

Winter 2019

# TOWER TIMES

PAGE 4

**INTRODUCING THE NEW  
ALUMNI RELATIONS DIRECTOR**

PAGE 8

**MARYGROVE COLLEGE BOLDLY  
STEPS OUT OF THE CIRCLE**

PAGE 10

**WELCOME THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OF INSTITUTE FOR DETROIT STUDIES (IDS)**

PAGE 12

**SITTING DOWN WITH DR. WEENA GAULIN**

Marygrove  
 College  
A GRADUATE SCHOOL



# A Message from the President

## To my fellow alumni and friends of Marygrove:

---

This is the Winter '19 edition of *Tower Times*, but you can't really tell which season we're actually in at Marygrove: one day, snow, the next day, 50 degrees! But you *can* tell that Marygrove has fully transitioned to a primarily online graduate college as we ushered in 2019. We've been hard at work adding state-of-the-art technological and online capacity so our students can have access to their records, to their professors and to their coursework even when there's a power outage on the campus. We've moved file storage to the cloud, which is always accessible wherever there's internet access. That helps both staff and students get their work done efficiently and seamlessly.

In this edition, you'll meet our new Alumni Relations Director Kari Jenkins, who comes to Marygrove with alumni relations experience and a keen desire to connect with all the alumni she can. You'll also meet Dr. Shaun Nethercott, the new executive director for Marygrove's Institute for Detroit Studies. Shaun has a long connection with Marygrove: she, on behalf of the organization she founded, Matrix Theatre Company, was a past Theresa Maxis Award for Social Justice recipient a few years ago. IDS has some really exciting events planned, which you'll read about on Page 10.

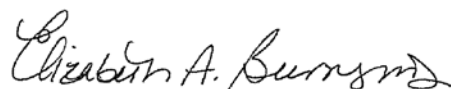
By now, you know that the 31st featured speaker in the Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series will be here on April 26th. You won't want to miss the unique Ms. Elizabeth Acevedo! She is an acclaimed slam poet and spoken word artist, the first such author in the lecture series.

In past *Tower Times* editions, we reported on the important P20 developments taking place on campus. As you know, a new Detroit Public School will open in September 2019, starting with the 9th grade. For one year while work is being done on their permanent space in the former Immaculata High School, work has begun on the temporary changes that will be made to the lobby and second floor of the Liberal Arts Building to comply with K-12 building codes. When you come for Alumni Reunion Weekend, it will look a little different around here. You'll be proud to know that our education faculty have been involved with DPSCD and the University of Michigan School of Education on new and exciting curricula that's focused on engineering and social justice.

It's not too early to nominate your favorite alum for the Distinguished Alumni Award. For the last 16 years, Marygrove and the Alumni Association have recognized the contributions of alumni who live out the values of the college. You'll find the nomination form on Page 13 or online at [www.marygrove.edu/alumni](http://www.marygrove.edu/alumni). The recognition event will take place during Alumni Reunion in September. Speaking of which, please mark your calendars for the second weekend in September a great experience of your alma mater. We'd especially like to welcome the graduating classes of years ending in 4 and 9 but all our alumni and their friends and families are invited.

Since the decision to continue as a graduate-only college, Marygrove has been sincerely considering our "place" on the graduate education landscape. We've changed, to be sure, but are as committed as ever to quality education and quality education imbued with our values. So much has happened in the last year and a half with our Marygrove that we believe there might be confusion in the marketplace. Thanks to a generous gift from an anonymous donor, Marygrove has embarked on a new branding campaign with a brand new, bold look and feel, a new updated logo symbolic of Our Lady of Marygrove, and new targeted marketing strategies. Our alumni are some of our best ambassadors. We wanted you to be among the first to see the campaign on Page 8, which is grounded in our values and our mission!

Sincerely,



President  
ELIZABETH A. BURNS '72, MD, MA

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ..... 2  
 NEWS FROM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT ..... 3  
 INTRODUCING ALUMNI RELATIONS DIRECTOR KARI JENKINS ..... 4  
 MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND ..... 5  
 ALUMNI PROFILE: MEET DR. DEBORAH HUNTER-HARVILL ..... 6  
 MARYGROVE COLLEGE: OUT-OF-THE-CIRCLE THINKING..... 8

WELCOME DR. SHAUN S. NETHERCOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF IDS ..... 10  
 ALUMNI ACTIVITIES ..... 11  
 Q&A WITH DR. WEENA GAULIN ..... 12  
 ELIZABETH ACEVEDO, 31ST CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN AUTHOR ..... 14  
 IN MEMORIAM ..... 15  
 GOT NEWS? ..... 16

## News from the Alumni Association President

With 2019 commencement right around the corner, the Marygrove Alumni Association looks forward to welcoming new members as ambassadors of our college the way you and I are. These new alumni will soon experience the same benefits of their Marygrove education as all of us: a sense of personal and professional pride in their accomplishments; enhanced career opportunities and advancement; an appreciation for lifelong learning; and deeply rooted values that will guide them going forward.

