

# Immaculate Heart ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2021

VOL. 37, NO. 2



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**Cover Shot:** Sophia Mazzola'21 and Isabella Garzon'21

## Our Mission

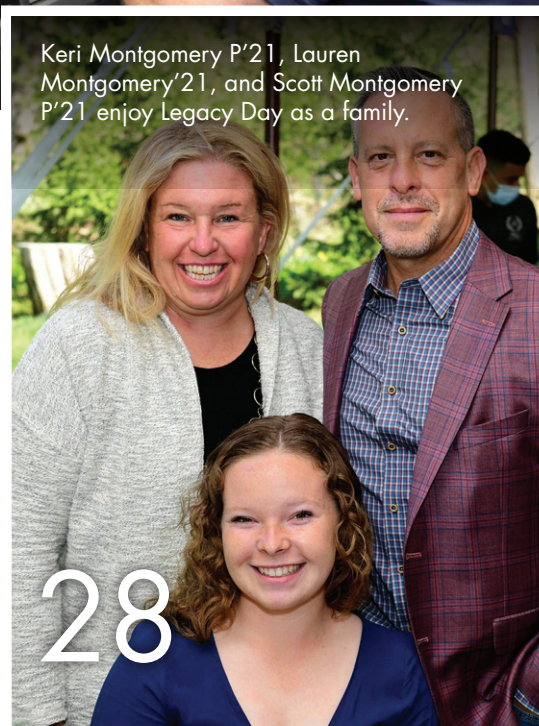
Immaculate Heart Academy is a college preparatory high school in the Archdiocese of Newark which has as its purpose the complete education of young women. By both cultivating the traditional Christian values of the Roman Catholic Church and by upholding exceptional academic standards, IHA offers a unique 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.



Giana Homan'21 receives her diploma from Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal.



Gianna Stirone'21 drives through the Class of 2021 Clap Out.



Keri Montgomery P'21, Lauren Montgomery'21, and Scott Montgomery P'21 enjoy Legacy Day as a family.





Elizabeth Pinto-Shaw'21 looks beautiful at the Senior Fashion Show.

## Immaculate Heart ACADEMY

**PRESIDENT** Jason Schlereth  
**PRINCIPAL** Kerry Carroll'04  
**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** Tara Hopfenspirger  
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Daniela Nizza P'23; Stacy DeMicco P'21, '24, '25; and Cathy Persico P'18, '21 at the 2021 Parents Volunteer Reception



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**Above:** Cornelia Fox'24, Hannah Sengul'24, Maura Hesler'24, and Lily Tzitzikalakis'24 pose in front of their work displayed as part of the Spring Arts Festival.



Bryanna Pollard'21 poses in front of her work at the Senior Spring Arts Show.

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In Memoriam



The 2021 issue of *Orb* was dedicated to Ms. Patricia Molloy.

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As one of the 21 Celebrations of the Class of 2021, a special Mass was held for our senior students this spring.



# President's Corner



Dear friends,

As we embark on a new school year, I am honored to serve as the next president of Immaculate Heart Academy. I can't help but to feel incredibly hopeful and eager to welcome our community back to campus. After the last challenging year and a half we have all been through, I am especially excited for the halls and classrooms to again be safely filled with our students, faculty, and staff.

We continuously hear from alumnae, current families, and visiting prospective families that they feel IHA's welcoming and tightknit community as soon as they walk through our doors. I am truly looking forward to joining back together and giving our families that feeling again—one of sisterhood, compassion, and inclusivity.

The Student Council has chosen a perfect theme for the 2021-22 school year: *Soaring through Sisterhood; Together we can conquer anything.* Our current students

are part of a sisterhood that is already ten thousand seven hundred twenty-two alumnae strong, and I sincerely believe they can conquer anything as they soar through IHA and beyond.

Finally, I want to send my heartfelt thanks to everyone in this IHA family. Thank you for your patience and understanding, for your perseverance, hard work, and adaptability. Thank you for the support you've shown and that I know you'll continue to show as we rebuild and return to a closer sense of normalcy—together.

May the Immaculate Heart of Mary continue to bless us and watch over our school community.

Jason Schlereth  
President



Jordan Gehrig'21, Ashley Brombauer'21, and Carmela Cogliano'21 at the Yearbook Signing Party.





# Class of 2021 Commencement Exercises

Jillian Shea'21 receives her diploma from Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal.

Immaculate Heart Academy's fifty-eighth Annual Commencement Exercises were held on June 5, 2021 on the school's turf field. One hundred ninety-three outstanding young women received their diplomas from Ms. Patricia Molloy, president; Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal; and Miss Kerry Carroll'04 and Mrs. Alice Rogers P'07, '09, '13, assistant

principals. Including the members of this year's graduating class, *ten thousand seven hundred twenty-two* young women now carry the title of IHA alumna.

After a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem was sung by [Olivia DeMartini'21 \(St. Joseph's University\)](#), the ceremony opened with

[Mia Grossman'21 \(The George Washington University\)](#), Student Council president, offering the invocation and [Angelina Casale'21 \(Georgetown University\)](#), salutatorian, giving a memorable welcoming address. Angelina quoted Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stating, "Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of a true education." She said she believes Dr. King's words perfectly apply to her IHA experience. "My four years have made me into a more compassionate, selfless, thoughtful, and empathetic person who is eager to serve," Angelina stated. "Whether it is through the many unique and impactful service opportunities IHA provides, inspiring homilies at our school Masses, or even just the kindness of my teachers and peers who are always there for me to confide in, my character has been transformed."

Commencement Speaker, [Dr. Shelly Choo](#), IHA Class of 2002 and a preventive medicine physician based in Baltimore, addressed the graduating class with an enthusiastic and inspiring speech. She offered a number of helpful pieces of advice to the graduates: failures are chances for growth; don't let your own self-doubt be a roadblock; be open to



Ms. Patricia Molloy attends her 48th and final IHA Graduation prior to her retirement on June 30, 2021.



Alyssa Longo'21 proudly shows off her Immaculate Heart Academy diploma.

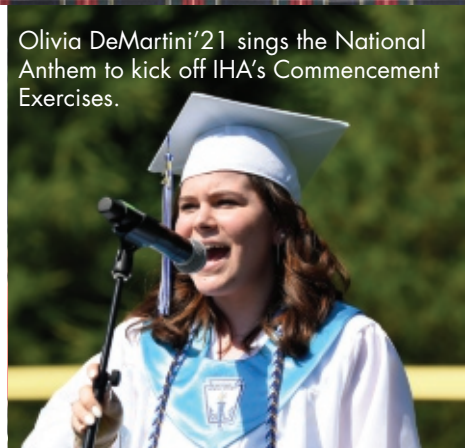




Mia Grossman'21, STUCO president, offered the invocation and recognized Ms. Patricia Molloy, president, as she celebrated her final IHA graduation.



Rebecca Beltram'21, Lauren Lugo'21, Alexandra Kaspar'21, Isabella Garzon'21, and Gianna Grigaliunas'21



Olivia DeMartini'21 sings the National Anthem to kick off IHA's Commencement Exercises.

opportunities that come your way; and speak up—with your own voice. Read more about Dr. Choo on page 7. Diplomas and special awards were then distributed to members of the Class of 2021. First, the IHA Family Awards were presented to seven families whose final daughter of three or more graduated this year. See the full list of IHA Family Award recipients on page 10. Several students were also honored for a variety of accomplishments in and out of the classroom. We send heartfelt congratulations to this year's IHA Award winner, [Mia Grossman'21](#); the Academic Excellence Award winner, [Freya Nair'21 \(Georgia Institute of Technology\)](#); and the many other award and scholarship recipients recognized at this year's Commencement Exercises. See more recipients on page 8.

The Class of 2021 Commencement was the final graduation in which the school's president, Ms. Patricia Molloy, participated prior to her retirement in June. Mia Grossman'21 honored



Ariana DeMarco'21, Analisa Martino'21, Giana Homan'21, and Maia Kennelly'21



Charles Zampino P'21, Maureen Zampino P'21, Sarah Zampino'21, and Matthew Zampino

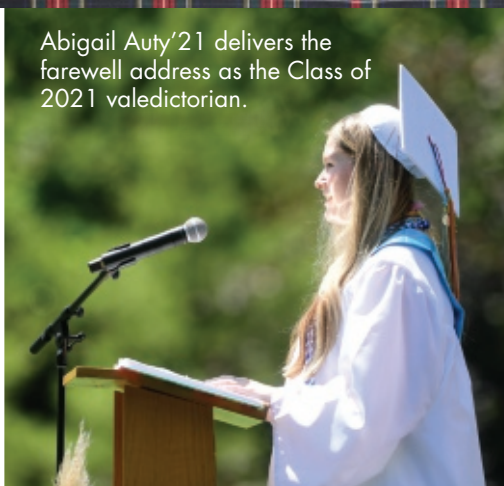


Julia Frengul'21 and Emma Bassett'21





Gracelee Fasanella '21 leads her row for the Graduation processional.



Abigail Auty '21 delivers the farewell address as the Class of 2021 valedictorian.



Aram Minnetian P'21, '25; Danielle Minnetian '21; and Tiffany Minnetian P'21, '25

Ms. Molloy at the graduation ceremony—the forty-eighth graduation she has celebrated at IHA. “Her many years of dedication to Catholic education, Christian values, and the IHA community exemplify the very best that we all should strive to achieve,” Mia said about Ms. Molloy. “Her legacy continues to influence so much at our school—from the challenging curriculum and the physical building to the distinctive culture of sisterhood for which IHA is so highly regarded. Thank you, Ms. Molloy, for your decades of dedication to IHA and the thousands of students you taught, led, and inspired.”

Ms. Molloy then spoke to the graduates, her final address as president of IHA. “There is no doubt that, in spite of all the disappointment and loss you’ve experienced over the past fifteen months, something extraordinary has occurred,” Ms. Molloy stated. “The Class of 2021 will have a bond with each other and with graduates from all over the world. YOU are the class that faced adversity with courage and determination. YOU are the young women who found new ways to learn, to serve others, and to maintain relationships in the most challenging of circumstances. YOU are creative, brave, compassionate, and, most of all, you are women who understand that you have a responsibility to use the gifts that God has bestowed upon you to change the world.”

Class of 2021 valedictorian, [Abigail Auty '21 \(Georgia Institute of Technology\)](#), delivered a moving farewell address. “The sisterhood grows and learns together, sharing tips and tricks, laughs, tears, and even complaints about the difficulty of that one math class,” Abigail said. “I would like to take this



Members of IHA's Class of 2021 move their tassels from right to left.

opportunity to thank not only the parents, teachers, and administrators, but to also thank you as the Class of 2021. Thank you to the girls who proofread essays the night before they were due. Thank you to the class group chats that reminded each other when tests were, what homework was due, and how to solve that one physics problem the rest of us really didn’t understand. Thank you to the girls who lent an ear or a shoulder to cry on when all of this just really seemed like too much. It is through our sense of community that we have thrived, and I will truly miss my fellow sisters when we go on to college.” [Angelina Boris '21 \(Pace University\)](#) concluded the ceremony by leading her classmates in IHA’s Alma Mater.

Members of the Class of 2021 received more than *fifty-one million dollars* in scholarship awards and will be continuing their education at some of the most esteemed colleges and universities in the country—from Barnard College, Cornell University, Case Western Reserve University, UNC Chapel Hill, and College of William & Mary to

Boston College, Columbia University, Georgetown University, Tufts University, University of Notre Dame, and Wellesley College.

Fifty-two students are attending Catholic institutions, eleven students are attending schools in New Jersey, and thirty-three percent of the class is attending colleges and universities outside of the northeast. Two IHA graduates are attending the University of Toronto. Some of the most popular choices this year include Sacred Heart University with eleven attending; Marist College, Fairfield University, and Quinnipiac University with eight each; Villanova University with seven attending; and University of Tampa with six. Other popular choices with five IHA graduates attending each include Clemson University, Fordham University, University of Miami, and University of South Carolina. Eighty-eight percent of this class is attending their first or second-choice colleges.

Congratulations to our 2021 IHA graduates! Fly high, Blue Eagles.



# Welcoming Back Dr. Shelly Choo'02



## 2021 Commencement Speaker

**W**e were honored to welcome Dr. Shelly Choo, IHA Class of 2002, back to IHA as the 2021 Commencement Speaker. Dr. Choo, a preventive medicine physician based in Baltimore, is currently the Director for the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health at the Maryland Department of Health. Dr. Choo earned a bachelor's degree in biochemical sciences at Harvard University, a Doctorate of Medicine from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and a Master's of Public Health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She previously served as the Chief Medical Officer and Senior Medical Advisor with the Baltimore City Health Department, and the Senior Medical Advisor with B'more for Healthy Babies. She was also a medical fellow with NBC News. Her specialty is in preventive medicine and public health and she is passionate about maternal and child health, equity, and the social determinants of health. Other impressive past roles include vice president of communications for the American College of Preventive Medicine Resident Physician Section, the national president of the Asian Pacific Medical Student Association, and new intern board chair for the World Health Organization Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

On top of these many impressive accomplishments, Dr. Choo is also a mom to two young children.

At IHA, Dr. Choo served on the Student Council, contributed to the school newspaper, and was a member of the Science League and the IHA Swim Team. She was also salutatorian of her Class of 2002. In her message to the graduating class, Dr. Choo began by giving them well-deserved praise for the changes they had to make over the last year and a half. She said what stood out to her were the resilience, creativity, and adaptability they showed. "Several of you found ways to provide social support to patients with COVID," she said. "Several of you found online internships with companies nearby and in other states. Many of you pivoted your in-person group clubs and boards to virtual meetings. All of you should be proud of your strength, innovation, and perseverance."

Dr. Choo explained to the graduates how she unexpectedly fell in love with the field of preventive medicine and public health, causing her to switch specialties and change her original plan of becoming a surgeon. "For those who have planned your career and the rest of your life already, be open to new opportunities and expect the unexpected," she said. "Areas that you don't think you would be

interested in, they might end up being your passion and calling. For those of you who aren't sure what your next steps are, that is okay. Just be open to opportunities that come your way."

For her final piece of guidance, Dr. Choo encouraged the Class of 2021 graduates to continue to speak up, and speak with their own voices.

"Your perspective is important," she continued. "The world needs to hear from you. If we don't recognize the structural and systemic factors that contribute to inequities and disparities, who will? If we don't start hard conversations such as social and racial justice, who will? And if we don't create the change that we want to see, who will?" She said she feels privileged to have attended IHA and thanks the school and the many women who came before her who let her "stand on their shoulders to succeed."

"My mentor would always say that with privilege comes responsibility and courage," she stated. "All of you had the privilege to attend IHA, and I hope with that privilege you realize your responsibility and courage to speak the truth, to be inclusive, and to create the change that you want to see."



# Class of 2021 Graduation Awards

The following awards were presented at the 2021 Commencement Exercises:

**Valedictorian**

**Salutarian**

**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 Visitation 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 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**

**The Minerva Echeverria Award**

**The Denise Gartner Memorial Award**

**The Tammy Medzadourian Memorial Award**

Abigail Auty (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Angelina Casale (Georgetown University)

Mia Grossman (The George Washington University)

Freya Nair (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Elizabeth Spizzo (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)

Christine Ajao (Bucknell University)

Mary Virginia Nye (College of William & Mary)

Alyssa Longo (University of Miami)

Amanda Potenza (Lehigh University)

Olivia DeMartini (St. Joseph's University)

Emmy Mazzacano (College of the Holy Cross)

Sophia Mazzola (University of South Carolina)

Catherine Nixon (Montclair State University)

Bianca D'Costa (Marist College)

Hanna Martin (Columbia University)

Anna Salewycz (Syracuse University)

Kaylee McKay (Sacred Heart University)

Lauryn Mockler (Rutgers University)

Angelina Boris (Pace University)

Katherine Conway (University of Notre Dame)

Isabella Estevez (Tufts University) and

Sherry McCarthy (Georgetown University)

Anja Kranenburg (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Gabriella Karcz (Wellesley College)

Valerie Hiemer (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University)

Marisa Carbone (University of Pittsburgh)



Angelina Casale'21, salutarian, and Abigail Auty'21, valedictorian

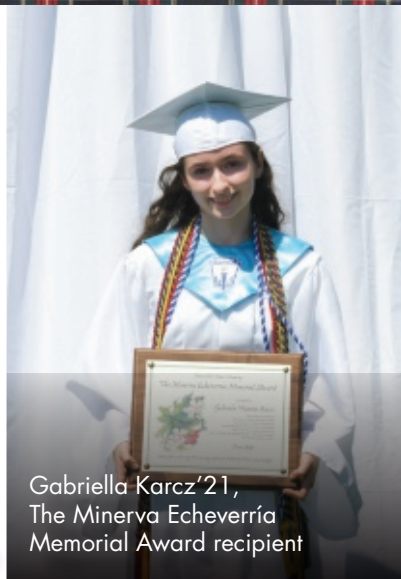


Freya Nair'21, Academic Achievement Award recipient

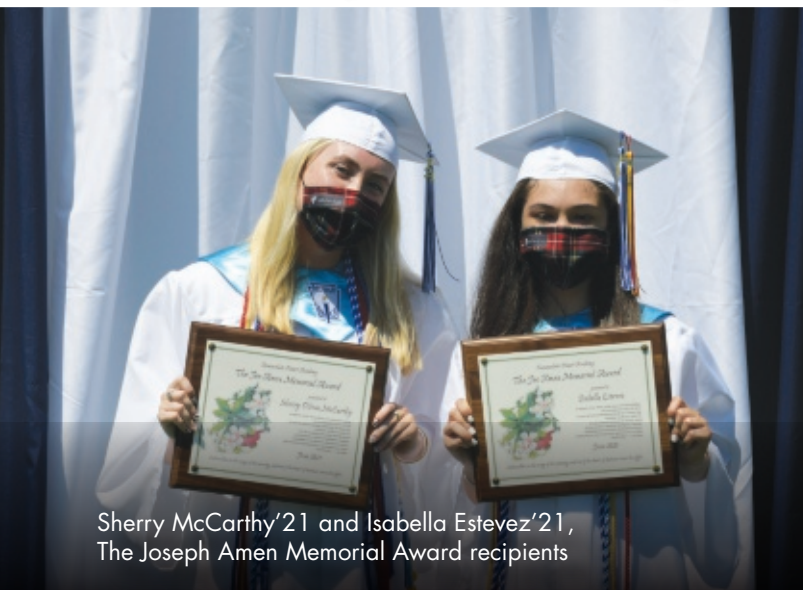




Emmy Mazzacano'21,  
The Visitation Award recipient



Gabriella Karcz'21,  
The Minerva Echeverría  
Memorial Award recipient



Sherry McCarthy'21 and Isabella Estevez'21,  
The Joseph Amen Memorial Award recipients



Mrs. Alice Rogers P'07, '09, '13, assistant principal for students  
and sister of the late Michael Noone; Angelina Boris'21, The  
Michael Thomas Noone Memorial Scholarship recipient; and  
Charlie Rogers P'07, '09, '13



Gina Carbone P'21; Marisa Carbone'21, The Tammy  
Medzadourian Memorial Award recipient; Greg Carbone P'21;  
and Jamie Carbone



# The Immaculate Heart Academy Family Awards

**W**e presented the Immaculate Heart Academy Family Awards at our 2021 Commencement Exercises. These awards are presented to the families who have their last daughter of three or more graduating.

**Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cangelosi**,  
parents of Gianna'17, Daniella'18,  
and Maria'21

**Mr. and Mrs. Jim DeStefano**,  
parents of Alexis'11, Danielle'13,  
and Madison'21

**Mr. and Mrs. Karim Kaspar**,  
parents of Kayla'08, Krista'10,  
and Alexandra'21

**Mr. and Mrs. Dirk Kranenburg**,  
parents of Kristen'07, Laura'09,  
Sophia'14, and Anja'21

**The Mockler Family**  
Daughters, Kyla'08, Aimee'20,  
and Laurn'21

**Mr. Luke Rasnake and  
Ms. Christine Callahan**,  
parents of Callahan'16, Christian'17,  
and Cameron'21

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ricco**,  
parents of Cristina'15, Victoria'17,  
and Sofia'21

Congratulations, parents, and  
thank you for your many years of  
sacrifice and commitment to IHA.





# Class of 2021 Clap Out

We were thrilled to celebrate the Class of 2021 at a special Clap Out event on Saturday, May 22, 2021. Faculty and staff lined the parking lot to cheer on the soon-to-be graduates after they drove through balloon arches to pick up their caps and gowns, tickets for Baccalaureate and Graduation, handmade IHA plaid masks gifted by classmate, [Ana Cantarella'21 \(Manhattan College\)](#), and a number of other special senior items and keepsakes.

The 2021 valedictorian, [Abigail Auty \(Georgia Institute of Technology\)](#), and salutatorian, [Angelina Casale \(Georgetown University\)](#) were also announced that day.



Grace Fahy'21 waves to her teachers as she drives through the IHA parking lot.



Abigail Auty'21 is named 2021 valedictorian.



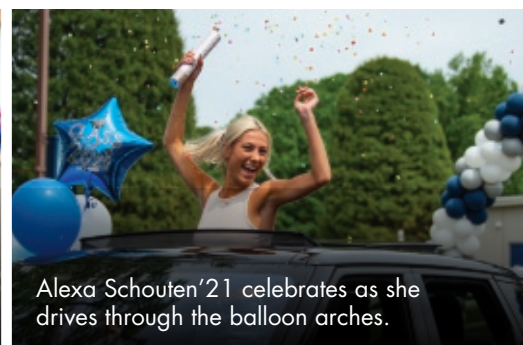
**Top Left:** Angelina Casale'21 is named 2021 salutatorian



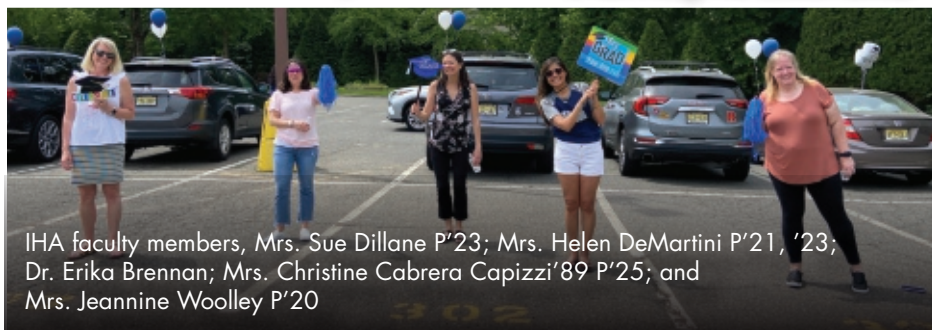
**Top Right:** Mrs. Liz Kearns P'05, '08, '11, senior class moderator, cheers on the Class of 2021 at the Clap Out.



Elizabeth Spizzo'21 poses for a quick photo with Rosie the Blue Eagle.



Alexa Schouten'21 celebrates as she drives through the balloon arches.



IHA faculty members, Mrs. Sue Dillane P'23; Mrs. Helen DeMartini P'21, '23; Dr. Erika Brennan; Mrs. Christine Cabrera Capizzi'89 P'25; and Mrs. Jeannine Woolley P'20



Mrs. Lori Cellini P'99, '02, '05, '11; Mrs. Rosemary Cali P'12, '15, '19, '23; Ms. Ellen Donoghue'76; Ms. Geri Braden; and Mrs. Lisa Encke P'20



# 2021 Baccalaureate Mass & Awards

Our 2021 seniors were celebrated and honored at a Baccalaureate Mass & Awards Ceremony on June 4, 2021. Thank you to Fr. Patrick Seo and the IHA staff who planned and participated in the beautiful Mass, and to the IHA administration and Mrs. Liz Kearns, senior class moderator, for honoring our seniors in such a special way. Thank you to Alyssa Longo'21, Anna Salewycz'21, and Aniela Sanders'22 for the outstanding music and Ms. Jessi Shaheen and Mrs. Lorraine Mongelli for live-streaming the event for the graduates' families to watch from home.

Congratulations to this year's graduates for their incredible contributions to IHA over the past four years.

## Senior Class Officers

**President** – Elizabeth DePhillips  
(Providence College)

**Vice President** – Madelyn Novelli  
(Georgia Institute of Technology)

**Secretary** – Maria Mustard  
(University of Toronto)

**Treasurer** – Hannah Delfico  
(Santa Clara University)

**Senior Class Cabinet Members** – Jordan Gehrig (Catholic University of America), Ashley Brombauer (Drexel University), and Julia Marotti (Boston College)

**Below:** Emily Cuttita'21, Physical Education Award recipient, and Angelina Casale'21, National Merit® Scholarship Commended Student

## Student Council Senior Members

**President** – Mia Grossman  
(The George Washington University)

**Vice President** – Geri Tabbachino  
(Tufts University)

**Secretary** – Annalisa Diaz  
(Sacred Heart University)

**Cabinet Members** – Christine Ajao (Bucknell University) and Catherine Nixon (Montclair State University)

## Subject Area Awards

**Art** – Elizabeth Pinto-Shaw  
(Quinnipiac University)

**Communications** – Caroline Dyson  
(Emerson College)

**Technology** – Mary Virginia Nye  
(College of William & Mary)

**English** – Lauren Turci  
(Northeastern University)

**French** – Bianca D'Costa  
(Marist College)

**Spanish** – Alexandra Betsy  
(University of Richmond)

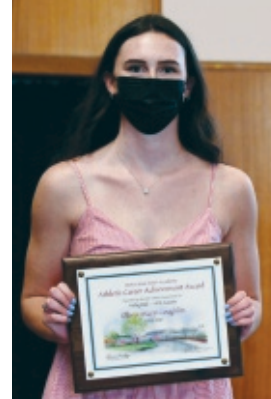
**Math** – Lauren Turci  
(Northeastern University)

**Physical Education** – Emily Cuttita  
(Sacred Heart University)

**Religion** – Freya Nair  
(Georgia Institute of Technology)

**Science** – Abigail Auty  
(Georgia Institute of Technology)

**Social Studies** – Isabella Estevez  
(Tufts University)



Olivia Coughlin'21, Athletic Career Achievement Award recipient

## The National Merit® Scholarship

*Commended Students*

Abigail Auty

(Georgia Institute of Technology)

Angelina Casale

(Georgetown University)

Katherine Mackey (Bucknell University)

Daniela Makowka (Cornell University)

Freya Nair (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Mary Virginia Nye

(College of William & Mary)

Elizabeth Spizzo

(Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)

Sarah Zampino (Fordham University)

## The National Merit® Scholarship

*Finalist*

Katherine Conway

(University of Notre Dame)

## National Hispanic Scholar

Isabella Estevez (Tufts University)

## Athletics Awards

**IHA Scholar-Athlete Award**

Taylor Whang (Barnard College)

**NJSIAA Scholar Athlete Award**

Geri Tabbachino (Tufts University)

**IHA Athletic Achievement Award**

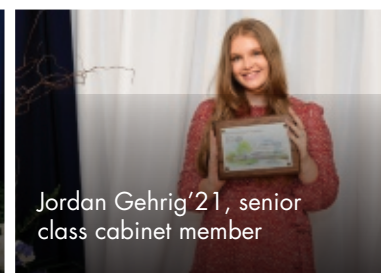
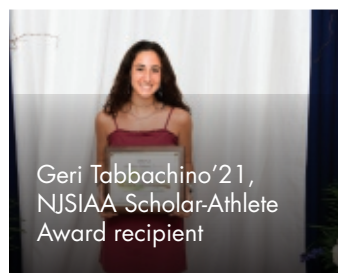
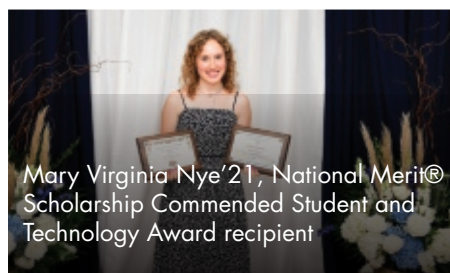
Madison Libby (Bucknell University)

**IHA Career Athletic Achievement Award**

Brooke Marotti (Lacrosse – Fairfield University) and Olivia Coughlin (Volleyball – Villanova University)

**IHA Athlete of the Year**

Alexandra Zitelli (Swarthmore College)





## Outside Scholarships

**The Seeing Eye Puppy Raiser Service Scholarship**

**Gabriella Kittaneh**

(New York University)

**The Lakeland Bank Scholarship**

**Bryanna Pollard**

(Quinnipiac University)

## Graduation Awards

**The Michael Edward Echeverría Award**

**Sofia Trubiano**

(The University of Arizona)

**The Virginia "Ginny" Panicucci Memorial Award**

**Gracelee Fasanella**

(University of South Carolina)

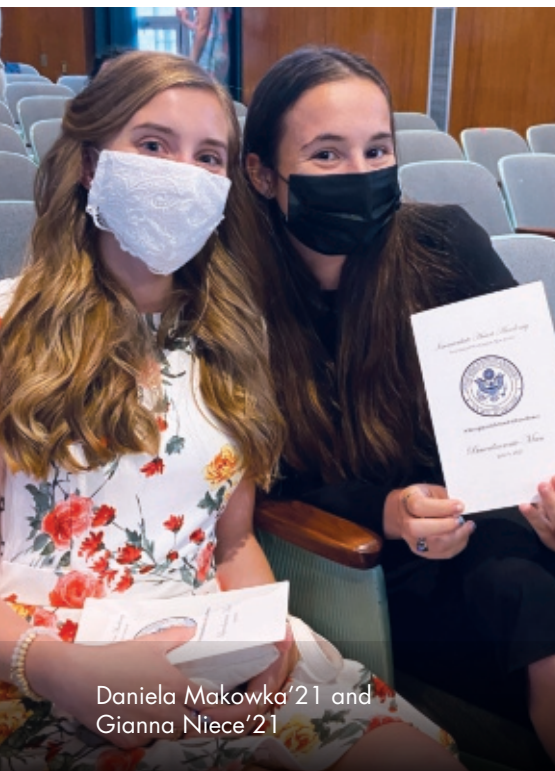
**IHA Parents' Club Robert Ryan Memorial Scholarship (Most Improved Student)**

**Cameron Rasnake**

(University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)



Mrs. Liz Kearns P'05, '08, '11, senior class moderator, thanks Fr. Patrick Seo for presiding over the Class of 2021 Baccalaureate Mass.



Daniela Makowka'21 and Gianna Niece'21



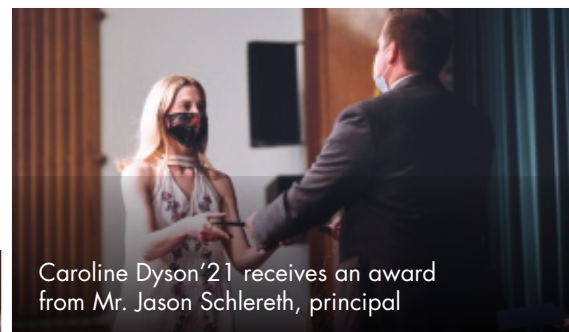
Taylor Whang'21, IHA Scholar-Athlete Award recipient



Anna Salewycz'21, Alyssa Longo'21, and Aniela Sanders'22 provide beautiful music for the Baccalaureate Mass.



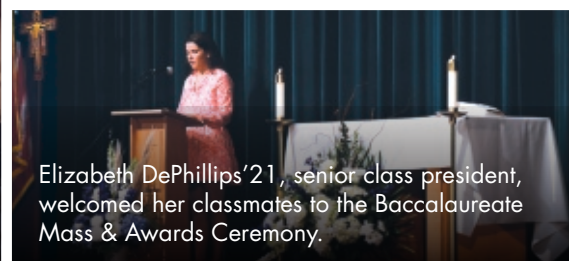
Brooke Marotti'21, Athletic Career Achievement Award recipient



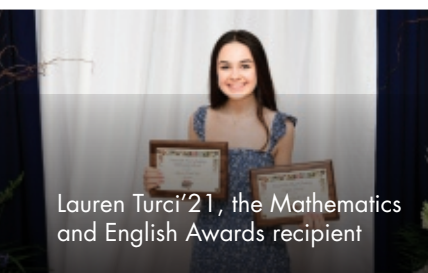
Caroline Dyson'21 receives an award from Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal



Carmela Cogliano'21 and Madeleine Cavanagh'21



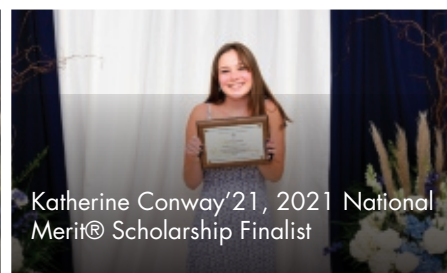
Elizabeth DePhillips'21, senior class president, welcomed her classmates to the Baccalaureate Mass & Awards Ceremony.



Lauren Turci'21, the Mathematics and English Awards recipient



Alexandra Zitelli'21, IHA Athlete of the Year Award recipient



Katherine Conway'21, 2021 National Merit® Scholarship Finalist



Cameron Rasnake'21, The Robert Ryan Memorial Award recipient

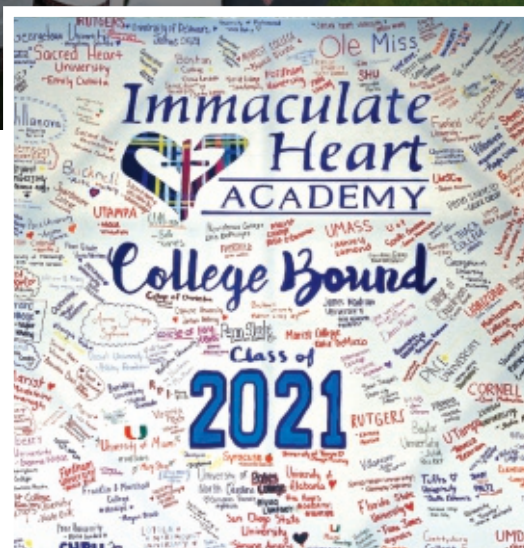


IHA's Class of 2021  
is college bound!

# College Signing Day

Our Class of 2021 Blue Eagles are off to so many incredible colleges and universities! IHA celebrated National College Signing Day on Monday, May 3, 2021. Students sported their new school apparel, signed their names and schools to a custom *College Bound* canvas, enjoyed cupcakes out on the front lawn, and took their final group photo together as a class.

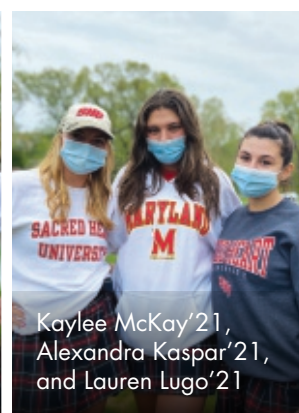
Thank you to Mrs. Melissa O'Sullivan, director of college counseling, and the IHA administration for planning a memorable day for the Class of 2021; Mrs. Lisa Encke, director of the arts, and her students for designing and creating the canvas *College Bound* sign; Mrs. Kelly Oberle Tweed'93 and her daughter, Collins, for making two hundred beautiful and delicious cupcakes for the senior class, and CB Yardgrams for the Fly High Blue Eagles lawn gram!



