Academy of Mount St. Ursula
Four Years to Last a Lifetime

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Sr. Brenda Buckley, osu
Sr. Ann Peterson, osu
Sr. Patricia Russell, osu ’60
Sr. Maureen Welch, osu

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Mrs. Anne Marie Hynes, Esq. ’67
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Ms. Marguerite Kissane ’77
Mrs. Claudia Toni-Smith ’92
Greetings,

Blessings and Challenges - These two words come to me when I sit, reflect and pray about the ministry of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula. We are still doing what we set out to do in 1855, educating young women and we remain committed to our Ursuline mission. That’s the best part of our work here!

We are definitely blessed as can be seen each day in the bright smiling faces of so many of our young women who are studying hard and trying their best to make a difference in our world. Their laughter and excitement when they learn something new, have a great conversation with a friend or teacher or are the recipient of some kind action or gesture is just so joyful to hear.

Having worked in a few schools, I honestly have to say we have some of the most caring and dedicated teachers and staff. They care so much for our students and do all they can to help them succeed. Some paperwork had to be signed by three faculty members so we could apply for a grant and they came to school immediately from their vacation spots before even going home. What is most exciting is the fact that they build relationships with each other and students too!

Another wonderful blessing is the fact that we have so many faithful Ursuline Sisters, alumnae, benefactors and supporters who assist in so many ways. We are eternally grateful and appreciative for your dedication and support. You help us provide a safe environment and the best education we can to prepare the next generation of women for leadership and service in our world. Thank you. Thank you!

While we are very blessed, we also deal with challenges daily. Some of our students come from neighborhoods that deal with violence and drugs. Families are struggling to pay bills and make ends meet. Local Catholic elementary schools are closing. Academically, some of our students aren’t as prepared as we would like them to be. Students are suffering from major anxiety and mental stress. We not only have guidance for academic reasons, but also, a social worker to help our students and families learn how to cope with their stressful situations. Tutors are hired to help students after school.

What our school has been built on, our foundation of educating women, is still going strong. This year our 66 seniors earned 20 million dollars in college scholarships. That is outstanding. AMSU is the oldest continuously operating school for girls in New York State and we plan to keep that title!

One of the challenges we are facing is that the physical structure of our school is beginning to show wear and tear. As a reminder, our two building sites were built in 1922 and 1955. The best materials were used then and that sound structure has held us, but now, we need to start investing more and more money into maintenance and upkeep. This summer we were able to start by replacing windows because of your kind support.

In June, we faced an unexpected expense; part of our gym roof is falling down. Therefore, we need a significant amount of funds to repair it. Our gym is constantly in use: physical education classes throughout the day, volleyball, basketball, softball, cheerleading, and STEP team. More students are showing interest in sports. There is talk of adding yoga classes to help with stress management. Every week, there is a New York City official on site enforcing fire, boiler, elevator, science labs and kitchen regulations. There is always a new rule and something must be updated and fixed. We’ve recently hired a facilities manager to advise us on how to proceed and keep up with the paperwork, emails and phone calls.

Yes, there are these big challenges, but there are also such great rewards daily. When I get an email from a grateful parent thanking me for helping her daughter become more responsible, listen to a student tell me how she wants to fight injustice in our world, or I hear from an appreciative alumna about how AMSU’s education and values helped her be successful in her career and life, I know we have to keep doing all we can for our young women and school community of AMSU.

Our mission at AMSU is a very necessary one and I know with the help of God, St. Angela and all of you, the Academy of Mount St. Ursula will continue to experience blessings and challenges. I’m confident the blessings will continue to outweigh the challenges! After all, AMSU is the best!

Please know you are always welcome to contact me at jhumphries@amsu.org or call 718-364-5353 x211. In addition, the doors of AMSU are always welcome to you. I and our AMSU young women would love to talk with you, share with you about AMSU today and have the opportunity to get to know you and hear about your AMSU experience!

Prayers and blessings,

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

As I sit and write this letter, I feel more blessed than ever to be part of the AMSU family. A family that goes beyond a Catholic high school. A family that is full of love. A family that is always there for each other.

This year was particularly special to me. This is the first time in my professional career of nearly 15 years, where I have been able to directly interact with those we are providing services to daily. I cannot tell you how special it is to be able to directly impact the lives of so many. To really watch them grow into fine young women.

During the year, I received two special notes that I carry with me every day and would like to share with you. I read them often to remind myself that one by one, with every decision that is made, we are impacting our future and the future women leaders of the world. Here are those notes:

I just wanted to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I hope that you have a wonderful time with family, friends and loved ones. I also hope that you have a wonderful New Year’s Celebration. You do a lot for the school and it’s deeply appreciated. You’ve also been an amazing addition to my school and my life. It’s been a great feeling to know that I have support. So, thank you for everything you’ve done for me this year by including me in marketing, writing me a recommendation letter, always offering support, and a friendly smile. I really appreciate it and hope to work closely with you next summer.

Katelyn Rosado ’19

You are a wonderful leader and person. Thank you so much for all that you’ve done – I only hope I can return the favor sometime in the future. Thank you for being such a great role model. Thank you for opening my eyes into the world of Marketing. When this idea of the Marketing Club came about, we didn’t know what we were doing and then you took us under your wing, with no hesitation, and since then you’ve never let go. We would not be where we are today without you. Thank you so much for your guidance and useful advice. I will always be grateful to you for your support and kindness.

Dimarie Pagoada ’19

Although those notes were written to me, I believe they were made possible because of the generosity of our AMSU family. The success of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula and students would not be possible without the support of our Ursuline Sisters, alumnae, faculty, staff and friends. We are so grateful for your continued support, which enables us to provide a quality education for four years to last a lifetime. I truly thank each of you from the bottom of my heart. It is because of you that we are able to keep our doors open and provide a quality education centered around the Ursuline traditions that are so important and dear to us.

