

The Sacred Heart School of Montreal Alumnae Association Newsletter



www.sacredheart.qc.ca

Winter 2020



A Message from the Head of School

Shawn O'Donnell



It might be cold and wintry outside, but there is much warmth within the walls of Sacred Heart!

Celebrating this wonderful community is very important to us; we were overjoyed to see so many at our January Raise the Roof event, where we raised over \$60 000 for the future of our students

and your Sacred Heart.

At the event, we also celebrated the incredible six-year tenure of the President of the Board of Directors, Mr. Roberto Di Giorgio, father of Alessia '09 and

Rebecca '17. Robert's tireless commitment to the school is unparalleled. He, as well as our incoming President, Tania Tretiak '86, truly represent the best of our Sacred Heart community. We are excited to welcome Tania as the new President effective October 2020, and are looking forward to her stellar leadership.

Alumnae, your dedicated efforts, with the guidance of the President of the Alumnae Association, Tara Durley '85, make you role models for our girls. I am grateful for the ongoing support you show to your alma mater.

With our auditorium to be completed in June, I urge you and/or a group of your classmates to buy a commemorative seat. Your contribution will allow future Sacred Heart students and alumnae to appreciate the arts in a beautiful new setting. Stay tuned for a Grand Opening date in September!

A Message from the Alumnae Association President

Tara Durley '85

It has been a busy year thus far, with still more to come!

On October 4, 2019, the Alumnae Association hosted 140 Sacred Heart alumnae for the annual reunion dinner. It was a wonderful evening attended by former students from near and far, all coming together to reminisce about their high school days at Sacred Heart. Whether from the class of 1959 right through to the class of 2009, alumnae gathered in the Parlour, the Chapel, the Dining Hall and the beloved Study Hall. Based on the decibel level while sitting at the desks that evening, there was an inordinate amount of memories being shared!

And now that Spring is around the corner, the Alumnae Association is gearing up for a night of Bingo fun. Not only is it a fundraiser but most importantly, it is a "friend raiser". We will also be participating in the annual Sacred Heart Golf Tournament this June. From beginners to advanced players, I encourage you to come out for a great day on the links and play in this fun tournament! As our beloved school song goes "*City House calling. Clear echoes falling. Present and past form one great part*". Please come join us and support our City House.



Alumnae Reunion Dinner 2019



Class of 1959: Anne McCracken Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Patterson, Daphne Dolan



Class of 1964: From L to R: Suzanne Laliberte (Sault), Susan Roche, Martha Lang Finkelstein, Barbara Bennett, Mary O'Connor, Kristin Bennett



Front row: Carolyn Wheatley, Constance Laliberte, Anne Berard, Carol Connolly, Elisabeth Tirkanitis, Suezan Aikins, Joan Parker **Second row:** Anne Macdonell, Leona McKenty, Sheelah O'Neill, Diana Simpson, Lesley Henshaw, Catherine Cirko, Katherine Stewart, Gay Walley, Margot McNally **Back row:** Sarah Maloney '71, Ms. Hildi Konok (former teacher), Pam Stevenson, Suzanne Du Puy, Lorraine McGrath, Joan McCracken, Margot Dionne



Front row: Katie Kotar, Stephanie Christodouloupoulos, Cassandra Travaglini, Anita Sarkissian, Zoe Vlogiannitis, Angelika Delormier-Maj, Melissa Walsh, Taylor Wright Connors **Middle row:** Ashlan Phillips, Joanna Fragostefanakis, Juliana Benc, Garima Chopra, Tamara Morrison, Christina Paolucci, Erin Brown-Vandecruys **Back row:** Mio Shibata (Sapporo Sacred Heart), Emily Horonowitsch, Jessica Lauren Sadko, Camille Chacra, Michelle Zakem, Christina MacDougall, Melanie D' Itri, Cassandra D'Amico-Mazza, Kathleen Paradis, Chrysten Newton



Front row: Susi Binder, Carol Bellringer, Catherine Ferrier, Maria Blicharski **Back row:** Maura Burke, Elizabeth Parker, Helena Luciani, Rosemary Clarke, Annemarie Elvidge