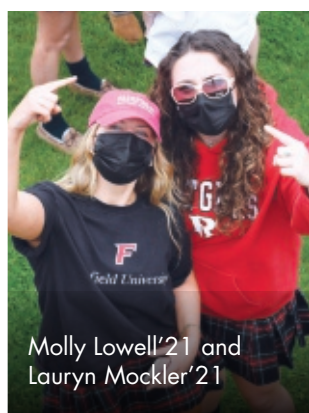
Alyssa Lowther'21, Alexandra Betsy'21, Olivia Coughlin'21, and Cailee LaFrance'21



Riley O'Toole'21 and  
Sherry McCarthy'21



Kaylee McKay'21,  
Alexandra Kaspar'21,  
and Lauren Lugo'21



Molly Lowell'21 and  
Laurn Mockler'21

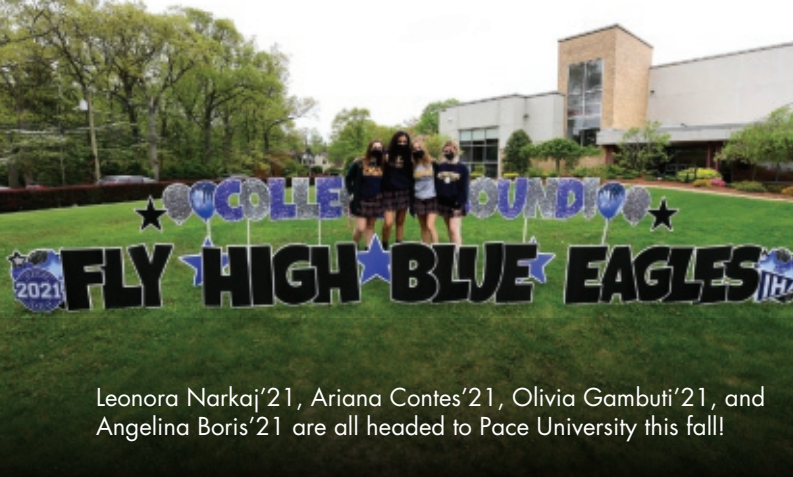


Christine Ajao'21, Clare  
McGowan'21, and  
Lauren Ohmacht'21



Seniors sign their names and colleges to the  
IHA College Bound canvas.





Leonora Narkaj'21, Ariana Contes'21, Olivia Gambuti'21, and Angelina Boris'21 are all headed to Pace University this fall!



Isabella Tricarico'21, Carina Parker'21, Keara Skae'21, Olivia Cucciniello'21, Emma Viggiano'21, and Alyssa Amico'21



Jasmine Otazu'21, Sophia Mazzola'21, Ashley Lamond'21, and Giovanna Greco'21



Thank you to Kelly Oberle Tweed'93 and her daughter, Collins, for the cupcakes!



Freya Nair'21, Hanna Martin'21, Geri Tabbachino'21, Katherine Mackey'21, Jennifer Lawrence'21, Elizabeth Spizzo'21, and Abigail Auty'21



Cameron Rasnake'21 and Fiona James'21



Mary Virginia Nye'21 and Katherine Conway'21



Claire Hoffmann'21



Katherine O'Donovan'21 and Quinlyn Maloney'21



# End-of-the-Year Luncheon and Retirement Celebration

## Faculty and Staff Recognized and Honored

The faculty and staff ended the school year with a special reception on June 17, 2021. We were thrilled to recognize faculty members celebrating milestone work anniversaries, in addition to our outstanding retirees from this year and last. Congratulations to:

### 10 years

Mr. Melquiades Camano  
Mrs. Lauren Fitzgerald-Tereshko  
Mrs. Lauren Thomas  
Mr. Stephen Opremcak

### 20 years

Mrs. Liz Kearns P'05, '08, '11  
Mrs. Jeannine Woolley P'20

### 30 years

Ms. Ana Echeverría P'05

In 2020, we bid farewell to Dr. Arta Boutcher, Mrs. Vicky Cecilione P'05, and Mrs. Jo-Ellen DeSanta, all of whom retired after many years of dedicated service to IHA. This June, we said goodbye to Ms. Geraldine Boland, Mrs. Susan Malone, and Ms. Patricia Molloy, three mainstays who have loved and served Immaculate Heart Academy for decades.

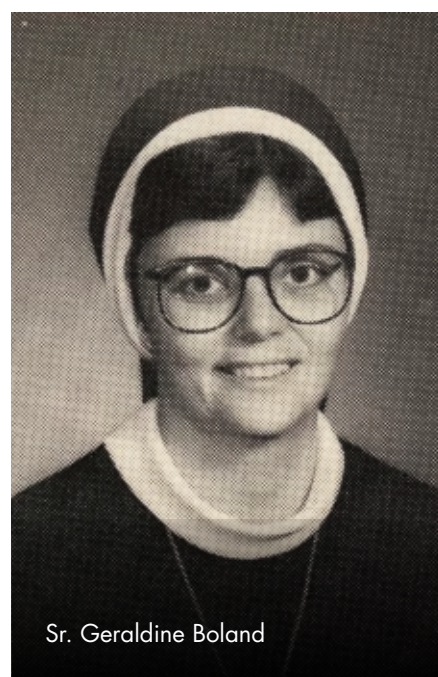
The late Toni-Marie Verrone Hals'89, Ms. Gerri Boland, and Mrs. Moira Madonia P'00 FF



Ms. Geraldine Boland, director of guidance, worked at IHA from 1990-97 as Sr. Geraldine Boland. After a brief hiatus, she came back to IHA as a lay staff member in 2001 and dedicated another twenty years. Her colleague and friend, Mrs. Beth DiCiancia Garrigan'76 P'06, honored Ms. Boland at the luncheon, attributing a special adjective for each letter of her name: G - genuine, E - empathetic, R - realistic, A - altruistic, L - loyal, D - devoted, I - intelligent, N - noble, and E - encouraging." She wrote a poem for her that said in part:

*"The alumnae flocked to reunions  
to see her  
But didn't quite recognize  
when they got near.  
Until she put her hands right  
up to her face  
Cupping them like a coif that  
holds the veil in place.*

*Oh the laughs we have had during  
these many years.  
But now it's time to part, holding  
back the tears.  
I know, my dear friend, this  
is not goodbye  
Simply, until I see you next time  
for it's time for you to fly."*



Sr. Geraldine Boland

Mrs. Susan Malone has worked at Immaculate Heart Academy for thirty-two years in a variety of roles—from teacher and department chairperson to dean of students and, eventually, director of studies. She has been the gatekeeper of student and teacher schedules, report cards, APs, and door codes for many years, along with so many more important tasks that help IHA run smoothly. Mrs. Malone was recognized by Mrs. Melissa O'Sullivan, director of college counseling, and Mrs. Jeannine Woolley P'20, mathematics teacher, who will be taking on the director of studies role upon Mrs. Malone's retirement.

**Left:** Mr. George Hotz; Ms. Gerri Boland; Ms. Patrice McDonough FF, CB; and Mrs. Beth DiCiancia Garrigan'76 P'06





Mrs. Susan Malone



"Your dedication to your job and attention to detail is something many admire," Mrs. O'Sullivan said. "We can only hope to be the professional that you have become with all the different hats you've worn over the years. Your passion and pride in putting together a schedule that suited everyone is something we all appreciated and will miss. I'm sure you've left us all wondering, 'How exactly did she make all the pieces fit so well year after year?'"

Mrs. Woolley agreed saying no one will ever know everything Mrs. Malone does until she officially retires. "I'm sure you will leave many people questioning, 'Hmm, who did that last year?' And I'm sure, in most cases, the answer will be Sue Malone," Mrs. Woolley said. "Please know that while we may never have truly grasped all you've contributed and dedicated to IHA, we are eternally grateful."

Ms. Patricia Molloy, retiring from IHA after nearly fifty years, was honored by Mr. Jason Schlereth at the end-of-the-year celebration. "Pat, you have been a shining example of grace, faith, and the pursuit of excellence," he said to his colleagues. "Personally, over the past fifteen years you have taught me so much, you have been a great mentor and friend. I am forever grateful for that." Read more about Ms. Molloy's retirement on pages 18-19.

For the 2021-22 academic year, we are thrilled to welcome Mrs. Tara Tashjian Maka'02 (B.A., Quinnipiac University; M.S.Ed., Fordham University) as our new director of guidance and Ms. Taryn Tonelli'09 (B.F.A., Elon University) as coordinator for performing arts. We also welcome Heather Christman (B.A., University of Notre Dame, Echo Apprentice) to our Religious Studies Department, Alison Hill Curley'00 (B.A., University of Scranton; M.A., New York University) to our English Department, Angie De Lima (B.S., University of Florida; M.A., Middlebury College) to our World Language Department, and Catherine Meagher (B.S., Manhattan College) to our Mathematics Department.

In-house changes include newly appointed administrators, Mr. Jason Schlereth, president; Miss Kerry Carroll'04, principal; and Mrs. Maureen Layng, assistant principal for academics. Additionally, we are thrilled to welcome back Mrs. Sue Derrick Butler'64 to our Mathematics Department and congratulate Mrs. Kerri Sheehan for being named chairperson of the English Department. We look forward to another great year @theheart!

Ms. Gerri Boland and Ms. Patricia Molloy



2020 and 2021 retirees, Mrs. Jo-Ellen DeSanta, Ms. Geraldine Boland, Dr. Arta Boutcher, Mrs. Susan Malone, Mrs. Vicky Cecilione P'05, and Ms. Patricia Molloy



Ms. Patricia Molloy and Mrs. Susan Malone



Miss Kerry Carroll'04, Ms. Patricia Molloy, and Mr. Jason Schlereth



Standing, left to right, are Mrs. Jo-Ellen DeSanta; Ms. Meagan Papapietro'05; Mrs. Tara Hopfenspirger; Mrs. Melissa O'Sullivan; Mr. Paul McGinnis; Mrs. Rosemary Cali P'12, '15, '19, '23; and Mrs. Angela Holuba Roberts'05. Seated are Mr. Kevin Malone and Mrs. Susan Malone.



# Leaving a Lasting Legacy

## Ms. Patricia Molloy Completes Her Career at IHA



Patricia Molloy in 1974



and skills by serving in a wide variety of positions at IHA. She continuously climbed the ranks and was appointed an administrator for the first time in 1981 and then eventually president in 2016. No matter the title she held nor the role she played, Ms. Molloy remained a force to be reckoned with. She has seen and done it all, remaining compassionate, loyal, faith-filled, and faithful to her IHA family. Each and every decision she made was for the betterment of the school she loves so much.

In Mr. Jason Schlereth's speech about Ms. Molloy during the faculty and staff end-of-the-year celebration, he pointed out how one cannot talk about Immaculate Heart Academy without mentioning Ms. Patricia Molloy.

**"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."**

**- Jeremiah 29:11**



Patricia Molloy in 2011

It is hard to believe that Ms. Patricia Molloy's career at Immaculate Heart Academy came to an end on June 30, 2021. When she first entered the IHA building in September of 1973 as an English teacher, no one could have predicted that Ms. Molloy would spend the next forty-eight years dedicating her whole self to our great school.

From teacher, club moderator, and department chair to dean of students, associate principal, assistant principal, and vice principal, Ms. Molloy unceasingly cultivated her knowledge

**“Pat has had a significant impact on every part of Immaculate Heart Academy—from her spearheading the physical improvements to the campus to her expectation of a high level of academic rigor and demand of excellence.”**

— Mr. Jason Schlereth





Patricia Molloy in 1976



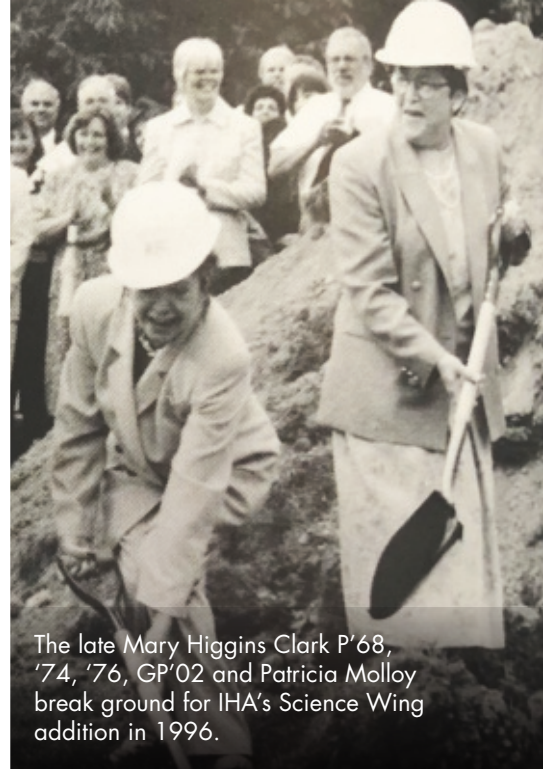
Anna Haas Rigney '86, Patricia Molloy, and Deanna Esposito Falvey '86 in 1985



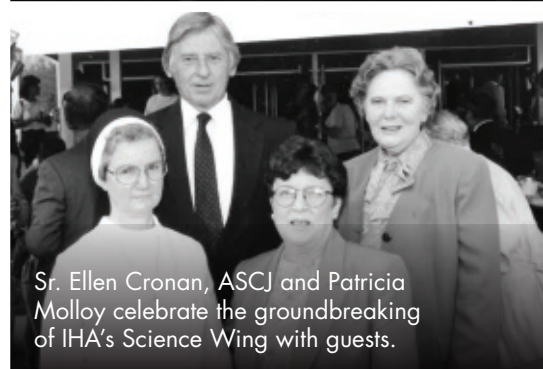
Patricia Molloy, Sr. Mae Rose Jarocki, and Sr. Ellen Cronan, ASCJ receive the Blue Ribbon plaque at a luncheon in Washington, D.C.



Maria Ungaro '87 and Patricia Molloy in 1986



The late Mary Higgins Clark P'68, '74, '76, GP'02 and Patricia Molloy break ground for IHA's Science Wing addition in 1996.



Sr. Ellen Cronan, ASCJ and Patricia Molloy celebrate the groundbreaking of IHA's Science Wing with guests.

"It has been said," Mr. Schlereth stated, "that a criterion for greatness is, 'Can the history of what you did be written without mentioning your name?'" He continued on to say how Pat has had a significant impact on every part of Immaculate Heart Academy—from her spearheading the physical improvements to the campus to her expectation of a high level of academic rigor and demand of excellence. "Pat was a humanities scholar who strengthened all of our liberal arts programs, whether it was *Accents*, *Orb*, or the senior seminar course," Mr. Schlereth said. "At the same time, she was an advocate for the development of a first-in-class STEM program."

The evolution of the Campus Ministry program, the well roundedness of IHA's young ladies due to the many extracurriculars offered, the method in which IHA equips its graduates for success—all cannot be cited without mentioning Patricia Molloy. "You cannot talk about the culture of female empowerment, about the unique sisterhood for which IHA is known," Mr. Schlereth continued. "You cannot talk about the Immaculate Heart community without mentioning Pat Molloy. Pat has empowered two generations of student leaders and helped to develop a sisterhood unlike any other."

After serving as the face of Immaculate Heart Academy for nearly five decades, devoting her life to Catholic education,

mentoring and befriending hundreds of colleagues, and impacting the lives of thousands of graduates, Ms. Molloy has most definitely left a permanent mark on Immaculate Heart Academy. While the 2020-21 school year provided a particularly unique ending to an extraordinary career, the IHA community continued to honor and celebrate Ms. Molloy. The 2021 publications of *Orb*, *Halcyon*, and *Accents* were dedicated to her; she was recognized at her final IHA Consultative Board meeting, her last school Mass, her final Commencement Ceremony. She was recognized at the End-of-the-Year Faculty & Staff Luncheon and the celebrations will continue at a special gala being held in her honor on November 20, 2021. See page 34 for more information about the gala and the newly established *Patricia Molloy Scholarship Fund*.

Sr. Ellen Cronan, ASCJ, IHA principal from 1990-2008, said that Ms. Molloy was a "welcoming, dedicated friend" from the beginning of her experience at Immaculate Heart. "Pat gave her all to make sure that teachers and students alike received all that they needed to be successful," Sr. Ellen reflected. "She worked alongside the Apostles who came to IHA and helped us to understand the culture of the school and the people. We

were blessed to have Pat with us and to be able to gain from her experiences." Sr. Ellen also said that Ms. Molloy was willing to take a risk when she knew it would benefit the students or faculty and staff. "She worked long and hard to complete the Blue Ribbon award from the United States government and knew that IHA deserved this recognition," she said. "Pat was a wonderful administrator and I enjoyed all the time that I had at IHA to work alongside her. She deserves the recognition and support of all IHA members past, present, and future."

We send our sincerest gratitude to Ms. Molloy for leading IHA with a firm purpose and always keeping to the school's mission of empowering young women by instilling in them "a sense of responsibility, confidence, justice, peace, and compassion." After all she has achieved in her long, successful career, it is now time for a well-deserved change of pace. Ms. Molloy, your IHA family wishes you a long, happy, and healthy retirement! You'll always have a home at the heart.



# Junior/Senior Luncheon & Awards Ceremony 2021

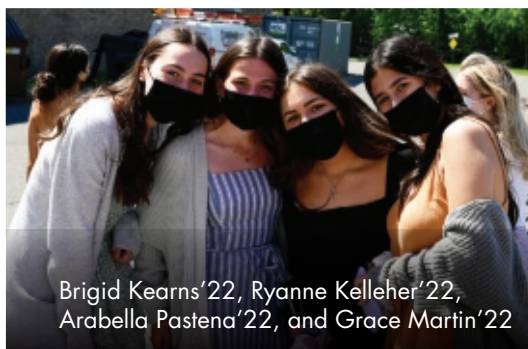
On the afternoon of May 18, 2021, we hosted our Junior/Senior Luncheon, catered by Jersey Mike's Subs. Seniors then gathered in the PAC for the first of three award ceremonies held annually to honor the remarkable accomplishments of the graduating Class of 2021. The ceremony ended with the Senior Slideshow, a memorable tradition seniors enjoy every year.

