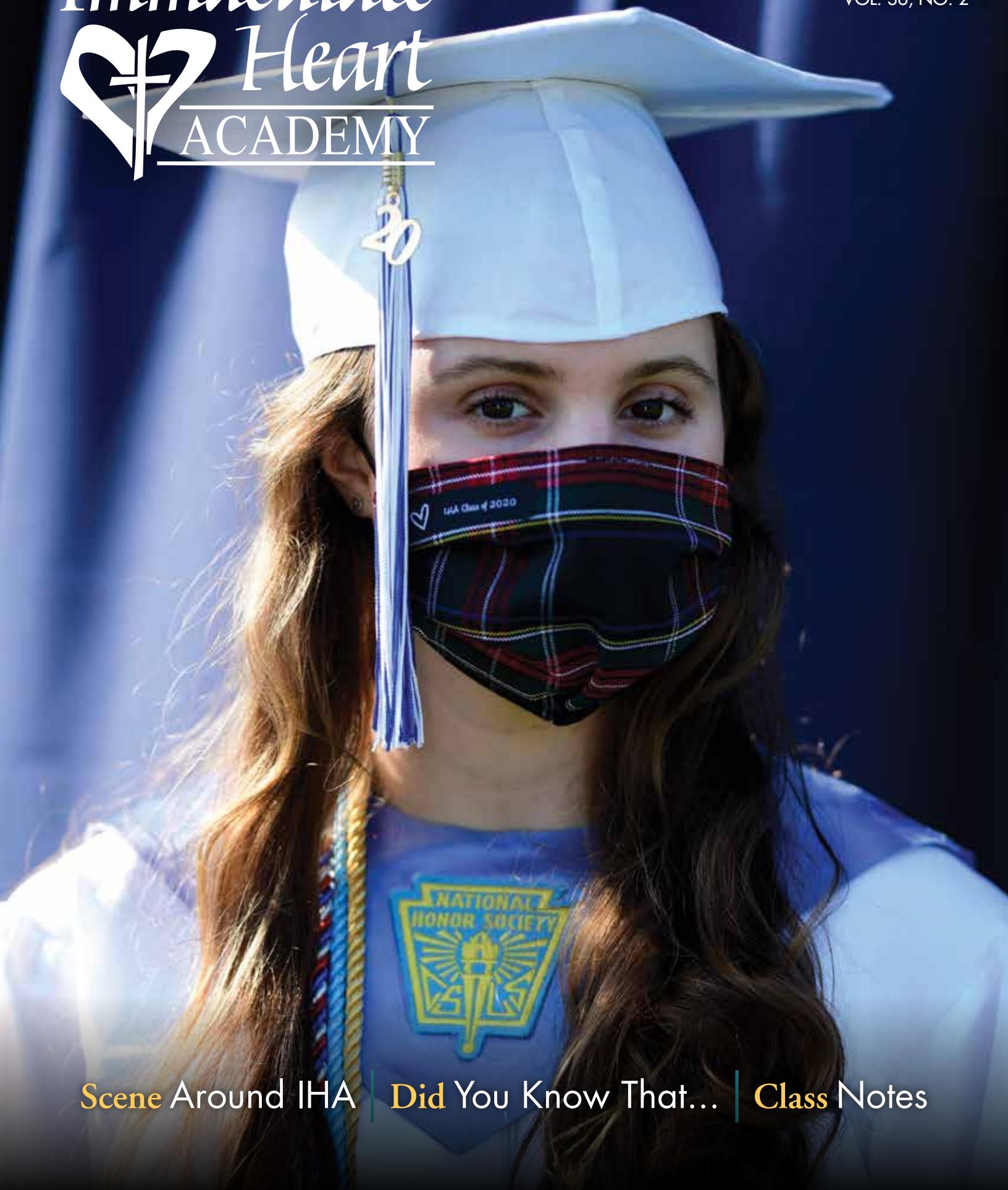


Immaculate Heart ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2020
VOL. 36, NO. 2



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Cover Shot: Immaculate Heart Academy
Class of 2020 Valedictorian, Grace Mendolia'20

Our Mission

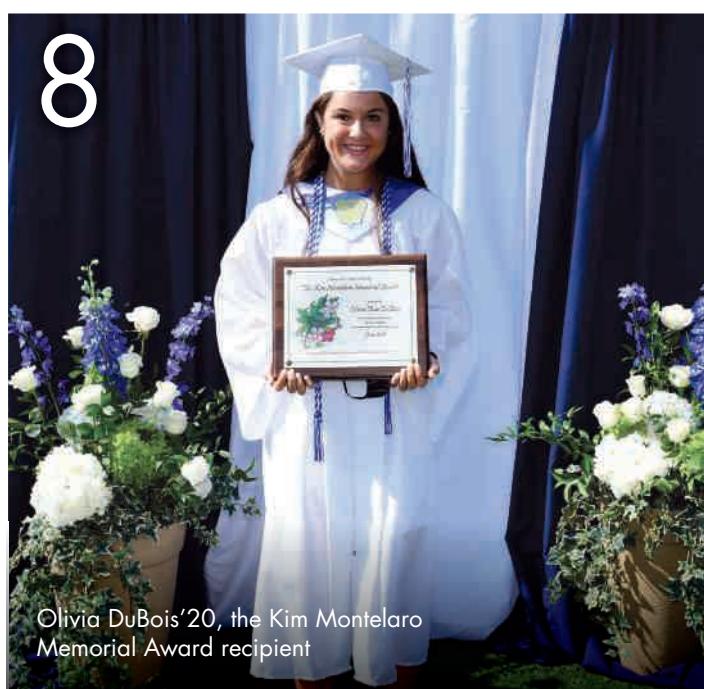
Immaculate Heart Academy is a college preparatory high school in the Archdiocese of Newark which has as its purpose the complete education of young women. By both cultivating the traditional Christian values of the Roman Catholic Church and by upholding exceptional academic standards, IHA offers a unique educational experience for the young women in our community. Immaculate Heart Academy strives to develop every aspect of the individual by educating the mind, nurturing the spirit, and promoting a healthy lifestyle. By instilling in its students a sense of responsibility, confidence, justice, peace, and compassion, Immaculate Heart Academy prepares its students for life throughout the twenty-first century.



Mary Pat Sayre'20, Shoshana Ronen'20,
Jenna Robinson'20, and Bridget Sutton'20 at the
2020 Commencement Ceremony



Dr. Denise Natali'81,
2020 Commencement Speaker



Olivia DuBois'20, the Kim Montelaro
Memorial Award recipient

Katherine Subliski'20 is hand-delivered her cap and gown by Mrs. Terry Skjold P'11, Physical Education Department chairperson.



Immaculate Heart ACADEMY

PRESIDENT Patricia Molloy
PRINCIPAL Jason Schlereth
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Tara Hopfenspirger
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Kasey Regan'97 delivered letters written by alumnae and a box of Krispy Kreme donuts to Loretta Borghi'20 on June 6, 2020.

- 03** President's Corner
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Elizabeth Encke'20 celebrates her fellow big-hearted sisters at the 2020 Service Awards Parade.

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Nicole Gysin'20 receives her diploma from Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal, at the July 25 Commencement.

President's Corner



Dear friends,

Nothing could have prepared us for the challenges we are facing since the pandemic made life, as we knew it, no longer possible. Our daily routine has been upended and the usual support systems that we could count on seemed harder to find.

And yet, you will see in this newsletter, Immaculate Heart Academy has done the thing it does best. As a community, we have *adapted*; we have *refocused* our attention on the essence of what we are about.

What the past few months have made so clear to me is that our young women “get it.” The Class of 2020, especially, has been an inspiration to our entire community. They have accepted the gravity of the current situation and have cooperated with every request we have

made of them. They are strong and have the hope promised by the Lord in Isaiah 40:29-31:

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and the young stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

May God bless you and your families. May He keep you safe and hopeful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Molloy".

Patricia Molloy
President



Jill Pursiano'20, Sophia Ruggier'20, Grace Mendolia'20, Kathryn Stathakis'20, and Meghan McNerney'20 at their Commencement Ceremony



Claire Breslin'20, Olivia Costello'20, Elise Visser'20, and Daniella Smith'20

Class of 2020 Commencement Exercises

Immaculate Heart Academy's Fifty-seventh Annual Commencement Exercises were held on July 25, 2020. Our remarkable young women joined together for a final time with Ms. Patricia Molloy, president; Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal; and Miss Kerry Carroll'04 and Mrs. Alice Rogers, assistant principals, on the field at St. Joseph Regional High School in Montvale. Including the

members of this year's graduating class, ten thousand five hundred twenty-nine young women now carry the title of IHA alumna.

The ceremony began with [Ava Poulin \(Fordham University\)](#), Student Council president, offering a beautiful invocation and memorable welcoming address.

"We can't predict life's challenges, and sometimes we won't be able to resolve them overnight," Ava said to her classmates. "But look at what we've done just in the past six months. We figured out Zoom, face coverings, social distancing; we prayed and had faith; and we are here with our teachers, parents, and peers, together celebrating in our caps and gowns."



Jenna Clover'20 sings the National Anthem at the 2020 Commencement Ceremony.



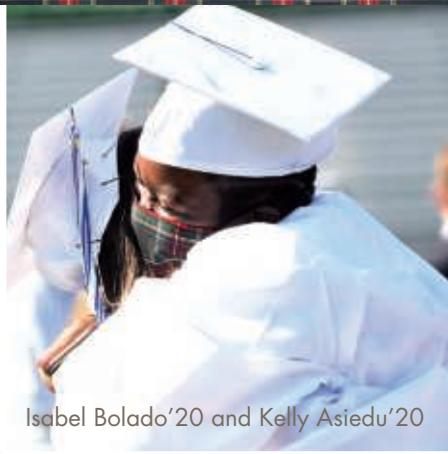
Commencement Speaker, [Dr. Denise Natali, IHA Class of 1981](#), Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, addressed the graduating class with an inspiring message encouraging the graduates to work hard, be tolerant, and be unafraid of making mistakes or failing. "Some of the greatest learning experiences you will have will come from mistakes and failures—more specifically, turning mistakes and failure into learning moments," Dr. Natali said. "Not getting what you planned and hoped for does not mean it cannot happen. It means you may have to try harder, change directions...or it may be a signal to modify your plans. Failure and disappointment build resilience and humility, and allow you to grow as a human being."



Allison Sandt'20 leads her classmates in the IHA Alma Mater to conclude the Commencement Ceremony.



Vanessa Geerlof'20



Isabel Bolado'20 and Kelly Asiedu'20

As diplomas were already distributed in a drive-thru event held on the originally scheduled graduation date of June 7, Mr. Schlereth issued diploma cases to each graduate. A number of special awards were then presented to members of the Class of 2020. Congratulations to this year's IHA Award winner, [Elizabeth Encke \(Sacred Heart University\)](#); the Academic Excellence Award winner, [Jessica O'Neill \(University of Notre Dame\)](#), and the many other award and scholarship recipients recognized this year. See more on pages 8-11.

To end the ceremony, valedictorian, [Grace Mendolia \(Dartmouth College\)](#) delivered a heartfelt farewell address about how IHA prepared her and her classmates for their time apart during COVID-19. She stated that IHA's focus on community, problem solving, and resilience equipped students with the tools they needed to get through the challenging time and for whatever their futures might bring.

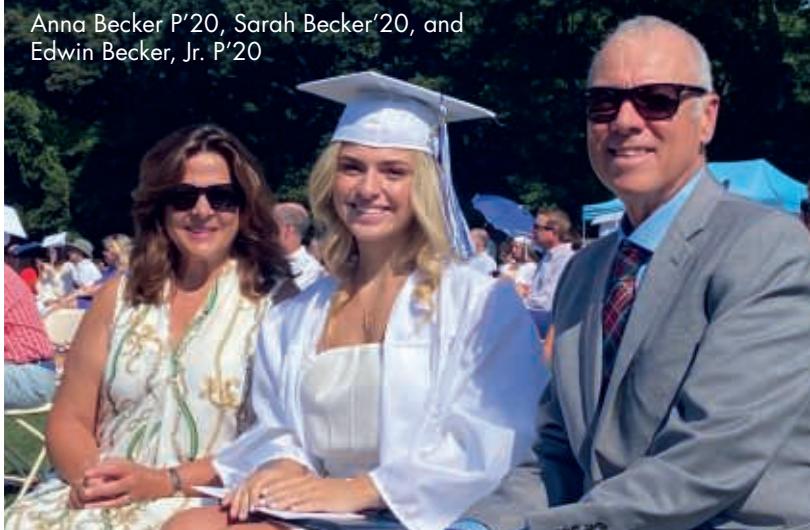
Ava Poulin'20 delivers the Welcoming Address.



Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal



Anna Becker P'20, Sarah Becker'20, and Edwin Becker, Jr. P'20





John Lipari P'20, Ashley Lipari'20, Lauren Lipari'20, and Karen Lipari P'20



Judith Cronin Meaney'65 and her granddaughter, Erin Meaney'20—only the second grandmother/granddaughter pair in the school's history that have both graduated from IHA!

Grace first pointed to our sense of community. "IHA has always been a place of strong community and, ironically, this was most apparent once we could no longer experience it as deeply or richly as we did on-campus. The physical separation made us realize what it meant to be together. I know that, during the quarantine, I was more grateful than ever to go to IHA than any other school around me, because no other school had teachers presenting Service Awards to students at their house, or offering daily prayer on Instagram, or organizing drive-bys from teachers to senior students, or holding Small Christian Community Zoom Prom, or bringing donuts to seniors' houses." Grace said the community "we maybe unconsciously felt in school was lost in some ways, only to be built up in a stronger, more resilient and persistent form."

She then touched on how Immaculate Heart has always been a place of great problem solving. "At IHA, we were subconsciously taught to think on our feet and see what we can do, and that is exactly what we did when the world became challenging," Grace stated. Finally, she touched on IHA being a place of resilience. "IHA was work. It was a fight to put on that kilt some mornings. All-nighters, cramming in the IC during lunch, walking up the stairs from gym to Senior Hall...we knew resilience," Grace remembered. "In quarantine, as the days went on and on and we may have felt more and more lonely, we continually pushed through. We found ways every single day to keep on going. We drove and made socially distant car circles in the IHA parking lot, we went to people's houses on birthdays and beeped until the neighbors got angry. We didn't let the isolation or the sadness win. And that's exactly what an IHA girl does."



Rachel Bell'20 processes to the stage with her classmates.

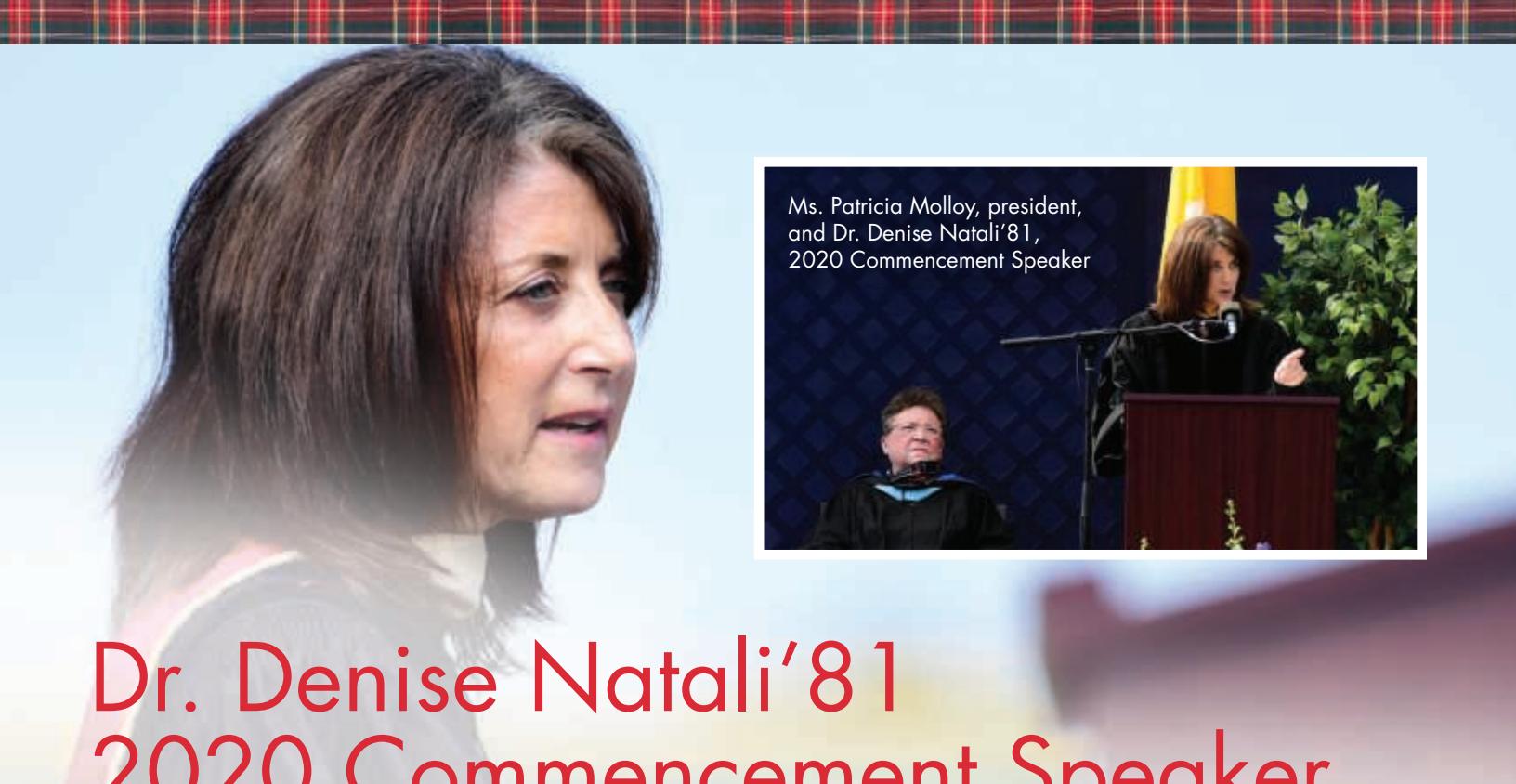
Grace concluded her speech by stressing how she and her fellow graduates are prepared for whatever life throws at them. "We were used to things being hard because we're IHA girls, and, let's be real, we like a challenge," she said. "But that means that no matter what comes, we'll be fine. Stepping up and using the skills we have is what we do. And I have so, so much faith in us. Congratulations, Class of 2020. We really, finally made it."

