

MARYGROVE COLLEGE

*Distinguished Alumni & Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow
2015 Awards*



Friday, September 18, 2015 | *The Marygrove College Theatre*

MARYGROVE COLLEGE
**ALUMNI REUNION
WEEKEND 2015**

Schedule of Events

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

8:30 a.m.

Registration & Continental Breakfast

9:45 a.m.

Procession to Sacred Heart Chapel

10:00 a.m.

Mass

Sacred Heart Chapel

11:20 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Class Pictures

Front of Liberal Arts Building

12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch

Alumnae Hall, Madame Cadillac Building

2:15 – 3:30 p.m.

Campus Tours

Madame Cadillac Lobby

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

11:00 a.m. – Noon

**Golden Jubilee Celebration Mass
honoring the Class of 1965**

Sacred Heart Chapel

Noon – 2:00 p.m.

**Brunch & Induction of the Class of 1965
into the Fifty Year Club and recognition
of those who graduated prior to 1965**

Main Dining Room



**2015-2016 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Yesenia Venegas '07, *President*

Dr. Vanessa Howell Gbant '92, *Vice President*

Alisa Ferguson '02, *Treasurer*

Sandra Jo Collins '82, *Secretary*

Catherine Mancina Baldwin '65

Mark Bartnik '79

Samual Blue '93

Gloria Brown-Banks '11

Sheila Keefe '56

Laurie LePain Kopack '05, '11

Margo R. Lee '00

Elizabeth Poliuto Loria '70

Brittany Mack '12

Alison E. McNeeley '03, '09

Frances L. Brown Simmons '85

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI & DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF TOMORROW

Awards

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: JANICE MACHUSAK, MARYGROVE COLLEGE

The Marygrove College Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Awards are honors bestowed by Marygrove College and the Marygrove College Alumni Association. These awards have been established to recognize and honor alumni and current students who have distinguished themselves and their alma mater.

The Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Awards celebrate the ideals of competence (the ability to understand and participate effectively in the promise of our evolving world), compassion (the capacity to care about and respect the worth and dignity of people), and commitment (the will to act responsibly based upon one's beliefs and to contribute to the building of a more just and humane world)—qualities that Marygrove has always tried to instill in its students.

*The **Distinguished Alumni Awards** honor graduates who have made significant contributions and demonstrated leadership in any of the following areas:*

- *Professional, educational or artistic endeavors*
- *The community through government service and/or civic organizations (such as Lions Club, city planning commissions, government committees, etc.)*
- *Political action, social justice or volunteer activities in schools, hospitals, etc.*
- *Marygrove College*

*The **Distinguished Alumni of Tomorrow Award** honors an exceptional undergraduate junior or senior (2015-2016 academic year) who has made significant contributions to the Marygrove College community in all of the following areas:*

- *Academic Accomplishment*
- *Leadership*
- *Service to the College and/or community*



Mary Harris Martin '62

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Mary Harris Martin is the first to admit her life is not what she'd imagined for herself upon graduating from Marygrove in 1962. But the unexpected hardships life presented, while shaking her to her core, did not win out; what did was her spirit of determination, self-reliance, and ability to lift up everyone around her. Mary quietly and tirelessly has made a habit of performing "random acts of kindness" as though it were as natural as breathing. Miriam Poirer, a friend of Mary's since freshmen year, comments that after Mary's conversion to Catholicism in her senior year at Marygrove, "I have never known anyone so dedicated, on a daily basis, to living the love of Christ, and translating that into love of our fellow man."

Mary graduated in 1962 with a BA in Speech Correction, as it was called then, with an added major in Education. Shortly after graduation she married and by the time she and her husband moved to Montreal in 1967, they had three children under 3 years of age. In Montreal, Mary continued her work as a speech and language specialist with the Protestant schools, a career that would span more than 40 years. Because the local Catholic schools did not have funds to hire a speech therapist, Mary donated her services weekly there as well. In addition to working, volunteering, and raising a family, which had grown to include five children, Mary was an active member of the St. Patrick of the Island Parish in Quebec.

