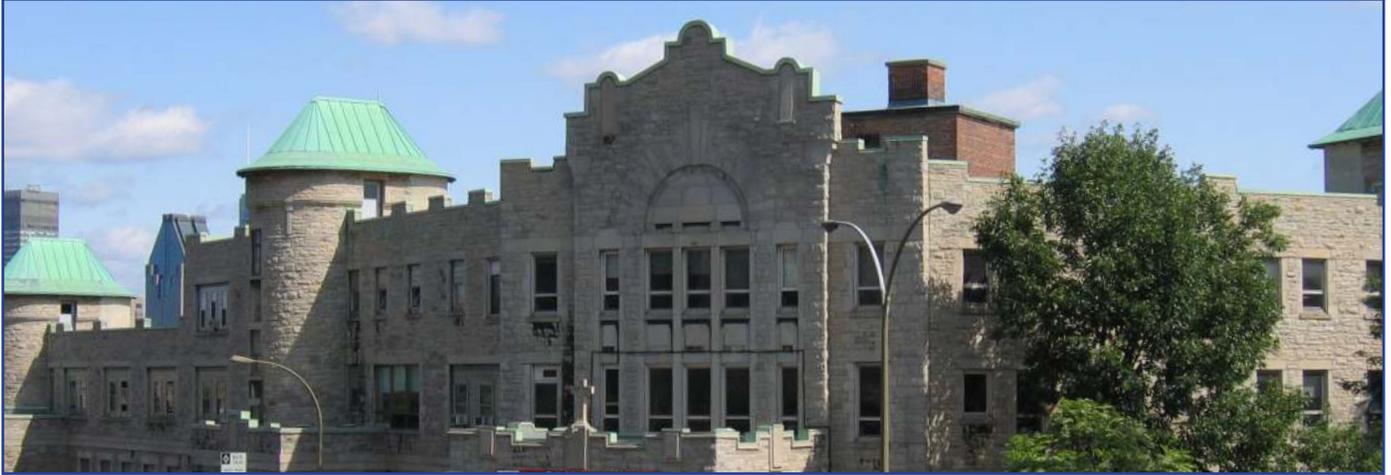


# The Sacred Heart School of Montreal Alumnae Association Newsletter



www.sacredheart.qc.ca

Summer 2015



## A Message from the Head of School

**Shawn O'Donnell**



The 2014-2015 Annual Campaign ends with excellent results, thanks to the support of all donors, including the alumnae community. Of the \$250,000 goal, we have reached \$244,000! A significant portion of this was raised at the recent Golf Tournament, about which you can read more in this newsletter. Most

of the funds raised in the Annual Campaign are directed to Bursaries & Scholarships.

New next year, Sacred Heart is emphasizing additional technology in the curriculum. A pilot project in the 2015/16 school year will test Google Apps for Education in the classroom. The School is active and thriving thanks to your ongoing support. Spread the news to your family and friends.

I hope you all have a pleasant summer, and that I will see many of you at the Reunion Dinner next fall!

## A Message from the Alumnae Association President

**Anna Romano '83**



At the end of the school year, the Alumnae Association happily welcomed 49 young women to join our us as Sacred Heart alumnae. As the Class of 2015 venture off into the world to pursue their dreams, they can feel confident that the Sacred Heart will be there to encourage and support them, and to offer opportunities for them to come "home". As

president, I am delighted to present to you this Summer 2015 newsletter. It highlights the various events we have hosted, and gives you news, both happy and sad, about our Sacred Heart family. I encourage you to take a few minutes to catch up. Whether you graduated 5 or 45 years ago, the Alumnae Association welcomes you. Come visit the school and see how we are doing. Let us know what you have been up to. I encourage you to do your part so that the alumnae remain a vibrant, active and important member of the Sacred Heart family.

## Alumnae Pin Ceremony

For close to 50 years, graduating students of Sacred Heart have been given a pin as a welcome into the Alumnae Association. This tradition continues today and on May 19, thirty alumnae were invited as special guests, by the graduating students, to participate in this special ceremony.

Josephine McNamara '81, active member of the Montreal Alumnae Association, and Theresa Cheng '85, mother of 2015 graduate Erika, spoke to all in attendance about how special it is to be a Sacred Heart alumna and what it has brought to their respective lives. Alumnae Relations Coordinator, Maureen Brown '80, impressed upon the soon-to-be-alums, how special and unique is the Network of Sacred Heart Schools. She informed them that they are now connected to fellow Canadian Sacred Heart alumnae, through CASHA (national association) as well as the newest members of the world-wide union of Sacred Heart graduates through AMASC (international association). Mr. Shawn O'Donnell, Head of School thanked all in attendance and invited everyone to stay for refreshments in the Parlour.