The one hundred sixty-one graduates received more than **forty-three million dollars** in scholarship awards and 100% are attending four-year colleges and universities. The Class of 2020 will be continuing their education at some of the most esteemed schools in the country, including five of the eight Ivy Leagues—Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Princeton University, and University of Pennsylvania. Other top institutions our seniors are attending include Emory University, Stevens Institute of Technology, University of Notre Dame, UCLA, the United States Coastguard Academy, Northwestern University, University of Richmond, and

more. Two graduates, [Angeline Jacob \(Siena College\)](#) and [Raghavi Patel \(University at Albany SUNY\)](#) will be attending incredibly competitive B.A./M.D. and B.S./M.D. programs. Read more about them on page 29.

Forty-eight graduates in the Class of 2020 are attending Catholic institutions. Seventeen seniors are attending schools in New Jersey and one hundred forty-four students are attending schools out-of-state, with 32% attending schools outside the northeast. The most popular choices this year are Fairfield University with eight attending; Sacred Heart University with six attending; and University of Miami, Fordham University, Rutgers University, and University of Scranton with five each. Eighty-eight percent of this class is attending their first or second-choice colleges.

Read more on pages 12-19 about how we celebrated members of IHA's Class of 2020 throughout their final months of their high school careers. Congratulations to our IHA graduates; you will always have a home at the heart!



Dr. Denise Natali '81 2020 Commencement Speaker

Immaculate Heart Academy was eager to welcome home alumna Dr. Denise Natali, IHA Class of 1981, as the 2020 Commencement Speaker. Dr. Natali holds the impressive title of Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO). But, as she pointed out to the graduates, the path to her current role was “unconventional, non-linear, and full of ups and downs.” She stressed that while they did not know what the end of their senior year would bring nor what the fall will look like at their colleges, that these uncertainties are natural.

“You did not know that when you started this year you would end it with virtual classes,” she stated. “You did not know that you would not celebrate some of the IHA traditions, such as prom or senior week. And as you prepare for college, you do not fully know what the school year will look like in the fall. Will classes be online or in-person? How long will this last? Then there are the other frequently asked larger life questions that you may not know the answers to: What are you majoring in? What do you want to do after college? What do you want to do with your life? These are natural questions and concerns, even if they may be irritating. We all want lives full of meaning, purpose, success, and happiness. We are hard-wired to want

certainty and know what the end state will look like. What is less clear, however, is how we get to these outcomes—and what to expect along the way.”

Dr. Natali told the members of the Class of 2020 that they most definitely did not have to have everything figured out now to have a rewarding and meaningful life. “It is perfectly okay to be sitting where you are and not know what you want to do, or to doubt your choices,” she stated. “Not knowing can be an opportunity in disguise. Not knowing can allow you to try new things, be open to new ideas, and expand your world—which may help you figure out what you want to do, and not to do. I assure you, even accomplished people with meaningful lives have not always had everything figured out. More likely, they often had long and sporadic bouts of not knowing.”

While going through old boxes, Dr. Natali said she found her senior year journal that was an assignment by Ms. Molloy for her Honors English Class. “If there is one single adjective I could use to describe my entries, it is uncertain. Indeed, there were fun events that you all may be familiar with: going to the Fireplace and getting ready for the football games, and less fun activities: complaining about too much homework. But overall, I was generally worried about

Ms. Patricia Molloy, president,
and Dr. Denise Natali '81,
2020 Commencement Speaker



the year. On September 10, 1980—my first entry—I wondered (or feared) what the year was going to bring. Can I do it? Will I get into this university? I just have to get into my first-choice college (which I did not).”

She pointed out that IHA and the graduates’ families have provided them with “a solid educational foundation and instilled a sense of responsibility, moral compass, and principles” that will guide them for the rest of their lives. “At a certain point, it is not about being the smartest in the room—I certainly was not—but about working hard, being committed to excellence, and making sacrifices. With these basic tenets, I am sure you will find your way and thrive.”

Dr. Natali concluded her speech by sharing that certainty is not the biggest challenge; knowing how to embrace that uncertainty of life is. “Although you missed some school traditions, you created new ones virtually and through kindness and thoughtful actions of the faculty and fellow students, all celebrating your school spirit and friendship,” she said. “It is this sense of commitment and your resilience that will enable you to endure and thrive even during the most uncertain of times.”

Class of 2020 Graduation Awards

The following awards were presented at the 2020 Commencement Exercises on July 25, 2020:

Valedictorian
Salutatorian
IHA Award
Academic Excellence Award
The Kim Montelaro Memorial Award
The Sister Beatrice Ryan Award
The Dorothy and Jack McKenna Memorial Award
The Kathleen Farley Memorial Award
The Fine Arts Award
The Gregory Joseph Villone Award
The Herbert C. Oberle Memorial Award
The KariAnn DellaPenta Award
The Catherine Larkin Award
The Caren Cavallo Memorial Scholarship
The Marian Award
The Marie Sellers and Dorothy Savarese Memorial Scholarship
The Jeffrey E. Silver Memorial Award
The Marisa A. Suarez Memorial Award
The Michael Thomas Noone Memorial Award
The Mary Ann Molinari Memorial Award
The Joseph Amen Memorial Award
Dr. Jessica Elizabeth DeSanta Memorial Scholarship

Grace Mendolia (Dartmouth College)
Kang Hyun Ryu (Princeton University)
Elizabeth Encke (Sacred Heart University)
Jessica O'Neill (University of Notre Dame)
Olivia DuBois (University of California – Los Angeles)
Isabella Lucero (American University)
Ella Parker (Emory University)
Isabella Sabino (Fordham University)
Carmela Icarangal (Maryland Institute College of Art)
Allison Sandt (SUNY Oneonta)
Maeve Duffin (United States Coastguard Academy)
Angeline Jacob (Siena College)
Ava Poulin (Fordham University)
Raghavi Patel (University at Albany, SUNY)
Caroline Sweeny (Loyola University Maryland)
Jenna Clover (Point Park University)
Brittany Graff (Kean University)
Casic Burke (Muhlenberg College)
Mary Farlese (University of Miami)
Elizabeth Croci (Bucknell University)
Emily Soriano (Fairfield University)
Logan Applin (Sacred Heart University)



Isabella Lucero'20, the Sister Beatrice Ryan Award recipient



Jessica O'Neill'20,
the Academic Excellence
Award recipient

Isabella Sabino'20, the
Kathleen Farley Memorial
Award recipient



Ella Parker'20 receives the Dorothy and Jack McKenna Memorial Award from Ms. Patricia Molloy, president.

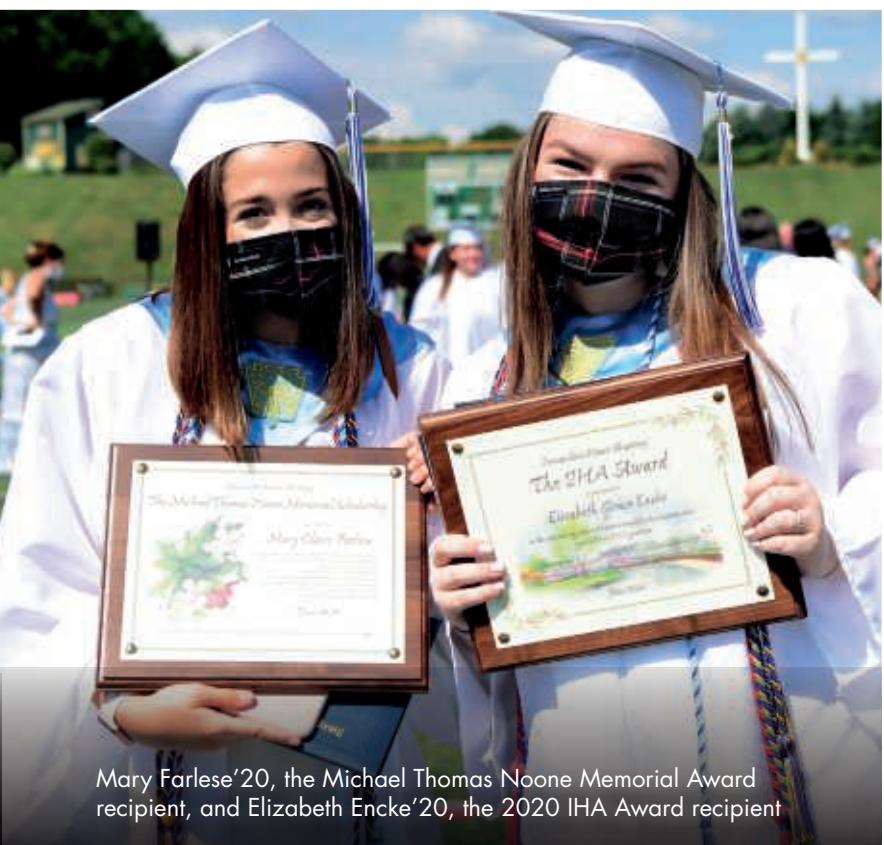
Emily Soriano'20, the Joseph Amen Memorial Award recipient



Logan Applin'20, the Dr. Jessica Elizabeth DeSanta Memorial Scholarship recipient



Caroline Sweeny'20, the Marian Award recipient



Mary Farlese'20, the Michael Thomas Noone Memorial Award recipient, and Elizabeth Encke'20, the 2020 IHA Award recipient



Casie Burke'20, the Marisa A. Suarez Memorial Award recipient

IHA Family Awards Presented

Traditionally, at the Baccalaureate Mass and Awards Ceremony, Immaculate Heart Academy recognizes several extraordinary and dedicated families in our community with the IHA Family Award. This award is presented to parents who have committed themselves to Catholic education and who have sent three or more daughters to IHA; it is given when the last of their daughters graduates. This year, the IHA Family Awards were distributed at the Commencement Ceremony held in July. Congratulations, parents, and thank you for your many years of sacrifice and commitment to IHA!

2020 IHA Family Awards Recipients

Mr. Jain and Mrs. Reena Jacob,
parents of Rosemarie'13, Christine'17,
and Angeline'20

Mr. Paul and Mrs. Susan Pielka,
parents of Sophie'13, Gabrielle'15,
and Chloe'20

**Mr. Paul Scian and
Ms. Isabella Schroeder,**
parents of Sienna'17, Samantha'18,
and Sophia'20

Mr. Ted and Mrs. Julia Earls Sutton'86,
parents of Samantha'16, Hannah'18,
and Bridget'20

Top Left: Reena Jacob P'13, '17, '20;
Angeline Jacob'20; and Mr. Jain Jacob
P'13, '17, '20

Bottom Left: Mr. Paul and Mrs. Susan
Pielka P'13, '15, '20

Top Right: Ms. Isabella Schroeder P'17,
'18, '20; Sophia Scian'20; and
Mr. Paul Scian P'17, '18, '20

Bottom Right: Mr. Ted and Mrs. Julia
Earls Sutton'86 P'16, '18, '20



More Awards for the Class of 2020

This year, graduating seniors were acknowledged with awards at a virtual Baccalaureate Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to the members of the Class of 2020 for being recognized for your outstanding contributions to IHA over the past four years!

Student Council Executive Board

President – Ava Poulin (Fordham University)
Vice President – Jana Mucci (Stevens Institute of Technology)
Cabinet Member – Isabella Sabino (Fordham University)

Senior Class Officers

President – Angeline Jacob (Siena College)
Vice President – Isabella Gorsd (University of Michigan – Ann Arbor)
Secretary – Olivia Costello (Boston College)
Treasurer – Nicole Gysin (St. Thomas Aquinas College)
Cabinet Members – Lily Implicito (Bucknell University), Gabrielle LaSala (Pennsylvania State University), Jillian MacDonald (University of Delaware), and Emma Matesic (Villanova University)
Art Award – Juliette Garcia (James Madison University)
Communications Award – Grace Giordano (King's College)
English Award – Olivia DuBois (University of California – Los Angeles)
French Award – Sophia Ruggier (Northeastern University)
Mathematics Award – Ella Parker (Emory University)
Music Award – Isabella Sabino (Fordham University)

Physical Education Award –

Jessica O'Neill (University of Notre Dame)

Religious Studies Award –

Amanda Molloy (Siena College)
Science Award – Raghavi Patel (University of Albany, SUNY)

Social Studies Award – Ava Sciubba (University of Notre Dame)

Spanish Award – Emma Kramer (Fairfield University)

Technology Award – Kang Hyun Ryu (Princeton University)

Michael Edward Echeverría Award –
Amanda Molloy (Siena College)

Virginia "Ginny" Panicucci

Memorial Award – Devyn Ruiz (Fairfield University)

IHA Parents' Club Robert Ryan Memorial Scholarship (Most Improved Student) –
Sophie Bogacz (University of Rhode Island)

The National Merit Scholarship

Commended Students

Isabella DeCurtis (Boston College), Maryannette Diaz (Arizona State University – Tempe), Hannah Gurney (University of California – Santa Barbara), Angeline Jacob (Siena College), Yoona Kim (Harvard University), Emma Kramer (Fairfield University), Emma Matesic (Villanova University), Juliana Najjar (University of Rochester), Jessica O'Neill (University of Notre Dame), Emma Patton (Wake Forest University), Gabrielle Peko (Wake Forest University), Sophia Ruggier (Northeastern University), and Elise Vergos (Cornell University)

The National Merit Scholarship

Semi-Finalists

Grace Mendolia (Dartmouth College), Ava Sciubba (University of Notre Dame), and Kang Hyun Ryu (Princeton University)

The National Hispanic Recognition Program

Maryannette Diaz (Arizona State University – Tempe), Isabella Gorsd (University of Michigan – Ann Arbor), Joan Tejera (University of Connecticut), and Elise Vergos (Cornell University)

Athletics Awards

IHA Scholar-Athlete Award – Ava Sciubba (University of Notre Dame)

NJSIAA Scholar-Athlete Award – Emma Matesic (Villanova University)

IHA Athletic Achievement Award –
Yoona Kim – Golf (Harvard University)

IHA Athlete of the Year –
Anna Morris (Northwestern University)

IHA Career Athletic Achievement –
Ryleigh White – Softball (The University of Texas at Austin)

IHA Celebrates Graduates Amidst COVID-19

While our original plans of graduating the Class of 2020 on the morning of Sunday, June 7 had to be adjusted due to the stay-at-home order put into place, we tried to make the day as memorable as possible for our one hundred sixty-one seniors.

That morning, members of the class received their diplomas at a drive-thru celebration. Students and their families rode through IHA campus to accept their diplomas through their car windows from administrators, Ms. Patricia Molloy, Mr. Jason Schlereth, Miss Kerry Carroll'04, Mrs. Jo-Ellen DeSanta, and Mrs. Alice Rogers. The Immaculate Heart Academy faculty and staff stood outside of their decorated cars in the school's parking lot to clap for the seniors and cheer them on as they exited.

