

THE Eagle

SPRING 2019 Vol. 30 Issue 1

East Catholic High School
Alumni Magazine



East Catholic Boys Basketball Team Celebrate Their D1 State Championship Win



SERVICE:
Five Seniors
Spread God's Love

SPECIAL REPORT:
Annual Report
2017-2018

ALUMNI NEWS:
Bridget Oei '14
Miss CT

ON CAMPUS:
ECHS Convocation
2018



EAST CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

Eagles Continue to Soar

- ◆ Our graduating seniors receive an average of nearly \$14 million each year in grants and scholarships.
- ◆ We offer dual-enrollment courses with UConn to earn high school and college credits.
- ◆ Top 20% SAT Scores: EBWR-700; M-738

Experience East!

Do you know someone who is looking for a great high school? Tell them about East Catholic. We offer students the opportunity to partake in our “Eagle for a Day” program to immerse themselves in the culture and environment here on campus. We also offer family tours by appointment.

Want to learn more? You may call Admissions at 860-649-5336 or send an email directly to Ellen Devlin, Director of Admissions; devline@echs.com



AMANDA SCE '20

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Correction: The Fall 2018 Eagle Magazine article on East Catholic's New Security System omitted that the system was installed by DuBaldo Security Systems Inc, locally owned and operated by David DuBaldo '73 and his son, Dominic '03. We are thankful for their guidance with this project and their willingness to go above and beyond expectation to keep our school community safe.



Matt Knowing '20 dunks during the East Catholic Boys Basketball Team's March 16th D1 State Championship win.

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EAST CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Family and Friends,



The first Thursday in June continues to be a special day at East Catholic High School. This year 148 members of the Class of 2019 walked across the altar at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hartford CT to receive their East Catholic High School diploma.

The 55th graduating class continues to represent the best in consistently successful Catholic education: high achieving academics, participation in high level athletics, personal engagement in the fine arts, and at our core a faith experience of engaging with the living Christ. East Catholic graduates are transformed during their time at East to view the world through the lens of the gospel message. They leave Manchester with high self-esteem, high expectations, and a deep, grounded commitment to personal responsibility and healthy, productive living.

Sister Peggy Evans, SND was in charge of the graduation program as she has been for many years. Sr. Peggy celebrated 50 years at East Catholic this year and her service was recognized at a gala celebration in April when, in recognition of her dedication to East, the guidance department was named after her. The charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur is embedded to this day in the fabric of East Catholic, especially their belief that education is the best way to end poverty. In fact, our French students are planning an exchange program trip next year with the founding house of the order, which is still located in Belgium.

Our new Director of Campus Ministry, Patrick McLaughlin unveiled some very creative programming this year including Agape Latte, along with reenergizing the Peer Ministry program. The Religion department continued the call to be good shepherds of God's creation with a dedication to the Laudato Se conservation program. East had the unique experience of hosting two bishops during one week in February, combining a visit from Bishop Peter Rosazza and a Mass celebrated by our newest Bishop, Juan Miguel Betancourt.

Academically, to our Latin program now in its third year, we added another section as it continues to attract students. Our graduates were accepted into an impressive number of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the nation including Boston College, Fordham University, University of California-San Diego, Vanderbilt University, and University of Connecticut. The robotic team continues to excel in competitions.

Summer facility enhancements include the addition of energy efficient lights in the gymnasiums and a new bus for the athletic department. The summer program at East is adding dance classes and musical theater and dance programs for grades 5-8 students.



The athletic program completed a stellar winter season with both hockey teams playing in the state tournaments, the girls' basketball team reaching the quarterfinals of the state tournament, and Jacob Marselli, a junior, winning the state wrestling title in his weight class. The winter season was capped off by the boys' basketball team winning the division 1 state championship for the second time in four years. In the spring, the boys' golf team brought home a state championship, and other teams and individuals played deep into their respective tournaments.

Fine Arts continued with their tradition of excellence in the East regional competition, topped off by a stunningly excellent performance of "Mary Poppins".

This year the school board, with participation from administration, faculty, staff, students and parents, began the work of creating a strategic plan for 2020-2023. This plan will help to build a broad financial foundation for East so that the school may take a long view of its business, especially with regard to academic programs and capital expenditures. The "Rising to New Heights" capital campaign, which funded construction of the math, science and technology wing officially came to a close.

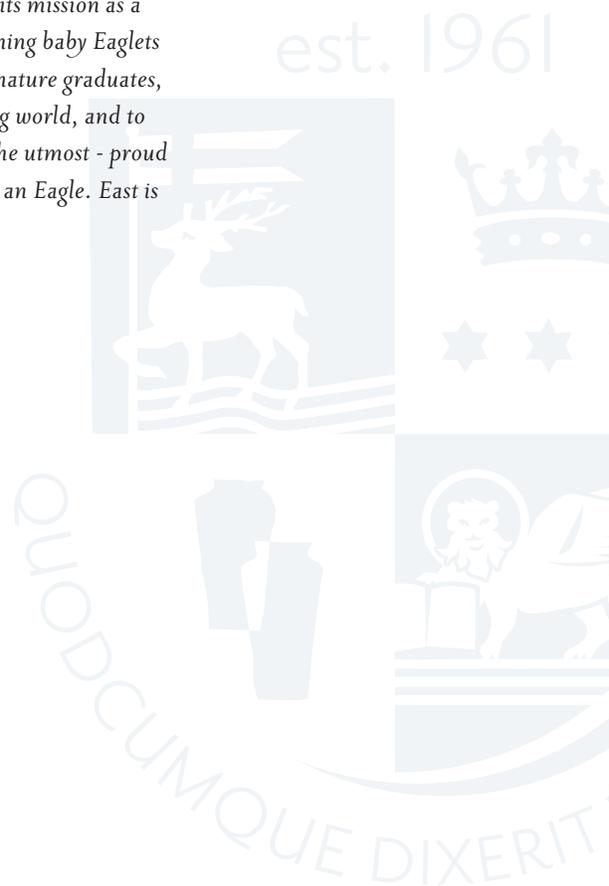


East Catholic continues to fulfill its mission as a college preparatory school transforming baby Eaglets into proud, confident, faith-filled, mature graduates, ready to take flight into a challenging world, and to develop their God-given talents to the utmost - proud to recall that Once an Eagle, always an Eagle. East is best!

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Maynard

Thomas E. Maynard
Head of School



National Merit Scholars

East Catholic High School in Manchester, CT is pleased to announce that Irene Soteriou and Paige Plucker have been recognized as a Semifinalist and Commended Student respectively in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Achievement from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, has been presented to each of these scholastically talented seniors.

Irene Soteriou has been named a Semifinalist in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Irene's academic achievement on the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) allows her to join a nationwide pool representing less than 1% of high school seniors including the highest scoring entrants in each state. Approximately

16,000 National Merit Semifinalists will have an opportunity to continue in the competition for 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth over \$31 million to be awarded this spring.

Paige Plucker has been named a Commended Student in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2019 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2019 competition by taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Irene is a four-year member of East Catholic's Student Government Executive Board. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, Mock Trial and the Debate Club. Irene founded and is co-president of East Catholic's Club Med dedicated to exploring the field of medicine. She is a three-year participant in Cross Country and has been awarded numerous awards for her academic achievements at East Catholic. Outside of school, Irene is a volunteer at the Glastonbury Health Care Center and is an assistant instructor at Sunday Greek School at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in New Britain. Irene will attend UConn next fall.