I am hoping that our new alumni and those of us who continue to be proud of our Marygrove education will take steps to help Marygrove. Being an ambassador means the following:

- Serving on Alumni Association committees
- Bringing fellow Marygrove alumni in your area together to renew friendships and make new ones
- Actively recruiting new students for Marygrove from among your colleagues, family and friends
- Donating to the Annual Fund to help give scholarships to graduate students. (You might know that scholarships for Master’s level students are really hard to come by. But Marygrove would love to have funding to do just that in order to make graduate education possible for those who can’t afford it.)
- Participating in Alumni Reunion weekend and other alumni activities

Looking ahead, you’ll learn about alumni activities like Campus Beautification Day on May 4th and the Alumni Dance on April 13th, which I hope you’ll attend to mix and mingle. While we’re on the subject of mixing and mingling, the Alumni Association is hosting Marygrove’s second Mix & Mingle on May 10th for this year’s graduates, most of whom are online students. This will be the first time that many of them will have come to campus or met personally with their professors and fellow classmates. We invite you to join us. This is a free event for the graduates; there will be a small fee for everyone else.

We don’t frequently enough express our gratitude to our dedicated alumni association board members who work tirelessly for you and for Marygrove. So I want to publicly thank: Liz Poliuto Loria ’70; Samuel Blue III ’93; Alisa Ferguson ’02; Mark Bartnik ’79; Gloria Brown-Banks ’11; Rahjina Johnson ’03, ’05; Margo Lee ’00; Brigeda Nelson ’85; Miranda Linzmaier Outlaw ’14; Frances Brown Simmons ’85; Sheila Robinson ’09, ’12, and Michelle May ’85. I also want to welcome to the Alumni Association board new members Sara Lawson ’17 and LaToya Edwards ’18. I look forward to working together.

The Alumni Association is happy to welcome Kari Jenkins to Marygrove as our new Alumni Relations Director. You will read about her and see her photo a bit further on in this issue.

As always, we ask for your support, input and participation in the Alumni Association. Please contact Kari at (313) 927-1443 or krjenkins@marygrove.edu on ways you can help our college move forward.



Alumni Association President  
**VANESSA HOWELL GHANT,**  
 MA '92, D.MIN



*Vanessa Howell Ghant*

## Alumni Association Board Members

### OFFICERS

- Dr. Vanessa Howell Ghant '92  
*President*
- Elizabeth Poliuto Loria '70  
*Vice President*
- Samual Blue III '93  
*Treasurer*
- Alisa Ferguson '02  
*Secretary*

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

- Mark Bartnik '79
- Gloria Brown-Banks '11
- LaToya Edwards '18
- Rahjina Johnson '03, '05
- Sara Lawson '17
- Margo R. Lee '00
- Michelle A. May '85
- Brigeda Nelson '85
- Miranda Linzmaier Outlaw '14
- Sheila Robinson '09, '12
- Frances L. Brown Simmons '85

## Marygrove College

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

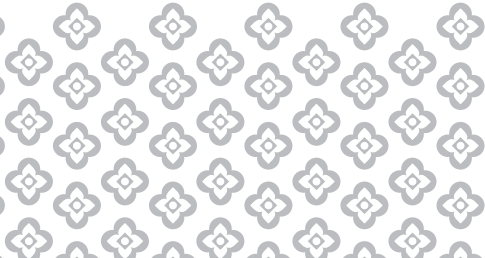
### **Kari Jenkins, Alumni Relations Director**

Marygrove College  
 8425 West McNichols Road  
 Detroit, MI 48221-2599

**Phone:** (313) 927-1443 • **Fax:** (313) 927-1345  
**E-mail:** krjenkins@marygrove.edu



# INTRODUCING: Alumni Relations Director Kari Jenkins



From the very beginning, Marygrove College has drawn much of its strength and courage – particularly the courage to evolve and take risks – from our alumni. Our alums know this, but they also know something else: Their ability to grow, unify, and connect with each other and their alma mater depends upon a leader, someone who not only understands them, but also the mission of our Founders.

Speak to the newly-appointed Alumni Relations Director Kari Jenkins and you will immediately find that she not only has a unifying spirit and is accustomed to wearing many hats, she is also inspired by and called to fulfill the mission of our Founders.

Before stepping into her new role, Kari served Monroe County Community College's (MCCC) The Foundation for four years, three of which she spent as communication's coordinator. In this position she tackled marketing, graphic design, television production, and a slew of alumni-relations responsibilities, including fundraising, scholarship support and event coordination.

Also worth mentioning is the time Kari spent over the airwaves, working with both Radio Disney (WFDF Radio 910 AM) and Monroe's WTWR Tower 98.3. She is also a seasoned dancer and is no stranger to the stage! "Alums might be surprised to find out that I have a strong theater and dance background," she says. "I have been dancing on and off for 30 years and have been lucky enough to appear in a few movies and commercials."

