Academy of Mount St. Ursula

1855

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160th Anniversary

Take Note

Winter 2015

AMSU celebrates 160 years of excellence in educating young women

160

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Academy of Mount St. Ursula

2015
89 seniors will be graduating during the 160th Anniversary Year.
Dear Alums, Benefactors and Friends,

This special edition of Take Note marks an extraordinary milestone in the storied history of AMSU: the celebration of our 160th year of educating young women in the tradition of St. Angela Merici. Over the years we have been blessed with the dedication and spirit of numerous, talented Ursuline sisters, gifted lay teachers, a well-coordinated administrative staff, and students who, to this day, remain the pride of all those invested in the education of the next generation of young women.

This edition takes particular delight in highlighting the ten full-time and two part-time faculty and staff members who are alums of AMSU, and who have returned to their alma mater as colleagues engaged in a mission that is as critically important today, if not more so, than it was 160 years ago.

No institution would be able to sustain its mission without the unqualified support of all stakeholders: the Bedford Park Community of Ursulines, generous alums, foundations convinced of the effectiveness of our mission, faculty and staff going above and beyond, and families who have entrusted their daughters to AMSU over the last 160 years.

While the mission has remained the same, AMSU has evolved with the changing times: a newly launched website in 2015 (amsu.org), Facebook, You Tube, Twitter, TV commercials, revised Take Note, intensive recruiting efforts in public grammar schools, more intensive and fruitful development programs, in-house RCIA program, a more diverse student population, and a greater emphasis on the arts (Juilliard, Metropolitan Opera), to name just a few.

As I meet our alums and friends, I am gratified to hear that they continue to prize their AMSU education and that Take Note is so well received. Our $3 million Capital Campaign continues as we lead up to our gala 160th anniversary celebration at the Botanical Garden on Friday, October 16, 2015. Please mark the date. If you are aware of alums who may have lost contact with AMSU, let them contact our alumnae office at 718.364.5353, x223. There is always a standing invitation to visit. Just call.

Sincerely,

Fr. John A. Vigilanti, Ed.D.
President
Dear Sister Alumnae, Benefactors and Friends,

2015—the year AMSU celebrates its 160th anniversary year! Amazing to think the Academy of Mount St. Ursula is the oldest continuing Catholic all girls high school in New York State. That is due to the hard work and dedication of Ursuline Sisters, faculty, parents, families, students, alumnae, benefactors and friends. What a blessing we have in our AMSU community!

As I write this letter, we are almost finished with the first semester of the 2014-2015—a few more weeks to go. What an impressive time it has been! Wonderful events have taken place by keeping to our traditions of Academics, Arts and Service.

Academically, our students are working hard in all their classes. Currently they are preparing for Midterm and Regents Exams. Students are also busy working on special outside projects. Special congratulations to the Class of ’15 members: Destiny Cruz, Kathy Huot and Thuy Tran for winning in the category of Business Ethics at Fordham University’s Interscholastic Business Challenge at Gambelli’s School of Business. Our young women won for their “Change the World, not Diapers” presentation where they spoke out against the way MTV and TV shows depict teen pregnancy as glamorous. Danielle Cruz ’15 just had an article “After School is Tough for Obesity Fight” published on citylimits.org She was involved in an urban and investigative reporting after school journalism internship through the Bronx Media Mentors Program and City Limits. Thanks to Roxanna Chowdhry-Velasquez ’94, Program Director at Fordham Bedford Community Services for alerting us of this great opportunity. AMSU has a wonderful faculty who give so much of their time and work so hard with our students. Their dedication is remarkable and wonderful to see and experience. The faculty and guidance counselors help prepare our students for many of these outside activities and also for a successful college experience.

We have a wonderful music program here at AMSU. Our School Masses are just beautiful. At Christmas time, the Liturgy Club sang “Mary, Did You Know?” written by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene. It was absolutely beautiful and so breathtaking. That same day, we had our Christmas concert. The theme was “Christmas at the Movies.” The Class of 2017 and the AMSU vocalists sang so wonderfully. The Guitar club and the Juilliard clarinet and flute classes performed great selections for us. Our violinists, Kathryn Destin ’17 and Christina Collado ’18, and our pianist, Andrea Santiago ’17 played for us. My heart truly leaped with joy during this day seeing the smiling faces and hearing the cheerful sounds. It was a wonderful display of the many talents of our students. Special thanks to Ms. Laura Mulholland, Ms. Jeanne DiBenedetto and Mr. Michael Henry for their work within the music arena of our school. It helps make the community and building so spirit-filled.

Service wise, students and teachers live out our SERVIAM motto by going out into the community and completing a SERVICE Day in November. Service activities included: card writing for Veterans, making sandwiches for the homeless, tutoring at local schools, visiting and performing for the Ursuline Sisters at Andrus on Hudson, and working with our neighbors at Serviam Gardens. Service is constant here at AMSU. At Christmas time, we collected over 150 coats for NY Cares, money for girls’ education in Afghanistan as part of the Ursuline Schools Sisterhood connection and held a gingerbread house raffle to raise money for Lifeway Network, an organization dealing with human trafficking. We are represented at the United Nations with the Working Girls group thanks to Sr. Alice Marie Giordano, osu ’52 and Susej Mendoza ’16. Many AMSU Students are on Retreat Teams sharing about God and their faith with their “younger AMSU students.” It is wonderful to see them living out their faith. Please know you are welcome to visit AMSU at anytime. Our students love to see alumnae, hear stories about what the school was like and to discuss the similarities and differences between then and now. The spirit of AMSU is definitely alive with energy, excitement and a desire to go make a difference in the world.

Thank you for all you do to support AMSU. We so appreciate your kindness and pray for you daily.

Prayers and blessings,

Sr. Jean Marie Humphries, osu, PhD ’89
Principal
Greetings from the Executive Director of Development

Dear Alumnae and Friends,

It’s time to come home and join us in celebrating our 160th birthday! Only the spirit of our dedicated alumnae and supporters can make this a true milestone anniversary, where we look back at our accomplishments and forward to a bright future. I would like to personally invite you to come home during this very important time in the history of our beloved Academy of Mount St. Ursula.

Twelve alumnae have already “come home” to be a part of our mission every day. They are continuing the tradition by passing on what they learned here as students to the young women who are here today. You can read more about our dedicated alumnae in this issue.

Many of you have also “come home” figuratively by pledging your financial support to our 160th Anniversary “Ensure Their Future” Capital Campaign, which already has been a remarkable success! So many alumnae and friends have been extremely generous. However, our goal is $3 million and we are very close to achieving it! We are praying for participation from all of our alumnae in some way. When you see our campaign letter in the mail in the next month, please consider what you can do to add to our wonderful cause. Every bit helps!

