

St. Mary's Academy
Alumnae and Friends Newsletter

The Echo

Summer 2013



In This Issue

Reflections From Our Development Director	2
Letter From Our Principal	4
Welcome to Our New Development Staff	5
Healthy Ties Mentorship Program	6
Junior State of America	8
SMA Track Team at State Championships	8
AP Laureate Program	9
"Thank You," a play by Rachel Toliver	10
The 124th Commencement of SMA	12
SMA Alumnae Association Happenings	14

SMA Graduates: Eighty Green Ties at the 124th Commencement

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

For more information, please contact:
St. Mary's Academy
701 Grace Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90301
310-674-8470 ext. 215
lji-kim@smabelles.org
www.smabelles.org

Follow us on Twitter



St. Mary's Academy
(Inglewood, CA)
or
Alumnae of St. Mary's Academy,
Inglewood, CA

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

Clifford Photography
Christine Alcantar
Greta Andrade
Maria Beltran
Jeanne Fisher
Sean Griffin
Cynthia Haxton
Linda Ji-Kim
Sr. Kathleen Kelly CSJ
Robert King
Yvonne McNeal, EdD
Jackie Mitchell
Madelyn Murray
Toni Parham
Mary Rose Pascua
Paula Simoncini
Andreen Soley

Erratum from the Winter 2013 issue:
Carol Ann Wheeler McVicar '64
was mistakenly listed in the "Rest in
Peace" section.

Reflections From Our Development Director

Christ said, "I come that you may have life and have it more abundantly."

When I look back at these years at St. Mary's in the Development Office, these are the words that have motivated me. I want our wonderful students to be able to live life abundantly as Christ intended. *Caritas* is a word used in the New Testament describing the love that God intends that we have for each other; it is the way God interacts with the world and all that derives from God; it is the essence of the person of Jesus; and it is the foundation of the life that Jesus wants for all.



How did that translate to me in practical terms? Abundant life is surrounded by beauty reflected externally and internally. My sisters, Janet and Kathy, said to get rid of that chain link fence. The USC students I worked with on their service learning projects for SMA said we have a good school but it is boring, all beige. Renovation of the very outdated science labs had been on the annual report for three years. So Barry Schweiger, our architect, and I set out to design a beautiful, vibrant, updated campus where students could enjoy the abundance of color, flowers, grass, modern computers and SMARTBOARDS, serene prayer space, quiet places to read and talk, and even a new campus entrance where Barry's angels protect us as we enter SMA. For many of our girls,



school is the most lovely and gracious place in their lives. The first year after the science labs were updated, science faculty noted that students scores had increased; they attributed that to the college-like environment that enhanced the

students' expectations of themselves. Foundations supported this design and donated all that we needed to make it happen; partners helped our students to live life more abundantly.

Abundant life means enlightening the mind and helping each person to reach their greatest potential—to know and use their gifts. We made this happen in several ways at SMA. First, it meant providing the means for all students who wanted a SMA experience to be able to attend despite their financial circumstances. Again partners stepped forward and provided increased tuition assistance; more and more alumnae,

remembering how SMA had enhanced their lives, provided additional financial aid with endowed and expendable scholarships. As the economy dropped, we were able to provide help for those who lost jobs. Over 80% of students receive some form of financial help.

Second, with faculty input, career programs were expanded, designed, and implemented. These programs motivate students toward a career of their choice, develop the skills and competencies needed for college, and introduce students to professionals in the field. Students get in touch with their gifts and learn whether these careers would enable them to live life abundantly. Partnerships have been established for Health Careers with Mount St. Mary's College, Little Company of Mary Hospital and Children's Hospital Los Angeles; for Accounting with Loyola Marymount University and Deloitte; for Engineering with Harvey Mudd College and Raytheon; for Communication Arts with Woodbury University and Mount St. Mary's College. An effective theoretical design is in place so that these programs can be funded and strengthened.