However, after just a few short years in Canada, Mary's life hit an unexpected and devastating turn: her husband left the family and moved out of the country, leaving Mary and her five young children with little or no financial help. Mary was crushed. "I never dreamt I'd be an ex-wife," says Mary. Her life went into a tailspin, and soon her health followed as she was hospitalized with an emergency radical hysterectomy. "I had to come to grips with my life and the needs of my family. I was alone in a foreign country, my family in the States informed me that I had their moral support, nothing else, and I had to be on a six-week unpaid sick leave," she said. "I cried, got angry, and saw no future in this mess I found myself in." With thoughts of suicide, she contacted a local health agency and connected with a therapist she credits with putting her on the road to healing.

As a single mother, Mary did whatever it took to keep her young family housed and fed, often working several jobs. In addition, she coped “by becoming involved in things outside myself. I found people who were worse off than I was—I didn’t have to look far—and began to do what I could for them.” Always an active volunteer, Mary says she “just racked it up a notch” and found that helped the healing process.

To say she racked it up a notch is an understatement. Over the 45 years she has been a member of her parish, she’s held every position possible. Her first role was to welcome new parents as part of the Baptismal team, and she soon became Sunday School Teacher as well, to the 4 and 5 year olds, a ministry she continues to this day. She has served the parish in countless other roles as well: as a 4-term elected warden (recently named Chairperson in recognition of her leadership skills), founding member of the Daughters of Isabella, Cursio member, event organizer, and even resident bartender for parish functions.

Outside the parish, Mary fulfills needs as she sees them, and doesn’t like to broadcast what she has done. But her daughter, Sarah, recalls, “Ours was the house that the community would turn to if there was a family in need. People lived with us when their house caught fire, young teens stayed with us when they could no longer stay at home.” Anne Coulter, Pastoral Coordinator of Mary’s parish, adds, “When someone is ill or has had a death in the family, Mary is usually the first person at the door with supper for the family. I know of times she has given to others when she didn’t have enough for herself. That’s Mary.”

Her community service activities over the years is staggering. Mary helped establish the local library, is a member of the city cultural resource team, is a volunteer reader to pre-school children and serves on the literacy committee, and was always an active leader in her children’s schools. “If everyone could get a small taste of Mary’s passion for volunteering, whether it is helping someone plant a garden, driving someone to a medical appointment, picking up groceries, or just sitting for a quiet cup of tea and conversation, the world would be a much better place,” comments fellow parishioner, Anita Clement.

An annual tradition Mary began when she first arrived in Montreal is now legendary. “Mary had no family here and depended on neighbors and friends to learn about Montreal and its culture,” says Anne. “That Christmas, she and her family decided to make cinnamon buns for all the people who had helped them over the year.” The family bakes the buns on Dec. 23—at times 50 dozen—and delivers them Christmas day. “We’d leave the house by 8am and get back in time for the 5pm Christmas Eve Children’s Mass,” says Mary, describing this 47-year tradition as now “one of the most important parts of the holiday.”

Sarah openly admires her mother’s can-do spirit. “My generation uses ‘a lack of time’ as our excuse for numerous things. My mother worked full time, raised five children, made dinner every night, and put in countless volunteer hours every week. I can never remember my mother complaining about how busy she was once.” Sarah says her mother would say she is “not deserving of any recognition,” believing anyone would do what she has done. Mary admits she prefers to be in the background planting a seed, letting someone else take credit for the end result. “There are quite a few things happening in the parish that I planted the seed for, and everyone has forgotten that I did so. I like it that way,” says Mary. 



Judith Anne Eliassen, IHM '64

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

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

Putting to good use her extensive background in math and science, along with her previous track record of student success, she became Marygrove’s Director of Student Academic Enrichment in 2002. Following her success in this role, Sr. Judy became Director of the Teacher Education Support Lab in 2007 and took up residence in Room 28 of the Liberal Arts Building where, for the last eight years, she has helped aspiring teachers prepare for the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Exam (MTTC). Students have much to say about Sr. Judy—most notably they talk about her patience, her passion for learning, and the fact that she refuses to let health issues keep her from her work.

Sr. Judy has never been one to complain, nor has she ever been one to adhere to the time clock. Should you visit her home in Berkley, you would perhaps see her, a cane in each hand, traversing a long hallway to reach the 14 stairs that lead to the basement office where she continues her “afterhours” detective work for students: researching anything the State of Michigan has to say about its expectations for teachers; finding study guides and materials that will help students pass the MTTC exam; assisting students with tuition and financial arrangements to help them retain cars and homes.