When she's not working with Marygrove alums, you might find Kari volunteering at the River Raisin Repertory Company (RRRC), a non-profit theater that provides theater, arts education, and professional support to Monroe County's youth. Kari has performed in 14 RRRC productions, including *Chorus Line*, *Cabaret*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, and is gearing up for what she hopes will mark her 15th performance in the forthcoming production of *Legally Blonde*.

One thing she remains most excited about, however, is connecting with Marygrove alums. "I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work alongside such a dedicated and passionate alumni body," she says. "They have so much knowledge and talent. Together, I know that we will accomplish extraordinary things."

You can reach Kari at [krjenkins@marygrove.edu](mailto:krjenkins@marygrove.edu) or (313) 927-1443.



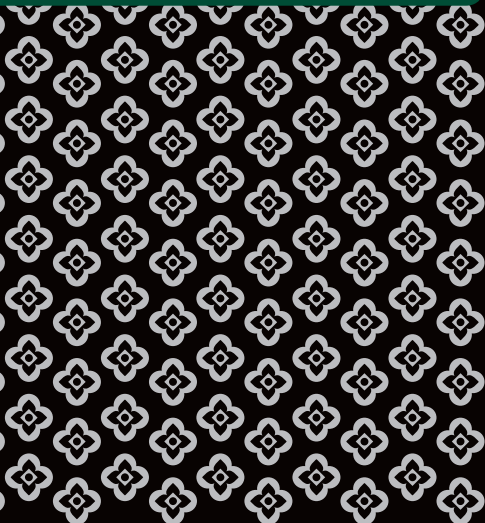
Alumni Relations Director  
KARI JENKINS

 Marygrove College

## COMING SOON...

An **online store** to purchase beloved Marygrove logo items like shirts, sweats, mugs and more.

*Look for our announcement!*





Mark Your Calendar!  
Save The Date!  
Do Whatever It Takes to  
Get to Alumni Reunion  
Weekend 2019!

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

*Friday, September 13*

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS CEREMONY  
7 p.m.  
Marygrove Theatre

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECEPTION  
8:30 p.m.  
Denk Chapman Hall

*Saturday, September 14*

REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  
8:30 a.m.  
Madame Cadillac Building Foyer

JUBILEE CLASS HOMECOMING PROGRAM  
10:00 a.m.  
Main Dining Hall

REUNION LUNCHEON & PRESIDENT BURNS'  
REPORT TO THE ALUMNI  
12:00 p.m.  
Alumnae Hall

CONCURRENT EVENTS  
1:30 p.m.  
To be announced

ALUMNI REUNION MASS  
4:00 p.m.  
Sacred Heart Chapel



**NOTE: ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN AN ALUMNI ART EXHIBIT DURING REUNION WEEKEND?**

If so, by May 31st, please send the following to Kari Jenkins, Alumni Relations Director, at [krjenkins@marygrove.edu](mailto:krjenkins@marygrove.edu):

- The medium in which you work
- A photo of a work sample
- Your name, daytime phone number, e-mail address and year of graduation

# ALUMNI PROFILE

## Meet Dr. Deborah Hunter-Harvill, '77 and '84



To say that her resume is of Tolstoy proportions *might actually* be an understatement – and the one we had on file only covered Dr. Deborah Hunter-Harvill’s professional life up until 2008. Indeed, a decade has passed and, still, she continues to add pages to her life’s work.

We had a lot of questions for this former teacher, principal, superintendent, school reform and special education director, and now a second-term Detroit Board of Education member, but at the top of our list was, “Aren’t you tired?”

“I’m not tired,” she laughs, “but everyone always asks me when I’ll chill.” The truth of the matter is that Dr. Hunter-Harvill feels best when she’s working and when it comes to matters concerning our children,

she says, “I will *not* be denied the right to defend them.”

Dr. Hunter-Harvill is a lifelong Detroiter. She grew up poor and though she and her family “were good people who worked hard,” they still saw little prospect of that changing. But thanks to the foresight, care, and diligence of a counselor at Thomas Cooley High School who saw potential in her 10th grade student, higher education actually seemed within reach for the first time. “She told me, ‘Deborah, I want you to go to college and I’m going to get you scholarships.’” And she did. Two scholarships, in fact: one from Michigan State University and a second from Marygrove College.

Deliberating her next move didn’t take long: Marygrove College offered a full-ride scholarship, housing, and

the opportunity to gain experience through the college’s work-study program. “To us, it was like witnessing a miracle,” she says. “We couldn’t believe it.”

After earning a BA in elementary education from Marygrove College in 1977, she stepped into what has become a four decade-long career in social service and education, teaching K-12 special education and language arts, and serving as an administrator and superintendent in Detroit, Saginaw, and Flint community school districts. “I’ve worked in some of the toughest places in the world, but I can’t escape what was instilled in me,” she trails off. *Children* – and the systemic injustices and bureaucratic policy-making that deprives them of their right to an education: that’s what’s on Dr. Hunter-Harvill’s mind.