Third, Development supported the design of a more rigorous curriculum. Advanced Placement courses have been added and an AP Laureate Club was begun to both challenge and support these students. More advanced science and math courses have been added, and individualized English and math programs have been implemented.

Students' lives are dramatically changed by their SMA experience. They stand taller; their smiles are warmer; they greet and engage visitors in a most sophisticated adult manner. They are sure of themselves and know that they are "women of distinction." They talk about how they want to give back and bring about change in this world. Not only will they live life more abundantly, but others will as well because of them and because of you, our alumnae.

My reflections include all those who have become our partners. I have met and worked with very wonderful people – from the first program director I met from the Ahmanson Foundation, Mindy Jones, who helped me from the beginning, to the Presidents and Program Directors of the Shea, Doheny, Weingart, Bill Hannon, and William Hannon Foundations. I have been privileged to interact with extraordinary individuals: donors, foundation executives and other program directors, alums and spouses of alums, architects and construction personnel, parents, staff, and faculty. I believe *Caritas* describes these relationships. The essence of what God wants for all of us in this world is present as we work together so that all can live life more abundantly.



Sr. Kathleen Kelly CSJ
 Director of Development, Blue Tie '52

Letter From Our Principal

Dear Alumnae and Friends:

St. Mary's Academy is an extraordinary all-girl high school. During the last few weeks, I have reminisced about my years as a *Belle* at St. Mary's in the late 60's - early 70's, and my tenure as Principal during the past four years. I was privileged and honored to return to St. Mary's as an alumna to become the first lay principal of a school with a distinguished history. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet trusted me to lead the school, and I did so honoring them, staying faithful to the CSJ charism and preserving the rich traditions of St. Mary's Academy.



During the past four years, the Career-Path Programs grew in number, the curriculum became more rigorous with the addition of more Advanced Placement classes and a Laureate Club; the faculty established a professional learning community; use of technology in the classroom expanded; the campus became more beautiful and promoted student achievement; the Parent Association was re-established; and more alumnae returned to SMA to "give back" in a variety of ways. Student leadership improved, the quality of Christian service opportunities improved, social activities expanded, and the track team continues to reign in the State of California. *SMA Belles are Women of Distinction who walk with pride and tie their ties!*

Alumnae and Friends, at this time I say "good-bye" to you as Principal of St. Mary's Academy, as my tenure as Principal comes to an end on June 30th. I leave the *position of Principal* only, as I will always be a *Blue Tie Belle* ('72). But I leave this position with an important charge to you: continue giving to St. Mary's Academy. Give in time, talent and treasure. Support a *Belle* by providing tuition assistance, by mentoring, encouraging, and supporting in any way you can. *Your* support will allow our *Belles* to continue to grow in all areas of their lives. All progress made by the administration, faculty, staff, students, parents and alumnae during the last four years will continue with the ultimate goal of providing exceptional opportunities for our *Belles* for years to come. Please do not underestimate the importance of YOU!

Thank you for all you have done for St. Mary's Academy. Blessings and peace to you and your families,
Yvonne Elizabeth McNeal, Ed.D.
Principal, Blue Tie '72



Welcome to Our New Development Staff

Director of Development – Manny Villarreal. Manny was the Chairperson of the Religious Studies department at St. Mary’s Academy for the last eight years. Committed to the mission of St. Mary’s, he relates so strongly to the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph and believes in our students. He previously served as the Principal of Salesian High School. Through his leadership, enrollment increased, and the school was renovated, renewed, and revitalized through increased involvement of alums and with strong relationships with foundations. He also developed a strong, contributing, and committed Board of Directors. Manny brings these same gifts and leadership to his new position. His degrees are a Masters in Theological Studies from the Graduate Theological Union and a Masters in Education from Loyola Marymount University.



