

Tower Times



7

**CLAUDIA RANKINE TO
BE NEXT CAALS AUTHOR**

8

**MARYGROVE ALUMNAE JOIN
SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM**

18

**MARYGROVE PARTNERS WITH
PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING
JOURNALIST**



VOLUME 15 · NUMBER 2

WINTER 2016

MARYGROVE COLLEGE · OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS



MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM PRESIDENT

As we move into the holiday season and I reflect back on the great strides we have taken together in the short time I have been a part of the Marygrove College community, I cannot help but be filled with gratitude and thanksgiving. I am particularly thankful for our alumni—for the support you have given me since becoming Interim President, for your dedication to the sacred mission of this institution, and for your generosity, which allows this institution to continue to fulfill the Gospel-inspired mission of its Founders.

I am honored that I have already been able to participate in two major events on campus that honor the traditions of Marygrove. In September, I attended the Reunion Weekend celebrations. I'd like to congratulate the alumni who joined us, especially those who celebrated their Golden Jubilee, and to the Distinguished Alumni Award recipients. Marygrove's alumni truly are extraordinary!

I also enjoyed the Founders' Day celebration here on campus. What a fantastic opportunity for Marygrove's first year students to become more closely acquainted with the history and traditions of the College. It was clear that the students thoroughly enjoyed meeting the IHM Sisters and associates and learning more about this institution's legacy that they are charged with continuing.

I am excited to report that we recently welcomed two Marygrove alumnae to the Senior Leadership Team. In her role as Interim Provost, Dr. Elizabeth Burns ('72), is working

closely with faculty to enhance and grow our academic programs. Dr. Denise Williams Mallett ('01), as Vice President of Enrollment Management, will grow enrollment and recruit students who are best served by Marygrove. Please join me in welcoming Beth and Denise!

I am also delighted to share with you the news that Marygrove is partnering with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Stephen Henderson on what we are calling the Tuxedo Project. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our colleagues and a grant awarded to the college by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Tuxedo Project will help transform a neighborhood near our campus, create a community literary center, and bring well-respected instructors to our campus.

Alumni, I wish you all the best this holiday season and on behalf of everyone at Marygrove College, I want to thank you for your continued support.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays,

James F. Birge, Ph.D.
Interim President

MARYGROVE COLLEGE

2015 – 2016
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Yesenia Venegas '07
PRESIDENT

Dr. Vanessa Howell Ghant '92
VICE PRESIDENT

Alisa Ferguson '02
TREASURER

Sandra Jo Collins '82
SECRETARY

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Catherine Mancina Baldwin '65

Mark Bartnik '79

Samual Blue '93

Gloria Brown-Banks '11

Sheila A. Keefe '56

Laurie L. Kopack '05, '11

Margo R. Lee '00

Elizabeth Poliuto Loria '70

Brittany Mack '12

Alison E. McNeeley '03, '09

Frances L. Brown Simmons '85

Contents



Message from the Interim President 2

News from Alumni Association President..... 3

In Memoriam..... 4

Mission Integration Calendar 5

Visual and Performing Arts Calendar 6

CAALS Author Announced 7

Support the Marygrove Annual Fund..... 7

Alumnae Join Senior Leadership Team 8

Upcoming Alumni Events..... 9

Mustang Report 10-11

Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients 12-13

Distinguished Alumni Nomination Form 14

Save the Date - Alumni Reunion Weekend 2016 15

Alumni Directory..... 16

Maygrove Welcomes New VP of Advancement..... 17

Learn about Planned Giving..... 17

Maygrove Partners with Stephen Henderson..... 18

Donor Spotlight 19



The Tower Times

is produced for alumni and friends of Marygrove College through the Office of Alumni Relations, Division of Institutional Advancement. Address changes, duplicate copies or information requests should be directed to:

Office of Alumni Relations
 MARYGROVE COLLEGE
 8425 West McNichols Road
 Detroit, MI 48221-2599
 Phone: (313) 927-1443
 Fax: (313) 927-1595
 Email: jmachusak@marygrove.edu
 Website: alumni.marygrove.edu



Alumni Association President
YESENIA VENEGAS '07

NEWS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

One of my favorite events of the year is the Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony. It is such an inspiring event, one that provides me with the opportunity to hear stories from alumni who have made a difference in their communities and in the world by serving others. These are leaders who have demonstrated to their peers what Competence, Compassion, and Commitment are truly about.

I would like to congratulate Distinguished Alumni Award recipients Mary Harris Martin '62, Judith Anne Eliassen, IHM '64, Carol Wagner Cousineau '67, Helen Kozlowski-Hicks '84, and Sheila Dorsey-Smith '86 and Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Tina Marie Perry '16. I am truly blessed and honored to be a part an alumni network that shares a passion for serving others and strives to make a difference.

Marygrove alumni have always responded to calls of action when we are truly needed—and at this time I ask for your help and support. There are a number of ways you can support your alma mater. One is by making a donation to the Marygrove Annual Fund. This fund helps the College to serve students in myriad ways and is critical to the growth of Marygrove.

Another way you can help support your alma mater is by staying connected with the college through the Alumni Association. I invite you to volunteer and provide support to the current students by tutoring or mentoring, helping alumni find their first entry-level position, joining a working committee on the Board, attending our alumni events, and continuing to strengthen our bonds by staying connected.