There are other opportunities for you to come home this year:

- **March 14, 2015** - Appreciation Champagne Toast - Former and Current AMSU Educators AND Class Coordinators @ Davenport Club, New Rochelle (10:30am - 1pm)
- **April 25, 2015** - Alumnae Reunion - Classes ending 0s and 5s - Tours at AMSU (9:30am to 11am) Alumnae gathering @ Shenorock Shore Club, Rye (12-5pm)
- **April 26, 2015** - 160th Anniversary Celebration - Mass, Brunch and School Tours at AMSU (11am to 2pm)
- **October 16, 2015** - 160th Anniversary Hall of Fame Dinner Dance - New York Botanical Garden, Bronx (7-11pm)
- **October 23, 2015** - 160th Anniversary Ring Day

I hope to see you at one or more of our events in 2015. It promises to be another great year for the Academy of Mount St. Ursula!

Warm Regards,

Anna Parra
Executive Director of Development

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As we enter our 160th year, we express our gratitude to our loyal alumnae and friends for your confidence in our ability to sustain what you so lovingly have cherished.

The tradition that has influenced generations of young women with Serviam spirit continues on Bedford Park today. The administrators, faculty and students support that mission every day.

Our $3 million Capital Campaign, Ensure Their Future, to honor the 160th anniversary of the Academy, has now reached the $2.5 million mark. These funds will be utilized for three specific educational programs:

- St. Angela Merici Scholars, for full and partial merit-based academic scholarships;
- St. Angela Financial Aid Program, for students with demonstrated financial need;
- STAR program (Students and Teachers Aiming and Reaching), for students who need additional academic support to reach their full potential.

For 160 years the Ursuline Sisters dedicated their lives to ensuring that young women have a well-rounded education to be successful in life.

We want to continue to preserve their hard work to ensure the future of many more young women who will sit in our classrooms.

They too deserve to have the opportunity to receive a wonderful education, empowering them to be lifelong leaders, and ensuring their “Four Years Last a Lifetime.”
Academics

First in Excellence Awards - 2014-2015

Congratulations to the following students who achieved First and Second in Excellence in their respective classes for the first quarter of this academic year:

Grade 12: First in Excellence: Kathy Huot  
Second in Excellence: Karla Ortiz

Grade 11: First in Excellence: Delia Cruz  
Second in Excellence: Joely Santana

Grade 10: First in Excellence: Barbara Djan  
Second in Excellence: Beverly Djan

Grade 9: First in Excellence: Mary Lou De Jesus  
Second in Excellence: Maria Arias

27% of all students received First Honors for Quarter 1  
31% of all students received Second Honors for Quarter 1

“I view my achievements, not as a neon sign to showcase to others, but as a motivational boost for myself as well as an inspirational push for others to persistently strive for their dreams.”

~ Kathy Huot ’15

National Honor Society

In September, 19 seniors from the class of 2015 were nominated for the National Honor Society. They were selected because of their academic achievement of an 89.5 or above average.

If the student nominees maintain good behavior, an average of 89.5 and complete 10 hours of service in AMSU’s tutoring program, they will be inducted into the society in May at the graduation liturgy. This will take place in the presence of friends, teachers, administrators, parents and guardians.

“I act, bestir yourselves, have faith, make efforts, have hope, cry aloud to God with all your heart: then without any doubt you will see marvels.”

~ Angela Merici

Left: National Honor Society Moderator, Ms. Amanda Mirabella
New Website

The Development office staff worked diligently to launch its newly designed website. On Tuesday, December 2, 2014, AMSU unveiled its new and improved site, www.amsu.org. AMSU’s External Relations Associate, Patrick Dannenhoffer, created a layout which is much easier to navigate and has an AMSU look and feel. The pages are more organized with the appropriate links under each heading with customizable sidebars. Feel free to visit amsu.org and take a look around. Please contact Patrick Dannenhoffer at pdannenhoffer@amsu.org if you have any comments or suggestions.

Transitioning from Blackboard Engage to Blackbaud

Choosing an online Learning Management system may not always be a simple task. However, from a financial and technical perspective, transitioning from Blackboard Engage (Edline) to Blackbaud’s Net Classroom and Faculty Access for the web was an easy decision. Students and faculty made this transition smoothly at the beginning of this new year.

Net Classroom is an online portal for students and parents to access important school information such as assignments, grades, attendance, schedules, announcements, billing statements, transcripts, report cards, and much more. Net Classroom is secure, so you see only your own grades and information. NetClassroom is a software program by Blackbaud, Inc., which provides technology solutions for nonprofits. Faculty Access for the web enables users to extend Registrar’s Office to wherever teachers, advisors, and administrators can access the internet. Teachers can stay connected to students, enter grades, and attendance from any compatible web browser.

Library Media

This has been a year for progressive change for AMSU’s Library. The launch of the new school website provided an opportunity for the Library Media Specialist, Jillian McCoy, to revamp the virtual library, where students and faculty access library resources online. Tutorials for accessing digital resources, links to the library’s social media pages, and a cleaner aesthetic have made the library’s web pages more useful and accessible.

Thanks to a generous donation by Anne Marie Nichol Hynes ’67, Esq., President of The Hynes Foundation, the library has been further enhanced by the addition of Destiny, a web-based catalog. For the first time, AMSU students are now able to search the library’s collection from school, home, or anywhere they have internet access. Destiny comes equipped with “One Search,” an option which allows students to simultaneously search and access the library’s books, databases, e-books, and select websites with the click of a button, at any time of day or night.

The corresponding app, Destiny Quest, is available for students to download for free on any Apple or Android device. AMSU students may use Destiny Quest to search the library collection, write book reviews, recommend books to their friends, access subscription databases, and read the library’s e-books, all from their mobile device. This is an incredible advantage for our students, as the addition of technologies like these will improve their aptitude for college-level research.

Aside from these much needed upgrades, the library media center has focused on other methods of utilizing technology to enhance learning and increase student engagement with reading this school year. AMSU students competed in a photo challenge using the popular app Instagram during the week leading up to the premiere of “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1,” the third installment of the popular movie series based on author Suzanne Collins’ “Hunger Games” trilogy. Students were asked to snap photos of themselves completing different challenges each day and share the photos with the library’s Instagram page. Many of AMSU’s wonderful faculty graciously agreed to help students complete their challenges, even at the expense of looking a little silly. The two winners of the challenge were given tickets to see the movie on opening weekend.