Development Assistant – Linda Ji-Kim. Linda has been working as an administrative assistant and in youth ministry. She has a Master of Divinity degree from the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, and she brings an enthusiasm for the Catholic faith and for youth. In addition, Linda has a Master of City Planning degree from MIT, where she also received her Bachelor of Science degree. She has worked as a research assistant and has taught digital media, web, graphics, and database management courses as a teaching assistant at MIT. She brings all these skills and commitment to the development office where she plans to learn all about development for non-profits as a next step in her journey.

Coordinator of Alumnae, Parents and Special Events – Antoinette Parham '75. Toni has most recently been employed by Global Business Imagineers Enterprises as a Special Events Coordinator where she planned and facilitated Christian conferences and events. Toni previously served as the Special Events Coordinator and Parents Association Liaison for Brentwood School for six years. She successfully managed over seventy-five wide-ranging events annually with guests attendances of ten to over two-thousand. She brings her passion for service and extensive administrative and events production experience to her multifaceted role within the development office. Toni has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Sciences from UC Irvine, a Master of Science degree in Guidance and Educational Psychology from Southern Illinois University, and certification in Contracts Administration from UCLA. AND SHE IS AN SMA ALUM, Red Tie Class of '75!



Rest in Peace

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

*Consuelo Aguilar '43
Donna Donne '53
Rosaria Niosi Follif '40
Rosemary McDonald Fryer '43
Moirá Brownfield Gise '48
Bernice Wilson Hainely '25
Clementine Hale
(sister of Sr. Cecilia Louise Moore '45)*

*Sr. Patricia Harrington '51
Marian Milligan Holland '38
Eileen Rose Ivers '49
Lenora Danielle Mejia, '07
Genevieve Oncken '35
Genevieve Fontecchio Pollizzotto '35
Cynthia Amezcua Rangel '77
Brenda Frances Tucker '60*

Healthy Ties Mentorship Program

The Healthy Ties Mentorship Program was a collaboration of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Saint Mary’s Academy Health Careers Program (HCP). The purpose was to expand HCP students’ knowledge of various healthcare occupations and pathways, as well as to develop mentoring relationships between students and professionals.



Blue Tie Emily Chacon and Green Tie Janet Jennings with their mentor

Each senior HCP student was matched with a volunteer healthcare professional mentor at Children’s Hospital LA who could provide ongoing support throughout the student’s college experience. Each senior also took on a freshman as a mentee in order to keep them abreast of the Healthy Ties Program and eventually their college life experiences, forming a three-tiered mentoring relationship with Children’s Hospital staff, a senior, and a freshman. The mentoring helped to nurture HCP students’ college aspirations and to prepare them for a transition from high school to college.

As part of the program, Children’s Hospital LA orchestrated presentations from professionals in the areas of human resources, public speaking, and college admissions. Students also spent a “shadow day” with their mentors.

At the concluding presentations event, all the students mentioned that this experience allowed them to learn so much more about a variety of occupations in healthcare settings. Their eyes were opened to many non-clinical

areas, including the roles of the hospital’s president and CEO, the business and finance department, public relations, human resources, and the communications-satellite network department. In addition, those students who shadowed in the clinical areas stated that they developed a better understanding and appreciation of the importance of teamwork in patient care. They experienced positive interactions between the healthcare team and the patients and their families. In addition they learned more about the roles and responsibilities of a variety of clinical practitioners.



Green Tie Rachel Toliver with her mentor, who is going over Rachel’s resume



HCP students working on a project for Children’s Hospital LA

The Healthy Ties Program this year was our first endeavor at instituting a mentorship program between healthcare professionals and HCP students. Thanks to sponsorship from UniHealth and Providence Little Company of Mary, 23 Green Ties (12th grade) and 17 Blue Ties (9th grade) HCP students benefited from the program this year. ■



HCP students eating lunch with their mentors

"Thank you for allowing me to participate in the Healthy Ties Mentorship Program. ...my mentee, Melyssa Guzman, was very well spoken and professional, and asked very good questions. She is interested in becoming a registered nurse, and I have absolutely no doubt that she will do well!"