Thank you to the IHA Administration; Mrs. Liz Kearns, senior class moderator; Ms. Ana Echeverría, junior class moderator; and Ms. Jessi Shaheen and Mrs. Lorraine Mongelli for all of the hard work and planning they did for these special events.

**Right:** Hanna Martin'21, Jennifer Ahn'21, Katherine Mackey'21, Elizabeth Spizzo'21, Christine Ajao'21, Madison Libby'21, Elizabeth Pinto-Shaw'21, Savannah Cece'21, Julia Kapitan'21, Olivia Salkowsky'22, and Maegan Feeney'22



Shradha Gangam'21, Lauren Lugo'21, Grace Olear'21, and Grace Faenza'21



Brigid Kearns'22, RYANNE KELLEHER'22, Arabella Pastena'22, and Grace Martin'22



Jessica Sabino'22, Cosette Gonzalez'22, Catriona Caputo'22, and Charlotte Helson'22



Caroline Dyson'21, Angelina Boris'21, Samantha Emr'22, and Grace Capeless'22



Back row, left to right, are Annie Kate White'21, Alexandra Fassett'21, Danielle Minnetian'21, Madeleine Dahl'21, Emmy Mazzacano'21, and Lauryn Mockler'21. Front row, left to right, are Alexandra Festa'21, Kayla Luna'21, Sofia Ricco'21, and Molly Lowell'21.



Kayla Arone'22, Riley Ypelaar'22, and Caitlin Croci'22



Jennifer Ollmann'21



Katherine Mackey'21



Raquel Davis'21



# Virtual Inductions for ITS, NAHS, and Tri-M

The International Thespian Society (ITS), National Art Honor Society (NAHS), and Tri-M Music Honor Society Induction Ceremonies were presented on the evening of April 13, 2021 via Zoom Webinar.

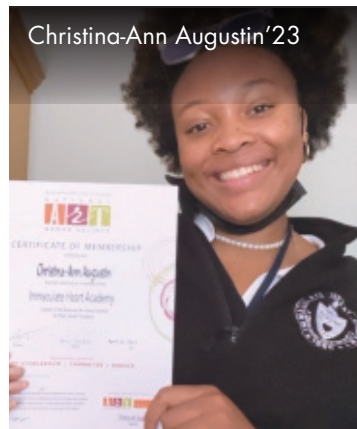
After a beautiful invocation led by Gabriella Karcz'21, current executive board members of each society gave opening remarks and background information about their society, and presented certificates and pins to new members. Newly inducted members took their society's pledge and current members and senior members were also recognized. Executive Board members for the 2021-22 academic year were then announced.

**Congratulations to the nine newly inducted members of the International Thespian Society, moderated by Ms. Maureen McNulty, director of the performing arts:**

Marisa Albert'23  
Jacqueline Angione'23  
Samantha Emr'22  
Lauren Grae'23  
Camryn Maloney'23  
Quinlyn Maloney'21  
Lauryn Mockler'21  
Maeve Murray'24  
Mary-Kathryn Sweeney'23



**Congratulations to the twenty-nine newly inducted members of NAHS, moderated by Mrs. Lisa Encke P'20, director of the arts:**



Shaelyn Auer'23  
Christina-Ann Augustin'23  
Alexandra Betsy'21  
Jessica Boyd'22  
Emma Burgess'23  
Erin Burke'22  
Maria Byrnes'23  
Samantha Campana'22  
Ariana Chen'23  
Olivia Dabal'23  
Faith Dalessandro'23  
Ella Doda'21  
Lea Duman'23  
Alexandra Fassett'21  
Jessica Gerber'23  
Lauren Grae'23  
Lauren Jackson'21  
Camryn King'22  
Reagan Mertz'22  
Lauryn Mockler'21  
Johanna Murphy'23  
Ariana Novero'22  
Magdaly Pierre-Louis'23  
Jessica Sabino'22  
Alicia Serrano'23  
Natalie Ursich'22  
Valerie Vivas'22  
Annie Kate White'21  
Madison Woods'22

**Congratulations to the thirteen newly inducted members of Tri-M, moderated by Mrs. Barbara Donatacci P'19, choral music director:**



Grace Capeless'22  
Giavanna Darin'21  
Samantha Emr'22  
Anna Gehres'22  
Ariana Chen'23  
Madeleine Gilson'23  
Lauren Grae'23  
Layla Libanan'23  
Alyssa Pisani'23  
Sophia Rowell'23  
Aniela Sanders'22  
Mary Stoker'23  
Sarah Vella'22

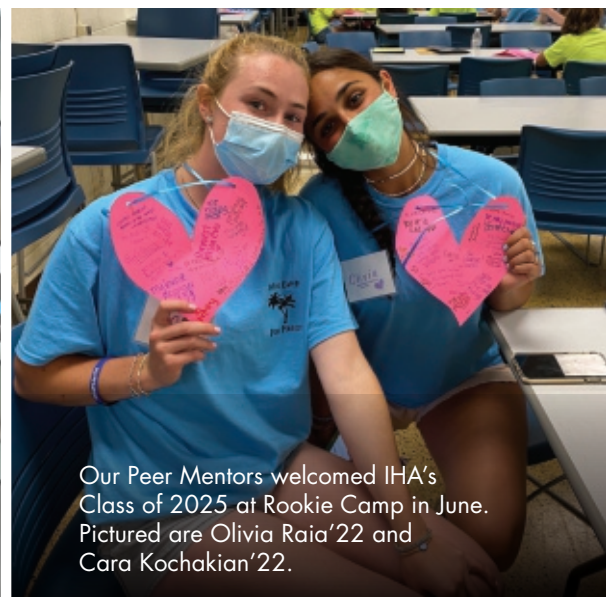
**Thank you to the members of Tri-M for closing out the virtual inductions with a beautiful rendition of the IHA Alma Mater.**



# SCENE | Around IHA



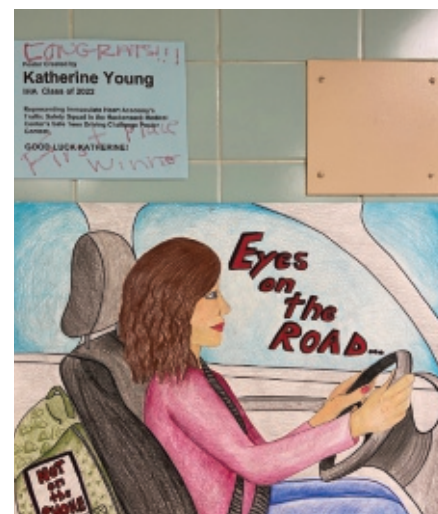
This past winter, National Honor Society (NHS) members met virtually with the St. Brigid Society (SBS) freshmen to help them learn more about NHS at IHA. The upperclassmen explained the criteria for NHS; touched on the four pillars of academics, service, leadership, and character; and what they can do now to make themselves good candidates in two years when they are eligible for consideration. NHS officers shared the importance of being involved at IHA and in their communities. Thank you to SBS moderator, Ms. Ellen Donoghue'76, and NHS moderator, Mrs. Melissa O'Sullivan, for organizing this event.



Our Peer Mentors welcomed IHA's Class of 2025 at Rookie Camp in June. Pictured are Olivia Raia'22 and Cara Kochakian'22.



The senior class gathered together for a Yearbook Signing Pizza Party on June 3, 2021 in the cafeteria. From left to right are Adriana Hotsko'21, Kayleigh Cicala'21, Riley O'Toole'21, and Jillian Shea'21. Thank you to the *Halcyon* staff and moderator, Mrs. Jeannine Woolley P'20, for a beautiful yearbook packed with priceless memories!



Congratulations to Katherine Young'22 for winning first place in the Hackensack University Medical Center Road Safety Poster Competition! Katherine represented the IHA Traffic Safety Squad, which will be awarded \$1,000 in prize money on her behalf. The money will be used to promote safe driving at IHA and beyond. Katherine's winning poster, displayed outside of Mrs. Terry Skjold's Driver Education classroom, was announced at the virtual Teen Driving Safety Series presented by HUMC and State Farm on April 7, 2021.





On April 20, 2021, IHA's College Counseling Department hosted a virtual College Admissions Panel featuring representatives from San Diego State University, The George Washington University, Iona College, Dickinson College, and University of Delaware. IHA freshmen, sophomores, and juniors were invited to gain insight into the admissions process and learn how things have changed due to the pandemic.



Students in Introduction to Engineering Design, taught by Mrs. Alice Nudelman, recently built and flew a small drone. After learning about electricity, specifically how to build circuits, students explored the details of the Mars Ingenuity helicopter, including its dimensions and materials. The engineering students put together the components of the drone to complete the circuits for the four motors and the main WiFi hub. They used a cellphone app to pilot the drone. Students learned how to power up the four motors, lift off, control the drone in flight, and then land it. Mrs. Nudelman said that while a couple of the drones crashed and had to be rebuilt, the students had a great time exploring flight. "They agreed that seeing themselves from the drone's camera, a bird's-eye view, was pretty cool!" she said.

On Thursday, June 10, 2021, IHA hosted a Parent Volunteer Reception to honor and thank the many parents who contribute so much to Immaculate Heart Academy. We especially acknowledged senior parent board members who are leaving the IHA community, including those from the 2019-20 school year who we welcomed back to celebrate. Special thanks to Yolanda Kunz Semelsberger'92 P'20, last year's outgoing president of the Parents' Club, and this year's outgoing senior parents, Donald Callwood P'21; Cathy Persico P'18, '21; Gina Sabbers Tabbachino'87 P'17, '21; and Barbara Reeves P'19, '21. Pictured are Yolanda Kunz Semelsberger'92 P'20, 2020 IHA Parents' Club president, and Grace King P'16, '19, '22, current IHA Parents' Club president.



This past March, IHA Volleyball senior setter, Olivia Coughlin'21, achieved her 1000th career assist! Her teammates celebrated the big accomplishment with Liv, pictured fourth from the left in the back row.

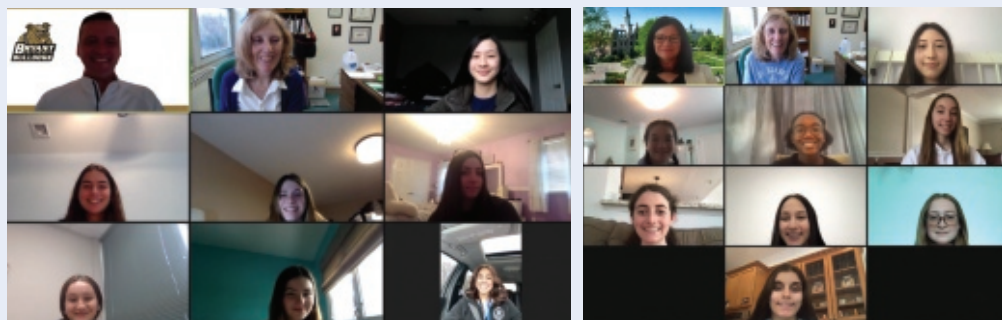


In late April, IHA Culture Club hosted a Pysanky Workshop led by, left to right, Anna Salewycz'21; Ksenia Salewycz P'21, '24; and Sophia Salewycz'24. Pysanky are Easter eggs decorated with traditional Ukrainian folk designs using a wax-resist method. The word pysanka comes from the verb pysaty, meaning "to write" or "to inscribe," as the designs are not painted on, but written with beeswax. Thank you to Culture Club moderator, Ms. Trish Carleton, social studies teacher; the Salewycz Family; and all the students who attended in-person and virtually to create their own gorgeous Pysanky.



# DID YOU KNOW THAT...

In March and April, St. Brigid Society members were given the opportunity to learn more about various colleges and universities. Thank you to representatives from Siena College, Bryant University, Western New England University, and Seton Hall University for meeting virtually with our St. Brigid Society underclassmen throughout the spring!



**N**olan Fernandez, son of Mrs. Emily Fernandez, English teacher, and her husband, Justin, arrived at 2:16 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Nolan weighed in at 8 lbs, 15.5 oz and measured 20.5 inches long.

IHA was selected by the [New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission](#) to pilot test an electronic driver education exam. The NJMVC is hoping to roll out the electronic exam to high schools statewide in the near future. IHA's role, led by Mrs. Terry Skjold P'11, driver education teacher, was to make sure the system was working properly and to identify any issues that needed to be corrected.





Reese Jane Shutrop, daughter of Mrs. Sarah Shutrop, director of formation, and her husband, Kevin, arrived on May 18, 2021 at 10:15 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs, 8 oz and measured 21 inches long. Sarah, Kevin, and big brother, Luke, were thrilled to welcome home baby Reese!



Congratulations to Meghan Minogue'23 for being named AAA Northeast Driver Education Student of the Year! Mrs. Terry Skjold P'11, driver education teacher, presented the award to Meghan on June 15, 2021.

IHA's production of *Almost, Maine* was nominated for Outstanding Production of a Play (Masked) in the 2021 Montclair State Theater Awards!



In mid-May, IHA received Jostens' National Yearbook Program of Excellence Bronze Award for the school's yearbook, *Halcyon*. This award recognizes yearbook programs and staff members who make extraordinary efforts to create an accessible yearbook for every student. IHA was recognized among more than fifteen thousand yearbook schools working with Jostens.

A colored pencil drawing entitled "Downtime," created by Amanda Potenza'21, was selected for the cover of the National Art Education Association (NAEA) News! Amanda's piece was completed for her Honors Studio course. The mission of the National Art Education Association is to champion creative growth and innovation by equitably advancing the tools and resources for high-quality visual arts, design, and media arts education throughout diverse populations and communities of practice. This publication is made available to members that include pre-K, elementary, middle, and high school visual arts educators; college and university professors; university students preparing to become educators; researchers and scholars; teaching artists; administrators and supervisors; and art museum educators—as well as more than fifty-four thousand students who are members of the National Art Honor



Society. NAEA represents members in all fifty states plus the District of Columbia, U.S. Possessions, most Canadian Provinces, U.S. military bases around the world, and more than twenty-five foreign countries. Amanda also received the Fine Arts Award at graduation and will be attending Lehigh University in the fall.



# 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 2020-21 academic year.

## Freshmen

Madysen Ayers  
Alexandra Barry  
Anvi Batra  
Ella Bosse  
Caitlin Carr  
Alyzza Chino  
Meghan Deane  
Natalie Deegan  
Gianna DiMeglio  
Madison Fasolo  
Marisa Flores  
Giana Fontanetta  
Valentina Frau  
Julia Grzybowski  
Hannah Hart  
Lauren Hroncich  
Meaghan Keating  
Ellie Kim  
Alexandra Kucharz  
Kaitlyn LeSuer  
Alyssa Mack  
Rose Martin  
Samantha McGee  
Casey McGrath  
Gabriella Napolitano  
Elizabeth Ogden

Angelina Parrino  
Isabella Pizzi  
Eleanor Quinn  
Abigail Romero  
Bryana Saenz  
Sophia Salewycz  
Lily Schwedhelm  
Kiera Stevenson  
Gina Toter  
Alia Ureta  
Adrianna Uykan  
Marta Weglarz  
Eileen Wynne

## Sophomores

Marie Baldwin  
Natalie Coulter  
Katherine Deane  
Emma Dillane  
Isabella Galan  
Madeleine Gilson  
Lauren Grae  
Natalia LoCurto  
Natalia Maglicic  
Madison McKay  
Kate Menake  
Meghan Minogue

Johanna Murphy  
Gracyn Pisa  
Jessica Sundlin

## Juniors

Riley Benedik  
Paulina Biagioni  
Jessica Boyd  
Alyssa Darella  
Margaret Dillon  
Ava Kazias  
Ashley Mariscal  
Riley McGovern  
Elizabeth Muzilla-Fullem  
Madelyn Panebianco  
Juliana Vitti  
Margaux Yannacci  
Katherine Young  
Riley Ypelaar

## Seniors

Abigail Auty  
Angelina Casale  
Katherine Cottrell  
Bianca D'Costa  
Catherine DePalma  
Valerie Hiemer  
Gabriella Karcz  
Gabriella Kittaneh  
Cailee LaFrance  
Jennifer Lawrence  
Hanna Martin  
Clare McGowan  
Freya Nair  
Mariel Persico  
Anna Salewycz  
Lauren Turci  
Emma Viggiano  
Sarah Zampino

# Spring 2021 Sports Signing



On April 28, 2021, twelve outstanding IHA student-athletes officially signed to the colleges and universities they will be attending in the fall. Congratulations to, standing left to right, Alexandra Zitelli'21 (Swarthmore College – Soccer), Daniella Navia'21 (Case Western Reserve University – Swimming), Alyssa Lowther'21 (Bates College – Volleyball), Elizabeth Spizzo'21 (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute – Lacrosse), Melissa Pierpont'21 (Muhlenberg College – Lacrosse), and Christine Ajao'21 (Bucknell University – Track & Field). Seated, left to right, are Geri Tabbachino'21 (Tufts University – Cross Country and Track), Alexandra Fassett'21 (Quinnipiac University - Acrobatics & Tumbling), Keara Skae'21 (Gettysburg College – Cross Country and Track), Megan Bizub'21 (Franklin & Marshall College – Lacrosse), Madison Libby'21 (Bucknell University – Track & Field), and Jillian Shea'21 (Ithaca College – Cross Country and Track). Over their four years at IHA, these signees have accumulated more than two thousand six hundred service hours and earned an average GPA of over 3.8.



