

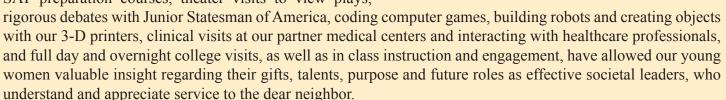
The Echo & Winter 2016

From the Principal

Dear Alumnae, Friends and Partners of St. Mary's Academy,

It is an exciting time of growth, rejuvenation, jubilation and much gratitude at St. Mary's Academy. It is a time of celebration, not only because we are observing our beautiful campus' 50th anniversary, but because we continue to move and grow together, supporting and nourishing our students, spiritually and academically, to become strong, faith-filled women of tomorrow. We are blessed to be one of the three campuses within St. Mary's 127 year legacy of educating young women.

At St. Mary's Academy, we celebrate as our students are provided with experiential learning opportunities in which they are able to grow academically and cognitively. Active participation in a variety of experiences such as SAT preparation courses, theater visits to view plays,



We celebrate the spirit of community as we continue to be examples of the Gospel through our interactions, support and encouragement of one another - faculty, staff, students, families, alumnae and friends of SMA.

We celebrate a renewed energy in the city of Inglewood as our area welcomes new development and the return of the NFL - the city is truly transforming into a sea of blue and gold with SMA and return of LA's football team!

We celebrate and recognize you, our alumnae, friends and partners as you continue to support St. Mary's Academy with your thoughtful gifts of financial aid, scholarship campaign support, prayers and love.

May you continue to be blessed with many opportunities and occasions to celebrate.

In grateful friendship,

Nancy H. Portillo Principal



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SAVE THE DATES IN 2016

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

SATURDAY, APRIL 16: ALUMNAE SPRING MEETING SATURDAY, JUNE 18: ALUMNAE SUMMER MEETING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15: ALUMNAE FALL MEETING

STUDENT AND ALUMNAE EVENTS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20: ATHLETICS CASINO NIGHT AT SMA

FRIDAY, MARCH 4: CAREER DAY AT SMA

FRIDAY, APRIL 15 - SUNDAY, APRIL 17:

SPRING PRODUCTION OF "ANNIE" AT SMA

SATURDAY, MAY 7: 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT SMA

SATURDAY, MAY 28: GRADUATION AND GOLDEN GRADS

LUNCHEON AT SMA

FALL, TBA: BELLES & BOOKS AT SMA

FALL, TBA: DONOR DINNER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3: ALUMNAE RETREAT AT SMA

CHRISTMAS BREAK, TBA: 0-5 YEAR REUNION AT SMA

The Echo is published twice a year by the Development Office of St. Mary's Academy for alumnae, parents, and friends.

> St. Mary's Academy 701 Grace Avenue Inglewood, CA 90301 310.674.8470 www.smabelles.org





St. Mary's Academy (Inglewood, CA) &
SMA Belles



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Special thanks to the following for their contributions to this issue:

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Katrina Smith
St. Mary's Academy Alumnae
St. Mary's Academy Yearbook Staff

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SMA Belles Are Women of Distinction

Economics for Leaders at the University of California - Berkeley

In summer 2015, two juniors from St. Mary's Academy were selected to participate in the Economics for Leaders (EFL) program at the University of California-Berkeley to learn how to integrate economics into the process of decision-making in a hands-on, experiential environment. During this week-long program, Green Ties Amy Pinto-Quintanilla '17 and Kennedy Oden '17 received intensive economics courses in the mornings and focused on leadership skills in the afternoons. The EFL program provides students with the skills to be more effective leaders and to teach them how to employ economic analysis when considering difficult choices in public policy.

Science Engineering Apprenticeship Program at Naval Sea Systems Command

Blue Tie senior Laura Banks-Ordone '16 participated in the summer Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program (SEAP) at the Naval Sea Systems Command in the Measurement, Science and Technology Laboratory. She worked with professional civilian government employees specializing in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics fields. Laura performed tensile tests and the data collected will be utilized to create a strong, inexpensive foam that will be used by Navy SEALs!



Children's Hospital Los Angeles: Observing Health Care Careers

Blue Tie senior Niara McCauley '16 and Green Tie junior Jennifer Alvarado '17 were selected as the top 100 applicants out of several hundred submissions to participate in Camp CHLA this past summer. Both students intimately shadowed health career professionals caring for their patients and witnessed a surgery in an operating room. In addition, Niara and Jennifer participated in labs where they learned to take vital signs and perform CPR.