-Sonja Alli-Casella, Nurse Manager in the Newborn and Infant Critical Care Unit at Children's Hospital Los Angeles



Green Tie Jocelyn Teah with her mentee Blue Tie Isabel Palomo and their mentor



Green Tie Zhanelle Coleman with her mentor

The Health Careers Program (HCP) at St. Mary's Academy is a four-year program that begins for students in the ninth grade. Thirty pre-selected incoming freshman are provided the opportunity to explore the world of health care and medical occupations through classroom studies and clinical experience. The program emphasizes biology, anatomy and physiology, and chemistry in addition to the core high school science requirements and incorporates elements of the history and practice of medicine, medical terminology and technology, and medical ethics into a multi-layered curriculum. Faculty member Jeanne Fisher directs the program.

Junior State of America



"JSA allows students to voice their opinion on important issues and to determine their own political beliefs. Although we are young and cannot yet vote, our ideas are worth listening to and our involvement is important. Democracy cannot function without informed citizens."

- Alexandria Chima, SMA chapter president

Junior State of America (JSA) is a nationwide student-run non-partisan organization that seeks to strengthen American democracy by educating and preparing high school students for lifelong involvement and responsible leadership in a democratic society.

SMA's JSA chapter is proudly moderated by faculty member Mary Rose Pascua. Our events provide an opportunity for students to participate in organized debates, to listen to current political leaders speak, and to learn more about the world around them. Our chapter held a school-wide mock election and hosted a debate watch party for the 2012 presidential election. We also kept up with the mayoral election in Los Angeles and even attended the last mayoral debate. We attend well-established regional debate conferences and leadership conventions throughout the year. Gold Tie Arian Pinto-Quintanilla will be attending JSA Summer School at Stanford University this summer. Many of the girls in our chapter are applying for statewide leadership positions as well.

The SMA chapter's inspiring motto is "JSA today, White House tomorrow."■

Special thanks to the following alumnae, whose financial support helped 15 students attend the JSA Spring State Conference: Linda Callon '57, Mary Castro '62, Ursula Clemons '85, Katessa Davis '81, Dolly Gee '77, Patricia Horton '60, Candace Kilbane '65, Marguerite Roth '56, and Gail Wise '75.

SMA Track Team at State Championships



On Saturday, June 1, 2013, the SMA Track and Field Team competed at the CIF State High School Track and Field Championships in Clovis, California. Green Ties (and both University of Hawaii bound scholarship recipients) Kayla Phillips and Rachel Toliver competed in the Triple Jump. Kayla finished 17th and Rachel placed 3rd out of the 27 qualified jumpers. SMA's 4 x 100 Relay Team finished in 7th place. The relay team members were Gold Tie Allanah Hughes, Red Ties Aliyah Hale and Briana Shufford, and Green Tie Rachel Toliver. Gold Tie Sierra Peterson qualified for the 200 meters but could not finish due to injury (back spasm).

The SMA team qualified for the state meet by winning the CIF Southern Section Division IV Championship on May 18, 2013 at Mt. San Antonio College Stadium. Congratulations to the whole team!■



AP Laureate Program

SMA continues to build a community of learners

We at SMA believe that we must provide support and direction for our young ladies, to cultivate a genuine passion for rigor and excellence towards their success. A group of educators who shared this vision established the Advanced Placement (AP) Laureate program for the students who bravely chose to push their academics beyond the regular standard of expectations. The AP Laureate program aims to provide a rigorous academic course of study, challenging and recognizing high-achieving students while teaching college-level study skills. With the addition this year of two AP courses, AP U.S. History and AP English Language and Composition, SMA provided more opportunities for students to excel.

