



WELCOME TO LAURALTON HALL'S HIGHLIGHTS!

The Highlight of Your Day

THE SUMMER CAMPS AT LAURALTON

VERONICA TAIWAH '29

Summer is often considered the most anticipated season of the year, a time to exchange the burden of school and work rigor with relaxation and spending time with those you love most. It's a season of sunshine, warmth, and, importantly, reflecting on the memories of summers past. A good way to reminisce on those experiences is to recall the joy and nostalgia that came with attending a good summer camp.

In fact, Lauralton Hall organizes its own summer camp, "Sports and Enrichment for Kids!" from June 22nd to August 7th within its breathtaking 25-acre campus. Their program is co-ed, offering summer fun for campers as young as rising Kindergarteners all the way to incoming high schoolers. To cater to their wide range of attendees, the camp strives to organize new and trendy activities to engage with its campers, with some highly anticipated activities each summer, including "Cupcake Wars," "STEM for Kids," and "Lauralton Olympics." This year, new additions to the itinerary include "Robotics," "News at Lauralton," "Seeds & Sprouts," and "Cartooning."

Additionally, Lauralton Hall's Summer Camp offers numerous opportunities for its current students, as they can contribute to the summer fun by becoming a CIT. For all volunteers, the camp prioritizes flexible schedules and hours, allowing students to select which weeks and days they are available, as well as choose between a half-day or full-day of service. This is a great opportunity for Lauralton students to crack down on their service hours over the summer, while also contributing to the positive, welcoming environment that makes the camp such a meaningful experience for everyone involved.

As an extension of its day camp program, Lauralton Hall also offers a summer sports camp for girls going into 5th grade through 9th grade. Each week focuses on a different sport, such as volleyball and field hockey, attracting so many different athletes! Clara Scott '29, a current Lauralton freshman, attended the volleyball camp last summer. She shared that, "It was a good opportunity to grow my skills as a player and go back to the basics. It was a lot of fun, and I got to meet many new people who have become my friends!" On the other hand, Madison Rana '29 describes a typical day at volleyball camp as, "Starting off by coming in, then talking about the activities for the day, splitting into groups, and rotating around activities. At the end of the week, we did a competitive, but fun tournament with other groups." Additionally, Evelyn Kent '29 expanded more on the activities and skills they would work on, such as "Serving, blocking, and passing. We also learned and practiced games."

The Lauralton Hall sports camp played an important role in shaping the current athletes and students into who they are today. Whether your child is passionate about sports, art, science, or discovering new interests, Lauralton Hall's summer camp offers something for everyone!

FINAL EXAM TIPS

KASIE GUTHRIE '26

1. Bring in notecards if you can: You should be allowed to bring notecards for religion finals, so use that to your advantage! Highlight, color code, and draw neatly on your notecards (the religion test structure should consist of only multiple choice).
2. Use process of elimination: When in doubt, eliminate what you know is wrong and make an educated guess or come back to it! Don't waste all your time on one question.
3. Don't procrastinate: It's best to start as early as possible so you can avoid cramming.
4. Review: If you're not given a study guide make sure to ask your teacher what to review. Usually, these are past exams/quizzes. You can also use quizlet!
5. Ask for help: Don't be afraid of going to extra help during common time or seeing a peer tutor.
6. Study with friends: If you don't get easily distracted, this is a good way to discuss material and keep each other motivated.
7. Concentrate: Make sure you are in a focused environment that's free of distractions. It's best to place your phone in another room so you're not tempted to go on it.
8. Sleep: Try to avoid staying up all night; sleep helps you retain information you studied. Less sleep = worse memory.
9. Nutrition: Make sure you're hydrated and have nutritious foods.
10. The day before the exam, review the material, don't try to learn anything new. You can try reinforcing your knowledge by teaching it to another person or by having another person test you!