Paige is East Catholic's All-School Secretary. She is a member of the National Honor Society and serves as the school's President. Paige contributes to ECLAT, East Catholic's Literary Magazine, and is a frequent speaker at school assemblies and events. She has taken flute lessons for many years and is a member of East Catholic's Liturgical Choir. Paige is a STRETCH Service Leader (East Catholic's community service program), and she volunteers at Foodshare in Hartford, CT. Paige will attend Georgetown next fall.



In the photo from left to right: ECHS National Merit Commended Student Paige Plucker, Head of School Tom Maynard, and National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist Irene Soteriou



Nazareth Farm

Over February Break, Campus Ministry Director Patrick McLaughlin and Spanish Teacher Laura Marcucio led an annual service retreat to Nazareth Farm, a non-profit organization in West Virginia whose mission focuses on simple living and service to its local community through home repair. Our student volunteers were: seniors Izzy Amata, Kayley Hallisey, and Tess Penders; juniors Catherine Cannamela, Julia Cannamela, Lindsay Skinner, and Katie Splain; sophomores Lizzie Adams and Maeve Horan-Portelance; and freshman MJ Kirsche. East Catholic students were joined by volunteers from Our Lady of Mercy High School in Rochester, NY, and Academy of the Holy Angels in Demarest, NJ. Throughout the week, students and their chaperones worked hands-on with the people of rural West Virginia doing home repair projects, including porch construction, interior insulation, roof repair, and more.



March for Life

In January, members of the East Catholic community attended the national March for Life pilgrimage held in Washington D.C.

Pictured L-R: Victoria Accorsi '20; Amber Grzybowski '20; Patrick McLaughlin, Director of Campus Ministry; Mary Noryk, math teacher; Alayna Capen '21; Thomas E. Maynard, Head of School; Father Carlos, Chaplain



East Catholic High School Announces Superintendent's Summa Scholars for 2019!

Seven East Catholic High School Seniors have been named as Summa Scholars for 2019 and were presented with medals to acknowledge this success at the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, CT. Each scholar has earned a place in the top 5% of his/her graduating class, based on cumulative grade point average (GPA) from freshman year to the close of the first semester senior year. Students were allowed to bring with them a teacher who has greatly influenced them during their time at East Catholic.



In the photo from left to right are: Berk Dayanier from Tolland; Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. Michael Griffin; Paige Plucker from Glastonbury; English Teacher, Lisa Putnam Kirsche '86; Social Studies Teacher, Ann Marie Ward; Amy Milewski from Newington; English Teacher, Jenna Taylor '09; Irene Soteriou from Middletown; Sarah Ibrahim from Coventry; Math Teacher, Sarah Thiery Poirier '89; Qingqing-Angel Gong from Manchester; Science Teacher, Lesa Milas; Justine Canna from Tolland; East Catholic High School Head of School, Thomas Maynard

East Catholic High School Names Archbishop Henry J. O'Brien Scholars for 2019



East Catholic High School has announced the Archbishop Henry J. O'Brien Scholars for 2019. This is the highest honor a graduating senior can receive from the school.

This recognition is unique to East Catholic High School. The Reverend Charles E. Shaw, East Catholic's first principal, instituted the O'Brien Scholars which began a tradition of honoring a group of top graduates rather than only one or two. The O'Brien Scholars represent the highest in academic achievement and exemplify outstanding qualities of leadership and integrity. Fr. Shaw chose the name to honor the Hartford Archbishop who established East Catholic High School in 1961.

Congratulations to the 2019 Archbishop Henry J. O'Brien Scholars who are pictured above with East Catholic Head of School, Thomas Maynard. Pictured L-R: Joseph Reilly; Qingqing - Angel Gong; Zetian - Eudora Wang; Justine Canna; Irene Soteriou; Amy Milewski; Isabella Amata; Paige Plucker; Sarah Ibrahim; Rebecca Villanueva; Berk Dayanir; Not pictured is Michelle Dinh.



Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

Congratulations to seniors Katherine O'Brien and Isabella Amata on placing in the top 3 for the Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship essay contest! The theme for the essay was "How does your family keep its Catholic Faith in Action?".

Pictured L-R: Thomas E. Maynard, Head of School; Isabella Amata '19; Katherine O'Brien '19, and Ann Marie Shattuck, East Catholic Religion Teacher

Sr. Peggy Evans, SNDdeN, Honored for 50 Years of Service to ECHS

For her 50 years of service and dedication to generations of students and families of East Catholic High School, Sr. Peggy Evans, SNDdeN was honored on April 6, 2019 with a Mass and Reception at the school. We are pleased to establish The Sister Peggy Evans, SNDdeN Endowment at East Catholic to provide tuition assistance to deserving students. The fund will also support faculty and staff development and the Jubilee Fund within the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur.



ECHS Seniors Travel the World Sharing GOD'S LOVE

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCHÉ '86

Five ECHS seniors completed three different service trips over the past year.



Liz Machon '19 and
Tess Penders '19



First, Tess Penders '19 and Liz Machon '19 travelled to the Dominican Republic from July 17-26, 2018 with Global Leadership Adventures. As Tess explained, this service organization "not only allowed us to directly serve the people of the Dominican Republic, but allowed us to create lasting change within ourselves." Liz stated that upon arrival, they felt "an immediate sense of good vibes," and experienced "a genuine love for being there for the chance to do good." On the trip, both young women helped local masons mix cement and plaster the walls of a local family's home, planted trees to combat deforestation, and assisted with the construction of a recycling facility for a nearby Haitian community. Each task, Tess explained, focused on "implementing sustainable solutions," and at the conclusion of the trip the students created a capstone project as well. Liz reported the trip "ended up affecting me long-term," as she and Tess recognized how, by serving the communities of La Grua and El Caño Dulce, they transformed their own world view.



Alexia Weir '19



Amelia
Martin '19



Liz Machon '19

Amelia
Martin '19



Next, Alexia Weir '19 and Amelia Martin '19 travelled to les Cayes, Haiti to support the HELO organization, founded by Pastor Jean Phares Beaucejour and Lexi's aunt Elisabeth Kennedy. This trip, Lexi's second and Amelia's first to les Cayes, took place from December 27, 2018-January 5, 2019, bringing the ECHS seniors together with villagers and children at a local orphanage and school. Amelia felt drawn to the trip because "I like travelling and I went to Nazareth Farm [a week-long service trip in West Virginia] before, so I was excited to go." Lexi was excited to renew "the relationships I made with all the kids" she met last year, and to bring goodie bags for the children as she had done before. This year, as Amelia and Lexi travelled to a local waterfall and beach, they witnessed the devastating effects of poverty and pollution, which moved them. They also delivered clothes, diapers and stuffed animals to a local hospital, and attended two church services. On their last day, they helped build a foundation for a house, carrying heavy rocks and deepening their admiration for the local people. Both young women appreciated the chance to play with the children and connect with the villagers who cope with great challenges.