As this year comes to an end and we think about all of the things we are thankful for this holiday season, I hope you all think of your alma mater and the blessings your Marygrove education has brought to your life. Remember that we are a stronger family when we work together. Thank you for your continued support.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Yesenia Venegas





In Memoriam

Mary Lois Addy-Sommer '41

Jane Haggerty '45

Halina Sophie Stepkowitz Ujda '45

Florence Budny Dolega '49

Jeanne Rose Frisch Schafer '49

Elizabeth Kern Ryan '49

Florence Hanley Hayes '51

Delores Timm Mobley '51

Mary Jo Maher, IHM '53

Marianne Marrin, IHM '55

Noeleta O'Dea, IHM '57

Jean Chipman, IHM '58

Mary Margaret Durack, IHM '59

Gabrielle Baker Burton '60

Rosemary Madill Baker '60

Dorothy Ospalski LeFave '62

Karen Eklund, IHM '64

Jane Harris Furtaw '65

Mary Altman, OP '69

Mary Daughterty, OP '71

Husband of

Elizabeth Keyes Nelson '51

Marilyn Wilber Sedlar '54

Marian Dilworth Hayes '55

Evelyn Rodak Nash '66

Alesha Jones '15

Mother of

Gloria Brown-Banks '11

Sister of

Mary Syron Baizaire '45

Agnes Syron Anderson '56

Rebecca Warner Orłowski '60

Mary Harris Martin '62

June Johnson, IHM '63

Brother of

Kathleen Walker '61

Sarah Walker Fraser '65

Daughter of

Doris O'Leary '48

Jane Harris Furtaw '65

Son of

Elizabeth Keyes Nelson '51

OFFICE OF MISSION INTEGRATION CAMPUS MINISTRY - SERVICE LEARNING

2016 EVENTS

January 2016

18 MON MLK Rally and March for 'Jobs, Peace & Justice' @ noon, Central United Methodist Church, 23 E. Adams & Woodward, Detroit. Join with MG staff & students for the rally/march, community meal, poetry, & music. Bring hats, gloves, socks, & underwear for the Church's Outreach. To help organize or volunteer at CUM, call (313) 405-2185.

21 TH Beginning Semester/
New Year Prayer Service
noon, Student Center Chapel

27 WED Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Celebration @ 12:30 p.m., Theatre

February 2016

9 TUE Co-Creating Community: Campus
Community Dialogue @ 6:30 p.m.
Madame Cadillac Building, Denk
Chapman. Light refreshments.
Information & RSVP to Sr. Barb
Beesley, IHM at (313) 927-1403 or
bbeesley@marygrove.edu.

10 WED Ash Wednesday/
Lent Begins with Mass
12:30 p.m., Student Center Chapel

17 WED Lenten Soup and Spiritual Cinema @
12:30 p.m., Student Center Chapel

19-20 FRI-SAT Lock-In Overnight Retreat,
Liberal Arts Building Lower Level
Employee Lounge

24 WED Lenten Soup and Spiritual Cinema @
12:30 p.m., Student Center Chapel

29 MON Spring Break (through March 5)

March 2016

9 WED Lenten Soup and Spiritual Cinema @
12:30 p.m., Student Center Chapel

16 WED Lenten Soup and Spiritual Cinema @
12:30 p.m., Student Center Chapel

April 2016

6 WED Co-Creating Community: Campus
Community Dialogue @ 6:30 p.m.
Madame Cadillac Building, Denk
Chapman. Light refreshments.
Information & RSVP to Sr. Barb
Beesley, IHM at (313) 927-1403 or
bbeesley@marygrove.edu.

22 FRI Earth Day

May 2016

7 SAT Beautification Day/Senior Service
Day - Alums, Seniors, MG Community
invited! Begins @ 9 a.m. outside
Madame Cadillac Building

12 TH Baccalaureate Mass (RSVP/Tickets
required) Liberal Arts Building,
Sacred Heart Chapel

14 SAT Commencement @ 11 a.m. Rain or
Shine/Outside Liberal Arts Building

Summer 2016

Garden Against Hunger/
Herbal Healing Garden
For information contact
Sr. Ann Nett, IHM at
anettihm@yahoo.com.

June 2016

20 MON The Color Purple Garden
Memorial Service @ noon,
Madame Cadillac Building,
Keenan Courtyard

July 2016

14 TH Mass to honor Saint Kateri
Tekakwitha @ noon
Student Center Chapel

August 2016

15 MON Mass for the Feast of the
Assumption of Mary @ noon
Student Center Chapel

For more information, contact Jesse Cox, Director of
Mission Integration, at jcox@marygrove.edu or (313) 927-1404.

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS *Calendar*

January 2016

MUSIC

JANUARY 31, 2016

"Chamber Music at the Scarab Club" Concert

Sunday, 3 p.m. • Denk Chapman Hall

For other ticket information please visit www.scarabclub.org/chambermusic/

Come hear magnificent chamber music in the elegance of Denk Chapman Hall on the wooded grounds of Marygrove College.

Distinguished musicians collaborate to perform beautiful musical works of art for your enjoyment. Selections will be announced at a later date.

Admission: Marygrove students, faculty & staff free with I.D.

Contact: Ellen Duncan • (313) 927-1254 eduncan@marygrove.edu

ART

JANUARY 29 – FEBRUARY 19, 2016

The Art of Rashaun Rucker

Reception: Friday, January 29, 2016
5 – 8 p.m. • The Gallery

Featuring the work of Detroit artist and Free Press photographer Rashaun Rucker. This show will be Rashaun's first solo exhibition and will feature his drawings, prints and photographs.

Contact: Tim Gralewski • (313) 927-1355 tgralewski@marygrove.edu

February 2016

MUSIC

FEBRUARY 10, 2016

Senior Recital

Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Marygrove College Theatre

Graduating Senior Ryan Fielder will present a solo recital as part of his Marygrove music capstone experience. He will be performing in a variety of styles and musical genres. Reception immediately following.

Contact: Tara Sievers-Hunt • (313) 927-1312 tsievers7525@marygrove.edu

MUSIC

FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Musical Explorations: A Student Performance Series

Thursday, 3:30 p.m. • Denk Chapman Hall

Marygrove music students will perform a variety of styles and genres, ranging from Broadway to R&B to classical. Join us for an exciting musical experience!

Donations Accepted & Appreciated

Contact: Ellen Duncan • (313) 927-1254 eduncan@marygrove.edu

MUSIC

FEBRUARY 23, 2016

MgMusic Coffeehouse

Features student musicians performing a variety of contemporary songs with a live band. Styles that will be explored range from R&B, Jazz, Funk, Pop, and Neo-Soul. Join us for an amazing night of live music!

Tuesday, 7 p.m.

Madame Cadillac Dining Room

Admission: \$5, includes one beverage. Other snacks and beverages available for purchase.

Contact: Zen Zdravec • (313) 927-1394 zzdrave@marygrove.edu

March 2016

ART

MARCH 16 – MARCH 25, 2016

The Student Show

Reception & Award Ceremony

Wednesday, March 16, 2016
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The Gallery

Featuring the work of current Marygrove art students. Awards will be given to outstanding work including: President's Award, Best 2D Artwork, Best 3D Artwork, Best Experimental Artwork, Best of Show, and Exhibition Opportunity Awards as well as cash prizes.