This certainly helps give shape to the image of who Sr. Judy is, but ultimately, this is just a sketch of the woman who has come to mean so much to so many people.

After receiving her Bachelor of Science from Marygrove College in 1964, Sr. Judy began teaching at St. Mary’s Academy in Monroe. For 10 years, she taught biology, chemistry, biochemistry, and theology; she was also the assistant resident directress, the auditorium manager, and ran many science fairs.

After earning her Master of Science at Purdue University in 1971, she began what would ultimately become a 30-year career at Holy Redeemer High School in Southwest Detroit. Sr. Judy would not only teach at Holy Redeemer, she would act as an academic advisor, assistant principal, director of alumni relations, director of public relations, and director of development—in this role, she spearheaded a program that would raise enough money to keep the school open for another 25 years.

Her colleagues at Holy Redeemer have noted her commitment to students and the ways in which she empowered everyone she encountered—particularly those students who required more attention and lacked, at least initially, the academic skills they needed to succeed. Again, refusing to observe traditional work hours, Sister Judy could be found, long after the final bell had rung, holed up in her classroom, assisting any student who requested help.

Never content to rest, Sr. Judy continued her education at Wayne State University's Howard Hughes Medical Institute before returning to Marygrove College, then to Notre Dame University where she studied Educational Administration. She has extensive training through Henry Ford Hospital's Chemical Dependency Education program. Additionally, she received her Apprentice Counselor Credentials from the State of Michigan's Department of Public Health's Office of Substance Abuse Services in 1987, and uses this knowledge to counsel and facilitate support groups at Holy Redeemer.

Sr. Judy has served as a Big Sister volunteer at St. Francis Home for Boys, volunteered in playrooms in children's hospitals, and published her work in academic journals, newspapers and newsletters. She is also a member of 15 professional associations, and has received numerous awards including the Inner City Education Association Award for her dedicated service at Holy Redeemer High School; the Detroit Health Department's Volunteer of the Year Award; she was inducted into Holy Redeemer High School's Hall of Fame in 1996; and was recognized by the Catholic Association of Secondary Administrators for her 32 years of service to Catholic Education. 





Carol Wagner Cousineau '67

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Eucharistic minister. Pro-life advocate. Counselor. Musician. Philanthropist. Interior designer. These are only a few of the titles you might find inked on the pages of Carol Wagner Cousineau's ever-expanding work portfolio. Ask her husband; her former Marygrove classmates; her fellow parish librarians at St. Hugo of the Hills; the young women she counsels at the Crossroads Pregnancy Center; the inmates she prayed with in the Oakland County Boot Camp Jail Ministry program; they will all graciously and unanimously describe Carol as "a trusted and valuable asset," a woman who has the talent, touch, and humility to "enrich the physical and spiritual lives of everyone she encounters."

Carol's roots are steeped in the Catholic tradition—in fact, her aunt was a member of the IHM Congregation. Yet it was with a twinge of reluctance that she found herself on the campus of the "little Catholic college on the south side of McNichols in Detroit." Initially, she had her sights set on St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, but, recalls with a laugh, how her father "twisted her arm" into pursuing a degree at Marygrove. As it turns out, his persistence resulted in one of the best things that ever happened to Carol.

At Marygrove, Carol joined Sobheas, a home economics club; volunteered at Vista Maria, where she cared for and supported vulnerable children; studied interior design and art; and, in 1967, she earned a B.A. in Clothing and Textiles. Much of her time at Marygrove was spent honing her artistic sensibility, yet she is quick to acknowledge that she learned something else, something greater perhaps, from the IHM Sisters: "the contagious spirit of joy" that can only be found by serving others.

Following her graduation from Marygrove College, she spent nearly three decades as an interior designer, raised two children with her husband Ron, to whom she has been married for 45 years, and even managed to have her design work featured on the cover and inside of the Detroit News Home Section.

She is the founder and manager of the St. Hugo of the Hills Parish Library where she personally selects, orders, and prepares materials used by over 4,000 families. After years of filling out suggestions forms, asking for the congregation to fund a church library, Carol concluded that if there was to be a Parish Library, she would have to roll up her sleeves and find a way to fund the library herself. And this is exactly what she did. She began her mission by speaking to priests, drafting grants, and sending out letters to possible sponsors. Her requests were answered, in part, by The Adult Education Commission—and to fill the remaining shelves, Carol skillfully negotiated with booksellers for substantial discounts. Since 2002, she has recruited and trained the 20 volunteers who staff the library. At present there are 1,600 books and 800 videos and audio recordings for families, adults, and children.