Danielle Burns '19



In addition, Danielle Burns '19 travelled with her family over February break to the village of Iganga in Uganda, though as a Make-A-Wish Foundation wish recipient, Danielle began this journey long before 2019. First, "I have a vivid memory of being six or seven and telling my Mom, 'When I grow up, I'm going to pack a suitcase of water bottles and fly to Africa' so people could have clean water," she recalled. This conversation came before her diagnosis of stage 2 Hodgkin's Lymphoma in the fall of her junior year, before her hard-won remission, before her choice to use her Make-A-Wish opportunity to fulfill her goal "to build a well in Africa." Working with representatives from Make-A-Wish, as well as Uganda Farmers, Inc., Danielle used part of her wish to build a well that benefits a primary school with 2,000 students and a high school with 250 students in Iganga. Before travelling to Uganda, Danielle raised \$14,000 for the project, so much funding that the well was also equipped to serve an Iganga orphanage. Danielle and her family spent one day at the orphanage and one day at the school sites, attending a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially mark the successful build of the Iganga well. Not only generous but modest, Danielle said, "I genuinely don't want it to seem like, 'Oh, look at me, I did this great thing.'" Yet, undeniably, she has, in fact, done a great thing by using her wish to help so many others in such a lasting way: "Make-A-Wish gave me resources and contacts that I wouldn't otherwise have. I realized I had what I needed to make this happen, and it felt natural to use my wish this way."





Three East Catholic Students Earn Rank of Eagle Scout

East Catholic is proud to recognize three students who have attained the rank of Eagle Scout. **Andrew Parisi '20**, **Jacob Miller '20** and **Josh Duvall '19** each achieved the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America, an honor only 4% of Boys Scouts earn.

Andrew Parisi, a member of Ellington Troop 96, earned his Eagle Scout rank in June of 2018. For his Eagle Scout project, he created a handicapped accessible youth garden at the Batz property in Ellington. Specifically, he made four raised flower beds and one that was unraised, with wood chips all around for the walking path. From start to finish, he worked on the project for four months.

Jacob Miller, a member of Enfield Troop 818, earned his Eagle Scout rank in December of 2018. For his Eagle Scout project, he created an American Disabilities Act compliant ramp for a house owned by MARC, Inc., a non-profit organization that serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Jacob started the design process in May 2018 and the build process in June 2018, and he led volunteers throughout the project.

Josh Duvall, a member of Center Congregational Church [Manchester] Troop 25, earned his Eagle Scout rank in February of 2019. For his Eagle Scout project, he designed and built three benches with accompanying floral arrangements and planter boxes to commemorate Robertson Elementary School in Manchester. The project was completed in July and August of 2018, and Josh completed the design, build, supervision of volunteers and fundraising.



Andrew Parisi '20 with former ECHS Athletic Director Mike Mooney



Jacob Miller '20



Josh Duvall '19

Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) High School Outstanding Arts Awards Banquet Honors ECHS Seniors



Angel Gong '19 and Victoria Zacharski '19 were two of 286 top Connecticut seniors who excel in the arts who were honored at the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) High School Outstanding Arts Awards Banquet held on April 2nd at the Aqua Turf in Southington. The CAS Outstanding Arts Awards Banquet annually recognizes two seniors in each member high school for their outstanding ability in the performing or visual arts.

Following their successful years at East Catholic, four graduating seniors have plans to continue their participation in the performing arts



Victoria Zacharski
Tisch School of the Arts at NYU
Majoring in Musical Theater



Jack MacDonald
Hartt School of Music
Majoring in Trumpet Performance



David Lundy
University of Vermont
Majoring in Jazz Studies



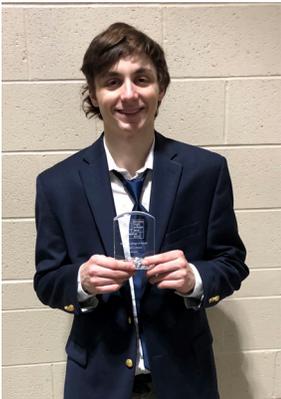
Anya Kriak
Central Connecticut State University
Vocal Major



Artwork by Angel Gong



Jack MacDonald '19



David Lundy '19



Seth Wilfinger '21

East Catholic High School Competes in the Berklee College of Music High School Jazz Festival in Boston

East Catholic Jazz East Big Band was awarded tenth place in the 51st Berklee College of Music High School Jazz Festival in Boston on January 26, 2019. Jazz East Combo 1 and Stage Band also participated in the festival which is the largest high school jazz festival hosted annually in the

United States featuring over 200 high school jazz ensembles. In addition to the recognition of Jazz East Big Band, several individuals received accolades: Jack MacDonald '19, David Lundy '19, and Seth Wilfinger '21 received outstanding performance awards.



Jazz East Big Band

First row left to right: Kael Bailey '22, Jason Wellings, Jr. '22, Julia Cannamella '20, Amy Milewski '19, Catherine Cannamella '20, Johanna Datta '21, Jessica Datta '19, Carol Li '19, Christine Duah '21

Second row left to right: Nathaniel Protulis '20, Timothy Splain '19, Robert Costello '20, Jason Cressotti '21, Jaeden Morningstar '21, Jack MacDonald '19, Michael Chomick '21, Andrew Ferruolo '20, John Paul Oei '21, Maeve Horan-Portelance '21, Caeden Bailey '20, David Lundy '19



Stage East Drama Production: *Our Town*

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCHKE '86



“Does anyone ever realize life while they live it?—every, every minute?” asks Emily Webb Gibbs in the third act of Thornton Wilder’s *Our Town*. The Stage Manager, Emily’s guide in this moment, answers, “No,” before clarifying, “The saints and poets maybe. They do some.” Thanks to the Stage East Players and their poignant production, the audience members who attended on October 19th and 20th were invited to “realize life while they live it” in more depth as well. Steered by the clear vision and expertise of new Stage East Director Jillian Fiorentino and Assistant Director Nadine Huertas, the cast brought new life to the characters in this iconic play, and powerful insights to those in attendance.

Such insights are facilitated in the play by the Stage Manager, who interacts directly with the audience as she narrates details about fictional Grover’s Corners, NH, and its citizens. As the Stage East production opened, a spotlight illuminated junior Jenny Kirsche, who commanded her Stage Manager role from her initial walk down the aisle to the final scene, leading the audience through

an on-screen visual tour of the town, making multiple introductions to local characters, and ultimately revealing the wisdom inherent in the play’s themes. Ms. Fiorentino’s knack for exquisite casting extended throughout the production, as seen in junior Jenna Ptachcinski’s lovely turn as Emily Webb Gibbs, sophomore Michael Chomick’s charismatic performance as George Gibbs, senior Kaitlin Brosnan’s convincing portrayal of Mrs. Gibbs, and other fine performances. Often actors vivified their characters fully in just a few moments, including juniors Natalie Vargas and Jack Sargent and freshman Gillian Millin, all of whom played multiple roles. The first two acts, focusing on “Daily Life” and “Love and Marriage,” highlighted the performers’ abilities to capture the spirit of an ordinary town and its people, where the final act pulled the audience into the common experiences of loss and grief. As performers stood motionless on boxes to portray graveyard spirits, the Stage Manager helped Emily, and perhaps the audience, navigate George’s pain and her own loss of innocence, each actor’s

careful delivery preserving the nostalgic tenderness of the closing scenes.