Mr. O'Donnell and faculty member Mme. de Sainte-Marie '67 lead alumnae and the Class of 2015 into the Chapel.



Melanie Alfonso '15 receiving her alumnae pin.



Teresa Cheng '85 & her daughter Erika Cheng-Tarantino '15

## Comedy Night Fundraiser with Loyola High School

For the second year, Elizabeth Shamie '82 was involved in the organization of the Sacred Heart and Loyola Comedy Night Fundraiser. The event benefitted the bursary funds of both schools and was held May 6 at Loyola's Eric MacLean S.J. Auditorium. It raised \$ 15,000 towards the Sacred Heart Bursaries & Scholarships Fund. The audience, including many alumnae, was entertained by Alonzo Bodden, who will be hosting this summer's Ethnic Show at JFL, and Canadian comic Mark Forward.

## 14th Annual Sacred Heart Open Golf Tournament

The 14th Annual Sacred Heart Golf Tournament was a record-breaking success, raising close to \$50,000 for Bursaries & Scholarships! With 120 golfers and 150 diners in attendance, it was the best attended tournament ever hosted by the School. Congratulations to the alumnae foursome that won the Founders' Cup: Maureen Brown '80, Tara Durley '85, Josephine McNamara '81, and Penny Pratt '79. The City House Foundation Cup was won by an impressive foursome made up of Loyola alumni and current parents: Jim and Lorne Pearson, Marc Doré and Serge Ste. Marie. Other prizes were won by Jen Newton '06, for Women's Longest Drive, while Brent Robinson won it for the men, and Josephine McNamara '81 and Marc Doré each won for Closest to the Pin.

Thank you to all alumnae who participated, either as golfers, diners, volunteers, corporate sponsors, committee members, or donors. You Make it Possible. Finally, a big thank you to the Golf Committee, chaired by current parent, Sebastian Pitruzzello, for organizing such a great event. We look forward to seeing everyone at another successful tournament next year.



Founders' Cup winners

# Ottawa Alumnae Gathering Toronto Alumnae Reunion

Each May, Sacred Heart alumnae/i, living in the Ottawa area, come together for a Spring Gathering. This year was no different. Beatrice Keleher '66 Raffoul, President of the Ottawa Alumnae Association (Janet Stuart Chapter) graciously invited all to her home for a lovely reception, which included a Eucharistic celebration and a pot luck supper.

With no Sacred Heart School ever existing in Ottawa, these alumnae gatherings are so welcoming and unique; alumnae from schools located around the world come together. On May 23, both Heads of the Canadian schools, Mr. Shawn O'Donnell (Montreal) and Anne Wachter, RSCJ (Halifax) were present and brought everyone up to date on their respective schools.



From the Class of 1980: Back: Kate Bradeen, Sandra Yates, Tarra Mont-Colgan, Carol Hutchings, Deb Day, Jennifer Morrin  
Front: Maureen Brown, Stephanie De Leonardis, Jean Stevens, Anne Wachter, RSCJ



## Montreal Alumnae in attendance:

Seated: Margot Duford '44(Sault), Sylvie Plante '79, Kathleen Hannan '93, Maureen Brown '80, Susan Roche '64

Standing: Beatrice Keleher '66 Raffoul, Susan Wheatley '66, Shawn O'Donnell, Head of School, Vyta Senikas '66, Natalie Raffoul '94



Ann McCoy '63 Hucker, Valerie Quinlan '60 Christie, Debby Peacock '60 Beatty, Lili Le Fèvre (Major Gifts Coordinator)



Katherine Brown '73, Cathy Cirko '69, Lesley Henshaw '69, Heather Hewitt '81, Shelagh Henshaw '81

Last March, Sacred Heart alumnae, living in the greater Toronto area, gathered at the beautiful Royal Canadian Yacht Club's downtown Toronto location. The fifty alumnae in attendance had the opportunity to meet Mr. Shawn O'Donnell, Head of School and Anne Wachter, RSCJ (Headmistress, Halifax). Alums from the Montreal and Halifax Schools enjoyed an evening of reminiscing, reconnecting and making new contacts. Many thanks to all who attended. Graduates from the Class of 1954 to the Class of 2012 were present, with a special shout out to the Class of 1980 which had 10 alumnae in attendance. A great evening was had by all, so be sure not to miss the next get-together in Toronto!

