

# **GENESIS**

The Quarterly Magazine of St. Ignatius College Preparatory San Francisco, Winter 2019–2020

**THIS IS JESUIT | THIS IS SI**

**OPEN TO GROWTH**

**LOVING**

**RELIGIOUS**

**COMMITTED TO JUSTICE**

**CALLED TO LEADERSHIP**

**INTELLECTUAL**



**PERFORMING ARTS SEASON:** SI's actors, singers, dancers and instrumentalists kept SI entertained during the fall. **Ted Curry '82** directed *All My Sons* for the fall play (**UPPER LEFT**), and, for the Playwright Festival (**BOTTOM RIGHT**), he taught eight seniors how to direct the works of Tennessee Williams. **Gillian Clements** directed the Winter Instrumental Concert, which featured a rock orchestra and a jazz band directed by **Galen Green (RIGHT)**. **Audrey Gomes** directed the Winter Choral Concert (**LEFT**), and **Emily Shick '10** directed Dance (Re)collective (**BELLOW LEFT**), presented by the SI Dance Workshop.

Photos by Sam and Ariel Soto-Suver '02 of Bowerbird Photography.



## A Report to Concerned Individuals

Volume 56, Number 4, Winter 2019–2020

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**BELow:** A host of SI attorneys attended the SI Law Society's annual gathering at the City Club Nov. 15. Pictured below are Alumni Director Alexa Contreras '05 along with the featured speaker, the Hon. Charles Breyer (right), and honoree, the Hon. Walter Capaccioli '49. Photo by Bowerbird.



## FIRST WORDS

I have a confession to make: I am the fairest of fair-weather fans. I usually pay attention to the 49ers, Giants and Warriors midway through playoffs. But this past fall was an exception given the meteoric rise of the 49ers — a rise mirrored by

so much of the life at SI.

Part of this is thanks to something called the Red Sea — a tidal wave of students who go to the games wearing new SI gear. They poured onto J.B. Murphy Field at the final game of the football season against Serra, when SI stopped the Padres from an undefeated record and secured a three-way tie for first place in the WCAL — the first time SI has shared the league crown since 2006.

This is just part of the story. Check out the story in this issue about the phenomenal success of so many teams at SI, most of which occurred on one special Saturday in November.

In academics, we celebrate the first semester of a new team of leaders. Principal Michelle Nevin Levine, Assistant Principal for Academics Danielle Devencenzi '97, and Assistant Principal for Student Affairs Jeff Gossler '83 — all new this year — join veteran Chad Evans, our Assistant Principal for Formation — in evolving SI as it lives out the legacy and promise of Jesuit education. This is showcased most notably in our new Innovation Lab, which is a prototype of the new style of education and the new classrooms that will one day soon replace McGucken Hall.

Our students in performing arts continue to excel. The fall play, *All My Sons*, opened to rave reviews, as did the Playwright Festival, which

showcased the works of Tennessee Williams.

Ted Curry '82 directed the former and coached eight seniors to direct the latter. Emily Shick '10 choreographed the Dance (Re)Collective in December with a talented troupe, and Gillian Clements, Galen Green and Audrey Gomes led our instrumentalists and singers in the Winter Choral Concert and Instrumental Concert.

The Father Sauer Academy is also humming on all cylinders now that it is fully enrolled with 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Just how good is the Academy — the brainchild of SI President Eddie Reese, S.J.? Test scores reveal that students, on average, are acquiring 1.8 years of skill in math and language arts each year, nearly double the national average.

The scholars also saw their own share of successes, with students competing in soccer, basketball, volleyball, baseball, cross country and track and field. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls' volleyball team won the CYO championship against a host of 8<sup>th</sup> grade opponents, while the 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' soccer team finished second in its division.

Our graduates are also keeping busy, thanks to Alumni Director Alexa Contreras '05, assisted by Brian McGovern '82 and Steve Laveroni '69. Last year, they launched an Alumni Women's Group that, this year, celebrated an October happy hour at The Cheese School in Ghirardelli Square, which included a workshop on emotional intelligence led by Camila Mize '05 and Alexa. Look for another gathering of alumnae in March.

Alexa and her team are also planning the Downtown Business Lunch on Feb. 21, one that features Emmy-award-winning actor Darren Criss '05. There, Alexa will announce a new affinity group for grads working in creative endeavors. Actor and comedian Al Madrigal '89 will host a table for like-minded artists so that our creative grads can come together and network just as our alumni attorneys do through the SI Law Society, pictured on this page.

The Alumni Office also organized a happy hour at Salesforce Tower for grads in STEM fields and is in the process of launching new chapters in Hong Kong, Chicago, Las Vegas, Reno and London.

The team is also working on a video blog via Instagram called "Wildcats Around the World," a digital complement to *Genesis*, and they invite grads who would like to be featured to reach out to acontreras@siprep.org and stay connected through SI's LinkedIn page and on Instagram @alumnicats.

With so much happening in the fall, I can't begin to imagine the successes our spring semester will hold for SI and for us all thanks to the richness of our legacy and the excitement of what the future promises. — Paul Totah '75



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## 'Sign of the Times' Celebrates 50 Years of Ignatian Guild Fashion Shows

This year's "Sign of the Times" Ignatian Guild fashion show, one that marked a 50-year tradition, did what all fashion shows do. It raised money for SI's Scholarship Fund, celebrated the senior class and fostered community at both the Sept. 28 gala and the Sept. 29 luncheon.

That community spirit could be seen front and center with the four chairs — **Cathleen Rigatti, Kim Cresci, Amy Bick** and **Karen Powell** — along with Guild president **Kathy Conte**.

"After the Sunday show, I called up all the chairs to thank them," said **Mrs. Conte**. "As I turned to them, I saw they were all crying, which of course, made me cry. I thought the tears were of joy and accomplishment, but they later told me that they were sad to see it all end."

The women had worked on the shows since January and went in March to Sonoma "where we locked ourselves in a room to plan the event," said **Mrs. Bick**. "We bonded as we devised a playlist that would represent each of the five decades since the show started in 1969. We were all so electrified after that weekend and excited about how the community would relate to all the music and to the entire show."

The five women were also on hand May 1 at the Fairmont Hotel — the site of SI's first

fashion show in 1969 — for an event that brought together past Guild presidents and fashion show chairs who both recalled a legacy of generosity and looked forward to the 50-year celebration.

"That party was enlightening, as it gave us historical perspective on how valuable a tradition this was," added **Mrs. Powell**.

The five continued to plan the event, meeting every Thursday without fail. "It was a demonstration of just how committed we were to the success of the show," added **Mrs. Rigatti**. "We all wanted to be there as we were amazed by the commitment of so many volunteers on the various committees. That's why we cried at the Sunday show, as it meant no more Thursday meetings."

The event itself was a success, raising nearly \$250,000 to benefit students receiving tuition assistance and entertaining more than 1,600 people who attended the Saturday gala and the Sunday luncheon and marketplace events. The stars of the show were the 300 seniors who walked the runway wearing fashions from the city's top clothing stores.

Included among the seniors were children of the four co-chairs, "and that made it even more special for us," said **Mrs. Rigatti**. "I loved seeing my daughter at rehearsals and

watching her with all of her friends."

The two shows "gave the seniors something they would remember the rest of their lives," added **Mrs. Cresci**. "The class of 2020 stepped up and showed the entire SI community how much they care about the school and each other. The energy and support they showed each other over the event was inspiring. In the end, they grew closer as a class at the most pivotal year of their young lives."

"The show was a perfect culmination of great work, thanks to our experienced crew," added **Mrs. Powell**, who, along with the other chairs, praised Events Coordinator **Tricia Brown** for her tireless work and **Ted Curry '82**, who heads the theatre program at SI, for coordinating the students and helping them rehearse. They also praised **Gary Brickley '71** of Brickley Production Services for his work creating the set and video displays, SI dance teacher **Emily Shick '10** for her choreography and SI chef **Rick Yang** for preparing 1,600 meals.

**Mrs. Conte** also praised SI President **Eddie Reese, S.J.**, and Principal **Michelle Nevin Levine** for their support of the shows, including **Mrs. Levine's** turn walking the runway along with students. "They were both so supportive from day one," she added. ☾



**ABOVE:** The four co-chairs, **Cathleen Rigatti, Kim Cresci, Amy Bick** and **Karen Powell** — along with Guild president **Kathy Conte** — organized a show with fashions from each of the past five decades to honor the Ignatian Guild legacy of raising money for SI's tuition assistance fund.





## Olivia (Schreader) Roth '08 Uses Matching Gifts to Maximize Her Donations to SI



The most painless way to be generous to SI is to make a donation and then ask your employer to do the same.

Corporate matching gift programs are available to more than 18 million people working in the U.S., though each year between \$4 billion and \$7 billion of potential gifts go unclaimed, according to the organization Double the Donation.

**Olivia (Schreader) Roth '08** is among the many grads who has taken advantage of her company's policy, one that allows

her to more than double her gift.

The Chicago private equity firm Adams Street Partners, where she works as an accountant, offers a two-for-one program, helping her triple her donations to SI.

She started donating even as a college student at the University of Notre Dame, urged in part by her parents and by her own love for her alma mater.

"I went to SI dragging my heels at first," she noted. "Only three from my San Rafael middle school came to SI, so I was apprehensive about the transition."

It took only one semester to make her a fan of the SI community. She joined the golf and diving teams and played tenor sax in the orchestra and jazz band.

"Being involved in these activities made me feel connected to the SI family and to great teachers and coaches such as **Julius Yap '74** and **Nick Sablinsky '64**. I also loved every one of my English teachers, including **Peter Devine '66**."

As an accountant, she knew the value of matching gifts, but was unable to help SI

through her first employer, as that firm only supported gifts to colleges and universities. "Adams Street's charitable giving program is more employee-driven, prompting it to support a broader range of community organizations, such as high schools," said **Roth**. "This policy is the company's way of saying that it supports me by supporting the causes I care about. The only downside is that I needed to do a little extra paperwork, but once only and never again."

She hopes other SI grads take advantage of matching-gift opportunities offered by their employers. "This benefit may not affect your take-home pay, but it does multiply the good you can do."

To learn if your employer can match your donations to SI, check with your Human Resources department or go to [matchinggifts.com/unh/](http://matchinggifts.com/unh/) and type in your company's name. It's the easiest way to support SI's Scholarship Fund and the hundreds of students who benefit each year. ~

**LEFT:** Olivia and her husband, **BJ Roth**.

# MAKE AN IMPACT ON FUTURE IGNATIANS



We thank those alumni, parents and friends who have joined the Father Harry Carlin Heritage Society by remembering SI in their estate plans. Anyone who has made a legacy gift to SI, such as naming SI as a beneficiary in a will or trust or of a retirement plan or other account (regardless of the size of the gift), is welcome to join this special group. We especially welcome our newest members whose names are bolded.

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## It's Never Too Early to Join the Fr. Carlin Heritage Society, Says Christine Abalos Tsu '02



Christine Abalos Tsu '02 isn't simply a former Alumna of the Year — an honor she received in 2018 for her work as an exemplary class representative and as a past member of the Alumni Board.

She is also the youngest person to join the Father Carlin Heritage Society — something she thought she could only do years from now after she had earned enough money to leave part of it to the school.

"Then I became aware that I could include part of my life insurance policy and 401K plan that I have thanks to my job, and I could do this earlier than I thought," she noted.

A consulting manager at KMPG, Tsu had previously worked as an IT analyst to the chief technology officer at PG&E. She encourages young professionals such as herself "to learn about the Fr. Carlin Heritage Society and see if at this point in our lives there is something we can contribute. We're making more in our 30s than we did in our 20s, and we may already have enough to share."

SI, she added, "taught me that what makes me truly happy are my personal relationships, my community and work that I enjoy. I just want enough — I don't need all the extras. Now that I have time to reflect, I want to see how I can give future students

at SI an experience similar to my own. By adding SI to my estate plan, I can be even more involved in the school that I love."

SI, she added, reinforced and taught important values to her and to her sisters — Catherine Abalos '05 and Charlene Abalos Gueco '99. "I still remember the valedictory speech when my older sister graduated. SI teaches us not just to be for others but to be by and with them. I found that my community of peers and teachers molded me and inspired me to serve outside of SI."

A new parent along with husband Roger — their son, Elliott, was born Aug. 1 — Tsu hopes to organize a mothers' group for fellow SI grads who can learn from each other. "When I talk to other SI moms, I find they share my values and outlook, and I want my child to grow up this way, surrounded by people who are special to me."

In joining the Father Carlin Heritage Society, she also knew "that Elliott would have more than enough to get by as an adult. What I am leaving to SI might seem a small gift to some, but it would mean a lot to a student whose family would otherwise struggle with tuition. I felt lucky and grateful to attend SI, especially as my own parents were immigrants from the Philippines and were establishing our own family traditions in the U.S. In high school, I found an extension of the values I had learned at home. Of all the schools I have attended, SI is the most special to me for this reason, and I want to pass along that same experience to a deserving student."

Tsu singled out for praise teachers such as Peter Devine '66, "whose class I loved although I was not very vocal. I was also close to Mrs. Quattrin, who taught me Pre-Calculus and who moderated CSF when I was president. I also loved Mrs. Yap and saw her as an extension of my own parents."

At UCLA, she was part of her sorority's leadership team and majored in psychology, which "helped me understand myself and others, and that skill has proven valuable in my personal and professional life."

She continued her studies at LMU, where she earned an MBA, and at Boston University, where she earned another master's degree, this time in computer information systems.

Along the way, she received awards for her leadership. UCLA honored her with its Chancellor's Service Award for her work raising funds to support the school's UniCamp, a program for underprivileged children.

KPMG also recognized her last year with the Chairman's Award for her high performance and leadership skills. This, along with her other awards, have a tinge of irony, she added, "as I like working in the background and am not comfortable with big audiences. The projects I work on make it seem otherwise, but I don't like being the center of attention."

Receiving SI's Alumna of the Year award, she added, "was such an honor, especially seeing the great alumni who had come before me. I hope to serve at their level one day."

If you would like information about joining the Father Carlin Heritage Society, contact Planned Giving Coordinator Annie Reilly at (415) 731-7500, ext. 5122, or email her at areilly@siprep.org. ☺

**ABOVE FROM LEFT:** Roger, Elliott and Christine Abalos Tsu are now members of the Fr. Carlin Heritage Society.

**BELLOW:** SI President Eddie Reese, S.J., and Principal Michelle Nevin Levine were keynote speakers at the President's Cabinet Dinner, where they thanked SI's many donors.



# THIS IS JESUIT | THIS IS SI THE SI BRAND COMES TO LIFE

What's the SI brand? If that question confuses you, you're not alone. People tend to think of branding as artwork that identifies a business, like McDonald's golden arches or Target's red bullseye.

If that's your standard, SI has a brand in its red and blue crest — the same symbol used to represent the school for the past 50 years, one that replaced the original crest created in 1909.

But what's under the surface? How is SI really perceived by the wider world, especially rising high school students and their parents with a decision to make?

Just as a human being is much more than a face, a brand is much more than a logo and some colors. It is grounded in mission and vision, tied to shared values and built to support the future path of an organization.

Rebranding an institution like SI isn't cosmetic surgery. It starts with the equivalent of an MRI, a complete physical exam and a series of intense conversations about the purpose of SI and where it's headed in the years to come.

That's the journey that [Tom Murphy](#), SI's director of marketing and communications, has guided the school through over the past year. He asked dozens of faculty members, staff, parents, students, alumni and other supporters what they thought SI stood for, and he received almost as many different (and passionate) answers in turn.

Out of that process came a refocusing on what's truly unique about SI. It's San Francisco's only Jesuit high school, and its role in the world

is to grow young people into men and women who are **intellectual, religious, loving, committed to justice, called to leadership and open to growth**. In other words — this is what Jesuit means.

"There was a real gap between what we thought the community knew about us and what the community actually knows," he added. "This insight has led to the creation of a new public expression for SI, including an admissions video "in which our students talk to 13-year-olds about what attending a Jesuit school means," as well as press in local papers, citywide banners, public space posters and a refreshed website.

Streamlined messaging, crisp graphic design and common language will help SI be recognized not only as a legacy San Francisco institution, but also as the future of education in the Bay Area, he added. "There are so many great writers, actors, directors, scientists, lawyers and medical professionals in the community thanks to SI. We're going to show off the Jesuit education that got them there and that will continue to bring in the next generation of leaders for our community."

Look for the SI brand to continue to evolve in the years ahead to meet the needs of the Bay Area and to showcase what's irreplaceable about a Jesuit education.

As for now, you can see the qualities of the SI brand come to life as you read about the work of some extraordinary teachers, students and grads on the following pages. ☾

## COMMITTED TO JUSTICE

### WORKING WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY IS MORE THAN A CLICHÉ

BY JOHN TASTOR '64

Thanks to my volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity, I have enjoyed some remarkable experiences. Several times in the last decade I have met [President Jimmy Carter](#) and have eaten, conversed and built houses with him and his wife, [Rosalynn](#). I have come to know country stars [Garth Brooks](#) and [Tricia Yearwood](#) as we worked alongside each other. I have ventured far from the Bay Area to Haiti, Canada, Vietnam and several cities in the U.S., including Memphis, where, in 2016, I worked on the Carter House. In all, it's been quite a ride.

I was an SI student in the early 1960s, when American society experienced a massive shift, fueled by the Civil Rights Movement, marked by [Martin Luther King's](#) "I Have a Dream" speech and the passage of the Civil Rights Act. I graduated in 1964, moved on to USF, and earned my degree in 1968. My Jesuit education, obtained in the explosive 1960s, impressed a commitment to social justice on my spirit that has been at the core of my life for more than 50 years. It has governed how I have conducted business, taught my children, engaged people and served the community.

The Vietnam War was the other driver of social upheaval in those years, with its outsized and lasting impact on my life. My Vietnam War service as an Army First Lieutenant on an Advisor Team in 1970 and 1971 also shaped who I am. Those days are always with me, and the experience has never been too far below the surface, no matter how hard I tried to suppress it.

In the last decade, these two influences have come together to draw me to service as a Habitat for Humanity volunteer, building houses for and alongside low-income families. Habitat for Humanity offered up the amazing Carter Work Project experiences and provided the opportunity to return to Vietnam three times in the last four years.

This work has not been a personal quid pro quo, and it is not a cliché. It is an intrinsic way for me to join in the work that my affordable housing clients have done so well. It is neither an obligation nor a duty imposed by regulation or expectation. Rather, it is a chosen way of life, imposed by a Jesuit-inspired belief system that responds to [Jesus'](#) call to meet the needs of those who have not experienced the opportunities I have had. "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, my brothers

and sisters, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). As a Christian, one who professes to follow [Jesus](#), how can I not do the work I have been called to do?

In 2011 in Haiti with Habitat for Humanity, [President Carter](#) observed that most of us on the build were people of faith and that our various faiths call us, especially those who have much, to give back. He then distilled the mix of faith, call and service into a profoundly simple statement: "This work allows us to do what we are called to do without exalting ourselves or demeaning the people we come to help." This statement has led me to live accordingly and to explain to others why I do so. It is so typical of what one would expect from [Jimmy Carter](#), the living definition of "servant leader."

My evolution as a housing advocate led me to become an active member of the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, on whose board of directors I currently serve. The opportunity to meet with developers, champion new housing opportunities and to support housing solutions before local government leaders has been another opportunity to give back.

I recently helped construct an intricate disabled access ramp in New Orleans for a



**ABOVE:** John Tastor with a former South Vietnamese Army Ranger, who was the chief of a village near Danang, where he took part in a Habitat for Humanity build in 2017.

**RIGHT:** John with **President Jimmy Carter**, one of Habitat for Humanity's greatest advocates and volunteers.

### Three reasons why you should volunteer with Habitat for Humanity:

1. The experience of working with and getting to know the homeowners, hearing their stories and how housing changes their lives.
2. The personal contact and sharing is a HFH highlight. It is true service, as stated by **President Carter:** "This work allows us to do what we are called to do without exalting ourselves or demeaning the people we come to help."
3. The joy of working with other volunteers who share a common purpose and enthusiasm. It is contagious and affirming. — JT



fellow Vietnam Veteran who is wheelchair-bound and was a virtual prisoner in his home. It was a challenging job, but it was a great feeling to walk its length when we finished it. Early on our last day, we witnessed his family struggle to lift and carry him down a narrow, steep staircase. Our reward was knowing that when they returned later that afternoon, they would easily wheel him up his new ramp. I was fortunate to witness a life changed by people who had come together with no agenda other than to make it happen.

I do not believe that my life is governed by chance. I believe that God has a plan for my life, and on my journey, through insurance, housing advocacy and physical labor, this plan continues to be worked out. It is so evident in my Vietnam experience, almost 50 years after my war service. I never had a desire to return to Vietnam. What I carried home was a sense of vulnerability. I lived in war for a year; I never let myself feel vulnerable, but in the ensuing years, I felt, at times, overwhelmed by recollections of very vulnerable situations. Why go back?

In 2012, also in Haiti, I had lunch with **Jimmy Carter**. He spoke about a recent Carter Build in Vietnam, and how veterans from all sides worked together and linked arms in forgiveness and unity. I told him that I wished

I could experience such a moment, and he told me that if I was given the opportunity, I had to go. The opportunity came in 2015 when I was volunteering with the San Francisco Habitat affiliate on a project for which I had placed insurance. A Habitat staffer told me about a Vietnam build they were organizing and invited me to be a part of the team. Remembering **President Carter's** encouragement, I agreed to go. Two more trips followed, and I was able to tell **President Carter** about my experience.