In a play driven by its characters, Ms. Fiorentino’s attention to characterization and detail fueled the success of the production. Jenna Ptachcinski stated her appreciation for Ms. Fiorentino’s charge to all actors to “go find your character,” both on and offstage; “having to live the part” helped her convey Emily’s emotional range. Michael Chomick discovered relevant parallels: “When I’m really happy I’m living in the moment; George is like that” as well. Senior River Guzzi, excellent as Mrs. Soames, noted the “smooth process from our read-through to our performance.” Not surprisingly, Ms. Fiorentino felt “very excited and very lucky” to direct the production; in 12 years, “I’ve never had young people this talented as a core cast.” She also praised the valuable contributions of teachers Patrick McLaughlin and Sarah Thiery Poirier ’89, senior Caitlin Barry and all students and families who made *Our Town* our own excellent show.



ECHS Convocation 2018

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCHKE '86

As any English teacher knows, the meaning of a text resonates all the more powerfully with a second read. When new readers share their insights with those who have already read the same book, all readers gain from it. With this in mind, the ECHS English department selected *Left to Tell* by Immaculee Ilibagiza for our 2018 One Book One Community text. For some of us, it was our second read, as we chose this inspirational memoir about forgiveness in the wake of genocide for our first ECHS One Book One Community as well. We came together with our first-time readers on September 7th, our Convocation, to concentrate on “the rewards of reading, of reading a book that matters, and reading together, which always matters,” as English department co-chair Lisa Putnam Kirsche '86 noted in her welcoming remarks.

In her memoir, Immaculee Ilibagiza recounts the horrors of the 1994 Rwandan genocide she survived, but more potently, she emphasizes the power of her faith, both during the crisis and afterwards, which gave her the grace to forgive even the killers of her family. Given the author’s focus on the redemptive force of faith, the English department was delighted to work with the Campus Ministry department this year to plan and present the day’s events. English department co-chair Earlene Regan stated that *Left to Tell* was

“especially relevant” for our school’s mission and culture, and director of Campus Ministry Patrick McLaughlin said, “Immaculee Ilibagiza prayerfully and intentionally exploring her struggle” gives our students “an example of how they can face their own stresses” through the lens of faith.

With 26 Peer Ministers and other students invited by the English department to speak, many students contributed to the day’s success. After all students reflected on *Left to Tell* in writing during homeroom, the community gathered in the auditorium for an opening assembly. Once Mr. McLaughlin opened with prayer and Ms. Kirsche and Head of School Thomas Maynard shared opening reflections, the Peer Ministers took the stage, introducing themselves and offering brief prayers that tied thematically to Immaculee’s experiences. Next, everyone watched a video on the Rwandan genocide that provided additional context for

Immaculee’s story. After a short break, senior Mahi Hosein, juniors Catherine and Julia Cannamela and sophomore Maeve Horan-Portelance shared their own reflections in thoughtful speeches. Next, ECHS Math and Science teacher Laura Hicks, whose daughter has a personal connection to Immaculee, gave a poignant testimonial about the power of her own faith and how it has served her throughout her life. At this point, students and adults returned to homerooms, where Peer Ministers led discussions and activities that further examined connections between Immaculee’s experiences and our own. The day culminated with a Peer Ministry prayer service for all in the auditorium, led by juniors Raina Baah and Pratham Patel, and seniors Danielle Burns and Colin Luca. The day reinforced how, in Mr. McLaughlin’s words, “Together, we can accomplish great things and overcome great challenges” when we look to our faith to guide us.



Aiden Toomey '21, Colleen Truman '21, Lauren Trymbulak '21, Ethan Utermarck '21



Olivia Fiori '19



Christopher Webster '21

Bridget Oei '14

BY LISA PUTNAM KIRSCHKE '86

In her junior year at East Catholic, Bridget Oei '14 studied Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics in her AP English Language and Composition class, embracing the philosopher's exploration of the virtues that foster "eudaimonia," or "the flourishing of the human spirit." Today, Bridget herself personifies "eudaimonia," and not only because of her First Runner-Up place in the 2019 Miss America Competition. As one teacher wrote in her college letter of recommendation, Bridget "immerses herself in opportunities to give with a joyful heart," one fueled by faith, family and the pursuit of excellence, or "arete," that has marked her many successes.

No wonder, then, that Bridget excelled as a Nutmeg Scholar at the University of Connecticut, graduating in 2018 as an Environmental Science major with a concentration in Chemistry. "I dove right into UCONN," she recalls; "I was so grateful for the scholarship," and "I enjoyed the opportunity and the control to determine my own future, to make the person I was and the person I wanted to be my own decision." While at UCONN, she continued to compete internationally as an Irish step dancer, and at one such competition, a fellow contestant serving as Miss Connecticut 2015 encouraged Bridget to try pageant competition. A college sophomore at the time, Bridget told herself, "I'm just going to sign up," and I did. I choreographed my own dance routine" and began her pageant career.

Just a year later, she won the title of Miss Greater Rockville in 2016, serving a year in that role before winning the Miss Mountain Laurel title for 2017. Next, she entered and won the 2018 Miss Connecticut Competition; over these three years of competition, she won \$17,000 in scholarships from the Miss Connecticut Scholarship Program. As exciting as all aspects of competition have been for her, Bridget especially values the chance to give; "I remember my first conversation with the local executive director for the Miss Greater Rockville competition, who asked me why I wanted to compete. I explained the service aspect intrigued me the most." Her service has brought her to many places, including the Dominican Republic, Lima, Peru, and the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, where she visits once per month in her role as Miss Connecticut. Such trips, she says, have "confirmed my dreams of becoming a physician. I'm so grateful" for the chance to "just to be part of the grace of life, to promote life" as a doctor.

Yet Bridget had one more opportunity to pursue first, one that has brought her an additional \$25,000 to advance her medical career. On September 9th, 2018, she took the national stage in Atlantic City, NJ with her "friends in every single state" to compete for the 2019 Miss America title. As viewers enjoyed her live step dancing routine, they also read the onscreen announcement that she developed a tracheal implant fueled by renewable energy to power pacemakers. As viewers listened to her proposed invention, an app



that clarifies symptoms of stroke and helps users determine if medical intervention is needed in real time, they also heard her praise women as "powerful sources of creativity" and pledge to "ignite curiosity, encouraging expressive exploration of the world" were she to become Miss America 2019. Finally, they witnessed Bridget's most gracious acceptance of the First Runner-Up title, a display of her many personal strengths, a preview of what she will bring with her to medical school in the fall of 2019. Not every viewer knew Bridget in high school, of course, yet for those of us who did, the culmination of her pageant success was predictable, delightful and completely deserved.



ALUMNI NEWS

1969



EJ Wilson '19 and his grandmother Claire Campbell '69 at ECHS Grandparents Day on March 14.

1981



Nick Stamboulis visiting Ann Marie Ward's Honors Economics class.

1970



John Filloramo '70, Left and Ken Senerth '70 Right take in the sights from the cliffs of Kilkee Golf Course, County Clare, Ireland. Photo by Jeff Zitelman, husband of Carol O'Toole, '72. Absent from photo, Peg O'Toole Fillarmo '70, who could be found surfing on the beaches of Lahinch, County Clare.