# Class of 2021 Powderpuff + Senior BBQ

A flag football Powderpuff Tournament was a new addition to our annual Senior BBQ celebration for the Class of 2021! Thank you to Mrs. Liz Kearns, senior class moderator, and the IHA administration for hosting the tournament and BBQ. Special thanks to our flag football referees, Ms. Shemayne Williams, physical education teacher, and Mr. Matt Sartori, social studies teacher, and to The Market Basket for catering the BBQ.



The Red Team relaxes before their game.



Bianca D'Costa'21 catches the ball.



Shradha Gangam'21, Alexandra Kaspar'21, Lauren Lugo'21, and Rebecca Beltram'21



Kyra Whiteman'21 and Elizabeth Granholm'21



Geri Tabbachino'21 is about to make a pass.



Julia Marotti'21



Ashley Brombauer'21, Lauren Lugo'21, and Sofia Ricco'21



Gabriella Haines'21 and Valerie Hiemer'21



# Seniors Celebrate Legacy Day 2021

## Parent and Student Retreat

IHA Campus Ministry presented Legacy Day for the members of our Class of 2021, an outdoor, socially distant parent and student retreat to celebrate sisterhood, family, and this special graduating class.

Seniors and their parents joined together in three separate groups on April 24 and 25, 2021 for a tented brunch at Biagio's Restaurant, Paramus. Thank you to our speakers, Miss Kerry Carroll'04, current assistant principal for faculty & instruction and newly appointed principal; Mr. Bob Fazio P'09, '12, '18, president of Don Bosco Prep and parent of three IHA graduates; and Mrs. Sarah Shutrop, director of formation, who planned Legacy Day for the Class of 2021.

Parents/guardians surprised seniors with heartfelt personal letters and prayed over their daughters as they approached the end of their high school careers and began preparing for college. Thank you to Ms. Patricia Molloy, president; Mr. Jason Schlereth, principal; and Mrs. Alice Rogers P'07, '09, '13, assistant principal of students, for their guidance and leadership in making the last weeks of the seniors' time at IHA truly special. Students took home a 2021 shirt, custom IHA cookies, and a heart-shaped map keepsake of IHA's location—as a reminder that they will always have a home at Immaculate Heart Academy.



Thomas Potenza P'21,  
Amanda Potenza'21, and  
Jane Potenza P'21



Stephanie and Matthew Gehrig P'21 pray over  
Jordan Gehrig'21.



Mr. Bob Fazio P'09, '12, '18



Lorie McCarthy P'21,  
Paul McCarthy P'21, and  
Sherry McCarthy'21



John Cannon P'19, '21; Blathnat Cannon'21;  
and Barbara Reeves P'19, '21

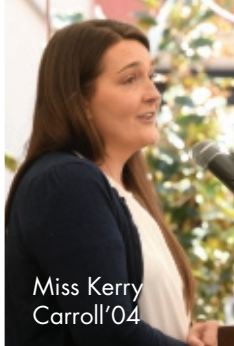


Jeraldine O'Byrne P'21,  
Claire O'Byrne'21, and  
Patrick O'Byrne P'21





Michael Sheehan P'21, '23; Beth Sheehan P'21, '23; and Elle Sheehan'21



Miss Kerry Carroll'04



Halyna Hotsko P'21, Adriana Hotsko'21, and Vasyil Hotsko P'21



Kyra Whiteman'21 and Michele Whiteman P'21



Helen DeMartini P'21, '23; Olivia DeMartini'21; and John DeMartini P'21, '23



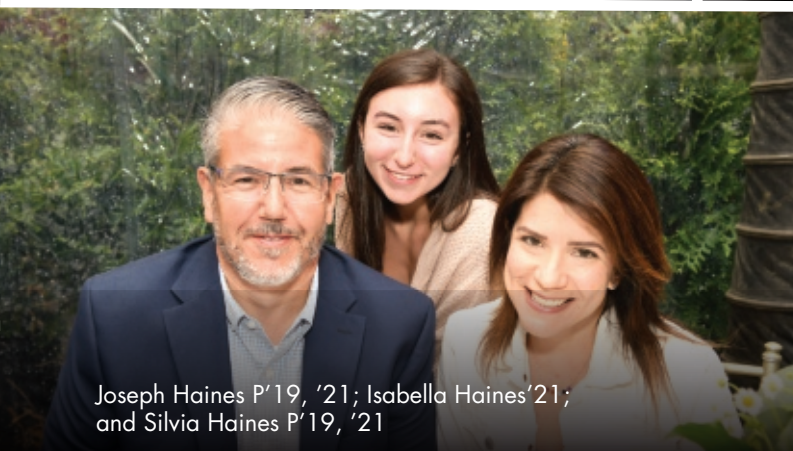
Tiffany Spizzo P'21, '25; Elizabeth Spizzo'21; and Anthony Spizzo P'21, '25



Isabella Estevez'21; Robin Estevez P'21, '23; and Ingrid Estevez P'21, '23



Charles Festa P'21 and Alexandra Festa'21



Joseph Haines P'19, '21; Isabella Haines'21; and Silvia Haines P'19, '21



Mary Granholm P'21, Elizabeth Granholm'21, and Ken Granholm P'21



Anthony and Rose Mary Delfico P'21 pray over Hannah Delfico'21.



Alina Ricco P'15, '17, '21; Sofia Ricco'21; and Robert Ricco P'15, '17, '21



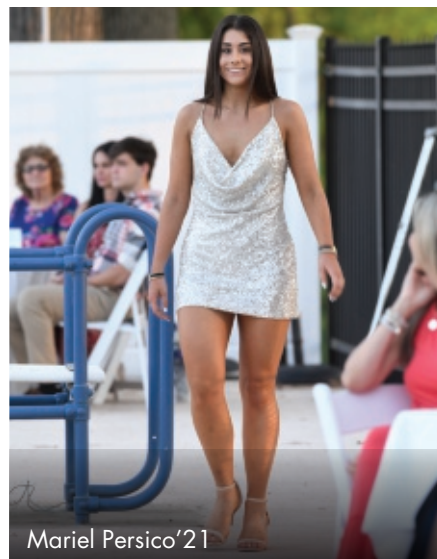
# Senior Fashion Show

We were thrilled to host a 2021 Fashion Show for our Class of 2021! On the evening of May 18, 2021, thirty-five seniors walked the pool deck runway at Forest Hill Field Club (FHFC) in Bloomfield. The models' family members joined together for an outdoor cocktail reception prior to the sunset fashion show.

Thank you to the IHA Development Office for planning this special event; Cathy Persico P'18, '21, event chairperson; Vaughn Cavanagh P'18, '21 for making the dress to display the Class of 2021 senior portraits; Grace King P'16, '19, '22 and the IHA Parents' Club; Ms. Gerri Boland, director of guidance, and Mrs. Tara Hopfenspirger, director of communications, mistresses of ceremonies; Danielle Garrigan'06, FHFC events manager; Zak Magic DJ; Mike Hamlett Photography; Mrs. Susan Adamo, faculty volunteer; and Sarah Persico'18, alumna volunteer.



Adriana Contento'21



Mariel Persico'21



Linette D'Costa P'21,  
Bianca D'Costa'21, and  
Nelson D'Costa P'21



Anna Salewycz'21



Cathleen Ollmann P'10, '21;  
Jennifer Ollmann'21; and  
Emil Ollmann P'10, '21



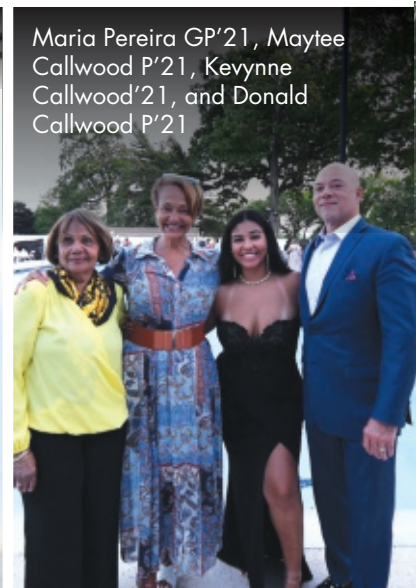
Molly Lowell'21



Alexandra Kaspar'21



Madelyn Novelli'21



Maria Pereira GP'21, Maytee  
Callwood P'21, Kevynne  
Callwood'21, and Donald  
Callwood P'21



# Purses by the Poolside

Our inaugural Purses by the Poolside event, held on May 25, 2021 at Forest Hill Field Club, was a wonderful evening enjoyed by IHA faculty, staff, alumnae, moms, and friends.

Participants played nine games of Handbag Bingo and also had a chance to win tricky tray basket prizes and a Louis Vuitton Neverfull Tote. Congratulations to the night's grand prize winners including Gloria Kolakowski Amoroso '86 P'20, '22, winner of the Louis Vuitton.

Special thanks to the IHA Development staff including Beth DiCiancia Garrigan '76 P'06; Sarah Hill '07; Paula Horne P'13, '15, '18; and Michele Verrone Manning '88 P'21, '24. Thank you to all of the parent, faculty, and alumna volunteers especially Yolanda Kunz Semelsberger '92 P'20; Cindy Sopelsa P'07, '08, '14; Brenda Coppola P'09; Grace King P'16, '19, '22; Stacy DeMicco P'21, '24, '25; Janine Priolo P'17, '19, '22; Daniela Nizza P'23; Cathy Persico P'18, '21; Sarah Horne '18; and Stef-Hana Sopelsa '14. Finally, thank you to Danielle Garrigan '06, FHFC events manager; the Lapp Family for the wine donation; the Pisani Family for the cookie favor and table prize donation; and the many other generous donors that made the night so fun.



Beth DiCiancia Garrigan '76 P'06 and Gloria Kolakowski Amoroso '86 P'20, '22



Heather Menzel P'25



Meagan Papapietro '05



Doris Donohoe P'24, Bingo Game #2 winner



Thank you to the many volunteers who worked hard on making the Purses by the Poolside event a success.



Guests were thrilled to be able to join together in person at an IHA event!



# Rho Kappa Spring 2021 Induction

On March 24, 2021, IHA held an induction ceremony for the Silent Sentinel Chapter of the Rho Kappa Honor Society. Rho Kappa made history as the first IHA Honor Society to hold a virtual induction ceremony in May 2020 as they inducted seniors from the Class of 2020; this March, they welcomed thirty-two students from the Classes of 2021 and 2022 into the society.

The students of the Rho Kappa Executive Board, along with moderators, Dr. Sue Kenney, social studies teacher, and Ms. Linda Chelotti'76, chairperson of Social Studies Department, planned a beautiful ceremony that honored the inductees. Thank you to Miss Kerry Carroll'04, assistant principal of faculty and instruction, for taking part in the virtual induction.

In addition to being the first Honor Society to hold an induction ceremony over Zoom, the Rho Kappa Honor Society has left its mark on IHA by creating bulletin boards encouraging students to vote and celebrate Black history. As stated by the National Social Studies Organization, the name of the honor society, "Rho Kappa," is taken from two words of Semitic origin. The first word, "Rho," comes from "resh," meaning "head." "Kappa" comes from "kapf" meaning "palm of the hand." Together, these words represent the society's belief that "knowledge without civic service is useless."



## Congratulations to the new 2021 Rho Kappa inductees:

Abbey Benus'22  
Paulina Biagioni'22  
Jessica Boyd'22  
Grace Calianese'22  
Angelina Casale'21  
Caitlin Croci'22  
Alyssa Darella'22  
Margaret Dillon'22  
Gabriella Fava'22  
Kylie Galiger'22  
Valerie Hiemer'21  
Lindsay Keogh'22  
Cailee LaFrance'21  
Shannon LaMotta'22  
Daniela Makowka'21  
Michelle Marino'21  
Ashley Mariscal'22

Hanna Martin'21  
Riley McGovern'22  
Rhea Mittal'22  
Allison Monroe'21  
Lauren Montgomery'21  
Elizabeth Muzilla-Fullem'22  
Freya Nair'21  
Mackenna Olsen'22  
Madelyn Panebianco'22  
Heerali Patel'22  
Lauren Plastina'22  
Lauren Turci'21  
Margaux Yannacci'22  
Katherine Young'22  
Alexandra Zitelli'21

## Executive Board Officers:

**Katherine Conway'21** -  
*Communication Officer*

**Emmersen Dabal'21** -  
*Communication Officer*

**Isabella Estevez'21** - *President*

**Claire O'Byrne'21** - *Vice President*

**Emma Viggiano'21** - *Treasurer*

**Left:** Lauren Montgomery'21

**Zoom photos:** Congratulations to the newest Rho Kappa inductees!





# Peaceful Places Exhibit

Earlier this year, National Art Honor Society (NAHS) members brainstormed creative ways to share their love of art with the IHA community. NAHS artists sent out an email inviting faculty and staff members to share a place in the world where they find peace. Forty-four faculty and staff members responded and NAHS students began creating paintings based on their responses.

Both remote and in-person NAHS members were able to participate in this service project as a way to show their appreciation to teachers, administrators, and staff. The project culminated with an art show entitled *Peaceful Places* in the main lobby from May 11-28, 2021. IHA community members were able to add to the exhibit by sharing where they find peace in the world on a display panel entitled *Peace Be with You*. The collaborating teachers and staff received the paintings as a gift at the conclusion of the show.



Mrs. Rosa Bravo



Mrs. Berta Roldan P'14



Mrs. Terry Skjold P'11



Ms. Ana Echeverría P'05



Ms. Lynn Maltz



Ms. Alexis Fatigati'07



Miss Kerry Carroll'04





THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
IMMACULATE HEART ACADEMY  
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO  
A GALA TO HONOR AND CELEBRATE

*Ms. Patricia Molloy*

AND HER FORTY-EIGHT YEARS  
OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO IHA

NOVEMBER 20, 2021

6 - 11 P.M.

– THE VENETIAN –

*GARFIELD, NEW JERSEY*

## GIVE TO THE PATRICIA MOLLOY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The quality and diversity of the Immaculate Heart Academy community depends on the school's ability to admit qualified young women who otherwise would not have the opportunity to attend IHA. Upon her June 2021 retirement, the *Patricia Molloy Scholarship Fund* was established in Ms. Molloy's name to provide donors with the option to assist students in need of financial assistance. This scholarship fund honors the legacy of Ms. Patricia Molloy, and enables IHA to continue to support its mission of empowering young women for life.

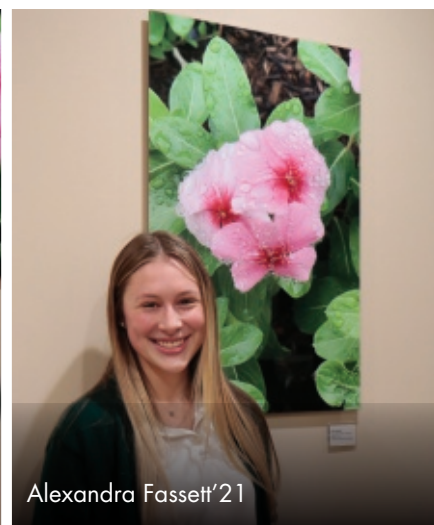
To make a gift to the *Patricia Molloy Scholarship Fund*, please visit [ihanj.com](http://ihanj.com). Gala tickets and sponsorship opportunities are also available online. Formal invitation to follow.



# Photography Club Work Displayed at Saddle River Eyecare



Mackenzie Mir'24, Anja Kranenburg'21, Lauryn Mockler'21, Alexandra Fassett'21, and Anna Gehres'22



Alexandra Fassett'21

Immaculate Heart Academy and Saddle River Eyecare partnered up to support the talented students of IHA's Photography Club! Drs. David and Pamela Rajkowski P'20 and Dr. Lori Napolitano generously printed the IHA student-photographers' work on aluminum and displayed the prints at their Saddle River office. The artwork not only added a beautiful pop of color to the new space, but it also drew attention to the talented student-artists we have at Immaculate Heart Academy.

Members of the Photography Club, moderated by IHA art and photography teacher, Ms. Patrizia Tersigni P'14, were asked to submit photos and the Saddle River Eyecare staff selected the pieces they felt were best suited for display in their office. The students whose work was chosen include Alexandra Fassett'21, Anna Gehres'22, Natalia Hudak'23, Anja Kranenburg'21, Mackenzie Mir'24, Lauryn Mockler'21, Joanna Rajkowski'20, and Annie Kate White'21. Each photo was enlarged and printed on aluminum to be displayed through the end of the 2020-21 school year. As a way

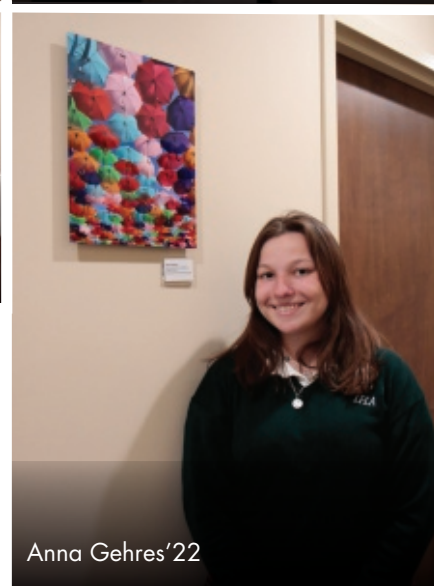


Anja Kranenburg'21, Dr. Lori Napolitano, Anna Gehres'22, and Dr. Pamela Rajkowski

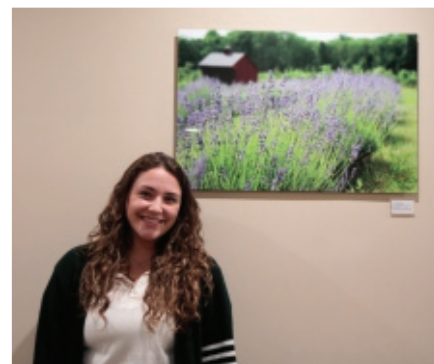
to give back to IHA, all of the photos are available for purchase, and profits from the sales will go directly back to the IHA Photography Club.