Last year, we held our Hall of Fame Dinner in September. The event supported improvements needed for our building, which will enable our students to continue to be in the greatest learning environment possible and keep our students safe for many years to come. I am thrilled to share that the event was a great success! With your support, we raised more than $325,000. On Thursday, September 19, 2019, from 6-8pm, we will be holding a “THANK YOU” event, to thank all of our supporters who helped us achieve our goal in replacing windows throughout AMSU. The windows will create a safer environment, reduce energy loss, and provide more light throughout the building. Electronic invitations have gone out to all, and you can learn more about the event by contacting the Development Office: 718-733-6249 or alumnae@amsu.org.

I encourage you to reach out to our Development Office, should you be interested in visiting AMSU to see our hardworking students in action, or would like to learn how to get more involved. Our office is always open to our supporters, whom we consider family. You can reach me directly by calling: 718-733-6249 or emailing: jabbatiello@amsu.org.

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Prayers and blessings,

Jasmin Abbatiello, Executive Director of Development
**Academic Achievements**

**Congratulations to AMSU’s Honors In Excellence students!**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Konstantina Sgolombis</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>General Excellence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aurora Pepaj</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>General Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jannatun Akhund</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>General Excellence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chanel Cole</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>General Excellence</td>
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**AMSU’s newly elected 2019-20 Advisory Board**

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<tr>
<td>Dannerys Peralta</td>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Synnie Cao</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hailey Garlarza</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aurora Pepaj</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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**Mercy College School of Business Leadership Academy:**

This summer, three of our rising seniors, Analydia Camacho, Synnie Cao and Dannerys Peralta are participating in the Mercy College School of Business Leadership Academy. The program is highly competitive and welcomes high school students to apply for a chance to attend a week long session at their Westchester campus in Dobbs Ferry, NY.

Rising high school seniors experience college first-hand during this week-long, action-packed summer program. They learn about leadership and business careers from Executive Faculty who have worked at top global companies. They visit Fortune 500 Companies, explore careers in business and participate in team building activities: Bear Mountain hike, Shark Tank and more.

Thanks to one of our generous donors, Carole Kakos ’63, also an alumnae of Mercy College, these three students will be able to attend the program at no cost. Many thanks to Carole, and good luck to Analydia, Synnie and Dannerys!
The English Department was very busy as the last few days of classes were approaching. The teachers had been working on finishing the curriculum and preparing our students for the final exams. Ms. Masick enjoyed using Google classroom this year. It is a great tool to upload notes, assignments, and announcements. Another tool that Ms. Masick has utilized in her classroom is the game, Kahoot. This is an interactive, online game. The teacher provides the questions and answers, and the students choose the correct answer. Kahoot is a great and fun way to help students prepare for tests. The girls have a great time competing for first place.

English 9 focused on understanding the fundamentals of literature. We discussed how to talk about literature and how to write about literature. English 9 has a very diverse curriculum that ranges from Latin American, African American and Jewish American literature to help give students a broader sense of the literary world. We also worked on the fundamentals of grammar. Ms. Sticklor’s English 9 students were exposed to a variety of literary genres. Reading *The Motorcycle Diaries*, *Night*, and *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, showed the destructive nature of intolerance, thus promoting tolerance. In addition, the freshman honors class read two plays by Shakespeare, comparing his comedies and tragedies.

English 10H read texts spanning 1000 years of British literature and worked on either writing a sonnet or acting out a scene from one of the texts. Ms. McAuliffe’s English 10, with its focus on British Literature, participated in many carefully crafted debates and Socratic discussions. The students worked on challenging skills like reading comprehension through Regents and SAT prep work and furthered their writing abilities through low-stakes writing assignments and careful development of a literary analysis paper. They also worked on the fundamentals of English grammar.

English 12 and AP English focused largely on getting ready for college. Students focused on higher level discussions which included more concentration on cultural context, historical context, social justice issues and philosophical ideas. Students learned how to write a college level research paper while examining the Modernist and Post Modernist literary lens in great detail.
The 2018-2019 school year is already over…..where does the time go? Just a couple of weeks ago the Mathematics Department was busy preparing the Algebra, Geometry and Algebra II classes for the Common Core New York State Regents exams. Every teacher offered review classes and practice regents exams to help our students achieve a higher score on these rigorous assessments.

In other classes, students have been working on projects and presentations. The Seniors in AP Calculus, Applied Mathematics and Pre-Calculus have studied various topics in Mathematics from Mayan/Babylonian numbers to writing problems about half-life elements and presenting them in greeting card format. In every presentation, students incorporate an oral report along with the technology listed below.

With available Chrome Books, students have many technological resources at their fingertips, such as:

Nearpod
Plickers
Kahoot
Khan Academy
Math Bits
Google Classroom

**Hip Classroom**

The Math department uses e-math instruction in Algebra II and in one section of Algebra I. Each lesson in every unit is being taught by Kirk Weiler and students regularly watch the video for homework and work on the problems during class.

**Online Learning**

A new stream-lined learning platform called Albert.io that the Mathematics department piloted in the spring. It is similar to Khan Academy but focuses on providing more rigorous practice, needed for AP courses and also offers some courses that are not available through Castle Learning, a program used at AMSU. Moving forward, following the positive response during the trial period, AMSU has committed to a license.