2012-13 AP teachers:

- Sean Griffin, AP English Literature and Composition
- Lynna Landry, AP U.S. History
- Christine Alcantar, AP English Language and Composition
- Miriam Huizenga, AP Spanish Language

This year, we enrolled 65 students in AP courses, with over half of them enrolled in more than one course. Students who enrolled in any AP course were automatically enrolled into the AP Laureate program. The program's sessions took place on Tuesday mornings one hour before school starts, on Thursdays at lunch, and on four Saturdays for a full AP practice exam. Through a generous grant, we were able to ensure our students' success by providing AP proactive workbooks to each student for each AP class taken. In addition to academic support, the program instilled a healthy passion for achievement. We provided breakfast for every Tuesday session, Spirit T-shirts (designed by one of the students) to wear during the two-week AP testing period, and an end-of-year celebratory field trip.

Overall, the AP Laureate program was a success! We are currently reading through student feedback and planning for the upcoming school year, which will excitingly meet the students with the addition of two more AP courses – AP Calculus and AP Physics – for a total of six AP courses being offered to SMA students!



Students took practice AP exams on Saturdays

Thirty-five Green Ties of the class of 2013 received an academic cord for their successful completion of the AP Laureate program. Successful completion means that each student attended the required number of sessions and took the AP exam. Congratulations to these young women of distinction, and best of luck to next year's scholars! ■



The AP Laureates visited the ArcLight Cinemas for a private screening of The Great Gatsby at no cost to the students. The Spirit T-shirt, worn by some students to the fieldtrip, was designed by Green Tie Raquel Muñoz.

*The Communication Arts Program
and the Visual/Performing Arts Department
proudly present*



"Thank You," written and directed by senior Green Tie Rachel Toliver, is the story of Jasmine, a typical high school girl who finds herself caught in a love triangle between Walter, her long time crush, and Matthew, the mysterious stranger with a past. The story explores themes of friendship, family, and what is truly important in life, told against the backdrop of spring break and Easter dinner. SMA students of all grades were involved in its production, from set design to costumes, lighting, and sound, and as actresses and managers. Two performances were held in the SMA gym, on Friday, April 12 and on Saturday, April 13, 2013.



DVDs of the production are currently on sale for \$5.00 each. Contact Ms. Beltran for more information: mbeltran@smabelles.org

~Special Thank You to David Walsh~
Because of his generous financial contribution,
the play went from being a simple class project to
a school wide venture.

A teacher's reflection on the spring play:

It was sometime in fall of 2011 when a wide-eyed, all-smiles junior Green Tie I only recognized as "a track girl" bounced into my classroom. "Hi Ms. B., you don't know me yet, but I'm Rachel Toliver and I want you to read my play."

Fast-forward to the fall of 2012... Rachel, now a senior, found herself lingering after my acting class one day, and I knew exactly what she wanted. The play she had pitched to me the previous year, a poignant reflection on race relations between African-American and Hispanic teens, had been deemed "too thematic" to be produced at SMA (not an unfair call), but now Rachel had a new idea for a new play, "Don't worry, Ms. B.," she smiled, "my new story won't be about racism, it'll be about love."

After spending the rest of that quarter working her way through draft after draft, never ceasing to amaze me with the natural ease she could write good dialogue, Rachel sat me down, looked me in the eye and smiled, "Ms. B... for my last year here, I really do want to see this play come to life."

In that moment, I realized her entire vision and passion bundled behind those smiling eyes – of all the students who could pull this off, Rachel is the one. "Alright – let's do this!"

With Rachel's vision in place, the built-in stage crew of the acting class, and the development department on our side, we hit the ground running. In December, each student was handed a copy of the script and in groups of 4-5, they worked on their semester final to design the sets, lighting, sound, costumes, and makeup. By Christmas, Rachel had all the major roles cast and it soon became clear that this project was ballooning past the simple purview of the acting class. Three out of the four main characters were cast from outside acting class and Rachel had identified fellow senior Danielle Montgomery to be her right-hand woman, the stage manager.



