

EQV Magazine



ACADEMY OF THE
HOLY NAMES

Esse Quam Videri

VOLUME II FALL 2024

ALBANY, NY



Transforming young women from intuitive learners to innovative thinkers, empowering generations of courageous, faith-filled women to be skillful builders of a better world.

For 140 years, Holy Names has offered girls in the Capital Region an exceptional education grounded in tradition and faith. The Holy Names legacy is preparing girls for the world they will inherit, and empowering them to be confident, competitive, and compassionate leaders pursuing their passions, developing their potential, and living lives of purpose.

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Congratulations to the Class of 2024



100% acceptance to 4-year colleges & universities

100%

Including matriculation to: Boston College, Holy Cross, Colgate, NYU, University of Michigan, and Villanova

\$16.5MM

100% earned merit-based scholarships totaling \$16.5 million over 4 years

1,670 service hours performed over last 4 years

1,670HRS

Carolyn Stum

National Merit Commended Scholar

The Award for Science
The 2004 SNJM Jubilarians Mother Marie Rose Durocher Award
The Award for General Excellence
The Award for Mathematics · The Award for Science
The Science Research and Teaching Scholarship Award

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL 2024 / VISIT ahns.org



↑ 29% ENROLLMENT GROWTH

Here at Holy Names, student enrollment is up 29 percent over two years. A Holy Names education is an investment in the future. Our day-to-day focus is on your daughter and preparing her to attend a top-tier college or university and to live a life of purpose.

We are excited about today's Holy Names and its future and invite you to learn more about 140 years of tradition and achievement that is being shaped and realized every day. Learn more at ahns.org.



ACADEMY OF THE HOLY NAMES

Dear Families, Alumnae, Donors, and Friends to Holy Names,

We are pleased to present you with Volume II of EQV (Esse Quam Videri) Magazine. As we celebrate 140 years of excellence, it is a privilege to share with you how we continue to prepare students for their future roles as strong, capable leaders in a diverse, dynamic world.

With your support, Holy Names remains the only private, all-girls Catholic institution in the Capital Region, empowering students to reach their full potential in the classroom, on the field, and in the community. Our students are confident, competitive, and compassionate, and their creativity knows no bounds. As we embark on the next 140 years, we begin with a Strategic Plan which embraces Holy Names' rich history and tradition and takes critical steps to strengthen its future.

As you'll read in the following pages, the plan will embolden Holy Names students and graduates who are more than just innovators and athletes. They are artists and dreamers with the world as their canvas.

Maryann Pallante McCarthy '88 P '19, Co-Chair

Lissa Smith McNaughton '77 P '22, Co-Chair

Martin Kilbridge, EdD, President



Strategic Plan Overview

Even as we experience tremendous growth and great vibrancy based on an exceptional educational legacy, we look to a future with confident optimism. For 140 years, Academy of the Holy Names' dedication to nurturing and empowering young women in the Capital Region has formed generations of strong women who are leaders in their communities and professions. Grounded in our core values and compelling mission, we aim to build upon our rich legacy. The Strategic Plan encapsulates our collective aspirations, uniting our school's ethos, spirit, and vision.

Incorporating input from AHN stakeholders across the full spectrum of the Holy Names community, priorities emerged as pillars to center the school's future-focused work. These include sharing the AHN story with a broader audience; ensuring long-term financial sustainability to support future generations of students; expanding our academic programming and the student experience; and building upon our mission and values by reinforcing our core tenets and finding new ways to express its commitments.

This Strategic Plan incorporates the hopes and dreams for our school, our spirit, and our future. Join us as we embark on this journey toward an even brighter tomorrow.

Priorities



PRIORITY 1:
THE AHN STORY

1

The unique value Holy Names offers as a welcoming and supportive college preparatory school for young women makes it a top choice for many Capital Region families. To share this gift with families unfamiliar with the AHN story, we resolve to:

- CREATE and launch a marketing campaign capturing AHN's distinctive identity as an advanced academic program nurturing young women and rooted in faith-based values.
- ARTICULATE the research-based case for the value of single-sex education.
- SUPPORT AHN families and alumnae as community ambassadors.



PRIORITY 2:
DEVELOPING FINANCIAL RESOURCES
FOR EDUCATING FUTURE GENERATIONS

2

The future-focused and ambitious programs and initiatives outlined in this Plan will flourish when accompanied by financial support targeting their development and implementation. To achieve this, we resolve to:

- EXECUTE AHN's Strategic Financial Plan, including consideration of a Capital Campaign to support various Strategic Plan objectives.

- SECURE support for annual and planned giving.
- STRENGTHEN the alumnae network and its connection with AHN.
- EXPAND the "Partners in Education" program, a philanthropic opportunity to support young women wishing to attend AHN.



PRIORITY 3:
PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AND
THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

3

The standard of excellence for all aspects of student-facing programs of the school are evaluated and modified on an ongoing basis, empowering AHN students to lead purposeful lives and careers. To continue to provide AHN students with the most well-rounded experience possible, we resolve to:

- CREATE new courses in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.
- CONTINUE to enhance our liberal arts academic program.
- EXPAND opportunities for students to explore unique areas of academic interest.
- ENSURE academic and extra-curricular programs promote excellent communication skills necessary for college and eventual career readiness.
- GENERATE additional opportunities for student participation in arts programs including improvements in arts program facilities.
- PROVIDE student athletes with competitive opportunities to showcase their talents and foster sportsmanship.
- EQUIP high quality facilities to support our programs and evoke pride in the AHN community.
- RECRUIT, RETAIN, AND SUPPORT exceptional faculty.
- INVESTIGATE the establishment and implementation of public-private partnerships with businesses and universities for student experiential learning opportunities as we nurture and develop tomorrow's leaders.



PRIORITY 4:
VALUES-BASED MISSION

4

To ensure the perpetuation of the mission and core values which have provided generations of our girls with lifelong strength of character and faith, we resolve to:

- EXPAND campus ministry programming for student spiritual and leadership growth.
- IMPLEMENT comprehensive strategies to ensure accessibility for families who may not be able to afford an AHN tuition.

CORE VALUES OF THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY NAMES

- **Dedication to justice:** Committing time, energy, and resources to the pursuit of right relationships of equality, justice, and solidarity.
- **Service to people who are poor or marginalized:** Reaching out and responding to people who are impoverished, abandoned or living on the fringes of society.
- **Education in the faith:** Creating an atmosphere which invites people to live, develop and express their faith.
- **Hospitality:** Being a gracious, accepting, and welcoming presence for each person.
- **Dedication to women and children:** Seeing, understanding, and responding to the needs of women and children.
- **Commitment to liberating action:** Seeking with others the freedom needed to live life fully without oppression.
- **Full development of the human person:** Cultivating and respecting the talents, abilities, and potential of each person, contributing to the development of all aspects of a person's life.
- **Love for the names of Jesus and Mary:** Embracing as guide, inspiration and strength the persons and names of Jesus and Mary.



ONE SISTER'S DREAM:
Campus Arts Center Carries on More than 60 Years After Curtain Drawn

The arts have been central to the Holy Names experience since its founding: music, poetry, dramatic performance, painting, sculpture, and handcrafts. Arts education goes back even further, having been at the core of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary mission since its origins outside Montreal in the 1830s.



Sr. Annette Covatta, SNJM, along with Lewis A. Swyer (right) and colleague review design model for Campus Arts Center.

When you visit the campus on New Scotland Road, you can't miss the spectacular modernist structure which serves as the venue for dramatic and musical performances, not only for AHN, but for the greater Capital Region community.

The Campus Arts Center is unmistakable, and its presence is thanks to one woman's innovation and drive.

Sr. Annette Covatta, SNJM, who graduated from AHN in 1946, entered the order, and served in the music department here in the 1960s,

envisioning and overseeing the creation of the Arts Center.

In 1969, under her leadership, the school opened the free-standing arts center on its campus, which in its early years hosted a variety of internationally renowned jazz and folk artists, and today is used for musical and dramatic performances (*Annie*, *Macbeth*, and *Legally Blonde Jr.*), fundraisers, and a variety of school activities.

"I have always loved the theater and what it does for children," says Francesca DelSignore, a former AHN

teacher whose *Fallen Chandelier* Productions helped produce and direct 2024's *Legally Blonde Jr.* "It gives them confidence, shows them teamwork, makes them realize they can do so much more than they think they can and creates a really strong work ethic which I think is missing today."

Sharon Greene '15, who has a bachelor's in film production from Bard College and extensive experience with costume design, was a student performer in the Arts Center.