LAURALTON GIRLS IN COME FROM AWAY

JOSIE O'KANE '29

This spring, three of our Lauralton ladies starred in the Prep Players musical production of *Come From Away*. This musical is the story of the days after 9/11 and is told from a perspective of kindness, focusing on the people of Gander, Newfoundland, who welcomed 7,000 stranded passengers that were diverted to their town when the airspace was closed.

Our three performers played their roles in a way that made the show feel alive with their energy and excitement. No role was a small one, and everyone on stage shone with brightness and courage. Many of the lines from our cast had the crowd laughing so hard that it was difficult to hear dialogue over the laughter, and at other moments, there were tears from the audience. As the play came to an end, many people had teary eyes but were still ecstatic to see the actors come out from behind the stage. Congratulations were spread everywhere. Ellie O'Kane '27, Ava Sylvestro '28, and Olivia Stern '29 were our stars, and they did a great job. The *Come From Away* play was an amazing show, with all three nights having an ecstatic crowd.



Come From Away Cast and Crew!

PROM

VICTORIA NINO '27



On April 24, Lauralton's upperclassmen got together for the biggest dance of the year, prom. It was a whole night of fun for everyone down at Grassy Hill Country Club. From elegant dresses to nonstop dancing, and who could forget the food, the dance gave our Lauralton ladies a chance to let loose! They spent the night singing along and making memories that will last long after graduation. For our seniors, it was a bittersweet reminder that they are soon venturing off on their own paths, making the night even more meaningful.

THE 2026 SPRING CONCERT: CHOIR, JAZZ BAND, AND ORCHESTRA

JOSIE O'KANE '29



Choir

You might think that a student can't pull off performing in both the jazz band and the concert choir during Lauralton's Annual Spring Concert; however, these performances occur on the same night, back to back, and so many talented students are involved in both.

Even for the students performing in just one or the other, these amazing setlists had been worked toward all year through many long rehearsals, practices, and hours of preparation, which came together for this one evening. The seniors in the choir were honored on this special night for their final concert, which made the evening even more emotional and meaningful. Everyone who sang that night did a great job, and it was clear that they truly wanted to be there, which made the performance even more enjoyable to watch.

As for the jazz band, they played songs from the popular musical *Mamma Mia!* and a fan favorite was "I Gotta Feeling," which featured the piano, trumpet, drums, and even the harmonica, giving the song an upbeat and energetic feel. It was clear to the audience how much effort and talent were poured into every performance.

The families and friends of the performers enjoyed visiting the chapel to listen to the choir's beautiful voices echoing throughout the ceilings, as well as the journey downstairs to watch the jazz band and orchestra perform in the classic Claven Auditorium. Overall, it was a great night filled with talent, school spirit, and excitement, and both concerts were a complete success. It was so amazing to see the results of everyone's hard work throughout the year. We hope to see you next year!



Jazz Band

LAURALTON'S TRIP TO ITALY

JILLIAN CORCORAN '27

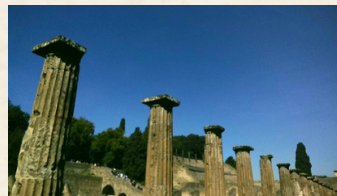
As a part of the American Celebration of Music in Italy, Lauralton Hall's Concert Choir, Advanced Vocal Ensemble, and Orchestra were invited to spend their spring break amongst the breathtaking cobblestone streets, seaside views, and timeless beauty of Italy. This is an extremely rare opportunity for our students, as this trip only comes around every three years, making this year extra special.