"I realized that I want to pursue a career in pediatric nursing and maybe even go further to be a pediatric doctor!"

- Niara McCauley '16



Exploring the East Coast

Blue Tie senior Andiave McAndrew '16 studied constitutional law at Georgetown University under a worldrenowned professor of law. While in Washington D.C., Andiaye visited the Capitol Building, the Supreme Court, and met Senators John McCain and Barbara Boxer on the floor of the House of Representatives!

White Mass Celebration



PBJ @ CS4Life

serving in the Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara even performed during the opening ceremonies! counties of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

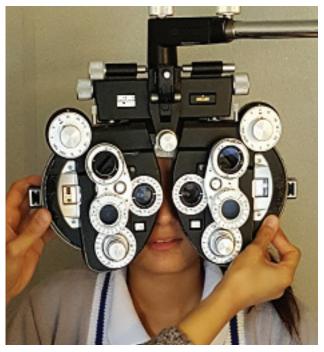
In October, Health Careers Program students attended SMA participated in the CS4Life Convention at USC's Galen the Annual White Mass Celebration at The Cathedral of Center in November by hosting a booth for volunteers to carry Our Lady of the Angels. Most Rev. Edward Wm. Clark on our weekly tradition of making PB&J sandwiches for the celebrated Mass honoring all Healthcare Professionals homeless. Our school's choir group "The Hummingbelles"

Blessings at SMA

'80% of a student's learning is through vision. When students can see well they can be more successful at school."

In January, through the generosity of the Steinmetz Foundation (Charlie Steinmetz), and the assistance of members from the Rotary Club of Inglewood, The Vision to Learn program provided St. Mary's Academy students with vision screenings, eye examinations and new glasses for those in need at no cost.

In February, the Steinmetz Foundation (Charlie Steinmetz) supplied theatre tickets for a group of freshmen Red tie students to see the play, Romeo and Juliet, in Pasadena.



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From the Alumnae Association

Dear Alumnae and Friends of St. Mary's Academy:

As your Alumnae Association chair, I want to thank you for all of your help and participation in 2015. We enjoyed an exciting, productive, and fulfilling year - the highlights are featured in this edition of *The Echo*.

We want to continue to engage your passion for service towards St. Mary's Academy and our girls. As we move into this first half of 2016, we have several special events on the calendar through June, and more in the planning stages for the rest of the year.

SMA Alumnae Association General Meeting, Saturday, April 16th

Join us at 11am in the Hannon Dining Room to plan our upcoming events, sign up for committees, learn about our school's accomplishments, and network with your alma mater!

50th Birthday Celebration of SMA, Saturday May 7th, 11am - 4pm

Save the Date! SMA is planning a Golden Celebration to honor the present and past SMA Faculty and Staff. Mix and mingle with the CSJs, teachers, classmates and friends while enjoying a day of food and entertainment to commemorate this special occasion!

Blue Tie 2016 Graduation and Golden Grads Luncheon, Saturday, May 28th

As we congratulate the Blue tie graduates of 2016, we welcome back the Gold tie graduates of 1966 and previous Golden Alums for our annual luncheon!

Alumnae Association Summer General Meeting, Saturday, June 18th

Join us at 11am in the Hannon Dining Room to close out the 2015-16 school year and prepare for upcoming fall events, such as Belles & Books, the Donor Dinner and the Alumnae Chapel Retreat.

New and Noteworthy!

Alumna Jackie Smith '81 has created a *Belles in Business* Facebook group! Request to join this alumnae group to network with alma mater and start promoting your professional services!

We want to send you news about your classmates and upcoming events with our Belles! If you are not receiving correspondences from SMA, please take a moment to visit the Alumnae tab to "Update Your Contact Information" at www.smabelles.org. For more information about the Alumnae Association and ways to get involved, please contact me at mmurray.alum@smabelles.org or 310-674-8470 ext. 214.

Thank You.

Regards,

Madelyn Murray, Red Tie '67

Chair, SMA Alumnae Association

Blue, Red, Gold and Green Alumnae so Deserving of Special Recognition





Red Tie **Sr. Mary Margaret Kreuper CSJ '59** (left), Principal of St. James Catholic School, has touched the lives of "too many to count" students, faculty, staff, and parents of the parish school.