Some of our graduates decided to dress the part, wearing their caps and gowns to the diploma distribution. The seniors received their graduation attire on May 29, 2020 via surprise visits from IHA faculty and staff members. The sisterhood formed among Immaculate Heart

students is a well-known part of the IHA experience, but the bonds cultivated between students and their teachers/counselors are just as unique. Faculty members delivered caps and gowns to seniors with whom they have a special relationship and it proved to be memorable for both parties.

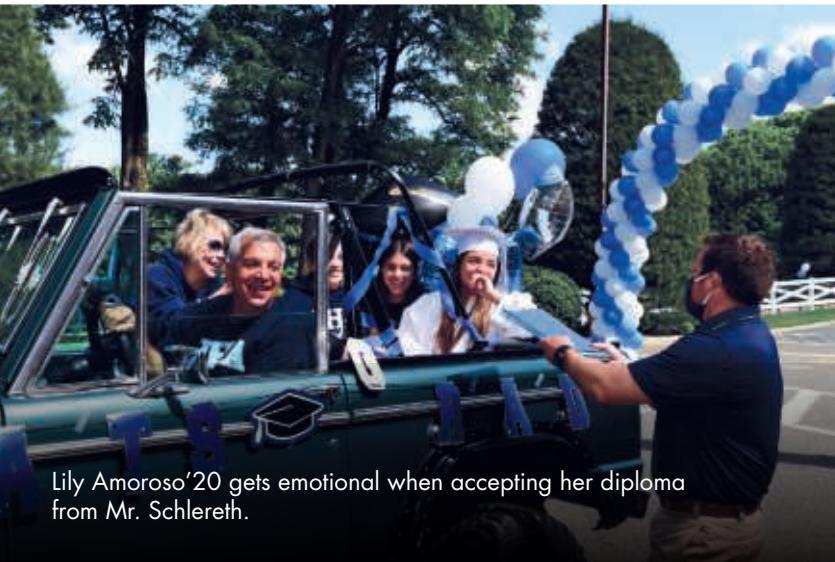


Above: IHA faculty and staff lined up their cars to celebrate the Class of 2020 receiving their diplomas.

Right: Ms. Meagan Papapietro'05, guidance counselor; Mrs. Melissa O'Sullivan, director of college counseling; Mrs. Corinne Fritzky, college counselor; Mrs. Angelique Morelli, director of development; and Ms. Danielle Just'05, physical education teacher, celebrate the Class of 2020 at the diploma distribution drive-thru.



Kelly Asiedu'20, driving through IHA with her family, receives her diploma from Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal.



Lily Amoroso'20 gets emotional when accepting her diploma from Mr. Schlereth.



Lily Implicito'20 and her family are excited to receive her diploma at the drive-thru celebration!



Left: Keila Seeley'20 accepts her diploma and yearbook from Mr. Schlereth.

Below: Chloe Pielka'20 is all smiles at the drive-thru event.



Katharine O'Connor'20 waves to faculty and staff as she drives through their claps and cheers.



Catherine Thomas'20 just received her IHA diploma!



Logan Siffringer'20 picks up the diploma for which she worked so hard.



Grace Whittam'20 and her family are thrilled to receive her diploma from Mr. Schlereth!

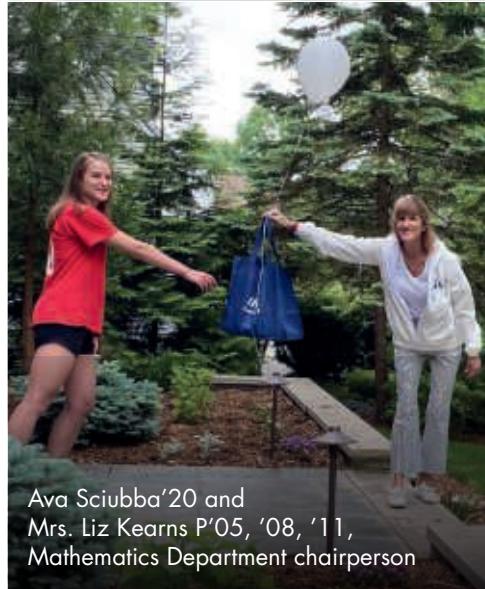
In an attempt to make their last months in high school unforgettable while having to remain home, members of the IHA administration and staff got creative! Signs of each senior's graduation picture were put on display on IHA's front lawn, College Signing Day was celebrated virtually on both May 1 and June 1 due to adjusted college decision deadlines (see pages 18-19), and a Virtual Senior Week was held on all of IHA's social media platforms from June 1-5, 2020.



Mrs. Berta Roldan P'14, Spanish teacher, delivers Julia Linhares'20 her cap and gown.



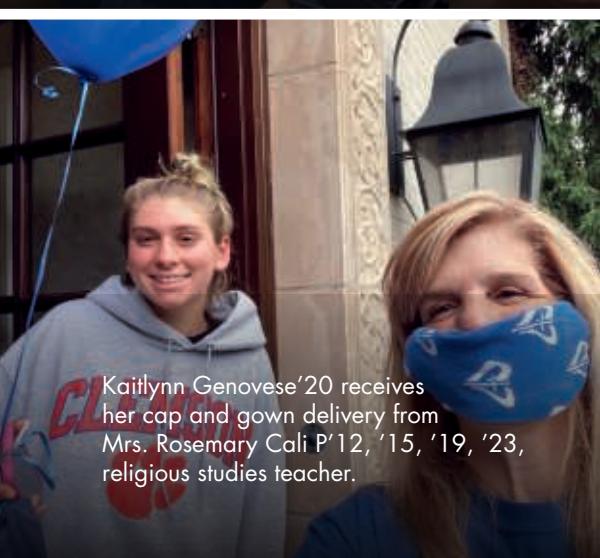
Kristina Organista'20 is visited by Mrs. Theresa Seymour Dolan'95, technology and engineering teacher.



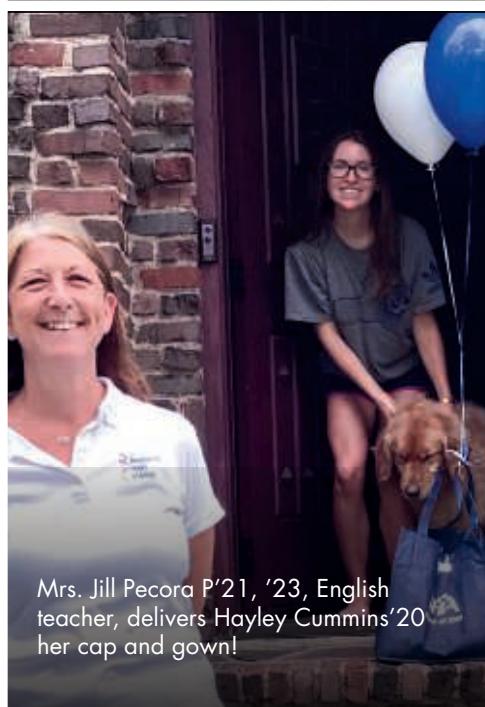
Ava Sciubba'20 and Mrs. Liz Kearns P'05, '08, '11, Mathematics Department chairperson



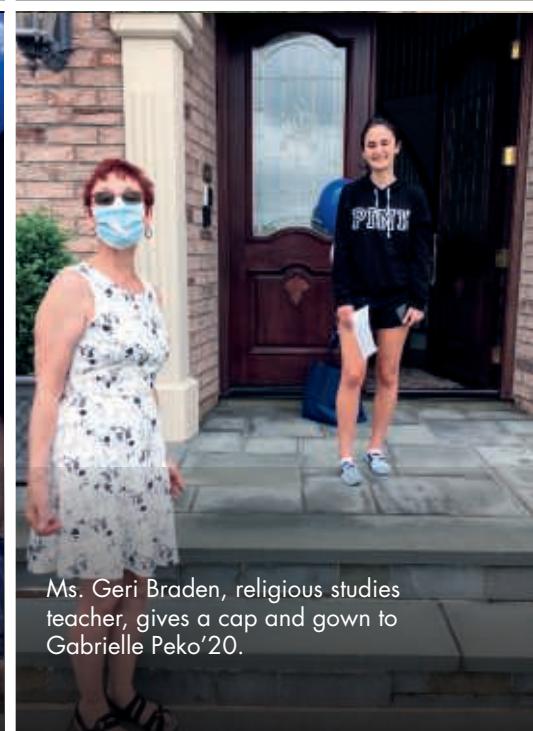
Mr. Paul McGinnis, guidance counselor, visits Stella Farrell'20.



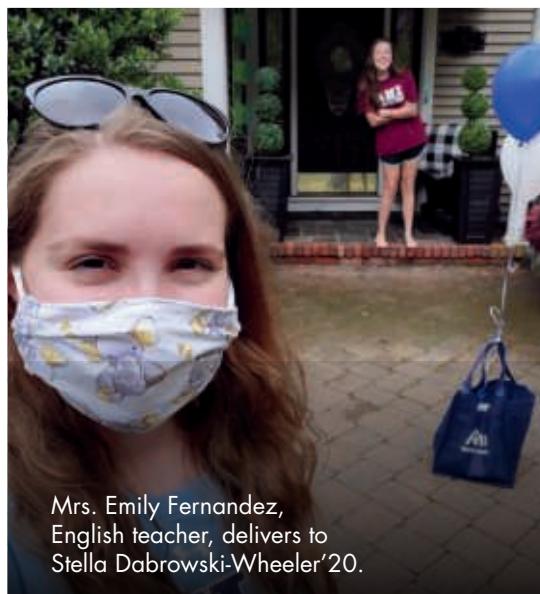
Kaitlynn Genovese'20 receives her cap and gown delivery from Mrs. Rosemary Cali P'12, '15, '19, '23, religious studies teacher.



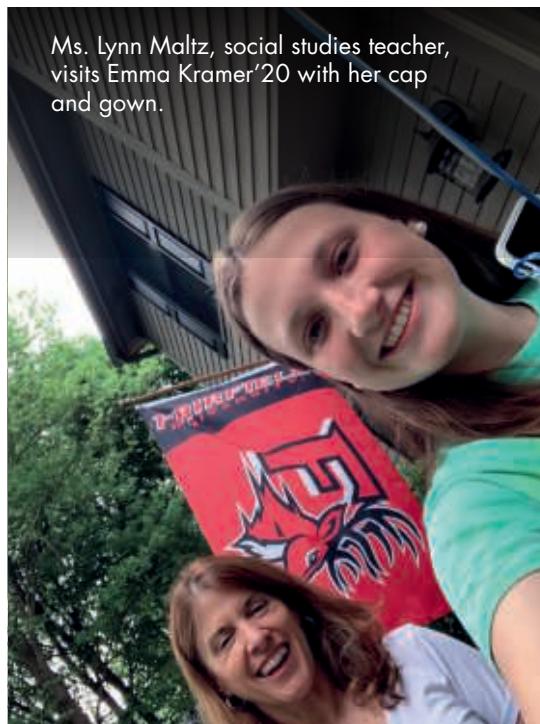
Mrs. Jill Pecora P'21, '23, English teacher, delivers Hayley Cummins'20 her cap and gown!



Ms. Geri Braden, religious studies teacher, gives a cap and gown to Gabrielle Peko'20.



Below Top: Sophia Karceski '20 gets a visit from Ms. Shemayne Williams, physical education teacher.



Additionally, hundreds of Immaculate Heart Academy alumnae wrote heartfelt notes to this year's graduates to welcome them to the IHA sisterhood. Alumnae hand-delivered the notes (with a box of Krispy Kreme donuts!) to every senior's house on Saturday, June 6, 2020. Each box of donuts had a sticker that read:



Sarah Horne '15
delivers to
Manushree Karthik '20.



Alumnae wrote heartfelt notes to the Class of 2020 graduates.



Ellen Smith Mahoney '80 P'14 visits Roseanne Tauber '20, her former kindergarten student!



Aimee Mockler '20 is visited by Meghan Mahoney '14.



Sisters, Shannon Hall Guy '06
and MaryKate Hall '16, deliver to
Meghan McNerney '20.

Welcome to the IHA Sisterhood!

Thank you to our director of alumnae engagement, Beth DiCiancia Garrigan'76, for spearheading this wonderful event; all of our IHA alumnae who wrote heartfelt notes to their sisters in the Class of 2020; and the many alumnae who volunteered to make the deliveries:

Emily Ash'19
Cathy Caccamo P'17, '19
Courtney Caccamo'17
Bernadette Calocino P'16
Jill Calocino'16
Amanda Carpenter'12
Lindsey Carpenter'15
Sonnie Carpenter
Vaughn Cavanagh P'18, '21
Michaela Cavanagh'18
Debbie D'Agostino P'13
Annie D'Agostino'13
Tosha Daugherty P'19
Alexandra Daugherty'19
Liz DeSernia P'15, '18
Emily DeSernia'18
Kathryn DeSernia'15
Ellen Donoghue'76
Nora Dowd P'18

Haley Dowd'18
Beth DiCiancia Garrigan'76 P'06
Danielle Garrigan'06
Kim Gastelu P'13, '19
Cosette Gastelu'13
Shannon Hall Guy'06
MaryKate Hall'16
Paula Horne P'13, '15, '18
Sarah Horne'15
Susanne Iobst P'16
Laura Iobst'16
Ellen Smith Mahoney'80 P'14
Meghan Mahoney'14
Jackie McLoughlin P'18
Sarah McLoughlin'18
Mary Mitsinikos P'18
Cassie Mitsinikos'18
Cathy Persico P'18, '20

Sarah Persico'18
Dale Quinn-Murphy'76
Kasey Regan'97
Cathy Rice P'18
Megan Rice'18
Karen Sheridan P'18
Kate Sheridan'18
Christina Sollitto'13
Lara Sopelsa'07
Tori Sopelsa'08
Stef-Hana Sopelsa'14
Kerri Stroka P'17
Reagan Stroka'17
Giovanna Vitamia'06
Kipp Yapaola P'16, '19
Jackie Yapaola'16
Victoria Yapaola'19



Brittney Holguin'20 gets a visit from sisters, Lindsey Carpenter'15 and Amanda Carpenter'12.

Top Left: Samantha Prussak'20 was visited by Alexandra Daugherty'19.

Top Middle: Laura Iobst'16 delivers letters and Krispy Kremes to Ava Gervino'20.

Bottom Left: Jackie Yapaola'16, left, and Victoria Yapaola'19, right, deliver notes and donuts to Kerri Woolley'20.

Bottom Middle: Emily Ash'19 visits Molly Fitzsimons'20.

College Signing Days

Seniors Decide on Colleges by May 1 and June 1

National College Signing Day is traditionally celebrated on May 1, the deadline for students to decide what colleges or universities they will be attending. As some colleges postponed their deadline to June 1 due

to COVID-19 this year, we celebrated our seniors on both dates! Our graduates dressed in their future school's gear and announced virtually where they are headed in the fall.



