

Distinguished Alumni & Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow
2017 Awards













Friday, September 15, 2017

The Marygrove College Theatre

MARYGROVE COLLEGE ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND 2017

Schedule of Events

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

8:30 a.m.

Registration & Continental Breakfast *Madame Cadillac Building*

9:45 a.m.

Procession to Sacred Heart Chapel

10:00 a.m.

Mass

Sacred Heart Chapel, Liberal Arts Building

11:20 a.m. - Noon Pebble Ceremony Keenan Courtyard

Noon – 1:30 p.m. Lunch Alumnae Hall, Madame Cadillac Building

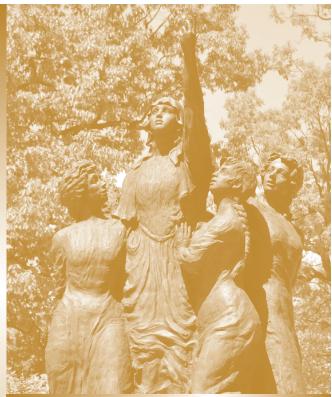
1:45 - 2:15 p.m. Class Pictures Madame Cadillac Building

Following Class Pictures
Open Conversation with Dr. Burns
2nd Floor Chapel, Madame Cadillac Building

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

11:00 a.m. – Noon Golden Jubilee Celebration Mass honoring the Class of 1967 Sacred Heart Chapel, Liberal Arts Building

Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Brunch & Induction of the Class of 1967 into the Fifty Year Club and recognition of those who graduated prior to 1967
Main Dining Room, Madame Cadillac Building



2017-2018 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Vanessa Howell Ghant '92, President

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Rahjinah Johnson '03, '05

Margo R. Lee '00

Brigeda Nelson '85

Miranda Linzmaier Outlaw '14

Frances L. Brown Simmons '85

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI & DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF TOMORROW LUTATOS MASTER OF CEREMONIES: JANICE MACHUSAK, MARYGROVE COLLEGE

The Marygrove College Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Awards are honors bestowed by Marygrove College and the Marygrove College Alumni Association. These awards have been established to recognize and honor alumni and current students who have distinguished themselves and their alma mater.

The Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Awards celebrate the ideals of competence (the ability to understand and participate effectively in the promise of our evolving world), compassion (the capacity to care about and respect the worth and dignity of people), and commitment (the will to act responsibly based upon one's beliefs and to contribute to the building of a more just and humane world)—qualities that Marygrove has always tried to instill in its students.

The **Distinguished Alumni Awards** honor graduates who have made significant contributions and demonstrated leadership in any of the following areas:

- Professional, educational or artistic endeavors
- The community through government service and/or civic organizations (such as Lions Club, city planning commissions, government committees, etc.)
- Political action, social justice or volunteer activities in schools, hospitals, etc.
- Marygrove College

The **Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Award** honors an exceptional undergraduate junior or senior (2017-2018 academic year) who has made significant contributions to the Marygrove College community in all of the following areas:

- Academic Accomplishment
- Leadership
- Service to the College and/or community



Barbara G. Stanbridge, 1HM '63 MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

When we set out on our life's journey, many of us envision a linear movement—a kind of Pilgrim's Progress in which each flip of the page brings the protagonist one step closer to the Divine. As Barbara Stanbridge's life illustrates, however, life often unfolds in a series of deviations, zig zags, and loops that change us and open us to rediscovering what was always there.

Sister Barbara has never been one to mince words. Ask her about how she became a member of the IHM community and she'll freely admit that although she "had a deep prayer life" and was, even as a child, deeply inspired by the stories she heard about the School Sisters of Notre Dame, she did everything she could to "escape the call."

After earning her undergraduate degree from Marygrove in 1963 and taking her final IHM vows in 1966, Sister Barbara quickly realized that she wanted more change than the community was ready for. She had to be, as she puts it, "a nun in the modern world." So in December of 1966, she left the community, married, had a daughter, played active roles in the anti-war and civil-rights movements, and continued her education.