Another exciting change for the library media center this year was the creation of an interactive library orientation. Freshmen and transfer students were invited to participate in a scavenger hunt using social media and technology. Students split into teams and used iPads to scan QR codes that had been scattered around the library. Each code linked to a corresponding Vine video detailing a library policy. The team that saw the most videos won a prize. These types of activities and events allow the library to engage students with current technologies and social media, furthering students’ awareness of the library as a progressive space where they can find the information and resources they need.
Performing Arts

The students of AMSU made great strides in their performing arts pursuits in fall 2014. The Acting and Theatre class adapted and performed their own version of Grimm’s “The Twelve Dancing Princesses” on International Night, the sophomores sang “The Gift of a Friend” to their senior sisters on Ring Day, and many performing groups participated in the annual Christmas concert. The Christmas concert, which took place following AMSU’s Christmas Mass, featured the Juilliard flute and clarinet classes, the Guitar Club, the AMSU Vocalists, a piano solo, a violin duet, and the entire sophomore class. The theme of the concert was “Christmas at the Movies.”

In addition to these performances, AMSU students also participated in a variety of programs that allowed them to see professional performances. The sophomores attended a production of “The Marriage of Figaro” at the Metropolitan Opera through AMSU’s partnership with the Metropolitan Opera Guild. Through our partnership with the Theatre Development Fund (TDF), the Acting and Theatre class has been very busy writing original plays coached by brilliant NYC playwright Noelle Ghoussaini. TDF also hires two professional actors to read their work twice during the year. In addition, they saw a new musical called “Fortress of Solitude” at the Public Theatre and they will see another show this spring.

Ms. Mulholland is very excited to announce the beginning of a violin class on Tuesdays after school during the second semester. She has already begun putting a group of students together and is excited to see what they accomplish this spring! She is also happy to be the musical director of “The Sound of Music” and is looking forward to working with AMSU’s talented young ladies on this classic show.
Juilliard School of Music Partnership

AMSU has the great fortune to have a partnership with the renowned Juilliard School of Music. Through this partnership, the Juilliard School of Music provides two graduate students who teach separate flute and clarinet classes. Over the years, Juilliard graduate students have shown a strong ability to teach the girls of AMSU with patience and kindness. Many of the students of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula wish to study music, but have never had the opportunity. This year, graduate students Anton Rist and Dean Tsur are AMSU's teaching fellows. The program is better than ever under their expert teaching. The flute and clarinet classes showed much progress in the Christmas concert. As the saying goes, "practice makes perfect" and with the support of the Juilliard School of Music, AMSU students have a unique ability to showcase their hard work and determination.

England Christian Music Artist Performs at AMSU

The Academy of Mount St. Ursula had the unique opportunity to have Edwin Fawcett, Christian music artist from England, perform with the AMSU Vocalists and the Liturgy Club. Students had the privilege of being taught various vocal warm-up techniques and lyrics to four of Edwin Fawcett’s songs which they performed in the school auditorium for the student body. Also performing were St. Anthony’s Youth Choir (4 members were graduates of St. Angela’s Ursuline School in England). Not only was the performance spectacular, it was also spiritually uplifting. Many people said they felt like they were at a powerful Sunday worship service. The Concert was held halfway through the AMSU’s Annual Spirit Week so the performance couldn’t have come at a more appropriate time. “Working with Edwin Fawcett was an amazing experience. Going into the workshop, I had no clue what to expect. I thought we were mostly going to do vocal warm-ups and learn some cool techniques, (granted, we did do that) but we learned completely new songs with three part harmonies in a matter of two hours. Edwin was very lively, engaging, and made this experience one that I will never forget. The songs were uplifting, the message was impacting, and I just had a blast!”~ Britney Vargas ’15

"Although it’s cozy, we don’t dream of performing in front of 10 people. But, as the saying goes, “everybody starts somewhere.” I’ve performed in open mics, talent shows, recitals, in living rooms, and I have done international night in previous years. However, more often than not, I would perform with other people and usually just provide instrumental accompaniment. So this was a quick and weird transition to sing a song all by myself for the first time and in front of the student body, family, and friends. I didn’t tell most of my friends and my family, so it was a great feeling to walk off stage and to be greeted by family and friends who were crying tears of joy. The reason it had taken me this long to perform like this wasn’t because of stage fright, but because I felt that I wasn’t good enough. But after international night, I have finally gained confidence in my singing voice.”

~ Emily Martinez ’15
Art Academy

With the privilege of having the talented Mr. Gary Horn as the instructor, the Art Academy at AMSU continues to show exponential growth.

Art Academy 1 offers students the opportunity to learn how to measure. Scale, perspective and measurement are the foundations of drawing.

Art Academy 2 helps students utilize the measuring and drawing skills learned in Art Academy 1 in order to draw the more complex form of their self portrait as seen in the finished work of Skaila Pyatt ’16 and Cassandra Santos ’16.

In Art Academy 3, students will come to a better understanding of the techniques of measurements and form. They learn how to apply color to their drawings while maintaining the form rendering techniques used in their previous drawing studies.

This year’s contribution to the “Got Character Murals” was performed by studio artist’s Kathy Huot ’15 and Aida Tavarez ’15. The subject of the mural (Image 9) was activist Alice Paul whose acts of civil disobedience revitalized the Women’s Suffrage Movement and was instrumental in attaining the passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote.

Artwork displayed below:
(1) Danielle Montanez ’18 - academic measuring system drawing
(2) Casandra Santos ’16 - self portrait
(3) Thuy Tran ’15 - Alice Neel Study
(4) Melissa Vargas ’15 - Alice Neel Study
(5) Bianca Jimenez ’18 - charcoal still life
(6) Aida Tavarez ’15 - Alice Neel Study
(7) Stephanie Singh ’15 - Alice Neel Study
(8) Skaila Pyatt ’16 - self portrait
(9) Kathy Huot ’15 and Aida Tavarez ’15 - Mural

N.B. Alice Neel (January 28, 1900 - October 13, 1984) was an American visual artist, who was particularly well known for oil painting and for her portraits depicting friends, family, lovers, poets, artists and strangers. Her paintings are notable for their expressionistic use of line and color, psychological acumen, and emotional intensity.
"I never doubted that equal rights was the right direction. Most reforms, most problems are complicated but to me there is nothing complicated about ordinary equality." Alice Paul.
Sports and Activities

Volleyball

Volleyball at AMSU has been a growing sport for years! The team made it to the semi-finals two times within the past four years and has been division undefeated champions for three straight years. The team stays dedicated as they practice after school every day Monday through Friday in the AMSU gym. AMSU’s division plays against St. Raymond’s High School, St. Barnabas High School, and Monsignor Scanlan High School. They take a charter bus to all the games. The AMSU volleyball team also plays cross-division games. This means that they also play schools in Manhattan. Being a part of the volleyball team gives students an opportunity to learn what team work and dedication is all about. Since volleyball season begins in August, the team has the opportunity to be part of the school community before the school year begins.