Partial cast and crew of "Thank You" with writer/director Rachel Toliver kneeling in front and center

As we continued into the heart of the production, I called on my college friend Sandy Masciarelli, local actress, to help us shift the workload from regular class time to after-school rehearsals. By March, actors had learned their lines and flats were starting to appear onstage. The lighting team, led by Amber Jordan and Jo Marie White, had come up with a really strong design considering the limitations of our antiquated lighting system (levers and pulleys) – the outdoor scenes were beginning to look like the outdoors. Elexis Covington and her costume crew began labeling clothing racks for each character's wardrobe changes. Intermission performers, including the guitar club led by Mr. Knight, were planning their sets.

Like all theater productions, large or small, there were certainly touch and go moments of stress leading up to opening night. Will the microphones work well, are the sets finished, do we have enough light bulbs, do we have enough stagehands (or "speedsters" as Rachel affectionately coined them), are we sure we have the right makeup to turn girls into boys!?

On opening night Friday, April 12, 2013, the entire cast and crew gathered backstage for group prayer – the spirit of joy, peace, and love that moved through the group was indescribable. It was as if all of their pre-show anxieties washed away – the girls were ready to have fun. The play went off with typical hiccups, the sound cut out here and there, a couple of key lights blew out during the performance, but the energy of the stage crew and the joy of the performers as they got laughs, gasps, and cheers from the audience definitely outshined any of the minor missteps. It was a solid show. It was a good show. If they are even half as proud as I am, they should never feel like they haven't been a part of something great. This is a memory I hope the girls can take with them all their lives as their friend Rachel's dream of putting on a play became theirs too and was finally realized.

---Maria Beltran, Co-producer and Director of the Communication Arts Program

The 124th Commencement of SMA



Eighty Green Ties of the Class of 2013 graduated from St. Mary's Academy on Saturday, June 8. The graduates and their guests were addressed by salutatorian Jacqueline Nwagwu and valedictorian Briana Price. Ms. Jasmine C. Houston, Green Tie '97 (pictured at right), gave the keynote address. Eight of the graduates were decorated as members of the National Honor Society, ten were California Scholarship Federation Sealbearer of Life members, and fifteen were recipients of American Red Cross Honors. ■



◇
Top/Center:
The Class of 2013 processional

◇
Middle/Right:
Jasmine C. Houston '97 presented the keynote address

◇
Bottom/Left:
Singing of the Alma Mater led by Jessica Guevera, Janet Jennings, N'Dea Shugars, Jocelyn Teah, Angela Barba, and Mylena Rivera (left to right)

Excerpts from the Valedictorian Address by Briana Price

As we transition from high school and begin to prepare for our future it is important that we remember to never limit ourselves! We each have the potential to go beyond our limits, and we proved that this year! The same courage and determination we used to smoothly adjust to a new atmosphere senior year, and that allowed us to complete college applications, and finish AP exams is the same resilience that can help us reach incredible heights in life. We should make the next years of our lives meaningful, but never forget to have fun in the process! Most importantly, we should always remember to stay true to ourselves. Novelist Marianne Williamson once wrote:



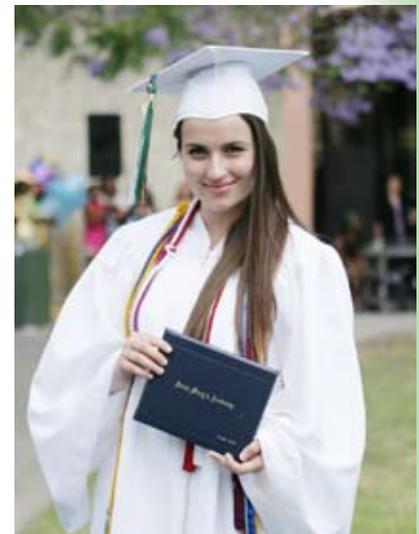
Briana Price '13

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous? Actually, who are we not to be?”