Her fight in Lansing would come later. In between, Dr. Hunter-Harvill married, raised a son and daughter, and moved into leadership, serving as a Title I Coordinator, a professional development administrator, a school reform director, a special education director, and an elementary and middle school principal.

She admits that it has always been hard to say no, so when the Hazel Park and Oak Park Schools called upon her, she continued to say yes, eventually becoming one of the most diligent and respected turn-around specialists in the metropolitan area.

How does she account for this spirit of giving that, at least to us, appears to know no bounds? She takes a moment with this question. "It's the spirit God gave me, I suppose," she says. "I carry it with me everywhere I go." But the question eventually brings the conversation back to its start: the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

"The Sisters took me in, taught me to think critically, objectively," she says. "They loved me, provided a place to live – and because of that I *became* at Marygrove. And when I came out, I was pure as gold. They taught me

"The Sisters took me in, taught me to think critically, objectively. They loved me, provided a place to live – and because of that I *became* at Marygrove. And when I came out, I was pure as gold. They taught me to give back to the community and so that is what I do"

Considering all this, it comes as no surprise that Dr. Hunter-Harvill is the recipient of innumerable accolades. She was named one of 50 Women of Excellence by the *Michigan Chronicle*, cited in *Who's Who in Metropolitan Detroit*, and awarded the MET Life Community Award, the Leadership Award from the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE), and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Marygrove College, among many others.

As the NABSE foundation chairman, president-elect, and eventually president, she strengthened the non-profit's endowment and scholarship funds, galvanizing the organization's ability to advocate for students at the local, state, and federal level. In 2009, she officially stepped down as president, but her work with the organization continues. After all, she says, "You'd never abandon your child or sister or brother, would you? Well, I won't abandon [NABSE] either."

to give back to the community and so that is what I do," she says.

Lest you doubt her faith in the future of Marygrove, you'll find evidence of it in her voting record. As a Detroit School Board member, Dr. Hunter-Harvill's vote helped cement the historic P-20 partnership, bringing several institutions together, including Marygrove College and the Detroit Public Schools Community District, in a collaboration that will serve early childhood, pre-K-12, post-secondary and graduate students in "cradle-to-career" continuum.

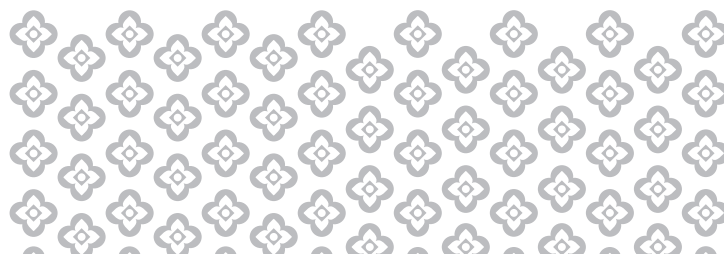
What made her vote in favor of the P-20 partnership? Her response came without hesitation: "Marygrove saved me, made me the woman I am today. And I know they can do it for those that follow me."



Dr. Hunter-Harvill with a former student, now a senior at Lincoln University in Oklahoma.



At a campus event with Dr. Hunter-Harvill and Rose DeSloover, former chair of Marygrove's Visual and Performing Arts Division.



"BOLD"  
"EXCITING"  
"OUT-OF-THE-CIRCLE THINKING"

There's been a sea change at Marygrove College that we all acknowledge. Marygrove has distinguished itself – again – with bold, innovative and gutsy decisions. Over the last 18 months, these decisions have created opportunities to redefine the college, reconsider our mission and introduce new programs. It's also caused us to look at the ways we talk about our Marygrove, how we present ourselves to the broader community and, frankly, to ourselves. Made possible by a generous anonymous donation, we're ready to "go public" with the "new" Marygrove, what President Burns refers to as "Marygrove 2.0."

A new logo, a new moniker and a new look and feel will now describe Marygrove College ... in a way that no other college has dared to do. Because our alumni are our first-line brand ambassadors – by what you say about your alma mater, by how you live out the Marygrove values – we wanted you to be among the first to meet "Marygrove College – A Graduate School."

Renée Ahee '72, director of Communications and Marketing, calls it "out-of-the-circle thinking." "Our mission is embedded in all of our rather audacious statements," said Renée. "Who else would be so bold as to claim that their students 'study right from wrong,' or that we can 'Change Where Your Mind Goes?' Only Marygrove.

Stepping out with a new logo means more than a new image campaign. We're making a statement about our relationship to Our Lady of Marygrove and our Christian faith, as the quatrefoil is the predominant symbol in our exterior and interior architecture.

These messages and this new image will be used on billboards and in targeted digital advertising. We'd love to hear your reactions so please contact Renée at [rahee@marygrove.edu](mailto:rahee@marygrove.edu) or (313) 927-1438.