She completed coursework at the Pius XII Institute and earned master's degrees in religious studies and human resource management from the University of Detroit and University Associates of San Diego, respectively. In addition to completing doctoral course work in leadership at the University of Michigan, she also undertook several organization and systems development training programs at the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland.

It would take nearly four decades, and no shortage of personal and professional "zigzagging," before Sister Barbara would again "circle back" and heed the call to IHM. But in the decades between, she certainly accomplished a lot.

In 1976, she founded CHANGE Human Resource Development, a consulting and training firm, providing services to Fortune 500 companies and not-for-profit and health-care corporations. As an entrepreneur she became very active in NAWBO, the National Association of Women Business Owners, first at a local level then at a national level serving as National President.

It was from this sisterhood that she was named one of the 95 most powerful women in Michigan by *Corp!* magazine in 2002. The same year she was nominated to membership in the International Women's Forum, an exclusive organization for women leaders whose membership is by nomination only. For 17 years, until she "retired" in 2010, Sister Barbara served as a chair for Vistage International, a learning organization for entrepreneurial CEOs.

When secondary Catholic education in Detroit was threatened, says friend Margaret Sweeney, IHM, "Barbara joined the drive to establish a very revolutionary concept in education." The result was Detroit Cristo Rey High School, one of a national network of 32 Catholic, college preparatory schools that integrates four years of rigorous college preparatory academics with four years of professional work experience through the Corporate Work Study Program. The success of Detroit Cristo Rey, which boasts a 100 percent graduation and college-acceptance rate amongst its student body, has been, to say the least, staggeringly impressive.

In addition to serving on the Detroit Cristo Rey Board of Trustees and assisting in securing the school's co-sponsorship by the Congregation of St. Basil and the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sister Barbara has also served on the founding board of Our Lady of Guadalupe School.

Since applying for readmission into the congregation and taking vows in 2005, Sister Barbara lives at Hartman Hall on the campus of Marygrove College and serves as Mission Integration Coordinator for the IHM community.





Catherine Haven Rohlman '72

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

How many of us can say with certainty that we positively impact the lives of over three million individuals every year? Ask her friends, her Marygrove classmates, or the more than three million readers who have enhanced their prayer lives with the help of the Little Books series and they'll readily give you the name of a woman who can make this claim: Catherine Haven Rohlman.

Cathy began building her audience as an undergraduate with *Marine and Recreation News* and from the start proved herself an effective writer and interviewer, notes her friend and colleague for over three decades, Nancy Driscoll. "Cathy has always known how to move beyond the what, where, when, and why to the people at the heart of the story—then she makes that story come to life." Considering this, it should come as no surprise that Cathy found success with *The Michigan Catholic* following her graduation from Marygrove College, first as a reporter and then as news editor, a position she held until 1990 when she became director of communication for the Diocese of Saginaw.

In 1999, under the direction of Bishop Ken Untener of the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw, Cathy and her project teammates Nancy Ayotte, IHM, and Leona Jones began working with Untener on what he envisioned being a "little black book," a collection of daily Lenten prayers and reflections—a sort of spiritual "buffet table" that could enrich the spiritual lives of its readers and better acquaint them with Catholic customs, history, and traditions.

The *Little Black Book* debuted in 2000 in both English and Spanish; a children's version soon followed. Word quickly spread to parishes throughout Michigan and the Midwest and the Saginaw Diocese was flooded with requests for copies of the book. Thus the *Little Books* series was born.

Despite Bishop Untener's untimely death in 2004, the *Little Books* series continues to evolve and its audience grow, thanks in large part to Cathy. "The success of the series is something that even Untener

and those that worked closely with him could never have anticipated," says Nancy Driscoll. "In great measure, this is due to Cathy's leadership and writing skill—but even more to her commitment of realizing Untener's vision of helping people pray more effectively."

Each year Cathy and her fellow committee members continue to produce new *Little Books* for the Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter seasons, now printed in three languages – English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Four Stewardship books, reflections based on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, have been added and she has also kept Bishop Untener's homilies and faith alive through books *My Name is Ken* and, most recently, the Christmas fable, *The Story of Angel Fred*.