Amaya Adams'20 – Pennsylvania State University



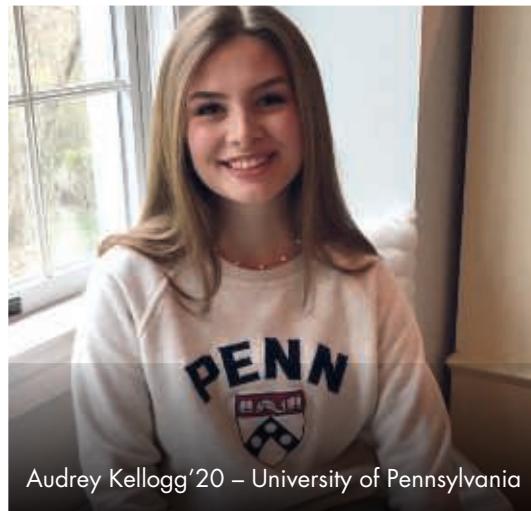
Kang Hyun Ryu'20 – Princeton University



Isabella Grey'20 – Fairfield University



Lily Implicito'20 – Bucknell University



Audrey Kellogg'20 – University of Pennsylvania



Anna Morris'20 – Northwestern University



Eden Plescia'20 – Nova Southeastern University



Emma Cooke'20 – The College of New Jersey



Niamh Keegan'20 –
University of
Notre Dame



Erin Meaney'20 –
Virginia Tech



Sophie Bogacz'20 –
University of Rhode Island



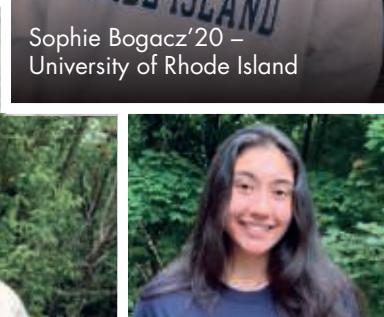
Kylie Waskas'20 –
University of Richmond



Olivia La Greca'20 –
Loyola University
Maryland



Lara Gonzalez'20 –
Providence College



Isabella Gorsd'20 –
University of Michigan -
Ann Arbor



Sophia Scian'20 –
American University



Amanda Oates'20 –
The University of Alabama



Niamh Withers'20 –
Manhattan College



Kathryn Stathakis'20 –
Syracuse University



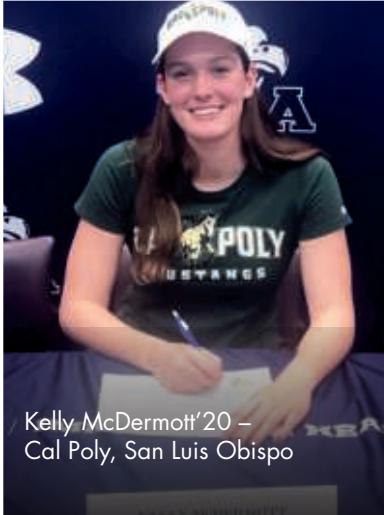
Joanna Rajkowski'20 –
Clemson University



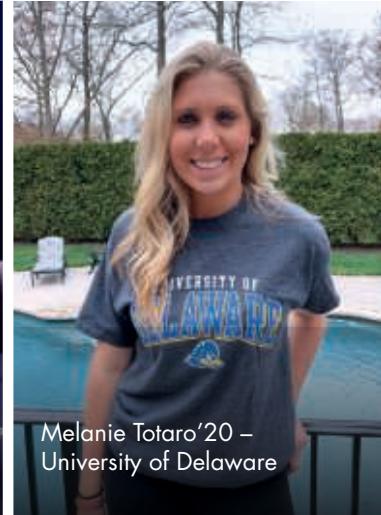
Gabriela Koziel'20 –
Montclair State University



Athena Matthews'20 – University of
Maryland - College Park



Kelly McDermott'20 –
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo



Melanie Totaro'20 –
University of Delaware

IHA's Focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

With the demonstrations against racism and injustice that have transpired across the country over the past few months, Immaculate Heart Academy felt it has been and will continue to be of upmost importance to implement a wide variety of diversity, equity, and inclusion programming and initiatives.

As IHA prepares to re-open in September, we have begun planning to review and develop all aspects of our commitment to social justice, a hallmark of our school since its founding.

“While I will never experience nor fully understand the discrimination that people of color have faced in America for hundreds of years,” said Ms. Patricia Molloy, president, in a message to the community, “my heart aches for our students, alumnae, and community members of color. My priority has always been that everyone feels safe, seen, and heard. No person should feel threatened or uncomfortable bringing his or her true and full selves to school or work each day.”

Because IHA’s primary goal is to provide a quality Catholic education for young women, our first focus will be a full review of our curriculum and its effectiveness in providing students with the information and skills they will need to contribute to a more just society. We are in the process of forming several committees to assess and make recommendations for improvements.

As an institution, we have two immediate priorities as we move forward. The first is to listen, especially to our students, faculty, alumnae, and parents of color. With the advice of nationally recognized experts in diversity education, we have hosted focus groups to assist us in planning a community-wide review of our policies and procedures.

We are blessed to have the assistance of Dr. Deborah Plummer, author of *Some of My Friends Are... The Daunting Challenges and Untapped Benefits of Cross-Racial Friendships*, and a nationally recognized psychologist and diversity management thought leader. Dr. Plummer is a graduate of an all-girls Catholic high school so she is very familiar with schools like ours. She is currently Chief Diversity Officer at UMass Medical School.

We also welcome Lesley Renee Adams’84 to our Consultative Board. Lesley is an attorney and a graduate of St. Augustine College in Raleigh, North Carolina, a Historically Black College (HBCU) and the University of Akron Law School. She has served as a municipal court judge in Englewood and was an assistant prosecutor in both Atlantic and Essex counties. Lesley will assist us with legal advice and with her insight and experience as a Black woman in a predominantly white community.

Secondly, a Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Committee is being formed and will be composed of students, faculty,

administration, alumnae, parents, and Consultative Board members. We have been in contact with several community members all summer, collecting ideas, suggestions, and approaches, which we will incorporate into a formal strategic plan.

Additionally, in commemoration of the historic events of June 19, 1865, which is recognized as the end of slavery in the United States, Immaculate Heart Academy will honor this day, Juneteenth, as an official school holiday every year from now on.

The COVID-19 restrictions have slowed our ability to meet and discuss, but we are committed to move forward in spite of the challenges this pandemic continues to present.

“To all our community members who have experienced the pain of inequality, please know that your IHA family is here for you and we are determined to do our part,” Ms. Molloy said. “We ask your prayers for our success and welcome your insights and advice as we move forward to rise above racism and injustice. Together.”

“To all our community members who have experienced the pain of inequality, please know that your IHA family is here for you and we are determined to do our part.”

2020 Spring Sports Signing

Senior Athletes Headed to Play in College

On behalf of the Immaculate Heart Academy administration and Athletic Department, we would like to honor the following student-athletes and their families for the time and commitment they have given to IHA and their sports over the last four years. Congratulations for officially signing to the following notable colleges and universities:

Giovanna Baquerizo'20 – Swimming (University of Scranton – physiology); **Maeve Duffin'20** – Volleyball (United States Coast Guard Academy – cyber security); **Julia Ficon'20** – Volleyball (Muhlenberg College – undecided); **Jana Mucci'20** – Soccer (Stevens Institute of Technology – engineering management); **Liz Patterson'20** – Volleyball (Stevens Institute of Technology – biology); and **Daniella Smith'20** – Track and Field (Rider University – sports management).

Over the course of their high school careers, these six student-athletes have attained more than eight hundred fifty collective hours of service, fourteen league championships, eight county championships, and nine state championships. This impressive group of students boasts an average GPA of 3.7 and includes two National Honor Society members, one Science NHS executive board member, one National Art Honor Society member, and one member of the Christian Service Board.

"In addition to honoring these student-athletes, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to them and their parents for the countless hours they have put into representing IHA over the course of their high school careers," said Mr. John Downey, director of athletics. "With their efforts, dedication, support, and skills, they have facilitated Immaculate Heart Academy in continuing our tradition of excellence in high school athletics."



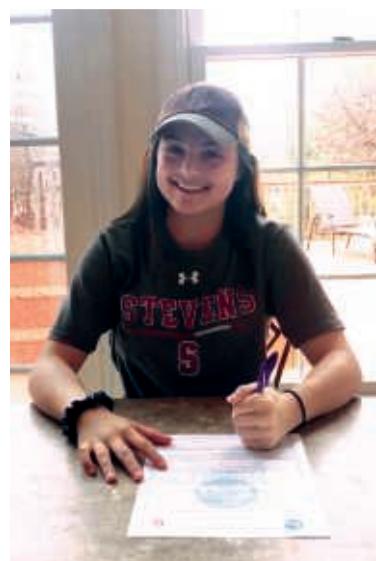
Daniella Smith'20 – Rider University



Liz Patterson'20 – Stevens Institute of Technology



Left:
Maeve Duffin'20 –
United States
Coastguard
Academy
Right:
Julia Ficon'20 –
Muhlenberg
College



Left:
Jana Mucci'20 –
Stevens Institute of
Technology
Right:
Giovanna
Baquerizo'20 –
University of Scranton



SCENE | Around IHA



Rosie the Blue Eagle made sure to let all her favorite ladies know how much she misses seeing them at IHA!



SENIORS
WISH WE WERE THERE

WASH
YOUR
HANDS
IHA CLASS OF 2020

Juliette Garcia '20 created the winning design for this year's senior t-shirt! Her design won with 60% of the votes out of the final two entries.

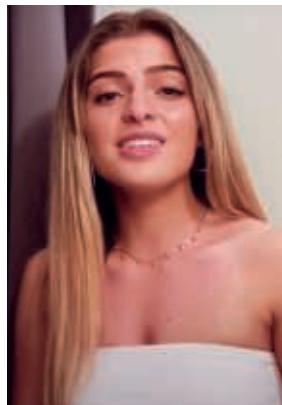


Top Right: Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal, personally visited Grace Mendolia '20 at her home to inform her that she was this year's Valedictorian!

Middle Right: Allison Sandt '20, top, and Jenna Clover '20, bottom, were the hysterical hosts for this year's Senior-Sponsored Talent Show! Students and teachers submitted videos of their acts and the one hour, twenty-minute show was posted on our website and social media pages on June 1 for the first day of Virtual Senior Week.



Left: It has become tradition that seniors decorate their IHA uniform shirts with their college logo to wear on their last day of classes. But because their final classes were not held in person this year, seniors sent in photos of themselves wearing their creative designs to be posted for Virtual Senior Week, held June 1-5, 2020. Clockwise from top left are Carmela Icarangal '20 (Maryland Institute College of Art), Sabrina Isabel Figueroa '20 (Skidmore College), Stephanie Doyle '20 (Bentley University), and Hannahmia Lauricella '20 (New York University).



Sarah Becker '20 sang a beautiful version of Madison Beer's "Selfish" for her final Talent Show performance at IHA.



Graduation lawn signs were delivered by administrators, faculty, and staff to each graduate's home. Joanne Semelsberger '20 received a visit and her lawn sign from principal, Mr. Jason Schlereth.



Congratulations to Ana Cantarella '21, this year's recipient of the Mary K. Molloy Memorial Scholarship. Ms. Patricia Molloy, president, recently presented this special scholarship to Ana and her mother, Julianne Collins Cantarella '86 P'18, '21, at IHA. Ana is the first recipient of the full-year tuition scholarship since the passing of Mary K. Molloy, Ms. Molloy's mother, on April 30, 2020. From left to right are Ana Cantarella '21; Ms. Patricia Molloy, IHA president; and Julianne Collins Cantarella '86 P'18, '21.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Devoted Girl Scout, **Gianna Niece'21**, achieved her Gold Award, the highest award in the organization, on March 31, 2020. For her Gold Award project, Gianna, who has been a member of Girl Scouts since she was in kindergarten, implemented a horticulture program for the Valley Program Foundation for Children with Autism. She created a sensory garden to help children with their hand-eye coordination, motor skills, and muscle memory. Gianna then set up a cooking class to teach the children how to make pesto and rosemary french-fries using the herbs from the garden. Additionally, she rebuilt a greenhouse, as the old one had been completely destroyed. Gianna also brought in air plants to be maintained and sold at the Holiday Shop, which helped the children with their social and communication skills. Gianna worked incredibly hard to achieve the Girl Scouts Gold Award and said she is very proud to give back to her community. The Valley Program Foundation for Children with Autism holds a special place in her heart.



Gianna Niece'21

HA Golf and IHA Basketball assistant coach, **Bob Rhein P'09**, father of head golf coach, **Lauren Rhein'09**, was recently featured in an inspirational story in *Health U* magazine of Hackensack Meridian Health entitled "The Drive to Survive." "When faced with a terrible one-two punch of lymphoma and esophageal cancer, Bob Rhein knew he had to fight hard for his daughter's sake. Today, as a hospital valet, he is providing that inspiration to other patients," the article reads. The story focused on how Bob shares his journey with patients he meets while working as a valet at John Theurer Cancer Center at Hackensack University Medical Center. "Today, he remains cancer free," the article continues. "He continues to receive excellent follow-up care, which includes scans every six months and seeing his doctor every three months. When Bob is working as a valet and sharing his story, people often want to know how he did it. He credits the wonderful care he received from everyone at Hackensack. 'I tell them to get a calendar and plan out the whole year. Plan for the future so you have something to live for. Works great,' he says."



Keara Skae'21 is working toward achieving her Girl Scouts Gold Award. "My Gold Award Project is centered around helping children in the foster system," Keara explained. "When a foster child is removed from a home, often times they are given a black trash bag as a means of luggage. Foster children are seven times more likely to develop depression and five times more likely to experience anxiety. Using a garbage bag to hold one's few belongings creates feelings of worthlessness for many foster children. There is also a need for basic items within the foster system and many children don't even have a toothbrush of their own! With my Gold Award project I hope to relieve feelings of worthlessness for many children as well as raise awareness to the mental health issues within the foster community. I plan on donating duffel bags to children, and inside each will be a pair of pajamas, coloring books, socks, underwear, etc. I have created a website where one can learn about issues within the foster system as well as donate a bag themselves; I would love to include the IHA community in my project! More can be found at dignityduffels.com."

Keara Skae'21 packs dignity duffels.



Juniors in all three of Mrs. Jeannine Woolley's P'20 **Pre-Calculus classes** surprised their senior classmates by creating goodbye and good luck signs for them. They held up the signs during the seniors' last day of virtual classes on May 13, 2020.

Congratulations to five IHA seniors who were each awarded \$500 scholarships from the Wyckoff/Midland Park Rotary: Claire Breslin'20, Isabella DeCurtis'20, Audrey Kellogg'20, Emma Patton'20, and Elise Vergos'20

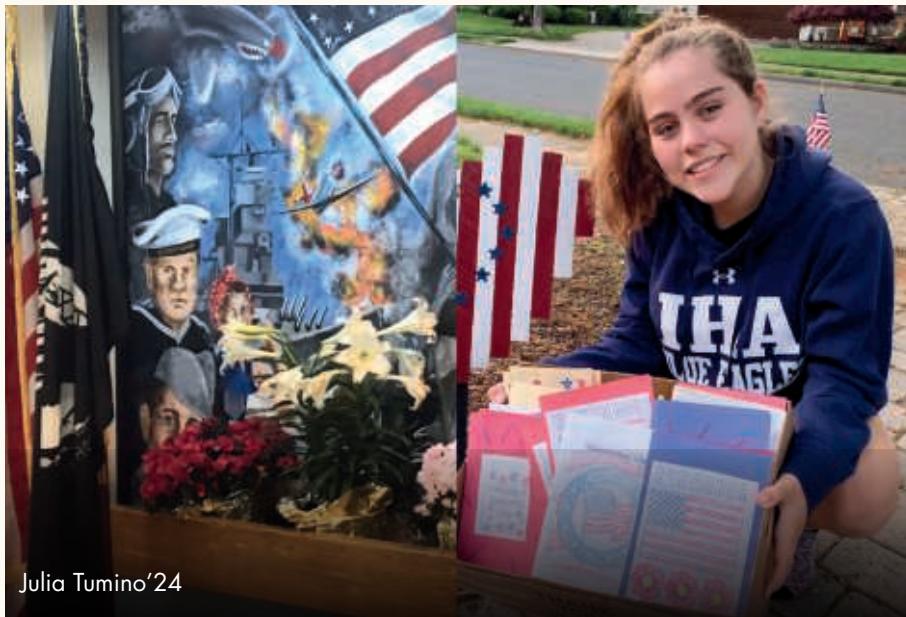


Lyla Rose Fritzky, daughter of **Mrs. Corinne Fritzky**, college counselor, and her husband, Pete, was born July 11, 2020 at 3:04 p.m. She was 7 lbs, 5 oz and 19 1/2 inches long. Big brother Noah, was excited to welcome her home!



Sofia Ricco'21 has been selected as an ambassador for The Harvard Undergraduate Women in Business (HUWIB) program! This program selects a handful of girls to represent all young women at an annual Business

Oriented Leadership Development (BOLD) Conference, a day of business education for more than three hundred high school women leaders from around the world. This unique event is for young women who are pursuing empowerment and knowledge from inspirational businesswomen. It is designed to help the next generation of women leaders obtain skill and guidance toward their futures in business. "My position as an ambassador will allow me to recruit other young women to join the conference," Sofia said, "and meet with keynote speakers who are an inspiration to all young women aspiring to succeed in the business world." Sofia attended the conference this past fall and looks forward to attending the next one in January 2021, working alongside the BOLD directors. As an ambassador, Sofia will market and advertise for the conference on social media platforms, as well as raise money for the BOLD scholarship program. "I am looking forward to joining the BOLD team," she said, "and hope to inspire other young girls to become leaders in business!"



Julia Tumino '24

Olivia Tumino '17 and **Julia Tumino '24** made Memorial Day cards for the veterans at N.J. Veterans Home in Paramus. They have done this for the past year for each holiday, and felt it was especially important to boost morale this year due to COVID-19 affecting residents. Olivia's and Julia's father, John, is a retired U.S. Army Colonel, USMA West Point Class of 1987.