Contact: Tim Gralewski • (313) 927-1355 tgralewski@marygrove.edu

MUSIC

MARCH 17, 2016

Musical Explorations: A Student Performance Series

Thursday, 3:30 p.m. • Denk Chapman Hall

Marygrove music students will perform a variety of styles and genres, ranging from Broadway to R&B to classical. Join us for an exciting musical experience!

Donations Accepted & Appreciated

Contact: Ellen Duncan • (313) 927-1254 eduncan@marygrove.edu

MUSIC

MARCH 29, 2016

MgMusic Coffeehouse

Features student musicians performing a variety of contemporary songs with a live band. Styles that will be explored range from R&B, Jazz, Funk, Pop, and Neo-Soul. Join us for an amazing night of live music!

Tuesday, 7p.m. • Madame Cadillac Dining Room

Admission: \$5, includes one beverage. Other snacks and beverages available for purchase.

Contact: Zen Zdravec • (313) 927-1394 zzdrave@marygrove.edu

April 2016

DANCE

APRIL 1 & 2, 2016

Initial Pursuit

Friday, 7:30 p.m. • Saturday, 2 & 7:30 p.m.

Marygrove College Theatre

Annual dance department concert performed by Company₂, featuring works created by Marygrove College dance faculty and from Marygrove College Dance Company repertoire.

Admission: \$15 general
\$10 students and seniors

Contact: Jonathon Cash • (313) 927-1838 jcash5001@marygrove.edu

ENGLISH

APRIL 8, 2016

Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series, Featuring Claudia Rankine

Friday, 8 p.m. • Alumnae Hall

The 28th annual Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series will feature poet Claudia Rankine for the Lillian and Donald Bauder Lecture. Rankine is a poet and playwright and her recent book, *Citizen: An American Lyric*, won the 2014 National Book Critics Circle Award.

Contact: Laurie LePain Kopack
(313) 927-1383
lkopack@marygrove.edu

ART

APRIL 8 - 15, 2016

Senior Show

Reception: Sunday, April 8, 2016

5 – 8 p.m. • The Gallery

Exhibition featuring art work by graduating BA/BFA students.

Contact: Tim Gralewski • (313) 927-1355 tgralewski@marygrove.edu

THEATRE

APRIL 9, 2016

An Evening with David L. Regal

Saturday, Time TBD

Marygrove College Theatre

As many of you are already aware, Theatre Professor David L. Regal has announced his retirement from UDM. We are grateful for David's contributions. As a founding member, David has inspired countless actors, professionals, and audience members through his artistically challenging productions. As a director, actor, teacher, and mentor, we have a lot to celebrate. This evening will include a special performance from David followed by a strolling dinner reception. All ticket sales from this event will benefit a scholarship fund for The Theatre Company. We hope you will join us in celebrating David's amazing career at UDM.

Contact: Greg Grobis • (313) 993-3270 gregory.grobis@udmercy.edu

MUSIC

APRIL 22, 2016

Spring Concert: One World – Many Voices

Friday, 7 p.m. • Alumni Hall

Students and faculty of the Marygrove music department will entertain with a selection of spring music favorites and exciting new selections.

Admission: \$10 general
\$5 students and seniors

Contact: Ellen Duncan • (313) 927-1254 eduncan@marygrove.edu

ART

APRIL 22 - 29, 2016

Senior Show Reception

Sunday, April 22, 2016

5 – 8 p.m. • The Gallery

Exhibition featuring art work by graduating BA/BFA students.

Contact: Tim Gralewski • (313) 927-1355 tgralewski@marygrove.edu

DANCE

APRIL 29, 30 & 31, 2016

Direct Impact

Friday, 7:30 p.m. • Saturday, 2 & 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, 4 p.m. • Marygrove College Theatre

Admission: \$15 general
\$10 students and seniors

Annual dance department concert performed by the Marygrove College Dance Company, featuring works created by Meredith Dincolo, Brian Hare, Marygrove College dance faculty, and from Marygrove College Dance Company repertoire.

Contact: Jonathon Cash • (313) 927-1838 jcash5001@marygrove.edu



CAALS 2016 FEATURES POET & PLAYWRITE

CLAUDIA RANKINE



Photo Credit: John Lucas

APRIL 8TH, 2016

Please plan to join us to hear poet and playwright Claudia Rankine deliver the Lillian and Donald Bauder Lecture at 8 p.m. on Friday, April 8, 2016, in Alumnae Hall on the Marygrove College campus. After the lecture, Ms. Rankine will sign copies of her works, which will be available for purchase.

Rankine will be the twenty-eighth guest in Marygrove's Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series. She is the author of five collections of poetry: *Citizen: An American Lyric* (2014), a finalist for the National Book Award and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award in Poetry; *Don't Let Me Be Lonely: An American Lyric* (2004); *Plot* (2001); *The End of the Alphabet* (1998); and *Nothing in Nature Is Private* (1995), winner of the Cleveland State Poetry Prize. She is also author of two plays: *Provenance of Beauty: A South Bronx Travelogue* (2009) and *Existing Conditions* (2010), along with several edited collections. She has garnered significant critical acclaim throughout her career, including awards and fellowships from the Academy of American Poets, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Lannan Foundation. In 2013, she was elected as a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets; in 2014 she won the Jackson Poetry Prize.

Her work can be considered experimental, as it often defies and unsettles notions of genre. The new directions chartered in her most recent work *Citizen* are as timely as they are poignant. *The Washington Post* contends, "Part protest lyric, part art book, *Citizen* is a dazzling expression of the painful double consciousness of black life in America," and *The New York Times* declares, "*Citizen* is audacious in form. But what is perhaps especially striking [...] is that it has achieved something that eludes much modern poetry: urgency."

Please invite your students, co-workers, friends, and family members to this important event, which is free and open to the public.

ANNUAL FUND

MARYGROVE COLLEGE

There are many ways you can act on behalf of your Alma Mater, but we would like to use this edition of *Tower Times* to tell you a bit more about Marygrove College's Annual Fund.