"I got my start in theater at Holy

Names with my first-grade teacher Mrs. (Rosemary) Edwards '56 and our classroom stage where I had been cast as the villain in *Peter Rabbit*. I remember hiding under the table and she had to coax me into participating. Since then, I did every show AHN had to offer and I always had the support of my dad, who was a perennial set builder."

"As director, you're responsible for everything," Mike Edwards, father of former Chair of the Board of Trustees Chris Edwards P'14 and husband of the late Rosemary says, "The stuff I remember is amazing." He recalls his directing style, which he applied for more than a decade at Holy Names, saying: "I never was backstage. I was up in the back seat watching the whole thing. I'd hurry back during intermission, but otherwise it was up to the kids."

"Teenagers are such voracious readers, I knew they could learn the raw material," says Greene, who returned to her alma mater and directed the fall production of *Macbeth*. "We spent a lot of time working through the vocabulary, meter, literal and figurative meaning, and what it all meant for their characters. I really care about the process and really cared about their first experiences with *Macbeth*. The girls were so energizing, because while I had specific ideas about the style of the show and logistics of live theater, they came to me with really cool interpretations and suggestions about their characters. It was a great gift."

For DelSignore, student buy-in is also key. Students get to weigh in on the choice of musical and have to create an area of focus and concentration to get the most out of their performances. "We see what they can become instead of how they present themselves at an audition. After the cast is chosen, we work with the cast to get them to the point where they are as good as they can be and better."

"There's a lot of give and take," Edwards adds. "We really had good dialogue back and forth. The best of them would

make suggestions. If they did so, you knew you had a really good one."

"I work backstage much more than I'm in the limelight, and acting, while amazing, is the tip of the iceberg," says Greene. "I really mean that. You, as a student, have so many skills and gifts that you may not even appreciate about yourself, and theater is a place where all talents can be put to good use."

"For many of our students and graduates, their formal arts training may not be carried beyond our walls, but the lessons they learn about viewing the world and themselves within it serve to shape the persons they become," says Dr. Kilbridge, President of Holy Names. "Our students produce beautiful murals, paintings, drawings, and three-dimensional works that grace our hallways. They perform on stage. They sing at our liturgies. In the act of training, practicing, creating, and performing, our girls hone their skills, express themselves, and build self-confidence while bringing joy to all of us who witness the results of their efforts. The fine and performing arts continue to play an important role in the formation of our young women."

Sr. Annette passed away in January 2020, but left an enduring legacy to AHN in the Campus Arts Center. Inspired by her, the arts continue to flourish here at Academy of the Holy Names.



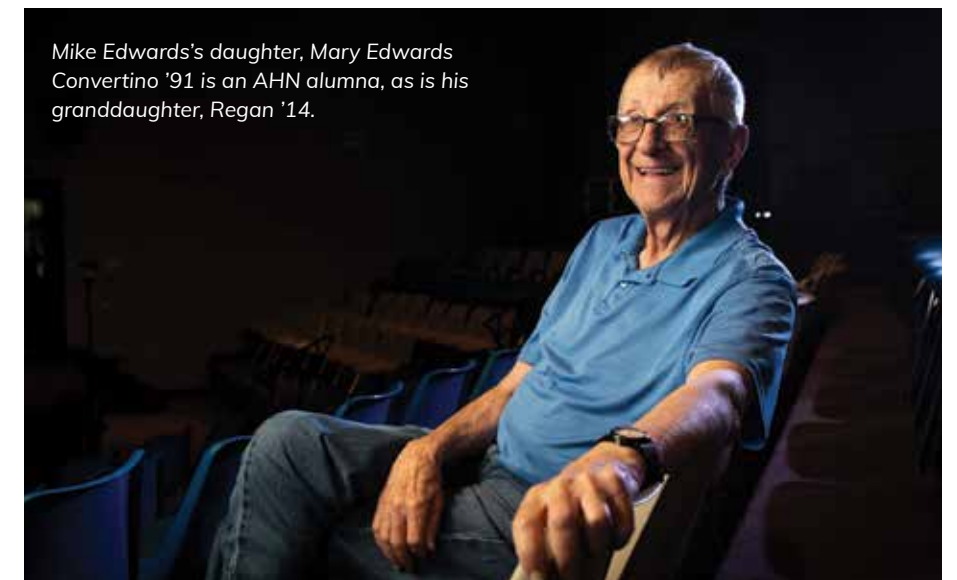
"SET DADS"

"I did every show AHN had to offer and I always had the support of my dad, who was a perennial set builder."

Sharon Greene '15

Behind every play and musical that graced the Arts Center stage, there was a proud papa helping construct the sets, from John O'Sullivan P '12 (pictured), Tom Lombardi P '11, '12, '15, to Dan Kennedy P '10, '12, and Joseph Greene P '15.

Mike Edwards's daughter, Mary Edwards Convertino '91 is an AHN alumna, as is his granddaughter, Regan '14.





ALL THE RIGHT MOVES:

Claire Jacob-Zysman Joins AHN as Counselor, Dance Instructor

“Holy Names offers a safe space for each student to be truly known and encouraged to be herself. Being an adolescent girl can be a difficult time, and I love that Holy Names is committed to girls’ education and female empowerment.”

Claire Jacob-Zysman has joined the Academy of the Holy Names community as a dual-talent: she’s AHN’s new School Counselor and Dance teacher.

“I have been dancing since I was seven years old. I studied dance in college and moved on to dance professionally after college. During that time, I fell in love with teaching dance and spreading the joy, creativity, and discipline of dance to students. My dance teaching philosophy is that everyone is a dancer, and that dance can be used as a tool to build self-confidence, create connections, and be an outlet for self-expression. I use dance to empower the students to feel confident in their moving bodies and to express their emotions through the art of dance.”

Mrs. Jacob-Zysman graduated summa cum laude from the State University of New York at Buffalo with a bachelor’s in dance before completing her master’s in clinical mental health counseling at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She says she’s fortunate to be able to pursue both her passions. “My approach to being a school counselor and to being a dance teacher are very similar. I meet with students where they are, I get to know them, and I aim to help them to feel confident and empowered.”

She says she was drawn to Holy Names because of its nurturing and supportive atmosphere that is focused on educating and empowering young women. “Holy Names offers a safe space for each student to be truly known and encouraged to be herself. Being an adolescent girl can be a difficult time, and I love that Holy Names is committed to girls’ education and female empowerment.”

As a counselor, Mrs. Jacob-Zysman has conducted individual, group, and family therapy sessions with a diverse range of populations. She says a lot can happen between grades six through 12, and some of the biggest issues students deal with range from changing social dynamics between friends and peers, and navigating gaining more independence to learning how to make good choices. She wants students to know her door is always open to help them deal with these issues on good days, bad days, and everything in between.

“Students often face peer pressure, academic stress, and pressures from social media. All of this can lead to anxiety and depression. I help them establish coping skills so they can regulate their emotions when things

feel overwhelming. I can also guide students to learn how to communicate better with peers, teachers, and family. I aim to help them to feel empowered and confident and start the lifelong habit of treating themselves with kindness and care.”

Mrs. Jacob-Zysman is excited to be part of the AHN community and enjoys getting to know each student and learning how to support them in reaching their goals. She also can’t wait to start dance classes, where students will be learning modern and ballet dance techniques. They will also learn choreography and how to work together as an ensemble. “I hope the students take away a love of dance and self-expression, a joy for moving their bodies through space, and an increased sense of overall wellness.”

She says school is a place where adolescents spend a great deal of their time, and it is a time when they begin to form what type of person they are going to be. “It is an honor to be a part of this process with the students and to help them find their voice and create the future they desire.”

AHN’s Legacy of Arts and Entertainment Provides Inspiration for Alumna Director

The more things change, the more they stay the same. That’s been the experience of Maureen Baillargeon Aumand ’64, who says while the years and the technology may have advanced over the decades, the values of AHN continue to hold strong.



Aumand says she was inspired by Glee Club Director Sr. Annette Covatta, SNJM, “a teacher whose love of art and music and life itself was palpable, passionate and contagious.”

“My most cherished memories from my AHN years besides a strong sense of tradition and camaraderie have to do with Glee Club and exposure to the arts in many forms,” says Aumand. The Glee Club’s director was Sister Annette Covatta, SNJM who spearheaded the opening of the Campus Arts Center in 1969 (see article on page 8), herself a concert pianist and, as Aumand recalls, “a teacher whose love of art and music and life itself was palpable, passionate and contagious.” Sr. Covatta also led the “Culture Series” which provided students with exposure to traveling artists who brought music, dance, and theater to AHN’s stage.

