Dear Cathedral Family,

By the time you are reading this latest edition of The Cathedral Connection, we will have celebrated the 110th Commencement in Cathedral’s storied history. This summer, 140 new Cathedral graduates will be preparing for their first semester in college supported by more than $30 million in scholarships and financial aid packages from colleges around the country, including Notre Dame, Columbia, and NYU.

Many in the Class of 2019 will be the first in their families to go to college and many were only able to afford a college prep education at Cathedral because of a smart investment made by one of our generous scholarship sponsors. That investment will keep paying off over a lifetime as the Class of 2019 complete college, begin their careers, and take their place as leaders in their professions and in their communities.

Two of our annual events in April offered a peek into how the promise of a Cathedral education is realized. Our 30 Under 30 Celebration honored the achievements of young alumnae already making a difference in the world and our Annual Reunion brought together accomplished alumnae from every decade all the way back to the 1940s!

Our history, its legacy, and the Cathedral mission never felt more palpable to me than at these events. Both events raised important dollars for scholarships for our current students and I thank all of our alumnae, friends, and sponsors for their meaningful support.

So please enjoy reading more about these events and all the other articles, news, and notes on Cathedral in this issue. Have a wonderful summer!

Warmest regards,

Maria Spagnuolo
Principal

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Cathedral High School hosted its third 30 Under 30 Celebration event at the Mutual of America building in New York City on April 30th, 2019. Nearly one hundred and fifty guests joined us to honor a wonderful group of young alumnae for their outstanding academic and professional achievements.

The occasion also introduced the inaugural class of CHS Excelsior Award recipients, a new school honor given to individuals and companies who have contributed exceptional service to the school and its students. The 2019 Excelsior Award recipients reflect CHS’ commitment to providing real-world gateway programs to professional careers, especially in fields such as Law, Business, STEM, and Health...

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where women of color have been underrepresented.

The New York and New Jersey law firm Moses & Singer LLP received an Excelsior Award for its longstanding contributions to mentoring, providing internships, and serving as advisors to the school’s acclaimed Mock Trial team. Attorneys Alexandra P. Kolod and Kelly A. Zerillo lead the firm’s efforts at CHS and received Excelsior Awards, as well. Also honored were Anita L. Jaffe and Florence V. Ressegue ‘73, long-time friends of the school, who developed CHS’ first internship program at the Simpson Thacher & Bartlett law firm more than thirty years ago with CHS business faculty head Peg Kiely.

The program began with opening remarks from student Emma Navarro ‘20, who spoke about how her passion for a legal career grew by competing on the CHS Mock Trial team. Emma shared, “Ever since I was a little girl I wanted to be a lawyer because I want to be able to speak on what is right. Participating in the Mock Trial program confirmed my desire to become a lawyer.

“Cathedral High School has taught me many lessons and helped me learn more about who I am. When you become a Cathedralite you are a part of a sisterhood that creates an unbreakable bond. This school has shown me that I am capable of anything, as long as I put my mind to it. One of tonight’s honorees, Christine Lopez, who fulfilled her dreams by becoming an attorney, told me something that now I live by: ‘To be outstanding – get comfortable being uncomfortable. I hope one day to stand alongside other alumnae as one of the Cathedral 30 Under 30.”

Guests were shown a video presentation highlighting many of our honorees. Principal Maria Spagnuolo then took to the podium to thank our generous sponsors Mutual of America, Jay Wilker, Thompson Hine LLP, Moses & Singer LLP, Seyfarth Shaw LLP, Atlantic Tomorrow’s Office, Yasmine R. Legendre, Glenn and Lori Shannon and the Shannon Family, and Steve Schiller and Elizabeth O’Brien. CHS student Annik Strebin

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‘19 stood next to Principal Spagnuolo and signed her remarks in American Sign Language (ASL).

After reflecting on Cathedral’s history, Principal Spagnuolo announced the evening’s honorees as Randi Gutbrod, Alumnae Relations Coordinator, presented them with their awards. “Tonight we applaud these 30 young women in their range of pursuits. We are proud to honor these examples of smart, successful women who embody the mission of Cathedral and its values of service, leadership, and academic excellence.” The 2019 30 Under 30 honorees are:

- Lesley Baez ‘12
- Jacqueline Barimah ‘10
- Alyssa Contes ‘18
- Anadlu Cortes ‘07
- Crystal DeLeon ‘12
- Magdaline Diaz ‘07
- Emmy Espinal ‘14
- Yampu Freeman ‘07
- Massiel Garcia ‘09
- Caridad Garcia-Treminio ‘07
- Lauren Hernandez ‘12
- Jasmine Kindred ‘09
- Jade Lamboy ‘12
- Adanys Lantigua ‘08
- Christine Lopez ‘09
- Jaleesa Mason-Al Kassem ‘11
- Carolina Mena ‘08
- Patricia Mendez ‘07
- Glodibal Natera ‘11
- Irene Ramirez-Perez ‘08
- Alexis Rivera ‘07
- Isabel Rivera ‘06
- Natalia Maria Rivera ‘15
- Ashley Robinson ‘11
- Rebecca Rodriguez ‘09
- Karen Stead ‘10
- Brittany Thompson ‘11
- Dominique Torres ‘18
- Melanie Vega-Munoz ‘12
- Janeesha Renee Youmans ‘09

The evening continued with music from LMS Entertainment, and both honorees and students enjoyed a night of dancing and celebrating with family and friends.
Victoria Dookie Named Student of Distinction

We are thrilled to announce that current senior Victoria Dookie has been named Student of Distinction by the Times Ledger. Here is a reprint of the original article, featured in the April 2019 issue.