Spirit Week

AMSU’s Spirit Week began on December 8th with Mass for Immaculate Conception on Monday with full dress uniform (grey slacks, black shoes, white button down pointed collar blouse and maroon sweater or cardigan). The Liturgy Club did a fantastic job of leading all in singing and worship. Our student lectors and altar servers also helped make our celebration extra special.

On “Twinsie Tuesday” students and faculty dressed like a friend. Some students even dressed as triplets and quadruplets! That morning, AMSU was also visited by 20 students and three teachers from St. Ursula’s College, a girls’ secondary school in Toowoomba, Australia. The guests attended two periods with Student Council Leaders. Later in the day, two groups spent time in the cafeteria and shared their school traditions, took photos, played piano and sang. They laughed and joked around with one another. AMSU learned about our sister school’s boat races and mini Olympics. AMSU
students spoke about our upcoming Pep Rally and beloved Ring Day Event. What a joy to see and experience! At the end, hugs were shared by all.

Wild Color Wednesday events consisted of decorating hallways with grade level specific colors. The Girls even dressed in their grade level colors, wore crazy wigs and leg warmers! Students went all out by setting up a red runway, blue streamers, green garland on lockers and pink bows all throughout the building. On that day, an English Christian singer, Edwin Fawcett from St. Anthony’s Youth Choir in England, came and taught our Liturgy Club and AMSU Vocalists some great liturgical music which we will be using in our upcoming School Masses. After learning the vocal harmonies, the group then performed an uplifting and beautiful Christian music concert. It was interesting to learn that four of the young women from St. Anthony’s Youth Choir were graduates of St. Angela’s Ursuline School in England.

Thursday was Throwback to the Decades. Students and faculty wore poodle skirts, denim and leather jackets, plaid blouses, neon colors and hippie outfits. After school, we had our Faculty/Student basketball game. The teachers won! Much laughter and joking took place. So much fun!

On Friday, students and faculty came dressed in the school colors of maroon and white. Some students and faculty even had tattoos of bear paws on their faces. The day ended with our school Pep Rally. “I’m sure our girls’ voices could be heard on the Grand Concourse and at the Botanical Garden” said Sr. Jean Marie Humphries, osu, PhD ’89.

Teachers: Ms. Amanda Mirabella and Ms. Summer Evans
AMSU Marches for Climate Change

On Sunday, September 21st, 38 students, accompanied by Sr. Jean Marie Humphries, osu, PhD ’89, Service Coordinator, Sr. Alice Marie Giordano, osu, ’52, Library Media Specialist, Ms. Jillian McCoy, and Music Teacher, Ms. Laura Mulholland, joined over 300 thousand enthusiastic advocates for climate change in a march that started at Columbus Circle. AMSU students, Science Teacher, Dr. Athena Mengharini and other faculty supported the cause by carrying banners, posters and artwork representing the school and voicing their concerns as citizens of the planet. The march was peaceful and inspiring. Concerns included limiting the amount of carbon worldwide, care for the poor who are most impacted by climate change, and the need for development of clean energy resources.

Living Serviam

Serviam, which means I will serve, is the motto of all Ursuline Schools. Students at The Academy of Mount St. Ursula are expected to give at least ten hours of service during each year of their high school experience. Students who give fifty hours of service are honored at our assemblies and given a certificate. Those who give one hundred hours receive a Serviam Pin as well. Twelve of our present Seniors, eight of our present Juniors and five of our present Sophomores have reached the 100 mark.

There are many places close to the school that appreciate the help that our students give them. Serviam Gardens right on our property, the Sister Annunciata Bethel Senior Center on 204th Street, Rose Hill Apartments, and Edison Arms offer the girls opportunity to interact with senior citizens. Concourse House and Our Lady of Refuge always welcome help with the younger children. Part of the Solution (POTS), is a nearby soup kitchen that offers many services to the homeless. Our students learn so much about the struggles of others and the efforts of good people there. Some students have started as volunteers at the Botanical Garden and the Bronx Zoo, and have continued as paid workers.

Many students find places of service in their church communities and local areas. Some have joined organizations like People to People which brings them to other countries to learn other cultures and to serve internationally. Groups like READ provide organized tutorial programs.

Combining hands on service with all that they learn in Social Justice classes and through involvement with the Working Group on Girls, a non-governmental organization at the United Nations, we hope to help our girls to realize the joy of making service to others a continuous part of their lives.
AMSU Supports 3rd Annual U.N. Day of the Girl

On Friday, October 10th AMSU students, accompanied by Guidance Counselor, Ms. Brianne O’Hare and Service Coordinator, Sr. Alice Marie Giordano, osu ’52, attended the 3rd Annual International Day of the Girl at the United Nations. AMSU students and faculty were deeply moved by the group of young actors who dramatically shared the stories of others who courageously faced plights like deprivation of education because of early marriage, pressure from the expectations of media, and the smashing of dreams through violence. An eleven year old girl with Multiple Sclerosis spoke about the exclusion she suffers because of MS and her desire for others to see the person she is and not just the challenges she faces because of the disease. The audience was emotionally moved by the young girl and gave her a standing ovation. “What impressed us the most, however, was the courage and determination of these girls to be true to themselves, to be seen as unique individuals and to work together to change the way girls are perceived and treated.” ~ Sr. Alice Marie Giordano, osu ’52.

Several high level representatives of the UN, including Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, Geeta Rao Gupta, Executive Director of UNICEF, Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children, responded to these presentations and spoke about the work of the UN to protect and support girls worldwide.

The students in attendance hope to share their experience at the first meeting of AMSU’s Girl Advocates.

“That’s Life” Fund Raising Initiatives

Optimum Community, a Cablevision initiative has a program called “Charity Champions.” It encourages schools to get involved each year in raising money for a charity of their choice. They offer the school some seed money and then give the charity of their choice a donation of $1,000. The school that is the most effective in raising money wins a donation of $5,000 for their charity.

The AMSU community entered this program and has raised money for POTS, Concourse House and the AMSU-Hayes Program for Exceptional People. This year our effort is supporting LifeWay Network, an organization that runs a safe house for victims of Human Trafficking. That’s Life has provided a cake sale for our school’s open mike, and a Christmas Boutique prior to the Christmas vacation. Mrs. Duggan donated a charming Gingerbread House to be raffled at the Christmas School Assembly. With these efforts we are able to donate $500 to our charity. The check was presented to LifeWay Network at the Honors assembly on February 10th.

We hope to raise consciousness about the problem of Human Trafficking as part of our next fund-raising activities.