The three trips to Vietnam have been life changing. Any anxious thoughts were quickly dispelled. Being identified as an American veteran, I experienced the welcoming spirit of the Vietnamese people, true concern about my well-being in their country, reconciling moments with a Communist official and encounters with former South Vietnamese soldiers who joined me in the eternal soldiers' bond.

People ask me about closure, but I have not thought of it that way. For a while, I described it as "a journey completed." I believe it has been best said by **Denton Crocker**, a Vietnam Veteran who has worked extensively in Vietnam. Interviewed in **Ken Burns'** PBS *The Vietnam War* documentary, his response to the same question was, "You don't get closure, but you do get some peace. I got peace."

Like **Denton Crocker**, I got peace, and it all started with a decision to answer a call and follow a path that expanded my commitment to housing beyond narrow business interests. The path is marked by many stops, and it leads to a destination that I could not envision at the beginning of the journey.

It was a privilege to tell each of the Vietnamese families I met that as a veteran of the "American War," my prayer is that their home will be a place of love as well as shelter, and that they would long remember that one who had come in war had returned in peace to help build their home.

A scripture passage has become my motivator and validator in this work. Isaiah 58 tells of the light that will rise in the darkness when you spend yourself on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed. Poignant to this housing work is verse 12: "Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."

It has been so in my life. ☾

**COMMITTED TO JUSTICE**

## SFPD'S RICH JONES '93 HELPS TOURISTS RECOVER FROM THEFTS IN THE CITY

Rich Jones '93 has the exterior of a tough cop and the battle-scars to match, thanks to his career in law enforcement. At his core, however, he has a soft spot, especially for children in need.

While working at stations around the city, he would regularly meet tourists whose cars had been broken into and who had lost all their belongings. "That would include all the supplies they brought for their children, including infants," said Jones, a sergeant with the SFPD. "I'd see little kids at the station with soiled diapers and no toys or snacks. Being a dad, I always had those supplies in my vehicle, and I'd bring them in to give to these families."

Those initial acts of kindness turned into Hunter's Chest — a 501(c)(3) non-profit that he started along with his wife, Jenni Hennessey-Jones, who is also an SFPD sergeant. Together, they supply police stations and investigative bureaus in San Francisco, Pacifica, San Bruno, South San Francisco, Daly City and San Ramon with basic supplies and bags of toys, games and snacks for families in distress.

### What are three things you can do to deter car thieves?

1. Don't leave anything visible in your car.
2. Don't wait until you park to move stuff to the trunk.
3. If you can, park where you can see your car or where there are cameras. — RJ

The bags also come with notes written by their son Hunter, 5, for whom they named the program. (The couple also have another son, Gunner, 3.) The note reads "I hope this bag helps with whatever is going on. Please know that you're loved. A note from Hunter Jones."

"This effort isn't something new," Jones added. "Cops all over the world have been doing this for years. We just put a name to it and are trying to make it more centralized. Eventually, we'd love to see every police station in the country taking part in this program. It has been our honor to do this."

Jones' desire to care for others comes, in part, after the death of his father when Jones was in kindergarten at St. Cecilia School. "That's when I felt the need to care for my mother and my sister — Michelle Douglas '96," he noted. Thankfully, he also had a large extended family, including his uncle, John Duggan '59 of Original Joe's fame.

Later, as a student at SI, Jones worked on the stage crew along with Kevin Quattrin '78 for shows directed by Peter Devine '66. "That's where I found my roots," he noted.

He planned, however, to enter law enforcement after high school. "I knew early on that God put me on this planet to be a cop, and my goal was getting into the SFPD."

After working for several years for Brickley Productions, owned by Gary Brickley '71, and for Backpacking Adventures, operated by John Harrington '83, Jones became a police officer in 1998 and worked at stations in the Ingleside, the Mission District and the Tenderloin as well as North Beach and Chinatown out of Central Station, where he is currently based. He was trained as an EMT and has also worked undercover and with the violence reduction team. As a sniper and counter-sniper, he has protected visiting dignitaries and heads of states, including several presidents during their visits to San Francisco.

He also is a skilled firearms instructor, specializing in pistols. "I found my love for teaching working with new recruits," he noted. He met his wife when she was one of his students.

Most days he feels blessed to live in Pacifica, "which is God's country, and to work in San Francisco, which people save up all their lives to visit. It bothers me that tourists are victimized here so often."

He pays for supplies out of his family's savings, though he recently launched a Go-Fund-Me drive that raised \$5,000. Jones also regularly receives donations of toys from the SFFD and friends and family. He runs the entire operation out of his home, where his family fills bags in an assembly line. "I've also seen our sons grow in love and charity as they wander through stores looking for gifts not for themselves but for other children."

Jones recalls one 4-year-old boy who came to his station along with his parents, who had just lost everything they had brought with them from China. "Of all the items the boy had lost, he was most upset about losing his toothbrush. For him and for so many other kids, even those who don't



speak English, a simple gift is enough to break down all barriers, including language. I also find they gravitate to small gifts like Hot Wheels over larger expensive ones."

Jones can identify with the families he meets as he also has suffered from encounters with criminals. He received head trauma after being knocked to the ground by someone resisting arrest, leading to a year of therapy to deal with speech and memory loss. He has had a dozen surgeries for other injuries. He now has a disconnected bicep tendon and is missing part of his clavicle and a chunk of bone in his right elbow.

Jones continues to help others despite these injuries because of the lessons he learned at SI, "especially the idea of being a man or woman for others and doing good in the world. I told Mario Prietto, S.J., SI's principal at the time and the man who celebrated our wedding, that the school's lessons are indelible. If you put good into the world, it will ripple outward. It's still shocking to me the good that the SI community has accomplished over the years. I don't exaggerate when I say that I was created at SI. To this day, I still recite the Prayer of St. Ignatius."

To learn more about Jones' program, go to [www.hunterschest.com](http://www.hunterschest.com). ☾



## INTELLECTUAL

# YOLANDA MEDINA ZEVAS '94 CRAFTS NEW WAYS TO TEACH THE CONSTITUTION

Like most social science teachers, **Yolanda Medina Zevas '94** knows the importance of teaching the U.S. Constitution to students.

Unlike most of her colleagues, however, she has a hand in shaping lessons around this bedrock document for students around the country.

As part of the Teacher Advisory Board for the Philadelphia-based National Constitution Center, she works with around 20 high school and middle school teachers throughout the country who, like her, know the value in helping students see the articles and amendments from all sides rather than from just one partisan perspective.

After attending a Summer Institute at the center in 2017, she earned membership on the board in its inaugural year. Since then, she has returned each April for study sessions and went as recently as this past summer.

She was also invited to be a master teacher at the center's Summer Institute on the Battles for Freedom and Equality, where she will run sessions for teachers "on how to teach the concepts of Reconstruction and civil rights in the classroom. I'm equal parts excited and nervous, but I know that this is an amazing opportunity."

Currently, she is working to create study guides, lesson plans and activities to help middle school students appreciate the nuances of the First Amendment's focus on religion, press rights, free speech, petitioning the government and peaceable assemblies.

She values the Center's commitment to represent a variety of interpretations from both the left and the right. At her first summer institute, she heard from experts

"from more liberal and more conservative organizations," she noted. "We learned how to think about the foundational questions surrounding the Constitution rather than merely express personal or political views. I learn as much as I can, as I hope to teach government in non-partisan ways."

This year, she introduced a new course called U.S. Government: Race, Gender and Power. "I ask my seniors to consider what has been meant by 'we the people' over time, as various groups debated issues surrounding citizenship and suffrage and tried to gain freedom and equality in order 'to form a more perfect union.'"

Her course also examines how state and federal laws, the Supreme Court and the Constitution have impacted women, the LGBTQ+ community and people of color.

She praised **Jeffrey Rosen**, the president and CEO of the National Constitution Center, for his "strong approach to education," said **Zevas**. "Thanks to his lead, we are working on the best ways to promote civil discourse surrounding freedom of speech."

In her time at SI, **Zevas** has taught Introduction to Ethnic Studies, U.S. Histories and Cultures, Government and Social Movements, and Social Justice, a course created by **Abram Jackson** when he was at SI.

She has shared insights and lesson plans with teachers in her department and has pointed them to the Center's Interactive Constitution website, where students can review each article and amendment by learning about them from the points of view of conservative and liberal scholars. "Then these two scholars work together to come

up with a common interpretation, detailing areas where they agree despite their ideological differences."

**Zevas** hopes to develop more research around the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment and its focus on citizenship and equal protection, especially as it relates to her Ethnic Studies and U.S. Histories courses. She has already developed lesson plans for her SI students on this amendment "but I want to learn more and engage others on the advisory board, some of whom find this amendment daunting."

She has come away from her travels and work "with a much greater respect for the U.S. Constitution. It's the law of the land, and if we can understand our actions and those of others in the light of this document, then perhaps we can come closer to forming that 'more perfect union' in our country." ☙

## What are three reasons why young people should know the Constitution well?

1. The Constitution may not have been perfect at the time it was written, but the framers did give us the opportunity to change it; as a result, it continues to address important issues of our time.
2. Every generation, through its social movements and political involvement, challenges the courts to interpret the Constitution in new ways, thereby expanding equality and the rights of Americans.
3. The Constitution begins with "We the People," and, as a result, power comes from you. Consider what issues are important to you, and work to put them into action. The Constitution was made to give you agency, so use it! — YMZ

# ENGINEERING STUDENTS HAVE A NEW HOME IN SI'S INNOVATION LAB



Walk into the Innovation Lab at SI, and you'll see just why it is appropriately named.

Students are using a variety of 21<sup>st</sup> century tools to create innovative solutions to real-world problems. In addition, their teacher, **Mike Santos**, has a teaching style that takes a new approach to the way students learn.

"On the first day of engineering class, I tell them I'm more a mentor and coach than a teacher," said **Santos**, a graduate of Brophy High School in Phoenix, who now teaches engineering and physics in the new space.

"I want them to know that they have full ownership of what they learn and create. To do that, I have to step aside as much as possible and tell them as little as I can. I truly believe that learning begins when I stop talking and students start doing."

To that end, **Santos** makes his physics lessons available to students as screencasts, which they can view in the lab or at home. "This is similar to a flipped classroom. It's a bit different in that I give them a starting, mid and end point, and students can choose to structure time as they wish — listening to screencasts, working on labs or collaborating with others to solve a problem. They can do what they want as long as they are on task, and I do spot assessments during the class period to check their understanding while they work."

**Santos** knows just how effective that strategy is because he has seen students leap to try new things. "I love seeing them explore something unprompted. Last year, a group of engineering students made a vending machine with some electrical components operated by a computer code that they wrote. They asked me if they could buy more parts to use

information they had learned on their own. They felt compelled to create a better product than what they had produced. Other students asked if they could redo a project that they had successfully completed. They just wanted to make it better."

He has even seen former students, now in college, access 3D modeled parts they had programmed while at SI. "They are proud of the work they have done and want to revisit it, and others just want to use that information in college. Either way, that's an excellent outcome."

The Innovation Lab opened in September this year on the ground floor of the Father Sauer Academy on the west wing of the school adjacent to the academy's new science lab.

It includes a giant smart board with an interactive touchscreen that can appear on each of the students' computers or tablets. Several students can, at once, write on the board while they work out solutions to problems and projects posed by **Santos**, and those images can be saved and made available to the entire class.

The room also includes 14 3D printers and a variety of tools, including a circular saw, band saw, jig saw, miter saw, drill press, orbital sander and a variety of hand tools.

For **Santos**, some of the best tools in the lab are old-school. "We have eight whiteboards on rollers that students can wheel over to their work stations, which are also on wheels, so they can spontaneously discuss and map out solutions to problems."

Because the room is adjacent to J.B. Murphy Field and the surrounding practice spaces, **Santos** is also able to have his



students take their projects outside to work on and test them.

He teaches them how to use the software program OnShape that helps them design objects to be crafted on 3D printers — ones that he has running 24 hours, seven days a week.

He starts each unit with a relatively easy task so students can test ideas or practice new skills with low risk, and he asks students to interview fellow students to see what they need. "I want this to be a practical skill and not just something abstract," said **Santos**. "It also develops empathy and gets them thinking about how a product benefits not just themselves but another person. I hope they eventually find solutions for the world's largest problems. Imagine how better batteries can help the world in the fight against climate change."

**Santos'** assignments grow in difficulty to help students develop resiliency. "I tell them in the first week that I like it when they fail because the best teacher is failure. I design the class to include a lot of low-risk failure from which students can grow. Students use those lessons to approach more complex and higher stakes problems with greater confidence."

Early on, one group of students impressed **Santos** by designing a cup holder for the giant Hydro Flasks that are too large to fit in car cup holders. "Students designed a part using software and it came out of the 3D printer fully operational."

For the final project of the semester, **Santos** asked his students to use their power tool and 3D printing skills to build a prototype compostable utensil dispenser.

"Compostable cutlery can't fit in our current dispensers, and I hope that students can create a solution to a very real problem. If all goes well, student projects will find their way to the Carlin Commons for full-time use. Seeing a student project improve both campus life and the environment in a concrete way would be really beautiful."

**Santos** began planning the Innovation Lab along with others at SI after he was approached by **Bill Gotch**, who serves as the school's director of strategic initiatives. "This lab is another way SI is experimenting with flexible rooms throughout the campus," said **Santos**.

It also mirrors the kinds of workplaces **Santos** has seen in San Francisco and throughout Silicon Valley, where workers collaborate on solutions in flexible environments. However, unlike Silicon Valley, where tech companies have a preponderance of male workers, **Santos** is pleased to see an equal number of boys and girls in one class and an overall improvement in the ratio of girls to boys in all of his classes.

Both **Santos'** physics and engineering courses, he added, "are better because of this room and how it fosters collaboration in a safe way. I love how students who don't consider themselves on an engineering track are doing coding, using 3D printers and operating power tools. Not every high school kid gets that kind of experience."

In the future, he hopes to add a table saw, laser cutter and water jet cutter to his array of tools, and he is exploring ways to incorporate interdisciplinary projects with the Multimedia class and SI's Robotics Team. "I'm still adjusting my curriculum to the new space. There are features and resources I didn't have last year that I have now, and these are opening up exciting new opportunities."

## FROM DANIELLE DEVENCENZI '97 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR ACADEMICS

We are privileged to be part of a 485-year tradition of Jesuit education, one where innovation and collaboration toward achieving social justice have always been priorities. We always ask this question: How can we make the world around us better?

The answer lies, in part, in rethinking the way that we teach and the way our teaching space should look.

SI students have and always will be leaders. However, to make a critical impact, we need to rethink how we use our instructional time and space and respond to our students who want to learn in ways markedly different from classrooms of old.

Our students want to get their hands dirty as they investigate critical issues facing our school, our city, our nation and beyond. They want to identify problems, create plans and implement solutions. This involves healthy risk taking, failure and listening with a desire to understand. I'm pleased that the Innovation Lab is now one more place on our campus where we can accomplish these goals.

## FROM BILL GOTCH DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Last year, after **Michelle Nevin Levine** was named our new principal, she asked me when I served as dean of students to lead a team to see how we could create more space for the Father Sauer Academy.

We looked at the area below the Academy both for this and for a new purpose, as I felt it was important to create a prototype for a STEM Center classroom so we could get hands-on experience about what learning lofts might look like when we replace McGucken Hall.

After making the pitch to the school's leadership, I was told to move forward with planning, and that's when we brought in **Mike Santos**, who is a great student-centered teacher. I then met with **Marissa Brandon**, an SI parent who is a wonderful architect, to plan the new Innovation Lab and the Academy's science lab. We also remodeled a large storage area, creating another new classroom for the Academy.

The new Innovation Lab also doubles as the art room for the Academy and may be used down the road for engineering and physics clubs.

## FROM ARCHITECT MARISSA BRANDON

Given my previous work as architect on the Father Sauer Academy, I was asked to convert the bottom floor of the Academy into a space that would accommodate the Innovation Lab and a new lab and classroom for the Academy.

Having worked as a Bay Area architect for the past 25 years, I have designed engineering labs at several universities around the country and studied recent prototype designs. I also worked with **Mike Santos** to accommodate his needs to create a unique space on campus that will generate excitement about STEM classes and careers.

To maximize flexibility, we located all of the fixed cabinetry and plumbing around the perimeter of the lab with movable student work tables on casters at the center, which can easily accommodate different configurations for collaborative student work and large floor-mounted experiments.

We also wanted to highlight the engineering components of the space, so we removed the dropped ceiling and exposed the structure and the utilities that service the lab. We painted the plumbing piping and electrical conduit in bright colors, giving the space an industrial look so that engineering students can be inspired by the space itself. We also added a large window between the Academy science lab and the Innovation Lab so that the young scholars can get excited about the science taking place there. ☾

**OPPOSITE PAGE LEFT:** **Mike Santos** and **Buster Baylis '20** pose with a jig saw and circular saw. For many students, this is their first experience with construction tools. A key element of **Santos'** curriculum is to learn how to use these tools safely and effectively.

**OPPOSITE PAGE RIGHT:** In 2015 only eight girls were enrolled in the engineering class. This year that number is up to 23. Here **Jenna Hom '20** completes the final stage of her power tool tutorials. **BOTTOM LEFT:** **Colin Clifford '20** practices precise non-linear cuts with a band saw. **MIDDLE:** **Shaun Parinas '20** makes his first cut with a miter saw, while **Maximilian Buenaventura '20** and **Luca Ornstil '20** practice proper drill techniques. **RIGHT:** A group of students teach others how to assemble 3D parts in OnShape, a web-based CAD program. Students can create parts that can be sent to a 3D printer and incorporated into their projects. Photos by **Mike Santos**.



## FOOTBALL ALUMNI GATHER TO HONOR FORMER COACH, RAISE FUNDS

SI grads often get together for lunch, and sometimes they raise a few dollars to add to one of the school's many scholarships.

Few have been as successful as a group of football players from the 1960s who were coached by the late **Vince Tringali**.

In the past two decades, the men have raised \$207,000 to endow three full and one partial scholarship. They do so by traveling every third Saturday in April to the Healdsburg home of **Tom Brandi '63**, who played for **Tringali** during the two seasons when SI went 19-0 and earned a first-place ranking in the nation.

"The guys write checks in any amount, so no one knows who gave what," said **Brandi**. "Then we give the money to SI to help students have the same great education that we had."

The person who encouraged the former football players to start helping the school was **Tringali**, added **Brandi**.

"He asked us to pitch in to help Coach **Ray Calcagno '64**, who had served as quarterback at SI, so that the program could afford to buy some training equipment. We did that for a few years even after **Ray** moved on as coach."

Back in 2005, **Brandi** formalized the program "in part because **Vince** was getting older and we wanted to honor the most successful coach in SI history."

**Tringali** attended those lunches, which first only included players from the early 1960s. Later they reached out to all of the men whom **Tringali** had coached, and the group continued gathering after their mentor died in 2010.

**Brandi's** wife, **Carol**, prepares salmon, tri-tip, pesto pasta and Caesar salad for each gathering. "The guys have told me not to change the menu. They love it when **Carol** cooks. They also love forging new friendships with guys older or younger than they are. Now we gather not only to honor **Vince** but also to continue the friendship and fellowship while raising money for the school. We realize just how much we have in common."

The gathering at **Brandi's** house has grown to include coaches from other schools, including SHC and Lowell. "These guys come to our lunches and tell me that there's a lot of love in the room," added **Brandi**. "We also use the opportunity to honor and roast players from the 1960s who have just been inducted into the San Francisco Prep Hall of Fame."

**Pete Bonardi '64**, who was part of **Tringali's** undefeated teams, has been going to these lunches since they started. "These gatherings



remind me of the experience we had playing for **Vince**," he said. "And it's the closest we have of being around him. We all share our stories about our coach and how he influenced our lives. I found his advice and lessons solid, as he taught us to set goals and do everything we could to achieve them."

The four-hour lunch is also filled with good humor, including an impression of **Tringali** done by famed comedian **Bob Sarlatte '68**, who also played football at SI alongside NFL Hall of Famer **Dan Fouts '69**, who served as quarterback for the San Diego Chargers.

"I offer a few shaggy dog stories and do a bit of **Vince** taking questions from heaven," said **Sarlatte**. "**Vince** was a tough taskmaster," he added. "His players either loved or hated him, but we won a lot of games, and winning gave us confidence throughout our lives to do other things. It even helped me in my stage work."

**Sarlatte** played for SI in 1966, when the team won the AAA championship at Kezar, and in 1967, when **Tringali's** team took first in the WCAL, the first time SI played in that league and the only time the school won the championship outright. (In 2006 and 2019, SI became co-WCAL champions.)

"We didn't know how good we were until the seasons were over," added **Sarlatte**. "There was no bragging or spiking the ball."

We were just happy to be in the end zone. We won because we worked extra hard in practices and outlasted our opponents in the fourth quarter."

**Tringali** knew the value of hard work and endurance as he spent much of his youth in casts at Shriner's Hospital due to a debilitating bone disease, said **Brandi**. "He couldn't run until his junior year in high school."

After playing football for two years at the College of Marin, **Tringali** transferred to USF and was the last man cut. "One of his teammates approached the coach and urged him to reinstate **Tringali** by noting that **Tringali** was a clown and kept everyone loose," recalled **Brandi**.