Victoria Dookie, now in her senior year at Cathedral High School, has made helping others her personal passion while also achieving great academic success. Throughout her career at Cathedral, she has taken – and excelled at – all honors courses. These courses have been complemented by an impressive array of Advanced Placement classes, including AP World History, AP U.S. History, AP Government, and AP Biology. She has maintained a 95% grade point average, and been made a member of the coveted Cathedral Scholars while juggling a multitude of responsibilities and extracurricular activities. Among the many activities she enjoys are Book Club, Knitting Club, and Fashionistas Club.

Commencing with her acceptance in 2017, Victoria has been an active participant in the school’s renowned Medical Gateway Program. It is an honors and internship program offered to high-achieving students who have a love for the healthcare profession and will continue their studies in college.

During her involvement she interned at New York University Hospital. While there she worked for the critical care unit nurses station. In this role, over the course of more than 100 hours, she completed clerical work and shadowed nurses as they checked on patients in their rooms.

The director of Medical Gateways, Victoria Aderin, states Victoria “appreciates and reveres the importance of the volunteer experience. She has been an outstanding student in my Health Problems and Global Health classes, actively contributing to discussions. She is extremely helpful to her peers and is an amazing orator. At NYU, she was lauded for her professionalism, caring and dedication both to patients and staff.”

She gained experience during a summer internship with Elmhurst Hospital in 2016. At Elmhurst she worked in the pathology department, assisting with clerical duties and gathering and shipping slides and reports for conferences and consultations.

Another medical-related internship involved John Jay College of Criminal Justice. At John Jay she participated in lab shadowing sessions for both the Biomedical Research lab and Forensic Toxicology research lab.

Her enthusiastic participation demonstrated both her interest in and dedication to pursing a STEM field according to the program’s director.

Cathedral’s World Youth Alliance program is another volunteer opportunity that benefits from her contribution. World Youth Alliance was founded at the United Nations in 1999. The Alliance works with young people around the world to build a culture that supports and nurtures the dignity of people.

She also volunteers with local youth in her community, specifically with Sacred Heart Catholic Academy Twirlers. Growing up, Victoria was very shy. Her parents encouraged her to participate in extracurricular activities, but of all the activities, baton twirling was the one she most enjoyed. Since she was 11 she assisted teaching younger girls.

Helen Palmeri, Twirling Director, enthuses, “She was extremely successful with the children and always loves a challenge. In her sophomore year at Cathedral she assumed responsibility of creating a twirling act for our annual Variety Show. In 2016 she increased her twirling roles by working with me to develop a competition.” For the past several years, Victoria has taught girls, ages of 4 to 15 to baton twirl.

Athletic aptitude is also apparent on the track. She has run Varsity Cross Country for the past two years. Athletic Director Joel J. Ildefonso proudly states “She challenges herself to improve upon her race times. She battled through injuries and continued to show up every day to

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Principal Spagnuolo Honored by Ignatian Volunteer Corps

On May 1st, Cathedral’s Library was the setting for the Ignatian Volunteer Corps’ (IVC) annual gala, *An Evening of Celebration*. IVC matches the talents and interests of seasoned professionals with nonprofits like Cathedral in need of specific expertise.

Principal Maria Spagnuolo was honored with IVC’s Madonna della Strada Award along with Cathedral’s dedicated IVC volunteers, Laura de Boisblanc, Lorraine Langdon, Leona Leo, and Karen Kleppe Lembo. The award is named after Sancta Maria della Strada, the first church that St. Ignatius and the early Jesuits obtained to serve the urban poor in the center of Rome. The award honors lives that reflect the Ignatian values of direct service to the poor, and of working and educating for a more just society.

Principal Spagnuolo noted the tremendous impact of the IVC volunteers at Cathedral who manage the Library, serve as mentors and club moderators, and lead programs like Mock Trial and the Graduate Support initiative. “Our IVC volunteers inspire us everyday with their talents, wisdom, can-do spirit, and their true devotion to making a difference in the lives of our students.”

IVC New York’s Regional Director, Maureen Fullam, stated, “What a joy to work with Cathedral High School in this ongoing collaboration with the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, a Jesuit Partner in ministry. Principal Spagnuolo is a leader par excellence and a perfect role model for her students as they prepare for higher education and service in a global society.”
On February 7th, Mr. Richard Lorenzen visited Ms. Kiely’s business class to speak about entrepreneurship. Mr. Lorenzen is the founder and CEO of Fifth Avenue Brands, a public relations firm based in New York City.

Mr. Lorenzen started his first online business when he was 15 years old. He ranked #21 on Entrepreneur’s “50 Online Marketing Influencers to Watch in 2016,” as well as Business News Daily’s “25 Twitter Accounts Every Entrepreneur Should Follow.”

CHS offers four business courses in partnership with St. Francis College for college credit: Introduction to Entrepreneurship, Organization and Management, Business Law, and IT Computer Tools.

If you are interested in being a guest speaker for one of Ms. Kiely’s business and law classes, send an email to mkiely@cathedralhs.org.

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Kevin O’Reilly Opens CHS Student Eyes to the World

In March, veteran State Department official Kevin O’Reilly spoke to juniors and seniors in the AP U.S. Government & Politics class about careers in the foreign service. Mr. O’Reilly is the Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. His mother was a Cathedral graduate of the Class of 1942! We are thrilled he decided to carry on her legacy and share his expertise and insight with CHS students.

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Archdiocese Schools Superintendent Retires

Best of luck to Superintendent Dr. Timothy McNiff as he retires from his position after a decade of work with schools within the Archdiocese of NY. We are honored he celebrated his last day with Cathedral students at our spring Pep Rally in the Gym and let us give him a proper farewell!
Ms. Aderin, Mr. Council, and Mrs. de Boisblanc escorted the Medical Gateways seniors to Mount Sinai Hospital in January to tour the labs of noted cancer researcher, Dr. Donna Edwards. Earlier this year, Dr. Edwards had lectured to Medical Gateways juniors and seniors at CHS.