The Annual Fund is vital to the College's core needs. It ensures that we recruit and develop exceptional faculty, maintain our historical buildings, develop new programs, and continue offering competitive scholarships to our students, many of whom would not otherwise have the means to pursue a college education.

By contributing to the Marygrove Annual Fund, you are showing your support for the College's major institutional priorities, ensuring that we serve our students, and helping us fulfill a more than century-old tradition of Catholic education right here in the city of Detroit.

Every gift is important. Please join the effort to support Marygrove by contributing to the Marygrove Annual Fund. To do so, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at (313) 927-1446 or visit marygrove.edu/giving.

Thank you for your support!

Fun Facts

MARYGROVE

- When construction began in 1925, the Sacred Heart Chapel was the first room built in the Liberal Arts Building.
- Hartman Hall was home to the first president of Marygrove and his family.
- The Madame Cadillac Building is named for the wife of the founder of Detroit—a strong, independent, educated woman.



MARYGROVE WELCOMES TWO ALUMNAE TO THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Please join us in welcoming Marygrove alums Elizabeth Burns and Denise Mallett to the college's senior leadership team!

ELIZABETH A. BURNS, MD, MA



Marygrove College alumna Elizabeth A. Burns joined the college as interim provost in August. Most recently, she served as Associate Dean for Faculty and Clinical Affairs and DIO at the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine. Immediately prior to that, she served four years as President and CEO of the Michigan State University Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies.

After earning her B.S. from Marygrove, Elizabeth earned an M. D. from the University of Michigan and an M. A. from the University of Iowa College of Education, Division of Instructional Design and Technology, Health Sciences Education.

Following a two year RWJ Foundation fellowship in Academic Family Medicine, Elizabeth began what would become an 11-year faculty and administrative career at the University of Iowa College of Medicine. She has also served University of Illinois at Chicago as Department Head in Family Medicine and University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences in Grand Forks. In 2008, she moved to her position at the MSU Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies.

When asked how it feels to rejoin the Marygrove College community, Elizabeth told us, "I am truly honored to have this opportunity to give back to this college, which played such an important role in my life. I look forward to working with the administration, faculty and staff here to continue the steady progress that we see taking place at Marygrove."

DENISE W. MALLET ED.D



Denise W. Mallett returns to Marygrove, this time as Vice President of Enrollment Management, with over 17 years of experience in higher education and an impressive collection of degrees that include a B.A. in Business Administration, an M.A. in Human Resource Management, an Educational Specialist Certification, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

Most recently, Denise served as Provost for the Wayne County Community College District. Prior to that, she served University of Detroit Mercy for nearly a decade and a half in a number of roles including Associate Director of Admissions, Director of Admissions, Dean of Admissions, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management & Students Affairs, and Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Affairs.

Denise rejoined the Marygrove College community in October, a reunion that she says, "proves that if the task is important, you can go home again." In addition to earning her M.A. from Marygrove, Denise also served the college from 1998 to 2001 in a variety of roles including Admissions Counselor, Assistant Director of Admissions, and Interim Director of Admissions.

Denise has been recognized by Crain's Detroit Business as one of Detroit's *40 under 40* and by The Michigan Chronicle as *A Woman of Excellence*. She has also received The Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan "One Tough Cookie" Award, The Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc.'s *Educational Leadership Award*, and many, many more.

ALUMNI EVENTS

RECONNECT WITH YOUR ALMA MATER AND CATCH UP WITH OLD FRIENDS AT ONE OF THESE UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS!



LEARN BALLROOM, THE CHA-CHA, AND MORE!

'Do you enjoy watching
Dancing with the Stars'?

Why not put yourself
in the picture?

Ballroom Dancing has made a comeback and here is your chance to learn this elegant and graceful art form. The Marygrove College Alumni Program Committee is once again offering ten, 90 minute lessons followed by a dance where you can show off your newly acquired or finely honed skills.

Eldon Brown, a certified Master Instructor, will join Margo Lee '00, to share their love for dance. With these experienced instructors, you'll be ready to 'Dance with the Stars' in no time! In addition to being fun, Ballroom Dancing is very healthy, as it has wonderful physical, mental, and social benefits.

Register on your own or with a partner. **Make sure that you wear shoes with leather soles.** If purchased individually, lessons are \$8.00 for Alumni and \$3.00 for students with ID. Alumni, you can enjoy big savings when you purchase all ten lessons in advance for just \$50.00.

AND, a limited number of scholarships for lessons and the final dance are available for current Marygrove students – call today!

All Classes will be held:

Alumnae Hall, Madame Cadillac Building
6 - 7:30 p.m.

Thursdays: February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; and April 7, 2016

The Final Dance will be Saturday, April 9, 2016 in Alumnae Hall

Advance tickets* \$20.00 (\$25.00 at the door)

*All tickets purchased by March 26 will be entered into a drawing to win great prizes!

Proceeds from Ballroom Lessons and Dance benefit the Jan Soleau, IHM Student Support Fund. To register for the lessons, purchase tickets for the Final Dance, or for more information, contact Margo Lee '00 at (313) 402-7776 or margolee2014@yahoo.com, or Jan Machusak, Director of Alumni Relations/Annual Giving at (313) 927-1443 jmachusak@marygrove.edu and let's dance!

DETROIT PISTONS GAME

Saturday, March 26, 2016

7:30 p.m. at The Palace of Auburn Hills

This event will be \$45 per person, which includes game ticket, a hotdog, and a drink. Please RSVP by February 19 by contacting Frances Simmons '85 at (248) 546-2876. Purchase tickets by sending a check made out to Marygrove College to: Marygrove College Alumni Office, Attn: Jan Machusak.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY WITH FOCUS: HOPE

Mid-March, TBD from 9 a.m. - noon

Focus: HOPE,

1355 Oakman Boulevard, Detroit

The Alumni Association is pleased to support Focus: HOPE by sponsoring a community service project for Marygrove alumni and friends at its facility in Detroit. We will spend the morning assisting and preparing food packages: opening boxes and putting food on pallets for pre-packs (boxes of food) that will be used to feed the hungry throughout the Detroit metro area. All items needed for work will be provided. It is suggested that you dress warmly.

If you are interested in volunteering or need more information, contact Gloria Banks '11 at (313) 802-1246 or Frances Simmons '85 at (248) 546-2876.