**Tringali** was stung by that remark, and when the coach reinstated him, he practiced and played so hard that he became a starter on the defensive line on the famed 'unbeaten, untied and uninvited' team that included several future NFL stars."

After serving as a machine-gunner during the Korean War and fighting at Pork Chop Hill, **Tringali** returned to San Francisco and entered the produce business. **Tom Reed, S.J.**, SI's principal at the time, offered **Tringali** a coaching job in 1959, and he served as assistant coach until taking over the program in 1962. He remained as head coach until 1969 before returning to USF to serve as head football coach there. Many of

## LEADERSHIP

# SBP TONY LIANO FINDS SUCCESS REORGANIZING SI'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT



his players at SI earned scholarships to play on the collegiate level, and some became NFL coaches in their own right, including **Gil Haskell '61**, who wears a Super Bowl ring from his days coaching the Green Bay Packers, and **Bill Laveroni '66**, who, along with **Gil**, coached the Seattle Seahawks. **Alan Saunders '64**, who served as an NFL head coach, "never played for **Vince**, but he considered himself part of **Vince's** squad," added **Brandi**. "The two were very close."

He also praised **Tringali**, who taught history and English at SI, for being "a person of real intellectual curiosity and a student of history. We used to debate who the greatest founding father was. I also felt he was misunderstood by many people who never saw the substance of man. Those who did, appreciated him, especially as he went to bat for so many players who were seeking football scholarships."

The one constant, **Brandi** added "is that this group has each year reconnected, laughed and supported each other while meeting new friends and discovering how much we have in common after so many years." ☚

**ABOVE:** Football alumni gather at the home of **Tom Brandi**, who organizes the scholarship luncheon.

**Tony Liano '20**, SI's student body president, already has a head-start on his desired college major — organizational management. He hopes to help companies find better ways to organize teams in order to achieve their goals.

He's already done just that with student government at SI, changing the way students meet and work. To gauge the success of his efforts, just look at the first few home football games that drew larger and more spirited crowds than previous years.

The school's executive council — the five main student body officers — used to meet separately each Monday for 80 minutes. Each of the class councils for the four grade levels would then meet separately. On Thursdays, everyone would get together to determine projects to work on together.

**Liano** and his colleagues instituted a change that has the executive council meet for 20 minutes every Monday. "We use that time to craft specific assignments for every class and for other groups at SI," he noted.

For the remaining hour, they meet in Wiegand Theatre with the class councils and with representatives from publications, social media, fine arts, publicity and spirit clubs. "We discuss their assignments together and adjust their goals accordingly," he added.

Every Thursday, students regroup to report on progress and ask for help if problems crop up. "This is exactly what I hope to learn more about in college," **Liano** added. "I'd like to inspire others to be their best selves and create structures that allow that to happen."

His goal this year has been simple. "I want to unite our community through activities and events that bring students together and make us proud to go here. Some have argued that our school lacks spirit, and that could not be more untrue. If you went to the first football games, you saw just how much spirit we do have."

**Liano** came to SI from Stuart Hall For Boys, where he ran for student body president and lost. "I always served on student council throughout grammar school, but my loss in seventh grade made me reluctant to run for office as a freshman at SI."

However, **Liano's** encounters with SI Student Body President **Joe Lerdal '17** helped him change his mind. "I saw him as a role model and a great communicator. Later, we acted together in *The Music Man*, and I saw what a nice guy he was. Watching him made me want

to enter student government and continue acting at SI." **Liano** has been involved in theatre ever since, starring both in *The Addams Family* last year and in *All My Sons* this past fall.

His love of performance also led him to SI's sketch comedy club, SI Live, and he is now a member of its leadership board.

**Liano** sees leadership as a form of service. "I don't do this for the power or glory but to serve the entire community. When I go to games and see how happy everyone is, I realize how much of a positive change I can bring to SI."



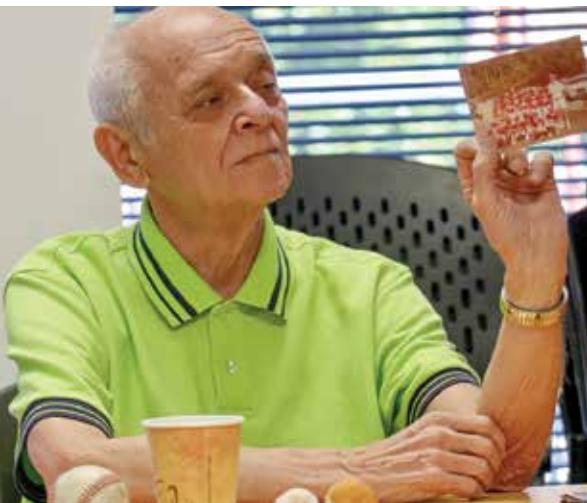
He takes service to heart, as he is one of the leaders of Backpack Buddies, an organization started by classmates **Charlie Young '20** and **Johnny O'Meara '20** in their freshman year. Thus far, the club has distributed 100 backpacks filled with school supplies, first to students in SI's Father Sauer Academy and later to students throughout the Bay Area.

He has also helped students applying to SI learn about the school through the Wildcat Welcoming Club and the Ambassadors Club, and he has spoken to parents considering SI for their sons and daughters.

**Liano** has also volunteered to help senior citizens with disabilities at the Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center, and he has worked with young children as a summer camp counselor at Stuart Hall and as a teacher's assistant for SI's Summer Programs.

He unwinds by playing guitar and by playing pickup basketball at the Olympic Club. "I like to surprise people who think that if you act at SI, you can't be athletic. This is just one way that I hope to show students they can break out of cliques and make friends all over SI." ☚

# SHARING THE GIFT OF BASEBALL TO HELP ALZHEIMER'S PATIENTS



**Jon Leonoudakis '76** loves talking baseball. What he loves even more is helping others share their favorite memories of our national pastime in ways that help them heal and form community.

Since August 2018, he and members of the Society of American Baseball Research (SABR) have worked with two groups — people with Alzheimer's disease and veterans — by asking them to share stories and memories about the sport.

## What are your favorite three moments in baseball history?

1. Jackie Robinson breaks the color line in 1947.
2. The San Francisco Giants win their first World Series title in 2010.
3. The Amazin' Mets of 1969 beat the heavily favored Baltimore Orioles in the World Series. — JL

A noted baseball historian and documentary filmmaker, **Leonoudakis** heard about a doctor in Scotland who helped a dementia patient by using reminiscence therapy, a treatment that uses all the senses to help individuals with memory loss remember events, people and places from their past. For Scots, that involved memories of soccer games. Conversation and storytelling helped those suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's disease feel less isolated and enhanced their ability to socialize with others.

In 2012, a group in St. Louis brought that therapy to memory care patients in Missouri, and that spread to other communities, including Texas. "That's how I heard about it," said **Leonoudakis**.

"Memory loss patients tend to retreat into their shells and shut down," he added.

"They're reluctant to communicate for fear of repeating themselves without knowing it. When they talk about their cherished baseball memories, however, they open up."

**Leonoudakis** and his fellow SABR members work with people through non-profit Alzheimer's Los Angeles, which provides free support services throughout Southern California. Once each month, they ask patients and their caregivers to bring both memories and memorabilia with them.

"Then we treat it like a baseball game. We start by singing the 'Star Spangled Banner,' and then we talk about everything from a favorite Little League game to a time when they went with their parents to a game — anything that helps them connect and communicate."

The group from SABR also offers presentations about baseball history relevant to people in their 70s and 80s. "That often brings up memories of games from the post-war boom of the 1950s and 1960s. That's their sweet spot."

Some memories go back even further. One patient brought in a collection of autographs from the 1934 New York Giants. Another brought in a baseball jersey he wore while playing baseball in the Philippines during the Vietnam War. "That jersey was colorful, decorated with risqué artwork and in immaculate condition," said **Leonoudakis**.

Another person brought in a photo from a Little League team he had coached in the early 1970s. "This was a unique team in that it had two girls on the roster. This was before the 1974 rule that allowed girls to play Little League. This man told the other coaches in his league that if these girls didn't play, his team wouldn't play. That was a great story with a great message."

Because those who come are in the early or moderate stages of Alzheimer's disease, they are able to recall and speak with some acuity.

They are also able to take part in the physical aspect of the meetings. "I always have a bucket of whiffle balls and a bat in my car," said **Leonoudakis**. "We play soft toss and then have some batting practice. Everyone takes part, including caregivers, family and patients. We're not just sitting around talking baseball but actually playing it. Everyone gets some hits in, including the center's director. Some of these people hadn't swung a bat in 60 years, but it's just like riding a bike. Once you know how, you never forget."

That program's success led **Leonoudakis** and his SABR colleagues to approach the West Los

Angeles VA Medical Center, which is affiliated with the UCLA School of Medicine.

Since February 2019, the group has worked with veterans who suffer from a variety of maladies, including kidney failure, amputations and memory loss.

"Because they can't run around — all are in wheelchairs — and it's hard for some to talk, we offer presentations on topics that interest them."

As Jackie Robinson Stadium is nearby, **Leonoudakis** has been able to join the veterans to see UCLA play baseball. Also, because he does some work for the Dodgers to enhance guest experiences, he was able to ask the front office to foot the bill to bring the veterans to see the Dodgers play the Giants Sept. 8.

"Working with these two groups is the best job I've ever had," he added. "By enhancing the quality of life for suffering people, I'm acting on the words carved into Jackie Robinson's gravestone: 'A life is not important except in the impact it has on others' lives.' **Roberto Clemente** echoed that when he noted that 'if you have a chance to accomplish something that will make things better for people coming behind you, and you don't do that, you are wasting your time on this earth.' I saw this as an opportunity to give back and share what I'm passionate about. Now I get to see eyes light up, watch friendships form and create camaraderie. The smiles on the faces are priceless, worth more than a pile of gold bars."

He first learned the value of service at home and as a student at St. Brendan School. "SI then reinforced the importance of helping others. I'll always remember fondly my mentors there, including **Fr. Capitolo**, **Jim Dekker**, **Fr. Sauer**, **Fr. Peinado** and **Fr. Dodd**. They all taught us to care for others and for each other, as that was part of the SI culture. When I went to LMU, those lessons were reinforced."

**Leonoudakis** has always seen storytelling as a way of serving others. A gifted filmmaker and documentarian, he has produced and directed some celebrated films and streaming series, including *The Wrecking Crew!* (as producer); *Not Exactly Cooperstown*; *The Day the World Series Stopped*; *The Sweet Spot: A Treasury of Baseball Stories* (Amazon Prime); *Shutdown! The Battle American Women Wage to Play Baseball*; and *Hano! A Century in the Bleachers* (Amazon Prime). Ten of his films are in the permanent collection of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.



He has also produced attractions at Walt Disney World, where his Monster's Inc. Laugh Floor continues to be a huge draw at Magic Kingdom park.

What links all of his projects is his desire to create community through a shared experience and his devotion "to the social contract. That's what **Arnold Hano**, the great sports writer, taught me. When we receive some benefit from others, we are

obliged to give back, especially to those unfairly treated — whether it's people suffering from a disease or women barred from playing baseball."

You can see many of his films and binge-worthy series which continue to air on Netflix, Amazon Prime and Vimeo on Demand. When you do, **Leonoudakis** hopes that you, too, will recall a favorite time you had watching or playing baseball and be

part of a national conversation about a sport that "involves all strata of society, and one that brings us all together." ≈

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Patient **Richard** shares of photo of a Little League team he coached in the 70s that featured two girls on the team.

**ABOVE:** **Jon Leonoudakis**, kneeling, and his fellow baseball enthusiasts.

## LOVING

# RACHAEL LAM '20 DELIVERS HOMELESS THEIR WEEKLY BREAD



**Rachael Lam '20**, while working at a Chinese bakery as an eighth grader, hated to see leftover day-old buns being tossed in the garbage.

Knowing how many people go hungry in the Bay Area every day, she began collecting hundreds of buns and loaves each week,

and, with the help of her parents, she took them to South San Francisco for distribution by the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

She continued her efforts while at SI and has expanded her outreach by starting a non-profit called Movebread, by creating a website to ask others to join her cause and by sending the leftover bread twice each week to St. Anthony Foundation, which uses the buns to feed people through the Gubbio Project at St. Boniface Church in the Tenderloin.

Lam began this ministry while studying at West Portal Lutheran and working part time for a bakery on Irving Street. Bakeries often throw away bread because the cost of transporting the bread to a non-profit is more than the value of the bread itself.

Movebread serves as the middleman by providing boxes and transportation, making it possible for bakeries to be generous.

"I started this because the owners of the bakery asked me, after I cleaned up, to put the leftover bread in bags and throw them away. I thought, instead, about bringing the bread to those who need it. I live in the Bay Area, where hunger and homelessness are huge problems compared to the rest of the country. I feel as if it's an obligation to give back to my community. I don't do this to feel

good about being generous but just to do some good."

She programmed her website, [www.movebread.org](http://www.movebread.org), using HTML and PHP, and this spurred her to consider majoring in computer science in college. "This will also help me improve my website to enable even more volunteers to sign up for specific delivery days. I tell them that by donating time to deliver bread, we can feed thousands of people."

She is now looking for other bakeries willing to part with day-old bread and hopes fellow students will join in her efforts. "Right now, it's only me and a select group of people, including my family and friends, who help."

With encouragement last year from **Jocelyn Sideco '95**, SI's former director of Community Service, **Lam** is thinking about starting a club and scheduling more frequent deliveries to St. Anthony's. "This will make bread donations continuous, even when I go to college," she added. "I hope to keep this non-profit organization alive and running for a long time." ≈

**LEFT:** **Rachael Lam** created Movebread to multiply her efforts of feeding hungry people in the Bay Area.

## MIKE MALEKOS '75 GIVES THE GIFT OF FLY FISHING TO HELP NON-PROFITS

Mike Malekos '75, after testing the waters, found the perfect way to combine his love of fly fishing with his desire to help worthy causes.

His Casting A Rise Foundation began in 1999, when he auctioned off a fly-fishing trip to raise money for Shriners Hospital for Children.

The winning bidder offered \$2,300 for the trip, with every penny going to the hospital. In return, Malekos hosted and underwrote a three-day trip to a prime fishing spot near Redding.

"We had such a memorable time that when the trip came up for auction the following year, the same folks bid on the trip and won," said Malekos.

His reputation as an expert fly fisherman is evidenced both by the success of his trips and by the esteem others have for him. They read his column in *California Fly Fisher Magazine* and attend his talks at fly fishing clubs and trade shows. He donates all his speaking fees to the foundation to help organizations such as Guide Dogs for the Blind, the Parkinson's Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Susan G. Komen, Bay Area Cancer Connections, Big Brothers Big Sisters

### What are your three favorite spots for fly fishing in California?

1. Medicine Lake could be the best kept secret in Northern California. It's strange to approach water as vibrant and beautiful and not see another angler. In the fall, while fishing at Medicine peaks, there is rarely a boat or soul in sight.
2. The McCloud River rainbows are the most famous trout on earth. They are noted for their beauty, fight and strength and reward any angler willing to work their way into the rugged canyon water.
3. Bigger isn't always better! Lower Hat Creek is home to the proverbial chess game of spring creek trout fishing. It is renowned for great insect hatches and ultra-selective wild trout. — MM

of the Bay Area, food banks from Marin to Santa Clara and many other non-profits.

One of his trips will even be available at the Feb. 29 Fathers' Club Auction at SI.

Malekos' love for fishing began when he was a boy living in Westlake. He would ride his bike on Skyline past the Olympic Club to fish at Lake Merced. At SI, he made the switch to fly fishing at Hat Creek and the Pit River near Burney. He also grew to love service work by volunteering at Shriners Hospital and tutoring children in Daly City.



"Both my Greek Orthodox faith and the Jesuits at SI taught me to help those less fortunate than I am by offering a helping hand," he added. "My track coach, **Brother Dick Howard, S.J.**, approached me and a few others to tell us we were required to perform community service. That's when I was assigned to Shriners Hospital. That experience has had such a profound impact on my life."

After graduating from USF with his degree in business administration and finance, he worked for PG&E, where he learned about great fishing spots while traveling to his company's many hydro facilities.

He left PG&E in 1998 to start a commercial mortgage-backed securities company with a friend. The two of them encouraged employees to bring items for an auction and select organizations to support. "I thought that as an accomplished fly fisherman, I could auction off a trip."

Thanks to his ties to PG&E, he is able to use that company's cabin, and he pays for all the lodging and food out of his own pocket. After increased interest and years of footing the bill, he created the Casting A Rise Foundation, a 501(c)(3), to invite others to help.

Two of his SI classmates now sit on his board — **Jerome Williams '75** and **John Cleary '75** — and he has a website that asks for donations and suggestions through a sponsorship form

for non-profits that could benefit by having a fly-fishing trip as an auction item.

"I'm not a licensed guide, but I must be doing something right. I love the fact that the same people keep bidding on these trips and returning year after year," he added. "They find what I have found — a totally spiritual experience being in nature and the solitude that fly fishing provides. I especially love going in the fall when the dogwoods are in bloom. It is the final opportunity for trout to gorge themselves on insects before the rains turn to snow."

He and others find fishing to be a "great stress-reliever," he noted. "I find fly fishing aesthetically pleasing and find relaxation in the cast. In fact, I begin to feel relaxed the moment I leave my driveway to head north. I also prefer not wearing a watch when I fly fish, as I associate it with having to be somewhere. When fly fishing, I've already arrived. On top of that, many of the places I fish are so beautiful. Take Burney Falls for example, a place **Teddy Roosevelt** called the eighth wonder of the world."

One of Malekos' secrets is looking both above and below water to determine if an ecosystem is thriving. "When I see eagles, deer and beavers, I know the river is healthy. I search for wild trout that are eye-catching and untouched. Frequently on these journeys, I never come across another angler."

He prepares for auctioned trips by pre-fishing a river ahead of time, prospecting for trout to improve his guest's chances of catching fish. Occasionally, he keeps and prepares a few trout for dinner for the first night. After that, it's catch and release.

Malekos has found a measure of joy in "taking something I have a passion for and am good at and using it to educate donors and help others. I like to work against the notion that fly fishing is an elitist activity. It's not, nor is it as complicated as some make it out to be. I take pleasure in teaching people how to be successful fly fishers and helping them find peace and calm outdoors on the water. I'll never forget one man who came with me on a trip and who brought along his son, a Navy SEAL who had just returned from Afghanistan. I was happy and honored to be a part of his homecoming. Both these men lit up with excitement when they caught their first trout on a fly rod, and the release of the fish was just as pleasing and meaningful to these men as catching them." ☾

**ABOVE:** Mike Malekos at the Angler's Lodge in Golden Gate Park.

## TOM QUACH '20 CREATES DAY OF SACRIFICE TO SPREAD GENEROSITY

**Tom Quach '20** has crafted a life where one good deed has led to another.

An impressive senior, he already has a resume to be proud of. He serves as editor-in-chief of both *Inside SI* and *The Quill*. He's also a member of Music Ministry, the Arrupe Council, the Service Club and the Senior Class Council. He has rowed crew each of his four years and was a Boys State delegate this past summer. He was also selected as one of 1,928 semifinalists for the Coca-Cola Scholars Program out of 93,000 seniors nationwide.

What distinguishes him, however, is his passion for bringing students together and motivating them to work for worthy causes.

As a 7th grader at West Portal Lutheran, he noticed how much his mother would spend at local coffee shops. "She would drink some of her mocha and throw away the rest," said **Quach**. "I asked her to think about buying a smaller cup instead and donating the money she saved to a non-profit. Then I realized that if my mother could do that, so could others."



He brought his idea to his school's PTA and administration, which eventually approved his idea for a Day of Sacrifice. He asked students and their families to think about making a small change in their daily lives whenever they could and using any money saved to benefit others.

West Portal Lutheran has held a Day of Sacrifice each year for the past five years, with proceeds totaling \$15,000. The school has donated the money to organizations such as St. Anthony's Foundation and has used it to help victims of natural disasters and to send care packages to military personnel overseas.

Some students donate money by choosing to eat at home rather than go out to dinner. "That has the added advantage of strengthening family bonds," **Quach** noted.

**Quach** and his siblings — **Jack '23** and **Kate**, a 7th grader — make a presentation



at West Portal Lutheran every year to promote the Day of Sacrifice "to educate the next generation of students as to the true meaning of sacrifice and the benefits of spreading kindness and service."

The success of that project inspired him to launch Pet Nation while at SI. "High school students can transcend any barriers that might exist and connect as peers thanks to their common interest in pets," **Quach** noted.

He began bringing his Pomeranian puppy, **Sugar**, to SI and saw that "everyone wanted to meet her." Later, during finals in his freshman year, he led an effort to bring therapy dogs to school to help students relax before and after their tests. He also brought **Sugar** to a senior center in the Sunset District, where a retired ESL teacher would teach **Quach** Spanish while she petted his dog. "She had Alzheimer's disease, but seeing **Sugar** helped her recall past memories."

When he sought and found sponsors to help provide dog food and pet supplies, he landed on another idea. "Whenever anyone goes to Costco, they gather around the sample tables and begin talking with strangers. That gave me the idea of leaving snacks out in the Orradre Courtyard for students to gather around and get to know people beyond their circle of friends."

He called this project the SOUL Food Initiative — SOUL standing for Student Outreach Unified Links — and launched it early in his sophomore year. He built a wagon at his home to bring snacks to SI and also found companies willing to donate food or gift cards to promote this idea.