The first full day of the trip was spent on a guided tour of the ruins of Pompeii, looking at numerous excavations and artifacts from ancient Roman life. The next day, the group took a ride along the Amalfi coast, spending the afternoon in Sorrento with ample opportunities for shopping and photos along the way. Later that evening, the girls had their first concert in the San Gennaro Chapel at the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta in Naples with a full setlist of classical songs, American music, and beautiful additions by our violinists Kelsi Fleischer '26, Camryn Irby '27, and our viola player Gianna Coppola '27. The third day of the trip was spent taking a guided tour of Imperial Rome, which included an exclusive entrance to the Roman Forum and Colosseum, as well as the Baths of Caracalla and Palatine Hill. The next day was spent yet again in Rome, but this time, touring the Vatican City, the home of the Pope and the center of Roman Catholicism, as well as the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel. Later on, our choir got to participate and sing in Mass at St. Peter's Basilica, creating a full-circle moment as they carried the Mercy values rooted in Lauralton Hall all the way to the heart of the Catholic Church. The last full day of fun and excursion before hours of travel was spent as a day of leisure in Rome. Later that night, the choir performed their final concert at the Church of St. Ignatius of Loyola, bringing the trip to an end.

Overall, this trip was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for everyone involved. From seeing posters throughout the cities promoting the American Celebration of Music in Italy to performing for welcoming audiences in historic churches, it became clear how highly anticipated these events were within the communities LH touched. More importantly, the trip created memories that students, families, and friends will cherish forever, especially during the emotional surprise appearances from parents who traveled overseas to support our girls at the concerts. A special thanks goes to Sarge for making this unforgettable experience possible for all involved in Lauralton's music program!



LH Seniors in Sorrento!



Sights from Pompeii

LAURALTON'S DICE FAIR

LEANNE BERONGOY '29



What does it mean to truly engage with cultures beyond our own? At last month's DICE fair, our students experienced new cultures with every step they took. With over 30 participants, this event brought together students and staff to explore the true meaning of diversity, inclusion, and culture through cuisine. Each table represented different countries, featuring various traditional games and food that fostered a deep sense of curiosity in each of the visitors.

After speaking with students who attended the fair, it became clear that the event resonated with them far beyond academic focus. As one freshman stated, "It was an experience to have! I enjoyed eating delicacies from other cultures and broadening my view of the world." Moments such as these encourage us to step outside of our own perspectives and appreciate the traditions, values, and beliefs of different countries.



In a recent interview conducted by the LH media team, several students shared their favorite tables at the fair. From empanadas in Colombia to baklavas in Greece, everyone was able to step out of their comfort zones to try these unique foods. Additionally, every activity at the fair demonstrated how cultural practices shape the lifestyles of individuals throughout the world! Students had the chance to engage with new customs, from experiencing the beautiful tattoos of Pakistan to playing a traditional game of Sungka in the Philippines.

The DICE fair provided a platform for diversity and inclusion within our school community beyond the classroom.

From table to table, each station reflected its own story, offering insight and history that may have been unfamiliar to many attendees. As one visitor remarked, "I'm so full," which is a perfect expression of how events like these not only nourish our minds but our appetites as well.

SPIRIT WEEK

ALLISON HERRERA-SILVA '27

The annual time for fun and celebration came around once again with the start of Spirit Week! On the week of March 16th, the Lauralton Hall community celebrated each day with a new theme and topic, filling the halls with laughs and smiles!

Monday was pajama day, where everyone dressed nice and comfy free of uniforms. While Tuesday was meme day, where everyone came in with costumes inspired by a famous meme. The whole day, everyone was either explaining their meme or laughing at what others brought! Wednesday was uniquely "anything but a backpack" day where our classrooms were full of untraditional ways to carry supplies, ranging from something as simple as a target bag all the way to a baby stroller! Thursday was Decades Day, where students dressed up by grade-level from the 1970s to the early 2000s. This fun throwback allowed each class to take LH back to a different era, all while a school-wide rock, paper, scissors, shoot game initiated a rivalry to win the prize of a Dunkin Donuts gift card! Finally, Friday was spirit day, where all students wore Lauralton Hall colors, and listened in on the announcement of the gift card winners! The whole week was full of laughter and joy, making every student embrace their LH spirit!



Pajama Day



Meme Day

A RECAP OF THE 2026 OSCARS

CAROLINE FOGARTY '27

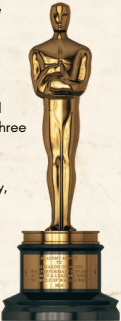
On Sunday, March 15th, the 98th Academy Awards ceremony was held at the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles, and hosted by comedian Conan O'Brien. The Academy Awards (a.k.a. The Oscars) is Hollywood's biggest night of the year, which celebrates the best films and performances of the year.