Mustang Report



Steve Bloomfield
Director of Athletics

On behalf of the entire Marygrove College Athletics Department, I want to congratulate and acknowledge our 2015-16 seniors who completed their final season of competition in the sports of volleyball and men's and women's soccer. Their leadership and sincere dedication to the College throughout the course of their academic and athletic careers is to be commended and will be truly missed. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors and welcome them in to our Mustang Alumni family.

CONGRATULATIONS SENIORS

VOLLEYBALL

Alixandria Pappas - St. Clair Shores, Michigan

Rachel Staudt - Novi, Michigan



WOMEN'S SOCCER

Henrietta Addo - Ghana, West Africa

Farwa Haider - West Bloomfield, Michigan

Brandy Lynch - Dearborn Heights, Michigan

Johari Ndaizeye - Detroit, Michigan

Sara Ruch - Oxford, Michigan



MEN'S SOCCER

Haider Alzayadi - Simawa, Iraq

Gaoussou Cisse - Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Moussa Diallo - Conakry, Guinea

Ali El Habhab - Saida, Lebanon

Abdoulie Jallow - Bansang, The Gambia

Khalid Suleiman - Tulkarm, Palestine

Oneil Robinson - Montego Bay, Jamaica



GAME TIMES



MEN'S REMAINING BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
JAN. 2	CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY	3 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 6	AQUINAS COLLEGE	8 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 9	CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	3 P.M.	Ann Arbor, MI
JAN. 13	LOURDES UNIVERSITY	8 P.M.	Sylvania, OH
JAN. 16	DAVENPORT UNIVERSITY	3 P.M.	Grand Rapids, MI
JAN. 20	LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY	8 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 23	UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN	3 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 27	UNIVERSITY OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO	8 P.M.	Lima, OH
JAN. 30	SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY	3 P.M.	NWAC
FEB. 3	INDIANA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	8 P.M.	NWAC
FEB. 6	MADONNA UNIVERSITY	3 P.M.	Livonia, MI
FEB. 10	LOURDES UNIVERSITY	8 P.M.	NWAC
FEB. 13	CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY	3 P.M.	Grand Rapids, MI
FEB. 17	AQUINAS COLLEGE	8 P.M.	Grand Rapids, MI
FEB. 20	CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	3 P.M.	NWAC

WOMEN'S REMAINING BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
JAN. 2	CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY	1 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 6	AQUINAS COLLEGE	6 P.M.	Grand Rapids, MI
JAN. 9	CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	1 P.M.	Ann Arbor, MI
JAN. 11	CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY	7 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 13	LOURDES UNIVERSITY	6 P.M.	Sylvania, OH
JAN. 16	DAVENPORT UNIVERSITY	1 P.M.	Grand Rapids, MI
JAN. 20	LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY	6 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 23	UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN	1 P.M.	NWAC
JAN. 25	CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY	7 P.M.	Wilberforce, OH
JAN. 27	UNIVERSITY OF NORTHWESTERN OHIO	1 P.M.	Lima, OH
JAN. 30	SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY	1 P.M.	NWAC
FEB. 3	INDIANA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	6 P.M.	NWAC
FEB. 6	MADONNA UNIVERSITY	1 P.M.	Livonia, MI
FEB. 10	LOURDES UNIVERSITY	6 P.M.	NWAC
FEB. 13	CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY	1 P.M.	Grand Rapids, MI
FEB. 17	AQUINAS COLLEGE	6 P.M.	Grand Rapids, MI
FEB. 20	CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	1 P.M.	NWAC

Dates and times are subject to change without notice.

Home games, in **BOLD**, will feature a live stream at www.MarygroveMustangs.com/LIVE
 Indoor sports take place at the Northwest Activities Center (NWAC) at 18100 Meyers, Detroit, MI.

2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI



MARY HARRIS MARTIN '62

After Mary graduated in 1962 with a BA in Speech Correction and Education, she married, had three children, and relocated to Montreal. There, she continued her work as a speech and language specialist with the Protestant schools, a career that would span more than 40 years.

In addition to working, volunteering, and raising a family of five, Mary was an active member of the St. Patrick of the Island Parish in Quebec. However, after just a few short years in Canada, Mary's life hit an unexpected and devastating turn: Her husband left the family and moved out of the country, leaving Mary and her five young children with little or no financial help.

As a single mother, Mary did whatever it took to keep her young family housed and fed, often working several jobs while still volunteering and serving others. Over the 45 years she has been a member of her parish, Mary has served in countless positions while still serving her local community. In addition to helping establish a local library, she is also a member of the city cultural resource team, is a volunteer reader to pre-school children, and serves on the literacy committee.

Mary admits she prefers to be in the background planting a seed, letting someone else take credit for the end result. "There are quite a few things happening in the parish that I planted the seed for, and everyone has forgotten that I did so. I like it that way," says Mary.



JUDITH ANNE ELIASSEN '64

Judith, or "Sister Judy" as her students and colleagues refer to her, may have graduated from Marygrove in 1964, but her presence has long been felt by those she has served at the college for nearly a decade and a half.

She became Marygrove's Director of Student Academic Enrichment in 2002 and following her success in this role, she became Director of the Teacher Education Support Lab in 2007. For the last eight years, she has helped aspiring teachers prepare for the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Exam (MTTC).

After receiving her Bachelor of Science from Marygrove College in 1964, Sister Judy began teaching at St. Mary's Academy in Monroe. For 10 years, she taught biology, chemistry, biochemistry, and theology; she was also the assistant resident directress, the auditorium manager, and ran many science fairs. After earning her Master of Science at Purdue University in 1971, she began what would ultimately become a 24-year career at Holy Redeemer High School in Southwest Detroit.

Never content to rest, Sister Judy continued her education at Wayne State University's Howard Hughes Medical Institute before returning to Marygrove College, then to Notre Dame University where she studied Educational Administration. She has served as a Big Sister volunteer at St. Francis Home for Boys, volunteered in playrooms in children's hospitals, published her work in academic journals, newspapers and newsletters, has been a member of 15 professional associations, and has received numerous awards for her achievements.