Emma Patton '20 received two additional awards upon her graduation from Immaculate Heart Academy. The Valley Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Committee awarded her a \$500 scholarship for 2020. The pastor of St. Elizabeth's Church in Wyckoff awarded Emma \$1,000 "out of his pastoral fund for her years of volunteer catechism and youth group leadership at the parish."



Karen Patton P'20, Emma Patton '20 and Eugene Patton P'20



Megan Bizub '21 shops for food for the women and children at Oasis.

To help during COVID-19, **Margaret (Megan) Bizub '21** collected soups, beans, meats, pasta, sauce, cereal, oatmeal, etc. for a week in April to give to the women and children in need at Oasis – A Haven for Women & Children. She received more than \$1,500 in donations and endless amounts of food from the IHA, IHA Lacrosse, and Building Blocks Lacrosse (BBL) communities and many family members and friends. Additionally, Megan and her friend, Cassidy Puglisi, made six hundred individually wrapped cupcakes to show their gratitude for the nurses at Hackensack Meridian/Hackensack University Medical Center and Holy Name Medical Center during National Nurses Week, May 6-12, 2020.



Megan Bizub '21 displays the six hundred cupcakes she and her friend made for local nurses during National Nurses Week.

Need for Face Masks Connects IHA Sisters

Ana Cantarella'21 Makes Hundreds of Masks through Bergen Mask Task Force

While the COVID-19 health crisis has brought concern and suffering to many, some unexpected, heartwarming stories have also surfaced. One of those stories took place within our very own Immaculate Heart Academy sisterhood, as a student and alumna crossed paths who may not have otherwise.

Ana Cantarella'21 has paid special attention to staying safe and healthy during the pandemic, as her cystic fibrosis diagnosis makes her particularly susceptible. Wanting to find a way to help, Ana tapped into her talent and passion for fashion design and sewing. She joined the Bergen Mask Task Force (BMTF) and has been sewing hundreds of masks for medical professionals and essential workers.

"I know what it's like not being able to breathe easily, so I'd like to help protect the doctors and nurses from harm," she said to her mother, Julianne Collins Cantarella'86 P'18, '21 when she began making the masks. "No one should experience that."

The Bergen Mask Task Force consists of a team of volunteers, led by Demarest-based costume and fashion designer, Victoria Pero. The volunteers continue to put their sewing skills to good use by making thousands of cotton masks to be worn on their own or to cover the N95 surgical masks for local hospitals and care facilities in need. Ana knew Victoria from attending her fashion camp over the past few summers. Julianne said Ana felt very compelled to use her gift and give back, as she understands the doctors and nurses are going to great lengths to help others while putting their lives at risk.



Ana Cantarella'21 has sewn hundreds of masks for the Bergen Mask Task Force.

"It's so important for our medical professionals to stay safe, not only for themselves but for their loved ones," Ana explained. "Because my brother, John Michael, and I have cystic fibrosis, trying to stay safe has definitely been on my mind. Making the masks is one way I knew I could help, especially for the doctors and nurses I know in my area who have cared for me in the past."

It was Ana's volunteer work making masks that resulted in the unanticipated connection to a fellow IHA sister, Caroline Rogers'13. When word spread among the IHA community that Ana was making masks, Mrs. Alice Rogers P'07, '09, '13, assistant principal of students, informed her daughter, Caroline, a clinician at a residential treatment center for children. Caroline and her colleagues were in desperate need of reusable masks. "I had mentioned my need for masks to my mom one night," Caroline said. "After participating in a staff Zoom meeting, she mentioned she might be able to get me in contact with someone who was part of an organization making masks."



Caroline Rogers'13 wears a mask from the Bergen Mask Task Force.

Ana connected Caroline with the task force via Facebook and Caroline received a response within 24 hours of first reaching out. Thirty masks for her facility were ready to be picked up a day later. Drop-offs of donated sewing supplies and pick-ups of completed masks are all done on Victoria's porch with no direct contact to abide by regulations. Caroline said she was very appreciative to connect with a fellow Blue Eagle and the "amazing" Bergen Mask Task Force.

"I am so grateful for organizations like this so that my staff can have masks to wear each day," Caroline said. "Although I have never met Ana, I am so grateful for her and the other volunteers who are making all of these masks for essential workers."

Ana has made hundreds masks through the Bergen Mask Task Force and she plans to continue making them for as long as necessary. As if she wasn't already generous enough with her time and talent, Ana also sewed 175 IHA plaid facemasks for this year's graduates to wear to their Commencement Exercises on July 25, 2020 and another 100+ for the IHA faculty, staff, and Board members.



Ana Cantarella'21 sewed IHA plaid masks as gifts for the members of the Class of 2020.

NHS Semester Two Awards

Seniors Honored for Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character

Congratulations to four seniors who were recently recognized as National Honor Society second semester award recipients! These distinct awards, based on the four pillars of NHS, honor students who particularly exemplify the pillars and serve as role models within the Immaculate Heart Academy community and beyond.



SCHOLARSHIP:

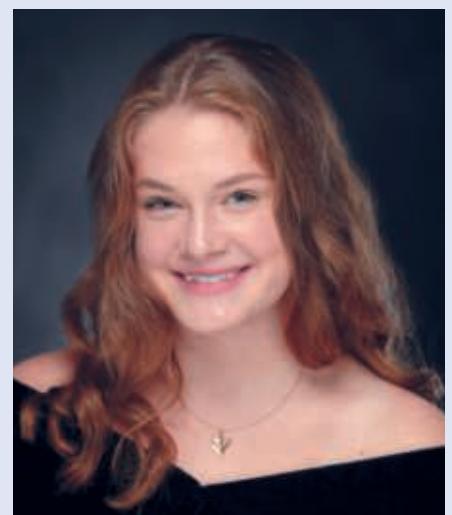
Kang Hyun (Katelyn) Ryu'20

Katelyn is an extremely hard worker and her success is found in both academics and art. She shares her talents and knowledge with others through tutoring and the National Art Honor Society. Through all of her impressive achievements, including being named the Class of 2020 Salutatorian, Katelyn always remains humble and kind.



LEADERSHIP: Emma Matesic'20

Emma is a leader within various parts of the IHA community including academics, athletics, and sisterhood. Her work on the Senior Class Executive Board and her role as the captain of the varsity basketball team has allowed Emma to set an example of hard work and leadership for her peers, classmates, and teammates. Emma is also very reliable and she is always looking out for the best interest of the people around her.



SERVICE: Amanda Molloy'20

Amanda perfectly embodies the meaning of service at IHA. Her extensive work on the Christian Service Board and her countless hours of volunteering show how deeply committed she is to everyone's wellbeing. Amanda truly enjoys the time she spends giving back to others and sets a great example for the rest of the IHA community on the importance of serving those in need.

CHARACTER: Kelly McDermott'20

Kelly, optimistic by nature, always brings her positive energy to everything in which she is involved at Immaculate Heart Academy and beyond. With her enthusiasm to help others in and out of the classroom, she embodies the generosity and kindness that IHA helps to instill in its students. Kelly is always smiling and laughing and incredibly supportive of her peers.



Two Seniors Guaranteed Admission to Medical School

Angeline Jacob'20 and Raghavi Patel'20 Attending B.A./M.D. and B.S./M.D. Programs



Angeline Jacob'20



Raghavi Patel'20

Two members of this year's graduating class, Angeline Jacob'20 and Raghavi Patel'20, will be attending highly competitive B.A./M.D. and B.S./M.D. programs this fall. Angeline is headed to Siena College to participate in its eight-year B.A./M.D. program with Albany Medical College. Raghavi will be studying in the seven-year B.S./M.D. program at University of Albany with SUNY Upstate Medical University.

As explained by Mrs. Melissa O'Sullivan, IHA director of college counseling, admission to B.A./M.D. and B.S./M.D. programs is "rather intense and extremely competitive, as you have to achieve relatively perfect scores and grades to even be considered." Students are required to interview with a committee, submit an application, and write multiple essays. After applying in November, they then usually have to wait until April before finding out if they are admitted, so it can be quite the roller coaster ride. "Admit rates to these programs are typically less than two percent, as most schools only have a handful of seats," Mrs. O'Sullivan explained. Successful participation in these programs means a guarantee to medical school, and no need to take the MCAT.

For Angeline, Siena's Science, Humanities, and Medicine B.A./M.D. program has been at the top of her list since she began the application process. She said a major reason for wanting to partake is its heavy commitment to prepare doctors for not only a future in medicine, but also "a lifetime of service to others." The program offers "many opportunities for students to continue serving and volunteering to help others from and near the Siena campus, something I love to do," Angeline said. "Following my junior year at Siena, I will also be able to partake in its Summer of Service program, where I go to a country abroad as a volunteer. All of these factors and so many more are why I love this program so much."

While she has not made her final decision on a specialty, Angeline is leaning toward hospital medicine/becoming a hospitalist. "As soon as I received the email regarding my acceptance, I ran to tell my whole family who were as ecstatic as I was!" Angeline remembered. "I am so excited to join the Siena family and am very grateful for this opportunity. I cannot wait to make so many new lifelong friends this fall!"

Raghavi will be majoring in biochemistry and molecular biology at University of Albany and hopes to be a surgeon. Her program means guaranteed admission to SUNY Upstate Medical University, as long as she keeps a 3.5 G.P.A. Raghavi said she was "relieved and excited because the program will allow me to relax a little during my undergrad years, explore interests outside of medicine, and focus more on preparing for medical school and gaining experience that interests me rather than having to struggle to get into medical school." She said she is really looking forward to meeting new people and experiencing new things.

Mrs. O'Sullivan shared she is not only tremendously proud, but also incredibly impressed by both Angeline and Raghavi for "their tireless dedication to their studies to pursue this lifelong goal. They are outstanding students, excelling in both academics and extracurricular activities, but, most importantly, they possess the stamina needed to complete these programs," she said. "I have no doubt they will both continue on to be extremely successful doctors."

Commending Our Faculty + Staff

This year, we say farewell to two faculty members who have dedicated many years of service to Immaculate Heart Academy: Mrs. Jo-Ellen DeSanta, assistant principal of academics and curriculum, and Dr. Arta Boucher, French teacher.



Mrs. Jo-Ellen DeSanta was blessed with a lifelong career in education, beginning the year she graduated college in 1974. She spent thirteen years at IHA, first as English teacher, then English Department chairperson, and finally as a member of the administrative team for the past three years. In a note to her colleagues, Jo-Ellen said her time at IHA was “hands down, the best and most satisfying years of this educational journey. This is due to the academic excellence and vibrant atmosphere of our school, and to the many wonderful professional associations and friendships with which I’ve been blessed along the way at IHA.”



Dr. Arta Boucher has been teaching for forty-one years total, seven of those years at IHA. Among the most cherished memories she has from IHA are the times she spent with the French Club members. “The trips we took to Quebec, the Mardi Gras parties, the trips to Madeleine’s Petit Paris, and the crepes we cooked together with the help of our Cafeteria chefs,” Arta remembered. Arta and her husband, Jerry, have started a tutoring business, Language Fluency Express, for French, German, and ESL. She also plans to continue painting, her most favorite hobby along with reading French literature. “I will certainly miss not only the students,” Arta continued, “but also all the dedicated faculty members from the World Language Department and the many other programs at our school.”

Jo-Ellen said her time at IHA was “hands down, the best and most satisfying years of this educational journey.”

For the 2020-21 academic year, we are thrilled to welcome to the Science Department Dr. Hasan Zerze (B.S., Ph.D., Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey), who will be teaching physics. And to the World Languages Department, we welcome Mrs. Eileen Ingoglia (B.A., M.A., Montclair State University), who will be teaching French. Additionally, it was announced that English teacher and director of the performing arts, Ms. Maureen McNulty, has been promoted to English Department chairperson.

Congratulations to IHA faculty and staff members who celebrated big anniversaries this year:

30 years
Mrs. Lisa Encke P’20

25 years
Mr. George Hotz

20 years
Darla Addabbo P’07
Mr. Leandro Caudilla

10 years
Mrs. Tara Hopfenspirger
Mrs. Melissa O’Sullivan
Mrs. Jill Pecora P’21, ’23
Ms. Patrizia Tersigni P’14

Grateful Hearts Banners Delivered to Healthcare Heroes



Left: Amanda Molloy '20 and Elizabeth Encke '20 deliver Grateful Hearts banners to area hospitals.

Middle Left: Healthcare heroes at Englewood Hospital

Middle Right: Staff at New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center including IHA alumna, Jessie Lamb '13, kneeling at far right

As part of our *Plaid it Forward Fridays* program initiated during the stay-at-home order this spring, Immaculate Heart students decorated hearts that were scanned to create banners for hospital workers. Cookies courtesy of Stop & Shop Wyckoff and banners that read "Grateful Hearts Sending Love & Prayers to Our Healthcare Heroes" were delivered to employees at Holy Name Medical Center, Hackensack University Medical Center, Englewood Hospital, Morristown Medical Center, The Valley Hospital, and New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center (including our very own alumna nurse, Jessie Lamb '13).

Thank you for the collaborative effort of director of formation, Mrs. Sarah Shutrop; director of the arts, Mrs. Lisa Encke; Stop & Shop Wyckoff; Elizabeth Encke '20 and Amanda Molloy '20 for delivering; and all of our students who designed the beautiful hearts!



Doctors and nurses at Hackensack University Medical Center

Students Write Protest Poetry in American Literature

Ms. Bridget Ryan, IHA English teacher, ended the school year with a protest poetry assignment for all of her English III Honors (American Literature) classes. Earlier in the year, Ms. Ryan's students read Peggy McIntosh's "Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack" in conjunction with an excerpt from Frederick Douglass' autobiography. "The goal was for my students to recognize that racism isn't only individual acts, but a systemic problem," she explained.

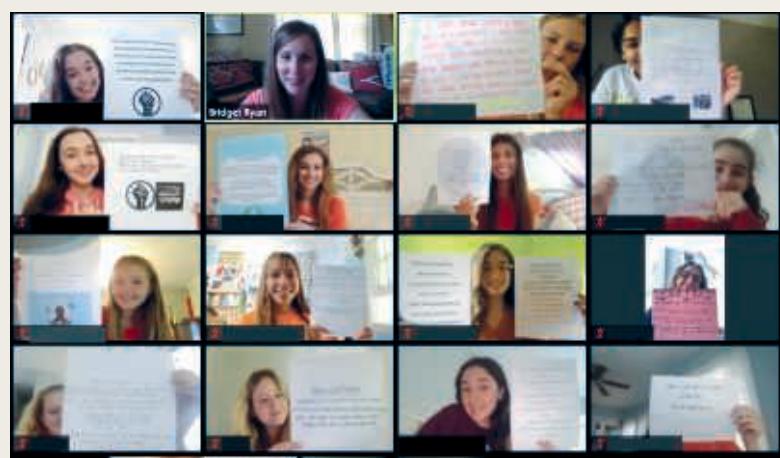
"We finished the year by reading Langston Hughes' poems 'I, Too' and 'Advertisement for the Waldorf Astoria,' in which Hughes tackles racial and economic inequality," she said. Students then wrote their own short poems addressing equality, social justice, human rights, climate change, and more. Pictured are Ms. Ryan's classes and just a couple of the poems about racism, injustice, and inequality.

"Several girls told me how excited they were about the assignment, and they really rose to the occasion," Ms. Ryan said. "Their words expressed their genuine concern for their world, and their desire to make a difference. Many of the poems brought tears to my eyes, and I was so glad that we could get together at the end of the school year to do this."

"PROTESTS AGAINST POLICE VIOLENCE" THE NEWS HEADLINES SAY
BUT I SIT AND WONDER WHY THIS ISSUE HAS NOT GONE AWAY
MAYBE IT IS BECAUSE OF THE FLAWED JUSTICE SYSTEM HERE
OR THE HUNDREDS OF YEARS OF PREJUDICE AND FEAR
WE CANNOT CALL OUR COUNTRY THE LAND OF THE FREE
UNTIL WE AT LAST ESTABLISH RACIAL EQUALITY



The piercing looks and words
could cause me to bleed,
but you wouldn't stop;
even when you saw
the color of my blood
is the same as yours.
#SayNoToRacism



Consultative Board Updates

This year, we say goodbye and thank you to long-time IHA Consultative Board member, **Richard Cervini P'12, '15**. Rich, Executive Vice President of Programming and Production at CBS Television Distribution and a member of the board since 2011, was especially helpful with the installation and successful running of the IHA TV Studio. Ms. Patricia Molloy, IHA president, said when she met Rich many years ago at a new parent meeting, she never could have imagined what his generous offer of assistance with our TV Studio would mean.