"I left the food out with a sign and went to take my final," said **Quach**. "When I came back, I saw a huge crowd of students interacting with each other. That's when I saw just how impactful this project was in helping to generate a community with a common ground rooted in kindness and love."

Both his Pet Nation and SOUL Food Initiative are under the umbrella organization he created called Student-Linx, which is governed by an eight-member committee made up of his classmates. The chief evangelist for this group, **Quach** has helped 15 schools across the country launch their own branches of Student-Linx. Schools in Texas, Washington, Vermont, Oregon, Florida and other states receive his email blasts and seek community beyond the confines of school walls.

He also thanked Student-Linx moderators, **Fr. Reese** and counselor **Sarah Merrell**, "for their endless support, encouragement, and belief in whatever I do."

To spread his gospel of generosity and community even further, **Quach** has worked for a social-impact tech startup called Jarous that launched an app in October designed to expand on his Day of Sacrifice idea.

"Charitable giving isn't just for the wealthy," he noted. "Everyone can donate, even if it's just a little."

The app allows users to set goals, like reading a book. Once a goal is completed, users can click on a coin, which drops into a jar. "They can set the amount for each coin, and as the jar gets filled, they can choose which organization to donate to."

The project, he added "is my way of looking for innovative solutions that also have out-of-the-box features that make it simple and easy to give and to build community." ▷

**LEFT:** Tom Quach at an assisted living facility.

# TED CURRY '82 PREPARES FOR NEW PRODUCTION OF *PIPPIN*

Ted Curry '82, who has directed plays and musicals at SI for many years, is reprising the first work he directed at his alma mater — *Pippin* — for this year's spring musical.

He's doing so, in part, because the first time around didn't go so well.

After Peter Devine '66 stepped down as director, with 25 years under his belt, the school struggled to find his successor. Administrators brought in one person who didn't quite work out and then asked Curry to direct *Pippin*, scheduled for the spring of 2000.

Curry, a professional actor and director, tried to say no to Charlie Dullea '65, principal at the time, and John Greasham '79, then serving as assistant principal for student affairs.

"I was directing *Damn Yankees* on the Peninsula, and I told Charlie and John that I just couldn't do it," said Curry. "Eventually Charlie said, 'Then we just won't do a musical.' I told him that the kids needed to do a musical, and I worked it out with my producers so that I could leave early every day from my *Damn Yankees* rehearsal to come to SI."

There he found students who were suspicious of a newcomer replacing Devine, and some questioned his casting decisions. "It wasn't the best experience, but the fault was primarily my own," said Curry. "I focused on making the show great, not on building community. I didn't know anything about working with high school students at the time. I wish I knew then what I know now, as I would have avoided so many mistakes. I feel I owe those kids an apology, as they were going through a rough transition losing Peter."

The show, in some ways, mirrors Curry's own journey. The musical, written by Roger Hirson and Stephen Schwartz, came to Broadway in 1972 under the direction of Bob Fosse. Chet Walker, who choreographed the revival of the show, happens to be a close friend of Curry's wife, a former dancer.

*Pippin* tells the fictitious story of Charlemagne's son, who struggles to find his place in life as he searches for meaning.

Curry's own journey at SI is one where he has found

success and meaning as a director. "Now I know how to build community and work with high school students. I figured out eventually how to nourish them while also putting on a great production.

Bannan Theatre, too, has gone through its own transition over the past two decades. "When I came 20 years ago, we had the original seats from 1969. We've since replaced them and completely upgraded our lighting with state-of-the-art equipment."

*Pippin*, he added, will also showcase a new sound system, with the audience hearing musicians who are playing in the band room far from the theatre.

Unlike past productions, which have used circus and sideshow motifs, Curry is staging the musical using a recreation of London's Globe Theatre, where some of Shakespeare's plays were first staged. He is also using four actors for the lead role and relying on a group of talented dancers.

"*Pippin* ultimately is a play within a play," added Curry. "For me, there's another story within this all, and that's one of redemption. I'm doing this play for that cast 20 years ago, whose struggles I didn't then recognize. This will be, I hope, a tribute to them, as they need to be saluted." ☾



## MEGHAN HITCHINGHAM '21 WORKS WITH CHILDREN IN ECUADOR

A chance encounter at the SI Service Fair with Amigos de las Americas last year led Meghan Hitchingham '21 to a summer volunteering in Ecuador, where she organized summer camps while learning about a culture a continent away.

Between June 17 and Aug. 10, Hitchingham lived with two separate host families, one in the city of Cuenca and the other in the mountainous village of Oña Centro three hours distant.

### What are three reasons why students should consider joining Amigos de las Americas?

1. To improve their Spanish-speaking skills.
2. To become fully immersed in another culture.
3. To make lasting relationships with people they encounter. — MH

In Cuenca, she studied Spanish each morning and raised money in the afternoons to help launch a learning center for students to work on homework after school. She created pamphlets to promote the center and went door-to-door asking for donations along with the other dozen students from the U.S. in her group.

The group also painted a mural in the community center that would house the learning center.

In Oña Centro, Hitchingham worked with teens from the village to improve a park so that locals could gather around a bonfire. They helped to pour a concrete slab; hauled bricks, rocks and sand; and built an overhang to provide shade.

In the afternoons, Hitchingham and her cohort held a summer camp for local children, where they played soccer and taught them games from the U.S.

"It was great to be fully immersed in another culture," she added. "My host families treated me like one of their kids and made sure that I got to try every type of food that was traditional in Ecuador."

Aside from perfecting her Spanish, Hitchingham grew in independence, "as I had to handle any small issues on my own, including how to use the bus system." She also grew close to her host families and plans on staying in touch with them.

Hitchingham hopes to major in a STEAM-related field in college given her love of science, math and art. Her favorite classes thus far have been Studio Art with Katie



**Wolf**, Algebra 2H with **John DeBenedetti '83**, Precalculus Honors with **Mike Jackanich '02** and Exploring Computer Science with **Don Gamble**.

Given her wide range of interests, she can see herself working as a bioengineer curing cancer or pursuing coding or animation.

In the meantime, she's preparing for track and field in the spring, where she runs sprints and is the anchor for the 4x100 relay team. ☚

**ABOVE:** Meghan Hitchingham (right) and Natasha Thomas, a Kansas City student who partnered with Meghan for the rural part of their adventure in Ecuador.

# MATT JONES '06 LENDS HIS NEW NAME TO A NEW BROADWAY PLAY

Much has changed for actor **Matt Jones** '06 since he graduated from SI. For starters, he has a new name — **Sullivan Jones** — after his success as an actor earned him entry into the Screen Actors Guild.

As his own was already taken, he went with his maternal grandmother's maiden name for his professional moniker, as SAG rules don't allow for duplicate naming.

He also left basketball behind after excelling on the courts both at SI and at Brown University to devote himself full time to acting.

Even his most recent show — *Slave Play* — saw a change when it transferred from off-Broadway's New York Theatre Workshop to Broadway's Golden Theatre Oct. 6 after a successful and controversial run.

Some who saw photos of the show's first act attacked it for promoting racial stereotypes, and one actor even received death threats. "There was a lot of invective and vitriol on social media," added **Jones**. "The theater had to hire a private security

## What are three things you do to help you get into character?

1. Drink tea (either black or green);
2. Listen to music;
3. And stretch (sometimes all at the same time). — MJ

firm and position an undercover guard in the audience every night. I had never experienced anything like that before."

Those who came to see the show, said **Jones**, realized that those photos only told a small part of the story, one that features interracial and gay and lesbian couples in a pre-Civil-War setting.

Only in the second act do audiences realize that these couples are in therapy in modern-day New York and are using slave motifs to work through relationship issues.

"This isn't your garden-variety Broadway show," **Jones** added, "Typically, when friends greet you after a show, they'll say, 'Good job,' and then they'll go home. When I saw friends after *Slave Play*, they often seemed dizzy. A lot of them wanted to sit down, have a drink and talk through what they had experienced. The play makes public a lot of sex, race and relationship dynamics that are typically considered private and taboo, so it stirs up some sensitive and complicated questions for people, which is obviously one of the things you want theatre to do."



The play also dovetails with the national dialogue on race and gender "and offers audiences both exposure and proximity to some wonderfully non-normative characters and scenarios," added **Jones**. "In return, the play asks that audiences have compassion for those scenarios and characters in a way that many people have probably never been asked to do. The play definitely doesn't let anyone off the hook, nor does it wrap everything in a nice bow."

**Jones**, who was nominated for a 2011 Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award for his performance in *Clementine in the Lower 9*, first set foot on stage at SI in his sophomore year acting class and later as a lead in SI's fall play production of *Dead Man Walking*, performing the role of a white supremacist rapist. "I probably wasn't cast well. Being a 16-year-old black kid, there was only so much I could convey, but that huge challenge did stretch me and changed my life. Getting to play that character was such an affirmation. It was the first signal that I might be able to pursue acting on a more serious level."

His classmates knew him first and foremost as a star on the SI basketball team, especially after making a dramatic reverse dunk against Foothill in his sophomore year to help his team on its way to the NorCal finals. "In high school, I felt like most people saw me as 'the-guy-on-the-basketball-team,' but privately I never liked to think of myself that way because I didn't feel like it

encompassed all the other things I was and wanted to become. When I wanted to act or join other clubs, my classmates and teachers were incredibly supportive. SI's ethos is all about helping you try out new stuff to see what fits. I don't think I would have pursued acting in high school without the support and encouragement of the SI community. Even Coach **Tim Reardon** '86 gave me time off practice to rehearse for a play."

At Brown, he found the same encouragement from his acting teacher. "At the end of my freshman year, my teacher pulled me aside and told me she thought I could have a future as a professional actor." His first summer after college, he earned entry into a training class at ACT even though he was a year younger than the required age. "My teacher at ACT also encouraged me to continue acting even though he said the business would be harsh and unpredictable."

He returned to Brown and left after the first semester to audition for drama programs at UCLA, NYU and USC, earning entry into all three. He finished his bachelor's degree from UCLA's School of Theatre, Film and Television, where he met an acting teacher with whom he still works — **Jean-Louis Rodrigue**.

He excelled right out of school, winning the Princess Grace Award in 2011 while working in the Bay Area with the Alter Theatre Ensemble, which uses vacant storefronts as spaces to put on plays.



Later, while performing the role of **Muhammad Ali** in a stage play in Los Angeles, he drew the attention of famed film director **Ang Lee**, who was planning to make a movie about the boxer. “I auditioned for six weeks for the role and kept getting called back, but **Lee** couldn’t raise the money he needed, and the project went cold.”

Two years later, the same thing happened. Then, in 2016, **Jones** auditioned for a Hulu show called *The Looming Tower* about the events leading up to 9/11. The casting director for that show was the same casting director for the **Muhammad Ali** movie, “and because she knew my work from all of those auditions and callbacks, she advocated for me to get the part.”

**Jones** filmed *The Looming Tower* in Morocco, South Africa and New York along with **Jeff Daniels** and **Peter Sarsgaard**, playing an FBI agent on **Daniels'** team.

Other TV credits include performances on *The Blacklist*, *House of Cards* and *Parks and Recreation*. In 2020, he will be on the

big screen along with **Pierce Brosnan**, **Justin Theroux** and *Broad City*'s **Ilana Glazer** in the horror film *False Positive*.

“It’s wasn’t a huge role, and I don’t get too nervous before auditions anymore, but I did that day because I’m a big fan of *Broad City*, and I knew **Ilana** was going to be in the room. I was sweating bullets and had to calm myself down with breathing exercises. Luckily, by the time I got in the room, I was more grounded, and **Ilana** ended up being really generous and kind.”

**Jones** calls his new career “a kind of compulsion. Once I had my first experience on stage, I found it a rush communing with the cast and the audience. It’s rewarding even when it’s difficult.”

He also appreciates the community of fellow SI grads who are either in front of the camera or behind it. **Misha Sundukovskiy** '06, who went to NYU for filmmaking and who was a producer on *Saturday Night Live*, has been a huge source of camaraderie and kinship, and I love following the success of

director **Bartlett Sher** '77 along with actors **Francis Jue** '81, **Adam Jacobs** '97, **Darren Criss** '05, **Reed Campbell** '08, **Jacqueline Toboni** '10 and **Keelin** '08 and **Colin Woodell** '10.”

**Jones** has discovered a correlation between being an athlete and an actor. “You need rigor and discipline for both. For example, when you’re not acting, your time is unstructured. You have to wake up and fill your day in addition to finding work. The same is true for athletes who need to stay in shape and learn playbooks off season. Also, both athletes and actors need to know how to take direction. When you’re an athlete, it’s not unusual to have things thrown at you or be told to run a lap for running a play the wrong way. I’ve gone through that, so when a director on set asks me to make an adjustment, I can do that without taking it personally.”

**ABOVE AND OPPOSITE PAGE:** **Matt Jones** as Phillip and **Annie McNamara** as Alana in *Slave Play*. Photos by **Matthew Murphy** and **Sara Krulwich**.

## THREE STUDENTS TRAVEL TO BOSTON AND BRING BACK IGNATIAN SPIRIT

It's hard to imagine bigger fans of SI than **Erika Morris '21**, **Kiana Ansari '20** and **Izzy Goodrow '20**, just three of the nine students who flew to Boston College this past summer to take part in the school's weeklong Ever to Excel leadership program for high school students.

The three are about as active as you can be, with each rising to leadership positions in a host of clubs. The experience at Boston College, they said, made them even more committed to Jesuit education and Ignatian values.

Also going on the trip were Assistant Principal for Formation **Chad Evans** and seniors **Tony Liano**, **Johnny O'Meara** and **Gio Burgos** and juniors **Matthew Shugarte**, **Garrett Martin** and **Kassandra Navarete**.

At the conference, they met students from Jesuit high schools around the world, heard from keynote speakers and toured Boston. In small groups, students discussed their faith and how they choose to think about and live out their beliefs.



"We met kids who grew up in countries with strong Catholic cultures," said **Goodrow**. "Many had never thought about their faith in personal ways, and this was the first time they addressed that part of their identity. This is something we do at SI all the time."

For **Morris**, the keynote speakers touched on topics familiar to her. "Because they were discussing issues I learned about in sophomore religion class, I was able to help



others in the small group discussions to process what we had just heard."

**Morris** belongs to the Baptist Church and is considering attending a historically black university. "The conference helped me see that the values I hold are both Baptist and Catholic and that I had embodied some Catholic traditions without even knowing."

The experience also led her to believe that she would find success at a school like Boston College "where students of color can find the support they need. If I go to BC, I know I won't feel isolated."

For **Goodrow**, the experience "reinforced the sacredness of my faith. My spirituality comes, in part, from the community of faith that I belong to. I also saw that there's not just one way to be a person of faith."

**Ansari** echoed **Goodrow**, noting that she learned "that my Catholic faith doesn't have to be by the book. I had a traditional Catholic education my whole life and have learned that I can see Catholicism in different ways as I live out my Catholic identity."

Each of the students has found SI to be a place both to grow in faith and to rise to positions of leadership.

**Morris** is part of the Junior Class Council and serves as co-president of the BSU, the Spoken Word Club and the African Dance Club. She also performs with the Dance and Drill Team and the Dance Workshop and serves on the Arrupe Council, where she helps steer the paths of social justice groups at SI. In addition, she belongs to the Ambassador Club.

A graduate of St. John's School in Glen Park, **Morris** won both the Frosh Elocution and Sophomore Rhetorical contests at SI. She hopes to major in marketing once she goes to college.

She has devoted her community service hours tutoring students from SI's Father Sauer Academy, working with senior citizens in Bayview Hunters Point and helping to run her sister's Girl Scouts troop. "I love seeing both sides of the spectrum, working with the old and the young," she added. "Despite differences in age, we all want someone to be there for us."



**Ansari** has acted in musicals at SI and served on the stage crew while also performing with the Chamber Singers, Dance Workshop and Music Ministry. She serves as captain of the Dance and Drill Team, as a board member for SI Live, as a member of InS ignis and CSF and as the social media representative for the Student Council.

Her time dancing has earned her membership in the National Honor Society of Dance Arts, and her commitment to her faith won her SI's Fox Memorial Award in her sophomore year.

She has held two jobs — as a tutor and as a paid intern for Old Navy — and she has

## RELIGIOUS

# LEANA FLORES '20 LIFTS HER VOICE ON THE BANNAN STAGE AND IN ORRADRE CHAPEL

devoted her community service work to a camp for young adults with disabilities. She hopes to major in public relations in college.

**Goodrow**, who has been in student government in each of her four years, serves as senior class president, editor-in-chief of *Inside SI* and co-president of the Arab and Middle Eastern Affinity Group. She also belongs to the Ambassador Club and the Block Club and sings as part of Music Ministry. She has played field hockey, soccer and lacrosse in each of her four years.

Last summer, she lived in San Francisco's Tenderloin for two weeks on an SI immersion trip, staying at Faithful Fools and working at The Healing Well. She also works with SI's Youth Policy Initiative, which teaches younger students about issues surrounding government and politics, volunteers at a homeless shelter in San Mateo, and has more than 500 hours of community service under her belt.

She hopes to major in math or chemistry and perhaps work on treatments for people with diabetes. "I hope to make life easier for people through science."

What these three have in common, each says, is how rooted they are in the SI community. They have a hard time naming their favorite teachers "because we have so many," said **Morris**.

"We're all involved in so many ways, that we have made SI our home and our community," added **Goodrow**. "So many people have played a role in our success."

Speaking for the group, **Ansari** noted that being involved in SI and living a lives of faith "are something we do because we love doing them. We don't think about adding things on to pad our resumes. There's nothing else we'd rather do with our time."

For **Goodrow**, her time at SI isn't so much a list of activities "but the memories I have and the relationships I've built over the years." ☙

**OPPOSITE PAGE, FROM LEFT:** Izzy Goodrow, Erika Morris and Kiana Ansari.

If you go to Friday Morning Liturgies at SI, you will, from time to time, hear a soloist whose amazing voice gives you a glimpse into her kind heart.

The irony is that **Leana Flores '20** is naturally shy and came to SI unsure of her place in the community. "Freshman year was a little rough, as I didn't know how to share myself with others," she noted.

That all changed after **Ryan Dilag** heard her sing. Then **Dilag**, one of the campus ministers and the person in charge of music ministry, invited **Flores** to join the group of students who sing before FML and at prayer services and special Masses throughout the year.

"He told me I needed to share my talents and gave me solos every week from sophomore year on," said **Flores**. "Now people know my name and come up to me to speak with me."

Singing, she added, "allows me to put all my emotions into my music and helps me feel free. That's been true ever since I was 7 and singing 'My Heart Will Go On' into a karaoke machine."

A gifted actress — she has performed in SI's productions of *Legally Blonde*, *The Addams Family*, *All My Sons* and *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* — **Flores** hopes to study creative writing, film or media in college and write a novel. "Acting helped me overcome my habit of constant self-doubt," she added. "I didn't want to show anyone anything, given how shy I was. I loved played Paulette in *Legally Blonde* as she has so much life and spunk, and that helped me emulate her energy."

She also had a chance this past summer to take her talents to another continent when she traveled to Ecuador as part of SI's Immersion Program.

In a rural town and in the capital city of Quito, she and her fellow SI classmates met people "who talked to us about their struggles and joys and helped us see how their values differed from ours," she noted.

"In the U.S., most people are all about work and money, but in Ecuador, they value spending time with family, as they find community central to their lives."

Accompanied by Assistant Principal for Formation **Chad Evans** and Community Service Director **Ana Lopez**, the SI contingent spent time with students in an after-school program, visited patients with Hansen's disease and visited the homes of her Ecuadorian neighbors

At a church community gathering, one of the leaders of Rostro de Cristo, SI's partner organization, informed the SI students that they would have a chance to perform. "We weren't sure what we were going to do, and moments before we went on stage, we decided to sing 'River of Hope,'" said **Flores**. "I was so nervous that I almost threw up, but we did a great job, and the audience went crazy."

Back at SI in her senior year, she took part both in the senior Kairos retreat and in a unique all-female retreat for eight students led by Campus Ministry team member **Jen Roy** and science teacher **Christine Wilkinson**. "Part of the time, we did yoga on paddle boards on Donner Lake," she added. "I knew I would be the first to fall in the water."

She loved the retreat "as it was a way to slow down and learn about loving yourself as a woman. We were in a community where you didn't have to censor yourself. I've never laughed so much in my life!" ☙



Leana Flores has lifted up her voice in song at numerous masses, liturgies and liturgies in her four years at SI.

# SI Celebrates History-Making Fall Athletic Season on Super Saturday



Forget about Super Bowl Sunday. For SI Athletic Director **John Mulkerrins '89**, the real action happened on Super Saturday Nov. 9, when a host of SI teams enjoyed epic wins, with one even making history.

That day saw SI's varsity football team beat Serra 14-13 in a goal-line stand to earn co-WCAL championship status, the first time SI earned a football league crown since 2006.

Later that day, the boys' and girls' water polo teams both won their quarterfinal CCS games, with the boys advancing to win the CCS crown and, for the first time in SI history, the NorCal championship.

The field hockey also team beat St. Francis that day in the CCS quarterfinals, and both the boys' and girls' cross country teams won the DIII CCS championships at Crystal Springs, earning them spots in the state meet.

## THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

**Mulkerrins** and his associate athletic directors hoped this year to create a program built on mutual support. Toward that end, fall sport athletes held a media day Aug. 24 for photos and interviews with local press and a winter media day Nov. 23. The next one, for spring sports, is scheduled for March 7.

His staff also named four "all in" games, with all coaches and athletes from every team attending to support fellow Wildcats. They also chose key highlight games, and encouraged students and parents to attend to build school spirit.

The department capped off the fall season by modifying its team banquets. In the past, each team would celebrate on its own. "This year, all varsity athletes from all the fall sports came together to



celebrate all-league, special recognition and extraordinary award honors," said **Mulkerrins**. "It was a tremendous experience to see all our athletes supporting each other and learning about the various awards."

These changes were part of the department's three-year plan, one that asked "all SI athletes to be leaders on and off the field," said **Mulkerrins**. "We also hope they will be recognized throughout the Bay Area for excellence in the classroom, in competition and in the community. When they graduate, we want them to be well prepared to become exemplary citizens and extraordinary leaders throughout their lives."

He also hopes that the athletics program "will be a catalyst to inspire our community to come together and celebrate our Jesuit tradition and mission at SI."

## FOOTBALL

That last goal became a tangible reality at the end of the football season, when Serra came to SI looking for its first undefeated

season in school history. In the final two minutes, the Padres tied the game 14-14 with a touchdown pass and an extra point kick. A flag on the Wildcats for a roughing-the-kicker penalty allowed Serra the chance for a 2-point conversion a yard and a half from the goal line.

A goal-line stand by the stout Wildcat defense stopped the Padres cold and preserved the 14-13 lead for SI. The 'Cats then recovered the onside kick and ran the clock out to secure a three-way tie for the league crown with Serra and Valley Christian.

After the post-game handshake between teams, the Red Sea cheering section rushed onto the field to sing the fight song as a community. That victory capped a great run through league play, with SI finishing 6-1 in the WCAL and 8-2 overall, with losses only to Valley Christian in league play and Sacred Heart Prep in pre-season action.

The Wildcats qualified for the top tier Division I level of the CCS playoffs, where they beat Mitty 28-7 before losing at Valley Christian in the semifinal CCS game.

"What made this team different from past teams was our depth at various positions, allowing us to play a style of football that was aggressive on offense and strategic on defense," said **Mulkerrins**.

Coach **John Regalia '93** praised UC Davis-bound **Teddy Buchanan '20**, who was named WCAL Player of the Year and who shined both as quarterback and linebacker.

**Teddy**, who has a great work ethic and puts his team first, also commands leadership. The league's coaches selected him unanimously for Player of the Year because of his ability to produce on the field and the impact he has on the people around him. That

has been developed through his commitment to his mental and physical preparation."

Regalia also praised WCAL Receiver of the Year **Danny Ryan** '20, Journeymen of the Year **Andrew Cummings** '20, **Jack O'Keeffe** '20, the team's Most Outstanding Back **Jafer Snipes** '20 (who shared that honor with **Ryan**), and Outstanding Lineman **Beau Gardner** '20.

"All 18 seniors on the team brought energy and competitive drive that pushed the team to new levels," he added.

Over the course of the season, football alumni were invited to address the team, including **Carlos Escobar** '96, **Joe Vollert** '84, **Steve Bluford** '84 and **Rob Unruh** '64, who spoke about program themes, traditions and history.

"A special moment happened when Coach **Unruh** and a dozen other guys from his era, including **Tom Brandi** '63, came to the locker room with the team before the Serra game. We shared our pre-game prayer and talk together. It meant a lot to the players to have our 'SI Champs' in the locker room with us as it helped them understand their responsibility to the traditions of the football program and everyone who had come before them."

Regalia also praised the school's administration for encouraging fan attendance. "The Serra game was a great example of that. There was standing room only, with crowds lining up around the track. Watching the fans pour onto the field to sing the fight song was a moment that represented the best from our team and the best of the SI family."

The coach also had his moment in the spotlight after the 49ers named him its Coach of the Week in October. Regalia, in turn, praised his coaching staff for "taking on the team's energy and enthusiasm as they built great relationships with the players. We have an excellent coaching staff — one that is creative and that brings great energy and passion for SI football. They helped the players learn that great moments of the season are born from great opportunities, earned and built, not just handed to us. Both the players and coaches seized the moment each week, and I'm proud of them."

## WATER POLO

The girls' water polo team, coached by **Carla Tocchini** '13, enjoyed a spectacular season, led by defender **Betsy Wooler** '20 and capped Nov. 9, when the girls beat Notre Dame Belmont 10-5 in CCS quarterfinal action before losing in the semifinals.

The boys' team, after beating Pioneer of San Jose 9-2 Nov. 9, went on to win the DII



CCS title against Carmel High School and SI's first ever CIF DIII NorCal water polo crown. Led by coach **Will Grant**, the team was powered by top-scorer **Billy Barry** '20, who tallied 127 goals, 61 assists and 42 steals, and goal keeper **Luca Caniglia** '20.

In late November, after defeating El Diamante in semifinal action and Atascadero in quarterfinal play, SI faced Walnut Creek-Northgate at Independence High School in San Jose in the NorCal DIII championship game. With two minutes left, SI trailed by one goal before **Barry** fired a direct hit into the net from a meter away to tie the game 7-7. Two more goals, one each by **Victor Dollosso** '21 and **Patrick Wooler** '21, followed to seal the deal.

**Grant**, who finished his first year coaching at SI, said he is "proud of how the boys reacted to a tough season in league play. The WCAL is one of the most dominant leagues in Northern California, and our ability to ride the waves of play prepared us for our long postseason run. Our success is a testament to the dedication and hard work of boys in the program."

He also praised the younger players on the team, including **Max Castro** '22, **Dylan Murphy** '23 (who scored the winning goal against Carmel) and **Luca Peralta** '23, a goalie who provided key saves in the playoff run.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Super Saturday also saw the boys' and girls' cross country teams each win the CCS Division III championships at Crystal Springs, earning their way to the state meet in Fresno Nov. 30, where **Evie Cohen** '21 finished ninth in the state, following her second-place finish at the CCS meet. She was later named to the All-NorCal Second Team. Both teams were led by coach **Nicholas Alvarado** '06.

## FIELD HOCKEY

Nov. 9 also saw SI's field hockey team, coached by **Haley Sanchez**, win over St. Francis in the CCS quarterfinals 1-0 after finishing third in the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League. The team lost to Mitty in CCS semifinals 1-0 to finish 14-6-1. All the seniors provided leadership, including league Goalkeeper of the Year **Olivia Schumann** '20 and co-defender of the year **Elle Van Geisen** '20. Two juniors also stood out — **Peyton King** and **Chyler Espino** — who led the Wildcats in goals scored for the season. ☾

**ABOVE:** Boys' water polo celebrates its NorCal crown.

**OPPOSITE PAGE TOP:** The Red Sea cheered on SI teams throughout the season.

**OPPOSITE PAGE MIDDLE:** The SI Wildcat posed for a photo during the fall Media Day.

# SPORTS WRAP

PHOTOS BY PAUL GHIGLIERI



## GIRLS' TENNIS

**Coaches:** Craig Law '84 assisted by Ed Grafilo, Greg Hom, Jessica Ruth (JV) and Jonas Satuito '87 (JV).  
**Records:** Varsity: 6–4 league (2nd place); 10–6 overall; JV: 6–2 league (2nd place); 9–5 overall.  
**Highlights:** WCAL singles title: Claire Galerkin; WCAL doubles title: Gabriella Perich and Tiffany Boudagian.  
**Awards:** WCAL Player of the Year: Claire Galerkin; All League First Team: Claire Galerkin, Gabriella Perich; All League Second Team: Tiffany Boudagian; HM: Carlie Sokol and Talia Cresci; Brother Lee Award: Claire Galerkin; Magis Award: Gabriella Perich; Wildcat Award: Michelle Conte.  
**Graduating Seniors:** Maya Roy, Michelle Conte, Gabriella Perich, Tiffany Boudagian, Carlie Sokol, Ally Hughes, Olivia Bick, Sophie Treanor and Talia Cresci.

## FOOTBALL

**Coaches:** Varsity: John Regalia '93 assisted by Mike Clark, Chris Crowley '12, Nick Cominos, Julian Gunter '15, Gustavo Manzanares '05 and Gabe Manzanares '10. JV: Owen Maguire assisted by Chris Dunn '88, Dan Lopez and Dominic Truoccolo '12. F: Matt Stecher '93 assisted by Tim Caraher, Mike Johnstone '84 and Paul Tonelli '76.

**Records:** Varsity: 9–3 overall, 6–1, 1st place in league; JV: 5–4 overall, 2–4 league; F: 2–7, 1–6 league.

**Highlights:** The 'Cats scored non-league victories versus Palo Alto (23–7) and Gonzaga Prep (Spokane, Wash.) (37–22). The team finished co-WCAL Champions as the 'Cats beat Sacred Heart (28–14), St. Francis (35–26), Bellarmine (28–7), Archbishop Riordan (45–0) and Archbishop Mitty (21–7) before winning the last regular season game versus Serra



(14–13) on a goal-line stand to share the league championship in front of a capacity home crowd. The varsity Wildcats moved on to the CCS playoffs in the top tier D1 level and scored a home victory against Archbishop Mitty (28–7) before ending the season at Valley Christian in the semifinal round. Danny Ryan set the WCAL single season receptions record with 56 receptions in 7 league games.

**Awards:** WCAL Player of the Year: Teddee Buchanan; WCAL Wide Receiver of the Year: Danny Ryan; all league first team: Teddee Buchanan (QB/LB), Jack Burnett (OL), Joe Celantano Jr. (RB/DB), Siaki Gallegos Hunkin (LB), Beau Gardner (OL/DL), Seta Netane (OL/DL), Jafer Snipes (LB), Danny Ryan (WR); all league second team: Andrew Cummings (LB), Deven Enos (DB), Duke Reeder (DL); HM: James Adams (TE/DL), Danny Burke (WR), Gavin Dunn (OL/DL), David Lewis (OL/DL) and Marcello Villavicencio (TE/DL); J.B. Murphy Award: Teddee Buchanan; Rob Unruh '64 Most Outstanding Lineman: Beau Gardner; Most Outstanding Backs: Jafer Snipes, Danny Ryan; Journeymen Players of the Year: Andrew Cummings, Jack O'Keeffe.

**Graduating Seniors:** James Adams, Danny Burke, Teddee Buchanan, Jackson Canady, Joe Celentano Jr., Andrew Cummings, Deven Enos, Beau Gardner, Nick Glafkides, Reade Hansen, Michael Harrison, Chad Jensen, Jack O'Keeffe, Danny Ryan, Matt Silva, Jafer Snipes, Zach Taylor-Smith and Marcello Villavicencio.

## CROSS COUNTRY

**Coaches:** Nicholas Alvarado '06 assisted by Robert Alvarado '06, Daniel Baxter, Chad Evans, Jamie Lundy '06, Jeffrey Mendenhall, Alexander Paras '17 and Brian Rhodes.



**Records:** Boys Varsity: 6th; JV: 2nd; Soph: 3rd; Frosh: 3rd. Girls: V: 2nd; JV: 3rd; Fosh/Soph: 2nd.

**Highlights:** CCS: Girls Division III Champions, qualifying for State meet for the 5th year in a row. Boys DIII Champions, returning to the State Meet as a team. At the CIF State Meet, in Girls DIII competition, SI placed 15th as a team, and Evie Cohen placed 9th overall. Boys DIII: SI placed 21st as a team.

**Awards:** Girls: All league first team and all NorCal second team: Evie Cohen; all league second team: Clare Milby. Most Outstanding: Evie Cohen; Most Improved: Gabriella Fry-Ross; Wildcat: Zoe Kean; Julius Yap: Anastasia Dorn. Boys: Wildcat Award: Issac Lee and George Hollister; Most Outstanding: Luke Veit; Riley Suthoff: Ronan Kramer.

**Graduating Seniors:** Aidan Pidgeon, Alex Hall, Charlie Ashendorf, George Hollister, Issac Lee, Matthew Miloslavich, Oliver Ortiz, Owen Veit, Ronan Kramer, Tyler Truong, Will Simonds and Anastasia Dorn.



## BOYS' WATER POLO

**Coaches:** William Grant assisted by Josh Bruce and Trevor Jacobs.

**Record:** Varsity: 15–16; JV: 6–10; F/S: 2–6.

**Highlights:** Finished 6th in WCAL, went on to win DII CCS title as well as CIF DIII NorCal Regional title.

**Awards:** All league first team: Luca Caniglia (as well as HM CCS and SI Coach's Award); all league second team: Billy Barry (as well as CCS 2nd team and SI Wildcat's Award) and Patrick Wooler; HM: Max Castro; Most Improved: Victor Dollosso.

**Graduating Seniors:** Billy Barry, Luca Caniglia and James Wavro Jr.



## GIRLS' WATER POLO

**Coaches:** Carla Tocchini '13 assisted by JV coaches Sydney Baba, Ella Catacutan and Steven Tocchini '19.

**Record:** Overall: 12-12; league: 2-4.

**Highlights:** Come-from-behind victory against Leland (8-7) at St. Francis Invitational, and league win against Presentation High School (8-7). Competitive games against Clovis High School and Menlo High School. SI beat Notre Dame Belmont in the CCS quarterfinals. This was the first time in three years that the girls' water polo program has made it to CCS and even longer having made it to CCS semifinals.

**Awards:** All league first team: Lucia Sarimsakci; second team: Cece Paine, Betsy Wooler; HM: Jalene Gee; CCS third team: Lucia Sarimsakci; Coaches Award: Betsy Wooler; Competitor Award: Lucia Sarimsakci; Most Improved: Skylar Hickey; Game Ball: Anna Parker; Wildcat Award: Cece Paine.

**Graduating Seniors:** Jalene Gee, Gracie McFadden, Anna Parker, Elle Scandalios, Anna Schatz, Olivia Schenone, Hannah Tenney, Ryan Whisenant and Betsy Wooler.

## VOLLEYBALL

**Coaches:** Jen Curtin '04 assisted by Nick David '08; JV: Teddy Niemera '13 assisted by Lynn Niemera; F: Scott Mar assisted by Samantha Recinos '14.

**Records:** Varsity: 15-19, fifth in league; JV: 18-4, first in league; F: 22-1, undefeated in league and league champs.

**Highlights:** Albany HS Cougar Challenge Tournament Champions; WCAL wins over Valley Christian and Presentation; CCS DIII playoff win over Capuchino.

**Awards:** All league first team: Claire Untalan; HM: Maggie Doyle and Megan Ronan; Leadership Award: Ellie Untalan; Competitor Award: Megan Ronan; Fighting Spirit Award: Maggie Doyle.



**Graduating Seniors:** Ellie Untalan (captain), Kaylin Loo (captain), Maggie Doyle (captain), Kelly Lee, Izzy Richardson and Charlotte Doyle.



## GIRLS' GOLF

**Coaches:** Maxwell Plank '13.

**Records:** 2-8 (5th place in league).

**Highlights:** In league play, the 'Cats beat Presentation in both matches. Lizzy Schuth had the low score of the regular season for the 'Cats with a score of 39.

**Awards:** Wildcat Award: Cameron Howard; Medalist Award: Brielle Bedard; WCAL Honorable Mention: Brielle Bedard.

**Graduating Senior:** Crystal Alcaraz.

## FIELD HOCKEY

**Coaches:** Haley Sanchez, assisted by Caitlin Beatty, Colleen Clifford '06 and Whitney Barca '98.

**Record:** Varsity overall: 14-6-1; league: 5-4-1; JV overall: 9-5-2; league: 3-5-2.

**Highlight:** SI beat St. Francis in CCS quarterfinals 1-0 before losing to Mitty in the semifinals. Finished third in league and third in CCS.

**Awards:** Goalkeeper of Year: Olivia Schumann; Co-Defensive Player of the Year: Elle Van Giesen; all SCVAL first team: Megan Mulkerrins, Payton

King, Chyler Espino; second team: Sophie Pelton; Michaela Mulkerrins; Lola Cerchiai; Outstanding Defensive Player: Olivia Schumann; Outstanding Offensive Player: Payton King; Wildcat Award: Megan Mulkerrins; JV: Outstanding Attacking Player: Molly Ashendorf; Outstanding Defensive Player: Birdgette Mahoney; Wildcat Award: Maggie Mendoza.

**Graduating Seniors:** Emma Cotter, Olivia Schumann, Genevieve Mohr, Sophie Pelton, Mary Carol Phelan, Megan Mulkerrins, Michaela Mulkerrins, Elle Van Giesen, Kaylee Sobrepena and Hanna O'Connell. ≈





**LEFT:** On Oct. 19, the San Francisco Fire Department and other first responders used the SI campus for a city-wide disaster drill. Photo by Bowerbird.

**BELOW:** SI sent a contingent of rising seniors to the American Legion-sponsored Boys State in Sacramento last June to learn about state and local government. From left are George Hollister '20, Robert Garcia Nabor '20, Johnny O'Meara '20, Tom Quach '20 and Tim Mullins '20. Social science teacher John Stiegeler '74 is the Boys State moderator.



**LEFT:** SIPAC held its annual Pasko event Dec. 14 to celebrate the Christmas season. The event featured student singers, instrumentalists, dancers and a fashion show. **BELLOW:** The annual LatinXcellence Showcase took place at SI in October celebrating the diversity of Latinx cultural expression through student talent, music and food. Photo by Bowerbird.





**REUNION SEASON**  
Several classes gathered for reunions and Christmas lunches this fall. **TOP:** The class of 1999. **MIDDLE:** The classes of 1984 and 1949; **LEFT:** The Class of 1974. **BELow:** The Class of 1962.



## Christina Wilkes '13 & Marisa McCarthy '14 have Rare Glimpses into Political Processes

Two SI grads just a few years out of college have had a front-row seat both to the presidential campaign and to the impeachment hearings.

Christina Wilkes '13, who had worked as a press assistant for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, spent her summer and fall working on Beto O'Rourke's presidential bid as a press secretary in South Carolina, while Marisa McCarthy '14, a press assistant to Sen. Kamala Harris, spent the fall and early winter monitoring the impeachment of President Donald Trump.

After O'Rourke dropped out of the presidential race, Wilkes returned to Washington, D.C., to determine her next steps, while McCarthy, the granddaughter of former California Lieutenant Governor Leo McCarthy '48, also saw Sen. Harris join O'Rourke on the election sidelines.

Wilkes grew up in the West Portal District of San Francisco and went to St. Brendan School. She spent her time at St. performing in fall plays and spring musicals while also enjoying her ethics, history and government classes.

"My teachers and classmates helped me develop an interest in politics and social justice, particularly my senior-year U.S. Government class with Mr. Christensen," she noted. "Ultimately, that inspiration led me to want to pursue a career in politics."

At USC, while studying political science and communications, she worked as a social media intern for the San Francisco Democratic Party, as a multimedia journalist for Annenberg TV News, as communications director and president of USC College Democrats, as a political TV host for Trojan Vision Television and as an intern for the White House Communications team, Sen. Barbara Boxer, Rep. Jackie Speier and NBC News.

The Monday after she graduated from USC, she flew to Washington, D.C., to interview for a job as press assistant for Pelosi, landed the job and was eventually promoted to senior press assistant. She worked with Pelosi's staff to keep the Affordable Care Act alive before the House flipped to a Democratic majority. During her time on the Speaker's staff, she also met Nancy Pelosi's husband, Paul Pelosi '58, a fellow Ignatian.

"I met with mothers of children who had preexisting medical conditions and was impressed with their level of advocacy. It was an inspirational time to see how hard work and passion kept health care intact for many Americans."



She left Pelosi's office in late June to work for O'Rourke's campaign, in part because she was impressed with the way he ran his Senate campaign in Texas. "He is a vibrant political figure, and I knew I would learn so much during this exciting time. This was also a time in my life where I was free to pick up and move anywhere in the country."

The campaign sent her to South Carolina on July 1, where she worked with local press to promote O'Rourke's presidential bid. She got to know TV, radio and print reporters and voters "who wanted to know more about Beto. We worked to introduce him and create good relationships. That can be a tough job, given the divisiveness in our country and the reality that politics is a tough world and demands much of you. Despite the acrimonious language and tone, you have to know you're doing it for the right reasons and stay committed."

The work demanded much of her, but she had some experience of that rigor working for Pelosi. "I was on call day and night and had to craft press statements from the side of the road or from restaurants. I moved to South Carolina not knowing a single person, but I did so because of my commitment to the candidate and the political process."

Wilkes enjoyed working for O'Rourke because "he ran a clear-eyed campaign regarding America's strengths and failings" including his response to the shootings in his home state. "That was devastating for the people of Texas, for Beto and for everyone working on his campaign. Beto cares so deeply about his hometown, and when he spoke with fervor, it was genuine, including his use of profanity, which came from his outrage. It was raw and human and real, and that's rare in politics. He wasn't going to censor himself but say it like it is. Our politics is screwed up around guns, and that's the simple truth."

She wasn't surprised when O'Rourke faced criticism for his use of Spanish during the debates. "Anyone running for office should expect merciless critiques, and when Beto spoke in Spanish, it was genuine to his experience growing up in a border town. Of course, when you're working for him, it was hard to see him being made fun of."

It was also hard for Wilkes to hear that he was bowing out of the race. She listened in to a conference call along with all the campaign staff on Nov. 1 an hour before the announcement went public. "I admit I shed a few tears, as I had committed much of my

time to this cause and had grown close to colleagues. I came away respecting **Beto** even more, as he ran his operation true to his values and lived the values he preached, unlike so many in politics who are often hypocritical or wrought with contradictions.”