Our hope for all students, despite their ability, is to be critical thinkers who see the value of mathematics and its connection to the real world.
NEW CURRICULUM IN THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Biology
Biology students learned about the interrelationships of the various organ systems and the role each system plays in maintaining homeostasis. In the lab, students recreated the cellular membrane with experiments on diffusion and osmosis and created models of the structure of DNA. Students learned about enzymes and the importance of biological catalysts in higher organisms and plants. One of their labs consisted of comparing guard cells in leaves of different plants. Other experiments performed included the beaks of Finches and the physiology of the circulatory system.

This year students learned the history of the struggle to cure ovarian cancer, a story that includes important work by a woman scientist. We looked at this because one of the New York State Regents-required labs is built around an imaginary plant “Curol,” with no background included in the lab on its true inspiration. The lab is based on the discovery of the plant chemical Taxol, isolated from the bark of the Pacific Yew. The class learned about plant-based medicines, how regular surveys are undertaken by pharmaceutical companies to find new anti-tumor compounds, and the testing of the Taxol molecule by Dr. Susan Band Horwitz. Students also discussed the search for a related plant molecule after it was found that Taxol is effective against ovarian cancer, but that there were insufficient natural sources, and the ultimate genetic engineering of a Taxol source. Learning these things made the lab more meaningful. It also related back to lessons in mitosis, genetic engineering, and the reproductive system.

Chemistry
Practical reinforcement of topics pertaining to the Regents Chemistry curriculum was conducted in the Chemistry Lab. Among the labs was the Flame Tests Lab which gave students an understanding of electron transitions and emission spectra. An investigation of Physical and Chemical Changes Lab allowed students to differentiate between these two changes and reinforce understanding of physical and chemical properties. The Chemistry labs provide students with the necessary “hands-on” skills in the lab especially in the handling of chemicals and glassware.
Earth Science
In Earth Science, students did a project based on one long multi-graph article from the New York Times, "How Does Your State Make Energy?" Students were free to pick a few states, read about their changing energy sources, and then research a presentation on a topic that related tangentially to the article. Students worked in groups and presented to the class. Some of the topics presented were: Nuclear Waste, Generating Power from Ocean Waves, and a Comparison of Air Pollution Sources in the US and China.

Forensic Science
Forensic Science is a senior elective course which covers the purpose of collecting, processing and understanding evidence with regards to the field of criminal justice. Students were asked to analyze and reconstruct famous crime scenes, understand blood splatter and hair/fiber analysis. Additional topics covered included: Serology, Toxicology, Microscopy, Fingerprinting and Crime Scene Facial Reconstruction.

Anatomy and Physiology
In Anatomy and Physiology labs the students used human torso models as well as prepared cell and tissue slides and their own cheek cell slides to study the human body. Labs included the use of a blood typing kit as part of a discussion of antigens and antibodies, and tests of different foods for nutrients.

AP Biology
Students in AP Biology studied water potential and tonicity in cells, made microscopic comparisons of cell types and tissues as they relate to form and function, and studied the events of mitosis and meiosis in plant and animal cells. Students surveyed the plant and animal kingdoms, phylogeny and the classification systems, plant and animal physiology, ecology and molecular biology. They explored cell respiration using the gas laws. They studied the physiology of the circulatory system, including systolic/diastolic pressure, with the aid of a stethoscope and sphygmomanometer.

Congratulations to Melissa Feliciano ’19! During the summer of her junior year she attended Manhattan College Summer Engineering Awareness Program. For more than 35 years, the Summer Engineering Awareness Program has introduced high school students to careers in engineering, math and science.

The 10-day program allowed Melissa to learn about the different disciplines of engineering through hands-on experiments in laboratories and class lectures. The program also provided a structural team competition in which they separated into groups to build a structure that can hold a certain number of phone books. At the end, they competed with other groups to see whose structures held the most phone books without breaking. Melissa will be attending Manhattan College this Fall.
Technology Department Update

We are thrilled to welcome back Regina Ward class of 1993, as the new Technology Teacher and Technology Department chairperson. AMSU has always been an integral part in the lives of Regina and her family. Both of her sisters, Angela Redman ’86, and Luniece Ward ’04, are alumnae of the school as well as her two daughters, Niara Mitchell ’15 and Janae Mitchell ’18. Since 2016 Regina has maintained a presence here as the moderator for the Step Team as well as the Tech Club.

She has nearly 20 years of experience teaching technology and is a Certified Microsoft Office Master Instructor. She joins us from the College Board, which inspired her to come back and teach AP Computer Science Principles.

- This year, we launched our 1 to 1 Chromebook initiative. Each student now has a Chromebook that they take with them from class to class. Rather than carrying heavy textbooks, our students can access their e-textbooks on the Chromebooks. Also, teachers can use web activity easily with students.

- The school participated in the nationwide Hour of Code movement during spirit week in December. We had a third of the students participate which, for many, was the first time they had ever coded.

- AMSU offered a new technology course called AP Computer Science Principles (AP CSP). AP CSP is a new Advanced Placement course designed to give students foundational computing skills, an understanding of the real-world impact of computing applications, and programming literacy. This is only the third year of the course’s existence which makes AMSU a pioneer for offering the course.

- The Academy of Mount St. Ursula is pleased to announce that it has been selected as an Amazon Future Engineer (AFE) school - a partnership between Amazon and Edhesive to improve access to computer science education in communities currently underrepresented in the technology field. As a part of the program for the 2019-20 school year, the Academy of Mount St. Ursula will be able to offer more computer science courses and tech-focused career activities.
From September 26, through September 30, 2018, our Library and Media Specialist, Ms. Jhenelle Robinson attended the 3rd Annual National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was one of the recipients of three travel grants sponsored by The Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services of the American Librarian Association. The grant provided $1,000 for travel, housing and registration for the 2018 JCLC. For more information on the conference, please visit http://www.jclcinc.org.