Cathy's life and work not only exemplify her love of the written word, they clearly embody the values of her alma mater. Through *Little Books*, Cathy and her team have helped those who thirst for greater intimacy with Christ to act more responsibly, think more deeply, care more widely, and seek the face of God in each person encountered without regard to stranger or friend, rich or poor.

"In Little Books," says Marygrove classmate and longtime friend Carol Litka, "Bishop Untener asks his readers to spend some quiet time with the Lord. I ask that you also spend some quiet time imagining the impact of Cathy's work and ministry as you give her nomination favorable consideration." We certainly have, Carol, and without hesitation, we agree: Catherine Haven Rohlman is most deserving of the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award.





Christine Kennedy '72 MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

From the moment she stepped foot onto the campus of Marygrove College in 1968, classmates took note of incoming freshman Christine Kennedy. Even then it was hard to miss her contagious enthusiasm, energy, and that signature sense of humor. "She could always ham it up," recalls classmate Peggy Mulcrone Moravek, and whenever duty called, Christine dug in, using "laughter and grit" to lead her classmates and get the job done.

Christine has always been a self-starter, motivator, servant, and a natural leader. On Saturday afternoons at Marygrove, she could be found readying Florent Gillet Hall for Mass, often selecting music for the liturgy or serenading peers with her guitar. She became president of her freshman class and participated in countless student government and volunteer organizations, including the Big Sister/Little Sister Program and the Christmas Giving Tree Program.

After earning her BA in special education from Marygrove College in 1972, Christine began a seven-year tenure as a teacher and developmental specialist for the Diocese of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Public School system. She continued her education, earning her MEd and PhD in early childhood special education from the University of Pittsburgh. Christine holds teaching certificates in both elementary and special education and a supervisory certificate in special education.

While her academic success is certainly noteworthy, it is her compassion, boldness, drive, and commitment to young children with special needs and their families as well as underserved populations that her colleagues, friends, and family continue to discuss with reverence. "My mom's compassion knows no limits," says daughter Annemarie. "Over the past 28 years, my home has been a safe haven for political activists, a high school Korean student whose parents needed to return to Korea, a cousin who was working his way through recovery from drug addiction, and many, many others. This is the direct result of the type of home that my mom has made: one that is accepting of all people, one where the doors are always open, and one that makes everyone feel like family."

George Ziolkowski, former coordinator for the Family Focused Early Intervention System (FFEIS), paints a similar picture of Christine. As a state consultant in the mid-1990s, Christine worked with Ziolkowski to provide support to families and organizations serving young children with delays and disabilities. More than two decades later, Ziolkowski recalls, with pride, Christine's ability to fearlessly undermine "commonly accepted, but ineffective, practices" while also "maintaining a collaborative approach between parents, clients, and providers."

Christine has served on a community advisory board of the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, worked as a committee board member for ACHIEVA—an organization that provides developmental early intervention services for children birth to 3 and their families, and community living support for adults with varying levels of intellectual disabilities. She has been actively involved with the Council for Exceptional Children: Division for Early Childhood, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Currently, Christine is an adjunct professor at Carlow University, having also served as an instructor at the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University. She is also a consultant with the Pennsylvania Early Intervention Technical Assistance (EITA) network. In this role, she provides leadership support through trainings and seminars for personnel working with infants, and preschoolers with diverse abilities and their families in Allegheny, Greene, Beaver, Fayette, and Washington Counties.

Christine and her husband Fred Harr have three children, Annemarie, Rachel, and Mayah, and live in Pittsburgh, PA.





Sylvia Colding Manlove '82, '91 MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

When she recalls first passing through the gates of Marygrove College in 1978, Sylvia remembers the impossibility of it all. What she saw in herself was "an insecure returning adult student" who was raising four boys while working full-time and pursuing a college degree. To the contrary, what her friends and family saw was a competent, visionary, balanced, creative, and unswervingly motivated woman who would succeed wherever she went. And succeed she has.