AMSU Service Day

Each year students and faculty gather together to participate in AMSU’s Service Day. On Tuesday November 25th, just a few days before Thanksgiving, the Academy of Mount St Ursula family served the Bronx community in various ways. They lent a hand in the local soup kitchens, entertained and set up Thanksgiving dinner for the senior citizens, assisted day care and small children, and helped out in the homeless shelters. Besides helping out in the local community, faculty and students serve on a global perspective creating Christmas cards for the Veterans, fundraising and coat drives. With the support of the school community, AMSU was able to gather and donate over 150 coats to the New York Cares Coat Drive. Seniors donated the most with 67 coats!
Student Events Throughout the School Year

“Girls of Mount St. Ursula, Staunch and true,
Life calls unto you, Nation, home renew.”
Dream not the hours away, in joy or pain,
School days wreathed in memories sweet,
Are reverent gain.

More photos from the alumnae reunion can be found in AMSU's Shutterfly account by going to the following link:
http://amsupictures.shutterfly.com/alumnae2013
Black jack, roulette, slots and craps, are the games that over 120 guests enjoyed to support AMSU at this year’s Masquerade Salsa and Chips event at the Davenport in New Rochelle.

Guests enjoyed dancing as well as live, chance and silent auctions for an array of wonderful prizes. A salsa spotlight was a special treat of the evening performed by former dance club members Daniela Cabral ’14 and Jay Munoz ’13 (All Hallows).

Mr. Dan Houlihan, former member of the AMSU Board of Trustees and former Finance Committee Chair, emceed the auctions. Some of the most wanted prizes included: a five-day Rhode Island Getaway, New York Knicks Skybox tickets for 12, two tickets for La Boheme and dinner at the Tier Restaurant at the Metropolitan Opera House, two exclusive Front Row seats to Alvin Ailey Dance Theater, $500 in scratch-off lotto tickets, and a day of pampering at the Elizabeth Arden Salon in NYC, just to name a few.

The event raised a total of $31,000 for the Academy of Mount St. Ursula. Congratulations to the 50/50 raffle winner, Bridget Smith McCarthy ’70!

AMSU’s Development Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the event for making it a very successful fundraiser for the school!

You can see more photos of the Masquerade Salsa and Chips festivities by visiting AMSU’s Facebook page or by signing into the school’s Shutterfly account.

“This year’s Salsa and Chips event was by far one of AMSU’s best events. It was a fun evening and we were able to raise thousands of dollars to help the girls of Mount St. Ursula.”
~ Anna Parra

“This was the first time I’ve been able to attend this fabulous party, but it certainly won’t be the last. The elegant Davenport Club setting, delicious food and drink, super games and prizes plus great music combined for a wonderful night. And I didn’t even mention the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and childhood neighbors, as well as meet newer members of the AMSU family. I’m already planning my table for the next Salsa and Chips!”
~ Joan O’Meara Winant ’69
From left to right:
1. Meghan Byrne Donovan ’92 and Claudia Toni-Smith ’92
2. Carole Kakos ’61 and Kay Treanor Tashner ’59
3. Mary Reidy McAnulty, Helene Butler ’90, Tracey Coates Fedele ’89, Sr. Jean Marie Humphries, osu ’89, Joan O’Brien Gilmore, Deirdre Breen Doheny ’87
4. Daniela Cabral ’14 and Jay Munoz ’13 (All Hallows)
5. Frank and Barbara Montenero DeAngelo ’69
6. Alumnae taking a chance at the roulette table
7. Susan McCarthy Cronin ’65, Anna Parra, Julienne Ryan, Tony Presioso, Debra Kiernan O’Connor ’77, Linda Presioso, Regina Hertl ’77, Steve Ludwig and Tom Livingston
In May of 1855 four young Ursuline nuns from St. Louis responded to an invitation. Originally from Bavaria, these dedicated, daring pioneers, made the trek to New York to fill a need expressed by a priest of the current Morrisania section of the Bronx: Irish and German immigrant girls, many of them orphans, needed a school.

In 1892, the school moved to Bedford Park, enjoying the rural environment of the time as a peaceful setting for its young women boarders, day students and Ursuline Sisters. As the name changed to the Academy of Mount St. Ursula, and the school community continued to adapt to changing urban needs, the Sisters retained the park-like nature of the grounds, revered by students and neighbors alike as an “oasis in the Bronx.”

2015 marks the 160th anniversary of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula. The times have changed, but AMSU’s mission has remained the same. AMSU continues to provide a quality, Ursuline-inspired education to young women of the Bronx and surrounding areas.

The school community is grateful for the continuous generosity of the Ursulines, and the commitment of many alumnae and benefactors. The twelve alumnae who are dedicated to being a part of this community are here because of the education they received and the love they have for AMSU. We thank them for the work they do and honor them for being a part of this school community.

In 1966, I met friends that I still hold dear today. They would all agree that we were given more than a good college preparatory education. We were given a sense of empowerment, a sense of self-worth and a sense of promise. Commitment came in many forms... as young women we were committed to learning, to sharing our views, to bonding with our “sisters” and to be good citizens in and outside the school community. It was an experience that will always be remembered and valued. As I look back at my experience, I realize that the things that had an impact on me as a student are still important to me as a teacher. For over thirty-five years, I have tried to empower my students. I am passionate that they find their voice and strive for excellence. During this time, I hope I have made a difference as those did before me. Along the way, I have had the privilege of meeting and teaching some amazing young women. They have enriched me beyond words and have kept me young in spirit. I have also had the opportunity to work beside many wonderful Ursuline sisters and teachers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone I encountered along my journey. In the words of St. Angela... “Enjoy together that holy gladness of heart which I foretold you will undoubtedly come to you.”

Monica Signorini DeLaurentis ’70 (Chair, Math Department)

It’s been wonderful to return to AMSU, a place that I thought of as a second home when I was a student. Admittedly, it felt a bit strange at first--stepping into St. Jean’s for the first time (ha!) and hearing my last name with the addition of “Ms.”--but as was the case when I arrived as a freshman, the inviting atmosphere here made it easy to adjust. The staff and faculty that were here when I was a student have been so welcoming and helpful, and I’ve enjoyed meeting the newer members. As one of the physical education/health teachers, my aim is to help the girls think strategically about challenges and how they approach situations; and it is encouraging to see that the students--whether AMSU is called “Mount” or “Ursula”--remain the same: friendly, helpful, and ready to engage. I hope to help nurture the warm atmosphere for today’s students, so that they can look back on their high school years with fond memories.

Christine Ferrari ’05 (Physical Education)
You may think that I am in a rut when I tell you that I came to AMSU in 1940 for first grade, remained for most of grade school and all of high school, returned as a young Ursuline and have been here ever since. When I was a student here my classmates and I were quite alike. We were, however, inspired by Marie of the Incarnation’s desire to travel the whole world in order to share the awareness of Christ’s love for us all.