Joanna Rajkowski'20, daughter of David and Pamela, was an active member of the Photography Club during her time at Immaculate Heart. Saddle River Eyecare will be displaying the artwork of students from various Bergen County schools moving forward, but kindly chose IHA as the first school to highlight.

Thank you to Drs. David and Pamela Rajkowski P'20 for keeping IHA close to their hearts and sharing our students' talent with their patients and the local community. If you are interested in purchasing an aluminum print, please email [saddliveriveye@gmail.com](mailto:saddliveriveye@gmail.com) for pricing and more information.



Anna Gehres'22



Lauryn Mockler'21



# 2021 Service Awards

Students Recognized for Outstanding Service in an Unprecedented Year

While service at Immaculate Heart Academy looked different this year, we are proud to announce that our students continued to go above and beyond for their communities, even amid the pandemic. At our Service Awards Assembly on April 27, 2021, we recognized and celebrated those students who continued to serve in innovative and creative ways over the last year.

Mrs. Sarah Shutrop, director of formation, explained that service is “not about fuzzy feelings or achievements, and certainly not about resume building or getting into college. It’s about presence...to suffer with the other as Christ suffers and shares in our sin with us.”

“In this year,” she continued, “even if it put you at risk, required you to be uncomfortable in a mask, or to really think outside the box—you girls did it! If this is how present you are to the needs of others at sixteen, imagine how present you’ll be as bosses, as doctors at the bedsides of patients, as teachers, as nurses, as wives, as moms. The world will be better because of you.”

Service at Immaculate Heart isn’t just something that is required; it’s a main part of who we are. Our students have earned two hundred four thousand, four hundred ninety-two service hours in the last five years and, this year, served fifty percent more hours than what was required of them. IHA students have accumulated a total of six hundred seventy-four President’s Volunteer Service Awards and forty-three alone in this unprecedented year. Over the last twelve months, thirty-six students were selected to serve as mentors for ninety-four freshman students, more than three hundred Christmas gifts and two hundred Easter baskets were given to children in need, and IHA students created an “interview closet” with new interview outfits for women in crisis.



President’s Volunteer Service Bronze Award recipients

The **Spirit of Service Award** is presented annually to students in each grade who demonstrate a spirit of service, a dedication to helping others that is core to who she is as a person. There have been forty-one students honored with the Spirit of Service Award since its inception at IHA. Congratulations to this year’s recipients:

Ana Cantarella’21  
Erin Burke’22  
Riley Ypelaar’22  
Layla Libanan’23  
Samantha Raia’24  
Madeline Heinimann’24

The **Servant Leadership Award**, the largest service award given at IHA, is presented annually to a senior whose commitment to service has transformed the culture of IHA. Past winners include Elizabeth Encke’20, Elizabeth Croci’20, Victoria Bertussi’19, Regina Garvey’19, Emily Ash’19, Tess Szydluk’18, and Isabella Somera’17. Congratulations to this year’s Servant Leadership Award recipient, **Kaylee McKay’21**.

When speaking about Kaylee’s four years of service at IHA, Mrs. Shutrop noted that Kaylee never thought she was doing service—she thought she was showing up because she cared. “Kaylee has showed our community the value of doing the right thing just because of humility and of pure motivation,” she said. “More than



President’s Volunteer Service Gold Award recipients

anything else, she’s shown our community that sometimes being a servant leader doesn’t look like championing a particular cause. Sometimes, most times, it looks like showing up to love someone.”

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 twenty-six students for achieving the **President’s Volunteer Service Award** at the Bronze level (100-174 hours per year), four at the Silver level (175-249 hours per year), and six 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, **Taylor DiLisi’21**, who earned 402.25 hours. At right is the listing of all President’s Volunteer Service Award recipients, in order of hours earned.



## GOLD

Taylor DiLisi'21  
Ashley Brombauer'21  
Olivia Raia'22  
Alexa Aranas'22  
Ana Cantarella'21  
Lily Valentin'22

## SILVER

Margot Kapusinski'22  
Margaret Bizub'21  
Camryn King'22  
Jessica Boyd'22

## BRONZE

Ariana Contes'21  
Brooke Muller'22  
Isabella Garzon'21  
Hayley DiLisi'22  
Jessica Kielur'22  
Emily Burke'21  
Aniela Sanders'22  
Caroline Joel'23  
Marisa Arone'24  
Hanna Martin'21  
Ava Previzi'24  
Samantha Landolfi'23  
Katherine Webb'22  
Ellie May White'24  
Isabella Vaughn'22  
Sherry McCarthy'21  
Catriona Caputo'22  
Carson Bielen'24  
Samantha Raia'24  
Madeline Heinimann'24  
Anna Salewycz'21  
Kaylee McKay'21  
Livia Iuliano'24  
Valerie Vivas'22  
Gianna Niece'21  
Catherine Goldstein'23

Students who achieved one hundred or more service hours from the time stay-at-home orders were lifted last spring through September 2020 were also recognized with [President's Volunteer Service Awards](#). Congratulations to:

## SILVER

Lily Valentin'22

## BRONZE

Ariana Contes'21  
Ana Cantarella'21  
Kyra Whiteman'21  
Lauren Grae'23  
Keara Skae'21  
Brooke Muller'22  
Emily Burke'21  
Katherine Sposa'22  
Jae Yeon Lee'22

Due to modified service requirements for the 2020-21 school year, IHA sophomores, juniors, and seniors were responsible for planning and executing a [Valor Project](#). This project allowed our students to use their specific gifts and talents to leave the world better than they found it. One thing that has not changed over the last year is IHA's commitment to helping its young women grow as "Women of Valor." Women who, in the spirit of Proverbs 31, recognize the gifts and passions God has given them, take the reins of leadership, and use them to make the world a better place. Our students ran two hundred forty-nine Valor Projects for the 2020-21 school year.

Those interested could then submit their Valor Projects for a chance to win *The Dorothy Day Valor Project of the Year Contest*. Thirty submissions were narrowed down to five by a panel of faculty judges, and the student body then voted for their top three. Congratulations to *The Dorothy Day Valor Project of the Year Contest* winners:

### First Place

Samantha Raia'24  
*Worked with Hackensack University Medical Center to provide gift bags and presents to patients.*

### Second Place

Kaitlyn LeSuer'24  
*Collected and provided Christmas gifts for children at St. Jude's Children's Hospital.*

### Third Place

Emma Burgess'23 and Kristen Cali'23  
*Raised money to purchase supplies and made meals for those in need in conjunction with Healing Meals, Hawthorne.*

Thank you to Mrs. Sarah Shutrop for leading the girls in their passion to serve. Congratulations to all of IHA's generous, compassionate, and kind-hearted students!



Samuel Raia P'19, '22, '24; Samantha Raia'24; Benita Raia P'19, '22, '24; and Olivia Raia'22



Raelene Kunz McKay'94 P'21, '23; Madison McKay'23; Kaylee McKay'21; and George McKay P'21, '23



Doreen Kapusinski P'22, Margot Kapusinski'22, and Frank Kapusinski P'22



Bennett LeSuer P'24, Kaitlyn LeSuer'24, and Katherine O'Sullivan-LeSuer P'24



The 2021 Spirit of Service Award recipients



Kristen Cali'23 and Emma Burgess'23



# Sophomore + Junior Spirit Days



Antonina Randazzo'23, Mary-Kathryn Sweeney'23, and Isabella Rossi'23

Members of the Classes of 2023 and 2022 celebrated class spirit days this spring at IHA. Our sophomores enjoyed a Disney-themed Sophomore Spirit Day on May 26, 2021 representing four teams: Epcot, Magic Kingdom, Animal Kingdom, and Hollywood Studios. The juniors enjoyed their Spirit Day on June 2, 2021 participating on four season-themed teams: Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall.

Sophomores kicked off the morning with a bagel breakfast outside then headed into the PAC for games of Jeopardy, Teacher Baby Picture Match, Name that Tune - Disney Edition, and Team Pictionary. The class then gathered on the field to play tug of war and water balloon toss and participated in a scavenger hunt. Their fun day continued with a Sing-Off in the PAC, where the Epcot team was named the winners of the day and led their classmates in singing the IHA Alma Mater. The day concluded with a Ben & Jerry's ice cream truck party! Juniors enjoyed an outdoor bagel breakfast; played flag football, kickball, and tug of war; and had a big water balloon fight on the field. They ended the day with a Glaze Donuts treat, Teacher Baby Picture Match, and a few singing performances on stage in the PAC.

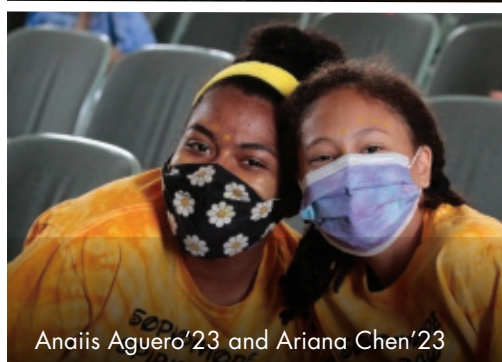
Thank you to the IHA administration; faculty and staff volunteers; class officers; and especially Ms. Maureen McNulty, sophomore class moderator, and Ms. Ana Echeverría, junior class moderator, for planning two great days for the Classes of 2023 and 2022.



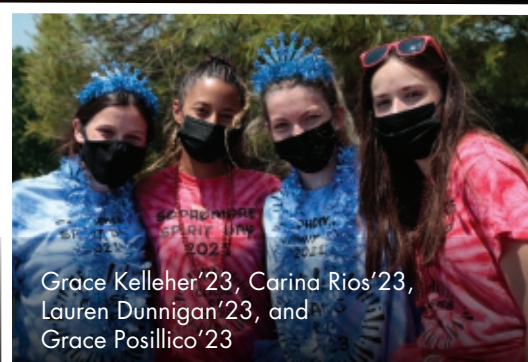
Sophomores represent their teams: Epcot (yellow), Magic Kingdom (blue), Animal Kingdom (green), and Hollywood Studios (red).



Team Epcot nails their sing-off on stage in the PAC.



Anais Agüero'23 and Ariana Chen'23



Grace Kelleher'23, Carina Rios'23, Lauren Dunnigan'23, and Grace Posillico'23



Sophia Rowell'23, April Ramsey'23, Mr. Jason Schlereih, and Jessica Sundlin'23



The Animal Kingdom team puts all its strength into a tug of war match.





Brianna Kuchenmeister'22 and Natalie Ronen'22



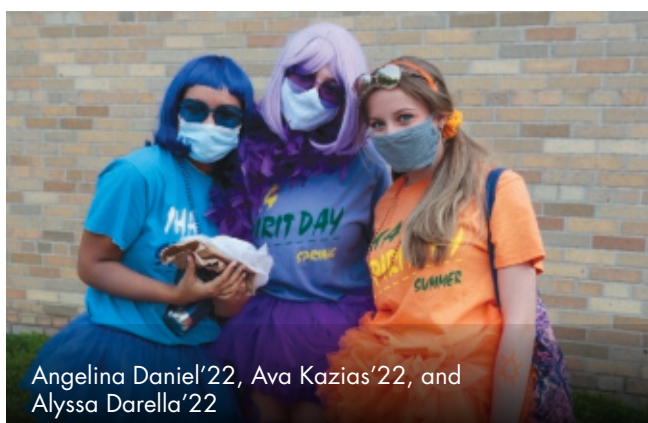
Members of Team Summer cool down during Junior Spirit Day.



Tori Totaro'22, Reagan Mertz'22, Julia Larson'22, and Sophia Bednarek'22



Samantha Emr'22



Angelina Daniel'22, Ava Kazias'22, and Alyssa Darella'22



Isabella Vaughn'22 and Grace Amoroso'22 browse the Glaze Donut selection.



Shannon LaMotta'22, Isabelle Villanueva'22, Sanaiya Villanueva'22, Margaux Yannacci'22, and Emma Hawryluk'22



# IHA Celebrates 2021 Spring Arts Festival

## Molly Offer'06 Award Presented to Grace Capeless'22

IHA's Spring Arts Festival was held the week of May 3, 2021. Senior artists in 3-D Art, Design, Digital Photography, Honors Studio, and AP Studio Art displayed their beautiful artwork in the main lobby in a special exhibition entitled *Class of 2021 – We Shine Brighter Together*. Students in both Honors Studio and AP Studio Art hosted impressive individual senior shows. At the conclusion of the Spring Arts Festival celebration on May 7, 2021, the pre-recorded Spring Concert was sent to current students, parents, and faculty.



Kaitlyn DeMicco'21



Janine Jbeili'21

The members of the IHA Music Program, led by choral music director, Mrs. Barbara Donatacci P'19, performed together for the first time since last March singing *Gentle Woman*, *The Parting Glass*, and *This Is Me*. The soloists and duos selected a variety of songs to share with the IHA community. The IHA Orchestra, led by Mr. Joseph Martorano P'09, was very excited to present their Spring Concert for 2021. The program consisted of *Hallelujah* by Leonard Cohen, *From Now On* from *The Greatest Showman*, a march composed by Franz Schubert, and an upbeat Irish reel.

Additionally, it has become tradition for The Mary Ellen "Molly" Offer'06 Memorial Award to be presented at IHA's Spring Arts Festival. Congratulations to this year's recipient, Grace Capeless'22!



Three-month-old Grace in a "new to the crew" onesie surrounded by the late Molly Offer'06, Kaitlyn Berg'05, and Kara Dooley O'Hare'04 on the set of a 2004 musical.

The Mary Ellen Offer'06 Memorial Award is presented in memory of Mary Ellen "Molly" Offer, a graduate of IHA's Class of 2006 and the youngest of five sisters who are all IHA graduates. The memorial scholarship was established by her parents and sisters; it is the intention of the family that the award is presented to a student who typifies the qualities so loved in Molly: a student who loves art, theater and design, has a deep love for family, and is willing to share compassion, spiritual values, and love of life with everyone she meets.

Grace is an active member of the National Art Honor Society, International Thespian Society, and Tri-M Music Honor Society. She served as an assistant director and cast member in IHA's production of *Godspell* and was responsible for the video editing of the movie-musical. Like Molly, Grace has excelled in her art classes and, true to the spirit of the award, she is someone who is always willing to lend a hand. Thank you to Mary Ellen Offer P'94, '96, '98, '01, '06 and Brennan Offer Burke'94 for presenting the award to Grace at IHA.



Grace Capeless'22; Ms. Patricia Molloy; Mary Ellen Offer P'94, '96, '98, '01, '06; and Brennan Offer Burke'94



# Underclassman Spring Art Show

The IHA Art Department proudly presented the work of second-semester artists in grades 9 to 11. Students in Art I, Art II, 3-D Art, and Digital Photography exhibited their work in the main lobby from June 4-11, 2021.

This year, artists rose to the challenge of creating their art while being both remote and in the art studio to produce some really fine work! An Artists' Reception for exhibiting artists was held during classes on Friday, June 4, 2021.



Jill Gonzalez'24, Darcy Moore'24, and Jordyn Allen'23



Madison Stewart'22



Gianna Sinocchi'24, Ava Previzi'24, Olivia Morrison'23, and Isabella Falletta'24



Back row, left to right, are Lily Tzitzikalakis'24, Hannah Sengul'24, Maura Hesler'24, Cornelia Fox'24, Isabella Vidaic'24, Eleanor Quinn'24, Elena Pitrelli'24, and Riley DeMicco'24. Front row, left to right, are Cassandra George'24, Alexa Luna'24, Isabella Kelly'24, and Angelica Cece'24.



# SPORTS REPORT

Spring 2021

Emma Viggiano'21, pole  
vaulting school record holder







2021 Spring Track &amp; Field Team

## SPRING TRACK

The IHA Spring Track & Field team had a phenomenal season, going undefeated in dual meet competition and winning the League, County Relays, and County Group Championships! The team also completed the quadruple crown by winning the Non-Public A North Sectional Championship for the first time since 2010. Additionally, the freshman team won the Bergen County Freshman title for the third consecutive year and the sophomore team won the North

Jersey Sophomore Championship. IHA Varsity Track also won the Season Opener Invitational and The Connet Relays. Individually, Emma Viggiano'21 broke the school record in the pole vault and Madison Libby'21 jumped 18'01.75 in the long jump, ranking her at #2 in all-time school history. Lauren Dunnigan'23 jumped 35'10.25 in the triple jump, ranking her at #2 in all-time school history. Abigail Romero'24 placed third at the State Meet in the high jump and Leanna Johnston'23 placed third in the 3200.



Grace Olear'21 hands off the baton to Angelina Parrino'24.



Carina Rios'23

### Big North All-League Honors

#### First-Team

Madison Libby'21, Madelyn Novelli'21, Jillian Shea'21, Niki Matthews'22, and Leanna Johnston'23

#### Second-Team

Christine Ajao'21, Elizabeth Pinto-Shaw'21, Keara Skae'21, Emma Viggiano'21, Maegan Feeney'22, Kylie Galiger'22, Olivia Raia'22, Katherine Young'22, Julia Arencibia'23, Lauren Dunnigan'23, Grace Posillico'23, Olivia Tacconi'23, Olivia Battifarano'24, and Abigail Romero'24

### Big North Coach Of the Year

Matt Joyce

### BCWCA All-County Honors

#### Second-Team

Madison Libby'21

#### Third-Team

Lauren Dunnigan'23

### northjersey.com All-North Jersey Honors

#### Second-Team

Madison Libby'21

### NJ.com All-Non-Public Honors

#### Second-Team

Emma Viggiano'21

#### Third-Team

Madison Libby'21 and Leanna Johnston'23



## VOLLEYBALL

The 2021 Spring Volleyball season was short but successful for IHA, as the team finished with an 8-1 season record. IHA Volleyball continued its Big North United Division winning streak and also won the NJSIAA State Sectional title by defeating Hudson Catholic in three sets. IHA was named Team of the Year by NJ.com and the North Jersey Team of the Year by northjersey.com.