JCLC gathers a large, diverse group of librarians, library staff, and library supporters from across the United States and Canada to explore issues of diversity, inclusion and equity in libraries. All fields of librarianship were present including academic, public, school, religious, and medical.

During the conference Ms. Robinson was given the opportunity to network, learn, share, and career build. She attended many sessions that highlighted ways in which she can effectively teach young adults in a school library setting. Ms. Robinson also had the opportunity to volunteer at the JCLC store and contribute to the American Library Association’s Instagram page, highlighting her experience at the conference.

In addition to the conference, Ms. Robinson had the opportunity to sightsee a few points of interests in New Mexico including the Sandia Mountains (via tram) and the San Felipe de Neri Roman Catholic Church, one of the oldest surviving buildings in Albuquerque.

She is truly thankful for the opportunity to attend JCLC!
Religion Department Update

The Religious Studies Department of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula is tasked with promoting, through its various academic and other activities, the Catholic Identify of our school community. To achieve this, the AMSU Religious Studies Department continues to devote itself to the following activities:

**Special Highlights**

- Mass was celebrated throughout the year starting with Mass of the Holy Spirit, Feast Day of St. Ursula, All Saints’ Day, Immaculate Conception, Feast Day of St. Angela Merici, during Holy Week, Ascension Thursday and the graduation Liturgy.
- Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service led by Angela Ward Redman ‘86.
- The Religious Studies department teachers led the recitation of the Holy Rosary during lunch breaks (daily) during the Marian months of October and May.
- The school community observed the lighting of the Advent Wreath as a community and held observance rituals.
- This year we had 10 strong, faith-filled young ladies who are proud of their Catholic faith and are prepared to live it out in a world that is in SO much need of women who are courageously willing to share their faith with others! Congratulations to Naya De Oleo ’19, who was baptized and received her First Eucharist and Confirmation during the Ascension Thursday Mass. Arlene Almonte ’22, Jamilex Cespedes ’21, Maily De La Rosa ’22, Marianna Hernandez ’21, Yasmeli Jones ’22, Nicole Medina ’22, Jaleesa Ortega ’22, Jada Torres ’22, and Krisna Rivera ’22 also received the Sacrament of Confirmation during mass.

By the end of the 2018-2019 school year, the girls of the Academy of Mount St. Ursula logged over 14,720 service hours.
As the year winds down, there has been a flurry of art activity here at the school. Three of our students, Rebecca Garcia ’19, Deanna Espinoza ’20, and Kimberly Ruiz ’21 participated in the CYO Archdiocesan Art Competition. We would like to congratulate Rebecca for winning 3rd place in its Elite Division. On May 10, we held our second annual Fashion Show and Art Expo, where several of our students showcased their paintings, drawings, photography, and animations. We were also treated to a beautiful runway show by the Fashion Club and an exciting performance by the Step Team. This year also marks the graduation of the first students to complete a full 4 years of Animation Class, Mia Daugherty ’19 and Gabrielle Valentin ’19.

Rebecca Garcia ’19
Dear Sr. Jeannie,

Four years ago, you gave Francesca a chance by accepting her into AMSU and it has been the best experience for her.

During Freshman year, I attended an evening session geared towards summer opportunities for students. This is where I first heard of the Fordham University Science Technology Entry Program (STEP). All the required documentation and recommendations from teachers and the guidance counselor were submitted and Francesca was accepted. After the summer, she continued throughout the school year on Saturdays and is still there to date. Through this program she has expanded her network, visited several colleges and universities, interned in the Fordham Office of Students with Disabilities, received a POSSE scholarship nomination and obtained a letter of recommendation as well.

During Sophomore year one of the opportunities offered was for a Saturday workshop titled, *Girls Write Now*, held near the World Trade Center. This session, besides focusing on a writing component, emphasized female empowerment.

Junior year, Francesca became a Vocalist and continued in Musical Theatre. She enjoyed the camaraderie with everyone and this past summer started the recruiting process trying to enlist boys from Fordham Prep for *The Little Mermaid* this spring. One of the opportunities available to Junior parents focused on the college process. This session, spearheaded by the guidance counselors, offered a written time line by month of what should be taking place and it was excellent. I reviewed every month and reminded my daughter. This helped keep her on track and with the help of Ms. O’Hare, Francesca applied to every school by October 31st.

Last week when the opportunities email was received to attend a pre-medical conference at Weill Cornell, Francesca rushed to get one of the ten spots available. When she returned home from an all day session, she was very excited and shared her experiences with me. One of the workshops had the students discussing the declining grades of a middle school boy and different scenarios in the boy’s life. They all came up with several conclusions from drugs, smoking, and negative influences. The outcome was that the boy needed glasses. Although it wasn’t what they expected, they were challenged. It made them think and work together and also realize not to judge immediately but to do the research.

Francesca loves AMSU and to hear a child express love for their school is touching. As we visit different colleges and universities Francesca has expressed disappointment if a tour guide is not enthusiastic. She shared with me that she loves to participate in the AMSU Open Houses because she loves her school and wants to share everything great about it with others because this will attract new students.

A great school begins with leadership and Sr. Jeannie your dedication to the WHOLE child is exemplary. The young woman and families at AMSU are blessed to have you. The opportunities you share with us I’m sure have helped many students besides Francesca. The dedication that the teachers and guidance counselors exhibit every day comes from this great and safe environment.

I constantly remind Francesca that when she has her career, donating to AMSU is a must. This will ensure the future of the school and the opportunity of others to have FOUR YEARS TO LAST A LIFETIME!

With deep appreciation,

Mayra Bernard

Francesca will attend Utica College in the Fall. Her sister, Gabriella Bernard will be joining AMSU as a member of the class of 2023.
Where our graduates are headed . . .