When I returned to AMSU as a teacher the ethnic diversity of the student body was an opening to a wider world. Class discussion and International Nights introduced us all to a variety of rich cultures and religions. As a Math teacher I moved with students through a multitude of new techniques and even in Religion we evolved from teacher centered classes to total student involvement. When computers were new I began engaging in creating the schedule of classes and have progressed to the point where students are helping me to navigate through the use of social media in the cause of social justice.

Right now, I am sitting in a lounge at the UN overlooking the East River as I write this. In these last few years I have had the privilege of introducing students of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula to the UN. Several of them have been “girl Advocates” speaking at various panels, introducing high level diplomats and mixing with girls from other countries.

Through all these years, in the midst of continuous change what remains the same is the energy, warmth, compassion and care of our young women learning together the wonder of a world where they can make a difference. Through all these years we have all been inspired, enlightened and supported by talented, competent, and committed administrators, faculty and staff. All of this changes all of us. This is the miracle that transforms us every day at AMSU. Far from the boredom of a rut we walk together a road to the future filled with hope and possibilities. It leads to rich and rewarding, creative and cosmic Christian life.

Sr. Alice Marie Giordano, osu ‘52 (Service Coordinator)

It is an honor to return to AMSU as a teacher and Athletic Director. I hope to bring fresh energy and ideas to my new role. I have fond memories of my time as a student-athlete at AMSU and it is comforting to see that so many traditions are still in place. My former teachers are always willing to help and I feel lucky to have them as mentors once more. The students have great senses of humor, and they bring levity and perspective to what can be serious issues. I’m very thankful to be back at AMSU.

Tara Harrison ’05 (Teacher/Athletic Director)

What an honor and pleasure it is to be principal here at my alma mater, AMSU! Each day when I drive up the hill, I feel such a sense of pride and excitement. As I walk the halls, I have flashbacks of laughing with my friends, decorating the hallways for Christmas, performing in the junior skit for Ring Day and I smile. But most of all, I think of all the academic and life lessons I learned from our excellent teachers—explaining a proof for geometry, writing a literary analysis essay, performing a science experiment, using my voice to speak for those less fortunate, questioning unjust structures and situations and how to present myself in a professional and friendly manner. And all this is still going on today—the faces of the students have changed but our “younger AMSU sisters” still have that glint in their eyes, beautiful smiles and desire to go on to college and become successful women leaders in our world. Our students are so enthusiastic, hard working and appreciative of all AMSU offers them. There is such a cheerful and collaborative spirit present here among all the administration, faculty, staff, students, and families. This ministry provides me with wonderful possibilities of connecting and renewing relationships with alumnae. A special treat is working with the other alumnae who work here also—it’s wonderful to see their energy and desire to help their “younger sisters” learn all the values and lessons they know AMSU has taught them. What a lucky woman I am to be here at AMSU! Forward Mount St. Ursula!!!

Sr. Jean Marie Humphries, osu, PhD ’89 (Principal)

Coming back to AMSU has truly taught me the importance of instilling confidence in my cheerleaders and in myself. During my years of Graduate work I learned that building confidence is a key component in any sport or physical activity. Performing in front of peers, faculty, and family members allows these girls to grow as young women while strengthening their self-esteem, sportsmanship, and physical health. I began my dance career as a child and while I did not compete in high school, I was able to dance and cheer competitively on the college level. Now, I make it my primary goal to teach each girl the fundamentals of performing as a team. I think one of my favorite aspects to coaching is hearing the girls’ comments when they are chatting amongst themselves: “I want to cheer in college; maybe I could get a scholarship if I work hard.” “The cheer team is like my second family.” “I always feel good about my body after cheer practice.” All of these responses to cheerleading at AMSU motivate me to grow the program and provide opportunities for these girls as cheerleaders and as young women. I am so grateful to be giving back to the AMSU community in such a creative, fun, and athletic way! Thanks!

Carle Lide ’05 (Cheerleading Coach)
160th Anniversary Tribute - Alumnae Come Home

AMESU has been as part of my life for as long as I can remember - my first memory of AMSU was playing the role of an angel in the high school’s Christmas pageant at the age of 4! Six years ago I returned to the school to serve on the Board of Trustees and was quite pleased to see that as much as the school has changed, it has remained the same: devoted to the education, enrichment, and encouragement of the young women who attend. It is quite interesting to now return as Treasurer; I need to resist the urge to get up every time the class bell rings, and I doubt I will ever be able to use the elevator without fear of being sent to detention. The best part of being here is that in so many ways, it simply feels like I’m home!

Michelle Kelleher ’81 (Treasurer)

I am honored and blessed to be working at my Alma Mater; I enjoy coming to work every day. It was my second home for 4 years and 15 years later I am still calling it my second home. I absolutely love and enjoy working here. I feel blessed and fortunate to be able to graduate from such an amazing school. The best part of working here is that I work with the best people and a handful are my fellow AMSU sisters.

Amy Malave-Dodwell ’99 (Assistant to the Finance Office)

Returning to AMSU to work, was an idea that I never ever thought would be imaginable. However, when things happen organically, you just have to let the chips fall where they may. In my role at AMSU, I am on the front lines of meeting prospective parents and students and gaining incredible insight as to what my parents went through for the admissions process. It is not easy. Working here at Mount (what we called it in the ’80s) has been an interesting adjustment. And one of them that I will never change is calling our beloved teacher, Ms. Corticcio, by her first name. She IS Ms. Corticcio! Despite varied visual changes - like the uniform, the school bell, the lunch, the PA system are fondly the same. Through it all, I find it intriguing to pass the baton to bring in future girls to Mount St. Ursula.

Julia Myers-Bartley ’85 (Director of Admissions/Recruitment)

When I graduated from the Academy of Mount Saint Ursula in 2005, we were celebrating the school’s 150th Anniversary. It has been my honor and such a blessing to return as a faculty member ten years later, during our 160th Anniversary! As I walk through the hallways and into the classrooms, it reminds me of how special this school really is. AMSU has played a key role in helping me grow into the person I am today. I am very excited to share the vision and traditions of AMSU to another generation of bright young women. I am very grateful to have this opportunity at AMSU to help prepare these young women for college and their futures. It also brings me great joy to see our students still living out the motto of Serviam. During our recent Service Day it was such an inspiration to see our young women giving back to the community with such dedication and generosity. It is also wonderful to see the bond of sisterhood between the young women live on today. I hope we as a school community continue to “March on to victory!”