I encourage all of us to embrace who we are in the present and work hard everyday to become the persons we want to be in the future. No one can hold us back from our dreams, except ourselves.

As we leave old binders, test, and projects behind us we will always carry with us and cherish the memories and friendships created throughout high school. We will always remember sitting at the back table in the library during lunches and breaks and after four years still forgetting that the library is not “the donut bowl.” We will remember applauding Mr. Gallarza as he walked into class, and hearing his response “sit down, and simmer down ladies.” And of course, we will never forget transforming the green tie hallway into our own personal dance parties. Yes, these memories will always be treasured in the depths of our hearts.

At this time I would like to give my final thank you’s to all of the teachers, faculty, staff, and Sisters who stood beside us these four years! I would also like to thank all of the families and parents who extended their unconditional love and encouragement throughout our lives. Our present and our future is dedicated to you. We will make you proud!



Angela Barba '13

Lastly, thank you class of 2013 for making this high school experience memorable and awesome! We are infinitely connected by the color green; Green symbolizes growth, freedom, life, change, balance, and harmony. Lets embody these qualities as we pave the way for our successive SMA sisters.

SMA GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2013 HAVE CHOSEN TO MATRICULATE AT THE FOLLOWING COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| ART INSTITUTE OF SACRAMENTO | GUSTAVUS ALDOPHUS COLLEGE | TUFTS UNIVERSITY |
| BARNARD COLLEGE | JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY | UC BERKELEY |
| BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY | LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE | UC IRVINE |
| CSU CHANNEL ISLANDS | MARIST COLLEGE | UCLA |
| CSU DOMINGUEZ HILLS | MARYMOUNT COLLEGE | UC RIVERSIDE |
| CSU EAST BAY | MOUNT ST. MARY’S COLLEGE | UCSD |
| CSU NORTHRIDGE | NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY | UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII |
| CSU SAN MARCSO | OTIS COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN | WEST LA COLLEGE |
| CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY | PASADENA CITY COLLEGE | WOODBURY UNIVERSITY |
| EL CAMINO COLLEGE | SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY | XAVIER UNIVERSITY |
| | SANTA MONICAL COLLEGE | |

SMA Alumnae Association Happenings

From Our Alumnae Association Co-Chairs

The SMA Alumnae Association congratulates the SMA graduating Green Tie Class of 2013 and wishes them much success in their future endeavors. We, the Alumnae Co-Chairs, participated in the Tie Mugging event for the 2013 graduating class held in the campus gym on May 28. This event is a tradition in which graduates return their ties. The return of their ties symbolically represents the passing-on of the seniors' ties to next year's entering freshman class. The seniors' reception of the mugs serves as a small but treasured reminder of SMA and admission into the Alumnae Association. Various senior faculty and staff, along with Madelyn and Paula, reminded the graduates that they are leaving their school, friends, and teachers after four impactful years, but continuing on with their education to become future leaders and "Women of Distinction." The education and values they received at SMA will become a foundation for life, enabling them to excel throughout their professional careers, as well as in their private lives, as wives, mothers, and working women.

This year, SMA started a new matching gift tradition for enrolling the graduates into the SMA Alumnae Association. Each graduate's \$3 contribution, along with a \$10 match from SMA, will allow them to be listed as a donor of \$13. Their participation in the SMA Alumnae Association will keep them in touch with their Alma Mater and help the Alumnae Association to reach its goal of 80% participation of all living Alumnae.

Exciting alumnae events continue even amongst change. SMA reinstated the annual tea tradition as a Family Tea Party in February. This event brought together students, parents, faculty, and Alumnae for a Sunday afternoon in the Hannon Dining Room, which was transformed into a beautiful Tea Garden. The canceling of Derby Day in May was unexpected, as the Hollywood Race Track was sold. The event will live on, however, and is scheduled for May 3, 2014 at the Santa Anita Park in Arcadia. Our next fundraiser is our bi-annual Ties That Bind and Build event which will take place on Sunday, September 29 at Mount St. Mary's College Doheny Campus. Mark your calendars and watch for upcoming information. In the meantime, continue to support your Alumnae Association and we wish you all an enjoyable summer.