Congratulations

ACCEPTED BY OVER 154 SCHOOLS!

The Class of 2019 has received over 20 million dollars in scholarships

Alabama State University
Arizona State University
Baruch College of the CUNY
Binghamton University
Binghamton University
Binghampton University
Bloomfield College
Borough of Manhattan Community College
Borough of Manhattan Community College
Bronx Community College of the CUNY
Bronx Community College of the CUNY
Brown University
California College of the Arts (San Francisco)
City College of New York CUNY
Clark Atlanta University
Clarkson University
College for Creative Studies
College of Mount Saint Vincent
College of New Rochelle
College of Staten Island - CUNY
Colorado State University
Concordia College - New York
Cornell University
CUNY New York City College of Technology
CUNY Macysia Honors College
Daemen College
Delaware Valley University
DePaul University
Dominican College
Drew University
Emmanuel College
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Ferrum College of the CUNY
Florida State University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Hartwick College
Hofstra University
Hostos Community College of the CUNY
Howard University
Husdon Valley Community College
Hunter College of the CUNY
Iona College
Irizar College
Jamestown Community College
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Kean University
Kingsborough Community College
La Salle University
Laguna College of Art and Design
La Salle University
Lehman College of the CUNY
Lee University
Long Island University
Long Island University
Long Island University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University New Orleans
Manchester College
Marist College
Marymount Manhattan College
Medgar Evers College of the CUNY
Mercy College - All Campuses
Mercy School of Nursing
Milerille University of Pennsylvania
Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design
Minnesota College of Art and Design
Molloy College
Mount Saint Mary College
Nazareth College
New England College
New Jersey City University
New York Institute of Technology
New York University
New York City College of Technology
Niagara County Community College
Orange County Community College
Olin College of Art and Design
 Pace University, New York City
 Pace University, Westchester Campus
 Pennsylvania State University
 Plymouth State University
 Pratt Institute
 Purchase College, SUNY
 Queens College of the CUNY
 Queensborough Community College of the CUNY
 Quinnipiac University
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Roger Williams University
 Rosemont College
 Sacred Heart University
 Saint John's University
 Saint Peter's University
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 Seton Hall University
 Sierra College
 Southern Connecticut State University
 St. Bonaventure University
 St. Christopher College
 St. John's University
 St. Joseph's College - Brooklyn Campus
 State University of New York at New Paltz
 Stony Brook University
 Suffolk University
 SUNY Albany
 SUNY Broome Community College
 SUNY Buffalo State College
 SUNY College at Brockport
 SUNY College at Cortland
 SUNY College at Geneseo
 SUNY College at Old Westbury
 SUNY College at Orange
 SUNY College at Potsdam
 SUNY Delhi
 SUNY Fredonia
 SUNY Maritime College
 SUNY Oswego
 SUNY Plattsburgh
 Susquehanna University
 Temple University
 The College of Saint Rose
 The Culinary Institute of America - NY
 Main Campus
 The George Washington University
 The University of Scranton
 The University of Tampa
 Trinity College
 Uster County Community College
 University of Bridgeport
 University of Connecticut
 University of Denver
 University of Hartford
 University of Massachusetts, Amherst
 University of Massachusetts, Boston
 University of New Haven
 University of Richmond
 University of Rochester
 University of Vermont
 Ursuline College
 Utica College
 Vassar College
 Virginia State University
 Washington and Lee University
 Wellesley College
 Wellesley College
 Westminster College
 Wilkes University
 Woodbury University
 Xavier University
 York College of the CUNY

* bold indicates enrollment
International Night was held on November 16, 2018. Over 150 students were involved in the show, including three acts from Cardinal Hayes High School. Special highlights included: the AMSU Vocalists singing the African Zulu Song "Siyahamba" (Marching in the Light of God) and the Cardinal Hayes Latin Jazz Band playing two fantastic numbers! There were 300 people in attendance.
This year’s Spring Musical was Disney’s *The Little Mermaid*, which had a four day run from April 4th-April 7th. The first performance was a special Final Dress Rehearsal for grades 3, 4 and 5 from Our Lady of Refuge Elementary School, St. Brendan’s Elementary School and St. Philip Neri Elementary School. Such a fun time! A memorable moment from the day was when the entire audience sang along with our lead actress, Shakira Deleon ’19, (Ariel), during her performance of the famous song “Part of Your World.”

Right before the opening of Saturday night’s show an amplifier blew out in our AMSU sound system! But as the saying goes, “The show must go on!” To this day the cast, crew and audience members still say that it was our best show yet - the day AMSU performed “Unplugged.”
School Happenings

AMSU 2nd Annual Prom Dress Drive

Thank you to everyone who participated!!

Sien Avalos ’97
Deirdre Breen Doheny ’87
Helene Butler ’90
Zeriyah Camara ’21
Suzanne Carter ’81
Priscilla J. Ceron ’89
Gina Christoforatos
Anamaria Cuevas-Robben ’88
Nia Davis ’16
Barbara DeAngelo ’69
Carla DeMarzo-Sanchez
Barbara DeVoe
Tara Gallagher ’77
Eymme Garcia
Barbara Higgins ’61
Ellen Houlihan
M. Jane Johnson ’62
Jane Joyce ’73
Melissa Kaduck

Kathie Keber ’66
Dr. Anne Kelleher Fried ’70
Katherine R. LaPorta ’55
Carla Lide-Buglione ’05
Patricia MaCrae ’81
Linda Mauro ’63
Mary Theresa McCombe ’85
Maureen McIntyre ’65
Mary McShane ’77
Renee Medina-Miller ’83
Julia Murphy ’61
Amy Nordloh
Grace Nordloh
Noreen O’Meara-Shanbacker ’67
Lori Persico
Wendy Packer ’69
Tabatha Ramos ’98
Tillie Radebaugh