1985

KATHY EVANS MONTESI '85 shared a Christmas photo with family who are East Alumni. They celebrated Christmas at her sister Patty, and brother-in-law, Chris Murphy's home!



From left to right: Mary Evans Christian '81; Sue Evans Hanly '82; Kathy Evans Montesi '85; Mike Montesi '86; Patty Evans Murphy '87; Bill Evans '90; Laura Murphy '09; Joe Murphy '15; Bailie Evans '17; Dan Evans '18 (Missing from picture: Mike Evans '80; Ellen Evans Lessard '83)

1988



Photo left to right – *Warning Shot* Producer Aimee Ng, Actor David Spade, and Producer Spero Stamboulis '88

SPERO STAMBOULIS recently produced the independent film *Warning Shot* which was released in theatres on September 14, 2018. "It's a good movie, and we were very blessed to have an amazing cast," says Spero. *Warning Shot* stars Tony award-winning actress, Tammy Blanchard, alongside the talented Guillermo Díaz of *Scandal*, with David Spade in his first dramatic role, legendary James Earl Jones, and Oscar nominee, Bruce Dern. According to Spero, "It is a contained thriller/drama. The message I wanted to touch the audience with is, it's okay to make mistakes but don't let that one mistake you make be your destiny. My leading lady, Audrey, put her trust in someone, which led her life to a downward spiral. It wasn't until circumstances arose that she stepped out of the victim mode and fought for what she loves."

Spero's original plan following graduation from East Catholic was to pursue a career on Wall Street. Serendipitously he was approached by a producer from MTV while walking on 34th Street in New York, and since then has had a career in acting and now producing.

You can catch *Warning Shot* on iTunes, Google Play, Vudu, Amazon, and Youtube. DVD's are available for purchase at Walmart. For more information regarding *Warning Shot*, please visit www.WarningShotTheMovie.com. Any inquiries for future projects, please email Spero at Spero@SDSpictures.com.

1994



ANN CAREY KEPHART and her husband Bob welcomed baby Alexander in December. They are pictured here as a family with Alexander's big sister Emma.

1996

MOLLY DEVANNEY was honored recently at the 11th annual W.R.A.P. (Women Raising Awareness Philanthropically) Luncheon held on May 3rd at the Hartford Convention Center to benefit Channel 3 Kids Camp. Molly is VP for Public Relations for Highland Park Market. In addition, she serves as Executive Director of Manchester's Rebuilding Together, teaches at Manchester Community College and volunteers for numerous local and national non-profit organizations such as Foodshare, the Manchester Road Race Committee, ECHN, and Channel 3 Kids Camp among others. Molly has been a Hartford Business Journal "40 under 40" honoree and CT Food Association's Next Generation award winner. This event to honor "the work of a woman for notable philanthropic contributions in her field and community" was well deserved!



Jana Tierney, Special Event Manager for Channel 3 Kids Camp, Jane Green, New York Times bestselling author and keynote speaker and Molly Devanney '96



Back Row - Tim Devanney '00, Cathleen Devanney Dyer '03, Tim Devanney Sr. , John Devanney '99
Front Row is Christine Devanney Sheehan '98, Mary Pat Wilke Devanney '74, Molly Devanney '96 and Amanda Devanney Murphy '95

ALUMNI NEWS

2000



BRIAN P. DYER was recently promoted to the rank of sergeant with the Providence, RI Police Department. Dyer was one of 12 officers who were promoted February 27 by Providence Mayor Jorge O. Elorza during a ceremony at Providence City Hall.

Dyer joined the Providence Police Department as a patrolman in 2007. He served as an officer in the department's patrol and housing divisions before being promoted to detective in 2014. He has been assigned as a detective with the department's Investigative Division since then. Dyer also serves as a special deputy U.S. Marshall with the F.B.I. Exploited Children Task Force.

After graduating from East Catholic, Brian received a Bachelor's degree in sociology from Providence College in 2004 and his Master's degree in criminal justice from Boston University's Metropolitan College in 2013. Brian resides in Warwick, RI with his wife Kaleen and sons James and Luke.

2002

LINDSAY MORTLOCK, DMV has been an emergency veterinarian for nine years, after graduating from Tufts in 2010. She currently lives in Colorado, having moved there with her husband about 2 1/2 years ago. Lindsay has an alpaca farm and a flock of chickens and ducks, in addition to the inside dog and cats. She recently told Lesa Milas, ECHS Science Department, "We love our little farm and Colorado!"



2004

MOLLY MCKENNA is Director of Opportunity, and recruits real estate agents in the greater Austin area. She was named Top Recruiter of 2018 for RE/MAX (Molly is the first time recipient of this award)! Molly's office in Austin, TX had the highest net gain of agents in the country, with 61 agents recruited in 2018. She works specifically for RE/MAX 1, which is the #1 RE/MAX office in Central Texas.

2005

After graduating from East Catholic High School, **CONOR GEARY** earned his degree in Marketing, Management, and Philosophy from Siena College in Loudonville, NY. Upon returning to Connecticut where his family still lives, Conor began working in the hospitality industry, first managing City Steam Brewery and its Brew HaHa Comedy Club and then transitioning to open Ted's Montana Grill on Front Street. When the Yard Goats announced their plans to locate to Hartford, Conor knew he wanted to get involved and began a relationship with the Yard Goats in their promotions department and then moved to the events department where he is now the Director of Event Services.



Conor is the On-Field Host for the Yard Goats, the On-Court Host for UConn Huskies men's and women's basketball (and soon to be football), as well as host at Mohegan Sun Arena for a portion of the AAC Women's Basketball Conference tournament.

In Conor's own words: "I basically keep the crowd riled up...just like I did at East!"

2016



2006

KRISTIN SARGENT CALAMARO graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in Creative Writing and English from Southern New Hampshire University in May of 2017. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Psychology at that same school. Kristin and her boyfriend of 9 years, Brendan Calamaro, were married on November 10, 2018 at South United Methodist Church in Manchester, CT. Kristin's sister, **LAUREN '06**, was her maid of honor.



TOM MALIN '65 cheers on **RYAN GILL** representing Assumption College, at Coastal Carolina Invitational Track Meet in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in March 2019.



2009

JACQUELINE BRASA and **BRENDAN THOMAS** reconnected in 2016 after several years apart at college and living in separate states. They recently announced their engagement! According to Jacqueline, "He told me we were going to the movies, but instead brought me back to East and proposed! ... we couldn't be happier!!" Both Brendan and Jacqueline have deep roots at East Catholic with alumni parents: Jacqueline's father is **KENNETH BRASA '79** and Brendan's mother is **PATRICIA CULLETON THOMAS '74!**

2018



SAMANTHA CLARKE KEENAN married Patrick Keenan of North Smithfield, RI on June 9, 2018 in Hartford, CT. They met at Salve Regina University. Samantha studied Music/Psychology as an undergrad and then received a Master's in Business Management. Samantha now works as a Project Manager at a technology company. She and her husband currently live in Tolland, CT.



