

*"Perhaps there is no occasion when the heart is more open, the brain more quick, the memory more rich and happy, or the tongue more prompt and eloquent, than when school friends, knit by every sympathy of intelligence and affection, meet again!" Family Portraits by Marion McCandless*

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## Alumnae Association Programs and Awards

The Alumnae Association and the Office of Alumnae Relations offer a wide range of activities, events, and services for alumnae and students.

- **Alumnae records maintenance:** Address changes, births, deaths, marriages.
- **Reunion Weekend:** The annual homecoming for Saint Mary's alumnae includes continuing education seminars, special liturgies, athletic events, class dinners for the Silver and Golden anniversary year classes, an all-class banquet and picnic, and alumnae awards.
- **Courier:** Alumnae, club, and class news in the College magazine.
- **Alumnae Association Awards**
- **Alumnae Club Network:** Assistance with club organization and support of all club endeavors.
- **Alumnae Association Board of Directors:** 18-member Board meets twice a year at Saint Mary's. Directors are selected by current Board members to reflect, as closely as possible, the geographic and decade composition of the entire alumnae body. Directors serve for a 3-year term, with an option of a second 3-year term.
- **Alumnae Resource Network:** A computerized database of information on alumnae career paths, including their Saint Mary's majors, entry-level jobs, current positions, employers and graduate degrees. It also identifies alumnae who are willing to talk to students and fellow alumnae about their careers and the job search process in general.
- **Alumnae Course Auditing Program:** A continuing education opportunity which enables area alumnae to audit one college class per semester, free of charge.
- **Legacy events** the Alumnae Office hosts receptions for our legacy students and their families during first year Welcome Week, sophomore parents weekend, Junior Mothers weekend and during commencement week.
- **Alumnae/Senior Champagne Brunch:** Held during senior week, the event welcomes seniors into the Alumnae Association and recognizes the Outstanding Senior named by the Alumnae Association Board of Directors.
- **Travel programs:** Alumnae Association-sponsored trips organized and carried out by a designated travel company.
- **Alumnae Memorial Scholarship:** The Alumnae Memorial Scholarship fund was established in 1994 by the 1993-94 Alumnae Board and all past Alumnae Board members, as a leadership initiative for the

Sesquicentennial Campaign for Saint Mary's College. Gifts and pledges totaling \$83,130 were received from 83 women and the fund was open to all alumnae and friends of the College in October 1994. The endowment currently generates five significant scholarship awards. The program offers an opportunity to make a lasting gift to Saint Mary's in honor of birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, retirements, and other special occasions, as well as memorials for deceased alumnae, relatives and friends.

- **Success After Saint Mary's: Grace Under Pressure:** Presented by the Alumnae Association Board of Directors, this event gives junior and seniors tips about the interview process.
- **On-line services:** Visit [www.saintmarys.edu](http://www.saintmarys.edu) to find club information, update your address, find a classmate, share class news, and much more.
- **Alumnae/Student programs planned annually**

## Alumnae Association Awards

Each year, the Alumnae Association Board of Directors selects four alumnae as recipients of the following Alumnae Association awards: **The Distinguished Alumna Award, The Alumna Achievement Award, The Humanitas Award, and The Outstanding Young Alumna Award.** The awards are presented at the Reunion banquet. All alumnae are invited to nominate graduate or non-graduate alumnae who deserve recognition for their active support of Saint Mary's and/or have made significant contributions in their fields of endeavor. (A description of the award criteria and a listing of recipients may be found on the following pages.) An alumna may not be nominated for an award while serving a term on the Board of Directors of the Alumnae Association. Nominations must be accompanied by a written statement of the nominee's

accomplishments and why she is deserving of the honor. Preference will be given to those award nominees in their Reunion year. Nominations are due in the Alumnae Relations Office in mid-February each year. Presentation of the awards takes place at the Reunion banquet each year

## Our Winning Students

The Alumnae Association Board of Directors also presents two student awards. The **Outstanding Senior Award** is presented annually at the Alumnae/Senior Brunch during senior week before commencement. The recipient is selected by the Alumnae Board from nominations made by members of the senior class. The **Helen Holland Voll Award** is presented periodically to a non-varsity athlete for her accomplishments in intramural activities. Selection of the recipient is made by the athletic department.