2021 Volleyball Team

## GOLF

IHA's young team finished with a 7-1 regular season record and set a school record with a low match score of 155, averaging 38.75 per golfer. The Blue Eagles finished first in the Big North Central Division with a 5-0 record, first in the Big North Tournament, first in the North State Sectional Tournament (for the second time in school history), second in the Bergen County Tournament, and T-3 in the State Tournament of Champions. This year's IHA Golf team ranked #1 in North Jersey and #3 in New Jersey by NJ.com.



Reagan Mertz '22

### Big North All-League Conference (United Division) Honors

#### First-Team

Olivia Coughlin'21, Gianna Grigaliunas'21, Alyssa Lowther'21, and Brookelyn Talmadge'23

#### Second-Team

Grace Coughlin'23, Alexa Grigaliunas'23, and Deanna Whelpley'22

#### Honorable Mention

Abigail Romero'24 and Bryana Saenz'24

### BCWCA All-County Honors

#### First-Team

Olivia Coughlin'21, Gianna Grigaliunas'21, and Brookelyn Talmadge'23

#### Second-Team

Alyssa Lowther'21

### northjersey.com All-North Jersey Honors

#### First-Team

Gianna Grigaliunas'21

#### Second-Team

Olivia Coughlin'21 and Brookelyn Talmadge'23

### NJ.com All-Non-Public Honors First-Team

Olivia Coughlin'21, Gianna Grigaliunas'21, Alyssa Lowther'21, and Brookelyn Talmadge'23

### NJ.com All-State Honors

#### First-Team

Gianna Grigaliunas'21 and Brookelyn Talmadge'23

#### Second-Team

Olivia Coughlin'21

### NJ.com Athlete of the Week

Gianna Grigaliunas'21



Brookelyn Talmadge'23

### Big North Central Conference All-League Honors

#### First-Team

Angela Lee'22, Reagan Mertz'22, Jessica Danckwerth'24, and Marisa Flores'24

#### Second-Team

Julia Schutz'23

#### Honorable Mention

Grace Oates'22

### BCWCA All-County Honors

#### First-Team

Angela Lee'22

#### Second-Team

Reagan Mertz'22 and Marisa Flores'24

### North Jersey Player of the Year

Angela Lee'22

### NJ.com All-State Honors

#### First-Team

Angela Lee'22



2021 Golf Team



IHA Golf is named Sectional champion!





## LACROSSE

The IHA Varsity Lacrosse team advanced to the State Championships for the first time in school history for the 2021 season! Although the County Championships ended in a 5-3 loss to Ridgewood, the team played its closest game in the championship to date. IHA ended the season with an 11-9 record, ranked #14

by NJ.com and #2 by northjersey.com. The memories and sisterhood that were formed throughout this season will never be forgotten. The J.V. team, made up of nine freshmen and five sophomores, ended the season in the highly competitive Stars and Stripes Division with a record of 2-7-3.

### Stars and Stripes North All-League Honors

#### First-Team

Megan Bizub'21, Brooke Marotti'21,  
Melissa Pierpont'21, Gabrielle  
Montegari'22, and Sophia Rowell'23

#### Second-Team

Julia Marotti'21, Sherry McCarthy'21,  
Grace Cassin'23, and  
Alexandra Kucharz'24

#### Honorable Mention

Juliette Wittig'23

### northjersey.com All-Bergen County Honors

#### First-Team

Megan Bizub'21, Brooke Marotti'21,  
Melissa Pierpont'21, and  
Sophia Rowell'23

#### Second-Team

Julia Marotti'21, Sherry McCarthy'21,  
Gabrielle Montegari'22, and  
Grace Cassin'23

### NJ.com All-Group Honors

#### First-Team

Megan Bizub'21

#### Second-Team

Brooke Marotti'21

#### Third-Team

Julia Marotti'21 and  
Sophia Rowell'23

### NJ.com All-State Honors

#### Third-Team

Megan Bizub'21



Brooke  
Marotti'21



Megan Bizub'21



## SOFTBALL

IHA Varsity Softball had a great season, finishing with a 26-5 record. After losing the 2020 season due to COVID, the girls took advantage of every opportunity this year. The team finished undefeated in the Big North United Division and beat Mount St. Dominic Academy in the Non-Public A North Final in dramatic fashion in the seventh inning. The team earned its first trip to the NJSIAA Non-Public A State Finals since 2017 and finished the season as #4 in the state.



Jocelyn Moody'22

## DANCE TEAM

The IHA Dance Team had a fantastic season and took home the New Jersey State Championship title in Varsity Jazz. The IHA team also finished second in Varsity Pom at the State Competition and participated in its first National Competition, placing third in both Varsity Jazz and Varsity Pom. At the Montclair State University competition, IHA placed first in Varsity Jazz and Varsity Pom and also won the Technique Award. At the Academy of Holy Angels Invitational, the girls earned first place awards in Varsity Jazz and Varsity Pom. The team was led by senior captain, Sophia Mazzola'21, and junior captains, Brooke Muller'22 and Madison Stewart'22.

### Big North All-League Honors

#### First-Team

Cara Kochakian'22, Jocelyn Moody'22, Gabrielle Park'22, Natalia LoCurto'23, and Noelle Urbaniak'23

#### Second-Team

Gianna Stirone'21, Chelsea Lapp'23, Sophia Noriega'23, Arianna Barrett'24, and Reagan Pace'24

#### Honorable Mention

Lauren Montgomery'21 and Sarah Zampino'21

### BCWCA All-County Honors

#### First-Team

Cara Kochakian'22, Jocelyn Moody'22, and Gabrielle Park'22

#### Second-Team

Noelle Urbaniak'23

#### Third-Team

Natalia LoCurto'23

### NJ.com All-Non-Public Honors

#### First-Team

Cara Kochakian'22 and Jocelyn Moody'22

#### Second-Team

Noelle Urbaniak'23

### NJ.com All-State Honors

#### First-Team

Cara Kochakian'22



Gianna Stirone'21



2021 Softball Team

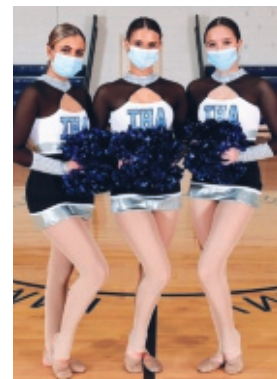
IHA dancers perform a leg extension in their Varsity Jazz routine.



Dancers executing a head spring in their Varsity Pom routine.



2021 captains, Brooke Muller'22, Sophia Mazzola'21, and Madison Stewart'22



Madison Stewart'22





Attention Parents of Alumnae

# Creation of Alumnae Parents of the Heart Group

**P**arents of alumnae, please look into joining our newly created group at IHA: the **Alumnae Parents of the Heart!** The purpose of this group is to bring together parents of IHA graduates to help them remain connected to one another as their daughters embark on their lives after Immaculate Heart. We foresee that this will be a great way for parents of alumnae to both develop and maintain relationships with other IHA families.

All parents of alumnae are welcomed and invited to participate as the group further defines its goals and activities for the coming year. Please join us to help plan or lend your special talent to an upcoming event.



Look for more information in the coming weeks about both social and service events. Contact us with suggestions or questions you may have at [parentsofalumnae@ihanj.com](mailto:parentsofalumnae@ihanj.com).

## BLUE EAGLE OPEN

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Forest Hill Field Club | 9 Belleville Avenue | Bloomfield, NJ

Sponsorship opportunities and registration at [ihanj.com](http://ihanj.com)  
or call 201.445.6800 for more information.

### PREMIER EVENT SPONSORS



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# CLASSES OF 1970 AND 1971 50TH REUNION CELEBRATIONS

Attention Class of 1970 and 1971 alumnae!  
Have you registered for your 50th Class Reunion events yet?

PLEASE JOIN YOUR CLASSMATES THIS OCTOBER!

## CLASS OF 1970 50TH REUNION


October 2, 2021 – Luncheon at Ramsey Golf & Country Club  
October 3, 2021 – Memorial Mass in IHA Sisters' Chapel and Brunch

To register for either event, please visit [www.ihanj.com](http://www.ihanj.com).  
For more information, please email [ihaclassof70reunion@gmail.com](mailto:ihaclassof70reunion@gmail.com).

## CLASS OF 1971 50TH REUNION

October 8, 2021 – Welcome Reception at the home of Martha Bauer'71  
October 9, 2021 – Service Project, Memorial Mass in IHA Sisters' Chapel,  
Dinner at Bacari Grill, Township of Washington  
October 10, 2021 – Farewell Brunch at the home of Gail Guillotte Lilgeberg'71

To register for any of the events, please visit [www.ihanj.com](http://www.ihanj.com).  
For more information, please email [ihaclassof71reunion@gmail.com](mailto:ihaclassof71reunion@gmail.com).





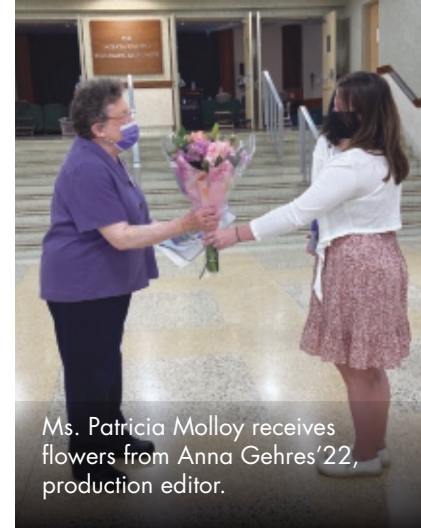
# 2021 *Orb* Issue Dedicated to Ms. Molloy

On the morning of May 18, 2021, the staff members of *Orb*, IHA's literary magazine, presented Ms. Patricia Molloy, president, with their 2021 issue. This edition was dedicated to Ms. Molloy in honor of the forty-eight years she has served Immaculate Heart Academy, leading to her retirement this past June.

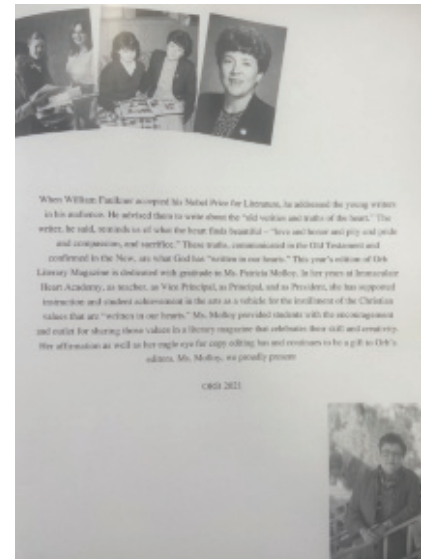
Congratulations to the *Orb* staff on this fantastic and special issue: Emma Bassett'21, literary editor; Julia Frengul'21, art and photography editor; Anna Gehres'22, production editor; Lauren Grae'23, special editor and cover designer; Mrs. Donna Sandt P'20, '23, '24, faculty moderator and English teacher; Emma Burgess'23; Ariana Chen'23; Katherine Conway'21; Raquel Davis'21; Emma Hawryluk'22; Norah Homa'23; Jessica Kielur'22; Lauren Plastina'22; Margaux Yannacci'22; and Sarah Zampino'21.



*Orb* staff members pose with Ms. Patricia Molloy after reading the most recent issue's dedication to her.

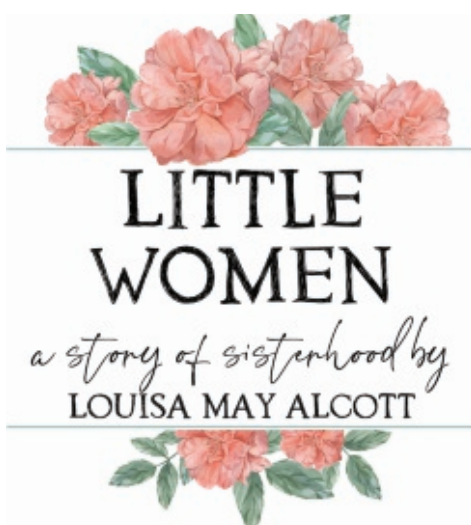


Ms. Patricia Molloy receives flowers from Anna Gehres'22, production editor.



The 2021 edition of *Orb* was dedicated to Ms. Patricia Molloy upon her retirement in June.

## IHA to Present *Little Women*



IHA is proud to present *Little Women* as our 2021 Fall Drama! Join us on Friday, Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 14 at 2 p.m.

Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, *Little Women* follows the adventures of sisters, Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy March. This timeless classic tells the story of the sisters' journey from childhood to maturity as they learn to endure both good times and bad and share the joys and pains of growing up.

Please visit [www.ihatheater.com](http://www.ihatheater.com) for more information and to purchase tickets. Email Ms. Taryn Tonelli'09, coordinator for performing arts, at [ttonelli@ihanj.com](mailto:ttonelli@ihanj.com) with questions.



## REUNION WEEKEND 2021

We have combined the celebration of last year's and this year's anniversary classes for our 2021 Reunion Weekend! This year, we welcome the classes of '75, '76, '80, '81, '85, '86, '90, '91, '95, '96, '00, '01, '05, '06, '10, '11, '15, and '16.

### 5K Run/Walk/Crawl

**Saturday, November 6, 10 a.m.**

\$30 includes a t-shirt and morning beverages. Registration will take place in the gym lobby in the back of the school.

### Alumnae Mass

**Saturday, November 6, 5 p.m.**

All alumnae, family, and friends are welcome to join us in remembering those deceased members of the anniversary classes and former faculty.

### Alumnae Cocktail Reception

**Saturday, November 6, 6 p.m.**

Join fellow classmates and alumnae for a cocktail reception including heavy hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, open bar, live entertainment by the Alan Quinn Duo, and photo booth. Tours of the school will be provided. Cost is \$75 per person.

**Please note, plans for Reunion Weekend are subject to change based on the current restrictions imposed by health and government authorities.**

### IHA 1960 Society

## Give to IHA through Planned Giving

The Immaculate Heart Academy 1960 Society was created to honor the spirit that has nurtured and sustained IHA for the past sixty years. It recognizes those individuals who have thoughtfully included a gift to IHA in their estate plans through a will, trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy, or life-income gift such as a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust.

Planned gifts create extraordinary opportunities to ensure that resources will be available to support IHA for another sixty years and more, preserving and advancing our traditions and our mission of offering young women a college preparatory education and instilling

in them "a sense of responsibility, confidence, justice, peace, and compassion."

While the primary purpose of a planned gift is to help a favorite charity, these gifts allow individuals to enjoy financial benefits. Donors who choose planned giving can feel secure about the future of their loved ones, maintain control of assets for life, receive substantial tax benefits, and give more than they ever thought possible.

For more information regarding planned giving, please contact Beth DiCiancia Garrigan '76 P'06, director of alumnae engagement, at [bgarrigan@ihanj.com](mailto:bgarrigan@ihanj.com).





# Surprise Delivery from Alumnae to Graduates

The day after Graduation, our 2021 graduates were surprised with a special delivery from their alumnae sisters. IHA alumnae welcomed the most recent graduates into the sisterhood with Krispy Kreme donuts and personalized letters from their IHA sisters before them. Thank you to director of alumnae engagement, Beth DiCiancia Garrigan'76 P'06, and her staff for coordinating this special surprise. Additionally, thank you to the alumnae who wrote letters and all who made the deliveries!



Danielle Garrigan'06, Mia Grossman'21, and Beth DiCiancia Garrigan'76 P'06—all three were IHA Award recipients for their graduating classes!



Thank you to all of the alumnae who made deliveries.



Meg Szydluk'13, Isabella Torres'21, and Beth Mueller Szydluk'84 P'13, '18 F



Amanda Parks'21 and Jacqui Gradel'84



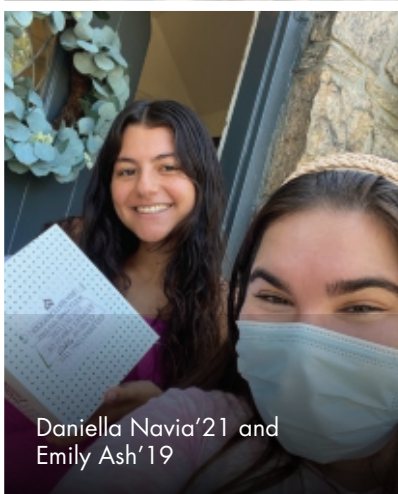
Jillian Pursiano'20 and Isabel Quevedo'21



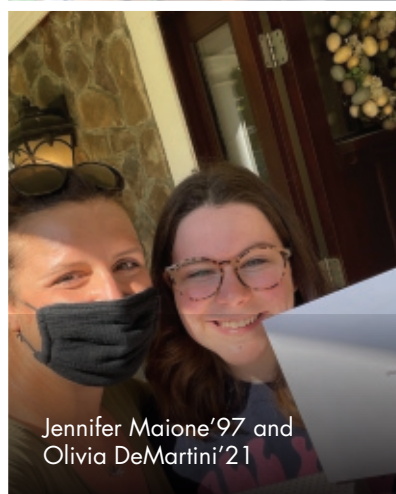
Lia Kunnapas'09 F and Kaitlyn DeMicco'21



Elizabeth Encke'20, Madison Libby'21, and Amanda Molloy'20



Daniella Navia'21 and Emily Ash'19



Jennifer Maione'97 and Olivia DeMartini'21



Maggie Twomey'21, Amanda Carpenter'12, and Noelle Riverol'12





# CLASS notes

'68

**Mary Curry Narayan** graduated with a Ph.D. in Nursing from George Mason University's School of Health and Human

Services on May 14, 2021. Her dissertation, *Culture-Sensitive/Patient-Centered Assessment and Care Planning Skills in Home Health Nursing*, explored ways nurses can provide better care to home health patients. She particularly



Mary Curry Narayan '68

focused on how nurses can enhance the health and well being of all home health patients of all kinds of minority and diversity groups. Dr. Narayan has authored multiple publications including book chapters, peer-reviewed articles, and continuing education courses about cross-cultural and home health care.