Green Tie **Barbara Mullen '57** (right), retired Registered Nurse from Daniel Freeman Memorial Hospital, utilizes her skills and talents to manage the parish's outreach and service ministry, Feed the Needy, by providing food for the homeless three times a week.

Sr. Mary Margaret and Barbara were among five extraordinary women who were honored at the St. James Catholic Parish, Redondo Beach, *Shining Stars in Christ Gala* in November for their ministries and serving their communities.

Blue Tie **Dr. Alice Villalobos '64**, the owner of the first cancer care center for pets named Pawspice, was honored as Hermosa Beach's Woman of the Year for the positive impact she has made to the community through her work in animal hospice.

Gold Tie **Major General Megan P. Tatu '74** has served our nation for more than 35 years and was recently selected to serve as the Chief of Staff for the United States Army Reserve Command in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Blue Tie **Kiesha Nix '88** was appointed as the new Executive Director of the Los Angeles Lakers Youth Foundation. In her new role, Kiesha's leading various philanthropy projects directly impacting the Los Angeles community including youth mentorship.

Green tie **Shawtina Ferguson '01** started her term in October 2015 as the Chair of the State Bar of California Young Lawyer's Association, the largest assocation of young lawyers in the country.

Class Reunion Notices

The Green Tie Class of 1961 55th Class Reunion will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2016 at the Hyatt Hotel LAX. For more information or to get involved, please contact Catherine Delmas Belt at 760-720-9424 or cjdelmas@juno.com!

The Gold Tie Class of 1966 50th Class Reunion will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at St. Mary's Academy from 11:30am-3pm. For more information or to get involved, please contact Kathy Morgan Itzel at 949-388-7802 or katiemadonna@cox.net!

The Red Tie Class of 1971 45th Class Reunion BBQ will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at the Home of Brenda Threatt from 11:30am-3:30pm. For more information or to get involved, please contact Mary Buck Zoller at 504-858-3379 or maryzoller@aol.com!

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The Ties That Bind

2015 Summer Reunions

The Red Tie Class of 1975, Green Tie Class of 1985, and Gold Tie Class of 1990 hosted their class reunions at SMA!



Sunday, August 16, 2015

Green Tie Class of 1985

July 25, 2015

Gold Tie Class of 1990

Belles and Books

SMA is grateful that 12 alumnae joined us for a day to share their insight on the books selected for the summer reading project by the SMA English Department.



Ties That Bind and Build

SMA honored 4 outstanding alumnae for their community service and distinguished professional achievements at the third Ties That Bind and Build scholarship fundraiser at Mount St. Mary's University. The alumnae recognized included Sr. Suzanne Jabro CSJ '64 for "Get on the Bus", Peggy McCormick '70 of McCormick & Sons, ENT surgeon Dr. Christine McAlpin '83 and LAPD Detective Norma S. Kirkpatrick '89.







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The Ties That Bind

Annual Alumnae Retreat

Sr. Kathleen Mary McCarthy CSJ led a moving spiritual reflection through prayer, conversation, and singing in preparation for the Advent season.





Class of 2015 "0" Reunion

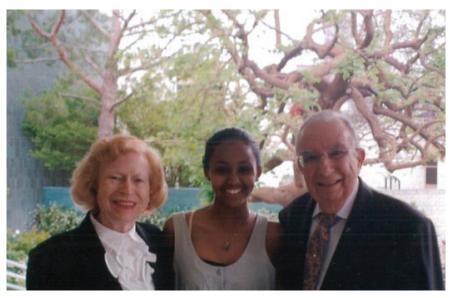
SMA welcomed back the Red Tie Class of 2015 for their "0" Reunion during the Christmas break!





Patricia Owen Haggerty-Ross Green Tie, Class of 1945

July 27, 1927 - May 24, 2015



Patricia Owen Haggerty-Ross '45 (left) and her husband Joseph Ross (right) with the Ross endowed student scholarship recipient Fairus Tefery '12 (middle) at the 2012 Graduation Ceremony

For the last 127 years, St. Mary's Academy has been blessed to have alumnae and friends supporting the mission and spirit of the Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet.