Class of 1989: Front row: Laura Sciascia, Carlene Bacchiochi, Jennifer Javornik **2nd row:** Caroline Côté, Christine Oh, Andrea Neeff **3rd row:** Grainne McGlynn, Julie Azeff, Sheryl Guloy, Kathleen Rossi **4th row:** Monica Dobie, Michelle Eames, Evelyn De Mello, Denise Quildon **Standing (back to front):** Megan Tolbert, Anna Valliant, Lucianne Poole, Lisa Lorenzetti, Catherine Huot, Nathalie Garcin, Heidi Majdell



Front row: Stephanie Horne, Melissa Purino, Susan Emblem, Lucy Raikes, Cynthia Morrison **Back row:** Kim Delormier, Julie Breithaupt, Caroline Hornyak, Catherine Choquette



Front row: Mr. Kousik, Mrs. Cumming, Mrs. Cochrane, Ms. Potter **Back row:** Mrs. Goncalves, Mrs. Di Pietro, Mrs. McNally, Ms. Vogt



Class of 1979: Front row: Lorraine Briscoe, Felicity Morson, Lynn Bradley **2nd row:** Lorie Purino, Fran Mondor, Juiliet Waters **3rd row:** Marthe Thibaudeau, Maria Rossi, Carla Caminiti, Sophie Belanger **4th row:** Antonia Maioni, Janet Ferrier, Sylvie Plante



Front row: Mieke Cullen, Ayesha Baig, Pamela Giancola, Liza Palas **Back row:** Samiatu Dosunmu, Nora Gunjian, Tamara Santostefano, Aisling O'Gorman, Madeleine Macdonald

Alumnae Engagement

The importance of an engaged alumnae is crucial to the success of any school. Here at Sacred Heart, we are very fortunate to have such an active Alumnae Association with an immense network of wonderful women who have a wealth of experience and skills to share with our current students. There are numerous ways and opportunities to re-connect and give back to the School with each one as valuable and appreciated as the next.



Camille Chacra '09 speaks to a Media Class



Claudia Belliveau '13 and Sara Mannarino '12 address our graduates

Interested in re-connecting with Sacred Heart and want to make a difference to current students? Here are some examples of how:

- Participate in career mentorship
- Speak to a class
- Judge the Science or Geo Fair
- Coach a sports team
- Mentor the Robotics team
- Give a guest presentation
- Provide field placement

Contact the Alumnae Office by email: alumnae@sacredheart.qc.ca, or call (514) 937-2845 ext.108



Career Morning mentors: L to R: Christine Saykaly '00, Donna Lutfy '83, Melanie Sivapalan '11, Valentina Corsetti '91, Erin Brown-Vandecruys '09



Eva Primbas '17 and Gabriella Marsillii '18 coach the Bantam basketball team



Dominique Levesque '17 mentors the Robotics team

Upcoming Events

Walk with Sacred Heart in the 2020 St. Patrick's Day Parade!

Come and cheer on this year's Grand Marshal
our Head of School, Mr. Shawn O'Donnell
Sunday, March 22, 2020

Alumnae Welcome!



For more info call
Isabel Brinck '92: 514-937-2845, ext. 137
or email: ibrinck@sacredheart.qc.ca

Sacred Heart Alumnae Association & Parents' Guild
Invite You To



BINGO

APRIL 17

night 7pm

Making new friends and reconnecting
with old friends while raising funds in
support of the Capital Campaign

JOIN US IN THE STUDY HALL FOR AN EVENING OF FUN
FOR MORE INFO: 514-937-2845

Due to permit restrictions, the event is not open to minors



Save the Date

Alumnae Reunion in Toronto

Tuesday, March 24, 2020
5 to 7 pm

Branksome Hall
10 Elm Ave, Toronto, ON,
M4W 1N4

for more info:
alumnae@sacredheart.qc.ca



19th Annual Sacred Heart GOLF Tournament

Monday, June 1st

Golf Saint-Raphaël
1111 Montée de l'Église
Ile Bizard, QC



Alumnae News



Congratulations to **Nikki Clarke '96** who ran as the NDP Candidate in the Mississauga Malton riding in the federal election held in October 2019. After a very competitive federal campaign for the Member of Parliament candidacy, Nikki came in third place. "I am thankful for the support and intend to run again in the future. Never give up on your dreams".

friends and SHSM alumnae at the wedding, some traveling from across the country.