## Spring Tea & Mass

Alumnae and their families gathered to attend Mass and reconnect over a cup of tea, at the School on April 18. The Sacred Heart community was very thankful to Bishop Thomas Dowd who took time out of his busy schedule to come and celebrate Mass with us. With school tours, arts and crafts for the young ones and plenty of homemade sweets, it was a wonderful afternoon for all and a great way to welcome a long-awaited Spring. Hope to see you next year!



Anna Romano '83, Magda Wacek '66 Bruce, Janet Gray-Donald '51 Macklem



Josephte McNamara '81, Jean Kennedy '52 Mackinnon

## Alumnae News

**Christine Lengvari '68** was named among the "50 Most Influential Women in Canada's Life Insurance Industry" by the Insurance and Investment Journal. Christine is President and CEO of Lengvari Financial Inc, a boutique life insurance brokerage specializing in retirement and estate planning. The family firm has been in business for over 60 years with clients across Canada.

**Marina Boulos '81** was recently appointed Executive Director of Chez Doris, a day-shelter in Montreal for women in difficulty.

**Lucianne Poole '89**, husband Jim Bronskill and their two-year-old son, Adam, welcomed Rose Mary Margaret on May 5, 2015. Jim's mother (Margaret Fitzgerald) and aunts attended the Sacred Heart School of Halifax, and they were taught by none other than Sister Margaret Johnson.



**Tania Caprara '92** is the first woman in the province of Quebec to become a certified StrongFirst Hardstyle Kettlebell Instructor. StrongFirst is a brotherhood and sisterhood of iron, a highly regarded school of strength teaching men and women how to reach high levels of strength. Tania is very proud of this



accomplishment along with the physical strength & mental fortitude she has built and which she continues to build through practicing the StrongFirst principles & the sport of powerlifting. She is currently training to pass the Level 2 instructor skills to further her expertise

**Kimberly Dextras Romagnino '09** graduated from Concordia University with a Bachelor of Science (Major in Mathematics & Computer Science with a Minor in Business). Kimberly graduated with "Great Distinction" and will be pursuing a Master's Degree in Computer Science at the University of British Columbia this Fall.



**Elizabeth McDonald '09** graduated, with Great Distinction in Industrial Engineering from Concordia University. In addition to earning a Bachelor of Engineering, Elizabeth is also the recipient of the Jaan Saber Medal, merited by the student with the highest overall average, for Industrial Engineering.



**Claudia Belliveau '13** was awarded the Douglas Howes Award, honouring a Student Life Animator committed to enhancing student life at Marianopolis College. In September, she is attending McGill University to pursue a Bachelor of Science, in Life Sciences. This summer, Claudia will be participating for the fourth time in the Ride to Conquer Cancer, alongside her father who's riding for the 7th time.

**Catherine D'Ambrosio '13** spoke to a huge crowd at "We Day Montreal", a rally for school children who participate actively in community service and social justice. Catherine spoke about her experience on Sacred Heart's 2013 Kenya service trip and its continuing impact on her life.

**Amanda Marino '13**, was awarded the Douglas Howes Award and a Distinction in Robotics from Marianopolis College. Amanda will be attending Pre-Med at McGill University beginning this Fall. Amanda has just returned from a community service trip that took place in Tena, Ecuador. She assisted in the set up of mobile clinics and treated patients for medical and dental needs.



Would you prefer to receive this newsletter by email?

Please contact the Alumnae Office at  
514-937-2845, ext. 108  
or email  
[alumnae@sacredheart.qc.ca](mailto:alumnae@sacredheart.qc.ca)



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## In Memory of...

### Alumnae

**Mariette Brousseau '36 Dussault**

**Françoise Gohier '38 Dussault**

**Helen Rolland Richardson '39**, mother of Jane '65 and Anne '62

**Sheila Power '40 Orr**

**Claire Drouin '50 Beauchemin (Le Sault)**

**Maureen Rourke '78**: sister of Jacque '82 and Andrea '84, aunt of Shannon Thompson '15 and daughter of past-President, Board of Directors, Patrick Rourke.