After earning her BA in education and an MA in human resource management from Marygrove, Sylvia became director of admissions and then dean of student affairs for the college, roles she still considers today to be among her most important work in higher education. In total, Sylvia's tenure at Marygrove College extended nearly two decades, from 1978 until 1997 when an opportunity to relocate allowed her to take her skills and experience to the Maricopa Community College District (MCCD) in Tempe, Arizona.

Until her retirement in 2011, Sylvia served MCCD in numerous capacities. Regardless of her position, students were always at the forefront of her mind, says Lois M. Bartholomew, Vice President Emeritus of Student Affairs for MCCD, Pecos Campus. In addition to being "a born teacher who embraced new technologies and set high standards," her care for students also transcended the classroom, explains Bartholomew. "She was a trailblazer in making sure local companies and individuals supported the needs of students by funding scholarships...making higher education accessible for all who wanted to learn."

In her 13 years of service at MCCD, Sylva thrived in a variety of roles including director of student life and leadership for Scottsdale Community College; associate dean for student services at Rio Salado College; vice president for student affairs at GateWay Community College; and associate vice chancellor for student affairs at the MCCD office. While working at GateWay, she also earned her PhD in organization and management with a specialty in leadership from Capella University.

Sylvia's history of service is extensive. She has chaired the Interim House Shelter Board in Detroit and has served as tri-chair for American Heart Association's noteworthy Minority Women and Heart Disease Conference. She also led the Northwest Board Chapter of the American Heart Association. In Arizona, Sylvia served as a mentor and workshop presenter for the Fresh Start Women's Foundation, supported the Sojourner Center for domestic violence, and served as a board member for eight years to the Arizona Dream Builder Foundation. Additionally, she has been active on the Arizona Alliance for Children's Statewide Committee, the Arizona ACT Coalition, and currently volunteers as a mentor with the Free Arts for Abused Children of Arizona organization.

Sylvia and her husband Benson were the first couple to receive American Heart Association's Cor Vitae (Heart of Life) Award for community service. She has received numerous leadership awards, including recognition from Maricopa's United Tribal Educational Council, the National Council on Black American Affairs, the YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit, and the City of Detroit. She was also named a Leadership Fellow by the Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership in Community Colleges and was presented with the Woman of Distinction Award by GateWay Community College.

As a nationally-recognized leader in education, Sylvia worked with the U.S. Department of Labor to create the first online, one-stop career center and presented at numerous professional educational events. Currently, she is a business adjunct faculty member for Northern Arizona University and Northcentral University where she also serves as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) helping to develop and revise business courses.





John Meulendyk '97 MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWAR

"I have spent forty-six years of my life closely working with physicians, scientists, educators and pastors, and John's intellect and curiosity are among the most incisive I have ever encountered," says Pat Grauer who is an editor, teacher, and colleague of Dr. Meulendyk. Those of us who know John and have had the privilege of witnessing his tremendous intellectual and spiritual journey surely agree.

John holds no less than seven degrees—in biology and chemistry, dentistry, public health administration, osteopathic medicine, Catholic pastoral ministry, Lutheran theology, and general theological studies. He has also completed additional studies in faculty development, mediation and dispute resolution, and integrative and functional medicine, to name a few. Dr. Meulendyk has been a teacher, a doctor of osteopathic medicine, a dentist, an anesthesiologist, a preventive medicine specialist, a pastor, and of course, a lifelong student.

While his resume is indeed impressive, it is his "holy approach to living" as described by friends that perhaps makes John even more extraordinary. Upon meeting John, several things immediately become apparent, says friend and colleague Theresa Kilpatrick McNamara: "his overwhelming concern and passion for his medical students; his compassion for the underserved; his understanding of and sympathy for human frailties; his love for all humanity; and his intellectual brilliance which, while powerful in its own right, has never dominated his heart."

After earning his undergraduate degree in biology and chemistry from Calvin College and Seminary, John proceeded to dental school at the University of Michigan, where he also earned a master's degree in public health administration. In 1979, he received his medical degree from Michigan State University's College of Osteopathic Medicine. For the next seventeen years, John practiced osteopathic medicine and obtained board certification in three medical specialties. Then came another transformation—this time his role would shift from practitioner to patient.