Aumand says at the time the only opportunity to “do theater” was the senior play, but she relished the chance to hone her public speaking skills under the tutelage of Mrs. Margaret Riley. “I always looked forward to the assembly where the entire student body would get to see the fruits of the senior thespians’ labor. When I was a senior, I played a boarding school director in a slice of life drama. I remember actually living during tech week at the then AHN boarding school on Madison Avenue (life imitating art!).”

She says she’s glad to see current students have more opportunities to collaborate with fellow actors from other schools. The year’s spring musical, *Legally Blonde*, featured actors from Christian Brothers Academy.

The mother of three boys, and grandmother of nine spent her post-AHN years as an English teacher and librarian in the Watervliet City School District, but she couldn’t shake the acting bug.

On and off for more than 20 years, she has performed in community theater productions and directed Neil Simon’s *Lost in Yonkers* for the Sand Lake Center for the Arts in February. She followed up that production by directing Paul Zindel’s *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds* at the Albany Barn in April.

Aumand says whether Holy Names students aspire to be actors or astronauts, she hopes they embrace authenticity and deep personhood during their time here. “It will serve them well so that sixty years down the line they will know and recognize each other as sisters and be able to celebrate what has endured.”

Sheila Hogarty Mendleson '83 P '13 Pays it Forward

Family Legacy of Enriching Holy Names Experience



You could say Holy Names is in her blood. Sheila Hogarty Mendleson '83 P '13 and her family have a long history with AHN. Her grandmother, Marjorie Connolly Hogarty '25 was a graduate. So was her aunt, Mary Ellen Hogarty Kiernan '53. Sheila's daughter, Cecilia Fontenot '13 is an alumna as well. All have contributed either through service or special campaigns throughout the years.



1. Courtesy: Pretty Rugged Gear

2. With father, Daniel J. Hogarty, Jr.

3. Daniel J. Hogarty, Jr., and Sr., Marjorie Connolly Hogarty '25, and Mary Ellen Hogarty Kiernan '53

4. With daughter, Cecilia Fontenot '13

5. With Ann Kiernan Gorson '82 and Ellen Kiernan Ayers '80

6. (L-R) Ira Mendleson, Heather Gallagher, Sheila, Isabelle Fontenot, Christian Fontenot, Daniel J. Hogarty, Jr., Ellen Hogarty, Cecilia Fontenot '13

7. With Assemblymembers Patricia Fahy and John McDonald, III

"My dad (Daniel J. Hogarty, Jr.) was asked to chair the initial board in the beginning of the 1970s. As a family we have helped through special memories including Hogarty Road, Dine-A-Round auction dinners, Capital Campaigns, The Bell Campaign, Rick Pitino Golf Tournaments, and so many different fundraising efforts. The Troy Savings Bank Charitable Foundation has given more than \$100,000 to Holy Names since its inception."

Mendleson succeeded her father as President of the Troy Savings Bank Charitable Foundation and Troy Savings Bank Music Hall Corporation when he retired as CEO and President of Troy Savings Bank and Troy Financial Corporation in 2022. "It is an honor to be succeeded by my daughter and carry on the legacy of giving back to the community," Dan says. "The foundation has had the opportunity to help make the community a better place to live, work, and raise a family, particularly those who are struggling in any aspect of life."

In addition to being on the boards of several non-profit organizations, Mendleson is also a Business Development Executive with Pretty Rugged Gear. She credits lessons learned at AHN in aiding her professional success. "I learned teamwork, leadership, and entrepreneurship. I learned the value of having a diverse group of people in your life."

She also learned the simple day-to-day activities, which may have seemed silly at the time, often held the most value and made a more lasting impact. "My favorite memories of Holy Names were predominantly from the Lower School. There were so many classes that were taught by some of the

original Holy Names nuns. Sr. Charles Bernard taught Latin with both eyes closed, but she saw and knew everything that was going on. Every morning you were greeted with a smile, sometimes a tissue, and straight to the nurse's office. There was always a simple anecdote, with a trip to see Mrs. Bailey at the switchboard, and everything would be OK. My absolute favorite memory was an eighth-grade sleepover with Sr. Karen Windlespecht. Although she taught us Math, which was not fun for me, Sr. Karen, like so many of my teachers, and my daughter Ceci's teachers, made school fun."

Now, Mendleson is paying it forward, doing what so many Holy Names women did for her family, whether by giving her time, talent, and treasure to her alma mater, or bestowing some wisdom to younger students. A breast cancer survivor, she sat down with Morgan Hannafin '23 for the senior's *Pink Panther Podcast* in early 2023 to help raise awareness and promote preventive measures. "The most important thing I share is make sure you pay attention to your family history of course, but also your environment and stress levels. There are so many factors that can cause cancer. Diet, exercise and balance are just as important as regular mammograms."

As for the day-to-day life on campus, Mendleson says "take advantage of everything Holy Names has to offer. There are so many new exciting trends and technologies, but also try to learn about the rich tradition of pioneering women, and the care that has gone into shaping young women successfully for a long time."

To contribute, you can visit the [giving page of our website at AHNS.org](https://www.ahns.org/giving).

Passion for Arts and Sciences Fuels Alumna's Success



Abby White '20 knows a little something about creativity and problem solving. Her graduating class was forced to adjust personally and academically amid the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

"My time at Holy Names was filled with joy and tradition," White says. "From ring ceremony to song contest, AHN is a community steeped in tradition, which connects us to the classes of the past and future. Although my senior class missed out on many of these traditions as the Class of 2020, making new traditions out of adversity is a hallmark of Holy Names."

"Participating in the arts has made me more well-rounded in my pre-med studies and vice versa. For me, having both has provided balance and enhanced my life."

Acceptance into prestigious institutions of higher learning is another Holy Names hallmark. White went on to Harvard College where she graduated in the spring of 2024 after studying Integrative Biology on a pre-med track. Fall 2024 marks her first semester at Brown University where she will be working toward her master's in medical science.

"Growing up, I was surrounded by STEM because both of my parents work in the healthcare field, but it was my elementary school science teacher at Holy Names, Ms. Pam Clancy, who fostered that love of science in the classroom setting," White says. "From that young age, I found I had a love for science and how you can learn about the world around you. The science department at Holy Names continued to foster that love of science from Mrs. Rose in middle school to Mrs. and Mr. Baxter in high school."

When she's not in the lab, you may find White on stage pursuing her other passion. "I can say with certainty that my love for music and the arts shaped my time at Holy Names. Music was one of my favorite class periods of the day and I was involved in the musical theater productions from fifth grade to graduation. The Arts Center became a second home to me and my castmates and crew, my family. Many of my happiest moments at Holy Names were in rehearsals, tech week, or on weekends working on the set."

White wants to assure students if they are interested in both arts and sciences, they do not need to sacrifice one for the other. "Do not be afraid you cannot pursue one because they are vastly different. Participating in the arts has made me more well-rounded in my pre-med studies and vice versa. For me, having both has provided balance and enhanced my life."

White says she's forever grateful to her teachers who showed passion for their subjects and for the students in their classroom. She's also thankful for how prepared she felt at the university level. "AHN's college preparation is second to none. AHN's focus on writing prepared me for any paper in any college class. Beginning the research paper process in eighth grade set the foundation for writing an undergraduate thesis and publications. The ample public speaking opportunities at Holy Names also prepared me well for speaking up in the university classroom and beyond. The advisor program and college counseling office were instrumental to understanding and providing support during the college application process."

In late spring, White returned to Holy Names with her best friend and fellow 2020 graduate Stefania Bonanni as guests of Mrs. Baxter's AP Biology class. The pair discussed the college application process, in addition to answering STEM-related questions. White's message to students: "Science has the power to change lives." As does a Holy Names education, as is evident by the bonds formed within its classrooms that last a lifetime.

Holy Names Education Offers Perfect Prescription for Tackes

Going straight from high school to pharmacy school can be a bit jarring, but not for Dr. Courtney Caimano Tackes '08. She says she was well-prepared thanks to her Holy Names education.

"Many students struggle academically when they first start this program, but I had already taken rigorous classes at AHN and developed great study skills that I was able to use from the start of pharmacy school. I was able to become involved in extracurriculars on campus much sooner because of this, which helped me develop my interpersonal skills and become a well-rounded student."

Dr. Tackes earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (ACPHS) in 2014, before beginning her career as a pharmacist. After completing her master's in business administration from Marist College in 2018, she returned to ACPHS where she is now Assistant Dean for Experiential Education and Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice.

This path wasn't always a clear one for Dr. Tackes. She said it wasn't until she took a career interests quiz in AHN's College Counseling office that she caught the bug, so to speak. "I always loved math and science, and I knew some people who were in the pharmacy program and really enjoying it, and we are lucky to have a fantastic pharmacy program right in Albany."