Carol's life of service to others and to Christ does not begin and end with her work in the Parish Library. Both she and her husband have been Eucharistic Ministers since 1991, and since 2007, Carol has worked one day a week as a counselor at Crossroads Pregnancy Center in Auburn Hills. In this role, she skillfully builds trust with expecting mothers and the community, has promoted Sexual Health and Relationship Education programs in several private schools, and singlehandedly organized the Crossroads portion of *40 Days for Life* in Auburn Hills. While Carol is passionate about serving her local community, her mission also traverses international borders.

In 2007, Carol became aware of the need for clean water in an Ecuadorian village where she had previously donated food to a family in need. With the help of her husband, she initiated a project to bring safe drinking water to families in the area. Before she began, she taught herself Spanish, took extensive training in implementing biosand filters in developing countries, and became certified to train others. She sought grants and donations of over \$20,000 from Rotary International and others, self-funded two trips to South America, and collaborated with an international chapter of the Rotary Club to create local microbusiness that continue to succeed in Ecuador today.

Over the years, Carol has also accepted many callings. For eight years, until the program ceased, she was Music Provider for the Oakland County Boot Camp Jail Ministry. In this role, she provided music during Sunday church service to Boot Camp inmates. Lewis B. Duff, who began the program for first-time offenders, remembers the leadership and inspiration that Carol was able to give to the Sunday services. "It still warms my heart," he recalls, "when I picture her—rain, snow, or shine—coming through the large jail doors laboriously pulling her large amplifier in one hand and holding her guitar in the other." Not only did she lead the inmates in song, Lewis notes Carol's ability to provide comfort, and do it in a way, that resonated with inmates. During prayer time, she would silently move across the room to comfort an inmate that needed extra attention. Sometimes she offered a soft touch, a gentle word, or a small dose of reality. Whatever her approach, though, it always seemed to work.

This style of leadership—the kind that is patient, quiet, and comforting—is one of many reasons why Carol is the recipient of the Marygrove Distinguished Alumni Award. 





Helen Kozlowski-Hicks '84

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

When talking about Helen, her friends and colleagues readily offer words as dedicated, committed, warm, energetic, determined, logical, peacemaker. These are, indeed, accurate descriptors—but they only provide a partial image, a sketch of Helen and the three decades of service she has carried out on behalf of the underserved and underrepresented.

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

While raising a family, Helen has served as Executive Director of the Food Bank of Oakland County, Executive Director of the Michigan AIDS Coalition, Program Officer for the Children’s Hospital of Michigan Foundation, and President and CEO of Macomb Habitat for Humanity. In each of these roles, she has increased revenue, given vision to the Board of Directors, and empowered her staff, many of whom were economically challenged women and members of minority groups.

After completing her Bachelor of Arts in English from Marygrove in 1984, Helen immediately began working towards her Master of Arts in Educational Administration, which she completed in 1986. Her husband has noted the “profound impact” Marygrove had on his wife. Two decades later, Helen continues to reflect on her time at Marygrove, often recalling meaningful interactions she had with former-President Dr. Glenda Price and professors Dr. Castellanos, Dr. DesRoches, and Dr. Schaeffer. “These people,” Darrel remarks, “touched something deep inside of Helen’s soul and she has never been the same since.”

Following her tenure at Marygrove, Helen became Executive Director for the Food Bank of Oakland County where she not only managed to stock the 22,000-square-foot warehouse with food and install new steel shelving units, she also added an 800-square-foot freezer—thanks to a sizable donation from Detroit Edison and 10 Metro Detroit churches. In addition to this, she procured three brand new trucks from General Motors, which the food bank used to pick up the donations that poured in from across the county. Helen’s competence, her compassion and commitment were not lost on her colleagues and

countless families she assisted—nor were they lost on Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, who recounts the “special way” in which Helen pushed others towards the kind of “personal empowerment” that ensures a “happy and successful life is possible.”