Dr. Edwards demonstrated a variety of cancer cells and took the students to an immunology lab where other scientists spoke about their different research projects. Students were excited to see a demonstration of a state-of-the-art robot used in Dr. Edward’s research, one of one of four in the United States.

The students later had lunch with Dr. Edwards and her fellow scientists who described their various journeys toward a career as a medical researcher. Staff from Mount Sinai’s Center for Excellence in Youth Education encouraged CHS students to apply for internships and other programs, including mentoring by Mount Sinai medical students.

Medical Gateway Students Experience World-Class Research Labs
Students Go Off Broadway

This February, the World Youth Alliance club went to see the play “Gloria: A Life” about journalist and activist Gloria Steinem. The Darryl Roth Theatre generously gifted 18 free tickets to Cathedral students.

Club moderators, Mr. Philipps and Ms. Andersson even got to participate in the performance space; Mr. Philipps got called on stage by two actors and Ms. Andersson shared a story of how her son fought sexist policies at his school during an audience discussion part of the show.

The students enjoyed the experience and found it both inspiring and educational. We hope to have more interdisciplinary opportunities like this for our girls in the future!

CHS Searching for a Lacrosse Coach

CHS is currently looking for a Girls Varsity Lacrosse Coach for the upcoming school year. All interested candidates please send a cover letter and resume to the Athletic Director, Joel Ildefonso at jildefonso@cathedralhs.org.

Interested individuals must possess high school level coaching skills, experience, specific sport knowledge and high level personal experience in playing the sport.

Season- March- May
Practices/ Games- 3-5 pm, 4-5 times a week. Some Saturdays.
Salary- stipend to be discussed
Over spring break, the CHS Travel Club toured Italy, France, and Spain. They arrived in Milan on Friday, April 19th and kicked off the trip with visits to the Italian towns of Riomaggiore, Manarolo, Cornelia, Vernazza, and Monterosso al mare. Students and chaperones celebrated Easter Sunday in Monaco and Nice, France, before rounding out the rest of the week with walking and bike tours of Barcelona, Spain.

Ciao, Bonjour, Hola!
On Friday, March 8th, members of the Campus Ministry club along with Mr. Philipps attended a presentation entitled: “Media Literacy: A Catholic Lens” at the Sheen Center. Students representing all of the Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese were in attendance. The keynote speaker, panel, and questions from the audience all helped the club members discern how to detect media bias both in general and in particular on social media. Excellent tips were offered on how to build a cyber community that uplifts and supports Catholic values rather than one which knocks them down.

On Tuesday, March 12th and Wednesday, March 20th, members of the World Youth Alliance club along with Ms. Andersson and Mr. Philipps attended sessions of the Commission for the Status of Women (CSW) Conference at the United Nations and surrounding venues. One of CHS’s seniors, Areli Troyano, participated on a panel made up of young women from all over the world who talked about life in their countries and what they were doing to work for social justice and advance the welfare of women in their communities.
Faculty Profile:

Tyler Elbin

"I want them to not be afraid of being wrong or afraid of failure, understanding that it is part of the process of growth."

Upon his first visit to Cathedral for his job interview, math teacher Tyler Elbin sensed something special right away. “I felt a good, strong sense of community amongst the students and the staff. I was looking for that kind of community to be a part of,” says Tyler.

He is happy to be part of Cathedral’s learning environment where people are working together to support academic growth for the students, as well as professional growth for the teachers. “Everyone benefits when they are a part of a caring, positive community,” states Tyler, who has now been teaching at Cathedral for three years. He currently teaches 9th grade Algebra 1 and serves as the school’s IT Specialist.

Tyler grew up mostly in Ohio and attended Ohio State where he studied engineering. He decided to pursue the path of teaching and transferred to Bowling Green State University, where he earned his education degree, with a focus on 7th-12th grade mathematics.

“I was reaching a point as an engineering student where I was getting some career opportunities, and I found it unfulfilling,” Tyler noted. As he considered different career paths, he reflected on his own educational experiences. “I had really done well in math classes and as I thought about it, I really enjoyed my high school experience.” He also realized that many of his mentors and positive adult influences had been his math teachers, as well as his soccer coaches.

After college, he moved to Denver where he taught high school math and coached soccer just outside of the city for 10 years. At a wedding in Denver, he met his future wife who was living in New York City. After a long-distance relationship, he took a chance and moved. The risk was worth it. He has lived in New York City for six years and he has found a teaching home at Cathedral.

At Cathedral, Tyler focuses on providing rigorous instruction while also building in opportunities for students to be successful at multiple steps along the way. He loves...
Gary Jacobs has been volunteering at Cathedral for four years, teaching a weekly class on financial literacy and civics. From saving money to understanding the Federal budget, Gary encourages students to be actively engaged in the world around them. “The whole point of my being there is to expose the students to topics that they don’t normally come across in their education,” says Gary.

From a financial literacy standpoint, Gary stresses the importance of saving money. Statistics show that a third of all Americans have no savings, and another third have less than a few hundred dollars in savings. Gary notes that “Financial competency is an issue with many young adults so I stress the need to become educated on all facets of personal finance which ultimately leads to knowledgeable future decision making.”

Gary, a managing director at the global investment firm, KKR, was first inspired to volunteer in 2016 when KKR launched an employee-driven volunteer program to celebrate the company’s 40th anniversary. The program granted employees paid time for volunteering with local nonprofit organizations.

Gary had long felt he might have an interest in teaching and the Cathedral opportunity was the perfect opportunity to share his knowledge and inspire students. Gary credits Marguerite “Peg” Kiely, long-time director of Cathedral’s business program, for being so open minded in working with him to develop relevant content for Cathedral students.

Many of the lessons in Gary’s class are designed to replicate what the students might encounter if they were enrolled at a business school or working at any job. For example, students participate in exciting and engaging activities such as analyzing business case studies, creating mock portfolios choosing individual publicly traded stocks, learning about strategies for dispute resolution, giving presentations, and preparing for job interviews. Students even get a tutorial on how to best process personal harassment issues in the workplace, should such issues arise.