L to R: Carina Di Tomaso '09, Kayla Di Gaetano '08, Kimberly Dextras-Romagnino '09, Elizabeth McDonald, Lauren Farmer '09, Samantha Côté '09, Gabriela Padvaiskas '09



On August 10, 2019, **Andria Arcari '03** gave birth to a baby girl, Clara. Andria and her husband Adam Cox-Twardowski are thrilled to welcome this new addition to the family. Of course, she is already planting the seed of an idea - to send Clara to Sacred Heart when the time comes!

Congratulations to **Teresa Griffin '11 Consuegra**



and her husband Luis Carlos Consuegra on the birth of their first child, Rosalía Mildred Consuegra. She was born on July 18, 2019.



Catherine McDonald '13, Elizabeth and her mother, Anna Di Tomaso

Congratulations to **Elizabeth McDonald '09** on her marriage to Jonathan Christensen. They were married on October 19, 2019 in Montreal. Elizabeth feels very fortunate to have had her best

In September 2019, the Lucien-Piché/Gilead Scholarship was awarded to **Kelly Burchell-Reyes '12** from the chemistry department of Concordia University. The Fondation Lucien-Piché and Gilead are proud to support and encourage a young promising student with a \$2,000 scholarship and wish her all the very best in her studies and career. Congratulations, Kelly!

In Memory of...

Alumnae:

Letizia Randaccio '63 Colfer Ray, sister of Emilia '64
Judy Trainor '58 Yardley

Family & Friends:

Dr. Nagib Cassar, father of Sonia '83 and Rania '84
Mr. Willem Cornax, grandfather of Mieke Cullen '99 (Alumna Board member)
Mrs. Teresa Dellar, daughter of Barbara Cooke '45 Dellar, aunt of Sarah McAleer '23
Mr. Nicolau De Mello, father of Evelyn '89, Twyla '90 and Olivia '92
Mrs. Maria Di Palma, mother of Ms. Nina Di Palma, former Assistant to the Director of Academics
Mr. William Harrison, father of Heather Harrison '87 Hines
Dr. Edith Peterkin, sister of Sr. Mildred Peterkin, RSCJ
Dr. Jean Néemeh, father of Nadine '91, Debbie '88 (predeceased)
Mrs. Raymond Paré, mother of Marie-Claire Paré '59 Holland

Former Faculty:

Miss Aruna de Mello, an English teacher at Sacred Heart for more than three decades
Mrs. Isabel Makin, who taught Music at Sacred Heart for ten years.
Mrs. Roberta Wood, a former Head of the Science Department and a Physics and Chemistry teacher for many years at Sacred Heart

Farewell to Miss de Mello



On Saturday, September 14, 2019, friends and family gathered in the Chapel of Sacred Heart to remember a former teacher, one who had a profound impact on so many students. Over the course of three decades, Aruna de Mello taught with passion, instilling in her students, among other things, the love of Shakespeare. Tributes were given by her sister, Dr. Anne Saldanha, who shared Aruna's love of travelling; her nephews Mark and Eric Saldanha, who spoke of their great love for their aunt; former colleague and friend, Eileen McGurk; and alumna Kristen Lange '01 who shared many classroom anecdotes, much to the joy of everyone in attendance.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the over \$15,000 that has been raised in memory of Miss de Mello so far. After a discussion with the family, it was decided the most fitting tribute to honour such a special teacher and sister would be an English classroom named for her, in perpetuity.

This fully refurbished classroom would include state-of-the-art technology and furniture conducive to an engaging educational environment. It would also include a ceremonial plaque celebrating Miss de Mello. The cost of a named classroom is \$25,000 - if you wish to make a donation and help make this a reality, you may do so by sending a cheque made out to City House Foundation, 3635 Atwater ave, Montreal, QC H3H 1Y4 or contact the Advancement Office.

St-Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal



Photo courtesy of United Irish Societies of Montreal .

On March 22, Sacred Heart students, parents, alumnae, and staff will walk in the Montreal St. Patrick's Day Parade for the 6th consecutive year, and it is an extra special year. Our Head of School, Shawn O'Donnell is the Grand Marshal of this year's parade. Students, alumnae, parents and staff are all warmly invited to join us for a thrilling walk down St. Catherine Street, in front of hundreds of thousands of Montrealers. Remember, everyone is Irish ♣ on parade day!