In 2009, Helen took her leadership skills to the Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC). Her colleague, Terry Ryan, remembers Helen’s arrival vividly: “She came at a time of both excitement and turmoil. MAC was still reeling from a merger of two other organizations and the timing of it just happened to coincide with the onset of the Great Recession.” The result, of course, was “the dawning reality of cutbacks and greatly reduced funding from all sources.” To complicate matters further, Helen found herself in the midst of two very different work cultures, the result of combining two agencies six months before. Despite these challenges, Helen “brought peace to the agency, engaged her new staff, and empowered them in ways that their previous leaders had not.”

After her success with MAC, Helen became President and CEO of Macomb Habitat for Humanity, where she has successfully helped the organization fulfill its mission of providing affordable housing, and done so with a positive mindset and a laugh. In addition to developing a new strategic plan, which was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors, she has also redesigned the non-profit’s organizational chart, guided the organization through a celebration of its 20th anniversary, increased media presence, and streamlined the finance department’s methods of operations.

Helen has been featured in, and contributed articles to, magazines and newspapers. She has also received many awards including: Comerica’s Leadership Award and the Leadership Award for Best Non-Profit; Crain’s Detroit Business Awards for Best-Managed Non-Profit and Executive Woman of the Year; the Detroit News Award for Michiganiaan of the Year; National Hunger’s Hope Award in Development by American’s Second Harvest; the Accounting Aid Society’s Jeanne Vogt Leadership Award; the Open Door Human Services Award for Agency of the Year.

In addition to this, Helen has served on many boards including American House, Sojourner Foundation, Children’s Hospital of Michigan Family Centered Care, and the Down Syndrome of Southeast Michigan. 





Sheila Dorsey-Smith '86

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF TOMORROW AWARD

Sheila Dorsey-Smith has touched many lives in her nearly 30-year career since graduating from Marygrove College, most of it in Education. As those she's touched characterize their interactions with her, a picture emerges of Sheila as compassionate, dedicated and capable. She is described as a remarkably attentive and intensely present listener, making each person she encounters feel valued and relevant; she communicates clearly and thoughtfully; she treats every person regardless of circumstance with respect and fairness, and above all, is a mentor not only to students, but to staff and work associates.

Sheila did not start out in Education. Armed with an Accounting/Economics degree when she graduated from Marygrove in 1986, she worked for several years in the business world before landing a job as program administrator for The City of Detroit in 1990. There, she developed programs to help disadvantaged students improve their academic success. She also worked a second job during that period as a substitute teacher in the Detroit Public Schools. Between those two jobs, it became clear she had a gift as well as a passion for connecting with and mentoring students from even the most difficult backgrounds.

Sheila returned to school—continuing to teach as well and in 1995 earned her certification from Eastern Michigan University in Secondary Teaching and Vocational Marketing. From there, she continued on to earn a Master Degree in Educational Leadership from Saginaw Valley in 1999, and most recently began to pursue her Doctorate in the Educational Leadership program at Western Michigan.

As she continued to develop her skills through education, Sheila was proving to be an accomplished teacher, administrator and program developer on the job as well. She created an inner city summer program to enrich youth 5-18; worked with students and employers as placement coordinator for a summer co-op program; taught students skills to gain immediate employment as well as higher education opportunities; became a K-8 Assistant Principal and then Principal; led a teacher team to implement a successful new MicroSociety school; became Executive Director of Human Resources for Saginaw Public Schools; and today, is Assistant Superintendent of HR for the Kalamazoo Public Schools, a 13,000 student school district.

As most who enter the teaching profession will likely attest, the greatest satisfaction comes from students who say their life has changed for the better because of a teacher's or administrator's influence. One such student is Sariah Metcalfe, a sophomore at Michigan State. "Sheila Dorsey-Smith has been a friend and mentor since my freshman year of high school," says Sariah, who had a difficult time in high school due to being bullied, losing friends, and pressure from school work. She credits Sheila with helping her grow and thrive through it all. "I used to let people degrade me with their speech, tell me what I was and was not capable of, and make some of my decisions for me. I would not dream of letting anyone do that now, and that is in part due to the validation of my actions and words from Ms. Dorsey-Smith."

Another student, William Royster, met Sheila when he was a sophomore at Kalamazoo Central High School. Now a student at University of Michigan, he says Sheila always supported his efforts, and continues to do so. "I do not have parents to fall back on," says William. "I did not always have someone to push and guide my footsteps. Ms. Dorsey-Smith has done all of these things and beyond."