In 1996, John developed a neurological condition – one that would not only put his career as an anesthesiologist on hold, but one that would profoundly shape his approach to medicine. While seeking treatment, John recounts in a 2015 interview with *Communiqué* magazine, "I was poked, I was prodded, I was talked over . . . they couldn't figure out what was wrong with me." Experiencing medicine through the lens of the patient was unsettling, but it was also the impetus for a quest in which John would find ways to bring compassion to the forefront of medicine.

In 1997, John earned a Master of Arts in Catholic Pastoral Ministry from Marygrove College. His journey continued at The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia where he earned a Master of Divinity; then at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit where he was awarded a Doctor of Ministry. Following those endeavors, John pursued studies in Clinical Pastoral Education from Samaritan Counseling Center in Toledo, followed by further graduate studies in Canon Law and Bioethics at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, and Leadership in Integrative Healthcare at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

In 2013, as an Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine, John co-founded the Leadership Academy of Integrative Compassionate Care at Michigan State University's College of Osteopathic Medicine. In this role, he works with his colleagues and students, teaching them the art of compassionate medicine. Using this approach, students are taught to practice introspective self-care; tend to patients' physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering; and assist them in finding joy and resilience in their lives.

Dr. John Meulendyk is most deserving of this award as a proud alumnus of the Marygrove program in pastoral ministry. As might be anticipated from his myriad professional and educational accomplishments thus far, he has no intention of resting upon his laurels. John's commitment to living a life of compassion remains as strong as ever as he plans to continue creating healing spaces for those most vulnerable in the world.





Dursey Wade, Jr.

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF TOMORROW AWARD

Dursey, or "DJ" as his friends call him, is the recipient of numerous awards including the John E. Shay, Jr., Scholarship for exhibiting academic and leadership excellence and high ethical standards of conduct.

For his ability to effect positive change in the City of Detroit, he was also awarded The Briggs-Fisher Foundation's Annual Scholarship for Urban Leadership. His 3.6 GPA earned him not only the prestigious Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award, but also placed on the 2015-16 National Deans List.

As both his accolades and professors suggest, DJ is a gifted scholar, a student whose love of knowledge and ability to critically examine, discuss, and write about challenging social issues continue to distinguish him. "Dursey brings a passion for learning to the classroom that is rare in an undergraduate student," says Associate Professor of Mathematics Jana Abolins. Associate Professor of English Darcy Brandel agrees, adding that DJ is not only "talented, smart, and dependable," he is also the kind of student who "approaches learning with a joy that keeps everything fresh."

His academic success is impressive, but so too is DJ's distinguished record of service. He is vice president of The Gentlemen's Round Table, an organization that prepares students for their careers after graduation. And when he is not in class, Dursey often tutors students in the math lab, facilitates Bible classes for his peers, or participates in community-service events like Alternative Spring Break. "Dursey is a man of integrity, faith, and prayer," says his mentor, Director of Mission Integration and Campus Ministry Jesse Cox. "He is generous with his time and talent and continues to be a positive presence on campus."

Off campus, DJ continues to generously give his time and knowledge by mentoring University High School Academy and Gesu Middle School students.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD PAST HONOREES

2002

Veronica Mary Maher, IHM '51 Barbara Bigley O' Brien '55 Gilda Sferrella Pace '52 Marie Jean Brinkman Sloan '54 Teresa Snider-Boring '98 Norma Wilson Wade-Miller '71 Reverend Curtis C. Williams '96

2003

Gabrielle Baker Burton '60 Mary Margaret Connolly '67 Maura D. Corrigan '69 Ann Moore Feeney '57 Deborah Hunter-Harvill '77 Mary Joseph Maher, IHM '53 Alice Geisler Raftary '49, '67 Richard J. Samyn, O.F.M. '95