“Rich brought technology and broadcasting skills and a genuine interest in our project,” Ms. Molloy said. “With his help over many years, the IHA TV studio has become one of the finest in any high school. While we will miss Rich’s professional assistance, I will miss him personally. He is a friend and mentor and has a special place in IHA’s history.”



As we bid farewell to Rich, we are honored to welcome **Lesley Renee Adams'84** to our Consultative Board. Lesley, an attorney, is a graduate of St. Augustine College and the University of Akron Law School. She has served as a municipal court judge in Englewood and was an assistant prosecutor in both Atlantic and Essex counties. She will be joining the board’s Institutional Advancement committee. Read more about Lesley’s experience and how she is assisting her alma mater on page 20.

Lesley Renee Adams'84



Thank you to all those who gave to the *Pay It Forward Fund* in honor of the Class of 2020.

This fund was started years ago with a senior class gift to support juniors and seniors who fall into financial hardship as upperclassmen, so they may remain at and graduate from Immaculate Heart Academy. Your contribution is vital in assisting us in having ALL students remain at IHA for four years, and experience those same traditions and academic excellence all alumnae were afforded.

It is through supporters like you that we may achieve our mission of the complete education of young women and instilling in them a sense of competence, responsibility, confidence, justice, peace, and compassion. Thank you again for your gift!

2020 Service Awards

Big-hearted IHA Students Honored for Dedicated Service

Immaculate Heart Academy students consistently blow us away by their dedication to and love of serving others. By participating in the IHA Christian Service Program, students apply their Catholic Christian values through practicing them in projects that expand the students' awareness of God, others, and themselves. This year, as we were unable to celebrate our students' service in person at our annual Service Awards Assembly due to COVID-19, faculty and staff members recognized some of our special award recipients in an untraditional way—through a socially distant Service Awards Parade! On the morning of Friday, May 8, 2020, more than thirty faculty members joined together to drive by students' houses in decorated cars, honk their horns, and celebrate the amazing service achievements of these thoughtful young ladies.

Two major annual service awards were presented at the parade: The Spirit of Service Award and the IHA Servant Leadership Award. The **Spirit of Service Award** is given annually to one student per grade who demonstrates a spirit of service, a dedication to helping others that is core to who she is as a person. Each of these students lives her life in a way that makes clear that she values service, not just as a requirement, or for the sake of her resumé or awards, but because the desire to serve others is central to her identity. Congratulations to this year's recipients, [Carolyn Sandt'23](#), [Aniela Sanders'22](#), [Hannah Delfico'21](#), and [Caroline Sweeny'20](#).

The **IHA Servant Leadership Award** was first given to Isabella Somera'17, as a way to express gratitude for her dedication to service in founding our Praise choir, and to recognize the legacy her service to the IHA community would leave behind. Since then, the IHA Servant Leadership Award has been given annually to a senior whose commitment to leadership and dedication to service were so incredible that they



Mrs. Lisa Encke P'20, director of the arts; Mr. John Encke P'20; John Encke; and Elizabeth Encke'20, IHA Servant Leadership Award recipient, pose next to Ms. Patricia Molloy, president, during the Service Awards Parade.

transformed the IHA community. Congratulations to this year's recipients, [Elizabeth Croci'20](#) and [Elizabeth Encke'20](#).

Despite having all requirements waived because of COVID-19, IHA students completed *twenty-nine thousand, seven hundred twenty hours of service* in the 2019-2020 school year. That's nearly two and a half times what is normally required, and they weren't required to do anything this year. Additionally, despite this year of service being cut short, seventy-five IHA students still received President's Volunteer Service Awards.

The President's Volunteer Service Award was founded in 2003 by the United States President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to recognize the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity. This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities in every corner of the nation and inspires those around them to take action, too. We honored forty-four students for achieving the



Mr. Jason Schlereth and his daughter wave an IHA plaid flag proudly to congratulate Elizabeth Croci'20 on receiving the 2020 IHA Servant Leadership Award.



Hannah Delfico'21

President's Volunteer Service Award at the Bronze level (100-174 hours per year), eight at the Silver level (175-249 hours per year), and twenty-three at the Gold level (250 and more hours per year). Recipients receive a pin, and a certificate signed by the President of the United States. Big congratulations to the top service hour earner, Raghavi Patel'20, who earned 886.67 hours. Listed are all President's Volunteer Service Award recipients, in order of hours earned.

GOLD

Raghavi Patel'20
Grace Coughlin'23
Madison McKay'23
Isabella Grey'20
Sophie Mendolia'23
Kayleigh Cicala'21
Taylor DiLisi'21
Julia Frengul'21
Ava Poulin'20
Joanne Semelsberger'20
Kylie Waskas'20
Emma Zabransky'20
Laura Rickli'22
Ashley Brombauer'21
Grace Whittam'20
Brianna Romano'21
Amanda Molloy'20
Anna Salewycz'21
Isabella Sabino'20
Molly Schiller'21
Jessica Boyd'22
Elizabeth Granholm'21
Nicole Gysin'20



Caroline Sweeny'20

SILVER

Sherry McCarthy'21
Hayley DiLisi'22
Aniela Sanders'22
Margaret Bizub'21
Jennifer Ahn'23
Brianna Mullahey'23
Margot Kapusinski'22
Nora Kavanagh'22

BRONZE

Emma Kramer'20
Claire Breslin'20
Jessica Kielur'22
Mackenna Olsen'22
Kang Hyun Ryu'20
Marissa Roberge'22
Christine Aja'21
Julia Linhares'20
Bianca D'Costa'21
Elizabeth Encke'20
Julianne Carrozza'20
Kathryn Stathakis'20
Carmela Coglianio'21
Sofia Ricco'21
Anna Gehres'22
Hannah Delfico'22
Freya Nair'21
Mary Virginia Nye'21
Athena Matthews'20
Gianna Niece'21
Alexandra Betsy'21
Katherine Cottrell'21
Olivia Costello'20
Briana Erik'20
Gabrielle Montegari'22
Riley Ypelaar'22
Isabella Garzon'21
Molly Lowell'21
Elizabeth DePhillips'20
Lauren Buonomo'20
Joan Tejera'20
Gabriella Kittaneh'21
Natalia Hudak'23
Gianna Cilenti'23
Katherine Conway'21
Kaylee McKay'21
Jenna Savino'22
Sydney Lombardi'21
Madeleine Dahl'21
Elizabeth Croci'20
Claire O'Byrne'21
Valerie Hiemer'21
Katherine Young'22
Olivia Raia'22



Aniela Sanders'22



Mrs. Sarah Shutrop, director of formation, presents Carolyn Sandi'23 with the Spirit of Service Award.



Elizabeth Croci'20, Caitlin Croci'22, Andrew Croci, and Michele and Paul Croci P'20, '22

Thank you to Mrs. Sarah Shutrop, director of formation, for leading the girls in their passion to serve. And thank you to the many faculty and staff members who showed their support for the award winners. Congratulations to all of IHA's generous, kind-hearted, compassionate students!

Second Semester Distinguished Scholars

Congratulations to the following students who have been named Distinguished Scholars by earning an average of 95 or better for the second semester of the 2019-20 academic year:

FRESHMEN

Marie Baldwin
Grace Cassin
Olivia Dabal
Ryley Dargan
Katherine Deane
Emma Dillane
Sofia Doblosky
Lauren Dunnigan
Caitlin Fritz
Isabella Galan
Madeleine Gilson
Lauren Grae
Noelle Haskell
Norah Homa
Leanna Johnston
Layla Libanan
Natalia LoCurto
Natalia Maglicic
Judith Mathew
Madison McKay
Kate Menake
Meghan Minogue
Johanna Murphy
Gracyn Pisa
April Ramsey
Carolyn Sandt
Erin Shepler
Jessica Sundlin
Mary-Kathryn Sweeney
Olivia Tacconi

SOPHOMORES

Kayla Arone
Kiara Bassora
Sophia Bednarek
Riley Benedik
Abbey Benus
Jessica Boyd
Erin Burke
Samantha Campana
Alyssa Darella
Margaret Dillon

Gabriella Fava
Gina Gaccione
Kylie Galiger
Rania Hart
Gianna Jacobus
Camryn King
Brianna Kuchenmeister
Angela Lee
Katherine Mahoney
Ashley Mariscal
Riley McGovern
Sophia Miller
Rhea Mittal
Elizabeth Muzilla-Fullem
Julia Nicotra
Grace Oates
Madelyn Panebianco
Emily Prussak
Natalie Ronen
Jenna Savino
Sydney Severini
Natalie Ursich
Sarah Vella
Isabelle Villanueva
Sanaiya Villanueva
Christiane Wahba
Margaux Yannacci
Jayda Yatko
Katherine Young
Riley Ypelaar

JUNIORS

Abigail Auty
Alexandra Betsy
Maria Cangelosi
Marisa Carbone
Angelina Casale
Katherine Conway
Katherine Cottrell
Olivia Coughlin
Danielle Criscuolo
Bianca D'Costa
Olivia DeMartini
Catherine DePalma

Elizabeth DePhillips
Taylor DiLisi
Ella Doda
Caroline Dyson
Nicole Erik
Alexandra Fassett
Casey Forcellati
Julia Frengul
Jordan Gaffney
Elizabeth Granholm
Valerie Hiemer
Arielle Jacus
Gabriella Karcz
Mary Rose Kelly
Gabriella Kittaneh
Cailee LaFrance
Olivia Landolfi
Jennifer Lawrence
Alyssa Longo
Kayla Luna
Antonia Luppino
Daniela Makowka
Michelle Marino
Brooke Marotti
Julia Marotti
Hanna Martin
Analisa Martino
Emmy Mazzacano
Clare McGowan
Lauren Montgomery
Freya Nair
Catherine Nixon
Claire O'Byrne
Mariel Persico
Cameron Rasnake
Molly Schiller
Hanna Scott
Keara Skae
Lauren Turci
Emma Viggiano
Nicole Vij
Lilly Yozzo
Sarah Zampino
Alexandra Zitelli

SENIORS

Logan Applin
Sophie Bogacz
Elizabeth Croci
Maryannette Diaz
Olivia DuBois
Vanessa Gearlof
Melanie Harrigan
Bianca Kalaj
Niamh Keegan
Yoona Kim
Emma Matesic
Meghan McGuire
Grace Mendolia
Jana Mucci
Anna Mullens
Katharine O'Connor
Jessica O'Neill
Ella Parker
Gabrielle Peko
Tierney Piercy
Kang Hyun Ryu
Mary Patricia Sayre
Sophia Scian
Ava Scuibba
Keila Seeley
Emily Soranno
Kathryn Stathakis
Caroline Sweeny
Elise Vergos
Hana Vozzo
Kylie Waskas

Traffic Safety Squad Named Grand Prize Winner

Congratulations to Immaculate Heart Academy for being one of three Grand Prize Winners of the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey's UGotBrains Champion School Program. This is the IHA Traffic Safety Squad's (TSS) second grand prize win in five years of participation in the statewide competition. In 2016, IHA won a driving simulator that is regularly used to enhance our driver education curriculum.

TSS members promoted safe driving all year by bringing attention to the NJ Graduated Driver License (GDL) restrictions/laws through the TSS DriveSmart@theheart campaign. Winners were announced during the 10th Anniversary U Got Brains Champion Schools Program awards and virtual showcase, broadcast on Zoom on June 3, 2020. In attendance at the virtual showcase were dedicated TSS members, Anna Gehres'22, Grace Amoroso'22, Taylor DiLisi'21, Lily Amoroso'20, and Emily Soranno'20. Because this was the 10th anniversary of the program, each of the winning schools will receive a cash prize of \$10,000.

TSS has a rotating membership of up to fifty students who contribute all year to the contest entry under their DriveSmart@theheart message. The campaign focused on educating the students, faculty members, parents, and the overall community on the GDL laws, restrictions, and red decals that should be displayed on the license plates of drivers under 21. They hung safety posters throughout the school and participated in the HUMC Safe Teen Driving Challenge, which included a poster and T-Shirt Design contest, seat belt checks of students and faculty, and an HUMC ENCARE presentation for driver education classes.



IHA students with red decals received a congratulatory note and a free frosty coupon; cars without decals received a NJ DMV Red Decal flyer. TSS provided giveaways during IHA's fall pep rally and were featured in a *Teen Kids News* broadcast. When the shut down went into effect, TSS spread the message by way of social media.

The TSS would like to thank the BIANJ and its many sponsors who support the program. Congratulations to Indian Hills and Lenape Regional high schools, the other two grand prize winners. Lastly, a big thank you to our school community who are receptive to the safe driving message. The IHA TSS reminds everyone to DriveSmart@theheart!



From left to right are IHA TSS members, Sofia Alvarez'22, Clare McGowan'21, Michelle Marino'21, Alexandra Birdsall'22, Jessica Kielur'22, Lily Amoroso'20, and Grace Amoroso'22.

Spring Arts Festival Presented Online

Our annual Spring Arts Festival was unfortunately canceled, but that did not stop our talented students from sharing their gifts with our community!

Vocal performances were under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Donatacci P'19, orchestral performances were under the direction of Mr. Joseph Martorano P'09, and the work of our talented art students was under the direction of Mrs. Lisa Encke P'20, director of the arts, and Ms. Patrizia Tersigni P'14 and Mrs. Mary Carnevale, art teachers. Thank you to Ms. Maureen McNulty, director of the performing arts, and Ms. Jessi Shaheen, communications teacher, for compiling our virtual celebration of the arts at IHA.



Alyssa Darella '22



Left: Artwork by Manushree Karthik '20

Top Middle: Kaitlyn Murad '20

Top Right: IHA's Praise Choir

Far Bottom Right: Ariana Alexay '21



Kate Menake '23 and Lauren Grae '23

Virtual 2020 Art@theheart Exhibition

Our sixth annual Art@theheart Exhibition was presented virtually on May 4, 2020. Online viewers enjoyed the artwork of two hundred twenty-nine exhibiting artists in grades five through eight from nineteen area schools.

Members of IHA's National Art Honor Society (NAHS) curated the exhibition, and three students from each grade were recognized as the 2020 Art@theheart winners. NAHS members carefully considered all work to determine this special recognition; twenty-nine judges juried the exhibition. Thank you to all of our student-artists for sharing your creativity and talent! Congratulations to this year's winners:

5th Grade

1st Place: Daniella Robanales - *St. Anthony School*

2nd Place: Jessie Do - *St. Peter Academy*

3rd Place: Ronan Hourican - *Academy of Our Lady*



Daniella Robanales

6th Grade

1st Place: Ana Esteve - *Academy of Our Lady*

2nd Place: Camryn Lauretta - *Academy of the Most Blessed Sacrament*

3rd Place: Kaitlyn Zheng - *Academy of St. Therese*



Briannah Daley

8th Grade

1st Place: Briannah Daley - *Our Lady of Mercy Academy*

2nd Place: Maya Kingston - *Academy of Our Lady*

3rd Place: Lucia Servino - *St. Margaret of Antioch*



Thank you for your generosity!

As we move forward into a new school year, we want to send a  *felt thank you* to all of our donors who continue to support Immaculate Heart Academy during such challenging and uncertain times.

Your gifts grant so many of our students the opportunity to continue their education at IHA.

If you are able, we hope you will give again in the '20-'21 school year. You can do so online at www.ihanj.com and click on the *Give Now* button in the upper right hand corner of our homepage. No gift is too small!

*For more information, please contact
Angelique Morelli, director of development, at amorelli@ihanj.com.*

BLUE EAGLE OPEN

Thursday, October 1, 2020

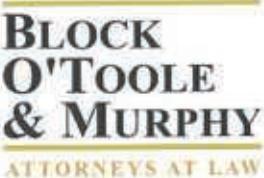
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Inaugural Rho Kappa Virtual Induction Ceremony Held

On May 26, 2020, IHA held its first-ever induction ceremony for the Silent Sentinel Chapter of the Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society. It was also IHA's first-ever virtual honor society induction ceremony. Held via Zoom, the ceremony welcomed seventeen seniors into the Rho Kappa Honor Society and the five members of the Rho Kappa Executive Board from the Class of 2021.

The students of the Rho Kappa Executive Board, along with Ms. Linda Chelotti'76, IHA Social Studies Department chairperson, planned a beautiful ceremony to honor the inductees from the Class of 2020. The remainder of the membership from the Class of 2021 will be inducted into the honor society in September 2020. As stated by the National Social Studies Organization, the name of the honor society, "Rho Kappa," is taken from two words of Semitic origin. "Rho" comes from "resh" meaning "head" and "Kappa" comes from "kapf" meaning "palm of the hand." Together, these words represent the society's belief that "knowledge without civic service is useless."