Wilkes encourages others to consider working for candidates because “doing this kind of work is such an exciting and inspiring thing to do, especially when you’re young. You can contribute to the issues you care about and see so much of the country while building long-lasting friendships. I’m grateful for all the chances I’ve had, and I’m excited to carry on once the Democrats choose their candidate.”

**McCarthy’s** experience mirrors **Wilkes’s** somewhat, even though **McCarthy** didn’t work on **Sen. Harris’s** campaign, but stayed in D.C. to support her work in the Senate.

#### OPPOSITE PAGE:

**Christina Wilkes** worked in South Carolina on **Beto O’Rourke’s** presidential run.

**RIGHT:** **Marisa McCarthy** currently works as a press assistant for **Senator Kamala Harris**.

A graduate of Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame, **McCarthy** came to SI finding mentors in teachers such as **Elizabeth Purcell**. “She taught me how to write effectively and that’s so important to the job I do now.” She also learned life lessons from drama teacher **Ted Curry ’82** and from her cross country coach and religious studies teacher **Anne Stricherz**.

Coming from a family rooted in politics, she knew she wanted to continue her family tradition. She served as a legislative intern to **Rep. Speier** in 2013 while at SI and went on to major in political science and government at LMU, where she co-founded the LMU College Democrats and served as its communications director.

In college, she served as an intern to **Rep. Anna Eshoo** and **Sen. Harris** and for the California Women’s Law Center in Los



Angeles, where she learned about politics on the state level. After graduation, she served as a field organizer for **Vangie Williams**, who ran for Congress in Virginia’s 1st Congressional District. “I knew it was a red state and that her likelihood of winning was slim, but I’m glad I had that experience,” **McCarthy** noted. “I hadn’t worked in a district that conservative before, and it helped me grow as a person.”

After that campaign, she returned to **Sen. Harris’s** office, this time as a staff assistant and then as a press assistant. “When I served as an intern to **Sen. Harris**, it was during the hearings of former FBI Director **James Comey**. That was a defining moment for me, and I knew I had to come back to the Hill.”

Shortly after taking the job with **Sen. Harris**, **McCarthy** heard her boss announce her presidential bid. “She embodies everything I believe in, and it’s an honor to work for her.”

In mid-December, after **Sen. Harris** left the campaign and before the full House voted to impeach **President Trump**, **McCarthy** was busy gathering daily press clippings and looking up information on past impeachments to send to her boss. “Everything is still up in the air as of today,” she added. “We have no idea how many hearings there will be in the Senate or who will speak. No rules have been determined yet. Because **Sen. Harris** sits on both the judiciary and intelligence committees — the two committees likely to hear evidence regarding the impeachment — we’re preparing for every contingency.”

The hardest part of the job, she added “is making sure I don’t miss anything. I don’t want to let her down, as she’s a one-of-a-kind politician who cares about the people of this nation.”

**McCarthy** hopes to continue working in political communications and plans to earn her master’s degree in public policy. “I’d love to return to the Hill after that and become a communications director for a Senator, but I love the Bay Area too and may end up working there.”

She sees her role as “continuing the lessons SI instilled in me to be a person for and with others. It’s such an honor to work here and live out the Jesuit mission, one that is more important than ever given our heated political climate.” ☾

## Marina '18 and Manny Tonna '16 Skate Their Way to Collegiate Ice Hockey Success



ABOVE: Marina Tonna, a sophomore at Grand Canyon University, and her brother, Manny, are both leaders on their respective teams.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Manny Tonna shoots and scores for SJSU.  
Photo by Keith Tharp.

Marina Tonna '18 and her brother, **Emmanuele (Manny) Tonna '16**, have skated their way to top spots on their college ice hockey teams — something atypical among SI and Magis Program alumni.

**Marina** took to the ice following the lead of her big brother. What led **Manny** to don skates was his experience watching *Miracle on Ice* — the 1981 movie about the U.S. Men's Hockey Team and its gold medal victory in 1980 over Finland and the Soviet Union.

"I always loved team sports, but never considered ice hockey before seeing the movie," **Manny** noted. "After watching it, I wanted to get involved somehow."

**Manny** was 11 when his parents signed him up for ice skating lessons, and he later joined the California Cougars based out of Foster City. By 14, **Manny** earned his team's "most dedicated player" honor. "That was my first award in the sport and a huge stepping stone. It's why I continue playing to this day."

By 16, he had become the leading scorer on his team, helping the San Jose Junior Sharks make it to the state playoffs. Later, when he joined the ice hockey team at San Jose State University, he was its second youngest player. His offensive expertise led his teammates and coaches to name him alternate captain in his sophomore year, and he earned "Toughest Player" honors in his junior year. Now a senior ready to graduate with a degree in child and adolescent development, he serves as team captain.

His commitment to the sport meant led him to put his social life on hold, though he was active at SI in the Magis Program, ALAS and the Green Team. At SI, he found mentors in Magis Program Director **Abram Jackson**, counselors **Anna Maria Vaccaro** and **Chris Delaney**, social science teacher and football coach **Owen Maguire** and Spanish teacher **Joe Bommarito**, who also taught his older and younger sisters.

"**Mr. Bommarito** knew our whole family, and my sisters and I thought of him as a friend as much as a teacher."

To compete at the highest level, **Manny** devoted himself to training and to a healthy diet. "Based on my first coach's recommendation, I cut out all fast food, candy and soda for three years. It was hard, but I was determined."

He did face some questions from his SI classmates who were not used to encountering high school hockey players. "The first question they would ask me is, 'Are you good?' Many thought it was cool, and a few came to watch me play. They were impressed by the speed and physicality of the sport."

**Manny**, who along with his sisters is part Mexican, Apache, Maltese and Irish, did find himself among the few people of color on his ice hockey teams over the years. "I have been targeted with a few racial slurs here and there, but I don't let those get to me, and those remarks have grown less as my opponents have grown older and matured. I have seen the sport become more diverse, and everyone should have the opportunity to play the game."



Neither the few racial remarks nor the hard-hitting reputation of ice hockey gave **Manny** pause when his younger sister, **Marina**, signed up to play. "She is like me — feisty and aggressive. I thought ice hockey would be good for her."

Early on, the two would push each other to excel when they drilled together. "I loved seeing her grow as a player, as she lives for the game, just like I do. Now she plays on the college level, too, and like me, she would do anything for her teammates."

**Marina**, a sophomore at Grand Canyon University in Arizona, developed her athleticism early on through competitive dance. "But I gave that all up to switch to ice hockey. After teaching myself to skate, I fell instantly in love with the game."

She did take part in Dance and Drill, ALAS and InSgnis at SI and found mentors in English teachers **Dan Vollert '85**, **Paul Burke**, **Jim Bjorkquist '65** and **Jennifer Curtin '04**; Spanish teachers **Theresa Bayze** and **Joe Bommarito**; and her counselor, **Lauren Totah '07**.

She led retreats and went on an immersion trip to Central California, where she was inspired to become a vegetarian after seeing the way chickens are raised and processed.

Marina said she loves the sport because "while I'm on the ice, nothing else matters. It's my escape, where I can let out everything that stresses me out. The ice is my happiest place, where I'm a different person, more at peace and where I get to be my truest self. I'm a little like **Elsa** in *Frozen* — the cold never bothered me anyway."

Like her brother, **Marina** played for the Cougars and was the only girl on her team. Later, she switched to an all-girls team. "Playing with guys is much more physical, as you're allowed to check each other, pushing them down to the ground to remove the player from the puck. The few times I got checked, I had the wind knocked out of me. I had to catch my breath and quickly get back up."

Like her brother, she was the only one at SI she knew who played ice hockey. "At first, I kept it on the down-low as I was a bit embarrassed. By the time I was a senior, I was proud of my status as a strong woman who could play a sport that some people consider to be very masculine."

She loves playing on her college team, the 'Lopes (short for Antelopes), "because the women on my team share a sisterhood. The bond we have is so much more than anything I experienced on a guy's team."

An assistant captain, she leads her team against opponents in Colorado, Utah and Arizona. Like her brother and her teammates, she has had her share of minor injuries, including a dislocated shoulder — "I had someone pop it back in mid-shift so I could continue to play" — and some bone bruises, and she has been in her share of on-ice fights.

After graduation she hopes to become an athletic trainer, perhaps for an ice hockey team. **Manny** hopes to teach math and eventually become a school administrator.

Both plan to play ice hockey long after graduation. "I'm also proud to leave a legacy for the girls who come after me," **Marina** added. "My college team is connected to an ice hockey league for little girls. They look up to us, and even those who have been on the ice just once want to adopt this as their main sport. It's important to leave a legacy and help grow the game for the women who will rise through the ranks." ☺



**ABOVE:** Members of the Class of 1983 and other supporters went to Gleneagles Golf Course in McLaren Park in the fall for the **Dan Linehan '83 Tommy Bahama Golf**

**Tourney** to raise funds for a scholarship in **Dan's** name. The event was hosted by **Tom Hsieh '83**, who manages the course.



On Sept. 25, the SI Alumni Office hosted a gathering atop the Salesforce Tower called “**Partners in STEM: Building Makers, Thinkers, Creators, Problem Solvers and Designers at SI.**” The night featured an alumni panel discussion

and an informal meet and greet of SI alumni and SI STEM faculty. How can you shape the future of SI students? Look for more down the road on the Alumni Association’s Partnerships in STEM program. Photo by Bowerbird.



**RIGHT:** Off the Gridiron was held for the second year, this time on Oct. 12 during the SI vs. St. Francis football game. The family-friendly event included children’s games and food, live music by the SI alumni group Roadrunner, a separate beer and wine garden for adults and food trucks. Photo by Bowerbird.



The Alumni Association also held its second annual **Women’s Group Social and Networking Event** on Oct. 17 for networking and a conversation led by Alumni Board Member [Camila Mize '06](#) and Alumni Director [Alexa Contreras '05](#) on empowerment in life and in the workplace. Photo by Bowerbird.





Photo by Abeldgadillo Photography.

## Devin Mallory '17 Makes UCLA History as the First Man on the School's Elite Dance Team

Devin Mallory '17, who made history at UCLA by becoming the first male to join the school's elite Dance Team, gets one question from fellow students and alumni from time to time. Why not use poms, like the other dancers?

"I was offered the opportunity to dance with poms," he noted. "I respectfully declined, as there are male NFL cheerleaders who don't dance with them. I thought it would be nice to follow in their practice of not using pom-poms."

A junior majoring in dance and minoring in nutrition, **Mallory** has earned notice from the *Los Angeles Times*, which featured him in a story in the winter. He made a name for himself long before that, as he has danced since age 10 in the hip-hop group Young Skulls Club, which has won national awards.

"Before that, I was a typical boy playing a plethora of sports, including basketball and soccer. Later, I realized I couldn't do sports and train for dance competitions, so I chose dance, as it allows me to express myself in ways that I wasn't able to with sports."

**Mallory**, who is half Filipino and half African-American, draws from both sides of his heritage for inspiration on the dance floor. "I have Filipino relatives who all come from very artistic backgrounds, and I have researched traditional Filipino folk dances for a class. I also draw a lot of inspiration from my African-American side through hip hop."

At SI, he danced and acted in school musicals, performed at prayer services, was a member of the SI Dance Workshop and was the captain of the Dance and Drill Team for three years. "I felt as if I gravitated to many groups of people at SI, which I thought was great, as it allowed me to incorporate my craft within so many aspects of the school."

He praised SI drama teacher **Ted Curry '82** "who pushed me to be the best I could be, and he still reaches out to me to help current students at SI with college preparations. I still feel connected to SI, as it instilled in me the value of being with and for others. We're all in this together, no matter how different we are."

As a sophomore at UCLA, he joined the Spirit Squad, which includes the school's Dance Team, Cheer Squad and Yell Crew, and led cheers last year at home games.

He made the Dance Team after a rigorous audition that had him perform in a range of styles, including hip hop, jazz and jazz funk. "Other very qualified men have auditioned in the past, but I believe I made the team, in part, because even though I'm a male, I stressed how I wanted to be part of a cohesive unit, with myself and my movements blending with the women."

He has performed with the Dance Team since August and has been well received by fans in the stands. "Though I have witnessed some ridicule from afar, most of the

comments have been loving and positive, and people have said they are happy to see me on the team."

His fellow dancers have made the transition easy. "Having known many of them from my time on the Spirit Squad the year prior, I considered many of the team's veterans as friends. Also, my fellow rookie teammates and I bonded quickly over our extra practices together."

**Mallory's** favorite form of dance has shifted over the years, but he now leans toward modern and post-modern dance. In his youth, he was inspired by the performances of **Michael Jackson** and ballerina **Misty Copeland**. "It was inspiring to see diversity within the arts being showcased as she began making headlines," he noted.

At 6-foot, 1, **Mallory** runs into people "who assume that I'm good at ballet, though I have little experience in that style. I don't mind those expectations, however, as they push me to train at a faster and harder pace."

After college, he hopes to tour as a dancer, perhaps performing along with a singer. "I'd love to travel and share dance in an impactful way, and that might lead me to start teaching. It would be a dream to be an established artist who could also teach. I want to pass down an art form that I have such a passion for." ≈



## Burl Toler Jr. '74 Honored with Christ the King Award for a Lifetime of Service

The following citation, written by Alumni Director Alexa Contreras '05, was read at the Christ the King Mass Nov. 24.

The Christ the King Award is presented annually to honor graduates who have distinguished themselves in their professions, shown a commitment to the SI community and who best exemplify the ideal of service to God and fellow man. It is the most prestigious award voted on by alumni for alumni. Today we celebrate Burl Toler Jr. '74: devoted family man, sharp professional and true Wildcat.

From a young age, Burl embraced his diverse neighborhood in the Ingleside and attended St. Emydus School. His parents had a deep appreciation for the importance of quality education, and for the Toler family, that meant sending Burl to St. Ignatius. Although excited to attend SI, Burl would be the first to admit that the unknown challenges in the classroom and on the football field felt initially intimidating. With the support of his family and Jesuit teachings, Burl was inspired to rise to excellence in and out of the classroom. The reality was that high school would be a bigger pond with much bigger fish,

yet Burl's focus and drive led to a very successful high school career. While at SI, Burl was a leader on and off the field and was a person of strong moral character, kindness and dependability. Classmate John Stiegeler describes Burl's effect on others as follows: "Burl Toler is world class; Burl Toler is respected; Burl Toler is a true friend." He is also an innovator and very generous.

Unbeknownst to what would have been a mortified Coach Gil Haskell '61, Stiegeler fondly recalls the tiny Volkswagen Beetle that Burl used to drive and boasts how one time they managed to fit 15 of SI's finest football giants into the vehicle, a record that stands to this day. How they managed to get out without dismantling the car remains a mystery.

In 1945, the Bay Area was fortunate to become a huge part of the Toler legacy when Burl's father, Burl Toler Sr., moved from Memphis at 17 and put into motion what would be three generations of men and women who dedicate their lives for others. Burl Sr. was an All-American on the legendary 1951 unbeaten, untied and uninvited USF football team and later became the first African-American official in the NFL, starting in 1965. Burl Sr. summed up the importance of this opportunity for

others this way: "I might be the first, but as long as I do well enough, I won't be the last." Burl Sr. was an educator for 17 years and the first African American principal at a secondary school in San Francisco while simultaneously serving as a trustee at USF. Unfortunately, Burl Toler Sr. could not be here today to see SI bestow this award on his son. God rest his soul, Burl Toler Sr. died in 2009 at the age of 81, but the legacy he left behind in his six wonderful children shines on and continues to inspire us all.

Many of you here today know the legacy, but those of you less familiar with the family may ask: What exactly is the Toler family legacy? In a nutshell, it has been to inspire those around them, to never settle, to work hard even in the face of great adversity, to do your best and to never forget where you come from. With the right education and application, everyone can be successful. Work hard toward a goal. Do everything you can. Never let anyone tell you no. Position yourself for success and work harder. Create better relationships on the job and acquire the necessary skills today.

This challenging but ideal formula, engrained in our alumni Wildcat Burl Toler Jr., makes for a feast of success that he

generously shares with others. After SI, he attended the University of California, Berkeley. In addition to his studies, **Burl** tried out as a walk-on for the Golden Bears. He was not only succeeded but also made captain of the squad by excelling at the position of linebacker, where he was instrumental in helping his team win a share of the Pac-8 title in 1975. He also helped his opponents get back up after earth shattering tackles on the field, demonstrating that, above all, he is a true gentleman.

Burl met his wife, **Susan Tamayo**, freshman year at Cal, and together they have five children, including four who were student-athletes at Cal.

During his time in college, he tore down offenses, but after Cal, he built up the Bay Area. With a degree in architecture, **Burl** went out into the world and established a distinguished career as an architect and project manager. Over his career, he has managed well over \$1 billion in construction projects that include SFO International Terminal, the airport museum and cargo

buildings and parts of Contra Costa College, UCSF Medical Center and UC Berkeley.

In addition, he has volunteered his time to give back to the community. **Burl** has served as a mentor to many young students and student-athletes who have aspirations of entering the architectural or construction professions. His involvement with Cal includes the co-creation of the Career Council Board, comprising Bay Area professionals who serve as mentors to Cal football student-athletes. **Burl** is also a past president of the Big C Society, as well as the incoming chair of the Glenn Seaborg Board of Directors. Outside of UC Berkeley, **Burl** has served as a member of the Board of Regents at both SI and Bishop O'Dowd High School, he has been on the CYO Board of Trustees, and he is a member of The Guardsmen. **Burl** served as a director on the West County Waste Water District Board and is an alumnus of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

I am honored to say we are in the company of a truly inspiring Renaissance man. The reality of pursuing one's dreams can be

a wonderfully compelling journey, and at times it can be overwhelming, but thankfully, we are never alone. To manage stress, **Burl** shares this philosophy: "Believe in yourself and find a significant other to believe in you, too. My father always said to do your best, and your best will truly be good enough. When you have higher expectations for yourself than others do, it's not a surprise how much you accomplish." That is the essence of his philosophy. **Burl Toler Jr.** set out to do everything he could do, and he ended up doing it all.

Given this Sunday, Nov. 24, and on behalf of St. Ignatius College Preparatory, the Board of Trustees and the Alumni Association, I am proud to bestow this Christ the King Award upon distinguished **Burl Toler Jr.**, SI Class of 1974. Congratulations! ≈

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** **Burl Toler** (top row, center) and his family at the Christ the King Mass. **BELOW:** **Burl** was joined by past recipients of the Christ the King Award along with SI President **Eddie Reese, S.J.**, and Alumni Director **Alexa Contreras**.



# KEEPING IN TOUCH

**1948** Al Romero's granddaughter, Chelsea Forbes, graduated with her medical degree in Washington, D.C., on May 18. Dr. Chelsea is the daughter of Fred and Christie Schifferle of Granite Bay.



**1949** Above, from left, **Al Grosskopf, S.J., George Butler** and **Ed Dowd** gathered in June. The three of them started their education at St. Cecilia School together and went all the way through SI.



**1950** Classmates and their spouses gathered June 11 for a bi-annual lunch. (They also got together in December and have been doing so for 19 years.) In recent times, guests have joined the alums. **Tim Tracy** started the reunion tradition, and **Ed Fleming** continued it, followed by **Mike Smith**, with help from **Rick Arellano** and **Dick Vance**. For information about the lunches, contact Mike at (650) 574-2314. Sitting from left are Joan Cox, Jeanie Fazzio, Linda Arellano and Adrienne Smith. Standing are **Tom Bertken, Bill Cox, Doug Walsh, George Couch, Rick Arellano, Ray Fazzio, Larry Ludwigsen, Dick Vance** and **Mike Smith**.

**1956** Jack Phelan, and his wife, Kathie (Merrill), celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in October, and **Bob Norton** and his wife, Claire (Cook), celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in November.



**1957** **Dan Flynn** (left) was honored in April 2019 at the headquarters of Médecins Sans Frontières in Brussels, Belgium, for 10 years of continuing volunteer service as teacher, translator, transcriber, editor, voice-over and international meeting

recorder. He is pictured with Danielle Dewulf, Volunteer Coordinator, Human Resources for Médecins Sans Frontières in Operations Centre Brussels.



**1958** Classmates gathered for recent funerals of **Bob Soper, Sal Romo** and **Mike Connich**. Pictured above are **Frank Machi, Mike Carroll, Jerry Glueck, Adrian Buoncristiani, Al Zavattero** and **Frank Foehr** at **Mike Connich's** service.

**1959** Four alumni-owned restaurants made the *San Francisco Chronicle's* Top 100 list, including Original Joe's Westlake (**John Duggan** and **John Duggan '92**); the House of Prime Rib (**Steven Betz '94**); Swan Oyster Depot (**Stephen '68, Tom '72, Jim '75** and **Phillip Sancimino '76**); and Nopa (**Jeff Hanak '85**). / **Dr. Mike Gillin**, professor and deputy chair of the Department of Radiation Physics at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, retired Aug. 31. He started his career using a slide rule and hand-compounding isodose curves and now works to define end-to-end testing of highly integrated, multi-vendor imaging and treatment delivery systems. He has led teams and is the faculty champion for the radiation oncology Electronic Medical Records and its interface to the hospital medical record. At the 2017 annual meeting for the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, he received the Marvin M.D. Williams Professional Achievement Award recognizing his distinguished career in medical physics and radiation oncology. He is also the author of 200 clinical and physics publications. He and his wife, Pamela Newberry, are the proud parents of three children, three grandchildren, three grand-cats and two grand-dogs.