Jennifer Carey Neil ’05 (Teacher/SAT Prep)

I am very grateful to be working at my alma mater. AMSU continues to have a family atmosphere and remains committed to Academics, Arts and Service. Years have passed and faces have changed, but the core values that have always been represented here are ever present to this day. Being back here in the role of Guidance Department Chairperson is quite surreal. AMSU was and is a very important part of my life. Guiding students through their daily struggles is paramount for me, and making a difference in their lives allows for fulfillment in mine. The support and appreciation I receive from the administration and faculty on a daily basis, is greatly appreciated. I’m back home.....and welcomed with open arms!

Kathleen Ryan O’Connell ’85 (Director of Guidance)

As a math tutor in the school’s Math Lab, it is wonderful to be back at AMSU. The students are polite, hardworking, and a joy to work with. It is an honor to be of service to a place that gave me so much.

Anna Papageorgiou ’88 (Tutor)

“Remain in harmony, united all of one heart and will... long for it, search for it, embrace it, and hold on to it with all your strength, for I tell you, that if all are united in heart, you will be like a mountain fortress, a tower of strength.” (Last Counsel) ~ Angela Merici
1955

Jo-Ann Heilferty Verrier sadly passed away on January 18, 2015. Her family submitted this story prior to Jo-Ann’s passing. Jo-Ann was expected to be home with her family (of 40) for Thanksgiving dinner, but received a call around 3 pm Wednesday saying no go due to a low grade fever. The entire family was more than disappointed, so the group decided to all go to Helen Hayes early Thanksgiving afternoon. Her husband Jack said, “I hadn’t seen Jo smile as much in all the days from her stroke than she did that day. Each person was kissed, hugged, and obviously loved, from their mom/gram who beamed with ‘Thanksgiving’ every moment.” A tradition on turkey day was always to form a circle, hold hands, and give thanks before we sat to eat. The guy always went first, but of course we saved the best for last. While Jo-Ann was always very good at that prayer session, on this Thanksgiving Day she outdid herself. We asked her if she wanted us to follow in that practice and form a circle and she was ecstatic with that idea. Each one there old enough to speak, gave thanks, first and foremost for the smiling woman in her wheelchair. Jo-Ann spoke of concern, caring, giving, loving and praised all of us for always providing what was needed, and particularly since her stroke. She told us that God has blessed her immensely with each of us. Tears were running down their faces, turned into an upper thanks to Jo-Ann herself. RIP Jo-Ann.

1959

Angele Vial McGrady and her husband Patrick welcomed their first grandchild Louwyn Patrick, son of Kevin and Brandy McGrady. He was born on May 14, 2014 in Pittsburgh PA.

Josephine Nassisi Masulli and her sister Theresa Nassisi Helbeck ’55 announce the sad passing of their father, Thomas W. Nassisi. “Our dad was very active during our years at the Mount. He worked on many fundraising projects and on the annual fair. He loved the school and was so proud. Please help us in our time of need.”

1961

Marion Murphy Keane and Eileen Molloy Mann both planned to be in NY in March and with the luck of the Irish, their visits coincided. Marion and Eileen had both attended St. Philip Neri as well as AMSU. They got together for a breakfast brunch with Mary Ann Murphy Eatz (another St. Philip Neri alum), Julia McKeon Murphy, Rose Marie Caiazzo Occhino, and Elaine Castaldo Sackmann. Bernadette Gillis (also a St. Philip Neri/AMSU alum), Marion Murphy Keane, Eileen Molloy, Mary Ann Murphy Eatz, Rose Marie Caiazzo Occhino, and Elaine Castaldo Sackmann spent an afternoon together catching up and sharing memories.

Mary Jane Coyle Dooley, Marie Chiappe Rhodes, Rose Marie Caiazzo Occhino, and Elaine Castaldo Sackmann had their annual spring outing with their dear French teacher, Ms. Com, and her charming husband, Pierre, at the Culinary Institute. As has been their practice over the last two and a half years, after lunch, they spent some time sprucing up the gravesite of Pere Teilhard de Chardin. Their visit was the day before the anniversary of Teilhard’s death, a most appropriate occasion to get everything in order. There is apparently a resident woodchuck who is also appreciating the fruits of their labors - just one more of God’s beautiful creatures. Pierre continues to share his knowledge and enthusiasm for Pere Teilhard showering Mary Jane, Marie, Rose Marie, and Elaine with books and study guides. All are truly grateful that they have been able to continue this reunion twice a year since they began in 2012.

1964

A group of the Class of 1964 met in Chicago on the weekend of October 17. They enjoyed lunch at Mario Batali’s restaurant on Grand Avenue. They talked and talked and laughed, toured Chicago, ate French and Italian food, went to the theater and took architectural boat ride. They parted ways on the Feast of St. Ursula which was duly noted and celebrated as well. The group hopes to meet again in the fall 2015. Anyone interested should contact Marguerite.

From left to right: Jacqueline Healy (red), Karen Cahill, Jeanne McGuirk, Peggy (Margaret) Schmidt, Elaine Ranieri (standing), Kathy Holland.

Unable to attend: Marguerite Crowley and Kathy Gorman and Veronica Walsh. Attending in spirit: Carol Cashman who passed away on November 8, 2013.

1967

Christine Spencer Ironside is newly retired from the Rye Neck School district as a Reading Specialist and is loving it. She is subbing and tutoring, and doing whatever she wants whenever she wants. Her daughter, Heather, received her degree from Georgetown and her graduate degree from Emerson in Boston in Speech and Language Pathology. Heather is currently the associate director at the Soifer Center in White Plains. Christine and her husband are very proud of her. Her husband is still working, but is playing more golf.
Class Notes

1969
Anna Caamaño Rios’ daughter Danielle had a sweet baby girl in September 2014.

1971
Three young ladies from the Class of 1971 attended the wedding of Jeanne O’Rourke’s daughter. Jeanne is in the middle. Cathy Condon McMahon on the right and Mary Ellen Fitzpatrick Beitel on the left.

1973
Members of the Class of ’73 held a mini-reunion in November. The Piermont location provided a cozy backdrop for an evening filled with lively conversation and lots of laughs. Rose Sullivan, the go-to organizer, had been nominated as class president over the summer by classmate Tosca LaBoy. The group was joined by Mrs. Kazimiroff, Julie’s mom. They look forward to their planned 2015 gathering.

1975
Nora Cummings is so sad to hear that Sr. Mary Shea has passed away. Here is a message from Nora: “She was my freshman English teacher and Religion teacher at the Mount during the 1971-1972 school year. I must say... she was not always my favorite teacher... she actually threw me out of class with a few of my friends... the only time that ever happened to me. She was reading an excerpt from the Velveteen Rabbit, voices and all. We could not stop laughing. Sister St. Eleanor found us in the hallway and she sent us down to Sr. Stasia. I look back at that incident as a fond memory of a great teacher. I have been a teacher for 35 years now and I think she may have had something to do with my choice of career/vocation. May Sr. Mary Shea rest in peace. I have another angel in heaven to pray to, especially for patience with my students. She had a lot of that with her freshmen girls at the Mount.”