2004

Ann Gabriel Kilsdonk, IHM '45 Angela Celeste May '90 Khris Nedam '98 Elsa Potter '60 Elizabeth Fischer Richards '64 Mary Ellen Riordan '41 Mary Massaron Ross '82

2005

Rosemary DeLaurentiis Blaszkiewicz '62 Edee LaFramboise Joppich '53 Kathleen Prendergast Kaiser '70 Lorraine Lubawy Ozar '68 Nettie Harris Seabrooks '55 Mary Anderson Walker '56 Jacqueline G. Woods '97

2006

Brian Christian '07 Margaret Brown Dudar '46 Rita Edgeworth Fields '96, '02 Bridget Gonzales '82 Mary Kathleen Hughes '66 Sheila Keefe '56 Yesenia Lara '07 Amata Miller, IHM '54

2007

Elizabeth A. Burns '72 Armando R. Cavazos '99 Lana Cavalier Cowell '64 Suzanne M. Fleming, IHM '57 Lynne O' Loughlin DeGrande Hackathorn '67 Victoria E. Jones '76 Amy Pavlov '08

2008

Debra S. Barash '09 Patricia Newman Brasseur '73 Mary D. Moore Hubbell '56 Sharnita C. Johnson '87 Patricia Mucci LoRusso '77 Mary Trepanier-Street '71 Elizabeth Walters, IHM '66, '08

2009

Nancy McDonough Geschke '64 Eileen Connell Heasley '67 Sharon Holland, IHM '61 Amy Lange '08 Kathleen O'Reilly '68 Brianna Williams '09

2010

Margaret Brennan, IHM '45 Mark Honeyman '85 Suzanne Stead Husband '65 Patricia Siroky Konovalov '87 Ann Petrie '60 Kim Redigan '08 Angela Watley '10

2011

Shanelle Jackson '07 Ann Burger Klocke '56 Mary Callaghan Lynch '76 Brittany Mack '12 Judith Tomlanovich Miller '61 Jan Soleau, IHM '59 Virginia Wadsworth '86

2012

Juliana Casey, IHM '62 Miriam Mohrhoff Poirier '62 Dorothy Seebaldt '66 Sharon Rodgers Simone '67 Francie Kennedy '73 Rochelle Dornatt '77 Jarell Williams '12

2013

Dorothy Jones Hogan Sweeney '48 Barbara Kent Freeman '63 Suzanne E. Sattler, IHM '65 Virginia Burdick Skinner '67 Jane Hammang-Buhl '68 Karel Bowlus Oxley '72 Robert D. Tompkins '14

2014

Mary Ellen Johnson McCormick '48 Yvonne Lawrence Larabell '64 Anne Fitzgerald '67 Patricia Dean Phillips '13 Alesha Jones '14

2015

Mary Harris Martin '62 Judith Anne Eliassen, IHM '64 Carol Wagner Cousineau '67 Helen Kozlowski-Hicks '84 Sheila Dorsey-Smith '86 Tina Marie Perry '16

2016

Alice Baker, IHM '59 Peggy (Margaret) Devaney, IHM '64 Barbara Jean Nienstedt Buttell '65 Kathleen Alessandro '72 Lou (Koss) Moss '73 Camryn A. Washington '18



Special thanks to the Distinguished Alumni Award review committee for their commitment, diligence and integrity in selecting the award recipients.

Kadesha Alawar-Taylor

Patricia Dean Phillips '13
Distinguished Alumna 2014

Mary Jo Evans '75

Jane Hammang-Buhl '68 Professor Emerita Distinguished Alumna 2013

Pat Haviland

Vanessa Howell Ghant, D.Min '92

Alumni Association President

Troy Justice

Elizabeth Poliuto Loria '70

Alumni Association Vice President

Brittany Mack '12

Alumni Association Secretary

Distinguished Alumna of Tomorrow 2011

Carolyn Rakowski

Joeann Staugaard

Robert Tompkins '16
Distinguished Alumnus of Tomorrow 2013

Alex Topoloski

Judith Topoloski

Mary Ellen Zwirner

Janice Machusak
Director of Alumni Relations