### Family & Friends

**Dr. Bob Brodrick**, father of Lynne Brodrick Cochrane, former faculty

**Mrs Olecia Chobych** (former staff)

**Mr. Domenico D'Ambrosio**, grandfather of Olivia '12 and Marlena D'Ambrosio '10

**Mr. Frederick Henshaw**, father of Lesley '69, Helen '73, Shelagh '81 and predeceased by Mary '71

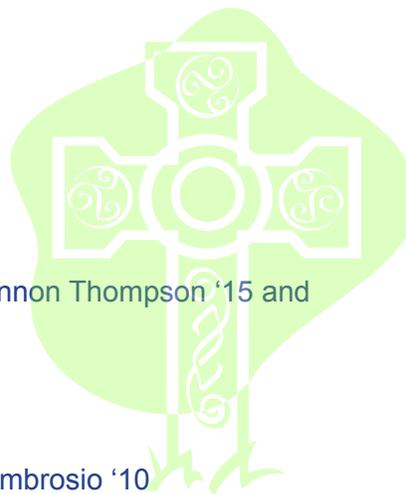
**Ms. Doreen Lawrence**, sister of Eileen McGurk (former faculty)

**Mr. Martin Lambert**, husband of Barbara Milne '41 Lambert

**Mr. Richard Morrin**, brother of Jennifer '80, Rosemary '84 and brother -in- law of Sophie Belanger '79

**Ms. Madison Mulholland**, daughter of Madeline '82, niece of Elizabeth '80 and Sarah '84

**Mr. Max Yalden**, grandfather of Zoe Yalden '15



**ALUMNAE REUNION  
DINNER 2015  
Friday, October 23rd**

Join us for cocktails & dinner and  
enjoy the chance to reconnect with  
former classmates and faculty

A special invitation to all anniversary  
years ending in "0" and "5" and to the  
Jubilarians Class of 1965

***For details and more information go to the Alumnae tab on the School's website  
([www.sacrdheart.qc.ca](http://www.sacrdheart.qc.ca)) or call the Alumnae office at 514-937-2845, ext. 108***

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# Convocation 2015

The Class of 2015 gathered together, among faculty, family and friends to receive their high school diplomas. Many special prizes and academic awards were also conferred. A new prize, in honour of an alumna who recently passed away, was inaugurated. The Genny Marilley '87 Memorial Prize for Social Activism and Community Service was introduced and awarded to graduating student Ariana Pagnotta '15.

The Graduation Address was given by Anne Marie Marilley '82 Johns, Regional Director of Sales & Marketing, Fairmont Hotels. She remarked on how well the School has kept true to its traditions while modernizing to meet the demands of the 21st century. The graduates were encouraged to embrace the school's motto "Courage et Confiance" and to go out and experience life and all its challenges. The Valedictory Address was given by Melanie Alfonso '15, a former QAA student who joined the Sacred Heart family in her last year of high school. Melanie highlighted how welcoming and unique her Sacred Heart experience this past year had been. She articulated that she felt like a true Sacred Heart girl and thanked all who had contributed to her memorable final year of high school.



Natalia '15 & Alexa Bedik '12



Kaitlin '15 & Ashley Hagen '12



Oona Joy '15 with grandmother Rosemary O'Reilly '47 Joy and aunt Cynthia Joy '79



Caroline Koranteng '15 with (L to R) aunt Regina MacDonald '71 Farrell, mother Lisa MacDonald '77 and cousin Claire Farrell '07



Marissa Mezzaluna '14, Lauren Mezzaluna '15 and mother Donna Lutfy '83



Shannon Thompson '15 with (L to R) mother Jacquie Rourke '82 & grandmother Mrs. Alanna Rourke



Valedictorian Melanie Alfonso '15, and Mr. O'Donnell



Anne-Marie Marilley '82 with Ariana Pagnotta '15

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## Community Service at Sacred Heart

Since our last update the students at Sacred Heart have been as busy as ever, truly living the goals of "a sense of social justice which impels to action" and "the building of community as a Christian value". These goals are shared by all Sacred Heart schools, around the world. The biggest event the girls organize and execute annually is Community Service Day, founded in 2012 by Sarah Murphy '12. On March 31, the entire student body and staff spent the day volunteering at 26 charities, a record number for this event. Students do this in addition to a required 40 hours of individual community service. This year's event is organized by the school's Grade 10 Leadership Elective class.

Students also collected bras to donate to the Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation, and socks for Toe2toe. In addition to CSD, the girls raised money to support their service trip to Nicaragua; the building of a school in Haiti; two women's shelters (including Chez Doris); and Prusty4Kids, in support of sick children. Through their participation in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI), the students raised \$9,000 for the C.A.R.E. Center (adults with disabilities); Westhaven Elmhurst Community Center; L'Association Cignone (in support of student parents); and Gold Center (autism). As has been the case for many years, Sacred Heart girls continue to participate weekly in Meals-on-Wheels.

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## A Warm Welcome Back



**Ms. Anika Maloni '97** has recently been appointed the new Director of Academics at Sacred Heart.

She has a Master of Education in Educational and Counseling Psychology

and a Bachelor of Education, both from McGill University, in addition to Applied Behavioral Analysis Training in Early Autism Intervention. Furthermore, she holds a Graduate certificate of college teaching and course design from the University of Sherbrooke's Master's Teacher Program.