Another important dimension of Gary’s class CONTINUED ON PAGE 15
ELBIN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

challenging his students, and he maintains high expectations for each one of them.

“I’m keeping the bar really, really high as far as what my expectations in rigor are,” says Tyler. “I am never going to drop those expectations. That can be difficult [for students] when things aren’t met with success right away, so I try to build as many opportunities to succeed into what we are doing as possible.”

As the implementation of the Common Core State Standards has changed math instruction over the past few years, some schools across the country may have seen a dip in students’ standardized algebra scores. At Cathedral some students’ scores have gone up due to the hard work of Tyler and his colleagues. Tyler’s focus is on teaching the fundamentals in order to lay a good foundation for students to build on as they increase their skills.

Another important aspect of his work is addressing the math phobias and fears his students might bring to the classroom for any number of reasons.

“A lot of girls come in with negative experiences from previous math classes and when they are in a math classroom there is a level of anxiety that exists the minute they walk in. That is an immediate barrier that has to be broken down,” says Tyler. “If a student feels anxious, then that is a huge hurdle. They are not going to take academic risks; they are not going to have confidence in what they are doing.”

Tyler encourages his students to ask questions and try new things, even if they may fail along the way towards achieving success. “I want to make sure that their attitude is positive, and that they feel empowered to take academic risks.” He adds, “I want them to not be afraid of being wrong or afraid of failure, understanding that it is part of the process of growth.”

Jacobs continued from page 14

is its focus on civic education. “You can’t be a good investor, or a good citizen unless you know how your government works,” says Gary. “And you can’t complain about things unless you’re involved and participating in the electoral process.”

Gary took great joy in learning that two of his students who had turned 18 voted for the first time in last year’s midterm elections.

In the class, Gary also engages students in conversations about how current events touch their everyday lives. On a regular basis, they discuss a variety of topics in the news, which allows them opportunity to both share their opinions and learn from one another’s perspectives. Gary is very pleased to watch students gain confidence in expressing their opinions.

As a volunteer, Gary finds teaching at Cathedral to be a worthwhile investment of his time and a great way to use his knowledge and experience to give back. He learned recently that a former student said that the class had helped her change her saving habits and also deal with a sensitive workplace issue, using lessons they had discussed throughout the semester.

Overall, he hopes that students take away an understanding of how finance, government, and world events are all intertwined in our lives, and why they matter. “If you care about your finances, you’re going to care about what is going on in the government and the world. You are going to care about other people in and outside your life. It all flows together,” says Gary.

Dear Class of 2018….

CONGRATULATIONS on finishing, or almost finishing, freshman year! We are so proud of you.

Now you have three more years until graduation and the start of the life that you choose. We hope you will share your valuable experience with us in our survey and in person with the class of 2019 at our Graduate Support Luncheon on Wednesday, July 17th at 12:30 PM in the CHS Library. When the lower classmen learn what worked for you and what didn’t, they will have an easier start in college.

To RSVP and complete the survey, please contact Ms. de Boisblanc at ldeboisblanc@cathedralhs.org. As an incentive, we are offering $25 Amazon gift certificates to five students who complete the survey.
When Rose Trentman, nee Quinones, graduated from Hunter College in 1974, she knew just what she was going to do next. At Hunter, she had majored in sociology and minored in Classics, while also serving as the college’s first female sports writer with a special passion for the sport of boxing. She was set to pursue a career in social work when a hiring freeze changed her plans. As one door closed, a new one swung open.

A friend helped Rose land a teaching position, and from the beginning, she was hooked. As a new teacher, Rose realized that many of her students were struggling with literacy. She decided that rather than teach the upper grades, she would teach the lower grades and help to ensure her students learned foundational literacy skills. She made a promise to herself: “Whoever was in my room was going to come out a reader,” says Rose. “That was a promise I kept all of my life.”

She taught kindergarten and first grade in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and the Bronx. “It was hard work, but the joy was there,” says Rose. While she was teaching, she also worked nights, covering Golden Glove matches for her boxing magazine column.

“Every night, after work I would go to the Golden Gloves event. I would cover it; get home at around 1:00 AM or 2:00 AM to get up at 6:00 AM to go teach again,” says Rose.

As the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles approached, she made a plan to cover the boxing tournament. The only problem was that Rose had neither the requisite press credentials nor tickets to attend. Undeterred, she came up with an idea.

She went to a pre-Olympic event in Las Vegas, where she introduced herself to the International Olympic President of Boxing, Col. Donald Hull. When she told him her name, he knew it already from reading her monthly “Ringside by Rose Trentman” column. He said he could help.

“All I wanted was to cover the bouts. In my mind, I was hoping to get passes so that I could sit in the bleachers,” says Rose.

When she arrived at the Olympics, things turned out much different than she had imagined. Rose was presented with official credentials and a blazer. Col. Hull had made Rose his personal assistant for the Games, and she would serve as his Spanish-language interpreter and right-hand woman.

She also met José Torres, a former light-heavyweight, an Olympian, and a commissioner with the New York State Athletic Commission, who would connect her to an important opportunity in the future.

After the Olympics, Rose returned to teaching kindergarten and covering Golden Glove matches throughout New York City at night.

A couple of years later, at Madison Square Garden, she again encountered Torres, who told her he was submitting her name to be the commissioner of boxing with the Athletic Commission in New York. “I was dumbfounded,” says Rose.

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For Theodora Farrell, nee Podesta, ’40, Cathedral was the beginning of an exciting journey. “In my senior year, I took chemistry, and fell in love with it,” says Theodora.

In 1940, chemistry was not a common field for women, especially not for the daughter of immigrants, says Theodora, whose parents emigrated from Italy in the early 1900s. She was accepted to Hunter College, and in 1944, at 19-years-old, she graduated with a degree in chemistry.