The Sacred Heart School of Montreal has a long tradition of being present at the parade. Many Queens of the parade have been alumnae, including **Kathleen Brown-Vandecruys '11**, **Kate Fitzpatrick '92**, **Keira Kilmartin '08**, **Mary Lynne Loftus '15**, **Katherine McKendy '02**, **Jennifer McKeogh '88**, and **Sarah Murphy '12**. Many others have been Princesses of the court, including **Meagan Coleman '11**, **Lauren MacDonald '16** and **Monica Peters '05**.

This year, we were honoured to see two alumnae on the judging panel who helped to select the 2020 Parade Queen: **Mary Lynne Loftus '15** and **Aisling O'Gorman '99**.

To join us in this year's parade, email ibrinck@sacredheart.qc.ca or erath@sacredheart.qc.ca by March 15. You can also text Ms. Brinck at 514-664-9390. Siblings and family members welcome!

New Board of Directors President, Tania Tretiak '86

On January 31, at the Raise the Roof fundraising event for Sacred Heart's Capital Campaign, the outgoing President of the Board of Directors, Roberto Di Giorgio, announced that alumna, current parent, and long-standing board member at Sacred Heart, **Tania Tretiak '86**, will be replacing him in that role as of fall 2020.

Ms. Tretiak was involved with the Alumnae Association for several years and has been a Board member for 10 years and Vice-President of the Board since 2016. Her daughter Anna is in Secondary V at Sacred Heart. Ms. Tretiak is the Director, Legal Affairs at Servier Canada, a pharmaceuticals company. Her integrity, collaborative leadership style, legal experience and past Board experience position her well to lead the Board and help guide the school to meet the needs of the current generation of students in these ever changing times. She is a graduate of McGill University where she obtained

a BSc (Anatomy) in 1991, an M.Sc. (Pathology) in 1995 and her Bachelors of Common and Civil Law in 1997. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Andover Canadian Fund and the Center for Services in Restorative Justice.



Visite de Soeur Blandine Basosa, RSCJ



L to R: Hannah '20, Sr. Sheila Hammond, Provincial for the United States-Canada Province, Sr. Blandine Basosa, Mr. O'Donnell, Sr. Maureen Glavin, member of the Provincial team.

Blandine Basosa Madila est née en République Démocratique du Congo et est une ancienne élève du lycée Sacré-Cœur de Kimwenza. C'est une Religieuse du Sacré-Cœur de Jésus de la province RDC-Tchad.

Soeur Blandine a fait ses premiers vœux en août 2002 et ses vœux perpétuels en janvier 2010. Elle a été l'économe locale de la communauté de Gombe (2002-2005), la directrice de l'école primaire 1 Mbansa-Mboma (2005-2008) ainsi que préfet et chef d'établissement du Lycée de Kimwenza (2010-2017). Elle a aussi été la conseillère provinciale (2011-2017). Soeur Blandine a obtenu un Baccalauréat en Relations humaines et spiritualité de l'université Saint-Paul d'Ottawa en 2020.

Le 12 février, l'école du Sacré-Cœur fut choyée de recevoir Sr. Blandine dans la chapelle pour une présentation très spéciale. Elle nous a fait découvrir l'histoire du Congo, et les nombreux défis auxquels les enseignantes et élèves des 14 écoles du Sacré-Cœur du Congo sont confrontées. Soeur Blandine nous a rappelé que nous faisons tous partie d'une même communauté mondiale. Quelle chance nous avons!



News from the Advancement Office

Raise the Roof Event Raised \$60,000 for *The future at heart*

One hundred twenty-five members of the Sacred Heart community – including RSCJ, current and past parents, alumnae, sponsors, suppliers, faculty and staff – enjoyed cocktails, dinner, dancing, and *Raised the Roof* at Plaza Volare on January 31. Together, they raised \$60,000 for Sacred Heart's Capital Campaign, *The future at heart!* This means a new auditorium to support Sacred Heart's award-winning music and drama programs; a modern wellness centre, for the physical and mental health of all; and renovations to the students' learning environment. The outgoing President of the Board of Directors, Roberto Di Giorgio, made a heartfelt speech about his time at Sacred Heart, and introduced his successor, Tania Tretiak, Class of 1986!