## The Humanitas Award

The nominee should be outstanding in her personal and volunteer accomplishments and recognized for her concern for the interests and welfare of her fellow human beings. She should exemplify the qualities of personal dedication, compassion, selflessness, and sacrifice, through social action, education and reform within the community, church or world. This award was first presented in 2000.

## Recipients

- 2000: Patricia Andrews Marovich '82
- 2001: Gretchen Luepke Shipp '85
- 2002: Christine Bodewes '87
- 2003: Sister Ruth Boylston Heaney, O.S.B. '36  
Mary Elizabeth Nitsch '93
- 2004: Elizabeth Finneran Kennedy '59
- 2005: Gaynell Bordes Cronin '60
- 2006: Leslie Wilson '76  
Sheila Braun Reynolds '81  
(Posthumously)
- 2007: Mary Ellen Durbin '62  
Suzanne Seidl Griffin '67
- 2008: Mamiella Chavis Brown '79
- 2009: Rose-Marie Oppenheim Dilenschneider '54

## The Distinguished Alumna Award

A nominee should exemplify the standards, ideals and mission of Saint Mary's in her particular vocation, and be of outstanding service to Saint Mary's through ongoing work for the Alumnae Association, either with a local club or with the Association directly. That service should also be demonstrated through yearly benefaction and other consistently devoted support and friendship to the College. Graduate and non-graduate alumnae are eligible for the award.

### Recipients

1966: Lorraine Cahill Greenock '43  
1967: Margaret Hall Cushwa '30  
1968: Mary Rita Hellmuth '46  
1969: Sr. Maria Pieta (Stella Scott '22)  
1970: Beatrice McManus '13  
1971: Helen Carroll '26  
1972: Katharine Duffy '22 and  
Marian Duffy '26  
1973: Louise Bittorf Sullivan '35  
1974: Effie Ehrhardt '06  
1975: Sr. Basil Anthony O'Flynn '46  
1976: Paula Lawton Bevington '58  
1977: Ann Hurley Martin '60  
(posthumously)  
1978: Katherine Terry Dooley '28 and  
Sr. M. Florentine Pearson '28  
1979: Sr. Josephine Lucker '54  
1980: Diane Smith Davis '69  
1981: Frances Lyon '17  
1982: Sr. Rita Claire Lyons '30  
1983: Marjorie Hosinski Hamel '43  
1984: Dorothy Hayes Delaney '20  
1985: Mary Patricia Walsh Lawton '35  
1986: Susan Fitzgerald Rice '61  
1987: Lee Iserson Klee '50  
1988: Hannah Grasberger Storen '58  
1989: Kay Hauser Sanford '42  
1990: Martha Mangan Michaud '47  
1991: Maryjeanne Ryan Burke '56  
1992: Mary Cucchi Depman '50  
1993: Floy Terstegge Meagher '43 and  
Jeanne Buddy Repetto '43  
1994: Edith Bauerlein '25  
1995: Marlene Gaubinger McGinn '54  
1996: Beverly Senda DeFoe '65  
1997: Kay Moore Gibbons '62  
1998: Mary Ann Heaton Spitters '49  
1999: Barbara Patrick O'Toole '59  
Ann Meagher Vander Vennet '59

2000: Elizabeth A. Nolan '50  
2001: Peggy Hill '61  
2002: Joyce McMahon Hank '52  
Mary Kelly McLaughlin '42  
2003: Carolyn Powers Powell '48  
2004: Deborah Johnson Schwiebert '74  
2005: Kerry Long '70  
2006: Catherine "C.C." Shaughnessy Nessinger '56  
2007: Lydia Haggar Novakov '72  
2008: Margaret FitzGibbons Higgins '73  
2009: Kathy Malone Beeler '69

## The Alumna Achievement Award

The nominee should be outstanding in her personal, professional or volunteer accomplishments. As a recognized leader in her field of endeavor, she should exemplify the quality of a Christian liberal arts education and uphold the standards, ideals and mission of Saint Mary's College. Graduate and non-graduate alumnae are eligible for the award.