Her advice to others who are interested in following her footsteps: talk to healthcare professionals you may know or interact with and ask them about their career path. "Just from these conversations, you may learn of an area in healthcare that you may want to pursue."

Dr. Tackes may not be donning the lab coat as often these days, but there is at least one fashion accessory you will always see her wearing: her AHN ring. "I love wearing my Holy Names ring because it keeps me connected to that time in my life and all the great things that came from my experience at Holy Names. It also is a symbol of connection, as I am often recognized as a Holy Names graduate when wearing the ring, both by current and former students. The ring is also so unique that it catches people's attention and opens the opportunity for conversation and engagement. I still wear my senior sweatshirt, too!"

Dr. Tackes says the memories that stand out most to her from her time at Holy Names are the times spent with classmates and friends, studying together in the library, creating songs for the song contests, painting the windows in the cafeteria, hanging out in homeroom, and working on group projects for literature class. "Even if we were not close friends outside of school, everyone came together within the walls of AHN."

Just what the doctor ordered.



"I love wearing my Holy Names ring because it keeps me connected to that time in my life and all the great things that came from my experience at Holy Names."





AHN Day of Service

Academy of the Holy Names took a break from academics for a full day in October, as students, faculty and staff volunteered in the morning at 18 different service organizations around the Capital District.

Organized by Campus Minister, Theresa Moran, the Day of Service demonstrated the dedication the entire Holy Names community has to serve the marginalized, poor and disadvantaged in the area. The focus stems from the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

The afternoon consisted of smaller service projects, such as making friendship bracelets for St. Catherine's Center for Children, turkey napkin holders for area nursing homes, and painting pumpkins for elementary students. Back at the school, the groups talked about their experiences and created presentations for the school community.

THE ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDED:

- **Blessed Sacrament School:** Planted tulips.
- **Patroon Land Farm:** Planted garlic.
- **City Mission of Schenectady:** Sorted and hung donated clothing, shoes, and other items, making them available for free local clothing rooms both at City Mission and in 10 local schools.
- **Albany Therapeutic Riding Center:** Informational session, demonstration, fall clean-up, gardening, mucking paddocks, cleaning the barn, cleaning tack, painting.
- **Christ Child Society, St. Madeleine Sophie Church:** Made comfort bags filled with personal care items, coloring books, crayons, reading books and stuffed animals which were delivered to shelters, foster care programs and police departments.
- **Grassroot Givers:** Did a teenage clothing and children's book drive leading up to the event and then brought the items to sort and organize.

- **Unity House:** Volunteers were given a tour of the non-residential building and a presentation on the services provided at the agency. Assisted in organizing donation closets/youth center/files.
- **Capital District YMCA, Troy location:** Mural creation (drawing and painting).
- **Emmaus United Methodist Church/ RISS:** Accepted and sorted donations for migrant men, women and children in the Capital District.
- **Hoods House of Hoops:** Students helped clean and organize the gym area.
- **Capital City Rescue Mission (Albany):** Served food to guests in the dining room and sorted donations.
- **St. John/St. Ann Outreach Center:** Served lunch to their guests on soup kitchen day. Preparation, meal planning, and clean up.
- **Capital Region Toys for Tots:** Sorted toys by age and gender.

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS TOOK PLACE AT AHN:

- **The MoonCatcher Project:** MoonBee: Created and assembled reusable menstrual pads for underprivileged girls in developing nations.
- **HicksStrong:** Painted Hug Mugs for service members.
- **Night Out For You:** Created two "informational videos" to promote two upcoming fundraising events to benefit cancer patients who would like to enjoy a special night of their choosing.
- **Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless:** Made and delivered lunches for the guests of the shelter.
- **To Life!** Made pink ribbon pins for various events.

STUDENT SERVICE PROJECTS



Congratulations to Alexa Gross '24, whose "Swing for a Cause" softball fundraiser collected \$2,500 for Albany Med Health System's Division of Forensic Medicine. Alexa presented staff with a check, and in return received a special certificate for her service.



Casey Noll '24 and Nicole Decker '24 held a successful blanket-making event to benefit Project Linus, an organization that collects and donates blankets to children in hospitals.



Julia Panza '24 and Lexie Cristalli '24 collected 70 toys for kids of all ages! It was part of their senior service project in conjunction with Logan Strong Foundation, which helps provide comfort and entertainment to childhood cancer patients and their families. The presents were delivered on Christmas to patients at Albany Med.



Bridget Burke '24 and Gillian Rajchel '24 hosted a three-on-three soccer tournament to benefit the Beestera Foundation. The nonprofit organization provides local youth sport organizations with equipment, coaching education, and operational support in underserved communities.



The Junior Ladies of Charity collected just under 200 cans during its Thanksgiving food drive to be distributed to local food pantries.



Grace Kapczynski '25 and Jia Job '25 sold homemade items from cookie mix and jewelry to bath bombs and raised \$275 to benefit the South End Children's Café.



Julia Lynch '25 organized a stocking stuffing event in Theology class. She delivered them to veterans at the Veterans Administration Hospital who are suffering from PTSD and other mental health issues.

A Promise of a Better Life

DR. SABIR MICHAEL AND DAUGHTER, CHERYL, FIND REFUGE IN U.S., NEW FAMILY AT AHN

Dr. Sabir Michael has spent his life making the most of what God has given him. Born in Karachi, Pakistan, an Islamic republic, in a slum area to a marginalized family, Dr. Michael, who is blind, is also a Christian, which made him a member of the persecuted minority in his home country.

“I had to work three times harder than my peers to achieve the highest qualifications: a master’s in social work, a bachelor’s in education, and a PhD in sociology by the age of 28, becoming the first blind Christian in the country to do so. By 2023, I had reached the peak of my career as an established human rights defender and social worker, serving society since 2000, following a blessed encounter with St. Pope John Paul II on December 5, 2000, in Vatican City.”

Despite his success, he was forced to leave his beloved country due to security threats against him and his family — Dr. Michael has a daughter, Cheryl, class of 2026, two sons, Chris, 13, and Christi, 10, as well as his wife, Shamim. The threats stemmed from his Christian faith and human rights activism advocating for equal citizenship for religious minorities and persons with disabilities in Pakistan. “It was undoubtedly a tough choice, leaving behind a successful career, my elderly parents, my family, and 45 years of legacy in my homeland.”

It wasn’t easy for Cheryl, either. “I had mixed feelings about moving to the USA. It was difficult to leave my family,

friends, and homeland, but at the same time, I was relieved knowing that my family would be safer and more secure in the USA than in Pakistan. Given that my mother and I could have been prime targets of Islamic extremists, our departure brought a sense of relief to me and the rest of my family. However, I still miss my remaining family members, friends, and the life we had in Pakistan. I especially miss the social and human rights work my father was doing for religious minorities and persons with disabilities, as I was actively involved in these activities alongside him and his colleagues.”

Cheryl played a major role in her father’s work after learning English at St. Lawrence’s Convent Girls’ School, run by the Franciscan Sisters. “I learned it was always exciting and thrilling to attend national and international events to support my father, assisting him with

mobility and participating in conferences. I had the opportunity to read the English versions of press briefings at the press conferences conducted by my father, who is an independent academician, social worker, and human rights defender. This experience allowed me to think deeply and critically about the human rights situation for religious minorities in Pakistan.”

Now, Cheryl has a new set of goals to accomplish, and through AHN’s Partners in Education Program, which provides support for students in need of financial assistance, she’ll get the chance to bring them all to fruition. “I want to learn and embrace universal and U.S. Catholic/ social values as a part of the AHN community. I also want to build a strong educational foundation to meet the standards of the U.S. education system by overcoming any educational gaps I may have. I want to work with the College Counseling Office to secure a scholarship for further studies in college. My dream is to become an eye specialist, and I am determined to work hard to achieve this goal. I may also consider a career as a nurse, allowing me to serve

“The Partners in Education program means a great deal to me and my family, as my daughter Cheryl’s admission to AHN is nothing short of a miracle—a dream come true.”

humanity in the medical field. Lastly, I’m looking forward to creating sustainable and effective social networks with my fellow students.”

It’s continuing education in a Catholic and disciplined environment that drew Dr. Michael and Cheryl to Holy Names in the first place. “I am grateful to God Almighty and the board of AHN for giving my daughter the opportunity to complete her high school at the number one school in the state of New York. I am confident that she will receive a quality education in a competitive and safe environment that instills positive Catholic and social values.”

Cheryl and her family are overjoyed at the opportunity to become part of the AHN Community, thanks to the Partners in Education program and their anonymous partner. “I want to express my profound gratitude to the Partners in Education and AHN. I assure you that I will make the best use of this opportunity. Inspired by your support, I am committed to helping at least one student in my life achieve social integration and economic stability through Holy Names and sharing the love of God with others as it has been shared with me.”