Due to the fact that IHA's chapter of Rho Kappa was founded in 2020, the Centenary Celebration of Women's Right to Vote, IHA named its chapter after the Silent Sentinels. This group of brave women fought tirelessly through the suffrage movement. From January 10, 1917 to June 4, 1919, more than two thousand women protested in picket lines outside the White House. This protest did not end until all women were finally granted the well-deserved right to vote with the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. Many of the Silent Sentinels were jailed for their actions of securing women's right to vote throughout all elections in the United States.



To remember and honor these women, each IHA inductee received a yellow rose and a pin depicting a jail cell door with a lock in the form of a heart. Both items have historical significance: senators voting on the passage of the 19th Amendment wore a yellow rose to show their support, and the pin is an exact replica of the one given to those Silent Sentinels who were imprisoned as they pushed the suffrage movement forward. As IHA young women, members of the Silent Sentinel Chapter of Rho Kappa swear to always strive to emulate these brave women and never let their voices go unheard.

Congratulations to the inaugural inductees:

Loretta Borghi'20
 Julianna Carrozza'20
 Isabella DeCurtis'20
 Olivia DuBois'20
 Niamh Keegan'20
 Gabriella Kida'20
 Hannahmia Lauricella'20
 Isabella Lucero'20
 Erin Meaney'20
 Juliana Najjar'20
 Jessica O'Neill'20
 Elizabeth Patteron'20
 Joanna Rajkowski'20
 Devyn Ruiz'20
 Kang Hyun Ryu'20
 Joan Tejera'20
 Hana Vozzo'20
 Katherine Conway'21 - Communication Officer

Emmersen Dabal'21 - Communication Officer
 Claire O'Byrne'21 - Vice President
 Isabella Estevez'21 - President
 Emma Viggiano'21 - Treasurer

Welcome to the Rho Kappa Society
 Where we honor the women who
 fought bravely
 For your right to vote, for hers, and mine too
 All so women under the red white and blue
 Could count and be heard just as much as
 they should
 Never limited to housework or motherhood
 So come one, come all, come IHA girls
 'Cause if we put our minds to it,
 we can rule the world!
 - Isabella Estevez'21

Immaculate Heart Heart ACADEMY

'64

Miriam Gill, a member of IHA's first graduating class, wrote a note on Facebook alongside a copy of Sr. Louise's note to IHA's Class of 1964 that same year: "Amid the COVID-19 gradual sort and purge of a lifetime of memorabilia,



today I mined from an ancient pile of paper, a collection of my high school newspaper called *Accent*. As a member of the founding class in 1961, one of our privileges was to 'christen' the paper. On page 3 of Volume 3, No. 6, I spotted our principal, Sr. Louise's, address to the first graduating Class of 1964. Reading it again after fifty-six years, I'm struck by how fitting it feels in many ways for

'72

Sharyn Kennedy Amoroso has enjoyed a fulfilling career since graduating from IHA. After sixteen years as a corporate vice-president, Sharyn attended the prestigious Protocol School of Washington, D.C. and began her own consulting business. As a guest instructor at prominent universities and Fortune 500 companies, she addressed audiences on the topics of international business etiquette and social protocol. This led to her appointment as Cadet Hostess at West Point, the United States Military Academy where, from 2010-2017, she supported the social development and etiquette training for the Corps of Cadets as they emerged as leaders of character. Sharyn resides in northern California with her husband of forty-one years, Mark, and their two sons. She continues occasional speaking engagements while taking writing and French courses, and volunteers at San Quentin State Prison helping inmates prepare to reenter society. She attributes her achievements to the strong upbringing from St. Paul School in Ramsey and IHA, which

CLASS notes



As Cadet Hostess at West Point, Sharyn Kennedy Amoroso'72 hosted numerous banquets for distinguished visitors, government officials, and heads of state.

instilled in her the virtues of respect and discipline. Sharyn is the proud aunt of sisters Lily'20, Grace'22, and Julia'22 who, she says, "are as strong and capable as they are lovely and kind."

the Class of 2020, facing unprecedented disappointments and challenges alongside their noteworthy achievements. So here, on a platform undreamed of in 1964, I'm sharing it in gratitude for my privileged high school years and Sr. Louise's daily call to dignity. I'm also sharing it to

honor the Class of 2020 everywhere, who must make do with new, creative rituals to honor their achievements and the dignity of this milestone passage as they embark on adulthood. Congratulations, seniors, and may all of your futures be touched by undreamed of wonders."

'72

Dolores Ziegler Mayo
recently visited **Lynette Foster Mauder** in Deland, Florida. Dolores and her husband will soon

be close by, snowbirding in Wachula, Florida beginning in October. Lynette and Dolores are excited to be closer together after fifty-five years of friendship!



Dolores Ziegler Mayo'72 and Lynette Foster Mauder'72—at IHA and today!

'82

'83

'87

In 2011, **Lisa Ferrari Tomasi'82** founded YouGiveGoods, an innovative e-commerce charitable giving company. Also on the YouGiveGoods team are her sisters, **Nancy Ferrari Ehnof'83**, director of finance & accounting, and **Diane Ferrari Frain'87**, marketing director. "Yes, three Ferrari sisters working together!" Diane writes. "Our company is doing amazing work amid

the COVID-19 crisis. Our platform enables any corporation, group, school, or individual to create custom giving events supporting any nonprofit in the U.S. by raising brand-new, most-needed items including food, baby care, personal hygiene products, school supplies, military support items, and more. Supporters shop online and all donated items are shipped in bulk directly to the nonprofit. Once COVID-19 hit, nonprofits lost the stream of supplies that come from traditional collection box drives. YouGiveGoods virtual drives became extremely important to them being able to meet increased need amid unprecedented circumstances." Just one example of the good work YouGiveGoods did during COVID-19 is the platform's recent partnership with Long Island Cares, which has raised just under 100,000 pounds of food for COVID-19 relief using YouGiveGoods. For more information, visit yougivegoods.com, email inquiry@yougivegoods.com, or call 877.526.4483.



Lisa Ferrari Tomasi'82; mom, Nancy Ferrari P'82, '83, '87; Diane Ferrari Frain'87; and Nancy Ferrari Ehnof'83

'05

On June 6, 2020, **Alexandra Simone** married Anthony Modafferi with only a handful of family present at St. John the Baptist R.C.C. in Piermont, New York. The ceremony was live-streamed to family and friends to watch all over the world. Afterward, the newlyweds celebrated with a drive-by parade and a Zoom session. Alexandra's sister, **Thea Simone Ferr'07**, was her matron of honor, and **Sylvia Cimoch'05** was her maid of honor. Classmate, **Aimee Mariano'05**, was also in attendance!



Aimee Mariano'05, Alexandra Simone Modafferi'05, and Sylvia Cimoch'05

Lisa Sinkovitz Virgilio and her husband, Calvin, welcomed Cameron Felipe Virgilio on April 11, 2020. Cameron was welcomed home by big brother, Henry, and big sister, Nina.



Cameron Felipe Virgilio

Emilie Taus earned a Master of Science degree in health informatics from The University of Scranton at a virtual celebration ceremony on May 30, 2020.

Michele Siska married Ty Kern in Scottsdale, Arizona this past November. There was quite the east coast IHA contingency in attendance including, pictured left to right, **Lisa Kirlick'05**, **Kate Shinnik Doehring'05**, **Lisa Sinkovitz Virgilio'05**, **Michele Siska'05**, **Catherine Leung'05**, **Janel Sipala'05**, and Tom Kennedy (Bergen Catholic'04). Michele's sister, **Dana Siska'10**, also celebrated the special day. The newlyweds live in New York City; Michele is a vice president for Bank of America and Ty is a vice president at Goldman Sachs.



'06 **Alexandra Maher McDowell** earned a Ph.D. in health policy from Harvard University and recently defended her dissertation on the effects of nondiscrimination policies on the health of transgender and gender diverse communities. Alex is also a mental health nurse and is starting a new position as a post-doctoral research fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, where she will continue to do research the relationship between health policy and mental health.

Meghan Norris Bradley is officially a published author in the Clinical Biochemistry Journal with a recent article entitled, "Quality over quantity: A qualitative, targeted bottom-up proteomics approach to genotyping apolipoprotein L1."

'07 **Karen Tschinkel** writes "After finishing my B.S. degree in chemical engineering at Manhattan College in 2011, I stayed on to pursue my master's degree in chemical engineering ('12). I then had the opportunity through work to go back part time to pursue a Master of Business Science degree in global food technology and innovation at Rutgers University. At Manhattan, I was involved in ChemE Car, a water filtration competition (WERC); I was *Manhattan Magazine* editor (art and lit student publication); a proofreader for a professor's textbook (*Heat Transfer Applications for the Practicing Engineer*, Dr. Lou Theodore); and president of Tau Beta Pi (national engineering honor society). I minored in psychology and was also a member of a social psychology research team under Dr. Kim Fairchild. Professionally, after spending seven years in long-term beverage processing innovation research and development as an engineer for PepsiCo, I recently transitioned to a product development role and am supporting the Cytosport team, specifically the Muscle Milk brand. I've been involved in Toastmasters International for the past few years with my eyes set on completing the Advanced Communicator Bronze. I also completed a two hundred-hour yoga certification in February and am a registered yoga teacher with the Yoga Alliance. I guess the IHA spirit of doing it all never left me. Something one of the girls shared from her parents' letter at Senior Retreat has stayed with me: 'You're a human being, not a human doing. Stop doing and just be.' After interning with the Kennedy Space Center in 2012, it was so surreal to see the fruits of the commercial crew program during the most recent launch, which was in very early phases when I was there. It was amazing to see it come into fruition and have friends from

that internship be involved in Launch America—certainly something to offer a glimmer of hope and positive distraction from our current circumstances."

'10 **Antonelle Tuazon** was among thirty-two students at The University of Scranton inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honor society. To be considered for induction, students must rank in the upper seven percent of the junior class, upper ten percent of the senior class, or upper twenty percent of the graduating master's class. Antonelle is a graduate student pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree in general business administration.

Dominique Spataro earned a Master of Science degree in school counseling from The University of Scranton at a virtual celebration ceremony on May 30, 2020.

'14 **Alexa Tortorello** earned a Master of Science degree in occupational therapy from The University of Scranton at a virtual celebration ceremony on May 30, 2020.

Nicole O'Brien earned a Master of Science degree in clinical mental health counseling from The University of Scranton at a virtual celebration ceremony on May 30, 2020.

'15 **Kristin Kirwan** earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from The University of Scranton at a virtual celebration ceremony on May 30, 2020.

Diana Jachts graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from University of Vermont during commencement ceremonies on May 17, 2020.

Samantha Glennon was named to Montclair State University's fall 2019 dean's list. Samantha is majoring in visual arts.

'02 to '15

Dr. Margaret Alvarez and Mr. Luis Alvarez P'02, '07, '09, '15 updated the IHA community on their four alumnae daughters, **Jeannette Alvarez, M.D.'02; Linda Alvarez, M.D.'07; Alicia Alvarez, M.D.'09; and Elena Alvarez'15.** "As a family of life-long learners, we felt that we wanted to share with everyone, in our opinions, what an IHA education can accomplish." The four sisters most recently joined together on the occasion of Alicia's wedding to Andrew Hou, M.D. in Sarasota, Florida at the Ritz Carleton Beach Club this leap day, February 29, 2020. "Alicia, an Internal Medicine physician, completed her residency at University of Michigan Hospital and is now finishing a fellowship in Allergy & Immunology at University of Texas in Dallas. Her husband Andrew, an eye surgeon completing his residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, is soon to begin his fellowship in Oklahoma in cornea transplant. They met ten years ago while studying for their B.S.M.D. degrees. They are thrilled that their commute will soon be a three-hour



Elena Alvarez'15; Jeannette Alvarez, M.D.'02; Alicia Alvarez, M.D.'09; and Linda Alvarez, M.D.'07

drive instead of by air. Jeannette Alvarez, M.D.'02 graduated from Johns Hopkins University, attained an M.S. degree in mental health, and attended the Culinary Institute of America before completing her M.D. degree. Elena Alvarez'15 is completing her M.S.W. at New York University. Linda Alvarez, M.D.'07, University of Miami, family medicine, palliative care, and pain management, is now also completing her M.B.A. in finance at Cornell University. All appear to be following in their mother's footsteps—Margaret Alvarez, M.D., neuro and pharm specialist who, along

with her husband, Luis Alvarez, will be celebrating their 38th anniversary in October. Luis was recently named a Silver Medal New Jersey State PBA honoree by the Paterson, New Jersey Police Benevolent Association as a community business sponsor and leader. We credit IHA as being pivotal with their successes. They all have stated how grateful and privileged they were to have been the recipients of an IHA education. With no doubt, it served as the foundation for their higher learning."

16 **Julie Weismiller** was among thirty-one students at The University of Scranton inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society of nursing, this past spring as a senior nursing major. For induction into the honor society, which was founded in 1922, students must have completed one half of the nursing curriculum, demonstrated ability in nursing, have a grade point average of 3.0, and rank in the upper one-third of the class. In May, Julie graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. During the summer, she prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) in order to become a

Registered Nurse (RN). "I look forward to securing a nursing position after I pass the NCLEX," she said, "and pursuing my dream of helping those in need, especially during these unprecedented times."

Rebecca De Rosa was recently featured by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in her final semester at the school. Rebecca, who played lacrosse at Rensselaer, had nine goals and eleven assists with forty-eight ground balls in forty-seven career games. She served as captain as a senior. Rebecca graduated with a B.S. degree in industrial and management engineering and accepted an offer to join W. L. Gore & Associates in Delaware as an industrial engineer in its biopharmaceutical division.

Mackenzie Robertson was named to Montclair State University's fall 2019 dean's list. Mackenzie is majoring in television and digital media.

Lauren Gallagher was among The University of Scranton students inducted into Lambda Pi Eta, the national honor society for communication majors, this past spring as a senior journalism and electronic media major.

Alexis Wiener graduated cum laude from University of Miami on May 7, 2020. She will be attending graduate school for sports administration beginning in September 2020 and plans to matriculate to law school in 2021 to study sports law.

Samantha Allen was selected for inclusion on St. Lawrence University's dean's list for academic achievement during the spring 2020 semester. Samantha, a member of the Class of 2020, majored in environmental studies-biology.

Michelle Kaminski was placed on the Gettysburg College dean's honor list for outstanding academic achievement in the fall 2019 semester.

Morgan Williams writes, "I am the daughter of alumna, **Nicole Edmonds Willner'90**, and graduated from the University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in economics in May. In the fall, I will be moving to Paris to begin my career as a young associate at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)."

Carmela Stone was named to the dean's list at Rochester Institute of Technology for the 2019 fall semester.

Erin Garry writes, "I can't believe it's been four years since graduating IHA. I graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park with a bachelor's degree in communications, public relations. I had the most amazing four years at UMD, through the friends I made, experiences offered, and the opportunity to study abroad in Florence last year, and miss it terribly already. This fall, I will be moving to Paris to pursue a master's degree in global communications (focused in luxury fashion) at the American University of Paris!"

Laura lobst earned a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science from The University of Scranton at a virtual undergraduate celebration ceremony on May 31, 2020. Laura was also among the thirty-eight students at The University of Scranton inducted into Phi Epsilon Kappa Honor Society, more commonly known as the Kinesiology Honor Society, the national honor society in physical education.

Katharine Ustorf earned a 4.0 G.P.A. and made it onto the dean's list for the Spring 2020 semester at the University of Connecticut.

Lauren Gallagher earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism - electronic media and social media strategies from The University of Scranton at a virtual undergraduate celebration ceremony on May 31, 2020.

Sophie Akellian was named to the dean's list for the spring 2020 semester at the University of Vermont. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in health sciences during commencement ceremonies on May 17, 2020.

Juliana Costanza was named to Montclair State University's fall 2019 dean's list. Juliana is majoring in psychology.

Courtney King received a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication & information sciences from The University of Alabama.

Cassandra Lepore writes, "This past May, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in foods and nutrition from San Diego State University. I have been matched to my first choice coordinated dietetic internship and master's in nutrition program with the College of Saint Elizabeth in Morristown. I will complete the more than twelve hundred hours of supervised practice necessary to sit for the registered dietitian examination in order to become a registered dietitian. I plan on becoming a cardiac rehabilitation outpatient dietitian, focusing directly on cardiology nutrition and heart-healthy diets! Not a day goes by where I don't miss the halls of IHA!"



Cassandra Lepore '16

Isabella Paladino received a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication & information sciences from The University of Alabama.

Hope Rice recently graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Science degree in applied developmental psychology, and will be returning there this coming year to earn a master's degree in elementary and special education. She then hopes to teach pre-school, kindergarten, or first grade in an elementary school in New Jersey.