HANNAH MITCHELL is attending University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford. She is pursuing a degree in English and possibly teacher certification and a minor in psychology. She made the Dean's List and is loving her time at USJ. Hannah has made many friends, much like the wonderful friendships she has from East. She is very thankful for her time at East which definitely prepared her for college.

Reilly Breaks ECHS Scoring Record

In his first varsity game as a freshman, ECHS Boys Basketball guard Joey Reilly shot 4-for-4 on 3-pointers, an auspicious start for a player who helped the team win the Class L championship that 2015-16 season. Given that extraordinary start, it is most fitting that Reilly became the team's all-time leading scorer on January 11, 2019 in Berlin, breaking the previous record set by Christian Colon '98, who scored 1382 in his ECHS Boys Basketball career. The Eagles won the game that night, defeating Berlin 85-52, with Reilly scoring 19 points total and bringing his own scoring statistic to 1388 points by the end of the game.



As impressive as his scoring is, Reilly also proves to be most admirable in his character. When asked about breaking this record, he stated, "It is an honor to be the all-time scoring leader at East Catholic. So many great players have gone before me, and it is special to hold this title at a school with such a rich basketball tradition. However, I am even more proud of the success that our program has had during my time here." He added, "As much as I am proud of my individual success, I am more focused on winning a fourth consecutive CCC championship, second state championship, and reaching the 100-win mark." However his senior year season plays out, Reilly is sure to continue making the East Catholic community grateful for all he brings to our school – congratulations on becoming the all-time scorer, Joey!



Continuing to College

Here is the list of seniors who will be playing at the next level.

- VINCENT CACCAVALE** will play Division III baseball at Western New England University
- KYLE DARBY** will play Division III baseball at Westfield State University
- ALISON DIPRATO** will play Division III ice hockey at Lebanon Valley College
- HARRISON ECKLUND** will play Division III football at Washington & Jefferson College
- OLIVIA FIORI** will play Division I soccer at Central Connecticut State University
- JAYLIN HUNTER** will play Division I basketball at Old Dominion University
- JACOB MARSELLI** will wrestle at Division II American International College
- JAKE MCDOWELL** will play Division I baseball at Sacred Heart University
- ANTHONY MOZZICATO** will play Division I baseball at Central Connecticut State University
- TAMISHA MYERS** will play Division II basketball at Franklin Pierce University
- HEATH OLIVIERI** will run Division I cross country at Coastal Carolina University
- JAKE TELLERS** will play Division I lacrosse at Quinnipiac University
- NOAH VAIL** will play Division III football at Salve Regina University
- SAM WALCH** will play Division III basketball at Kenyon College
- MACY WILCOX** will play Division I lacrosse at Merrimack College



Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY



Kenyon College



MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Fall/Winter 2018-19 Athletics in Review

FALL OVERVIEW:

- State Runner Up - Boys Cross Country (Class M)
- 4 CIAC All-State Honorees
- 16 CCC All-Conference Honorees
- 100 CCC Academic All-Conference Honorees

CIAC ALL-STATE:

- Girls Soccer - Olivia Fiori '19
- Boys Cross Country - Heath Olivieri '19
- Girls Swimming & Diving - Tess Penders '19, Tahlia Crowley '22

ALL-CONFERENCE:

- Volleyball - Elizabeth Long '20
- Girls Soccer - Olivia Fiori '19
- Boys Soccer - Connor Knowlton '21
- Girls Swimming & Diving - Tess Penders '19, Jenna Swist '20, Alexa Weir '19, Tahlia Crowley '22, Emma Wojnarowski '22
- Football - Matt Byam '19, Noah Vail '19, Jack Barry '21
- Girls Cross Country - Fiona Crowley '20
- Boys Cross Country - Heath Olivieri '19, Andrew Ferruolo '20, Caeden Bailey '20
- Field Hockey - Meghan Croyle '22

CCC ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE (TEAM TOTALS):

Volleyball (14), Boys Cross Country (5), Girls Cross Country (7), Field Hockey (13), Football (8), Boys Soccer (15), Girls Soccer (16), Girls Swimming (11), Cheerleading (11)

WINTER OVERVIEW:

- State Champions - Division I - Boys Basketball
- CHSCA Team of the Year - Boys Basketball
- 5 CIAC All-State Honorees
- 1 CHSGHA All-State Honoree
- 12 CCC All-Conference Honorees
- 2 SCC All-Conference Honorees
- 75 CCC Academic All-Conference Honorees

CIAC ALL-STATE:

- Boys Basketball - Joey Reilly '19, Jaylin Hunter '19, Matt Knowing '20
- Wrestling - Jacob Marselli '19
- Boys Ice Hockey - Rowan Masse '22

CHSGHA ALL-STATE:

- Girls Ice Hockey - Julia Swanson '20

ALL-CCC:

- Boys Basketball - Joey Reilly '19, Jaylin Hunter '19, Matt Knowing '20
- Girls Basketball - Tamisha Myers '19, Lilly Ferguson '22
- Boys Ice Hockey - Sean Fellows '19, Rowan Masse '22
- Indoor Girls Track - Sophie Kisner '20 (Hurdles)
- Wrestling - Jacob Marselli '19, Chris Rivera '20, Noah Vail, '19, Matt Durant '20

ALL-SCC:

- Girls Ice Hockey - Julia Swanson '20
- Girls Hockey - Alison DiPrato '19

CCC ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE (TEAM TOTALS):

Boys Ice Hockey (19), Boys Indoor Track (9), Girls Indoor Track (8), Boys Swimming & Diving (10), Wrestling (3), Boys Basketball (9), Girls Basketball (6), Cheerleading (11)

SCC ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE (TEAM TOTALS)

Girls Ice Hockey (10)

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- The Athletic Department was awarded the Michael's Cup for the 5th time
- Tess Penders - Came in 4th in the State Open Diving Championships
- Tahlia Crowley - Came in 6th in the State Open Swimming Championships for the 100 M Backstroke
- Joey Reilly - Broke the school record for career points in boys basketball; also, named Hartford Courant Boys Basketball Player of the Year
- Jacob Marselli - Class S State Champion for Wrestling (106 lbs)
- Meghan Faulkner - Awarded the NIAAA Scholar Essay Award for top female in the state of CT
- Jaylin Hunter - Named New Haven Register/GameTime CT Boys Basketball Player of the Year
- Coach Luke Reilly - Named USA Today CT HS Coach of the Year

ALUMNI

LISA C. HOLMES '79, sister of Monica Holmes Despina '77 and James Holmes '80; died 3/23/16

DENNIS MCCORMACK '69, father of Michael McCormack '06; brother of Kathleen McCormack '66; died 7/16/18

MARGARET PLEFKA '68, sister of Joan Plefka '68; died 8/30/18

DEBRA TRIGGS OLIVA '72, sister of Susan Triggs Granatek '68 and Kathy Triggs '81; died 8/31/18

DIANE YACAVONE DILLMAN '72; died 9/17/18

RICHARD WOOD '65; died 9/19/18

TERRANCE FARRELL '75, brother of Katherine Farrell Gurtowsky '69, Maureen Farrell Harvey '71, Patrick Farrell '72, Mary Farrell McCabe '77; died 9/22/18