Dr. Michael adds: “The Partners in Education program means a great deal to me and my family, as my daughter

For more information about the Partners in Education program see page 38.



Dr. Sabir Michael with Pope John Paul II (Courtesy Vatican Media)

Cheryl’s admission to AHN is nothing short of a miracle—a dream come true. We are essentially starting our lives over, but I know education can change the fate of anyone, as we experienced in Pakistan... Your support has strengthened our belief that, despite life’s challenges, there is no need for hopelessness because God is always there, working through people and organizations like yours.”



Dr. Sabir Michael and daughter, Cheryl



“I loved teaching math to every single girl.”

MANNING’S LEGACY: Incalculable Impact on AHN Community

When the news broke of Nancy Manning’s retirement on social media, the outpouring of emotion from students, faculty, staff, and friends — spanning decades — immediately began to pour in.

“What a legacy. Mrs. Manning left me with many wonderful memories.”

“She truly is an AHN legend!”

“The best of the best!”

“She made math fun!”

“Thank you for being a positive influence on me and so many others.”

“You have made a difference in so many lives!”

“You are one in a million... truly loved.”

That’s what 45 years of dedication to Academy of the Holy Names earns you.

Mrs. Manning assumed various roles during her tenure in addition to chairing the Math Department, from North Country bus driver and registrar to advisor for the Junior Class, Masterminds, and National Honor Society.

“I loved teaching math to every single girl,” Manning says. “I can’t think of a day that was ever too rough or tough. You all encouraged and enlightened me every single day, and I will miss you all more than words can say.”

Mrs. Manning says she will carry many wonderful memories of her time here at AHN in all she does going forward, and those of us here at AHN will do the same.



Kosek Discovers Inner Artist in Every Student

“Everyone thinks that being ‘a good artist’ means that they can draw or paint realistically, but that’s not true.”

Kate Kosek, who began her tenure as AHN’s Art Teacher in the fall of 2023, says most people can draw realistically if they put in the time and effort to practice, but abstraction and alternative processes are just as valid. “Mainly I want my students to think about art as creative problem solving. They should follow their curiosity and not be afraid to express themselves and take creative risks. There are rules to art making that you can follow, but it is totally fine to break those rules if it supports your vision!”

After receiving her bachelor’s in painting and drawing from the State University of New York at New Paltz, the Latham native spent 10 years in Brooklyn working professionally as a

digital printmaker before moving to Atlanta to get her master’s in studio art. In 2014 Kosek collaborated with an Australian clothing company which turned five of her drawings into textiles for a full line of garments. She returned to the Capital Region to be close to her family and chose Holy Names because “the school’s values surrounding female empowerment are in alignment with my own values.”

Projects vary from class to class, but Kosek’s students are each taught the guiding principles of art and design, along with some art history.

Kosek says her favorite part of her job has been getting to know her students and watching them develop their creativity. “There’s nothing better than hearing students express pride in their work. They are capable of great work when they set their minds to it!”

“There’s nothing better than hearing students express pride in their work. They are capable of great work when they set their minds to it!”

For Spiro, There's No Place Like Holy Names

The Mount Rushmore of beloved figures at Holy Names is so extensive, you'd need more than one range to include them all. This year's recipient of the John H. Farrell "Building the Future" Award is surely among them.

Helen Caulfield Spiro '78 is a Holy Names legacy. Her mother is an alumna. So are her sisters and her niece.

That's why she had no problem taking Sr. Constance Casey up on her offer to teach Chemistry. "She said 'try it for a year, and if you don't like it, you don't have to do it again.' I ended up staying for eight years."

Mrs. Spiro went from cheerleading in the 70s — she says Bleecker Stadium was the place to be before, during, and after football games on the weekends — to coaching cheerleading herself. There she led her squads to the National Cheerleaders Association Summer Camps each year, where they received the Award of Excellence and bids to national competitions.

Cheerleading holds a special place in her heart — she got engaged to her future husband, whom she met here at AHN, at cheer practice.

When the spring of 1990 rolled around, Mrs. Spiro decided it was time for a change. She went on to receive her master's in counseling from the College of Saint Rose, before returning in 2003 to take over AHN's College Counseling Office, where she remained for nearly two decades. She also helped oversee the Student Council and organized the Holly Ball.

"I often say I have one daughter at home, and 200 at school." On any given day you can still find her roaming the halls, often substituting, or assisting with special events. It is no wonder the award she received is for her service and dedication to Holy Names. Spiro's commitment to Holy Names and its student body has helped in AHN's growth and development, leaving a lifelong imprint on its campus, families, and students.



Dr. Kilbridge presented Spiro with the John Henry Farrell Building the Future Award at the 2024 Spring Gala.



"I often say I have one daughter at home, and 200 at school."



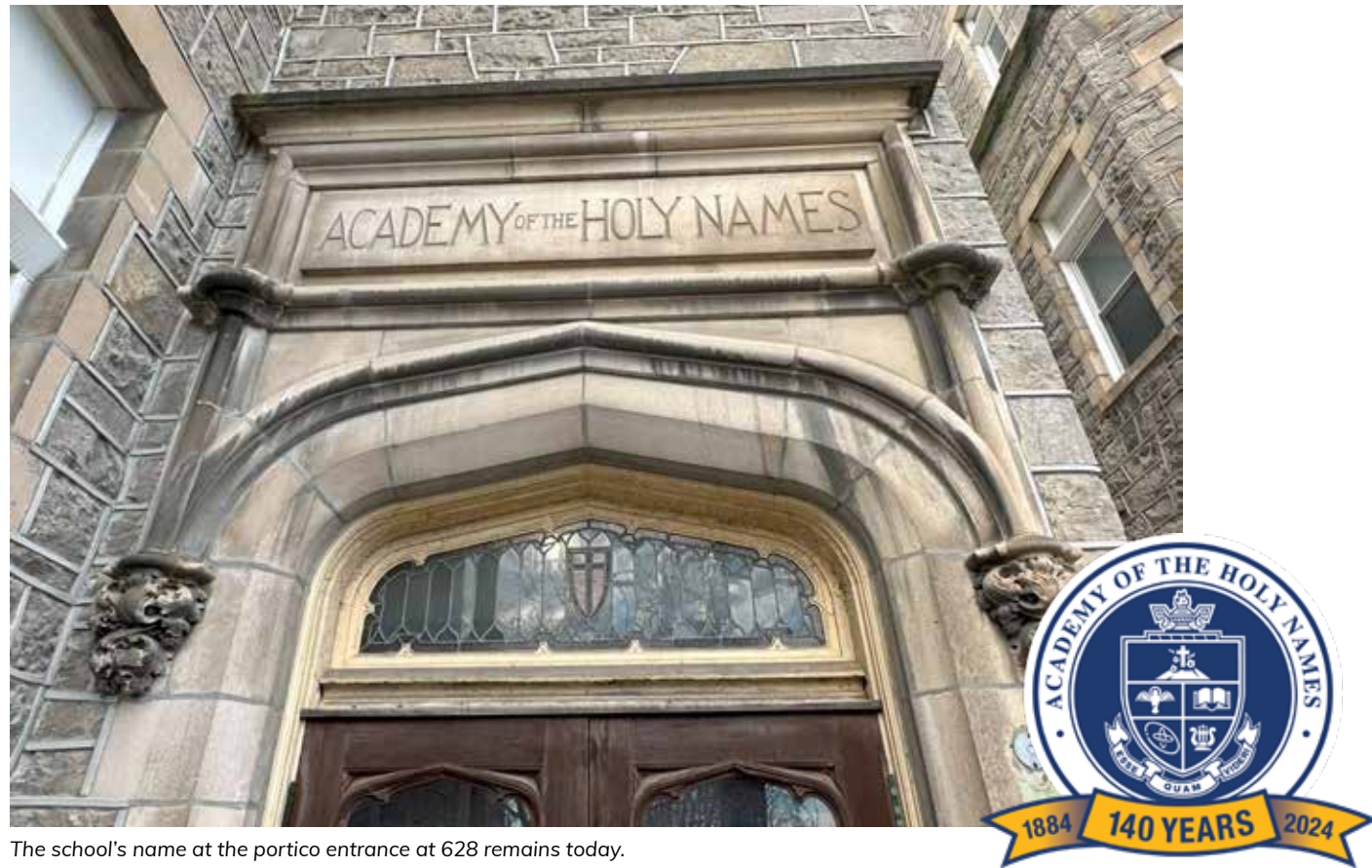
THE JOHN HENRY FARRELL BUILDING THE FUTURE AWARD

The John Henry Farrell Building the Future Award was established to recognize individual(s) whom, through their continual service and dedication to Academy of the Holy Names, have a lasting impact on the student body and entire campus, and whose commitment to the school and its student body have helped in AHN's growth and development, leaving a lifelong imprint on our campus, staff and students.