A total of 50 films were nominated at this year's award show. Sinners made history with a record-breaking 16 nominations, which is the most nominations any film has ever received at the Oscars. One Battle After Another, Frankenstein, Sentimental Value, and Marty Supreme followed, each with nine nominations in various categories. The ceremony started at 8:00, and the first award of the night went to Amy Madigan for her performance in a supporting role in Weapons, becoming the second-oldest actress to win the award at age 75! The award for Best Supporting Actor went to Sean Penn for One Battle After Another, and his win made him one of eight people to ever have three or more Oscar wins in an acting category. Another highlight from the evening was the seventh tie in Oscars history, this time for Best Live Action Short Film.

Towards the end of the night, the awards known as the "Big Five" were announced. These awards are for Best Adapted / Original Screenplay, Best Director, Best Actress, Best Actor, and Best Picture. The only three films to take home the Oscar for all five categories were: It Happened One Night (1934), One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (1975), and The Silence of the Lambs (1991). Unfortunately, none of the films this year were nominated in all five categories; however, Sinners and One Battle After Another came the closest, with Sinners winning two, and One Battle After Another winning three of the major awards.

The biggest winner of the night was One Battle After Another, taking home a whopping six awards, including Best Picture, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Supporting Actor, Best Casting, Best Film Editing, and the Best Director award. Sinners was the runner-up, walking away with a total of four Oscars for Best Original Screenplay, Best Actor, Best Cinematography, and Best Original Score.

Some major surprises include the accomplishment of Jessie Buckley, who became the first Irish woman to win Best Actress for her performance in Hamnet. As well as the shock of Marty Supreme winning zero awards, despite being nominated in nine different categories. Overall, it was another exciting and historic night at the Oscars. See you next year on Sunday, March 14, 2027, with Conan O'Brien already being tapped as the host!



SEMI-FORMAL

JOSIE O'KANE '29

Twice a year, the semi-formal and homecoming dances bring freshmen and sophomores together for two of the most exciting nights of the school year. The semi-formal in particular comes later in the year; it is a little fancier, with girls often bringing dates, and the atmosphere feels much more like an official night out. Girls get to pick out their dresses, take photos together, and simply have the opportunity to spend time with each other outside of the classroom. The whole night, everyone was screaming and loudly singing along to the lyrics of their favorite songs, while they excitedly wrote down song requests for the DJ left and right. The iconic "Cotton Eye Joe" and countless other group dance numbers were played throughout the night, truly bringing everyone together. Some girls even stayed until the very end to help clean up, and they in no way treated it as a chore; but instead, it seemed like they were still having the time of their lives! These events play a crucial role in unifying the underclassmen student body; everyone in attendance has the same goal of having fun, making memories, and spending time with their closest friends, which is what truly makes the dance such a positive environment.



LH Sophomores



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

JILLIAN HOYLE '29

STUDENT 1: NORA BURRELL



Question 1: What is your favorite memory of Lauralton Hall?

My favorite memories at Lauralton are Christmas in song and Christmas in the Mansion.

Question 2: Why did you want to attend Lauralton Hall?

I wanted to attend LH because my sister went to LH, and I loved the history.

Question 3: What advice would you give to future/current Lauralton students?

It's okay if it doesn't work out the way you wanted because there's a better way already paved for you!

Question 4: What are your plans after high school?

My plans after high school are to go to UVU for a year and transfer to USU to get my degree in veterinary science and become a certified surgical vet for domestic, wildlife, and exotic animals.

Question 5: Did you participate in a sport or serve as a club officer/peer mentor/student ambassador/sport captain, etc?

I participated in being a DICE officer, Student Ambassador 2 years in a row, class secretary for all 3 years, captain of the volleyball team, and a Trocaire leader.