Madelyn Murray (Red Tie '67) and Paula Simoncini (Red Tie '63)

~Cruisin' into 60~

Attention Blue Tie Class of 1972 as well as other sea loving alumnae!

Come and join us on the Celebrity Reflection for a 7-day Caribbean cruise departing Miami on January 18, 2014.

Ports include San Juan, St. Maarten, and St. Thomas.

Let's reconnect after 40+ years at SMA and celebrate the next important decade together.

Everyone is welcome (husbands, best friends, grandchildren, etc.).

Contact Christine Puerling at christine@executors.com or 818-501-6057 for reservations and information.





Golden Grad Luncheon ~ Sat., June 8, 2013 ~

50th Anniversary Red Ties of the Class of 1963 in attendance (pictured left): (top left to right) Paula Brogan Simoncini, Sue Clairemont Cunneen, Sandy Sebourm Wycoff, Maria Chavez Broer, (front left to right) Betty Jo Allen, and Eileen Murphy Shultz.

60th Anniversary Green Ties of the Class of 1953 in attendance (not pictured): Aylene Grieco, Geraldine Johnson, Sr. Mary Sevilla, and Mary Ann Sherritt.

◇
SAVE THE DATE!
DERBY DAY
returning next year
SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014
Santa Anita Park
Arcadia, California
◇

Congratulations to this year's "Virtual" Derby Day Raffle Winners!

Grand prize: Hawaiian vacation for 2 - Darla Paulino (with daughter pictured right)

◇
2nd prize: \$250 - Ed Bellante (donated back to SMA)

◇
3rd prize: \$150 - Amy Pinto-Quintanilla
◇

Thank you to all who contributed to our "Virtual" Derby Day Fundraiser.



For further information about Alumnae Association events and ways to participate, please contact the co-chairs: Paula Simoncini - simoncini@verizon.net, (310) 545-3304; Madelyn Murray - madmom717@att.net, (213) 216-6717. Or contact the SMA Alumnae Coordinator, Toni Parham - tparham@smabelles.org, (310) 674-8470 ext. 214. Also, check out the Alumnae tab of the SMA website: www.smabelles.org.

St. Mary's Academy
Development Office
701 Grace Avenue
Inglewood, CA 90301

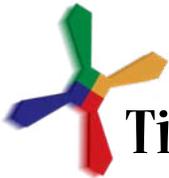
Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #816
Los Angeles, CA

Echo

Summer 2013

SAVE THE DATE

for St. Mary's Academy Alumnae Fundraiser
Hosted at the
Mount St. Mary's College Doheny Campus
SILENT AUCTION • RAFFLE • PRIZES



Ties That Bind and Build

Sunday, September 29, 2013

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 10:00 am Chapel Mass
10:30 am Doheny Mansion Tour
12:00 pm Champagne Brunch and
Student Scholarship Benefit
\$100 per person

**2013 Honorees: Sr. Louise Bernstein CSJ '47,
Sheryl Lange '67, and Lola McAlpin-Grant '59**

Table Reservations and Information:
Toni Parham
(310) 674-8470 ext. 214
tparham@smabelles.org

~2013 Alumnae Directory Release~

Thank you to the 2000+ alumnae who participated in updating information for our 2013 Alumnae Directory!

By this time, all of you who ordered a copy should have received it from our publisher, Harris Connect. We hope you will find it useful as you reconnect with classmates and friends.

If you did not order "Alumnae Today 2013," we invite you to purchase a directory from the Development Office. Price: \$80.00 (Cost for hard-cover version only; directory CD version not available through the Development Office).