CAROL WAGNER COUSINEAU '67

Ask her husband; her former Marygrove classmates; her fellow parish librarians at St. Hugo of the Hills; the young women she counsels at the Crossroads Christian Pregnancy Center; the inmates she prayed with in the Oakland County Boot Camp Jail Ministry program; they will all graciously and unanimously describe Carol a woman who has the talent, touch, and humility to "enrich the physical and spiritual lives of everyone she encounters."

Following her graduation from Marygrove College in 1967, Carol spent nearly three decades as an interior designer, became a Professional Member of ASID, raised two children with her husband Ron, and became the founder and administrator of the St. Hugo of the Hills Parish Library. Both she and her husband have been Eucharistic ministers since 1991, and since 2007, Carol has volunteered one day a week at Crossroads Pregnancy Center in Auburn Hills. Here, she provides spiritual direction, child-raising education, and material support for mothers.

In 2009, Carol and her husband who are Rotarians partnered with an Ecuadorian Rotary Club to bring 225 filters—each on capable of providing 20 gallons of safe drinking water daily—to families, schools and convents. Over the years, Carol has accepted many callings. For almost 14 years, until funds for the program ceased, she was Music Minister every other Sunday for the Oakland County Bootcamp Prison Ministry for the Archdiocese of Detroit allowing her to share her faith and her music.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Marygrove College Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Awards are two of the highest honors that can be awarded to graduates by Marygrove College and the Marygrove College Alumni Association. This year, we are proud to introduce you to six award recipients.



HELEN KOZLOWSKI-HICKS '84

When talking about Helen, her friends and colleagues readily offer such words as dedicated, committed, warm, energetic, determined, logical, peacemaker. These are, indeed, accurate descriptors—but they only provide a partial image, a sketch of who Helen is.

In addition to a successful, 30-year career in the non-profit sector, Helen and her husband Darryl are active foster parents, have taken in several “troubled teens,” and raised a family of nine, including three adopted children and a son with special needs.

While raising a family, Helen has served as Executive Director of the Food Bank of Oakland County, Executive Director of the Michigan AIDS Coalition, Program Officer for the Children’s Hospital of Michigan Foundation, and President and CEO of Macomb Habitat for Humanity.

After completing her Bachelor of Arts in English from Marygrove in 1984, Helen began work on her Master of Arts in Educational Administration, and then became Executive Director for the Food Bank of Oakland County. In 2009, Helen took her leadership skills to the Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC). Following her success with MAC, she became President and CEO of Macomb Habitat for Humanity.

Helen has been featured in, and contributed articles to, magazines and newspapers. She has also received many awards including: Comerica’s Leadership Award and the Leadership Award for Best Non-Profit; Crain’s Detroit Business Awards for Best-Managed Non-Profit and Executive Woman of the Year; the Detroit News Award for Michiganian of the Year; and National Hunger’s Hope Award in Development by American’s Second Harvest, to name a few.



SHEILA DORSEY-SMITH '86

Sheila Dorsey-Smith has touched many lives in her nearly 30-year career since graduating from Marygrove College. As those she’s touched characterize their interactions with her, a picture emerges of Sheila as compassionate, dedicated and capable.

After spending several years in the business world, Sheila became program administrator for The City of Detroit in 1990. There, she developed academic success programs to help disadvantaged students while also working as a substitute teacher in the Detroit Public Schools.

In 1995, she earned her certification from Eastern Michigan University in Secondary Teaching and Vocational Marketing. From there, she continued on to earn a Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership from Saginaw Valley in 1999, and most recently began to pursue her Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Western Michigan.

Proving to be an accomplished teacher, administrator and program developer, she created an inner city summer program to enrich youth 5-18; worked as a placement coordinator for a summer co-op program; became a K-8 Assistant Principal and then Principal; became Executive Director of Human Resources for Saginaw Public Schools; and today, is Assistant Superintendent of HR for the Kalamazoo Public Schools, a 13,000 student school district.

Not only a mentor to countless students, Sheila mentors work associates as well. She is a trailblazer of justice, voice for the marginalized, resource for the despaired, and mentor for those who are motivated to achieve. Simply put, says daughter Laina Dorsey, her mother “believes that if she can do or say something to help better someone, then it is her duty.”



TINA MARIE PERRY '16

Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow

In the short time that Tina has been a part of the Marygrove College Community, she has already left a lasting impression on those of us that have had the pleasure of knowing her. In the classroom, she thrives—routinely exceeding her professors’ expectations, taking intellectual and academic risks, and proving that she is not only dedicated to her studies, but also committed to the Marygrove mission.

During a recent spring break session, Tina collected donations, flew to Haiti, and spent \$75 of her own money, per bag, to ensure that Haitian orphans were hand delivered shoes, toiletries, and aid materials. She is also working to start a program that would empower Detroit’s youth by teaching them to sail at absolutely no cost.

Tina has worked as a mentor and coach for Girls on the Run, a 5K running program sponsored by the YMCA. She regularly volunteers at the Wyandotte Soup Kitchen and is currently collaborating with the city’s Parks and Recreation Department and her local Chief of Police on a campaign to replace broken playground equipment. Currently, the fundraiser has garnered \$2,000 of the \$9,000 goal.

In addition to overcoming a life-altering motorcycle injury, working, and pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in Social Science at Marygrove, Tina joyfully embraces the challenges of being a single mother, races sailboats, runs marathons, has studied abroad, is President of the Social Work and Social Justice Network Organization, and the Community Service Chairperson for the National Society for Leadership and Success.

2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

AWARD CRITERIA



The Marygrove College Distinguished Alumni Awards are honors bestowed by Marygrove College and the Marygrove College Alumni Association.

These awards have been established to recognize and honor alumni who have distinguished themselves and their alma mater.

All living Marygrove College alumni who have earned undergraduate or graduate degrees are eligible for this award. Alumni, family, friends, co-workers, faculty, staff, and students may submit nominations. Self-nominations are also accepted. The Alumni Association Advisory Council will review nominations and select the award recipients.

The Distinguished Alumni 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 graduates.

These 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

Based on the number of qualified applicants, up to four awards will be given annually. For one of these awards, special consideration will be given to alumni who graduated within the last 15 years. All nominations will remain on file and will be reconsidered for two consecutive years.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards will be presented on Friday, September 16, 2016, at a special recognition event during Alumni Reunion Weekend.

