be interviewed by News 12 Bronx. He spoke about the book club, fund-raising efforts, scholarship initiatives, and their recent win of the Deja Tu Huella Fund Contest.

Jan Llanes welcomed a son, Miles, on July 25th.



2009

Khalid Robinson celebrated an NBA title with the Golden State Warriors, where he serves as the Special Assistant to the Head Coach.

Drew Shaw and Elizabeth Kresock celebrated their marriage in August 2022.

2010

Dre Haimindra welcomed his first daughter, Mia.



James Evers and his wife, Paige, welcomed their son, Chase, on July 7, 2022.

Jade Greene has been living in Iceland and traveling while his passion for photography has taken him to new heights.

Eric Stroud and Candice Segarra celebrated their marriage in September 2022.

Christopher Reyes celebrates his new position as Cyber Lead for KPMG US/Latin America. Christopher is also the Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Equitas Group, an activist group with a mission to build an equitable pathway for BIPOC youth from disadvantaged communities. In addition, Christopher remains involved with Fordham Prep and is an active mentor in the George Jackson Mentorship Program.

Tom McShane completed the NYC Marathon in 2022.



2013

James Lundy '05, Christian Doherty '13, Chris McGrath '14, Brian Doherty '06, Del Ferreira '08, and Mike Hannon '13 recently gathered for a pint in Ireland while playing a Gaelic football game for the NYPD.

Itua Uduebo is finalizing his debut novel, *Parade of Streetlights*, coming out June 2023.

2015

Cameron Young was awarded PGA Tour's 2022 Rookie of the Year.

2017

Charlie Brusco graduated from the U.S. Army Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course (IBOLC) Class on June 6, 2022. He also graduated from the U.S. Army Airborne School in November 2022.

Anthony Lanni gave a talk for the Aviation Club on E-Day during their first meeting of the 22-23 school year.



Thank you to all who shared their news. We look forward to hearing more of your updates for the next edition of Class Notes!

Share your updates at fordhamprep.org/classnotes.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM You!

2018

Christopher Parker (Notre Dame '22) is one of three O'Hare Fellows at America Media for this year and was just recently published in *America Magazine* with his article, "Catholic, Muslim and Jewish schools in New York are lobbying 'with one voice' for STEM education funding" featuring none other than Prep Alumnus Jim Rowen '82!

Jack Minano spoke at the NYU Stern Scholarship Dinner.

Liam McHale '18 returned home to Rose Hill last weekend with his parents, Jen and Jim McHale, as a fifth-year member of Georgetown Football. The Ram-turned-Hoya caught 3 passes for 18 yards in a 59-38 loss to Fordham University Football.

2022

Dash Scura makes the *Bedford & New Canaan Magazine's* 18 Under 18 list after being identified as an individual with extraordinary leadership potential by the Posse Foundation.

July 28th was announced as Christopher Iori Day by the Westchester County Board of Legislators in honor of the completion of Christopher's '22 Eagle Scout Project. ■



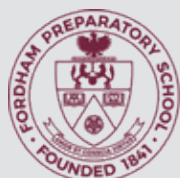
Former Prep President Rev. Christopher Devron, SJ (far left), poses with the living members of the 2022 Hall of Honor Class in attendance on November 18th. (Left to right): George I. Febles, Jr. P'15, '22, Eduardo R. Vilaro '82, Robert X. Murphy, MD '72, Brendan Walsh '60, and former Prep President Rev. Kenneth J. Boller, SJ.

2022 HALL OF HONOR CEREMONY

We look forward to seeing your nominations for the next Hall of Honor class and we hope you'll join us to celebrate them in 2024.