On her 80th birthday, in recognition of Patricia's many contributions to her family, St. Mary's Academy and in celebration of her life as an exceptional wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Patricia's family established the **Patricia Owen Haggerty-Ross Endowed Scholarship**.

St. Mary's Academy is truly grateful for the continued scholarship support received over the years from Patricia Owen Haggerty-Ross and her family.

Through the **Patricia Owen Haggerty-Ross Endowed Scholarship**, 4 young women have been provided the opportunity to receive a Catholic high school education.

Rest In Peace

Let us remember in prayer the following members of the SMA family—alumnae, friends, former faculty and staff:

Nyamekye Bankole '13

Linda Cadena '67

Armida Deck '58

Joan Lange Devine '42

Jo Ann Gummersheimer Farwell '64

Kathleen Kennedy Freese '67

Judith Burd Gusa '60

Dr. Dorris Marie Harris (mother of Julie Harris Neiger '71)

Robert Jabro (brother of Sr. Suzanne Jabro '64)

Díane Zahyna Jonkey '73

Pamela Guss Kopack '61

Mary Liess La Venture '50

Mary Ellen Likins '46

Sr. Marylouis Markel CSJ

Kathryn Krager Marz '61

Joan Miyashiro-Brennan '76

Pauline Beauchemin Napier '38

Patricia Becker O'Brien '44

Mary Sue Mundy Phillips '40

June Porche (mother of Theresa Porche '75)

Margaret Mary Kinney Probe '72

Sr. Carol Marie Purzycki CSJ '64

Kathryn Yeary Simpson '61

Kathleen Shea Sullivan '54

Ira Logan von Hombracht '69

Janet Ward '61

Elizabeth White '36

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From the Development Office

Hello and Happy 2016 to All!

It is hard to believe that we are already more than half way through this school year! I fondly recall the Blue Ties as "wee freshmen" learning how to open and maintain their lockers, which were right outside my classroom door, late summer of 2012. Now they are eagerly awaiting their college acceptance letters and preparing for their "next chapter in life." One of the many fun things about working in a high school is watching the growth of the students over the four years. Each high school year presents a new stage of student maturity and development mentally, physically and spiritually.

As I have transitioned this school year, from classroom to the Development Department, I have gained a greater appreciation of the many factors that go into assisting these young women mature and develop – the sacrifice and support from parents, grandparents and guardians; the dedicated, creative and masterful teaching from faculty; the presence of the dear CSJs; the various methods of support from the staff and coaches; and the financial assistance from so many considerate and generous donors.

In this new year, I would like to thank all of our donors who have played a significant role in the "Blue Ties" time at St. Mary's whether it was financial support for tuition, enhancing school Programs, or funding general operating expenses. The Alumnae – through emails, phone conversations, written correspondence, class reunions, campus visits, and the Ties That Bind and Build event - getting to know you and your giving spirits has been a joy. Foundation Donors – meeting and greeting the representatives who visit our campus to engage with students and faculty, and their role in significantly supporting students and Programs – have provided uplifting and enlightening experiences. The many, many friends of St. Mary's, including our faculty, staff, CSJs, and Board members, you all contributed so magnificently to our first "Giving Tuesday" project, and you give of yourselves in so many other ways.

Thank you all for thoughtfulness of our school, our students and your steadfast generosity. May you and yours be richly blessed in this New Year!

All my best,

Jeanne Fisher

Development Director

Mr. John O'Keefe, who commissioned the "Our Mother Of Joy" sculpture to be created especially for St. Mary's Academy, visited and toured the campus with his grandchildren during the Christmas holiday.



#GivingTuesday Campaign

For the first time, St. Mary's Academy participated in the #GivingTuesday campaign, a global day dedicated to giving. The goal was to raise \$5,000 towards updating the physical and technological infrastructure of our school. In total, \$12,705 was donated to SMA by generous and committed supporters! We thank all of our donors for their ongoing investment in the future of our extraordinary school.



Calling all SMA Belles & Family Members:

We want to hear about our alumnae for publications & networking opportunities!

Please submit alumnae updates and notices with the remit envelope or via email to Jennifer Ellspermann, Development Associate, at jellspermann@smabelles.org

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Annual Listing of Contributors 2014-2015

The generous giving of our alumnae and friends supports St. Mary's Academy and our students to be all of which they are capable. This listing recognizes those who have made gifts between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. These are our invaluable partners in mission for whom we are very grateful.

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