### Recipients

1988: Terri Menke-Hargrave '68  
1989: Gloria Ybarra '75  
1990: Doris Quinlan '40  
1991: Mary Fran Chilson McGovern '40  
1992: Frances Michaud Makowski '72  
1993: Sr. Frances Bernard O'Connor, C.S.C. '60  
1994: Maryanne Wolf '69  
1995: Christine Lungren-Maddalone '70  
1996: Margaret Nutting Ralph '63  
1997: Joan Roddewig Geary '62  
1998: Mary Cay Jordan Westphal '53  
1999: Elizabeth R. Culligan '72  
2000: Diane Daly McGarry '70  
2001: Diane Aigotti '86  
2002: Adriana Trigiani '81  
2003: Kathryn Wiedl Mettler '63  
2004: Kathleen M. Baer '72  
2005: Anne Meagher Northup '70  
2006: Patricia Lurel Cook '75  
2007: Lucia Rodarte Madrid '72  
2008: Gaynor McCown '83  
(Posthumously)  
2009: Joan T. Richtsmeier '77

## The Outstanding Young Alumna Award

The nominee should be outstanding in her personal, professional or volunteer accomplishments and should exemplify the standards, ideals and mission of Saint Mary's College and the Alumnae Association. She should demonstrate service to Saint Mary's through ongoing work for the Alumnae Association, either with an alumnae club or with the Association directly. Graduate and non-graduate alumnae who have graduated within the last fifteen (15) years are eligible for this award.

### Recipients

1984: Mary Ellen Stumpf '74  
1985: Mary F. McMahon '77  
1986: Bernadette Baldy McGee '76  
1987: Jane Ann Schiltz '77  
1988: Roseann Enyedy Cyngier '81  
1990: Patti Field '80  
1993: Kathleen Gibbons '89  
1995: Mary Desmond Liddell '85  
1996: Tricia Burke '81  
1997: Anne Hesslau Dondanville '82  
1998: Ann DeWitt O'Keefe '83  
1999: Mary L. Burke '85  
2002: Rose Maciejewski '97  
2003: Rebecca Votto '93  
2004: Sarah Siefert Barney '99  
2005: Margaret Cushwa Haller '90  
2006: Kelly Walsh '01  
2007: Sarah Sullivan Bigelow '96  
2008: Genevieve Morrill '98  
2009: Gayla Spenny '97

## Outstanding Senior Award

In the Fall of 1987, the Alumnae Association Board of Directors initiated an award to be given each year to a member of the senior class in recognition of her outstanding service to Saint Mary's College. The recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award should exemplify the spirit and values of Saint Mary's College. She should be distinguished by scholarship, excellence in conduct and extracurricular activities. One way to express our vision is to say that, as the valedictorian represents the mind, and the Lumen

Christi recipient reflects the soul, we perceive that this particular senior embodies the heart of Saint Mary's College.

### Recipients

1988: Kara Marie Murphy  
1989: Christy Wolfe  
1990: Mary Beth Blajda  
1991: Corinne Constance Pavli  
1992: Carolyn Beth Cummins  
1993: Tina Buchanan  
1994: Ann Grant  
1995: Noha El-Ganzourhi  
1996: Sarah Sullivan  
1997: Kelly Cook  
1998: Nikki Milos  
1999: Tracy Patzner  
Sarah Siefert  
2000: Anne Pangilinan  
2001: Jeanine Mauro  
2002: Michelle Houser  
2003: Kristin Matha  
2004: Sara Mahoney  
Desiree Paulin  
2005: Kathleen Larsen  
Donna Lubbers  
2006: Michelle Fitzgerald  
2007: Rachael Stowe  
2008: Natalie Grasso  
2009: Caitlin Brodmerkel

## Helen Holland Voll Award

The Helen Holland Voll award was first presented to a Saint Mary's student in 1918. It was given at the initiative of a young woman named Helen Holland who graduated from Saint Mary's in 1917, after receiving her entire education -- grade school through college -- at Saint Mary's.

Each year from 1918 until Helen's death in 1958, an award of a solid silver cup was made to the recipient. During this time, criteria for the award evolved from achievement in "attendance and class work" to "general excellence in athletics".