She landed a position that she loved, working in a lab as a chemist at a bread company in Manhattan. “The breads were made all over the country, and they were all different by region,” she explains. “Each bakery sent a sample of their bread to our lab. It was my job to analyze the breads and make sure that they had all the vitamins and minerals that they claimed on the label.”

Next, Theodora worked in the Bureau Laboratory at Good Housekeeping, testing products that wanted to gain the famous Good Housekeeping seal. If a company advertised a product by saying it was “better than ever,” or a “brand new formula,” the Bureau chemists would analyze it to make sure that the claims were legitimate. She also did consumer testing of new shampoos, cosmetics, and other products in the Beauty Lab. “I loved the job,” she says.

Her position came with other interesting perks. “Because Good Housekeeping’s laboratories were so prestigious, we had a lot of famous visitors who used to come in. We were trained to take them on the tour,” says Theodora. She especially remembers a visit from the Duke of Windsor.

Theodora was married in 1949, and had her first baby in 1950. She and her husband, John, had four daughters. Theodora made the decision to step away from her career to be a stay-at-home mother for 12 years. “I felt blessed and rewarded to be able to stay home full-time,” says Theodora. “It was a sacrifice I was willing to make.” She feels proud that she and John were able to provide parochial schooling for all four girls.

Next, she pursued teaching as it aligned with her interests in childhood development and provided the work/life balance she desired. She attended Hunter College to attain the undergraduate requisites for elementary school education.

Theodora started as a substitute teacher while attending graduate school to complete the requirements for the early childhood as well as the elementary education regular teacher licenses and the New York State certifications. At 48-years-old, she earned a master’s degree in special education. At that time, she was also a grandmother.

In 1969, New York City began offering special education kindergarten programs, with one in each borough, and Theodora helped to create the special education kindergarten program for a school in the Bronx. During the last nine years of her career, she worked as a teacher trainer and curriculum developer.

As she looks back on her Cathedral experience, she remembers it as a wonderful place that shaped her at a
TRENTMAN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

She became the first woman boxing commissioner in New York state history, and the youngest to ever serve in the position in the state. Rose served for 15 years. All the while, she continued to be a dedicated educator.

She married Burt Schoenbach, who was the commissioner of corrections. “He was a legend of a man in the prison industry,” says Rose. She has six stepchildren and three step-granddaughters.

Rose retired after 43 years of teaching. Now a widow, she lives in Manhattan and stays active volunteering and serving in the community. She is chairwoman of a federal halfway re-entry center, and she is a member of the prestigious Explorers Club.

Rose returned to Cathedral this year as a Career Day speaker, and this spring she attended her 50th reunion, where she relived the memories of attending the Immaculate Conception annex in the Bronx and the main campus.

At the annex, she particularly enjoyed her math class with Sister Andre. “It took away my fear of math,” says Rose. She also fondly remembers that Principal Sister Maria was “a darling.” It was at the main campus that Rose learned to be a “people person,” which has served her well. She graduated in 1969.

Throughout her career, she created her own niche, followed her passion, and stayed true to herself. That’s the same advice she would share with others starting out. “You have to believe in yourself,” says Rose. “If you know that you’re good at something, don’t suppress it. Go for it.”

For Rose, it has been an exciting ride and there’s much more she wants to do. “It’s been a good journey, so far, and I thank God a million times that this is the life that he has given me.”

FARRELL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Theodora credits Cathedral with deepening her faith and instilling in her a willingness to challenge herself and take risks. “Cathedral prepared me, not only academically, but intellectually to not be afraid, to go out there and do what I can do, and be willing to take risks,” states Theodora. “They really created a mindset when we were there and when we left, and that’s so important.”

For the next generation of Cathedral women, she offers advice about how to balance a fruitful career and a family. “You can do it all, but not the way the women’s lib [movement] tells you that you can. You have to make choices and decide between you and your husband what’s important,” says Theodora. “With me, I did it sequentially. I didn’t do it all at the same time, and I think that I served what I feel is my mission in life by having been a career woman and a mother.”
Alumna Allison Gregg ’01 Publishes Debut Novel

From the time she was a little girl growing up in a South Bronx housing project, Allison Gregg ’01 dreamed of becoming an author.

She shares, “I grew up in the projects overlooking the Major Deegan Expressway and the East River. One of the best views in the city. I used to sit in my bedroom window and make up so many stories filled with vibrant, ethnically diverse characters whose unique adventures reflected the things I saw, heard and smelled while living in my borough. In fact, one of my favorite action scenes in my novel In Search of Shadows involves a high-speed chase with Port Authority police along the stormy waves of the East River.

“I’ve heard before that New York City is a place with millions of stories. I grew up fantasizing about what some of those stories might be about. Everything about the characters and settings in my writing is directly influenced by the characters and stories that colored my childhood.”

Allison always admired the art of storytelling and her favorite courses at Cathedral High School were a reflection of that. She credits them with helping to cultivate her love of history and classic literature, themes that are ever-present in her debut novel, In Search of Shadows: Lee’s Impractical Machine Shop, written under her pen name Blair Hampton.

“All of the teachers at CHS were the kindest, most compassionate faculty I’ve ever encountered.”

The novel is a middle-grade level book about a boy, his famous inventor father, and all of the adventures they have in the name of scientific discovery. By weaving together a story revolving around ancient African history, Egyptian mythology and science, it is Allison’s hope to encourage minority youth to pursue STEM careers.

“My literary voice is a mirror of my life experiences. Each chapter is heavily influenced by early life lessons I learned while growing up in the Bronx with a single mother. I’m fortunate that I had an overworked single-mother who had the foresight to who instill a sense of hope in me even though we lived in what could be perceived as a hope-stealing setting. By exposing us to amazing literature, my mom made my world so much more colorful and meaningful and I try to emulate that spirit in my work. I hope people read my books and enjoy them. But more than that, I want to influence inner-city kids to pursue the arts and use their experiences to flavor and add unexpected twists to existing art forms.