**1960** **Michael Corrigan** has a new book out called *Brewer's Odyssey*.

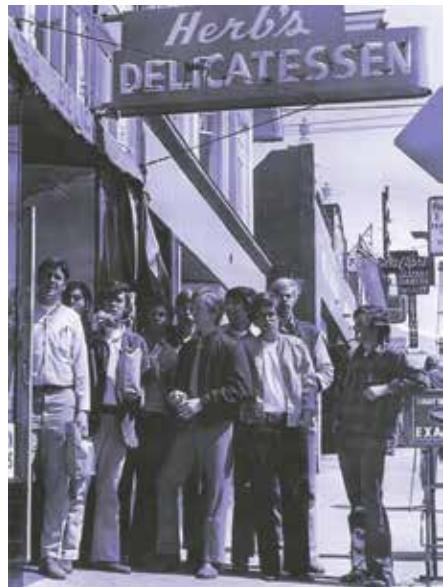
**1962** **Ralph (Buzz) Pujolar** was elected to the San Francisco Prep Hall of Fame for his work as a high school basketball official. Buzz officiated in The City for 40 years. His daughter, **Tara Lai Quinlan '94**, is a law professor in Sheffield, UK.

**1963** **Thomas Brandi** was once again named to the Top Ten Lawyers in Northern California by *Super Lawyers* magazine.

**1967** Tom Rinaldi was featured in the *St. Helena Star* for his trip to Vietnam 50 years after he was deployed there during the Vietnam War. He and his wife, Beverly, also traveled to Cambodia during the trip last March and April.

**1968** Dr. Ricardo Muñoz gave the 2019 Distinguished Lecture for USF's Clinical Psychology Psy.D. Program on Oct. 24 at the university. He also recently completed working on a consensus committee for the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, which was released in September, titled "Fostering Healthy Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Development in Children and Youth: A National Agenda." / Bob Sarlatte hosted a set of comedians at the 39th annual Comedy Day in Golden Gate Park on Sept. 15.

**1970** Author and local historian Frank Dunnigan's newest book, *Classic San Francisco: From Ocean Beach to Mission Bay*, debuted Oct. 3 at BookShop West Portal. It follows Frank's two earlier books from the *Growing Up in San Francisco* series, plus another on the centennial



history of St. Cecilia Parish. Included in the new book are three photos, including the one, left, of Herb's Deli on Taraval near 32nd Avenue with SI seniors from the **class of 1972**. Today, most of them are retirees and grandfathers. After much consultation among colleagues (Fr. Spohn reference), there is general agreement on the following names for the above image (left to right): **Kevin Carroll**, **Aldo Congi** (back row), **Mike Kelly**, **Steve Shori** (back), **Jim Christian**, **Fred Baumer** (back), **Jim McEvoy**, **Jeff Bipes** (back),

**Will Murray**. Photo by Kevin Bosque '72. / Doug Merrifield (executive producer/UPM) has been working in the entertainment industry for more than 40 years. Recent credits include *Jungle Cruise* and *Noelle*. Past credits include *The Shallows*, first three *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *National Treasure*, *47 Ronin* and *Free Willy*. Merrifield is a member of the Director's Guild of America, Producers Guild of America and the Academy of Television Arts and Science. / **Joseph Ver** became the first inductee in the Alaska Youth Soccer Association (under both U.S. Youth Soccer and U.S. Soccer Federation) in their Hall of Fame on Nov. 16, in recognition of his service as AYSA's president between 1999 and 2014.

**1972** Best-selling author Gerald Posner wrote for *Newsweek* about businessman Ross Perot after his passing. In 1996, Gerald wrote *Citizen Perot: His Life and Times*.

**1973** The class celebrated its annual Christmas luncheon Dec. 6 at Bechelli's Flower Market Cafe. A big thanks to class president **Al Clifford**, who has organized this luncheon every year for the last 46 years.



**1975** Realtor Tom Stack followed up his popular Grateful Dead merchandise business to serve as the president of the board at the Town Hall Theatre in Lafayette. Tom first became interested in the Dead when his SI teacher had the class break down the lyrics to "Truckin." / John Warda along with his family, including his daughter, Anne (pictured at right with John's wife, Nina, and son, John Jr.), who served as the parade's president this year. Other SI grads who attended the parade included announcers **Steve '69** and **Joe Leveroni '03** and his sister, **Molly '04**; **Frank Billante** and his daughter,

**Alessandra '02**; **Jim Fanucchi** and his daughter, **Elisa '08**; **Rory Bertiglia** and his daughters **Kelsey '11** and **Kristen '09**; **Paul Totah**; **Tony Pasanissi**; and **Paul Tonelli '76**.



**1976** Bobby Borbeck (pictured below, second from right) moved to Las Vegas last spring and kicked off a new SI alumni chapter in Las Vegas at the Luxor by watching the 49ers stomp the Browns. Pictured with Bobby are **Joe Vollert '84**, **Alexa Contreras '05** and **Cliff Atkinson '93**, who hosted the New Las Vegas Chapter. **Bob and Ed Reidy** (pictured below) later broke bread in Las Vegas.



/ **Phil Kearney** was elected president of the St. Thomas More Society. / **Greg Suhr**, former SFPD chief of police, recently became the pull-up champion in the Olympic Club's 60-and-older division with a total of 37, breaking the old record. / **Bill Quinlan** was recently named president of the Board of Directors of the Oregon Community Theatre just outside of Toledo, Ohio. OCT is one of the largest theatres in NW Ohio.

**1977** Eugene Gloria's fourth collection of poems, *Sightseer in This Killing City*, was published by Penguin Random House. Eugene (right) was appointed the John Rabb Emison Professor of Creative and Performing Arts at DePauw University for 2019-2024.



**1978** In August, **Joseph Totah** retired following a 37-year career at NASA. He was honored at a luncheon in Mountain View, where he was presented with a plaque and photo album and thanked for his service and contributions. Joe offered his reflections on his career and thanked his parents, John B. Totah and the late Sellweh M. Totah, for their sacrifices. Joe joins brothers **Paul '75** and **Robert '76** in retirement and plans to spend more time with family and friends, and travel with his wife, Caroline, as they embark on the next exciting chapter of their lives.



**1981** **Larry Chinn** congratulated **Dakota Chinn** for enrolling as an SI freshman for the class of 2023. He represents the third generation to attend SI for the family. / For the second year in a row, **Francis Jue** has been nominated for a Bay Area Theatre Award for Best Actor. Francis recently won for Best Actor in a Musical for *Soft Power*, which is now playing in New York City. His new nomination is for *King of the Yees*, which played at the SF Playhouse in March. On TV, you can watch Francis in *Madam Secretary* on CBS.



**1982** The class held a Christmas luncheon Dec. 6. / **Julio Bermejo**, the head bartender at Tommy's Mexican Restaurant, known for its world-famous tequila selection and cocktails, was featured in the *Chronicle*. / **David Gallagher** is the new principal of St. Eugene School in Santa Rosa. / **Blaise Ofalsa** is living in Las Vegas with his two sons and managing the Restaurant Grotto in the Golden Nugget Casino.

**1983** **Robert Hewitt Wolfe** writes for Fox TV's *Prodigal Son*.

**1987** **Stephen McFeely** headlined a Comic-Con panel in San Diego on *The Avengers: Endgame*, which he co-wrote with Christopher Markus.

**1989** **Mark Capitolo** began a new position in 2019 as the Director of Public Advocacy for Kaiser Permanente in its California Government Relations office in Sacramento. He lives in Sacramento with his wife, Jennifer, and sons DJ and Tommy, who attend St. Ignatius Parish School.



**1992** **Dr. Cornelius O'Leary Jr.** married Marialta Perez Grassano Feb. 24. His brother **Michael '96** served as best man. The couple lives in Las Vegas, and Dr. O'Leary works as a locum tenens urgent care physician in California and Florida.

**1993** **John Regalia**, head coach of SI's football team, was named Coach of the Week in October by the 49ers.

**1996** **Michael Miller** is the new principal of Holy Name School.

**1999** **Valerie Ibarra** has stepped into the San Francisco Public Defender's Office as its Public Information Officer. Ringing in a new era, she'll be managing press and communications for the new Public Defender, Mano Raju, at a pivotal time for criminal justice reform. / **Chris Uskert** is the new principal of St. Cecilia School in San Francisco.

**2000** **Stephen Allan** is the director of photography for the Memphis Grizzlies. He has shot Super Bowls for NFL Films, including two with his father, **Mark Allan '64**. Stef lives in Memphis, Tenn., with his 8-year-old son, Reid. / **Josh Harris**, owner of Trick Dog Bar, saw his establishment receive the Best Cocktail Menu in the World award. He was also featured in the *Chronicle* for being a non-drinking bartender and supporting other non-drinking bartenders. / After years of serving as food editor for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, **Paolo Lucchesi** is now editorial director at Resy, where he is still covering quality restaurants and food.

**2003** **Kate Brandt** christened the new *USS Oakland*, a new ship for the U.S. Navy. She is also a recipient of the Distinguished Public Service Award, the highest award the U.S. Navy can give to a civilian. Kate is the Sustainability Officer at Google. Before Google, Kate was the Federal Chief Sustainability Officer at the White House under President Obama.

**2004** **David Darling** has been promoted to major in May 2019 for the U.S. Army. He graduated from the Naval War College in June 2019 with a master's degree in Defense and Strategic Studies. He is now stationed at Fort Leavenworth in Kansas and is attending the School of Advanced Military Studies. He will be leaving that assignment in June 2020 to return to the Ranger Regiment in Fort Benning, Georgia. He is proud of his nieces — **Marie Paul '16**, a senior at ASU who is graduating this May, and **Sarah Paul '17**, a junior at Seattle University — and his nephew, **Matthew Paul '18**, a sophomore at Grand Canyon University in the ROTC program. / In May 2019, **Maureen Kantner** (right) earned her Master of Public Administration degree from the Wagner School of Public Administration at New York University. She is now the associate director for State and Local Initiatives at New American Economy in New York, a bipartisan research and advocacy organization fighting for smart federal, state and local immigration policies that help grow our economy and create jobs for all Americans. She often travels to consult with municipalities and civic leaders.



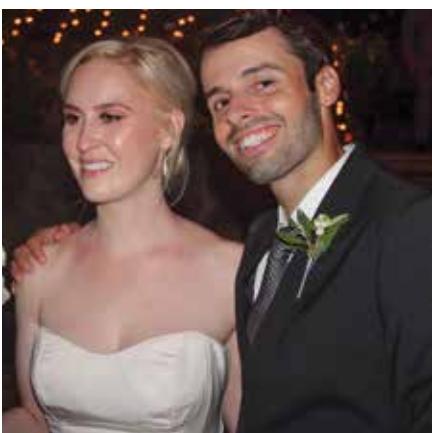
**2005** **Catherine Abalos** graduated from USF with her master of fine arts degree in writing. She received the Graduate Student Leadership Award for her work with three student organizations, as well as a scholarship through Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation. / **Darren Criss** will star in *Hollywood*, a new Netflix series, and also serve as executive producer. He will speak at SI's Downtown Business Lunch in February.

**2006** **Sam Nelsen** and **Katie Girlich '11** are the new head coaches for SI's men's and women's rowing teams.

**2007** **Rocco Bovo**, an actor known for his work in *Morning Has Broken*, appeared in an ESPN film about fantasy football.

**2008** **Alexander Fotsch** was named to *Forbes' 30 Under 30* list in science for his work as vice president of Locus Agricultural Solutions. / Former SI basketball standout **Vince Legarza** was recently given the head coach role for the Utah Jazz in the Las Vegas NBA summer league.

**2009** **Nick Miller**, known professionally as Illenium, was named to *Forbes' 30 Under 30* in the music category. His *Ascend* album peaked at number 14 on the Billboard 200.



**2010 Sydney Clare Brunner** wed **Dylan Robert Carrol '09** on Sept. 7 in St. Helena, Calif. Many SI alum attended the event including officiant **Paul Mohun '83** and father of the bride **Kevin Brunner '82**. The bridal party included best men **Coulton Carrol '07** and **Dylan John '09**, and maid of honor **Julia Brunner '15** as well as **Hattie Casserly '10**, **Brittney McCahill '10**, **Bekah Azofeifa '10**, **William**

**Mallen III '09**, **Joseph Arsenio III '09**, **Sam Arabian '09** and **Nicholas Brunner '12**. / **Daine Danielson**, a Ph.D. student in Physics at the University of Chicago, has been awarded a prize in the Innovations in Nuclear Technology R&D Awards sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Technology R&D. Danielson's award is in the Undergraduate Competition. His award-winning research paper, "Directionally Accelerated Detection of a Second, Unknown Reactor with Anti-neutrinos for Mid-Field Nonproliferation Monitoring," was presented at the Applied Anti-neutrino Physics conference in October 2018. The research for the project was performed while Danielson was an undergraduate student at the University of California at Davis. He was also featured last year in *Genesis* magazine for his work at Los Alamos. / **Jacqueline Toboni** plays Sarah Finley in Showtime's *The L Word: Generation Q*. / **Colin Woodell** starred off Broadway in the revival of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize finalist drama *Dying City* at the Tony Kiser Theater. Look for him in *The Call of the Wild* on the big screen and *The Flight Attendant* on TV.

**2014 Isabella Alcaraz** is the owner of San Francisco's largest independent pet store, The Animal Connection.

**2015 Eoin Lyons**, former SI student body president, delivered a stirring valedictory at SCU in June.



**2016 Kevin Lehr** (left) finished in the top 100 in the NCAA Division II national championships in Sacramento. Kevin and his teammates from CSU San Marcos were cheered on by two of his SI coaches, **Nicholas Alvarado '06** (right) and Chad Evans (left).

**2017 Ayzhiana Basallo** of San Jose State, was named Mountain West Conference Player of the Week for Women's Basketball. Ayzhiana helped lead the Wildcats her senior year to a CCS Championship title. / **Julia Maguire** was named Scholar-Athlete of the Week by Cal. A member of Cal's rowing team, she was recognized for broadening her professional platform as a data analyst intern for Global Touch, Inc., verifying information quality and identifying possible trends. She also leveraged data visualization and modeling; communicated key insights to improve client and professional services; and collaborated with a small team of employees to improve and revise project drafts, creating cohesive, concise and organized outcomes.

**2018** Former SI soccer teammates **Claire Dworsky** (right) and **Audrey Shaefer '19** (left) met up at Bucknell this fall when Bucknell hosted West Point. Both are loving college soccer.



**2019** Congratulations to lacrosse standouts **Kyle Adelman** (Tufts), **Topher Bligh** (Brown), **Sam Parkinson** (Villanova), **Mark Stephens** (Harvard) for their performances in the Adrenaline All American game. / **Sean Bilter** was named to the All-USA High School Boys Soccer Team. / **Lizzie Fleming**, now at Duke, was named in the top 20 for Bay Area Athletes of the Year by the *Chronicle*. Fleming led the Varsity Wildcats Volleyball team to their second consecutive CCS Open Division championship game appearance in her senior year. / **Kourosh Kahn-Adle** and **Malcolm McCray-Hill** made the all-tourney basketball team representing the Wildcats when they competed in Taiwan over the summer. / **Maicie Levitt** was named the *Chronicle's* Regional Player of the Year for San Francisco softball. In her four-year career, Levitt hit .384 with 103 hits, 93 runs, 56 RBIs, 13 home runs and 18 doubles. An excellent student-athlete, she is now playing at Cornell.



## BIRTHS

**1985 John P. McGee Jr.** and his wife, Melanie, a daughter (right), Tatum Grace, born Sept. 6, 2019. Tatum joins sister Natalie, 2½. / **Marc Teglia** and his wife, Kelly, a daughter, Madeleine Ambrosia (left), born Sept. 4, 2019.



**1992 Cornelius O'Leary** and his wife, Marialta, a son, Maximus Charles (right), born Oct. 2, 2019.



**1997 Stacey Lee** and her husband, Kevin Kim, a son, Maru, born June 12, 2019.



**2002 Gina Antonini Hammond** and husband, Trevor Hammond, a son, Rory Peter, born Aug. 28, 2019. / **Christine Abalos Tsu** and her husband, Roger, a son, Elliott (right), born Aug. 1, 2019. / **Karen (Tumaneng) Wilmes** and her husband, Jordan, a son, Dresden John Wilmes (left), born Nov. 16, 2018. He joins big sisters, Leighana (8) and Kaylin (7).

**2009 Gina Masettani** and husband, Michael Mantese, a daughter, Mia Rose (right), born Sept. 18, 2019. / **Charlotte Pruden-Ross** and her husband, Tom Ross, a daughter, Clyo Jay Ross (below left), born May 28, 2019.



**2012 Katie Harp** and her partner, Joe Colombo, a daughter, Emilia Francis (right), born July 7, 2019.



## IN MEMORIAM

1937 John J. "Jack" Gibbons  
1942 Charlie Silvera  
1944 Bernard "Bernie" Cummings  
1944 Louis E. Ravano, Sr.  
1947 Roy A. Drury Sr.  
1947 Michael J. Ryan Jr.  
1948 Robert J. Glynn Jr.  
1948 Donald C. Healey  
1948 Brother John Samaha, S.M.  
1949 Peter D. Ashe  
1949 Raymond Guilfoyle  
1949 The Hon. Eugene Lynch  
1949 Rex Raymond Magee Jr.  
1950 William L. Cox  
1950 Leonard J. Heinz  
1951 John M. Shea  
1952 Richard J. "Dick" Quinlan  
1953 John R. McGrorey  
1953 Bruno Morelli  
1953 Joseph P. O'Hearn Jr.

1954 Dr. Albert Frietsche  
1954 John A. Sweeney  
1955 John R. Hennessy  
1955 Thomas McEntee  
1956 Thomas "Tiger" Abrahamsen  
1956 Martin M. Lee  
1957 Dr. Bernard (Gil) Dowd Jr.  
1957 Col. Frank E. McCormick  
1958 Michael J. Connich  
1958 Robert (Bob) Soper  
1959 John M. Beviacqua  
1959 John V. Dervin, M.D.  
1959 Louie Á. Nady  
1959 Bartlett D. Whelton  
1962 John R. Ringseis  
1962 George W. Maloney  
1964 Peter J. Gallagher  
1966 Aux. Bishop Robert Christian, O.P.  
1967 Thomas Blake  
1971 Peter F. Schwab  
1972 James (Jim) M. Riordan  
1973 Gerald Flynn

1974 Michael P. O'Brien  
1978 Michael D. Manseau  
1981 Owen P. O'Sullivan  
1982 Charles J. Ducharme  
1984 James C. Maloney  
1985 James Kerrigan  
1992 Jason Tully  
2013 Cory Leonoudakis  
Richard Raiter, former SI librarian  
Phyllis G. Molinelli, former counselor  
Rev. Stephen F. Pisano, S.J., former teacher  
William C. Parenti, former driver ed teacher  
Robert Joseph Szarnicki, former Regent  
John Ehrlich, former Regent

## Correction:

In the summer *Genesis*, we listed as deceased Ray Haguisan; in fact, it was his brother, Randolph Haguisan '88 who passed away. Ray '84 is alive and well. Our apologies for the error.

## Judge Eugene Lynch '49, Former SI Football Coach and Chair of Board of Regents

The Hon [Eugene Lynch '49](#), a man who served SI in myriad ways, died Oct. 9, 2019. He was 87.

A native San Franciscan, he attended St. Charles before coming to SI, where he served as student body vice president and junior class vice president. He was a Shakespearean interpreter for two years, a comment editor for the newspaper as well as a member of the Sodality, the Ignatian Relations Council and the Block Club.

He graduated from Santa Clara University in 1953 and served as a captain in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Upon his return in 1955, he attended Hastings College of the Law and received his law degree in 1958 before going into private practice between 1959 and 1971.

While in law school, he served as an assistant coach to his SI and SCU classmate [Pat Malley '49](#) for SI's varsity football team, leading the Wildcats to AAA crowns in 1956 and 1958. One highlight happened in his first season as coach when SI beat Balboa during the Turkey Bowl before a crowd of 30,000 at Kezar Stadium by a score of 7 to 6.

One of Judge Lynch's players, [Brian Hasset '58](#), reported that "practice sessions presided over by [Pat Malley '49](#) and line coach [Gene Lynch](#) were hard-hitting. When you were called to jump into the tackling circle, runners came at you from every direction, helmets lowered and knees pounding. Your job was to tackle one, then spin around and get the next and the next. It was no picnic, but there was



also an element of play in those practices that brought out the best in us. [Gordie Lau '59](#), who would later argue in the Supreme Court about equal educational opportunity, would let out a shout with each tackle."

Years later, in October 2012, shortly before the Bellarmine football game, SI honored [Judge Lynch](#) (pictured above) as well as the late [Coach Malley](#) and [Coach Gil Haskell '61](#) at the dedication of the new press box.