Part of the funds were raised through the sale of raffle tickets that evening, thanks to the help of alumnae volunteers **Alessia Di Giorgio '09**, **Stéphanie Christodouloupoulos '09**, **Caterina Gasparrini '91**, **Isabel Brinck '92**, and **Rosemary Vaupshas '78**. Very special mention goes to **Anne Marie Marilley '82 Johns**, who donated a stay in the exclusive John Lennon and Yoko Ono Suite at the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth for the live auction - a prize valued at \$2,800. Beautiful flowers arrangements were donated by **Sofia Muzzo '90**, through her florist company Jules d'Alcantara.

Other alumnae in attendance were **Andrea Duchesne '96**, **Cristiane Tinmouth '77**, **Anika Maloni '97**, **Maureen Brown '80**, **Tara Durley '85**, **Sarah Davey '85**, and **Jennifer Newton '06**. More details about the evening, and photos, are on the school website: www.sacredheart.qc.ca



Seated (L to R): Judy Vautier, Panos Christodouloupoulos, Roberto Di Giorgio, Marie Di Maso **Standing (L to R):** Alessia Di Giorgio '09, Stéphanie Christodouloupoulos '09, Anika Maloni '97, and Chantal Canlas '97



Dedicated Alumna Donor - Caterina Gasparrini '91



Caterina Gasparrini, Class of 1991, is a dedicated and engaged alumna. In 2002, when Sacred Heart had a fundraising campaign around the concept of “*Adopt a Desk*”, Cathy, as she is known, took the opportunity to put her name on a cherished piece of furniture in the Study Hall. Since 2018, Cathy has been a Trustee of the City House Foundation and an enthusiastic volunteer at events such as the annual golf tournament or the Capital Campaign galas. Although she missed out on the 2007 campaign to “*Preserve a Pew*”, she did not forget it. After purchasing a seat in the new auditorium, part of the current “*This seat could be yours!*” campaign, she knew she had to complete her “trifecta” at Sacred Heart. Although the school is not currently in a campaign surrounding the chapel, Cathy got her pew! When asked what motivated her, she replied, “No two memories of my time at Sacred Heart remain imprinted on me as much as sitting in the Study Hall for General Assembly and sitting in the Chapel for Tuesday mass. Adopting a desk and a pew seemed a fitting way to honour - and

to share - those cherished memories. That I sang in the choir for all my years added to the sentimentality! After that, sponsoring a seat in the new auditorium was a natural extension of my gratitude.”

The launch of the new auditorium is expected in June 2020. If you would like to get your seat, or contribute to your class’s seat, before then, visit the school website (under Giving) or contact the Advancement Office.

19th annual Golf Tournament - June 1, 2020

The 19th Annual Sacred Heart Golf Tournament will be held Monday, June 1, at Golf Saint- Raphaël, on Île Bizard. One hundred golfers are expected, as well as dinner guests for the evening portion of the event. As usual, there will be prizes for golfers, including Pink Ball, Closest to the Pin, and Longest Drive - with these last two categories being divided for men and women players. The *City House Foundation Cup* will be awarded to the best foursome overall, and the *Founders’ Cup* will be awarded to the best alumnae foursome. Get together with your classmates,

colleagues, friends and family and put together a foursome for this exciting event that raises funds for Sacred Heart. After playing is done, guests enjoy cocktails on the terrace, followed by dinner, a raffle and a silent auction. Many prizes are donated by Sacred Heart families and range from sports memorabilia to hotel stays and various gift certificates. If you or your company wish to donate a prize, or participate as a tournament sponsor, please contact the Advancement Office.



2019 Founders' Cup Winners: L to R: Rosemary Vaupshas '78, Tara Durley '85, Mary Ann Advincula '91 and Maureen Brown '80



2019 City House Foundation Cup Winners: L to R: Dominic Kanemy, Kevin Gilmore, Laurent Kanemy, Salvatore Rivera

Advancement Office Contact info: Lili Hollinrake Le Fèvre, Director of Advancement & Communications at advancement@sacredheart.qc.ca or (514) 937-2845 ext. 213



The Sacred Heart School of Montreal

*Dining &
Reminiscing*



Alumnae Reunion
October 2, 2020

*A special invitation
to all anniversary years
ending in 5 and 0
Celebrate with our
Jubilarians, class of 1970*



Prefer to receive this newsletter by email? Have news to share?
Please contact the Alumnae Office at 514-937-2845, ext. 108
or email alumnae@sacredheart.qc.ca