Jane Reichle ’63
Tiffany Riady
Pat Riley ’74
Trinity Rojas ’19
Maeve Scott ’77
Dorina Smith ’88
Patricia Stronczer ’67
Denise Taylor ’76
Antoinette Timm ’01
Claudia Toni-Smith ’92
Diana Tortorello ’69
Adm. Patricia Tracey ’66
Christine Tralongo ’66
The Ursuline School
Stacy Vargas ’09
Elizabeth Wallinger ’67
Regina Ward ’93
Elsa Zagreda ’87

Corporate Sponsors
Alice and Olivia
Cinq A Sept
French Connection
Likely
Amanda Uprichard
Service Day, November 20, 2018

20 different sites participated and Outcomes included:
500 sandwiches made and delivered to The Common Pantry on 109th Street and 5th Avenue to feed those in need.

Students served at 7 elementary schools.

500 daffodil bulbs planted on Mosholu Parkway.

Recruiting Night at Yankee Stadium with All Hallows High School

Prom 2019

The Class of 2019 Prom was held on Thursday, May 23, at the Glen Island Casino in New Rochelle, NY.
AMSU’s Marketing Club recently achieved their goal for the #CaptainMarvelChallenge by taking the entire school population to see Captain Marvel on March 27, 2019. It was a great lesson in viral marketing, fundraising, and teamwork for the young women during Women’s Empowerment Month. The idea started as an inspiration from the Black Panther Challenge that was seen all over social media in 2018 as the excitement for the movie’s premiere increased. The Marketing Club decided they would like to do a similar campaign for Captain Marvel, the first woman-led Marvel film in the now decade-long Marvel Cinematic Universe.

Instead of raising just enough funds to get their club to see Captain Marvel, the Marketing Club wanted the entire school to accompany them. They believed it was important for all their fellow AMSU students to see such a historic movie. It was very exciting to aspire to a more ambitious goal, and the chance to say they were the reason students didn’t have to go to class for a day certainly gave them greater motivation. With the help and support of Modern Language Chairperson, Ms. Linda Peri, the Executive Director of Development, Jasmin Abbatiello, Marketing Consultant, Frederick Joseph, Development Associates, Doris Balbuena and Mitch Turner, and our Principal, Sr. Jean Marie Humphries, osu, PhD, AMSU ’89, the students designed the GoFundMe page and shared it with their friends and family across social media.

As the campaign picked up steam, news outlets such as TicToc by Bloomberg Network, News12 Bronx, and Bronx Times, noticed the young women’s efforts and featured them on their shows and in their newspapers. The attention created by the efforts of the AMSU students culminated in actress Eva Longoria donating the final $2,000 to achieve the $10,000 goal! What started as a simple idea by a handful of students in the Marketing Club turned into a great example of what hard work and commitment to an idea can bring to our students!
Faculty Appreciation Day

On Faculty Appreciation Day at the Academy of Mount St. Ursula, the administration paid special tribute to the faculty members who celebrated milestone anniversaries during the 2018-2019 school year. The Academy of Mount St. Ursula thanks and congratulates each of them for their years of commitment and service to the education of many students throughout their careers at the school.

Sr. Mary Beth Read, osu  
50 Year Jubilee as an Ursuline

Sr. Barbara Calamari, osu  
60 Year Jubilee as an Ursuline

Jeanne DiBenedetto  
20 Years

Marie Fabrizio  
20 Years

Carolyn Duggan  
16 Years

Dr. Athena Mengharini-Tiwari  
10 Years

Amy Maleve-Dowd  
9 Years

Keri Masick  
7 Years

Sr. Jean Marie Humphries, osu  
5 Years

Tara Harrison  
5 Years

Kathleen O’Connell  
5 Years

Brianne O’Hare  
5 Years

Sr. Sheila Campbell, osu  
Thank You

Sr. Jackie DaSilva, osu  
Thank You
Alumnae Events

Adopt A Student

Your gift directly impacts our students. Thanks to generous donors, the Adopt-A-Student program has become a great success. During the 2018-2019 school year we received a total of over $350,000 in donations, allowing 141 of our students to utilize aid through this program.