Drum roll please ...



# Marygrove College

A GRADUATE SCHOOL



*I CAN BE BOTHERED.*

OTHERS CAN TURN A BLIND EYE.  
I CAN'T.  
THIS WORLD NEEDS ME AND A LOT OF OTHERS LIKE ME.  
PEOPLE WHO WANT TO, WHO MUST, CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THE WORLD BETTER.  
WHO MUST STAND UP AND SAY, "THAT'S NOT RIGHT. THIS IS THE WAY IT SHOULD BE DONE."  
OTHERS LEARN MONEY, POWER AND STATUS.  
I WANT TO LEARN ALL THAT AND MORE:  
COMPASSION. HUMAN DIGNITY. SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE.  
I HAVE TO, FOR MY OWN CONSCIENCE.

Marygrove  
College  
A GRADUATE SCHOOL



*TEACHING  
IS MY  
ART.*

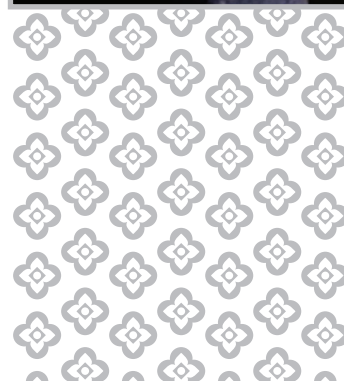


MASTERS OF EDUCATION  
IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

*I STUDY  
RIGHT FROM  
WRONG.*

EXCLUSIVELY GRADUATE STUDIES.  
AFFORDABLE ONLINE. ACCREDITED.

Marygrove  
College  
A GRADUATE SCHOOL



# WELCOME

## MARYGROVE WELCOMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE FOR DETROIT STUDIES DR. SHAUN S. NETHERCOTT AHEAD OF 2019 "DEFINING DETROIT" SERIES

Let's give a warm welcome to Dr. Shaun S. Nethercott, the newly appointed executive director of the college's Institute for Detroit Studies (IDS)! Dr. Nethercott joined the Marygrove College community just ahead of IDS's *Defining Detroit* spring series, which kicks off on March 10 with an exhibit by Northwest Detroit artists.



Executive Director  
Institute for Detroit Studies (IDS)  
**DR. SHAUN S. NETHERCOTT**

Dr. Nethercott has extensive experience with both for- and non-profit companies and organizations, is the founder of the Matrix Theatre Company – a professional community-based social justice theater in Southwest Detroit producing plays with and for children and adults – and is the founding director of the Detroit Institute of Arts El Arte Alliance.

She has produced 32 plays, is a Kresge Arts Fellow, and has earned innumerable awards, including the Educator of the Year Award from the Wayne County Council for Arts and Humanities, the Michigan Green Leader Award from the *Detroit Free Press*, and Marygrove College's Theresa Maxis Award for Social Justice, among many others.

The *Defining Detroit* series – which brings critically-acclaimed authors and artists to the college for lectures, readings, exhibits, and performances – continues through May 14. We have an impressive lineup this year, so be sure to check out the complete schedule of events!

## DEFINING DETROIT SERIES

### Schedule of Events



#### MARCH 10

##### Opening Reception: "A Community Collecting: Art from Northwest Detroit"

*This gallery exhibition, which runs through April 5, features artists Monica Brown, Felle, Asia Hamilton, Donna Jackson, Chazz Miller, Darryl Smith, and Megan White.*

*The opening reception begins at 3 p.m. and takes place in The Gallery, fourth floor of the Liberal Arts Building.*

#### MARCH 20

##### "An Evening with Desiree Cooper"

*Join 2015 Kresge Artist Fellow and Pulitzer Prize-nominated author Desiree Cooper for a lecture and book signing at 7 p.m. in Madame Cadillac Hall.*

#### APRIL 26

##### 31st Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series Featuring Poet Elizabeth Acevedo

*(SEE PAGE 14)*

#### MAY 14

##### "Disruption in Detroit: Challenging the 1950s Prosperity Myth"

*Join Oakland University Associate Professor Daniel J. Clark – author of *Disruption in Detroit: Autoworkers and the Elusive Postwar Boom* – for an evening presentation and book signing. Presentation begins at 7 p.m. in Madame Cadillac Hall.*

*Please contact Dr. Nethercott at [snethercott@marygrove.edu](mailto:snethercott@marygrove.edu) or (313) 927-1372.*



## WATCH FOR IT...

MAKE SURE TO MARK  
YOUR CALENDAR FOR  
JUNE 22 TO JULY 2, 2020.  
WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS.

In 2020, the Marygrove Alumni Association will be on the move. We're going on an 11-day Italy Pilgrimage & Passion Play of Oberammergau Tour.