She has also presented nationally and internationally on home health and cross-cultural topics. Dr. Narayan has served on the American Nurses Association's committee for the Scope and Standards of Home Health Nursing Practice and is on the Editorial Boards of Home Healthcare Nurse and Home Health Care Management and Practice. She was one of the founding members of the International Home Care Nurses Organization and continues to serve on their Advisory Council. She chaired the committee to develop the International Guidelines for Home Health Nursing. For more information, contact [mnarayan@gmu.edu](mailto:mnarayan@gmu.edu).

**Members of IHA's Class of 1968** had a mini reunion in Ogunquit, Maine this past June. From left to right are **Jeanne Tozzini McCliment**, **Julie Prina Fornaci**, **Elaine Malillo Tormey**, **Mary-Ellen Ciali**, **Kathleen Kennedy McDonough**, and **Susan DeLorenzo Bertram**. Also in attendance was **Susan Cardascia White**, who took the photo.



'76

Friends forever take a day trip to the beach together! From left to right are **Susan Martini Marisco**, **Dina Black Keller**, **Maribeth Hackett Morris**, and **Patty O'Keefe Raspanti**.



'80

**Doreen Roland Sullivan** lives in Montvale with her two children, Olivia, 19, and Paul, 21, when they are not at college. She is so proud of both of her children. "Paul is a rising senior at Iona College where he plays D1 Baseball and where his dad, who passed away in 2014, went and played baseball," Doreen writes. "It's so special to us that he is carrying on his legacy. Olivia is a rising sophomore at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Madison, my alma mater, but from Teaneck/Hackensack campus. While working from home virtually freshman year, Olivia was able to carry out her dream of professionally writing and recording music! It has helped her process losing her dad and she was born to be on stage. Check her out on YouTube, Spotify, or iHeart radio—Liv Sullivan, *I Would* and *Don't Come*



*Around.* Follow her on Instagram @livesullivan\_music or TikTok @livesullivan\_music. You will see me there too as I am her momager! I am also on Facebook if anyone wants to connect.”

'05

**Lisa Fuhrman** and her co-head writer, Andrew Rosenthal, were nominated for a national Daytime Emmy for their work on the 2020 Tournament of Roses Parade. The pair was nominated within the “Outstanding Writing Team for a Daytime Non-Fiction Special” category.

'10

**Dr. Alexa Brown** graduated from The Dental College of Georgia with honors on May 14, 2021. Alexa will further her education by specializing in periodontics at Rutgers School of Dental Medicine.



Dr. Alexa Brown '10

**Alexa DeSousa Mattia** and her husband, Michael, welcomed their daughter, Sienna Rose Mattia, into the world on April 9, 2021. “We are so excited to raise a future Blue Eagle!” she writes.



Sienna Rose Mattia



'09

**Kaely Walsh Albanese** was married on June 4, 2021 surrounded by many of her IHA Class of 2009 sisters! From left to right are IHA alumnae and their dads, Charlie Rogers P'07, '09, '13; **Kristen Rogers Bohling**; Bob Rhein P'09; **Lauren Rhein**; Kevin Walsh P'09; **Kaely Walsh Albanese**; Chris Brienza P'09; and **Victoria Brienza**.

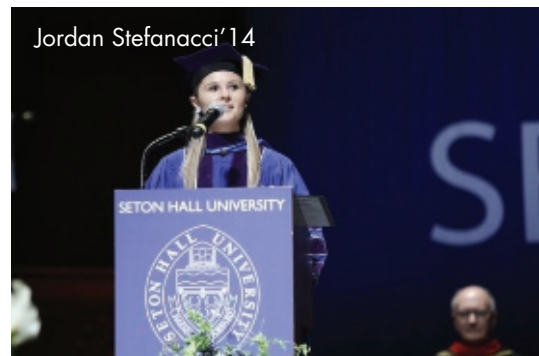
'12

**Dr. Alexandra Pfleging** writes, “As a doctoral student at Manhattanville College, I successfully defended my dissertation entitled

*Confronting the Challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Quantitative Analysis of the Relationships Among Secondary Teachers' Perceived Resilience, Trait Emotional Intelligence, and Self-Efficacy.* I officially graduated with a doctoral degree in educational leadership in May 2021.”



Dr. Alexandra Pfleging '12



Jordan Stefanacci '14

'14

**Jordan Stefanacci** had the honor of delivering the student commencement speech at her law school graduation from Seton Hall University on May 26, 2021. Her speech was inspired by her late father-in-law, Dr. Edward “Silver” Fox. “I lost my future father-in-law during my last year of law school. We always said someday we would write a book together. Although that dream will never come to fruition, we found an even better way to collaborate. In April 2020, he delivered a short speech titled ‘Find Your Hero in Your Heart.’ My speech was inspired by his words and it is a memory I will always cherish. Thank you, Silver, for continuing to inspire me and so many others. And thank you to my classmates for giving me this incredible opportunity.”



**'15** **Erika Fleming** received a Bachelor of Science degree in nutritional sciences in 2019 and a master's degree in nutritional sciences at the University of Connecticut in May of 2021. During her six years at UConn, she conducted research applying material science and engineering principles to understand physical and chemical interactions among natural biomaterials at the nanoscale and design novel delivery systems for various applications in food safety, quality, and functionality. Erika's next step will be attending medical school starting July 2021 at the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine in Nutley.

**Francesca Tomesco** graduated with a bachelor's degree in molecular biology in May of 2020 from the New Jersey Center for Science Technology and Mathematics at Kean University. This May, she received a master's degree in biotechnology from the same institution. She currently works for GENEWIZ in South Plainfield. Francesca celebrated with her former IHA classmates, **Madeleine Shahin**, who earned a Master of Science degree in communication disorders from Mercy College, and **Marly Rene**, who earned a Master of Science degree in biology from Saint Joseph's University.



**'16** **Megan Twiss** graduated summa cum laude from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a master's degree in mechanical engineering this May. In the fall, she is moving out to Seattle to work as a hardware engineer for Boeing.

**'17** **Taylor Wiener** graduated six months early in December 2020 from the University of Miami College of Arts and Science. In August 2021, she matriculated University of Miami Miller School of Medicine with the hope to someday practice plastic surgery.

**Julianna Shreckgast** writes, "This past Memorial Day weekend, I graduated summa cum laude from Cornell University with a major in finance, accounting, and real estate, and a minor in real estate. I was also a four-year member of the Varsity Women's Soccer Team as well as the Alpha Phi sorority. In July, I began my role as an investment banking analyst at Barclays Investment Bank in New York City. I want to take this time to thank my incredible teachers at IHA, as my success can be attributed to them. If it was not for IHA's culture of ambition, alongside support, I would never have built up the confidence to pursue my most zealous dreams. Furthermore, if it was not for the rigorous nature of IHA's curriculum, I would never have developed the work ethic to thrive at an Ivy League institution. With that said, I can attest to the common belief that IHA prepares students very well for college."

**Jillian Morgan** graduated from The George Washington University with a B.S. in nutrition science and a minor in public health. "College has flown by and I often reflect on how my education at IHA has provided an incredibly strong foundation from which to grow and learn," Jill writes. "I am so grateful for the last four years. Living in Washington, D.C. has been such an amazing experience. I headed to Pu'u O Hoku Ranch in Molokai, Hawaii in May to be a garden intern. I am very excited to



enter this new chapter of my life and learn more about natural farming. I have to shout out Ms. Fitzgerald (now Mrs. Tereshko) for planting a seed of passion for environmental health within me—the seed has certainly taken root!"

**Gianna Cangelosi** recently graduated from Gettysburg College. "Beginning in June, I started the process of earning a master's and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degrees in a joint program at Columbia University so that I can become an adult/gerontology acute care nurse practitioner," Gianna writes. "I want to thank IHA for preparing me to excel at Gettysburg College in a way that has also allowed me to be an outstanding applicant in Columbia University's application pool for such a prestigious program. I would also like to thank IHA for the network of women that I now have access to. **Nicole Napolitano '12** is currently in the DNP portion of the program at Columbia University and was a huge help to me while I was preparing my application. She definitely has all of the amazing qualities of an IHA girl! My youngest sister, **Maria Cangelosi '21** just graduated from IHA. I am so excited for her to take everything she has learned at IHA with her to the next chapter of her life at Fairfield University! Thank you again for preparing me so well to excel beyond IHA. I am confident that the same will happen for my sister, Maria. My sister, **Daniella Cangelosi '18**, is a junior in college right now and is doing great as well, thanks to IHA!"



**Giavanna Tabbachino** graduated this spring from Lehigh University with a bachelor's degree in industrial & systems engineering and a minor in women, gender, & sexuality studies. Giavanna will remain at Lehigh for another year to pursue a Master of Engineering in management science and engineering, for which she was awarded the 2021 Lawrence E. White Fellowship.

**Angelina Maleska** recently graduated from Georgetown's Walsh School of Foreign Service where she studied international politics with a concentration in security studies and double minored in diplomatic studies and art history. "I will be working at Wiley Rein LLP in Washington D.C. in the international trade practice," Angelina writes. "I haven't yet decided where I will be going to law school, but I hope to go into international law, particularly focusing on human rights and immigration law."

**Nicolette Santoro** graduated magna cum laude from Clemson University in May 2021 with a bachelor's degree in nutrition/dietetics. Nikki was offered a dietetic internship with New York Presbyterian and will be pursuing a master's degree in nutrition and fitness.

**Riley Maloney** graduated cum laude from the Villanova School of Business with double majors in accounting and finance and a minor in international business. This summer, she moved to New York City to start full time at JP Morgan Chase & Co. as an investment banking analyst. "I'm so excited for this next chapter of my life, and know that everything I learned as a Blue Eagle has led me to this point," Riley said. "Thank you so much to the IHA community for the endless support!"

**Megan Brockmeier** recently graduated from Villanova University with a major in economics and minors in Spanish and humanities. In July, she began a full time job with Unilever as a part of the Unilever Future Leaders Program in Marketing, a full-time rotational program.

**Gabriella Rossi** graduated summa cum laude from the Gabelli School of Business at Fordham University as a marketing major. In June, she began a full time position at Xaxis, a Groupm Company, as an account services associate.

**Reagan Stroka** commissioned as an officer into the United States Navy on May 21, 2021. She then reported to San Diego aboard the *USS Chosin*. On May 22, she graduated from RPI with a degree in biomedical engineering. "We could not be more proud or more thankful," Reagan's mother, Kerri Stroka P'17, writes. "Know that what you do matters a great deal; not just academically, but in the life lessons of perseverance, dedication, and service."

**Simona Riccardi**, a member of Emerson College's senior class, was selected for its Purple Key Leadership Society, and recognized during the annual Emerson Recognition and Achievement (ERA) Awards ceremony on Friday, April 9, 2021. The recipients of this prestigious honor demonstrate exceptional leadership, service, a strong commitment to civic engagement, and solid academic achievement. Simona majored in media arts production.

**Caroline Vantor** graduated from the University of Maryland - College Park in May with a bachelor's degree in hearing and speech sciences and a double minor in disability studies and leadership studies. "In undergrad, I served two terms on my sorority's executive council," she writes. "One term as vice president of membership and recruitment, where I had to plan an entire recruitment experience via Zoom. I also balanced my schoolwork with a part-time job at our center for student life on campus. For the fall, I am enrolled at George Washington University to pursue my master's degree in speech-language pathology. I plan to experience D.C. and live nearby GW in Arlington, Virginia."

**Below:** From left to right are Michael Stroka P'17, Cooper Stroka, Reagan Stroka'17, Piper Stroka, Kerri Stroka P'17, and Oliver Stroka.



**Cayla Moore** graduated magna cum laude from Fordham University with a degree in finance and art history. She works full time as an investment banking analyst at Piper Sandler in New York City.

**Kelly Murphy** graduated from Seton Hall University in December of 2020, summa cum laude with a B.A. degree in psychology. During the spring, Kelly worked at IHA as a maternity leave replacement, teaching religious studies to the freshmen and sophomores. She has been accepted to a graduate program in school counseling at Seton Hall and plans to attend this fall.

**18** **Megan Rice** was named to the dean's list at The University of Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business for outstanding scholarship during the spring 2021 semester. Students who achieve dean's honors at Notre Dame represent the top thirty percent of students in their college.

**Sarah Persico** achieved president's list (4.0) at University of South Carolina for the fall and spring semesters. She is currently working in the Office of the USC President.



# IN MEMORIAM

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

**Janice Cordner, Class of 1981**

May 29, 2020

*Sister of Kathleen Cordner Carlson'72,  
Donna Cordner'75, and Lisa Cordner'77*

**Christine Norcia Dineen,  
Class of 1967**

October 28, 2020

**Jacqueline Richard Jones,  
Class of 1965**

March 6, 2021

**Lorna Velardi, Class of 1971**

June 9, 2021

*Sister of Carol Velardi Bergemann'72  
and Joan Velardi'77*

**Claire Dobson Emmons,  
Class of 1978**

June 22, 2021

*Sister of Alicia Dobson Coscia'77 and  
Jane Dobson'80 and mother of Michelle  
Emmons Sawicki'01*

**Kathryn Kelley Hoskins, Class of 1978**

July 10, 2021

**Jennifer Paolino, Class of 1990**

July 17, 2021

**Eleanor Bersin Spiel**

March 9, 2020

*Mother of Elizabeth "Beth" Bersin  
Corvinus'77 and Susan Bersin'80*

**David Cedrone**

April 23, 2021

*Husband of Patricia  
Fitzsimmons Cedrone'70*

**Joseph Morin**

April 29, 2021

*Father of Monique Morin'04 and  
former faculty member*

**Kathleen Mary Rooney**

May 26, 2021

*Mother of Sarahann Rooney Huvane'86 and  
Theresa Rooney Henry'88*

**Timothy Rice**

June 12, 2021

*Brother of Noreen Rice Veffer'94 and Kathryn  
Rice Maceri'98*

**Mary Ann Shewciw**

June 20, 2021

*Mother of Christine Shewciw Waldron'96  
and Stephanie Shewciw'01*

**Sami Behnan**

June 21, 2021

*Brother of Christina Behnan'11*

**Daniel Yee**

July 18, 2021

*Brother of Alma Yee'70*



# 2021 OPEN HOUSES

## Will you be a member of IHA's Class of 2026?

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 more than ten thousand graduates who have graced our halls. Come decide if you belong @theheart by attending our Fall Open Houses:

**Sunday,**  
**OCTOBER 24, 2021**  
11 a.m. through 2 p.m.

**Thursday,**  
**OCTOBER 28, 2021**  
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

- Take the High School Placement Test (HSPT) on November 5, 2021.
- Complete IHA's online application on [www.ihanj.com](http://www.ihanj.com) by December 1, 2021.
- Have transcripts from sixth through eighth grade sent to IHA by December 15, 2021.


Online registration is requested for our Open Houses at [ihanj.com](http://ihanj.com).

For more information, please contact **Ms. Alexis Fatigati'07**, director of admissions, at 201.445.6800, ext. 112 or [afatigati@ihanj.com](mailto: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. ALL NEWS IS CURRENT AND UP-TO-DATE AS OF AUGUST 2021, WHEN THIS ISSUE WAS PRINTED.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP  
30

## Blue Eagle Open

**Registration and lunch, 11 a.m.,** followed by 1 p.m. shotgun start.  
Forest Hill Field Club, Bloomfield

NOV  
05

## HSPT for Class of 2026

Class of 2026 prospective students are required to take the Archdiocesan high school entrance exam.

OCT  
2&3

## Class of 1970 50th Reunion

Luncheon at Ramsey Golf and Country Club on Saturday; Memorial Mass in IHA's Sisters' Chapel and Brunch on Sunday.

NOV  
06

## Reunion Weekend

We have combined the celebration of last year's and this year's anniversary classes. Reunion Weekend will welcome the classes of '75, '76, '80, '81, '85, '86, '90, '91, '95, '96, '00, '01, '05, '06, '10, '11, '15, and '16.

OCT  
8-10

## Class of 1971 50th Reunion

Welcome Reception on Friday; Service Project, Memorial Mass in IHA's Sisters' Chapel, and Dinner at Bacari Grill on Saturday; and Farewell Brunch on Sunday.

NOV  
12-14

## Fall Drama: *Little Women*

IHA will proudly present *Little Women* on Friday, Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 14 at 2 p.m.

OCT  
24&28

## Fall Open Houses

Tour the state-of-the-art building and ask questions of faculty, staff, coaches, and our knowledgeable student Eagle Ambassadors.

NOV  
20

## Gala in Honor of Patricia Molloy

**6-11 p.m.**

Please join us in celebrating and honoring former IHA president, Ms. Patricia Molloy. Visit [ihanj.com](http://ihanj.com) to make a gift to the newly established *Patricia Molloy Scholarship Fund*, purchase gala tickets, and to learn more about gala sponsorship opportunities.