JOHN ASKINTOWICZ III '82; died 10/12/18

MARYLEE HICKEY '70, sister of Jane Hickey Tyler '75; died 10/12/18

ANGELA WOOD FORD '87; died 10/14/18

RONALD HEIM '79; brother of Katherine Heim Berlin '72 and Jeffrey Heim '77 both deceased; died 10/27/18

DIANE TREMBLAY LAWRENCE '65; died 10/28/18

THERESE O'CONNOR '67; died 11/3/18

ROBERT GORMAN '72; brother of Joseph Gorman '89 and John Gorman '81 (deceased); died 11/21/18

DEBRA SHERIDAN OLBRIAS '93; died 12/21/18

BARRY POWLISHEN '86; brother of Mary Jo Powlisken Letsch '89; died 2/3/19

LOUISE PIKE WILCOX '80, sister of Michelle Pike '79; died 2/17/19

THOMAS A. "TOMMY" LANDERS '08, son of Ellen Burns Johndrow '75, Thomas Landers '77 (deceased) and brother of Caitlin Landers '10; died 3/6/19

DEBORAH LEONE DACUS '67; died 3/22/19

JAMES PHILOPENA '77, brother of Cathy Philopena Limansky '71 and Elizabeth Philopena Urbanetti '70; died 4/4/19

JESSE ZIEMAK '16; died 4/5/19

WILLIAM ARCARI '67, brother of Diane Arcari Swain '66; died 4/9/19

LOIS VALADE STEARNS '65, sister of Raymond Valade '67 and Anne Valade '71; died 4/24/19

FACULTY & STAFF

ROBERT RICHARD, former social studies chairperson and teacher, father of Lisa Richard '82 and Mark Richard '84; died 8/11/18

ANNA KREMPL, former librarian; died 1/4/19

JULIAN ANTHONY MILLER, former music teacher; died 4/17/19

FAMILY OF ALUMNI & CURRENT STUDENTS

MARSHALL D. AITKEN, father of Mary Aitken Mitchell '87; grandfather of Hannah Mitchell '18; died 6/28/18

JUNE WOODHOUSE, grandmother of Kylie Heneghan '19; died 7/3/18

FAY GRIDLEY, grandmother of Granger Marsden '09 and Grant Marsden '13; died 7/16/18

TERESA REILLY, grandmother of Joseph Reilly '19; died 7/19/18

ROBERT J. CAFFREY, father of Robert Caffrey '77, Thomas Caffrey '79, Mary Kate Caffrey '80, Beth Caffrey '83 and Peggy Caffrey '86; died 7/31/18

ROBERT MACK, father of Scott Mack '09; died 8/2/18

BEAU THURNAUER, father of Logan Thurnauer '05 and Jaclyn Thurnauer Orlowski '07; died 8/7/18

BARBARA TIERNEY, mother of Thomas Tierney '67, William Tierney '68, Patricia Tierney Murray '70; grandmother of Corrine Tierney '06; died 8/8/18

CARLOS MATTA, grandfather of Antonio Matta '05, Veronica Matta '08 and Catherine Matta '09; died 9/3/18

BURR CARLSON, father of Richard Carlson '74, Gary Carlson '77; grandfather of Thomas Carlson '14, Timothy Carlson '18 and Caroline Carlson '21; died 9/4/18

LORETTA LUPACCHINO, mother of Ann Marie Lupacchino '66, Catherine Lupacchino Yost '68, Anthony Lupacchino '73, Theresa Lupacchino Gustamachio '75, Joan Lupacchino '76, Rita Lupacchino Donovan '77, Chip Lupacchino '80, James Lupacchino '82, Daria Lupacchino '83; died 9/11/18

BRUCE KINEL, father of Timothy Kinel '01 and Lindsey Kinel '05; died 9/16/18

LEONIE PLANTE, mother of Robert Plante '82, William Plante '83; grandmother of James Plante '17; died 9/24/18

CAROL CARLSON, mother of Richard Carlson '74, Gary Carlson '77; grandmother of Thomas Carlson '14, Timothy Carlson '18 and Caroline Carlson '21; died 9/28/18

ISABELLE BUDARZ, mother of Mary Budarz '70, John Budarz '71, Mark Budarz '73; grandmother of Robert Courtney '08; died 9/30/18

LILLIAN LEGIER, mother of Lawrence Legier '68, Patricia Legier Weisbrod '71, John Legier '74, Mareli Legier Marcellus '75 and Robert Legier '77; died 10/12/18

BEVERLY CARVALHO, mother of Danielle Carvalho '05 and Kristina Carvalho '07; died 10/13/18

ANNE OCKERT, grandmother of Jonathan Ockert '14, Amelia Ockert '17 and Benjamin Ockert '18; died 10/13/18

MARY GENOVESI, mother of Maryann Genovesi Pallotta '82, Diane Genovesi-Manning '78, Lynn Genovesi-Lynch '85; died 10/18/18

ANN GROGAN, grandmother of Emily Stobestanovich '09 and Kelsey Stobestanovich '00; died 10/20/18

LUCILLE BELLIZZI, grandmother of Michael Ragazzi '12, Anthony Ragazzi '17 and Christopher Ragazzi '19; died 10/21/18

DANIEL L. BARRY, SR., father of Daniel Barry '92, Melinda Barry '93 and Kimberly Barry Spocogee '94; died 10/24/18

HELEN GALVIN, grandmother of Steven Janecko '97 and Sara Janecko Milone '00; died 10/24/18

BARBARA O'NEIL, mother of Timothy O'Neil '69; grandmother of Allison O'Neil Williams '00; died 10/26/18

GEORGE AGNELLI, SR., father of George Agnelli '84; grandfather of Alexander Agnelli '11, Nicholas Agnelli '13 and Olivia Agnelli '22; died 10/30/18

LOUIS PERLEONI, father of Kathleen Perleoni Weissberg '73, William Perleoni '74 and John Perleoni '76; died 11/5/18

BERTRAM J. PELTIER, grandfather of Alexandra Banks '11; died 11/6/18

DOROTHY HATHAWAY, grandmother of Meghan Hathaway '09; died 11/12/18

JANE F. SKEHAN, mother of Diane Fitzgerald '73, Carol Fitzgerald Scully '74, Mark Fitzgerald '75; step-mother of Mark Skehan '76, Kevin Skehan '78, Kathleen Skehan '81, Timothy Skehan '83; grandmother of Daniel Scully '08; died 11/13/18

MURIEL HOLLIS, mother of Lisa Hollis Mazzoni '84 and Cheryl Hollis Tabellone '85; died 11/24/18

JULIA VERNADAKIS, grandmother of Alexa Vernadakis '11 and Demetri Vernadakis '13; died 11/24/18

PATRICIA RILEY, mother of Theresa Riley '89 and Margaret Riley '90; died 11/25/18

ROSEMARY PTACHCINSKI, mother of Judith Ptachcinski Jorgensen '72, Richard J. Ptachcinski '75, Thomas Ptachcinski '79; grandmother of Tyler Ptachcinski '17 and Jenna Ptachcinski '20; died 12/4/18

ROBERT PFEFFER, father of Kyle Pfeffer '18; died 12/10/18

DONNA PARADISO, mother of Joseph Paradiso '88 and Christopher Paradiso '92; died 12/9/18