As you may know, this play occurs once every ten years. This play has been performed since 1634 as a tradition by the inhabitants of the village of Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany. For the outstanding price of \$4,799, you'll get round-trip airfare from Detroit, first-class and select hotel accommodations, first-class admission tickets to the Passion Play, daily breakfast and six dinners, a professional, English-speaking tour director, sightseeing and transfer by private coach, and all hotel service charges and entrance fees.

❖ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ❖

# Campus Beautification Day

Saturday, May 4, 2019  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Come and spend the morning working alongside Marygrove alumni, faculty and staff members to prepare the campus for commencement on May 11 and make it beautiful for the rest of the year. We will rake leaves and grass, pick up trash, clean out flower beds and plant LOTS of pretty flowers. The day is hard work and a lot of fun. Seeing the transformation of the campus as we work is always a joy.

Anyone who has had the opportunity to come and help us in the past knows first-hand what a difference these few hours of work make for our beautiful campus. The flowers last year were exceptional and the grounds looked better than ever. The schedule includes clean-up and planting from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., followed by an hour to admire our work, have lunch and socialize with friends.

We need to know how many hardy souls we will have for this day, so please let us know if you are coming to volunteer by contacting Kari Jenkins, Alumni Relations Director, at (313) 927-1443 or [krjenkins@marygrove.edu](mailto:krjenkins@marygrove.edu).

Thank you to  
the IHM Sisters  
for sharing this  
photo with us!



## A STEP BACK IN TIME

In this issue of *Tower Times*, we're time traveling back to 1961 for "Evening of Elegance," a tea and fashion show which debuted in the Marygrove College Theatre to a very packed house! On the runway is Barbara Lemhagen, Class of 1959.

### Fun facts from the campus reporter:

- 350 alumnae worked on organizing the event.
- \$12,300 in scholarship money was raised; that's more than \$100,000 in today's dollars!
- Alumnae from classes going back to 1931 were models for the fashions and furs used in the show.

If you have any retro Marygrove snapshots you'd like to share with us, please contact:  
Ryan O'Rourke at [rorourk2008@marygrove.edu](mailto:rorourk2008@marygrove.edu).

## GOTTA DANCE?

Gene Kelly sang it in "Singing in the Rain." He was really referring to the "**Dancing with the Stars & Marygrove Alums**" Ballroom Dance:

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019**

Alumnae Hall – 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.  
(Food served at 7:00 p.m.)

**Advance tickets are \$20 each and NO tickets will be sold at the door.** If you buy your tickets before March 26th, you'll be entered in a drawing for great prizes. Deadline to purchase tickets is April 1st. All proceeds benefit the Jan Soleau, IHM, Scholarship Fund.

For more information or to buy tickets, contact Margo Lee '00 at (313) 402-7776 or [margolee2000@gmail.com](mailto:margolee2000@gmail.com).

**Dance, make new friends,  
have a dancing good time!**



**We are delighted to welcome Dr. Weena Gaulin, newly-appointed Associate Professor and Director of the Reading/Reading Specialist Program, to the Marygrove College community!**

Dr. Gaulin boasts of 20 years' experience in higher education – both at the undergraduate and graduate level – and has a background in andragogy, educator preparation, educational leadership, foreign language, TESOL/ESL, assessment, accreditation, and institutional effectiveness.

She has co-founded and managed several adult-learner centers in her native Reunion Island and held positions at Virginia Union University, Saint Joseph's University, Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods College, and Ave Maria University.

We sat down for a talk with Dr. Gaulin. Take a listen!

**TT:** *What most excites you about your new position at Marygrove College?*

**WG:** First and foremost, there is a very palpable sense of “new beginnings, new imaginings” at Marygrove College that is highly attractive to me. It is very seldom that institutions of higher education muster the courage to re-invent themselves in the spirit of service and dedication to the common good and I am grateful to be a part of this higher calling. If one can dream, then now is the time to be a part of the Marygrove College family!

Second, my areas of predilection (reading, accreditation, educational leadership, elementary education, curriculum planning and institutional effectiveness) seem to be a providential match for the current needs of the position. I am very sensitive to the auspicious nature of the appointment!

**TT:** *What originally attracted you to the position at Marygrove?*

**WG:** Marygrove College is a strong values-oriented institution – not simply in words but also, and primarily, in example and day-to-day demonstrations. The work environment is one of the most caring, compassionate, and supportive I have ever experienced and colleagues do go the extra mile in building a genuine team spirit.

Further, the online delivery format is very attractive to me as I think it is best suited in responding to current community and world demands.

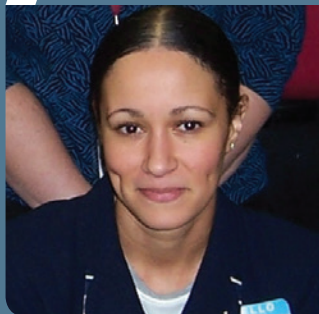
Marygrove College has also captured the very spirit of Detroit in its old bones and new face. Its long-lasting dedication to and presence in the inner city of Detroit speaks volume of its resilience, adaptability, resourcefulness, and tough character. In humble ways, Marygrove College does what all Detroiters do the best: “they give back.” That is, I believe, what institutions of higher learning are supposed to do and be: not merely existing as isolated ivory towers of knowledge but reaching out in loving service and support to build up their surrounding communities – and Marygrove College is a prototype in this area.