St Ignatius School
Good Shepherd School
Icahn Charter Foundation
Catholic School Region of Manhattan
Friends of Nick Foundation
Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Inc.
Ursuline Community of St. Teresa
Our Lady of Refuge School
Ursuline Provincialate
Ursuline Community of Hering Avenue
Ursuline Community of Kimball Avenue
St Margaret of Cortona Church
St. Joseph School of Yorkville
St. Nicholas of Tolentine School
Missionaries of Charity
Brooklyn Benevolent Society
Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in New York City
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Inc.
Network For Good
Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
The Verrier Family
Class of 1965
Mary Jane Alexander ’66
Mary T. Allinato ’78
Margaret Arbino
Elizabeth Bavor
Eithne M. Bearden ’74
Concetta E. Bele ’54
Alexandra Bley-Vroman
Debra Boyle ’80
Catherine L. Bridge ’68
Patricia M. Brown
Teresa Buoninfante
Ann Burke ’53
Eileen Burke ’51
Ralph Burke
Patrick Burns
Lynette Calvache ’86
Sarah K. Campbell ’57
Helen M. Capce ’60
Helen M. Capce ’60
Nelson Carmona
Lourdes M. Carreras ’68
Margaret M. Casey ’56
Joan M. Cashman ’47
Cathy M. Ciocci ’74
Lorraine Claffee
Alice R. Clement ’60
Ann and Constantine Clemente
Joan M. Close ’65
Mary Agnes Coady ’60
William A. Colavito
Henry T. Conforti
Bradley Conlan
Mary Ellen Connerty ’73
Raymond Contreras
Michele Contreras
Mary Ellen Cositore ’71
Susan C. Cote ’72
Anne Courtney ’77
Monica Coyle ’62
Daniel and Susan Cronin ’65
Patricia Curley
Rosemary Dale ’65
Mary S. D’Amore
Elizabeth DeLorenzo ’52
Veronica Dende
Katrina S. Dengler ’85
Linh Do
Pamela and Michael Donoghue
Marion M. Driscoll ’57
Kathy Duffy
Ann Marie Eagan ’64
Norma and John Elser ’49
St. Theresa A. Eppridge, osu
Cary Ericson
Fr. Thomas Fenlon
Virginia Feury-Gagnon ’70
Patrick G. Finegan
Dan Fitzpatrick
Danielle E. Flores ’09
Una T. Flynn ’66
Jill Foltin ’87
Virginia A. Franklin ’72
Melissa S. Gabriel ’67
Elizabeth Gallo
Ann M. Gallo ’62
Joan A. Garber ’54
Norma and Jeff Gerwig
James F. Gettler
Nanette Gibbs ’70
Lorraine Gillan-Doyle ’66
Patricia A. Gillin ’48
Marie Giuriceo ’63
Ann Marie Gizzi ’79
Kathryn E. Goldsmith ’51
Rita M. Gorman ’58
Alice M. Grant
Rody Gratton
Maryanne T. Greene ’63
Roseann Guptill
Sr. Mildred Hainpt, osu
Adrienne A. Hamilton ’86
Dorothy A. Harris ’63
Donald Hay
Margaret Healy ’60
Mary Hehir O’Donnell ’57
Barbara A. Higgins ’61
Arleen M. Hoffmann ’71
Beth (Mary Elizabeth) Hofstetter
Good evening Ms. Abbatiello and Mr. Turner,

I know that I already wrote a thank you letter to my donors before the end of the school year, however, I would like to say thank you once again to Mr. and Mrs. Cronin, Mr. and Mrs. Houlihan, and my anonymous donor for all their help. I would also like to extend another thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Cronin and Mr. and Mrs. Houlihan for their amazing gifts. I just want to make sure that my donors’ help and gifts do not go without notice. I would also like to say thank you to the development office for all your help in getting me these donors. It has been an amazing four years here at AMSU, and I hope one day I will be able to help other students as my donors helped me. Thank you once again and have a great summer.

Melissa Feliciano
1967

Congratulations to Maureen Sheehan Kern ’67, former AMSU General Science, Biology, and General Chemistry teacher from 1972 to 1977. Ms. Kern was also the Coach of AMSU’s basketball team, from 1972 to 1985. Even after her departure from AMSU, she continued working and remained active and supportive to AMSU, through the Catholic High School Athletic Association. Maureen always worked to connect the Academy of Mount St. Ursula and The Ursuline School athletic teams by organizing scrimmages and activities for the girls to meet their “Ursuline” sisters.

After a long successful career as the Athletic Director of the Ursuline School in New Rochelle, NY, Maureen, was honored on June 4, 2019, just before her retirement at the end of the school year. During the dinner, Maureen was also recognized by the Westchester County Board of Legislators, by proclaiming June 5, 2019, as Maureen Kern Day.

1982

Lynda Mulligan McGoey ’82 ran the NYC Marathon this past November. Her former classmates and close friends, Patricia Sipos ’82 and Joanie Bauert ’82, were there supporting and cheering her on.

Congratulations Linda!

1987

Elza Zagreda ’87, returned to her alma mater this past March and shared with the students the comedy, “Growing Up Fat and Albanian” which she wrote, directed, produced and played a part in. She also shared her appreciation for her AMSU education, which helped her have a voice and confidence to be and do what was her passion and desire. Elza was happy to see Ms. DeLaurentis and Ms. Corticcio too. Our students laughed, had fun, and also learned.
1991

Congratulations to Amy Figueroa Mercado ’91!! She was re-elected as the State Rep. at the Florida House of Representatives for Orlando District 48 this past November. Amy has an extensive record working with her local community to better the lives of her constituents. She is another example of our graduates living out our SERVIAM motto by giving back. We couldn’t be prouder of Amy!!

1992

Angelina Delgado ’92, was recently honored for her 20 years of global service in Public Affairs. Angelina is currently the Senior Director of Finance and Administration at Baruch College, City University of New York and among her many accomplishments, has led the expansion of the Austin W. Marxe of Public and International Affairs Global Exchange Program. The program offers opportunities throughout Europe and Asia. She is currently working on her PhD at the CUNY Graduate Center.

2005

Destiny Cruz ’05, was recently named Field Representative & Caseworker at U.S. House of Representatives, for Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

2014

The UN Commission on the Status of Women CSW63 took place from March 11th through March 22nd. We were blessed to have AMSU alumna Anita Benn ’14, help during the Orientation.

2018

While on winter break, Nyasha Francis ’18, visited AMSU. She stopped by Dr. Tiwari’s Physics class and spoke about her experience during her first semester of college! Congratulations to Nyasha on completing her first year at Clark Atlanta University.