Special thanks to our Hall of Honor Committee:

Michael Stanton '79 (Chairman)
Sammy Acebal '82
Thomas Curran '82
Landon Dais '99
Ron DeCastro '83
Louis DiGiorno '88, P'26
John Freeman '80
Chris Healy '85, P'18, '21
Alex Rovira '95



HALL OF HONOR

The Garden Terrace Room at New York Botanical Garden was filled with over 250 people from the Fordham Prep community on Friday, November 18, 2022 in celebration of our nine new Hall of Honor inductees: Rev. Kenneth J. Boller, SJ, Irene R. Cozzarin, B.L.S., M.A.†, George I. Febles, Jr. P'15, P'22, Col. John J. Fischer '32†, Hon. William F. Kuntz II, PhD, JD '68, Robert X. Murphy, MD '72, Eduardo R. Vilaro '82, Brendan Walsh '60, and Paul D. Williams '56†.

Prior to dinner, the nine newest Hall of Honor class members were inducted via a video tribute acknowledging their extraordinary achievements.

After dinner, the six living honorees were lauded by the crowd as they were called to receive their certificates, many of them extending the honor to their fellow classmates.

Family members accepted certificates of induction for the deceased honorees (Aileen O'Rourke, JD, grandniece of Irene Cozzarin† through marriage; William Fischer, son of Col. Fischer '32†; Phyllis Williams, GP '24, wife of Paul Williams '56†).

Judge Bill Kuntz '68 was unable to attend. However, fellow Ram George Zambetti '68 received the certificate on his behalf.



I stand on the shoulders of giants," said Fr. Boller, SJ. "I want to first acknowledge the two biggest Fordham Prep fans I ever met: my father, Vincent '36, and his brother, Raymond '34. I was so delighted when the Boller Science Center was named in honor of the three of us (in 2009), and want to thank everyone here tonight for this wonderful honor."

— **Rev. Kenneth J. Boller, SJ** (photo left), the 34th president of Fordham Prep, who served the school for nine years.





- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Rev. Kenneth J. Boller, SJ. | 5 Eduardo R. Vilaro '82 |
| 2 Irene R. Cozzarin, B.L.S., M.A.† | 6 Brendan Walsh '60 |
| 3 George I. Febles, Jr. P'15, '22 | 7 Paul D. Williams '56† |
| 4 Robert X. Murphy, MD '72 | 8 Col. John J. Fischer '32† |
| | 9 Hon. William F. Kuntz II, PhD, JD '68 |

Irene (Cozzarin) always felt privileged to be a member of the Fordham family, especially with the Prep staff," said Cozzarin's grandniece through marriage, Aileen O'Rourke, JD. "Being here today, accepting her induction into the Hall of Honor is our family's honor and privilege."

— Aileen O'Rourke, JD, Cozzarin's grandniece (photo left)

To be even named in the same breath as this year's honorees is a privilege in itself," said George Febles P'15, P'22.

"Congratulations to my fellow inductees and their families. I join everyone in thanking you for your parallel contributions to our school, community, city, and our nation."

— George I. Febles, Jr. P'15, '22 (photo center)

It really is an amazing feeling to be standing here at the Botanical Gardens 50 years after I left the campus for the last time," said Dr. Robert Murphy '72. "I recognize that I may have left the campus, but I never really left the culture of Fordham Prep. I'm tremendously grateful to be part of this long maroon line that can trace its heritage back to 1841."

— Robert X. Murphy, MD '72 (photo far right)

I've had the privilege and blessing to be honored in so many ways throughout my professional life and in my field," Eduardo Vilaro '82 stated. "But this honor," he continued, "is very special to me as a young immigrant growing up in a new country and learning how to find myself in it."

— Eduardo R. Vilaro '82 (photo center)

I really have to blame and thank Tim Bryden '61 for this nomination. I really, really am honored," said Brendan Walsh '60. "This honor is not really an award for me. It's a communal award. Dorothy Day said, 'We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community.'"

— Brendan Walsh '60 (photo right)

This is a wonderful honor that Paul would have been humbled to receive," said Phyllis Williams GP '24. "He did really personify what we all felt for Fordham Prep. We are so proud of the legacy for all of us to share, and what a proud thing for this to be his honor. Thank you."

— Phyllis Casolaro Williams GP '24 (photo fifth from right)

He was very brave. Just his bravery alone," said William, son of Col. John Fischer '32, "would qualify him for the Hall of Honor. It means a tremendous amount that our dad is going to be part of the legacy at Fordham Prep."