“There is so much untapped talent in the ‘hood. Maybe the next great inventor or philosopher is growing up in the projects of the South Bronx. By exposing inner city kids to the arts at an early age, we tap into unlimited potential to create a better human condition for people who have been historically underserved and underrepresented. The arts have the ability to change lives. Me, publishing my first book, is evidence of that.”

In Search of Shadows was published in September 2018, and can be found on Amazon as a paperback. It is the first of an upcoming series.
On Saturday, April 13th, more than 200 Cathedralites gathered for our annual Alumnae Reunion. While all alumnae are invited to attend, this year we especially celebrated all classes ending in ’4 and ’9. Following a Noon Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, the alumnae returned to the school for lunch, tours led by current CHS students, and a fun afternoon filled with memories and laughter. The Class of 1969 also received their Golden Diplomas in celebration of their 50th Reunion.
**CLASS NOTES**

**’50**

Joan Hanke graduated from Cathedral in 1950 and has wonderful memories of her four years there. She is currently living in Norfolk, VA and wants to embrace the opportunity to reconnect with classmates from the years that she attended Cathedral or other classmates in the Norfolk area. Any alumnae interested in connecting with Joan can contact the CHS Office of Alumnae Affairs at 212-688-1545 x233 or email rgutbrod@cathedralhs.org.

**’53**

Corrine Gilbert (Grimaldi) ’53 is seeking an extra copy of the 1953 yearbook and to reconnect with those from her year. She can be reached at 516-352-0261 and midasgil@aol.com.

Esther A. Siegers (Grosso) ’53 taught History and Spanish at the All Saints Branch of Cathedral High School and often thinks of her students, who up until very recently had kept in touch.

After seeing her name in a Cathedral newsletter, Esther was able to reconnect with Constance “Connie” Grant Brown ’53, who she had met during her first year attending CHS, and they still speak on a regular basis to catch up. Connie had a successful career in banking. The two friends still tease each other over higher Regents scores after many years, and enjoy a beautiful friendship after many, many years of wondering about each other.

**’56**

Patricia Roche (Fox) ’56 celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary in February 2019 with her husband Bob, their six sons and their wives and children, and friends at a famous restaurant dinner and party. A great time was had by all.

**’57**

Roberta (Rossi) Fiore ’57 lives in Long Beach, NY, where she moved when she married a Long Beach police officer. She became interested in Long Beach’s history and has become a local historian and founded the historical society. Roberta teaches classes on Long Beach history and co-authored a book on Long Beach as a part of the Images of America series. This year, she is writing a book on Archbishop John Hughes (1797-1864) who is the namesake of the old Cathedral High School building on Lexington Avenue.

**’62**

Geraldine Foy ’62 sent in this photo from 2007 of her and her sisters who are also Cathedral alumnae. Geraldine, now 74, is married 39 years to Charlie and has been in West Virginia for over 40 years. Both she and husband retired from the telephone company. Veronica, now 72, is retired from the telephone company and moved to be near Geraldine in West Virginia in 2006. Kathleen, now 77, was married 59 years to Tom (deceased 2018), and has four children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Blanche, now 80, is married 58 years to Tom, with four children, eleven grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. All four are grateful for their education at CHS.
Pascale Glenn ’84 has earned her Doctorate from Gardner-Webb University in December of 2017 in Educational Leadership. She is forever grateful for the education she received at CHS. “I had great teachers who guided me and believed in me. Cathedral High instilled incredible values and ethical standards that I now use as my belief system.”

Michele Juliano ’89 is excited to share with you her online business Michele Cerami’s Cancer Advocate Services (cancercarehealthconsultant.com) where she works as a Cancer Advocate specializing in cancer care. In addition to this, she is an 18 year Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma cancer survivor and has a Masters in Healthcare Administration Management from Southern New Hampshire University and a Bachelors in Community and Human Services from SUNY Empire State College. She is able to help patients understand “cancer terminology” in layman’s terms, liaison between her patients and their medical teams, as well as offer moral support and help them to negotiate their medical bills and ensure that their insurance is covering everything that pertains to their treatments and hospital visits.

Furthermore, she is with her patients every step of the way and advocates for all of their needs in regards to their treatments and care. She is here to support, encourage, and uplift patients, and give them compassionate care as well as advocate their medical needs. No one should have to be alone on their journey with cancer. She may be reached at michelecerami13@gmail.com.

Claudia Marin Andrade ’98 is now the Dean of Students at SUNY Old Westbury and want to be able to be a resource for Cathedral women as the go beyond their high school years.


We want to know and so do your friends. Email us with your news at rgutbrod@cathedralhs.org to be included in the next Cathedral Connection.

If you’re interested in getting involved as a class rep or in the reunion planning process, please call Alumnae Relations Coordinator Randi Gutbrod at 212-688-1545 x233 or email rgutbrod@cathedralhs.org

We begin planning our 2020 Annual Alumnae Reunion the day after our April Celebration. Next year, we will be celebrating all years that end in ’5 and ’0.

Help us make 2020 our biggest success yet! To the right are the Class Representatives for celebrating years. We still need reps for 1955, 1960, 1975, 1995, 2000, and 2010.