It’s great to see our alumnae living out Serviam! While on winter break, Samantha Paulino ’18, Priscilla Soto ’18, along with Sr. Elisa Ryan, osu, shared with the Ursuline Sisters at St. Teresa’s Community in New Rochelle about their Service Project during the summer at Haven for Hope in San Antonio, Texas, a full-service homeless shelter.
On Saturday, April 13, 2019, the Academy of Mount St. Ursula hosted its Annual Alumnae Reunion, honoring classes ending in 4 and 9. The event this year was held at the Greentree Country Club, in New Rochelle. Reunion 2019 was a great success! It was a great turnout. We were happy to welcome back more than 150 alumnae!
**Honorees**

Ms. Linda Peri for her dedication to teaching and devotion to AMSU students

Dr. Mary Erina Driscoll for her innovative leadership in higher education

Ms. Lois Harr & Mr. John Reilly for their commitment, leadership and vision to enhance our Bronx community

Ms. Anne Marie Nichol Hynes ’67 for her philanthropic efforts, especially in support of AMSU’s technology advances

Ms. Barbara Montenero DeAngelo ’69 for her tireless commitment and service through Monte Press for AMSU and the wider Catholic community

Dr. Tracy Paul Desgranges ’02 for her excellence in the field of medicine

Save the Date

Thursday, September 19, 2019 6-8pm

Cocktails, Tours & THANK YOU event at AMSU
All proceeds benefited AMSU’s **Sustain Our Structure, Support Our School** Building Fund for AMSU and the wider Catholic community.

The event was a major success!! Thanks to generous donors, we were able to raise more than $325,000!! This helped us reach one of our goals, in replacing all of the windows in our school. We will be unveiling the new windows during our Sustain Our Structure, Support Our School: Cocktails, Tours & THANK YOU event, happening on September 19, 2019, 6-8pm. All are welcome to join! For more information, please contact the Development Office: 718-733-6242 or alumnae@amsu.org.

**Sustain Our Structure, Support Our School:**

**Cocktails, Tours & THANK YOU event at AMSU**

**Thursday, September 19, 2019 6-8pm**

*All are welcome!*

Wine & small plates will be served
Save the Date
Saturday, April 4, 2020
is the day to celebrate your graduation from AMSU!

ALUMNAE REUNION 2020
Classes ending in 0 and 5
Greentree Country Club
New Rochelle from 12:00pm - 5pm

If you would like to be a class coordinator and help reach out to your classmates, please contact the Office of Development at 718-733-6242 or alumnae@amsu.org

Save the Date
Thursday, October 28, 2019

Academy of Mount St. Ursula
and
All Hallows High School

Young Professionals Happy Hour
Celebrating the Classes of 1997 – 2015!

Location: TBD
More Information to Follow
Do you have news you would like to share for our next issue of Take Note?

PERSONAL NEWS: weddings, births, community activities, news about your family, graduations, degrees earned, interesting trips, visits with classmates, etc.

PROFESSIONAL NEWS: promotions, appointments, papers published or delivered, new ideas implemented, retirements and more.

Please share your news and send photos!

Email us at: alumnae@amsu.org
or mail information to: Academy of Mount St. Ursula
Attn: Development Office
330 Bedford Park Boulevard
Bronx, New York 10458

To ensure you receive Take Note in the future, please remember to submit your $20 dues to AMSU.

In Memoriam

The following alumni and friends of AMSU have passed away since the last issue of Take Note. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

Maureen Bland
Beloved mother of Lynn ’86 and Maureen ’87

Raynellle Booker
AMSU student during freshmen year of 1994 only

Sr. Jeanne Brennan, osu
AMSU teacher 1960-1961

Florence Calamari
Beloved sister-in-law of Sr. Barbara Calamari, osu

Leanne Campbell
Beloved sister to Ken Johnson (AMSU former Board of Trustees Chair) and sister-in-law to Michelle Kelleher ’81

Armando Casteneda

Christina Daly
Beloved mother of Catherine Daly Duffy, ’91 and Anne Marie Daly Castellano ’92

Sr. Ann Duggan, osu
(formerly known as Mother Cornedius) Former Principal of AMSU

James Houlihan
Beloved father of Mary H. Coleman ’76 and Patricia H. MacRae ’81

Diana Lauriano
Beloved sister-in-law of AMSU staff member Eymee Garcia, aunt of Elyssa Garcia ’18 and daughter of Parthenia Duras Shea ’21

William Martens
Beloved husband of Nora Cummings ’75

Dennis McKenna
Beloved father of Jennifer McKenna Postigone ’90 and Joan McKenna Winter ’90

Brandon McKenzie
Beloved nephew of AMSU staff member Eymee Garcia and cousin of Elyssa Garcia ’18

James O’Connor
Beloved brother of former AMSU staff member, Denise Kamin

Louise Oliveri
Beloved mother of Barbara Oliveri Rizzo ’72, Susan Oliveri ’75 and Joan Marie Oliveri ’83

Mary O’Toole
Beloved mother of Siobhan O’Toole Rini ’83 and Meghan O’Toole ’89

Mary Ellen Boarman Young
Beloved sister of Sheila Anne Boarman Ryan ’43 and Barbara Elizabeth Boarman Kennedy ’44

Clare Teresa Hayes ’44
Josephine Sheehan Barry ’45
Joan Cashman ’47
Veronica McInisky ’47
Ruth Keegan Soychak ’47
Patricia McGinnis Palmieri ’48
Patricia Shea Draddy ’49
Beloved sister of Elizabeth “Betsy” McDermott ’56
Mary Ellen Thompson ’49
Maureen Clancy Bellis ’52
Denise Delaney Smith ’54
Susan Kenney Broderick ’59
Marijean Shea Sommer ’59
Beloved sister of Elizabeth “Betsy” McDermott ’56 and daughter of Parthenia Duras Shea ’21
Madeline Steakelum Connolly ’62
Sheila Bartley Hearn ’63
Susan Krucknicky Lyons ’66
Nancy Kirk McCoy ’69
Phyllis Nobile ’69
Tracey Anne Coates Fedele ’89
Nicole Maisonet ’89