The award originated to acknowledge the impact of John H. Farrell, who, just a few days after the Sisters of the Holy Names arrived in Albany in 1880, visited the Sisters and expressed his wish to register his daughter Mary, age seven. Mr. Farrell was not only the father of the first student but a lifelong friend and faithful benefactor of the Sisters.

His efforts enabled the Sisters to purchase 628 Madison Avenue, the location of the school for 83 years. In the recorded history of the school, the significance of the relationship between the Farrell family and the Sisters is described, "It is impossible to acknowledge the gifts received from Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Farrell, since they are a daily occurrence."

John H. Farrell and his family were prominent Albanians; he is the man who created the modern day Times Union. In his memory, his family gave the school a bell which, 100 years after it was first placed in the belfry at 628 Madison Avenue, was retrieved and established in its existing home on our New Scotland Road Campus.



The school's name at the portico entrance at 628 remains today.

Former Holy Names, Current Albany Medical Center Campus Stands Test of Time

The late scientist Dr. Carl Sagan once said, “you have to know the past to understand the present.”

That’s the drive that’s kept the story of Academy of the Holy Names — in all its iterations — alive, and it’s been a passion project for Holy Names Archives Coordinator Mary Ellen Scally Conboy ’61, and Dick Kernan, a former 39-year IT employee of Albany Medical Center.

What do the pair have in common? An address in downtown Albany which both hold in esteem.

For those who need a brief refresher, in 1884, five Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, newly-arrived from Canada, opened their academy on Hamilton Street in Albany, moving a year later to 628 Madison Ave — the school’s home for the next eight decades.



Holy Names Archives Coordinator Mary Ellen Scally Conboy ’61, presents Matt Markham, Vice President of Communications and Marketing at Albany Medical Center, and Dick Kernan, a former 39-year IT employee of AMC, a framed history of 628 Madison.

A baby-boom later, the Sisters opened a second high school — this one at 1075 New Scotland Road, where it currently resides. As for 628, every new beginning comes from some other beginning’s end.

Nearly 140 years later, the Gothic building at 628 Madison remains intact, from its granite edifice sprinkled with stained glass windows to the opulent portico near the main entrance. Even vestiges of the original chapel remain inside — the area is currently used for office space — and dormitory-style lockers can be found throughout the building, along with much of the original artwork. Since AHN moved out in 1968, 628 has been home to several operational departments of the Albany Med Health System, including communications and marketing, development, and information technology.

Enter Dick Kernan. Immediately awestruck by 628’s historical significance upon his arrival, he took it upon himself to meticulously research and keep his fellow employees aware of the hallowed ground in which they were working. “I wanted them to understand the significance of the history of where they were coming to work every day,” Kernan says.

It is with that in mind, on a cold day in February 2024, Conboy paid 628 a visit. She’d been there before, but this visit was different. For the first time, she met Kernan, and the pair exchanged stories of music rehearsals in what are now communications offices, and horse drawn carriages where hybrid cars are now parked.

“It’s a thrill for me to connect my research knowledge with the actual building,” Conboy says. “It is still an impressive building, and thankfully, Albany Med has valued that work by caring for so much of its important historical elements. I’m truly grateful for this shared experience and to know Albany Med is such a good steward of our history.”

Conboy did not show up empty handed. She presented Kernan, and Albany Med Vice President of Communications and Marketing, Matt Markham, with a framed photo montage outlining the historical timeline of 628.

“My colleagues and I make a living telling stories, and the story of where we work is one of our favorites,” Markham says. “Our building has always existed to advance a mission. Whether forming faith-filled women or supporting the delivery of health care, AHN and Albany Med both seek to transform lives and build a better world. That commitment keeps our two organizations inextricably linked. Every story we tell from 628 Madison rests on the foundation Holy Names built.”



Many of the current offices of 628 Madison include original stained-glass windows, including this piece donated by the Harmonic Circle more than 100 years ago.

“Whether forming faith-filled women or supporting the delivery of health care, AHN and Albany Med both seek to transform lives and build a better world.”

Matt Markham, Albany Med



Employees and guests are greeted by vaulted ceilings lined with artwork.

All You Need is Love, and a Good Book

A Life of Learning, and Teaching with Sr. Karyl Fredricks, SNJM '56

Sometimes answering “the call” is easy. Sometimes, it may be a wrong number. For Sr. Karyl Fredricks, SNJM '56, her decision to enter a life of service was an easy one to make, although it may not have been her first choice.

“I wanted to be an architect and design houses, but it wasn’t an option in those days,” says Sr. Karyl. “My next inclination was to study commercial design in New York City, but my father said no daughter of his was going to do that, so becoming a religious woman won out.”

It has been 66 years since Sr. Karyl took her vows as a Sister of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary. Her fate was sealed long before that, however. Sr. Karyl says she knew in the first grade she would be a teacher. “Teachers always had books, and I thought books were the most wonderful thing in the world.”

Since 1958, Sr. Karyl has been teaching or involved in education in various forms including in the classroom. She taught Math, Home Economics, and Latin at Maryrose Academy, Religious Education in the Lower School at Holy Names and at Christ the King Parish in Guilderland as a volunteer which she has done until her “retirement” in 2024. She will continue as a mentor for students and adults at Christ the King.

Sr. Karyl says it’s been a privilege to teach for so long and credits her Holy Names education and the opportunities being an SNJM has provided her. She’s taken advantage of those opportunities to provide the most nurturing environment possible for her students. “The most important thing I thought was necessary for children is to love them (the adults, too). Love them for who they are, not how smart or clever they may be. I always tried to do that: be impartial, caring, and loving.”

It’s that love of teaching, and love of learning that still fuels Sr. Karyl 58 years after graduating from AHN. “I still enjoy learning. I hope I taught students to love learning no matter how they acquired the knowledge. Pursue new things. There’s something wonderful about the gift of acquiring knowledge that I still appreciate.”

She’s also an advocate for embracing fears and facing adversity head-on. “I’ve had many wonderful opportunities, but have also faced many challenges and have striven to meet them all. I didn’t want to land on a plateau and stay there.”

The girl who wanted to go to school even when she didn’t feel well because she was afraid she’d miss something important hasn’t lost her zeal, fully embracing the SNJM Core Values, most especially by dedicating her life to educating in faith. She serves as a reminder to us all that we are never done learning.



Reunion of Sisters of the Holy Names

A special luncheon was held at AHN with Sisters of the Holy Names who remain in the Capital Region.



Front (L-R): Sr. Karyl Fredricks '56, Sr. Mary Francis Beck Back (L-R): Sr. Marilyn Marx '53, Sr. Beatrice Hall, Sr. Grace Diaz



Front (L-R): Elizabeth McGarry P '29, Diane Wilson P '28, Sr. Karyl Fredricks '56, Sr. Mary Frances Beck, Mary Ellen Conboy '61 Back (L-R) Theresa Moran, Margaret Taranto, Sr. Marilyn Marx '53, Sr. Grace Diaz, Kathleen Naughtner, Ann Rento '81 P '17 '18, Kathy Witherspoon, Kendra Astemborski '07, Kristin Vivian P '14 '17, Sr. Beatrice Hall





A MODERN LEARNING ENVIRONMENT SUMMER PROJECTS UPDATE

LEARNING COMMONS

This year's Spring Gala paddle raise focused on the completion of the Learning Commons in the library, which will be a reimagined space that acknowledges the ways in which our 21st century students study, collaborate, relax, and advance their learning experience at Holy Names.



DANCE STUDIO

Dance is coming to Holy Names!

More than two dozen students signed up for instruction in the fall, under the tutelage of our School Counselor/Dance Teacher Claire Jacob-Zysman. The studio is housed in the third floor of the Campus Arts Center. Thank you to CSArch for donating the rendering.



FITNESS CENTER

Gifts from ALLINFORAHN are helping expand and upgrade our cardio and strength training capacity and expand access to fitness opportunities for all students.

Our current training room will be turned into a modern cardio fitness center, and a rarely-used storage space has been converted into a multi-level strength training room.



BREEZEWAY

Thanks to a generous donation from retiring Board of Trustees member Jack Maloy, P '03, '13, we have extended the breezeway sidewalk in the front of the building, creating a safer approach for students and faculty to enter the building during drop-off and pickup times.



AHN Launches First Student-Run Broadcast Studio

2024 brought with it the launch of AHN's first student-run broadcast studio: WAHN PantherVision. Housed in the Library Learning Commons, the studio, run by members of the school's Communications Club, broadcasts morning announcements.