Kerri Nicholson writes, "I'm proud to say that I just graduated magna cum laude from the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. Starting this fall, I will be attending Seton Hall University School of Law to pursue my J.D. I'm really excited for this new opportunity and to be back in the New Jersey area after being away for four years!"

Kelly Feehan graduated from The College of New Jersey with a major in marketing and a minor in communications. She started a job in May at Merck Animal Health as an associate specialist for global ruminant marketing. "It's not something I ever imagined myself in, but it has been very interesting and such a great experience!"

McKenzie Kilduff writes, "In May, I graduated from Virginia Tech cum laude with a B.S. degree in finance with a concentration in corporate financial management. I will be moving to Arlington, Virginia to start working at Deloitte as an analyst in its GPS Risk and Financial Advisory department. Going into college in the fall of 2016, I was way more prepared than most people I knew due to the education I received at IHA. I still talk to many of my friends from my time at IHA and they are all doing great things."

Ashley Rose graduated from the University of Mississippi with a B.B.A. degree in managerial finance and minors in psychology and intelligence and security studies. In the fall, she will begin working for L'Oreal in the greater New York City area in its finance department.

Caitlyn Floyd writes, “I graduated magna cum laude from Ithaca College in December of 2019, majoring in emerging media. I was a two-time All-American and two-time captain of the varsity volleyball team that made it to the NCAA DIII Final Four in 2017. I am now working full time for The Walt Disney Company as a transmission specialist on ESPN’s campus. I am also pursuing my master’s degree in telecommunications technology, virtually, at University of Denver.”

Katie Popiela graduated from Mount Holyoke College with magna cum laude honors. Keeping true to her academic vision and goals, she graduated with a double major in political science and European history. During her junior year, Katie studied abroad in Prague, Czechoslovakia. While she continued her studies there, she explored the Czech Republic and traveled various towns in Hungary, Austria, Poland, and Croatia. During her semester abroad, Katie was notified by Mount Holyoke of a grant she was awarded to continue her research in Eastern European studies. She traveled back to Europe in Summer 2019, prior to starting her senior year, to continue her research. That trip took her to various parts of Ukraine; Poland, including Krakow and Auschwitz; as



Katie Popiela'16

well as Israel, including Jerusalem. Her thesis was entitled “Transformation and Totalization: Intimate Violence in the Polish-Ukrainian Borderlands, 1918-19, 1939, and 1941.” Katie is continuing on to graduate school in Europe to further her Eastern European studies. She was accepted to the University of Krakow; St. Charles University in Prague, and University College London, all of which are noted for their Eastern European studies programs. She will be attending University College London in September 2020. After completion of the master’s program, Katie plans on acquiring her Ph.D. in the states. Her career goal is to find a professorship position teaching Eastern European history.

Madison Seelman writes, “IHA will always have a special place in my heart and has definitely prepared me for college and law school. I graduated from Fordham University and am heading to New York Law School in the fall.”

Rebecca Kryceski graduated University of New England with a B.S. degree in health wellness and occupational studies with cum laude honors. Leading up to graduation, she was also recognized with the Student Leader Award, given to one graduating undergraduate student, as well as the Leadership Award within her major. She is currently still a student at UNE as a part of its accelerated nursing program and will complete her BSN by August 2021.

Cortney Muller was named to the president’s list at James Madison University for the spring 2020 semester. Cortney is an international business major.

Rebecca Coronel was named to the dean’s list at Rochester Institute of Technology for the 2020 spring semester. Rebecca is in the mechanical engineering technology program.

Meghan Allen was named to the Muhlenberg College dean’s list for the spring 2020 semester. She was awarded her undergraduate degree during a virtual Conferral of Degrees on May 17, 2020. Meghan graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in neuroscience.

At Loyola University Maryland’s 168th Virtual Commencement Exercises, **Brianna Alonso** received a B.B.A. degree in business, **Nicole Krieger** received a B.B.A. degree in business, and **Kelly Lyons** received a B.A. degree in communications – public relations.

Elizabeth Mathis received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hamilton College on Sunday, May 24, in a virtual Commencement ceremony concluding the college’s 208th year. Elizabeth majored in biology and economics.

Jamie del Rosario was named to the Siena College president’s list for the spring 2020 Semester.

Katelyn Ludwicki was named to the Siena College dean’s list for the spring 2020 semester.

Kelly Ciampo graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and a Bachelor of Arts degree in public health from College of Charleston in May 2020.

Christine Weber writes, “I graduated from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. with a major in biological anthropology and minors in biology and sustainability. Over the past four years, I was also a member of the varsity lacrosse team. Now that I am at home, I am focusing on applying to veterinary school.”

Daniella Tedino writes, “I recently graduated magna cum laude from Ramapo College of New Jersey’s nursing program. I will begin my career as a nurse in the Critical Care department at The Valley Hospital in September.”

Erin Latz writes, "This past May, I graduated from Providence College with a bachelor's degree in social work. While at Providence, I had the most wonderful opportunities to work with a variety of populations such as refugees and homeless families and individuals. I completed two internships; my junior year was spent at YearUp RI, which is a job training program for urban youth. This past year, I interned at Juanita Sanchez Educational Complex with a caseload of high school students. I was also able to take two service trips during my four years. Over spring break during my freshman year, I went to Tijuana, Mexico as a part of my border crossings course to volunteer with an organization that builds homes for families recently deported back to Mexico and in need of a home. The summer after my sophomore year, I took a trip to Montego Bay, Jamaica, to serve at an orphanage for children with mental and physical disabilities. I am very grateful for my education from IHA that led me to succeed at Providence College. I will be attending Ramapo College in the fall as an advanced-standing student to receive my M.S.W."

’17

Regine Thimothee was named to the dean's list at Rochester Institute of Technology for the 2019 fall semester.

Nicolette Santoro was named to the president's list for the Spring 2020 semester at Clemson University. Nikki is majoring in nutrition/dietetics and is entering into her senior year.

Reese Guevarra, a rising senior at University of Connecticut, was recently honored as a NSCA (National Strength and Conditioning Association) All-American Strength and Conditioning Athlete of the Year. The article written about Reese receiving this honor reads in part, "She maintains a consistent intensity and effort that not just leads, but drives her teammates toward excellence. Reese does not have a standard of success as her standard is constantly rising. A junior who has ranked in the top of the team in strength and conditioning performance measures all three years, Reese continuously finds ways to improve herself and bring along her team. She is a well-respected teammate who represents herself, her team, her family, and her university well. She additionally represents her history as she has competed in the Asia-Oceania Olympic Qualifier for the Philippines. Academically, Reese has been an exceptional student, most recently earning a 4.0 semester as a psychological sciences major. Reese is energetic, inspiring, mature, and her passion, dedication, and charisma are absolutely infectious."

Sarah O'Connell has been named to the dean's list at James Madison University for the spring 2020 semester. Sarah is a communication studies major.

Gianna Cangelosi was placed on the Gettysburg College dean's honor list for outstanding academic achievement in the Fall 2019 semester.

Christine Jacob was named to the Siena College president's list for the spring 2020 semester.

Riley Maloney was named to the dean's list for the spring 2020 semester at the Villanova School of Business. This summer she interned at JP Morgan Chase & Co. in the Investment Banking Division.

’18

Kathryn Costello, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2022, earned the fall 2019 dean's award with distinction.

Annie Walsh was named to Montclair State University's fall 2019 dean's list. Annie is majoring in business administration.

Marielle Riccardelli was named to the Siena College dean's list for the spring 2020 semester.

Megan Rice was named to the dean's list for the spring 2020 semester in the Mendoza College of Business at University of Notre Dame.

’19

Alexa Trubiano, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2023, earned the fall 2019 dean's award with distinction.

Bea Chin was named to the dean's list at Rochester Institute of Technology for the 2020 spring semester. Bea is in the computer engineering program.

Nicole Piserchia was named to the dean's list for the 2020 spring semester at the Davis & Henley College of Nursing at Sacred Heart University. Nicole has also been volunteering at the Bergen New Bridge Medical Center COVID-19 mobile detail.

Would you like to be featured in IHA's Class Notes?

Please send your life update to **Mrs. Tara Hopfenspirger**, director of communications, at thopfenspirger@ihanj.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Your prayers are requested for the following members of the Immaculate Heart Academy community who recently passed away:

Kathleen Freeburn, Class of 1989

January 8, 2020

Sister of Kathy Freeburn P'20 and aunt of Caroline Freeburn'20

Mary Grace Dolores Dirks, Class of 1997

April 23, 2020

Margaret McVeigh, Class of 1992

May 13, 2020

Christine Kelly, Class of 1964

July 24, 2020

Cousin of Katharine Benvenuto'05 and Laura Benvenuto'09

Michele Petersen

February 24, 2020

Mother of Carole Petersen'78 and Cindy Petersen P'01, '03 and grandmother of Erin Duby'01 and Kelly Duby Falcon'03, faculty member

Margaret Doerr

April 21, 2020

Mother-in-law of Maria Doerr P'06, main office staff member, and grandmother of Kristen Doerr'06

Juan de Jesús "Morel" Estevez

April 21, 2020

Grandfather of Priscilla Estevez'15, Isabella Estevez'21, and Amber Estevez'23

Lorraine Braden

April 22, 2020

Mother of Geri Braden, faculty member

Joseph Winnie

April 24, 2020

Father of the late Cynthia Winnie'75

Lorette Von Hoene Collins

April 25, 2020

Sister of Lenore Von Hoene'66, Lois Von Hoene'68, Lorraine Von Hoene West'69, and Linda Van Hoene'75

Peter Madonia, M.D.

April 26, 2020

Father of Julie Madonia Kopka'71; father-in-law of Katie O'Connell Madonia'82 and Moira Madonia, former faculty member; and grandfather of Lara Madonia Fabish'00

Kathleen Aurilio

April 28, 2020

Mother-in-law of Jessi Shaheen, faculty member

Mary K. Molloy

April 30, 2020

Mother of Patricia Molloy, president; Kathleen Molly'65; Mary Molloy'69; Bill Molloy (Bergen Catholic'74); and Jim Molloy (Bergen Catholic'76); mother-in-law of the late Patti Burns Molloy'74; and grandmother of Carolyn Molloy'09 and Diane Molloy'11

Tom Hanrahan

May 2, 2020

Husband of Pat Gourley Hanrahan'64

Elizabeth Bovino

May 4, 2020

Mother of Elizabeth Ann Bovino-Jackson'83 and grandmother of Erin Jackson'18 and Lauren Jackson'21

Gerald Gill

May 17, 2020

Husband of Kathleen Job Gill'66

Stephen DeNichilo

May 21, 2020

Father of Lorraine DeNichilo'98

Thomas Blehl

June 13, 2020

Father of Mary Blehl Walsh'65 and Kathleen Blehl'14

Steven Florence

June 25, 2020

Brother of Ellen Florence'75

Brian Cassidy

July 15, 2020

Husband of Joanne Annunziata Cassidy'88

Quinlan McVeigh

July 22, 2020

Son of the late Maggie McVeigh'92

IHA Installs State-of-the-Art Air Purification System

Immaculate Heart Academy has made a long-term investment in a state-of-the-art air purification system. After extensive research on various systems that can provide a safer environment for our students, faculty, staff, and visitors, the school has moved forward with the installation of a needlepoint bipolar ionization system that is effective in removing particulate matter from the circulating air.

Particulate matter includes pollutants, dust, allergens, mold, bacteria, and viruses, including COVID-19. Ionization technology constantly generates a high concentration of positively and negatively charged ions. These ions travel through the air continuously seeking out and attaching to particles. When ions come into contact with pathogens, they steal away hydrogen from the pathogens, reducing the infectivity of the virus.

Needlepoint bipolar ionization is OZONE free and safe to use in education settings.

The main issue with viruses is that they may be airborne and also live on surfaces. Bipolar ionization is capable of killing viruses that are spread through droplets from coughing and sneezing as well as the germs that live on surfaces where an infected person has made contact. Surface transmission happens when a non-infected person touches a contaminated surface and subsequently becomes infected, thus furthering the spread of illness. In this case, needlepoint bipolar ionization is a multi-purpose solution for targeting germs within a building.

In addition to its high level of safety and performance, the bipolar ionization system is cost-effective, requiring

minimal maintenance and very low energy consumption. Since IHA is fully air-conditioned, bipolar ionization is the best solution to the challenge of making the school as safe as possible for all. While this new technology will be an effective weapon for the current COVID-19 virus, it can also improve the air in our building for students with allergies, asthma, and other respiratory sensitivities. It is important to note that the recommendations of the CDC will still be needed (social distancing, face covering, hand washing, etc.).

We are confident that this improvement will make IHA as safe as possible and ensure that our students, faculty and staff members, and visitors can feel comfortable that their safety is our primary concern.

CLASS OF 1970 50TH REUNION

Rescheduled

Attention Class of 1970 alumnae! Although you recently received a Save the Date for your 50th reunion, unfortunately plans have changed. Given the impossibility of gathering during this pandemic, the committee has cancelled the November plans and decided to reschedule it for 2021.

This means classmates will now get together twenty-five years after their last reunion in 1996! Please stay tuned for an announcement once dates are decided. Questions? Email ihaclasseof70reunion@gmail.com.

2020 OPEN HOUSES

Will you be a member of IHA's Class of 2025?

If you are a young woman searching for a school known for its academic excellence, athletic competition, and creative expression grounded in traditional Catholic values, Immaculate Heart Academy is the place for you. Students from five different counties in New Jersey and New York presently call IHA

their second home, and we would love for you to join them. The sisterhood formed at IHA is incomparable, and the memories made here last a lifetime—just ask the ten thousand five hundred twenty-nine graduates who have graced our halls. Come decide if you belong @theheart by attending our 2020 Fall Open Houses:

**Sunday,
OCTOBER 25, 2020
11 a.m. through 2 p.m.**

**Thursday,
OCTOBER 29, 2020
6:30 through 8:30 p.m.**

What to Expect

- Take a tour with our knowledgeable and friendly student Eagle Ambassadors, who will guide you through the state-of-the-art building and campus.
- Meet teachers, administrators, directors, students, and coaches—all of whom are essential members of the IHA family.
- Learn about the admissions process.
- Ask questions about curriculum, financial aid, transportation, and much more.

How to Apply

- Complete IHA's online application on www.ihanj.com by December 1, 2020.
- Have transcripts from sixth through eighth grade sent to IHA by December 15, 2020.
- The HSPT for the Class of 2025 *has been canceled*.

Online registration is requested for our Open Houses. Please check our website and social media pages for any potential changes in our Open Houses, the application process, and an entrance exam due to the ongoing COVID-19 circumstances.

For more information, please contact **Ms. Alexis Fatigati'07**, director of admissions, at 201.445.6800, ext. 112 or afatigati@ihanj.com.



500 Van Emburgh Avenue
Township of Washington, NJ 07676
Change Service Requested

If this is not you or if your daughter no longer lives at home, please let us know. Reach out to Beth DiCiancia Garrigan'76 at 201.445.6800, ext. 182 or bgarrigan@ihanj.com with updated information.



PLEASE NOTE, ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS LISTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON THE CURRENT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES.

UPCOMING

2020-21 Special Events



OCT 01	Blue Eagle Open Registration and lunch, 11 a.m., Followed by 1 p.m. shotgun start. Forest Hill Field Club, Bloomfield	MAR 14	2021 Hall of Fame Seasons, Township of Washington IHA's Hall of Fame Luncheon and Awards Ceremony honors individuals in the categories of Alumna, Educator, Parents, and Community Leader.
OCT 25	Open House 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tour the state-of-the-art building; meet faculty, staff, and coaches; and ask questions of our knowledgeable student Eagle Ambassadors.	TBD	Spring Fashion Show TBD, The Estate at Florentine Gardens The morning begins with a basket preview and brunch hors d'oeuvres. IHA students and boys from area schools will model the latest fashions and attendees will try their luck at winning hundreds of awesome basket prizes. Details to follow.
NOV 13-15	Fall Drama We hope to produce our fall drama as usual, but plan to host some type of celebration of the theatrical arts at IHA if restrictions are placed due to COVID-19.	TBD	Reunion Weekend Fall 2021 Due to the uncertainty of 2020 fall events, we have decided to combine the celebration of this year's and next year's anniversary classes. Reunion Weekend in the Fall of 2021 will welcome the anniversary classes of '75, '76, '80, '81, '85, '86, '90, '91, '95, '96, '00, '01, '05, '06, '10, '11, '15, and '16.
NOV 22	Handbag Bingo This date is tentative based on COVID-19 restrictions at the time. Details to follow.		