1965: Virginia Hamilton, Vham480@aol.com
1970: Maureen Liquori, mliqgolf@aol.com
1975: Catherine McBride Cotroneo, cotronec@stjohns.edu
1980: Elise Winterhoff Charest, ewcharest@yahoo.com
1985: Dawn Brangman, brangmand@gmail.com
1990: Agniezka Zucco-Adams, agniezka.zucco-adams@1199funds.org
1995: Joann Manjarrez Ojeda Joann.Ojeda@1199funds.org
2000: Jolevette Mitchell, jolevette.mitchell@gmail.com
2005: Mary Zhuo Ke, maryzhuoke@gmail.com
2010: Randi Gutbrod, rgutbrod@cathedralhs.org
IN MEMORIAM: Ann Conyers Healey ’48

Ann Conyers Healey ’48 was an original member of our Sr. Mary Raymond Legacy Society, and last December provided a very generous gift to CHS through her estate. Ann, a former Sister of Charity, married former Jesuit priest, John (Jack) W. Healey, who predeceased her. Jack was a revered dean and administrator at Fordham who was dedicated to advancing interfaith dialogue.

The Healey’s friend and attorney, Richard Fontana, shared these memories of Ann and Jack:

“Ann Conyers Healey and Jack Healey were close friends to so many people. They were truly ‘people’ persons. For many years, my wife and I were part of a discussion group with Ann and Jack and other couples that met regularly in each other’s homes. We would discuss anything and everything -- from theological issues and the Church to art, poetry, politics, the Supreme Court, the economy -- you name it.

While most of the group had children, this was the one night for us to be adults. The discussion topics were intellectual and serious, but we also had a lot of laughs.

Ann and Jack were both Catholic in the religious sense, and catholic by the word’s non-ecclesiastical use. They were devoted to their faith, as well as all-embracing, inclusive, and inviting. Jack had been the director of the Archbishop Hughes Institute on Religion and Culture at Fordham and took great delight in working with leaders of different faiths. He knew so much about all religions, and was open minded and accepting to all of goodwill. Ann loved the Sisters of Charity and would assist retired nuns at their house or care for those with infirmities at St Joseph’s Hospital in Yonkers.

Ann and Jack personified a motto I heard years ago: ‘Your faith must be productive and your righteousness tempered.’ So many of us were very lucky to have known the Healeys.”

For more information on the CHS Sr. Mary Raymond Legacy Society, visit www.chslegacysociety.org.

IN MEMORIAM: Marjorie M. Ruck ’37

Marjorie M. Ruck ’37 was born November 18th, 1919 and passed away on March 25th, 2019 in Cheshire, Connecticut. She has two surviving sons and six grandchildren. She passed peacefully in her sleep in her apartment at Elim Park, where she had lived the past fifteen years.

The Cathedral High School community extends its deepest sympathy to the loved ones of recently deceased alumnae and friends. Please remember them in your prayers.

Helen Gallagher (Barton) ’41
Rosemary Vallely (Early) ’44
Grace D’Onofrio (Masillo) ’48
Josephine Farrell (Cattno) ’48
Helen Quirk (Jolly) ’49
Arlene Di Meglio (Ryall) ’54
Cathleen Carr ’56
Catherine Dandurand (Wells) ’56
Jeanette Callan ’57
Eileen Coahly (McLaughlin) ’59
Jean Kerr (Joyce) ’59
Cathy Young (Moran) ’59
Barbara King (Lentz) ’60
Marie T. Beirne ’64
IN MEMORIAM: Elizabeth Schneider (Munsell) ‘50

Elizabeth “Betty” Schneider of Florence died at home on May 21, 2018. Her loving husband of 65 years, Kenneth, was by her side. Betty had the loving help of her family in her final days.

She was the daughter of Stephen and Alice Munsell, born in the Bronx, New York, on October 16, 1933. Her brother Jim Munsell (Vickie) survives her. Their brother Steve (Marsha) passed away in 2010.

Betty was a graduate of Cathedral High School in New York City. She attended Ladycliff College, Highland Falls, NY for her bachelor’s degree. Betty is also a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where she earned a master’s degree in reading instruction.

Betty is survived by her children, Cathy Bauchiero (Edward) of Longmeadow, Douglas Scheider of Greenville, North Carolina, Mark Schneider of Pittsfield, Paul Schneider (Bonnie) of Framingham, Diane Kelly of Goffstown, New Hampshire, and Beth DeGroat (John) of Stafford, Connecticut; her five grandchildren Matthew (Jessica) and Jeffrey (Theresa) Schneider, Andrew and Kevin Kelly, and Kendel DeGroat; and her six great-grandchildren Zack, Max, Jack, Alex, Althea, and Dresden Schneider. She also leaves many dear and longtime friends.

Betty worked for the Northampton School Department for many years, working at many of the schools in Northampton. Betty began her career in Northampton schools as a reading specialist and retired as director of the Reading Department in 1994.

Prior to her work in the Northampton Schools, Betty taught patients at the Northampton State Hospital for several years, helping patients prepare for re-entry into the community.

In retirement, Betty and Ken enjoyed spending time with their family, and had the opportunity to travel extensively, visiting five continents and many countries. They had lots of interesting experiences on their travels and met new friends in the process.

Betty was an avid reader all of her life, and a regular patron of Lilly Library in Florence for many years. She shared her enjoyment of good books by reading with and to her children when they were young, all of whom became avid readers as a result. She continued to share her love of reading with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who enjoyed the books that Betty kept for them to share when they came to visit.

Betty had an interest in Egyptology since childhood, which developed into a true avocation in adulthood. She was a dedicated student of the history of ancient Egypt. Betty completed several certifications and diploma program in Egyptology at Manchester University, Manchester, England, and attended a number of Egyptology symposiums and conferences in the United States. She could read and write in hieroglyphics, and also taught herself to speak some Arabic.

After retiring, Betty fulfilled her interest in Egyptology by working with a team of Egyptologists in the Valley of the Kings in Luxor, Egypt, initially working on the tomb of Pharaoh Amenmesse, KV10. Each winter for nine years, Betty spent several weeks working with the team as a scribe, recording the details of objects found during their work in the tomb.