"Developing and honing communication skills have been hallmarks of a Holy Names education for decades," Dr. Kilbridge said. "The professional-grade tools and equipment and support provided by our experienced broadcasting staff provide students with additional avenues in front of and behind the camera to enhance their experience."

"PantherVision is the perfect example of how Holy Names listens to its students." Rosie McDonnell '26.

"The enthusiasm for this project and the support the faculty, staff, and students have shown for each other is unparalleled — where else can you encounter cheers and applause following a homeroom address?" said Principal Margaret Taranto.

"PantherVision is the perfect example of how Holy Names listens to its students," said Rosie McDonnell '26. "At our ice cream social last year, I suggested to (Director of Marketing and Communications) Mr. Perritano we start a club where students could pitch ideas and produce content for the school, and now we have taken things to the next level with this studio."

PantherVision is part of the creation of the Holy Names Innovation Lab, a project supported by AHN's 2023 Spring Gala. The first steps toward making the lab a reality have taken place with the procurement of programmable robots, snap circuits, and the start of a makerspace. The Lab and broadcast studio are housed in the upper level of the Library Learning Commons.



High School Graduation



Mary Ellen Conboy '61 honored at dedication of AHN history wall



Indoor and outdoor track teams



Mother Daughter Luncheon



2005 Track Team at Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony



AHN Golf Classic



Vice Admiral Nancy Lacore '86, seen here with Casey Noll '24, addressed Students in the Fall



Grades 6 and 7 prepare to head for MA for a field trip



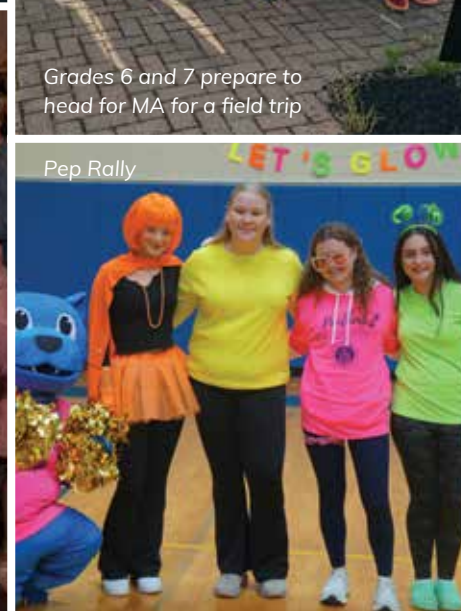
Ryan Carroll scores 1000th point



Seniors present check to Marcesco Foods at Alumnae Induction Ceremony



Father Daughter Dinner Dance



Pep Rally



National Honor Society Induction



Christmas window painting



Grade 8 Washington DC trip

20s



Hafsa Khan '23: Hafsa and her family were recently featured in an article in the Times Union about prayer, self-restraint, and the impact Ramadan has on food-service workers. Photo

Courtesy: Hafsa Khan



Morgan Lawler '23: As part of the U.S. Military Academy Class of 2028, took the oath ceremony on The Plain in West Point - The U.S. Military Academy. On R-Day, or Reception Day, Cadet Candidates

reported to West Point to undergo a series of orientation activities including uniform issue and medical examinations, culminating with the Oath Ceremony. Following R-Day, Cadet Candidates begin six weeks of Cadet Basic Training.

Meghan Bell '21: Congratulations to Megan, whose Women's 4x400 Meter Relay team at the University of Rochester went back-to-back as Indoor National Champions!

The three-time All-American also finished sixth in the 800m with a time of 2:10.68, coming within a half a second of the UR school record she set in the Prelims!

10s



Deja Deas '16: Immortalized forever in the Carlo Cherubino Athletic Hall of Fame, stopped by AHN to visit with Coach Gigliello.



Kit Small '13: Elected to the SUNY New Paltz Athletics Hall of Fame where she was a basketball standout from 2013-2017. Here at AHN, she led AHN to a 22-1 record her senior year and a trip

to the Class A Finals.

Katie Picchione '12: Congratulations to Katie on her wedding!



Paige DeSorbo '10: Paige paid a visit to The White House. She was among the guests invited for Women's History Month as First Lady Dr. Jill Biden laid out her \$100 million initiative for research and development into women's health.



Paige is a new AHN Partner in Education, offering a scholarship to a student wishing to attend AHN who wouldn't otherwise have been able to. Photo courtesy: Paige DeSorbo

Dannielle Melendez '10: Dannielle was featured in the Times Union's "Capital Region Q&A" after being named president of the Pine Hills Neighborhood Association.



00s



Kristen Hans Curran '04: Kristen was recognized by City and State on its 2024 list of "Who's Who in Government Relations." Photo Courtesy: JP Elario

Class of '01: A mini reunion on campus! **Colleen Moore Reynolds '01** of Moore Fire Equipment was here to ensure AHN passes inspection and bumped into her classmate **Tracy Bukowski Crudo '01!**



90s

Sarah Tolser '99: Sarah's new book, *Majestica*, is now available on Amazon. Billed as Jurassic Park meets Skandar and the Unicorn Thief, this page-turning middle grade fantasy adventure is set at a nature preserve for magical beasts, where two girls find themselves on a wilderness expedition gone disastrously wrong.



80s

Glory-Anne Jones '89: Glory-Anne was among a group of Goldman Sachs "graduates" featured in Forbes Magazine. Goldman Sachs CEO, David Solomon, joined the firm's fifth Black in Business graduation ceremony honoring women-led firms. In 2008, the investment bank established the 10,000 Small Businesses program to teach enterprises business economics and scaling. Goldman Sachs has since replicated the program for Black in Business. Photo Courtesy: Goldman Sachs



Margaret A. Carciobolo '82 and **Lisa M. Marrello, Esq. '84:** Congratulations to the pair of AHN alumnae for being recognized as power players in business! Carciobolo, the President & CEO of 1986 Hospitality (formerly Nicole's Catering) and, Marrello, Partner at Park Strategies, have been named to Albany Business Review's 2024 Power 50 List.



This year's Power 50 list focuses on the influential women leading and making critical decisions in some of the region's most prominent companies.

Meg Wallingford '82: Meg celebrated her 60th birthday in Dennisport, MA with **Madison Mendel '15**, **Schuyler Mendel '18** and **Ethan Mendel CBA '16**.



60s

Class of 1969: Members of the Maryrose Academy Class of 1969 paid AHN a visit. **Sue Devine Donohue**, **Nancy Christenson Theissen**, and **Linda DelZotto Wilock** are celebrating their 55th reunion!



Carol Frone Criscione '62: Carol celebrated her birthday in June along with **Maeve Nielsen '22**, **Meg Wallingford '82**, **Anna Szesnat '22**, **Joanne Criscione McTague '70**.



50s

Rhea Picotte Clark '58: Congratulations to Rhea and the Picotte Family, who were recognized by The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region at its Raise the Region celebration. The family, including Rhea's daughter, **Betsy Clark Bender '87**, was honored with the C. Jordan Vail Spirit of Philanthropy Award.



In Memoriam

We remember our alumnae who have passed away between December 14, 2023 and August 1, 2024 and ask you to keep their families in your prayers.

- Marianne Gable '79
- Kathleen Gallivan Casazza '66
- Katherine Burns Gorruso '66
- Mary Birch Fenn '61
- Susan Barbone '60
- Mary Margaret Riccardi Maloney '57
- Marion Frank Harwick '54
- Margaret Anderson Williamson '53
- Mary Ellen Hogarty Kiernan '53
- Jeanne McCarroll Black '52
- Agnes DiTrapano Franco '51
- Patricia Viglucci Whalen '50
- Patricia Van Alstine Palmer '48
- Matilda Tarzia Duncan '47
- Margaret Mary McCabe Smitas '47
- Rosemary Dyda Chonski '46

Cape Cod Reunions

It was a who's who of AHN alumnae in Cape Cod at the end of July. Great to see so many familiar faces spanning so many years! A special thank you to Susan Rogler Gomez '81 and Henry Gomez for hosting.



- Katie Ann McDermott '98**
- Margaret Dyer Reilly '59**
- Rita Maloy '67**
- Nancy Walsh Scofield '65**
- Maureen Walsh Belsito '65**
- Amy Smith Roberts '92**
- Kate Sumner Murphy '97**
- Sharon Rogler Tromp '87**
- Susan Mahoney Welch '84**
- Marty Kilbridge, President**
- Kathleen Conboy Schreck '74**
- Carol Criscione '62**
- Anna Szesnat '22**
- Kristin Vivian P '14 '17**
- Susan Casey '79**
- Susan Rogler Gomez '81**
- Mary Faith Hughes Scherer '48**
- Margaret Tromp '23**
- Madeline Murphy '25**



This group of AHN alumnae came from all over the continental U.S. for a reunion in Falmouth, MA.