After leaving private practice, [Gene](#) served as a municipal court and superior court judge for San Francisco until 1982, when President [Ronald Reagan](#) appointed him to be a federal judge of the Northern

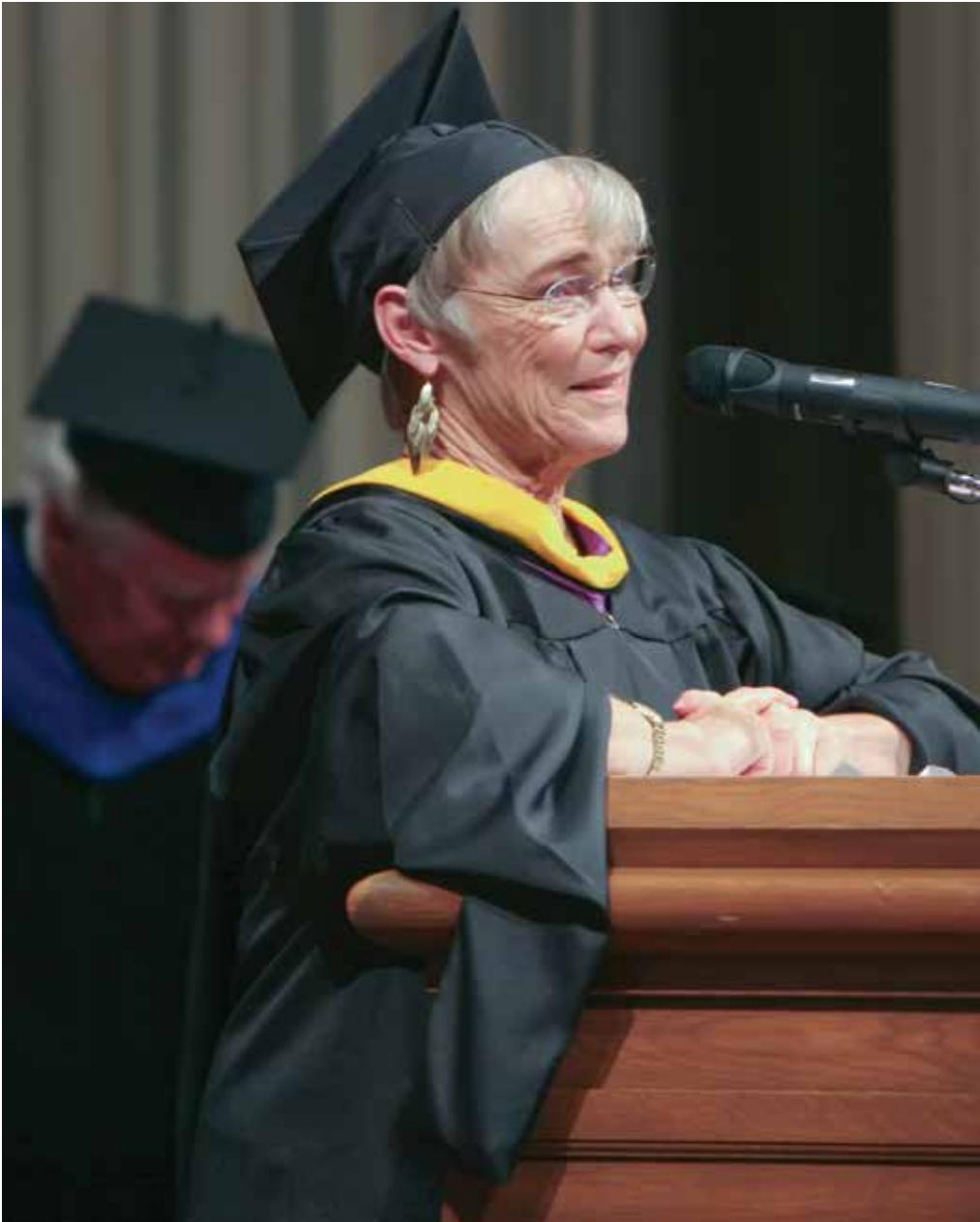
District of California, a post he served until his retirement in 1997.

Over the years, [Judge Lynch](#) served SI in many ways, including a term as chair of the Board of Regents, between 1975 and 1980. He was also a member of the SI Law Society, and he established the Eugene F. & Jeanne M. Lynch Family Scholarship. To honor him for his years of service, the school presented him with the Christ the King award on Nov. 21, 1982. The citation noted that [Judge Lynch](#) had been "recognized for his integrity and competent knowledge of civil and criminal law. Within 10 short years he has merited four public distinctions: one, a first annual award for Judge of the Year from the Trial Lawyers Association, then three significant successive appointments to the Municipal, Superior Court and his present dignity as a judge in the Federal District Court. A devoted family man, patron of the arts, exemplary exponent of his Catholic faith, loyal alumnus of his high school alma mater, [Judge Lynch](#) easily fits the colorful montage of the 'King's Men.'"

He is survived by his wife, [Jeanne](#), their son, [Eugene Jr.](#), their daughter, [Marianne](#), and her husband, [Dennis Fraher](#), and their children: [Conor](#), [Sean](#), [Megan](#), [Ryan](#) and [Kevin](#).

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to SI to the Eugene F. and Jeanne M. Lynch Family Scholarship at SI or to the Eugene F. Lynch Endowed Scholarship Fund, Santa Clara University. ☾

## Phyllis Molinelli, Recipient of President's Award and Legendary Counselor



Phyllis G. Molinelli, who served as one of SI's finest counselors, died Tuesday, July 16, 2019, just three weeks after suffering a stroke at her home. She was 82.

Born Nov. 12, 1936, in Oregon, she moved to Redding, Calif., as a child with her parents, **Theron Ambrose Black** and **Ora May Roberts**. As a daughter of an educator, **Phyllis** would note that it was no surprise that she turned out the way she did. She moved to San Francisco in 1955 after graduating from high school and worked for the American Red Cross and the State of California before the birth of her first of three children. Later, she worked as a bookkeeper before interviewing in 1978 for a job as campus

ministry secretary at St. Ignatius, where she said, "I don't type, I won't work full time, and I won't come in to work if my kids are sick." She got the job anyway.

Her colleagues, knowing she would make a great counselor, encouraged her to go back to college, and in 1983, she graduated with her bachelor's degree from USF. She worked as a counselor until her retirement in 2005, when SI celebrated her with the President's Award, its highest honor for non-alumni, in thanks for all that she did for the community.

In her 27 years at SI, she served as head of the counseling department and taught study skills, sex education, prom etiquette, career aptitude and ways to avoid drug and alcohol abuse. She was instrumental in creating

the College and Career Counseling Center, and she led the first parent level meetings. She served on dozens of committees and boards and helped SI make the transition to coeducation. She ran Awareness Days and Career Days, served on the school's Board of Regents and was instrumental in creating the Community of Concern among 40 Northern California schools.

In all of this, she has succeeded because she was naturally gifted at being a mother. She once said, "I was a mother before I was a counselor, and I've always loved my students, especially because they are adolescents. Some women love the baby stage best, but I love to interact with teenagers." **Phyllis** listened to and cared for thousands of students by joining them on their hard journeys. They would walk into her office weighed down by all their troubles and an hour later emerge looking relieved, knowing that someone was on their side.

She created and fostered community not only at SI but also throughout the world where her children lived — Tokyo, Florence and Floral Park, NY — by crafting gatherings that always involved her homemade fudge, banana cream pies, chocolate crinkle cookies or home-made bread, as well as her loving sense of humor. As a mother and a grandmother, **Phyllis** rarely missed the birth of a grandchild, school celebrations and graduations, first communions and confirmations, or the big sporting events.

In retirement, she enjoyed tending her garden and actively participating in the lives of her children and seven grandchildren. She continued to sustain community from her San Mateo home by hosting gatherings for her family, neighbors and many friends. She was also a faithful member of St. Timothy's Parish for more than two decades, and **Phyllis** never missed her high school reunions in Redding.

She was predeceased by her husband, **Peter Molinelli**; she is survived by her siblings **Verna Presseau** and **Gale Black (Dan Tran)**; by her children **Paul (Theresa)**, **Cathy** and **Lisa (Gianni)**; by her grandchildren **Anthony**, **Allison, R.J., Emily, Alex, Andrew** and **Matthew**; and by six nieces and nephews.

Because **Phyllis** believed so strongly in Catholic education, the family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the scholarship funds at SI or Saint Mary's College High School. ☾

**ABOVE:** **Phyllis Molinelli** received the President's Award at the 2005 graduation. Photo by **Pedro Cafasso**.

## John 'Jack' Gibbons '37, Longtime SI Supporter

John J. "Jack" Gibbons '37, one of the most generous donors in the history of St. Ignatius College Preparatory, died Aug. 6, 2019, four months shy of turning 100.

Thanks to his largesse, SI added The Mary Ann and Jack Gibbons Choral Wing to the campus in 2007. For years, the school has offered several scholarships named for Jack's mother, Charlotte McFarland Gibbons, who was tutored as a girl by SI's founder, Anthony Maraschi, S.J.

Charlotte was orphaned in infancy in the 1880s and placed with an aunt who was staunchly anti-clerical and opposed to the formal education of girls. Raised on her aunt's small San Francisco farm in the Castro area at the west end of Market Street, she took covert reading lessons at St. Ignatius College on Market Street as a young girl. "She had to hide her books from her aunt," said Mr. Gibbons in a 2005 interview.

Charlotte Gibbons' hard-won love of reading was life-long. Before her eyesight began to fail in old age, Mrs. Gibbons' favorite things to read were *The Wall Street Journal* and the daily racing form. As well as honoring Mr. Gibbons' mother, the Gibbons'

Fund expressed Jack's own appreciation for his SI education.

He remembered the SI curriculum as a grueling four years of history, math, civics, Latin, ancient Greek and other languages, all punctuated by tough blue book exams.

"Everything we did during our waking hours as students seemed to be centered around the school," he said. "Everyone was pushed to participate. You had to memorize five lines of classical Latin every night. That seemed to sharpen your memory to the point where you could look at about anything and have instant recall. I can still conjugate a verb or decline a noun. After SI, college was a piece of cake."

Jack's father died when Jack was 9, and he took on three paper routes to help support his mother. When he served in the U.S. Army, he found new ways to make money by contracting with a local merchant to clean and press uniforms for those in his barracks.

After retiring as deputy director and chief accountant with the California Public Utilities Commission, he worked as a consultant to the utilities industry.



He was a member of the Telecommunications Advisory Group and chair for the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners. An avid reader, he had an extensive library. He also found joy in helping young people find a job or gain a promotion.

Jack was predeceased by his son, Thomas; he is survived by his wife, Mary Ann (pictured above with Jack); and by his daughter, Susan Barragan (Frank); by his grandson, Matthew Schuler; and by his nieces and nephews — Mary Lou Galgani, Jeannine Smith, Peter Galgani, Matthew Galgani, Stephanie Whitmer and Andrea Loughran.

The family asks that donations in Jack's memory be sent to either USF or to SI. ☰



**JOIN THE PACK!**

## SI IS GEARING UP FOR OUR 5TH ANNUAL GIVING DAY

which promises to be our biggest and most successful one yet!

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[WWW.SIPREP.ORG/GIVINGDAY](http://WWW.SIPREP.ORG/GIVINGDAY)

## Charlie Silvera '42, New York Yankees' Catcher and MLB Scout

Charlie Silvera '42, a former Yankee catcher who helped his team win six World Series games between 1948 and 1956, died Sept. 7 at the age of 94.

Mr. Silvera also served as an MLB coach, manager and scout in his long professional career. While playing with the Yankees, he backed up Yogi Berra, one of the team's greatest players. He roomed with Mickey Mantle and Joe DiMaggio, and he traveled on Billy Martin's staff from job to job during that manager's volatile career.

He began playing baseball at Mission Dolores School, and he nearly went to Sacred Heart. "But Bob Dunnigan, who lived down the street, talked to my mother and made sure I went to SI to play for Frank McGloin, who was a great coach. He had a wonderful temperament and was great with kids."

At SI, he played on the varsity team in each of his four years, spending most of the time as catcher. After graduation, he signed with the Yankees, but enlisted during World War II, where he played baseball for three years at McClellan Field in Sacramento on the same team as Joe DiMaggio before

being transferred to Hawaii, where he continued to play ball with the 7th Air Force.

After the war, he spent several years on farm teams before seeing major league action for the Yankees for the last four games of 1948 to replace an injured catcher. He stayed with the Yankees while they won seven Pennants and six World Series — five of them in his first five years with the team, from 1949 to 1953, a feat yet to be repeated. (After his fifth World Series ring, he and some of the others asked for silver cigarette cases.)

His teammates called him "Swede," a nickname given him by John Swanson, the owner of the Mission Bowl. Swanson didn't care that Silvera was Portuguese-Irish, only that he had blond, wavy hair. "Everyone playing ball in the Mission District had a nickname, and that name stuck with me."

His post-Yankee career took him in 1957 to the Windy City and the Chicago Cubs, where he was a catcher. Following his playing career, he scouted for no less than 10 MLB clubs including the Washington Senators. He coached for Billy Martin with the Minnesota Twins, Detroit Tigers and Texas Rangers.



Of his 74-year career in baseball, he would often say that "it was great to be a Yankee" and "the Yankee Way brought out the best in me. I loved the game, I respected the game, I always hustled, and I owe my entire life to the game of baseball."

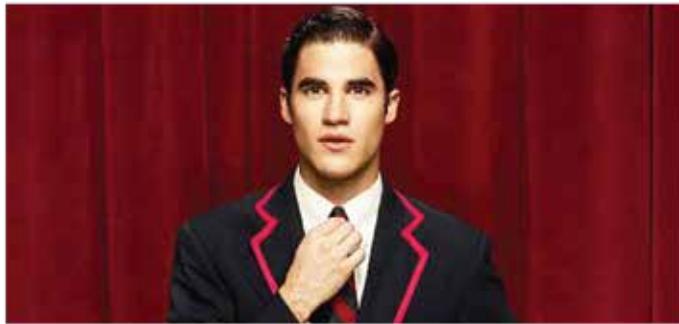
He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Rose, two daughters, Charleen Silvera (Sam) and Susan Silvera Dunn. He was blessed with a grandson, Ryan Dunn (Melissa) and a great grandson, Jayden. Charlie's son John preceded him in death in 2013. ☹



# BUSINESS LUNCHEON

FEBRUARY 21, 2020 • FAIRMONT HOTEL • 11:00AM–1:30PM

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DARREN CRISS '05



Darren Everett Criss is an American actor, singer and songwriter. He received Emmy and Golden Globe acting awards for his leading role in *The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story*. He has also appeared on Broadway and in film, and has released several recordings as a soloist and in a band.

- **Company Expo:** A showcase of alumni businesses at the one hour cocktail reception that occurs before the event
- **Sponsor Tables:** Sponsorships help support this great traditional event and will provide access to a meet & greet with Darren
- **Announcing the launch of the CREATIVE COUNCIL:** a professional networking group for SI Alumni who are creatives (actors, artists, writers, photographers, etc.)
- **Raffle prizes:** VIP tickets and backstage tours to Hamilton and Harry Potter (San Francisco)

## Bishop Robert Christian Jr. '66, Auxiliary Bishop in the San Francisco Archdiocese

Bishop Robert F. Christian Jr. OP '66, died July 11 at his residence at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park only 13 months into his term as San Francisco's 18th auxiliary bishop. He was 70 and only the second SI grad to be appointed bishop after *Carlos Sevilla, S.J. '53*, was appointed in 1988.

A proud fourth-generation native of San Francisco, he was born on Dec. 2, 1948, the first of seven children. He entered the novitiate of the Western Dominican Province after graduating from SCU in 1970. He studied first at St. Albert's Priory in Oakland, made his solemn profession of vows in 1974 and was ordained in 1976. After teaching at Dominican College, he continued his studies at the Angelicum University in Rome, where he received his Licentiate in Sacred Theology in 1981 and his Doctorate in Theology in 1984.

He gained experience in pastoral work at Newman Centers at UC Riverside and the University of Washington before being sent back to the Angelicum to teach theology. He remained there, off and on, until 2014.

He returned to the U.S. twice, first for a sabbatical at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley and at Yale, and later to serve as Vicar Provincial for the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, which comprises 10 western states.

He accepted several Vatican appointments, including membership on the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, where he and Catholic and Anglican colleagues worked to achieve, in his words, "a full, visible unity — based on a shared faith, a shared government and a shared worship — but a unity that makes due allowance for legitimate differences." *Pope Benedict XVI* in 2012 also appointed him to serve as Consultor for the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity.

On March 28, 2018, *Archbishop Christophe Pierre*, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, announced that *Pope Francis* had named *Fr. Christian* as Auxiliary Bishop of San Francisco. He was ordained as a bishop by *Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone* at St. Mary's Cathedral on June 5, 2018.

At his ordination, *Bishop Christian* spoke with gratitude of his Dominican community, "with its rhythms of prayer, recreation, shared decision-making and shared commitment to preaching the truth." He added, "Being a bishop means giving up many dimensions of community life, though it also makes possible a deeper engagement in preaching and in being an agent of mercy. This last point was made to me by the Dominican Master of the Order himself."

*Bishop Christian* spoke of a current focus of the Catholic Church on the common good and common dignity of the human person, expressing deep concern, however, over the erosion of Catholic identity in Catholic schools.

On Jan. 14, 2019, he was appointed to serve as rector of St. Patrick's Seminary and University, where seminarians have been studying since 1898. In addition to his full seminary responsibilities, forming students from Western and Pacific Rim dioceses, he continued to preside and preach at liturgical events throughout the Archdiocese and



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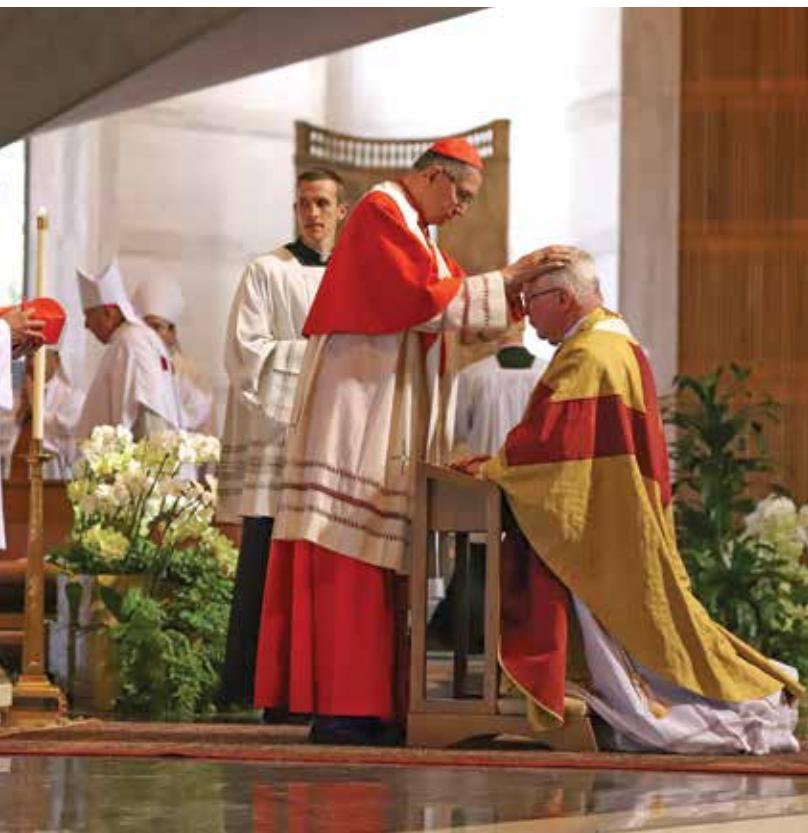
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remained committed to his international council and commission work.

Writing immediately to the seminary community after learning of Bishop Christian's death, Archbishop Cordileone expressed his deep sorrow at the unexpected loss of his brother bishop, adding, "The Archdiocese was greatly blessed to have his wisdom and leadership even if for so brief a time as auxiliary bishop and even briefer time as rector of the Seminary. We join with the Dominican community in praying for the repose of his soul and for peace and comfort for his wonderful family in their time of mourning."

Bishop Christian is survived by his five brothers: Joseph '70 (Barbara), James '72 (Mary), Michael '72 (Mary), John '76 (Mary), Thomas '78 (Peggy) and his sister, Mary Gloria Christian. Also survived by dozens of cousins from the Waal, Sweeney, Carlsmith and Peggs families, and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grand nephews, all of whom he loved very much.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Bishop Christian's memory may be sent to the Western Dominican Province, the Order of Malta Clinic of Northern California, St. Patrick's Seminary or your favorite charity. ☩

**Left:** Retired Los Angeles Archbishop Cardinal Roger M. Mahony blessed Bishop Christian at the June 5, 2018 ordination. Photo courtesy of Debra Greenblat / Catholic San Francisco.

## SPRING TRAINING TRIP MARCH 7, 2020



### SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS VS. CHICAGO WHITE SOX



Every year, a group of SI alumni travel to Scottsdale to cheer on the Giants during Spring Training! Join us for a game on March 7 and get together with Fr. Sauer.

New: Affordable hotel block at the Saguaro Hotel (10 minutes from stadium)



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## WELCOME TO THE FATHERS' CLUB AUCTION 2020!

Save the date for “**COLLEGE NIGHT**”

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Join us for a spirited evening of live music, dancing, dinner, college-themed fun and games, and bidding on fantastic auction items!

The SI Fathers' Club 30th Annual fundraiser brings our proud community together to celebrate a core Jesuit value of being men and women for others, while raising much needed funds for our school's Tuition Assistance Program.

**TICKETS ON SALE JANUARY 1, 2020**