Please make your nomination using the form below and include the required documentation.

You can also read about past award recipients at www.marygrove.edu. **Nominations are due by March 31, 2016.**

MARYGROVE COLLEGE 2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI NOMINATION FORM

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Three letters of recommendation. In addition to the nomination form, a letter from the nominator and two additional letters must be included. Letters of support may be written by the nominee, fellow alumni, family, friends, faculty, staff, students, or co-workers. **Please advise those writing letters to be as specific as possible as to why this person is being nominated and how he/she meets the criteria for the award. Be specific.** Name the organizations the person is or was involved with; state how his/her involvement has impacted the organization; describe how the nominee's involvement exemplifies Marygrove's ideals of competence, compassion, and commitment.

Supplemental documentation is strongly encouraged, e.g.,

vita, newspaper articles. Please return nomination form and letters of support no later than **March 31, 2016**, to:

Marygrove College
Distinguished Alumni Awards
8425 W. McNichols Road
Detroit, Michigan 48221-2599

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name _____

Year of Graduation _____

Major _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____

Business Phone () _____

E-mail Address _____

If you have any questions or need more information, contact Jan Machusak, Director of Alumni Relations, at (313) 927-1443 or jmachusak@marygrove.edu

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Submitted by _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____

Business Phone () _____

E-mail Address _____

If you are a Marygrove College alumna/us:

Graduation year and major _____

I have contacted the nominee to inform him/her of this nomination.

Save the date

ALUMNI REUNION 2016

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2016

- Friday, September 16: Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony (Marygrove Theatre/Reception following in Denk Chapman)
- Saturday, September 17: All -1 and -6 Class Reunion Mass/Luncheon & optional campus tour
- Sunday, September 18: Class of 1966 Mass/Brunch & Induction into the 50 Year Club

Please keep in mind that everyone, regardless of graduation year, is invited and encouraged to attend. Information will be mailed to reunion classes in the spring. If you have questions or need more information, contact Jan Machusak, Director of Alumni Relations at jmachusak@marygrove.edu or (313) 927-1443.

LET'S MAKE THE 2016 REUNION A MEMORABLE ONE: JOIN THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

As you know, 2016 is the 50th reunion year for the Marygrove Class of 1966! What a blessing it will be to celebrate such a momentous occasion at the Alumni Reunion Weekend next year. While the next Alumni Reunion Weekend may seem a long way off, the time to start planning is now! Please help us make the '66 Class Reunion a memorable one! Join the planning committee.

We'll also need volunteers for the planning committees of all other reunion classes and encourage you to join.

To learn more, please contact Jan Machusak, Director of Alumni Relations at jmachusak@marygrove.edu or (313) 927-1443.

Thank you to all



FOR MAKING THE 2015 REUNION A SUCCESS!





Get ready to connect, MARYGROVE!

WE ARE UPDATING OUR ALUMNI DIRECTORY

- Statistics show that 20% of alumni will change their address this year
- Statistics show that alumni phone numbers change every 26 months

So, Marygrove College will partner with Harris Connect, for the first time since 2002, to reach out and reconnect!

Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of this all-new publication. We'll be contacting you soon with more details, but wanted to advise you of the exciting news! Look for a POSTCARD in the months ahead!

Can't wait? Call the Office of Alumni Relations with your questions and updated contact information at (313) 927-1443 or email towertimes@marygrove.edu.

WHAT DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE?

- Postcards and emails encourage alums to contact Marygrove to update their information.
- At the conclusion of the inbound phoning phase, Harris Connect will initiate a short outbound phoning phase to contact those who have not responded.
- Production of a keepsake Alumni Directory in hardbound and softbound editions
 - Editorial Section – about the College and including color photographs
 - Through the Years Photo Gallery – photos and captions submitted via the questionnaire portal by alumni, organized by decade
 - Class Year/Biographical Section – Alphabetical listing of former students by class year with name, address, telephone number, job titles, etc. and up to one 300-word response to “What’s Been Happening in Your Life?” (NOTE: Alumni can opt out from including their information if they choose)
 - Geographical/Career Networking Section – Former students listed alphabetically by class year and (if selected by alumnus/a) one of up to eighty career codes under state headings and city subheadings
 - Alphabetical Index – Former students listed alphabetically by name. Alumni with address unknown or deceased (confirmed by Marygrove) will be denoted as such.
- Production of a full CD-Rom version of the directory
- Mobile Alumni Today – A mobile version of your directory as well as a central repository of information compiled from multiple locations (such as your website, Facebook, Twitter, etc.), in one place, on a portable device. Authenticated alumni will receive free access to the application during the MAT access period, commencing 60 days after release of the printed publication.



GREG CASCIONE JOINS LEADERSHIP TEAM AS HEAD OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

In September, we welcomed Gregory L. Cascione, Ph.D. as the new Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Marygrove College. We would like to formally introduce Dr. Cascione to those of you who have not yet had the pleasure of meeting him.

Dr. Cascione comes to Marygrove from a national consulting firm, The Reid Group, where he served as Senior Consultant specializing in fund development and assisting in strategic planning. He has experience at every level of advancement, from Catholic elementary and high school programs to elite public and private universities, including Fordham University, Harvard Law School, The Wharton School, the University of Michigan, and the University of Detroit Mercy. He has extensive experience in Catholic education and over 25 years in higher education.

During his tenure at the University of Detroit Mercy, Dr. Cascione served as Vice President for University Advancement, Associate Vice President for Development, and Director of Development for the College of Business Administration. He earned a Ph.D. in higher education from the University of Michigan, an M.B.A. from the University of Edinburgh (U.K.), an M.T.S. in ethics from Harvard University, and a B.A. in philosophy from Fordham University.

Under Dr. Cascione's leadership and with his fundraising expertise, Marygrove College will continue to build on recent successes, enabling the college to make continued improvements to benefit the Marygrove community, its neighborhood, and the city of Detroit.

"I am honored to serve as Marygrove College's Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement," says Dr. Cascione. "Marygrove's commitment to its students and to Detroit is inspiring, and I look forward to working closely with Dr. Birge, the Board of Trustees, the faculty, staff, students and alumnae in reaching new heights of generosity for the College. It is a privilege to join this outstanding community."