Question 6: What is your favorite school subject?

Anatomy and Advanced Biology

STUDENT 2: CAROLINE PAINE

Question 1: What is your favorite memory of Lauralton Hall?

In my junior year, I had the idea to do a collection of books for those incarcerated. My religion teacher, Mrs. Rathe and I had set a goal of 100 books in one week. At the end of the drive we had collected over 1,000 books to donate. That event showed me how powerful our community is. I learned that a lot of people went out of their way to collect books and support the cause. I had friends giving up their common times and free periods to help count and take down titles.

I also loved the week before winter break this year. A month before Christmas my Mom asked me if I could think of a way to help a family for the holidays- I was troubled at first but remembered I knew a group of people who signed up to support humanitarian concerns in whatever ways they could. I texted the group chat and got several responses within the day. We ended up with over sixty presents for all ages and got everything wrapped.

This is one of my favorites because it was awesome to see the club members get joy from helping strangers on Christmas. I am happy to know that we made a couple of families' Christmases better because of our efforts.



Question 2: Why did you want to attend LH?

To be honest, I didn't have a choice in the matter; my mom and aunt both attended in the 80s and my three older sisters in the 2010s. Even if they hadn't attended, I think I still would have ended up going. Lauralton stands out academically, but it also has a great atmosphere. I shadowed before coming. At the time, I was reserved and was worried, but when I met my mentor and her friends, I felt really comfortable- I knew it was a place that I would appreciate and come to love.

Question 3: What advice would you give to future/current Lauralton students?

At Lauralton, you have an entire community that is hoping for your success. Take advantage of this- ask teachers for help, ask friends to study together, confide in your guidance counselors, etc.

Question 4: What are your plans after high school?

Attend college (the specifics are TBD). I don't have a major life plan yet, just living day-to-day right now.

Question 5: Did you participate in a sport or serve as a club officer/peer mentor/student ambassador/sport captain. Etc?

Yes- I currently serve as:

Class of 2026 Class President (have been for two years)

A Peer Mentor

Founder/President of Red Cross Club

President of Book Club

President of the American Sign Language Club.

Question 6: What is your favorite school subject?

I have never had one favorite subject, but I remember as a sophomore enjoying Mrs. Bowman's Modern World History/US Government Class a great deal. For my classes this year, I definitely can't pick a favorite.

THE SENIOR'S LAST DAY: A FINAL FAREWELL TO THE CLASS OF '26

JILLIAN CORCORAN '27

On May 18th, the Class of 2026 celebrated their final day as students, marking the bittersweet transition from high school seniors to alumni. The senior class participated in a day filled with long-standing traditions honoring both their accomplishments and unwavering ties to the Mercy community.

The day began with the Alumnae Induction Ceremony, where the seniors were formally welcomed into the Luralton Hall Alumnae Association. Each young woman signed their names as an official alumna. This officially recorded their departure from Luralton and their transition into college life on paper when the chapel bells rang. Following the indoor ceremony, the seniors gathered outside for another meaningful tradition: planting the class tree. Once they placed the tree's roots into the ground, it became a physical memento that will always represent the lasting legacy of the Class of 2026. Their contributions and growth over the past four years will be forever embedded in both Luralton Hall's community and the soil. The Class of 2026 spent the morning reflecting on their accomplishments and looking ahead to the next chapter of their journey.



Planting the Weeping Cherry Tree



The Carousel Countdown

As the day came to an end, anticipation continued to build across the entire student body for the final moment of dismissal. In the minutes leading up to 2:20, the senior class assembled on the carousel, standing side by side one last time as Luralton students. Gathering around them were teachers, faculty, family, classmates, and friends waiting to witness the emotional countdown. As the final seconds ticked away, cheers, applause, and tears filled the courtyard, capturing the true embodiment of the end of a beginning. The carousel's endless motion represents the notion that as Luralton continues to grow and spin, the legacy of these seniors will forever remain with Luralton Hall, just as a piece of Luralton Hall will always remain with them.