In 1983, 25 years after Helen's death, the Alumnae Association Board of Directors reinstated the Helen Holland Voll award. Since there were already a number of varsity athletic programs for which monograms and trophies were awarded, the Board decided to honor a non-varsity athlete. The award is now given periodically by the Alumnae Association to a non-varsity athlete for her accomplishments in intramural activities. The actual trophy was donated to the College by Sister Florentine Pearson, a former recipient and member of the Class of 1928.

## **Alumnae Association Board of Directors**

To serve on the Alumnae Board of Directors is an honor, a recognition of past outstanding service in an alumnae club and/or service to the College, and an opportunity to further the goals of the College and its Alumnae Association.

The Board of Directors of the Alumnae Association consists of 18 members selected from graduate and associate members of the Association who are not current students or club presidents. (Current club presidents are eligible for consideration, but must resign as president of the club if selected to serve on the Alumnae Board.) Directors serve for a three-year term, with an option of a second three-year term.

Directors are selected by current Alumnae Board members to reflect, as closely as possible, the geographic and decade composition of the entire active alumnae body. The Board votes at the fall Board meeting on a slate of candidates presented by the Board Selection and Awards Committee. New directors assume office the following June, at the close of Reunion.

### **Duties of an Alumnae Board Director**

#### **TIME COMMITMENT:**

The Alumnae Board meets twice each year. In the fall, the Board meets on Wednesday evening, Thursday, and Friday. In the spring the Board meets on Thursday evening, Friday, and Saturday. In between Board meetings, directors are expected to attend to any committee work as necessary, maintain

contact with liaison clubs, and represent the Alumnae Association at nearby club events. Board members who live in close proximity to the College may also be asked to represent the Alumnae Association at various College functions.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Attend the meetings of the Alumnae Board of Directors at Saint Mary's in the spring and fall of each year.\*
- Serve on one or more of the standing committees of the Board as requested by the president. These committees are: Executive; Board Selection and Awards; Alumnae Engagement; Student/Alumnae; and Clubs and Resources.
- Serve as liaison to three or four alumnae clubs assigned by the president. Duties as club liaison include:
  - Functioning as a communication vehicle between the Alumnae Board and the local club, and acting as an added resource to the club president;
  - Communicating with club presidents (via telephone or letter) a minimum of four times a year, prior to and following Board meetings;
  - Preparing a written status report of each club for the Alumnae Office file;
  - Sending highlights of the Board meeting minutes (provided by the secretary) to club presidents, and noting any Board actions that will directly affect clubs;
  - Being available to participate in events and programs of nearby clubs, if possible.

*\* Travel and off-campus lodging expenses and miscellaneous expenses, such as telephone calls and postage, are the responsibility of each Board member. Please see Alumnae Board Expense Reimbursement Policy for more information.*

## **Criteria for Alumnae Board Service**

### **GEOGRAPHIC AND CLASS DECADE**

As stipulated by the Alumnae Association bylaws, the composition of the 18-member Board shall reflect, as closely as possible, the actual decade and geographic composition of the total active alumnae population. Directors will be selected with consideration given to fulfilling the geographic and class decade criteria for the upcoming term.

### **INVOLVEMENT IN AN ALUMNAE CLUB (or service as an Area Contact)**

The ideal Board member has been extensively and consistently involved in club activities. Club involvement includes serving as a club officer, chairing/hosting an event, and serving on club committees. (The Alumnae Board recognizes that an alumna's geographic location may preclude her involvement in an alumnae club.)

## **SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE**

A Board candidate may have served the College by participating in the Admission Office Alumnae VISA (Volunteers in Support of Admission) program; serving on her class Reunion Gift Campaign; participating in any or all of the Alumnae Association networking programs – job shadowing sponsor, Alumnae Resource Network mentor, or returning to campus as an alumna speaker.

### **FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE COLLEGE**

A Board candidate must be a consistent supporter of the College's Annual Fund.

### **DEMONSTRATED LEADERSHIP SKILLS**

Through her professional and/or volunteer endeavors, a Board candidate shall have demonstrated a variety of leadership skills and attributes such as the ability to design and implement programs, a willingness to take initiative, and the ability to be a "team player".