— William Fischer, son of Col. John J. Fischer (photo rear center)

For the Prep to have moved as far as it has from 1964–68 in terms of its diversity and interactions with the community to its present state is really a marvelous story," Judge William Kuntz II '68 noted. "It's an important story, so to be part of the Hall of Honor and to be recognized in this way is truly an honor for me."

— Hon. William F. Kuntz II, PhD, JD '68 (George Zambetti '68 [photo left] accepting the Hall of Honor certificate on behalf of Judge William Kuntz II '68)

IN MEMORIAM

These page includes all alumni that the Prep was informed have passed away since the publication of the last *Ramview Magazine*.

ALUMNI



George Aresi '56



Jerome A. Cameau '58



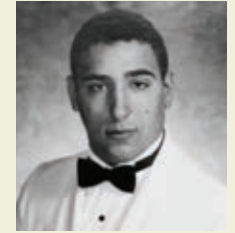
John A. Del Negro '59



Andrew Delima '88



Ralph DeNunzio '49



Robert DiFato '01
Brother of Anthony '99
and Nicholas '08



Thomas Dorrian '60



James Egan '44



Raymond P. Farrelly '58



Alan J. Fusco '82



Robert R. Haduch '86



Jason Katanic '88



William Kilgus '60



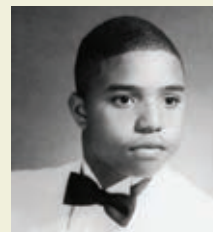
Leo P. Lennox '53



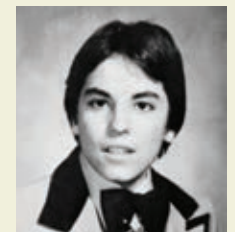
John Mayer '52



Phillip S. Mazzella '85



Marvin McClary '99



Brian F. McCullough '79



Walter J. McLaughlin '49



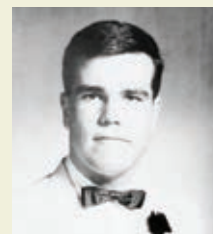
Edward C. O'Brien '52



James O'Brien '53



Bernard O'Connor '55



John O'Leary '67



Edward O'Malley '65



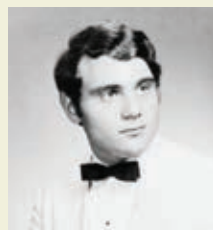
Paul Philbin '59



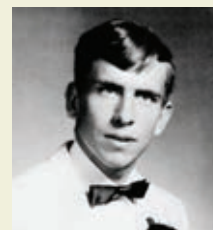
John Pierce Sr. '74
Father to John F.
Pierce Jr. '07



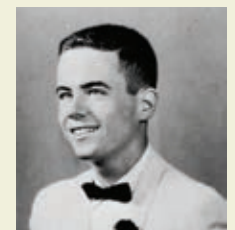
George Purker '70



William Ricco '70



Dennis Riordan '66



Donald K. Ross '61

ALUMNI CONTINUED



Joseph Rossano '55



Vin Scully '44



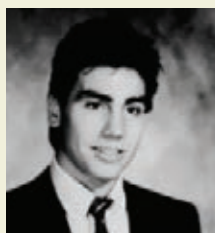
Paul Seier '64



John M. Silvanie '66



John Toolan '48



Valentino Vasi '88



Dennis Verhaegen '69

A loyal and generous supporter of the Prep for over 32 years.