In 2006 the team uncovered a previously undiscovered tomb in the Valley of the Kings, KV63 -- a true thrill for Betty. KV63 remains the most recently opened tomb in the Valley of the Kings since the tomb of King Tutankhamun (KV62) was found in 1922. During those years in Egypt, Betty made many good friends with whom she continued to keep in contact in recent years. Betty’s family wishes to thank Charlene Vinton, a registered nurse at Cooley Dickinson Hospital Hospice Care Services for her care of Betty and her assistance to Betty’s family.
IN MEMORIAM: Patricia C. Westwater (nee Solms) ’46

Patricia C. Westwater (nee Solms) ’46, 90, of South Nyack passed away peacefully last year on March 20, 2018. She was predeceased by her loving husband Charles G. Westwater, by her parents Catherine and Raymond Solms and her sister Mary.

Born in New York City, Patricia attended Catholic grammar school and Cathedral High School in New York City. She entered the convent and became known as “Sister Catherine Raymond,” a Catholic Dominican Sister of the Sparkill Community teaching in elementary schools in New York. Patricia earned her Bachelor’s Degree from Fordham University and a Masters in Library Science from St. John’s University.

Assigned to the Punjab of Pakistan, she taught children in the “bastis” (slums) of Bahawalpur City and numerous villages of that new nation during the turbulent years of the 1950’s and 1960’s. Following dispensation from religious life in 1971, she later married and was known as Mrs. Patricia Westwater. Patricia worked in the Clarkstown School District for more than twenty years as a librarian, teacher and chairperson for the district’s school libraries.

Upon retirement, she volunteered to serve AIDS afflicted children in the Bronx, and later as a teacher to Haitian children at St. Ann’s Catholic school, her local parish. Patricia was a beloved friend and an inspiration to the many she served and with whom she worked throughout her life. She will be lovingly remembered by those whose lives were graced by her presence.

Become a Scholarship Sponsor

Cathedral students and their families face daunting life and financial challenges living in one of the most expensive cities in the world…

- More than a third come from families that rely on public assistance.
- More than half come from single-parent households.

While less than two-thirds of all public school students go on to college, nearly 100% of Cathedral grads are enrolled in college within one year. In recent years, Cathedral grads have received scholarships to private schools like Columbia, Yale, Penn, Stanford, Duke, Notre Dame, NYU, Boston College, Fordham, and the College of Mount Saint Vincent.

At about $10,000 in annual tuition and fees, Cathedral provides a first-class college prep education at a fraction of the cost of the average New York City private school ($40,572). We’re able to subsidize the cost of tuition through the generous annual fund contributions of so many Cathedral donors, as well as through our Scholarship Sponsors who provide full and partial tuition support of outstanding student scholars.

But the need is great and many deserving Cathedral students can’t receive the support they need. Please consider becoming a Scholarship Sponsor to help us close the funding gap and give the life-changing gift of a Cathedral education.

As a Scholarship Sponsor, you’ll be kept informed of your student’s academic progress and have the opportunity to meet your student, as well as be invited to special Cathedral events, including Commencement, where sponsors can celebrate this milestone with students and their families.

For more information on becoming a Cathedral Scholarship Sponsor, please contact Chief Development Office Chuck Ferrero at 212-688-1545 x232 or cferrero@cathedralhs.org.
Planned Giving

A Tax-Saving Way to Help Cathedral High School

See Your Generosity in Action

If you are 70½ years old or older, you can take advantage of a simple way to benefit Cathedral High School and receive tax benefits in return. You can give up to $100,000 from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as ours without having to pay income taxes on the money. This federal law has been made permanent so you can make gifts annually.

Why Consider This Gift?

• Your gift will be put to use today, allowing you to see the difference your donation is making.

• You pay no income taxes on the gift. The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions.

• If you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution for the year, your IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I’ve already named Cathedral High School as the beneficiary of my IRA. What are the benefits if I make a gift now instead of after my lifetime?

A. By making a gift this year of up to $100,000 from your IRA, you can see your philanthropic dollars at work. You are jump-starting the legacy you would like to leave and giving yourself the joy of watching your philanthropy take shape. Moreover, you can fulfill any outstanding pledge you may have made by transferring that amount from your IRA as long as it is $100,000 or less for the year.

Q. I’m turning age 70½ in a few months. Can I make this gift now?

A. No. The legislation requires you to reach age 70½ by the date you make the gift.

Q. I have several retirement accounts—some are pensions and some are IRAs. Does it matter which retirement account I use?

A. Yes. Direct rollovers to a qualified charity can be made only from an IRA. Under certain circumstances, however, you may be able to roll assets from a pension, profit sharing, 401(k) or 403(b) plan into an IRA and then make the transfer from the IRA directly to Cathedral High School. To determine if a rollover to an IRA is available for your plan, speak with your plan administrator.

Q. Can my gift be used as my required minimum distribution under the law?

A. Yes, absolutely. If you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution, the IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement. Contact your IRA custodian to complete the gift.

Q. Do I need to give my entire IRA to be eligible for the tax benefits?

A. No. You can give any amount under this provision, as long as it is $100,000 or less this year. If your IRA is valued at more than $100,000, you can transfer a portion of it to fund a charitable gift.

Q. I have two charities I want to support. Can I give $100,000 from my IRA to each?

A. No. Under the law, you can give a maximum of $100,000. For example, you can give each organization $50,000 this year or any other combination that totals $100,000 or less. Any amount of more than $100,000 in one year must be reported as taxable income.

Q. My spouse and I would like to give more than $100,000. How can we do that?

A. If you have a spouse (as defined by the IRS) who is 70½ or older and has an IRA, he or she can also give up to $100,000 from his or her IRA.

It is wise to consult with your tax professionals if you are contemplating a charitable gift under the extended law. Please feel free to contact Cathedral Chief Development Officer Chuck Ferrero at 212.688.1545 x232 or cferrero@cathedralhs.org with any questions you may have.