From L to R: **Betsy Naughtner '91** (Massachusetts), **Ellen Naughtner Andrews '95** (Alaska), **Maggie Naughtner Burns '85** (New York), **Kate Naughtner '89** (Montana), **Sue Mahony Welch '84** (Indiana).

West Coast Reunion

AHN was on the move in Northern California, where Dr. Kilbridge and Principal Taranto met with alumnae: **Susan Hughes '64**, **Claudia Consiglio '23**, **Patricia Ott Grace '59**, and **Maureen Connors '64**



Share your news with us! Visit ahns.org/alumnae.

Say Thank You by Supporting the 1884 Fund



Spring Gala 2024 Provided by Michael Gallitelli



For 140 years, Holy Names has developed an enviable reputation for excellence in educating young women. Please consider your important role in continuing this legacy by donating to the school with a generous heart. Contributions to the 1884 Fund further the mission of AHN by providing funds that enhance academic programming, individualized attention, STEM, personalized college counseling, technology upgrades, campus improvements, visual and performing arts programs, scholarship opportunities, and athletics. Collective annual giving impacts every aspect of our school every day and for every student.

Sponsorship of and attendance at signature events support the 1884 Fund and build community throughout our extended Holy Names family. Your gift makes a difference, and your generous support is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



← Make your gift at ahns.org.

Convey Important Personal Values to the Next Generation by Making a Planned Legacy Gift



The Mother Marie Rose Legacy Society honors those who make a vested commitment to Holy Names through planned giving.

Mother Marie Rose Legacy Society Members

*The Estate of Constance Keeler Bopp '51	*The Estate of Lois Delehanty Moll '32
Judith Myers Cavanaugh '58 †	*The Estate of Elizabeth Flood Morrow '50
Janet Doolin '71	Cynthia Haselsteiner Pettit '78
*The Estate of Jane Barrett Florick '56	*The Estate of Ellen A. Picotte '69
*The Estate of Sally Mosher Guerard '48	Mary Patricia Yanas Rowlands '79
Regina Scarano LaGatta '70	*The Estate of Carol Andre Sullivan '63
*The Estate of Raymond J. Lauterborn	Mary Ellen Conners Trumbull '66
*The Estate of Mildred Rabe Mansfield '37	*The Estate of Daniel P. Unser P '18
Terilyn McGovern Mazza '70	Mary Anne Vigliante '64
*The Estate of Patricia A. Moffitt	*The Estate of Joyce M. Wrenn '54
	*Posthumously honored †Deceased



Daniel P. Unser P '18

Daniel P. Unser, P '18

Daniel P. Unser P '18 honored his daughter's experience at AHN by leaving a gift through his will. Mariana Unser is a 2018 graduate of Holy Names.

Dan grew up in Colonie and lettered in soccer, basketball, and baseball. He went on to Ithaca College and enjoyed playing soccer as an adult. After many years in his family's business, Colonie Star Market, Dan went on to start his own remodeling business and took immense pride in his work. He was a "jack of all trades." Mariana remembers her father as someone who was humble, kind, and thoughtful. She recalls, "He was a great dad. He would hear me say I would like to plant mums at my house, and the next day he'd show up with pots of mums for me." Dan was known to be a great helper of friends and family. He was selfless and would offer aid to anyone in need. Dan planned for a legacy gift to AHN through his will as a show of his gratitude for the educational experience received by his daughter Mariana. "Dad always said, 'Marianna, you are the person you are today because of your Holy Names experience.' He loved the school," says Mariana. Dan's gift will help to sustain the Mission and future of AHN for which we are eternally grateful.

If you've made a commitment to AHN in your estate plans, please let us know, so we can acknowledge you as a part of the Mother Marie Rose Legacy Society. It brings our community joy to appreciate you in this lifetime for a gift that lives on into the next.

Ways to Create a Legacy

- Bequests from your will or trust
- Gifts from life insurance, IRAs or other qualified plans
- Charitable gift annuities
- Gifts of cash, stock or securities

Visit our giving page at ahns.org or contact Kristin Vivian, Director of Institutional Advancement at 518-438-7895 x219



Partners in Education Scholarship Program
Fund Her Future



The Partners in Education Scholarship Program at Academy of the Holy Names was established in 1990 and is designed to provide tuition sponsorship for qualified students interested in attending AHN. Many students have received an outstanding education made possible through the generosity of philanthropic benefactors.

The program encompasses both corporate and individual donors who wish to join AHN in providing girls with the tools they need to strive for their dreams and a belief in a future full of hope and promise.

Members of the Partners in Education Program have changed the lives of exceptional young women in the greater Capital Region by providing for an educational foundation that instills academic excellence, self-confidence, leadership, and a sense of compassion and service to the larger community.

Those members were celebrated at a special breakfast earlier this year. If you're interested in learning more about the program, head online to ahns.org/partners-in-education.



ahns.org/partners-in-education

Thank You to Our Donors

Thank you for the many generous ways in which you give back to Holy Names. Your support impacts every student every day, changing lives along the way!



"My Holy Names education helped me to excel in my academic and leadership skills, while establishing who I am as a person. It has taught me to push myself to excel to new limits and given me a home to return to. Gifts to the Partners Program help young girls to strive and reach their full potential."

SANDRA ODOM '23
Howard University



"In recent years, I've been interested in giving specifically to scholarships, as I believe financial barriers shouldn't limit young people from receiving a great education. Through Partners in Education, I can make an impact."

CHARLOTTE FORREST '80
Partner



Annual Giving Breakdown

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK!

Your generosity has supported the following:

- New dance studio
- Full-time school counselor
- Fitness center upgrades
- Completion of the Learning Commons with renovation of the library
- Media equipment for PantherVision
- Need and merit-based scholarships
- Campus-wide service day

Thank you for your generous support of AHN events!

GOLF CLASSIC
\$35,853

GIVING TUESDAY
\$38,591

ALLINFORAHN
\$45,813

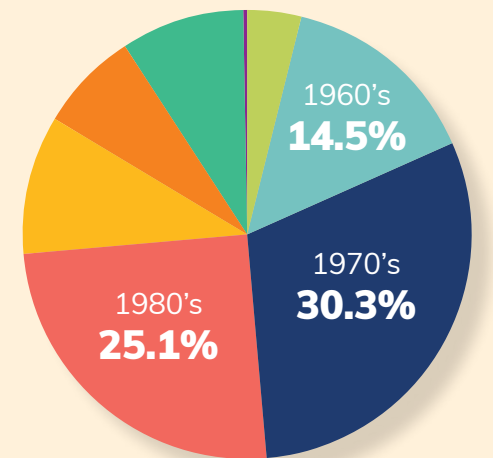
SPRING GALA
\$247,506

INCREASED GIVING

- ↑ **143 NEW DONORS**
- ↑ **470 DONORS** Increased Their Annual Giving
- ↑ **25% INCREASE** In Named Partners
- ↑ Current Parent Giving **DOUBLED**

ALUMNAE GIVING BY DECADE '23-'24

- 1950's - 3.9%
- 1960's - 14.5%
- 1970's - 30.3%
- 1980's - 25.1%
- 1990's - 9.8%
- 2000's - 7.2%
- 2010's - 9.0%
- 2020's - 0.1%



Academy of the Holy Names is extremely grateful for the support of our alumnae, parents, friends, sponsors, committee members, event attendees, and volunteers who helped make our year a success!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO TO MAKE HOLY NAMES A SPECIAL PLACE!



ACADEMY OF THE HOLY NAMES

1075 New Scotland Road
Albany, NY 12208

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Need to Update Your Contact Info? Visit ahns.org/update-info or call 518-438-7895 x254.

Join Now! AHNConnect

A place to connect with AHN alumnae, students, families, and friends.
ahns.alumnifire.com



Reconnect

Find friends from your network, old and new.



Open Doors

Help others in the community by opening doors for them in your network.



Network

Build your network by finding other members who want to help.



Reunion Weekend

OCTOBER 4-6, 2024

AHN Golf Classic

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 7, 2024

AHN on the Move, NYC

FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 18, 2024

AHN on the Move, Boston

THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 14, 2024

Giving Tuesday

TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2024

Light the Bell Tower

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 12, 2024

Alumnae Christmas Celebration

FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 20, 2024

#ALLINFORAHN

THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 13, 2025

AHN on the Move, Washington, D.C.

THURSDAY,
MARCH 20, 2025

Spring Gala

FRIDAY,
MARCH 28, 2025

Class of 2025 Alumnae Induction

TUESDAY,
MAY 20, 2025