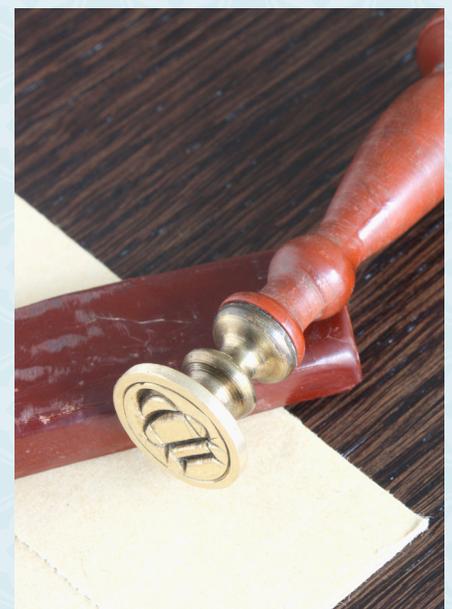
PLANNED GIVING: HELP MARYGROVE PREPARE FOR OUR FUTURE BY PREPARING FOR YOURS

By planning ahead, you can ensure that Marygrove College continues to offer great programs, facilities, and opportunities like those you benefitted from as a student.

Planned giving allows donors to integrate their personal, family, financial, estate planning, charitable, and other goals to make gift arrangements that benefit both the donor and Marygrove.

Should you decide to include a gift to Marygrove College in your will, we invite and encourage you to notify the College about your decision ahead of time, for several reasons. First, so you can complete a gift agreement and ensure that there will be no question as to how your gift will be used. Second, so that Marygrove can make note of the gift as we plan for the future. And finally, so that we may recognize your generosity and show our appreciation, if you so desire, by including you as a member of the Marygrove Stewardship Society.

To learn more about planned giving or becoming a member of the Marygrove Stewardship Society, please contact Greg Cascione, VP for Institutional Advancement, at (313) 927-1446.





GRANT JOINS PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING JOURNALIST STEPHEN HENDERSON AND MARYGROVE COLLEGE

In November, Marygrove College announced the launch of The Tuxedo Project, which coincides with a \$150,000 grant recently awarded to the college by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The grant, which will be awarded over two years, will enable the college to transform 7124 Tuxedo, the now-abandoned and blighted childhood home of Detroit Free Press Editorial Page Editor Stephen Henderson, into a writer's residence and literary center.

In tandem with the restoration project at 7124 Tuxedo, the college's English and Modern Languages department will begin a national search for the project's first fellow who, in addition to teaching at Marygrove College, will also live in the restored house, run the literary center there, and provide outreach and resources to the community. "The Tuxedo Project provides a tangible way to link our discipline, our students, and the larger community in collaborative

revitalization," said Darcy L. Brandel, Associate Professor of English and Chair of English and Modern Languages at Marygrove College. "We are honored to share what we know about reading, writing, and storytelling in ways the neighborhood residents find most useful. We are very excited to move forward."

Marygrove College was chosen from over 1,000 applicants and 70 finalists, and receives this grant as a part of the Knight Arts Challenge, a \$9 million initiative to draw the best and most innovative ideas out of local organizations and individuals seeking to engage and enrich the community through the arts.

"The grant awarded to us by the Knight Foundation allows Marygrove to truly set an example for what needs to happen if we are serious about revitalizing the entire city of Detroit," said Marygrove Interim President James F. Birge, Ph.D. "The area near Grand

River and Livernois is not one of the neighborhoods currently attracting investment or experiencing growth. The residents in this area, like the 5,000 residents in the area just outside our campus gates—some of whom are students at our institution—are looking for local leaders and anchor institutions like ours to do their part in revitalizing the community."

Renovation efforts of the Tuxedo Project not only include transforming the former home of Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Stephen Henderson into a writer's residence and literary center for children and adults in the neighborhood but also demolishing and reclaiming blighted property adjacent to 7124 Tuxedo.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

SISTER RITA KILLEEN, IHM URBAN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

The SISTER RITA KILLEEN, IHM URBAN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP is awarded annually to junior or senior Teacher Education students who demonstrate strong academic performance and whose commitment to the education of children is made visible through education service in an urban school. Recipients of this scholarship must:

- Demonstrate exceptional academic performance (2.7 GPA at the time of application and maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher while receiving the scholarship)
- Contribute at least 15 hours of educational service in an urban school & provide a written or visual reflection/documentation that addresses how the educational enrichment project met the challenges of educating in an urban setting
- Interview with the Education Department Faculty

The Sister Rita Killeen, IHM Urban Educational Leadership Scholarship was established in 2007 as an endowed scholarship by Charles and Veronica Killeen Pelzer '54, in memory of her sister, Rita Killeen IHM '59.

Raised in a family of seven children, the Killeens experienced the death of their father, the “breadwinner” before they were out of their teens. The children, then, shared the responsibility of supporting the family financially. No one worked harder than Rita – who shared her infectious gift of laughter through it all.

Rita chose religious life as a way to serve God and others. As a member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart (IHM) congregation, she had the opportunity to help children learn. With both her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Education, she appreciated what dedicated teachers could accomplish. Sister Rita truly enjoyed the progress her students made each year and was particularly gifted in her work with first graders.

Understandably then, the spirit of the award comes from the person of Rita Killeen: *The Scholarship is awarded to a Marygrove undergraduate Teacher Education student during her/his junior or senior year who demonstrates strong academic performance and whose commitment to the education of children is made visible through education service in an urban school.*

Though cancer cut short Sister Rita’s life, the generosity of the Pelzer family in sponsoring allows students at Marygrove to share her vision and commitment to urban youth.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Presented annually at the Spring Honors Convocation, these students have been recipients of The Sister Rita Killeen, IHM Urban Educational Leadership Scholarship:

2011 Jacqueline Aronoff & Davon Bryant

2012 Vanessa Rivers & Jennifer White

2013 Tamra Chapple Anderson

2014 Laura Elwell & David Mervak

2015 Sandra Brownlee

(Pictured with Veronica and Charles Pelzer)





MARYGROVE COLLEGE

8425 West McNichols Road
Detroit, MI 48221-2599
OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 4942
Detroit, MI