Finally, the diversity and caliber of our students is a marvel. I am blown away by the high quality online discussions and work that I see my students put forth as we build a robust e-community of learning together.

**TT:** *What might the MG community and/or students be interested to know about you?*

**WG:** I love, love, love, and love to watch animated movies! I also enjoy reading, long quiet and prayerful walks, cooking (mostly feeding others...), and traveling. ❖

SITTING DOWN WITH  
DR. WEENA GAULIN,  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
AND DIRECTOR OF  
THE READING/READING  
SPECIALIST PROGRAM



# Distinguished Alumni Awards: Your Chance to Nominate an Inspiring Alum

In over 113 years, there have been some pretty amazing graduates of Marygrove College doing amazing things in our communities and in our world, in their professions and for their college. It's been the last 16 years that we've formally recognized them for their contributions. This year marks the 17th time we have the opportunity to do so. Do you know one of these mighty alums who deserves recognition?

Please use the nomination form below or at [www.marygrove.edu/distinguished-alumni](http://www.marygrove.edu/distinguished-alumni) to tell us about them and submit the form and letters of support by April 30th.

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 17 years. All nominations will remain on file and will be reconsidered for two consecutive years.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards will be presented during Alumni Reunion Weekend in September 2019. Awardees must be available to accept their award in person.

MARYGROVE COLLEGE 2019 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI NOMINATION FORM			
NOMINEE INFORMATION		NOMINATOR INFORMATION	
Name:		Submitted by:	
Year of Graduation:			
Major:			
Street Address:		Street Address:	
City:		City:	
State:	ZIP:	State:	ZIP:
Home Phone (include area code):		Home Phone (include area code):	
Business Phone (include area code):		Business Phone (include area code):	
E-mail Address:		E-mail Address:	
<p><i>If you have any questions or need more information, contact Kari Jenkins, Alumni Relations Director, at (313) 927-1443 or <a href="mailto:krjenkins@marygrove.edu">krjenkins@marygrove.edu</a>.</i></p>		If you are a Marygrove College alumna/us, please tell us your Graduation year and major:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> YES, I have contacted the nominee to inform him/her of this nomination.	

## 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 values that are listed above.

**Supplemental documentation is strongly encouraged**, e.g., vita, newspaper articles. Please return nomination form and letters of support no later than **April 30, 2019**, to:

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

## 31<sup>ST</sup> CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN AUTHOR COMES TO MARYGROVE

# Don't miss Elizabeth Acevedo on Friday, April 26, 2019



2019 CAALS Author  
ELIZABETH ACEVEDO

Marygrove College is proud to be entering the fourth decade of the Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series. From the great Gloria Naylor in 1989 to Pulitzer Prize-winning Colson Whitehead in 2018, Marygrove has brought significant African American authors to the attention of thousands in the Metro Detroit community.

Marygrove is thrilled to introduce Detroiters to the work of Elizabeth Acevedo as our 31st Contemporary American Author. This is a most exciting way to enter a new decade of this signature event in the city of Detroit. Ms. Acevedo is one of today's most talked-about slam and spoken word poets because her work is edgy and thought-provoking.

Ms. Acevedo is the author of the novel *THE POET X*, which won the 2018 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for fiction and of *Beastgirl & Other Origin Myths*, a collection of folkloric poems centered on the experiences of a first-generation American woman. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Performing Arts from The George Washington University and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from the University of Maryland. She has appeared nationally and internationally at venues such as The Lincoln Center, Madison Square Garden, the Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts, South Africa's State Theatre, The Bozar in Brussels, and the National Library of Kosovo.

She is a National Slam Champion and her poems have been published or are forthcoming in *Poetry*, *Puerto Del Sol*, *Callaloo*, *The Notre Dame Review*, and others. Acevedo is a Cave Canem Fellow, CantoMundo Fellow, and participant in the Callaloo Writer's Workshop. On November 14, 2018, Elizabeth Acevedo received the National Book award for Young People's Literature. Slam poetry is a genre in which poets recite original poetry, combining elements of theater, storytelling and other kinds of performance. Ms. Acevedo is the first spoken word artist and slam poet in the Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series.

This series at Marygrove College is an annual event bringing a nationally-known author to our campus for a public lecture and seminar with students. It began when the late Frederick P. Currier, a former Marygrove College trustee, attended a reception on campus and remarked that he would like to bring a national writer to Marygrove for a weekend. Mr. Currier's start-up check soon followed his suggestion, and in 1989 nearly 600 guests of the College heard Gloria Naylor inaugurate the series.