JOYCE LAGANA, grandmother of Domenic Burby '17, Blaise Burby '20 and Liam Burby '22; died 12/15/18

CHRISTIAN KOHLER, grandfather of William Heaney '14 and Natalie Heaney '17; died 12/21/18

WILLIAM J. COOKE, father of Deberah Cooke Bowen '71 and Matthew Cooke '74; died 12/28/18

C. PETER "PETE" NICKERSON, father of Stephanie Nickerson '11; died 1/2/19

ELAINE RESTIVO, grandmother of Jenna Taylor '09 and Krysta Taylor '14; died 1/5/19

FLORENCE MISSELWITZ, mother of John Misselwitz '84; died 1/7/19

JO-ELLEN "JODY" JENSEN, mother of Lisa Jensen Marshall '85 and Scott Jensen '87; died 1/12/19

PATRICIA MANASSA, grandmother of Kathleen Hills '10; died 1/18/19

LAURA LONGO, mother of Stephen Longo '71 and grandmother of Cari Salisbury '94 and John Salisbury '97; died 2/2/19

LUCILLE FLYNN, mother of Mary-Pat Flynn Sargent '81 and grandmother of Meghan Fluckiger '04, Thomas Fluckiger '06, Sarah Fluckiger '13, Emily Sargent '15 and John Sargent '20; died 2/8/19

CARMELINA BOTTI, mother of Constance Botti Santariga '66, Bruce Botti '68 and Laura Botti Unterreiner '80; died 2/11/19

LILLIAN DEROSA, grandmother of Tim Sullivan '19; died 2/14/19

PATRICK KEENAN, father of Thomas Keenan '78, Brendan Keenan '80, Patrick Keenan, Jr. '81, Mary Keenan '84 and Eileen Keenan Schweighoffer '87; died 2/18/19

VIRGINIA WALSH, mother of Timothy Walsh '85 and Kevin Walsh '86; died 2/18/19

KEVIN LEGARE, father of Shane Purtill-Legare '03; died 2/20/19

STEPHEN FRANCIS WIERBICKI, JR., infant son of Stephen F. Wierbicki '87; died 2/21/19

RICHARD FLOWER III, father of Erika Flower '88; died 2/22/19

DOROTHY FISH, mother of Dorothyann Fish Chamberlain '86; died 2/26/19

FANNY (FILOMENA) COLLETTI, grandmother of Kristine Colletti Boisoneau '86, Tricia Colletti Weiss '89; died 3/13/19

JACQUELINE ANN NEGRINI; great grandmother of Brianna Raffles '22; died 3/13/19

EDWARD KUCZYNSKI, father of Kenneth Kuczynski '74 and Sharon Kuczynski, Zechiel '79; died 3/28/19

MARY ROTO, mother of Joanne Roto Ramey '73, Anita Roto Horrigan '74, Madelyn Roto Filomeno '76; grandmother of Christopher Scheinberg '01 and Katherine Scheinberg Meyer '02; died 3/31/19

JUDITH KROCHMALNY, mother of Anna Krochmalny Pitney '02 and Michael Krochmalny '05; died 4/30/19

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT of GIVING



Dear ECHS Alumni, Family & Friends,

I am honored to continue to serve East Catholic High School as Chair of the School Board. The continued support of the many generous donors who offer their time, talent and resources to maintain a level of excellence for all the school has to offer is truly amazing and humbling.

Our students continue to be accepted at some of the finest colleges and universities in the country, such as Georgetown, The Citadel, Northeastern, Purdue and Boston University. The sense of community and the academic rigor are still as evident as they were when my sister and I were students. East Catholic was recently re-accredited for ten years by NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges). The School Board is now in the process of creating the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan which will guide our work.

It is exciting to see our students continue to thrive both in and out of the classroom. Academically East Catholic students are recognized for their achievements as Summa Scholars, National Honor Society members, and Henry J. O'Brien Scholars among other accolades. Athletic success is evident on the court as in the case of our Boys Basketball Division 1 State Champions, on the field, the track, in the pool or ice rink among other venues where over 85% of East Catholic students compete as student-athletes.

Seven of our students were recently selected to exhibit artwork at the prestigious annual CAEA (Connecticut Art Education Association) display at the Legislative Office Building, and our music ensembles received accolades at the Berklee Music Festival among other recent competitions. East Catholic students are Eagle Scouts (three are featured in this publication) and leaders and volunteers ... you can read in the previous pages about four of our seniors who have gone above-and-beyond to help others.

The following pages recognize the many alumni, families, friends, businesses, and faculty who have generously supported East Catholic High School. Our students, faculty, and staff are most grateful for this.

Thank you and God Bless!

Lisa Steimer '83
School Board Chair

Total Giving 2016 - 2017
\$820,093

- Special Events— 26%
- Alumni, Parents, Grandparents & Employees—24%
- Business, Foundations & Friends—40%
- Gift in Kind—10%



THE DONOR LEVELS ARE:

Rev. Charles Shaw Society - \$10,000+

Blue & Platinum - \$5,000 - \$9,999

Honorary Founders - \$2,500 - \$4,999

Century - \$1,000 - \$2,499

The Hill - \$500 - \$999

Patrons - \$250 - \$499

Blue & White - \$100 - \$249

Sponsors - \$5 - \$99

The names of donors who give \$500 or more will be listed on the Annual Fund plaque prominently displayed in the main hall at East Catholic High School.

Honor Roll of Donors for 2017 - 2018

The Honor Roll of Donors recognizes those who, through their generous and thoughtful gifts, have helped to strengthen East Catholic High School.

Donors are listed for the period July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018.

CLASS OF 1965

Rev. Charles Shaw Society

Anonymous
Paul & Lee Driscoll Inbody

Honorary Founders

Anonymous
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Century

Anonymous
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Karen Welch

CLASS OF 1967

Honorary Founders

Anonymous
James & Mary Patricia Welch Sullivan

Century

Anonymous

The Hill

Anonymous
John D. LaBelle, Jr.
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Patrons

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Michael A. Adams
Thomas F. Dwyer
Edward & Frances Giard
Gary Morin
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Rick & Kathy Sernoffsky Bottaro
Donna Gemme Brooten
Hank & Theresa Morse Connor
Richard A. Connors
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Thomas Fitzgerald

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William Sullivan
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CLASS OF 1968

The Hill

Anonymous
Honorable Joseph Olcavage

Patrons

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ALUMNI REUNIONS 2018

1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998 and 2008

Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle!

Save the date **October 19, 2019**
Alumni Reunions for classes ending in 9's and 4's

(2014 Thanksgiving Weekend!) Information to follow by mail.
 Contact Heidi Carlson carlsonh@ech.s.com





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EAGLE FALL 2019 CALENDAR

-
- October 19-20 Stage East Drama Production
 - October 19 ECHS Alumni Weekend for Classes of 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, and 2009
 - October 21-25 Spirit Week
 - October 25 ECHS Walkathon at the School
 - October 26 Homecoming
 - November 3 Mass Remembering Deceased Members of our School Community
 - Thanksgiving weekend ECHS Alumni gathering for Class of 2014

For a complete calendar listing including times and locations of events, visit www.echs.com/calendar