1978
Lisa Forte-Doyle was Honorary NY Yankees Bat girl in 2013. Here she is with Derek Jeter as he signs her jersey. Breast Cancer survivors and/or those who work to fight the disease are welcome to enter the contest run by Major League Baseball every spring.

1980
Carol Retcho Ventura would like to share that her daughter Krista Ventura, an Ursuline School Class of 2005 alumna, was married May 25, 2014 to John Conklin.

1982
The Class of ’82 had a get together in August at Rory Dolans. Pattie Sipos and Andrea Cody had the pleasure of meeting Cardinal Dolan.

1988
Ana Miranda Klaus and Ms. Kathy Corticcio recently connected through the fundraiser surrounding Laura Sandlietner’s Ring Day Award. Here is a photo of her twin babies, Maximus and Alegra, with Santa!

1992
Maria Moreno became engaged to Christopher F. Burke in a tiny cottage in the Pocono Mountains on August 2nd. Christopher said all he wanted for his birthday was for Maria to be his wife.

“Pray to God, humble yourselves under God’s mighty power, because without any doubt, since God has entrusted this work to you, God will give you the strength necessary to carry it out.” (Counsel)

~ Angela Merici
In Memoriam

Clare Freaney ’34
Beloved Mother of
Mary Dooley ’60 and
Beloved Sister of
Bernadette B. Riordan ’33
and Ursula B. Johnson ’39

Veronica Lynch O’Connell ’40

William Brocks, I
Beloved Husband of
Estelle Harper Brocks ’45

Margaret Mitty Conroy ’45

Mary Jane McCarthy Litschgi ’45

Marjorie Harnisch Nesbitt ’46

Barbara Muldoon Johnson ’46
Beloved Mother of
Loretta Johnson Fallo ’81,
Eileen Johnson Murphy ’79
and
Deborah Johnson O’Donnell ’74

Richard Hayward
Beloved Husband of
Joan Marie Curry Hayward ’50

Jo-Ann Heilferty Verrier ’55

Thomas W. Nassisi
Beloved Father of
Theresa Nassisi Helbeck ’55
and
Josephine Nassisi Masulli ’59

Ellen Anne Sebastian
Beloved Sister of
Sarah Kelly Campbell ’57
and
Sr. Sheila Campbell, osu ’61

Eileen Murphy Collins ’57
Beloved Sister of
Marie Murphy McKeon ’60

Nora Anne Lyons Burke ’58
(Science Teacher 1958-59)
Beloved Sister of
Theresa Lyons Brosnan ’61

Sr. Mary Shea, osu ’60

Frederick Bocker
Beloved Husband of
Patricia Ahlberg Bocker ’61

James H. O’Meara
Beloved Father of
Noreen O’Meara Winant ’67,
Joan O’Meara Winant ’69
and
Mary Ellen O’Meara ’71

Ana Caamaño
Beloved Mother of
Anna Caamaño Rios ’69

Marie Madigan
Beloved Aunt of
Noreen O’Meara Winant ’67,
Joan O’Meara Winant ’69
and
Mary Ellen O’Meara ’71

Vera Margaret Vitaliani
Beloved Mother of
Cynthia Vitaliani Cox ’67,
Valerie Vitaliani Killigrew ’74
and
Pamela Vitaliani Albiez ’77

Stephen J. Glatzl
Beloved Husband of
Joan McGreevy Glatzl ’69

Joseph J. Oliveri
(Former Parent Volunteer)
Beloved Father of
Barbara Oliveri Rizzo ’72,
Susan Oliveri ’75
and
Jean Marie Oliveri ’83

Catherine McGrath ’73

Marilyn Mee
Beloved Mother of
Nancy Mee ’73

Helen Wax
Beloved Mother of
Dorothy Wax ’76
In Memoriam

AMSU’s Beloved Sr. Mary Shea, osu ’60

Sr. Mary Shea died unexpectedly on Monday, September 29, 2014. She was 71 years old. Mary was currently working at The Ursuline School Testing Center from 2012. Prior to that, in 2011 to 2012, she was a substitute teacher for the New Rochelle Board of Education. Her prior ministry had been in parish work. From 1986 to 2007 she was Parish Associate at St. Mary Parish in the Bronx, where she was dearly loved. She next served as Director of Education at St. Barnabas Parish in the Bronx from 2007 to 2010, and then at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in the Bronx for one year. In her early years as an Ursuline, she was a successful and much appreciated teacher at the Academy of Mount St. Ursula from 1971 to 1986. She has served on the Board of Trustees at the Academy of Mount St. Ursula from 1971 to 1990, and most recently from 2007, going into her second term in 2010. Sr. Mary earned a BA in Classics from the College of New Rochelle in 1964, and an MA in Comparative Literature from the Catholic University of America in 1971. May Sr. Mary rest in peace.

2015 Alumnae Reunion

Classes ending in 0s and 5s mark your calendars!
Saturday, April 25, 2015 is the day to celebrate your graduation from AMSU.

The Reunion gathering will take place at the Shenorock Shore Club in Rye, NY from 12pm – 5pm.

Raffle drawing on May 5, 2015
AMSU Presents...

The SOUND of MUSIC

Music by RICHARD RODGERS
Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
Book by HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE
Suggested by “The Trapp Family Singers” by Maria Augusta Trapp

Date: Friday, March 27, Saturday 28th at 7:30pm and Sunday 29th at 2pm

Tickets $10 for adults, $8 for students

This year, the Academy of Mount St. Ursula is proud to present the musical “The Sound of Music.”

☐ I/We would like to make a donation towards the costumes and set.
Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of $__________

☐ I/We would like to purchase an ad in the playbill.

Complete the bottom form and return with the required fee and typed ad or email to: pdannenhoffer@amsu.org:
Office of Development/Alumnae Relations
330 Bedford Park Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10458

Prices:
☐ 1-2 line booster- $10.00    ☐ Quarter page- $20.00    ☐ Half page- $30.00
☐ Full page- $50.00    ☐ Back cover (in or outside) $100.00

Name of person/business purchasing the ad: ____________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________ City ___________________________ ST ___ Zip ________
Phone: __________________________ E-Mail: ____________________________________________

Total Amount Enclosed by check $ ____________________________

Credit Card #: ____________________, Exp. ______ Signatures: ____________________________

Please make checks payable to: Academy of Mount St. Ursula | Deadline for ads is Tuesday, March 17, 2015.
SAVE THE DATE

October 16, 2015
Hall of Fame Dinner Dance
New York Botanical Garden, Bronx
Mistress of Ceremonies - Vanessa Williams