Since then, through the generous support of corporate donors, foundations, advertisers, friends, alumni, the Marygrove College Board of Trustees, and the Lillian and Donald Bauder Endowment, we have been able to keep the Series free and accessible to the entire metropolitan Detroit community. To date, nearly 8,500 people have joined us at the Friday night public reading to hear outstanding writers share their work.

### THE BAUDER CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN AUTHORS LECTURE

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019 • MADAME CADILLAC HALL • LECTURE BEGINS AT 8 P.M. FOLLOWED BY RECEPTION AND BOOK SIGNING

*This event is free and open to the public – save the date on your calendar and bring your friends!*



# In Memoriam

Mrs. Mary Sweeney Oldani '35  
Mrs. Stella Marie Klein Boyle '41  
Ms. Mae Barko Foley '45  
Mrs. Mary Donnelly Birkam '47  
Mrs. Eileen Fitzgerald Mulroy '47  
Mrs. Elizabeth Cline Brines '49  
Mrs. Maylou Babcock Cross-Williams '49  
Mrs. Phyllis Wozniak Westphall '49  
Mrs. Marilynne Finster Meyer '52  
Sister Theresa Milne, IHM '53  
Ms. Dorothy Schoell '53  
Mrs. Laura Johnson Smith '56  
Sister Anne Durack, IHM '57  
Sister Ann Aseltyne, IHM '58  
Mrs. Elaine White Coburn '59  
Mrs. Martha Krupp Kimball '59  
Sister Nadine Peloso, OSSR '59  
Sister Catherine Broughton, IHM '60  
Mrs. Anita Petroschus Hallas '61  
Miss Nancy Ann Warner '63

Ms. Dee Daigler Schmitt '67  
Miss Gail Briskey '69  
Mrs. Mary Jo Sawkins Swanson '70  
Sister Mary Flynn, CSA '73  
Sister Barbara Miskelly, CSA '74  
Sister Mary Hornung, CSA '75  
Ms. Debra Ashburn Crosslin '90  
Ms. Victoria Gatewood '02  
Mr. John DeBarbieri '09  
Sister Teresita Marie Nazario, IHM  
(*graduation year unknown*)

---

**DAUGHTER OF:**

Mrs. Carole Metro Peterlin '66

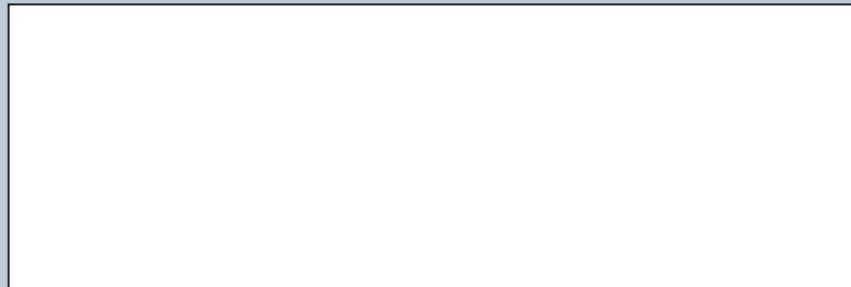
**HUSBAND OF:**

Mrs. Catherine Byron Bernhold '70  
Mrs. Doris Kraft Fischer '61  
Mrs. Victoria Beste Lane '51  
Mrs. Jean Petrie Rose '50  
Mrs. Dolores Awood Vanlerberghe '62

**SISTER OF:**

Mrs. Elaine Baraga Vacha '66

You remain in our hearts. **ALWAYS.**



# GOT NEWS?

Have you moved, changed your phone number or e-mail address, or do you have new and exciting updates to share with us? Simply fill out the form below, scan it and e-mail it to [towertimes@marygrove.edu](mailto:towertimes@marygrove.edu) or cut it out and mail it to the Marygrove College, Division of Institutional Advancement, 8425 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48221.

## YES, I'VE GOT NEWS!

NAME:		CLASS OF:
NEW NAME:		
MARITAL STATUS CHANGE:		
NEW ADDRESS:		
NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:		
NEW HOME PHONE NUMBER:	NEW CELL NUMBER:	
NEW PROFESSIONAL TITLE OR OCCUPATION:		
NEW CREDENTIALS:		
OTHER NEWS (AWARDS, BIRTHS, DEATHS, ETC.):		

## WE'VE GOT GREAT NEWS ABOUT OUR MARYGROVE ALUMNI!

**Alumna from the Class of '08 and Michigan State Representative Leslie Love (D-Detroit)** was appointed to serve on the House Appropriations Committee as well as Appropriations Subcommittees on Health and Human Services and Transportation. Love was also appointed as the Democratic vice chair of the Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee (JCOS).

**Alumna Renée Ahee '72** was recently named president of the board of the National American Arab Nurses Association and elected to the board of Volunteers of America Michigan.

Congratulations to Marygrove **President Emerita Dr. Glenda Price** who was named one of the 2019 Distinguished Warriors by the Urban League of Detroit and Southeastern Michigan.