Bill Walsh '50



COMMUNITY

Catherine Anicich P'18
Mother of Charlie '18

Carol Caragine GP'23
Grandmother of Matthew '23

John & Marie Cimaglia P'88
Parents of John C. Cimaglia '88

Clifton Crossdale P'14
Father to Malik Crossdale '14

Lenny DeLucia P'09
Father of James R. DeLucia '09

Roxanne Camille Dryden-Edwards, M.D.
Wife of Mark Edwards '79

Michael Facciola P'16
Father of Timothy '16

Teresa Farrell GP'13, '15
Grandmother of Stephen Dunnion '13 & Michael Dunnion '15

Stephen J. Fearon, Sr. P'82, GP'14, '16
Father of Stephen '82
Grandfather of Nolan '14, & Owen '16

Andrea Groepler & Carl Groepler P'87
Parents to Eric Groepler '87
(Current Faculty Member)

Elizabeth Hoina P'82, '89, GP'17
Mother of Ronald '82, Scott '89
Grandmother of Zachary '17

Barbara Holbrook P'75, '77, '80, '86
Widow of former Prep history teacher Francis Holbrook
Mother of William '75, Francis '77, Matthew '80 & Luke '86

Lorena Iori P'15, '22
Mother of Paul '15 & Christopher '22

Vincent Keneally P'80, '81, '85, '87
Father of William '80, James '81, Paul '85 & Kevin '87

Robert McGrath P'87, GP '25
Father to Timothy C. McGrath '87
Grandparent of Brendan '25

James G. Mustich Sr. P'73
Father of James '73

Gioia Paula O'Connor P'94
Mother of James '94

Jane Padgett P'01
Mother of Brian '01

John Pierce Sr. '74, P'07
Father to John F. Pierce Jr. '07

Clare Sohr P'82, '83, '86, '93, GP'15, '24
Mother of Robert '82, Michael '83, John '86 & Kevin '93; Grandmother of Kevin '15, Brian '15 & Patrick '24

Barbara Walzer P'85, '87 GP '16
Mother of John '85 & Michael '87
Grandmother of John '16

Alexander C. Witkowski P'84, '85
Father of Alexander U. '84 & Timothy '85



It's About Time

Honoring the past with a gift for the future.

The long maroon line of Prep alumni extends back nearly 100 years for the Murray family.

Vinnie Murray's grandfather graduated in 1927, his Uncle Peter in 1963, Vinnie in 1998 with his brother Mike following in 2001, and Peter's grandson is a member of the Class of 2026. Over nearly a century, Fordham Prep played a different but equally important role in each of their lives.

To help make sure a Prep education is possible and affordable for generations to come, Vinnie has

“Continuing to grow the endowment is the most critical thing we can do.”

— Vinnie Murray '98

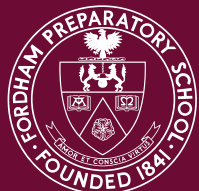
decided to plan ahead to make a gift in support of his alma mater. He thinks the endowment is the future of the Prep, and that legacy gifts are a key element to building the endowment. “Continuing to grow the endowment is the most critical thing we can do,” he says. “If more people were involved, the endowment would grow, and we could close the gap and lower tuition—which is important to our students' families who want a top Jesuit education for their children, but struggle to afford it.”

Vinnie understands the value of planned gifts to the financial future of the school. “The mission of the Prep speaks to me, and I want to help ensure its tradition of excellence continues,” he says, noting that he's proud to be a member of the

Shea-McDonough Legacy Society.

Vinnie encourages Rams of all ages to find a way to give back to a school that means so much to them. “It's an opportunity to support today's generation of students,” he says, noting that not only is making a planned gift easy, but it's good fiscal planning. He's right: it's never too soon to make a plan for your financial life and support the things most important to you.

Learn more about becoming a member of the Shea-McDonough Legacy Society and the gift that best meets your charitable, family and financial goals at **preplegacy.org** or contact Suzanne Dowden, Director, Engagement & Development at 718-367-7500, ext. 274 or dowdens@fordhamprep.org.



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fordhamprep.org/golfouting

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SAVE THE DATE

MAY 6, 2023

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1998'S 25 YEAR REUNION

1983'S 40 YEAR REUNION

2008'S 15 YEAR REUNION

1993'S 30 YEAR REUNION

1978'S 45 YEAR REUNION

2003'S 20 YEAR REUNION

1988'S 35 YEAR REUNION

1973'S 50 YEAR REUNION



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