Before joining Sacred Heart, Ms. Maloni was Academic Dean and Director of Student Success at Centennial College for a combined six years. She has another six years' experience as an independent educational consultant and teacher with Centennial College, Westmount Park, Forest Hill Elementary, and Marie-Laurier Academy.

As an alumna from the class of 1997, we welcome back Ms. Maloni and are extremely pleased to have such an experienced teacher and administrator join the School and return to the Sacred Heart community.



Another warm welcome back is extended to **Ms. Maria Cusma-Dovico**, from the class of 2006. Ms. Cusma-Dovico is joining the Faculty to take over the classes previously taught by Mr Angelo Gallo, who has been offered an

opportunity to pursue his career in education as an administrator in the public sector.

Ms. Cusma-Dovico '06 has a Master of Arts in Teaching and Learning from McGill University as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Honours History from Concordia University. She has been teaching History and Geography at Centennial Academy since 2013 where she also filled in as a Learning Specialist.

When asked how Maria felt about returning to teach at her alma mater, she replied, "It is exciting to return to the institution that shaped my own learning and provided me with great teacher mentors. I look forward to motivating a new generation of Sacred Heart girls to become intellectually curious and compassionate young women."

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## And Fond Farewells

On May 26, a group of alumnae, past parents, current and former faculty and staff gathered in the Reception Room to bid farewell to retiring librarian Joan MacLellan and Assistant Head, Academics, Jean Filipovich.



Ms. MacLellan has been working at Sacred Heart since 1986, after leaving the library at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History in Halifax. Ms. MacLellan was responsible for both the introduction of a Library Automation System and for two rounds of major renovations at the library. She will be visiting

her home province of Nova Scotia to kick off her retirement this summer.



Mrs. Filipovich arrived as a History teacher at Sacred Heart as Miss Verge, in 1972. After a break to raise her children and complete a Ph.D., Mrs. Filipovich returned in 1986 and held positions as History teacher and History/Social Sciences Department Head before becoming

Assistant Head in 2004. She says she hopes to spend her retirement "with my husband and our beautiful little family, our greatest treasure and greatest accomplishment".

The retirement party was well-attended by many current and former colleagues of these two women, along with members of the Board of Directors, City House Foundation, parents as well as alumnae, spanning every decades from the '40's to the 2010's.

## Open House

### September 26

Open House is the school's chance to show what we are made of to potential new students. You are warmly invited to visit with your grand daughter, daughter, niece, or any other young girl who may be interested in a Sacred Heart education.

Take the opportunity to meet our new Enrolment



Management Coordinator, Stephanie Broadhurst. In her role, she will be the person to guide parents and students through the admissions process, explaining financial aid/ scholarship requirements. As of

August 1st, Ms. Broadhurst can be reached at: [sbroadhurst@sacredheart.qc.ca](mailto:sbroadhurst@sacredheart.qc.ca)

## Annual Telephone Campaign Returns

The Annual Giving Campaign will resume



this fall, and, as always, alumnae participation is vital! As the school's fiscal year comes to a close, the alumnae community has raised over \$16,000! The Phone Campaign has proven to be the most successful fundraiser with

the alumnae, with half of your donations coming from there. Volunteer callers will be back at this fall, so please be generous!

## Planned Giving Shaping the Future at The Sacred Heart School of Montreal

The City House Foundation is thankful to all donors who choose to make a bequest, or use any other Planned Gift vehicle such as a gift of securities, life insurance, personal property, as a means to support The Sacred Heart School of Montreal.

Through a gift in your estate plans, you can ensure that SHSM will continue to be a place where scholarship and values matter all the while helping you achieve your tax and financial goals as well as your philanthropic goals.

Your planned gift is important to the success and future of Sacred Heart - You Make It Possible to carry out the goals and criteria of a Sacred Heart education – to educate the whole child. Your gifts help us to fund our four main areas: greatest needs of the school, bursaries and scholarship fund, enrichment programs and building improvements and enhancements

For more information, please contact Lili Hollinrake Le Fèvre at 514-937-2845 ext 148 or [llefevre@sacredheart.qc.ca](mailto:llefevre@sacredheart.qc.ca)

### Annual Campaign



Gifts may be directed to one of the following areas:

- Greatest Needs of the School
- Scholarship and Bursary Endowment Fund
- Enrichment Programmes
- Building Improvements & Enhancements

Checks made payable to the City House Foundation should be mailed to 3635 Atwater, Montreal QC, H3H 1Y4

Credit Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_