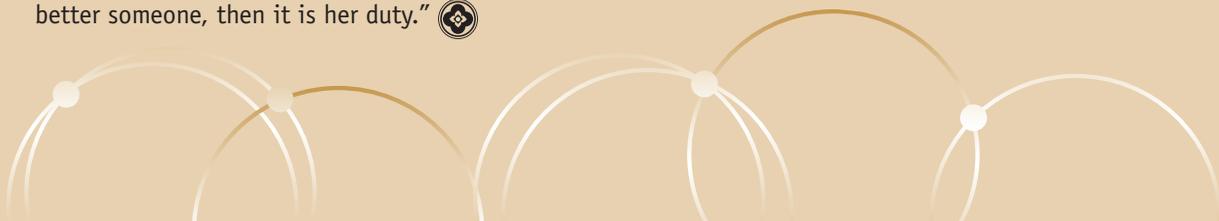
Not only a mentor to countless students, Sheila mentors work associates as well. Tamica Frison, as a second-year principal of a Middle School Alternative Learning Program, often felt overwhelmed with the challenges and struggles faced by her students. Sheila was a calm sounding board, allowing Tamica to learn and grow as a new principal. Even more, Sheila earned the trust and respect of parents, students and staff, who had often felt that central office administrators lacked patience and compassion for students in that demographic, says Tamica. Instead, Sheila developed a reputation for being meticulous and equitable.

Barbara Watson met Sheila in 2010, when Sheila, as the new Assistant Superintendent, became her boss. "She was like a breath of fresh air," says Barbara, "genuinely interested in talking with us about our roles and responsibilities and how she could help to support her employees." Five years later, Sheila continues to "value the opinion of others—she treats every individual with respect and fairness," says Barbara, who has developed and grown in her own position under Sheila's guidance and mentorship.

Beyond her role as mentor, Sheila willingly takes on difficult jobs, says Superintendent Michael F. Rice, Ph.D. Recently, Sheila led the challenging process of teacher evaluation reform, and the program she developed is now a model for other districts.

Throughout her career, Sheila has remained focused on improving opportunities for the disadvantaged. Kalamazoo's Pastor Strickland Sr., ThM. says her work has had a huge impact on the amount of resources available to families and students living beneath the poverty line. "She is a trailblazer of justice, voice for the marginalized, resource for the despaired, and mentor for those who are motivated to achieve."

Simply put, says daughter Laina Dorsey, her mother "believes that if she can do or say something to help better someone, then it is her duty." 





Tina Marie Perry '16

MARYGROVE COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF TOMORROW AWARD

It was a little over a year ago, during a summer semester at Wayne County Community College, when Tina first heard about a small, Catholic college located in northwest Detroit. The enthusiasm with which her classmates spoke about the college was intriguing, contagious even—but Tina had already received her acceptance letter from a different school and had little reason to explore other colleges and universities. Despite this, she remained curious and, a week later, gave into that nagging voice telling her to make the right-hand turn that would send her in the opposite direction, down McNichols, and past the front gates of Marygrove College. The rest is, as they say, history.

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

Indeed, Tina's dedication to her faith and to social justice can be seen in the classroom. But much like our founders, the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Tina is driven to carry the college mission beyond the classroom and into the world, serving her community and beyond.

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

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

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

Tina has many plans and is determined to carry them out—but as an experienced sailor, she also knows that we often go *when* and *where* the wind takes us. Perhaps the wind will take her to the University of Colorado, or maybe it will only blow her a short distance to the University of Michigan where she will begin working on a graduate degree in environmental psychology. Whatever Tina does...wherever she ends up, we are confident that she will succeed. 

Special thanks to the Distinguished Alumni Award review committee for their commitment, diligence and integrity in selecting the award recipients.

Rosemary Blaszkiewicz '62
Distinguished Alumni 2005

Mary Jo Evans '75

Elizabeth Fleckenstein, IHM '59

Sharon Hammerschmidt

Pat Haviland

Mark Honeyman '85

Distinguished Alumni 2010

Francie Kennedy '73

Distinguished Alumni 2012

Brittany Mack '12

Alumni Association Board of Directors/Alumni of Tomorrow 2011

Oneil Robinson '16

Janice Machusak

Director of Alumni Relations

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD PAST HONOREES

2002

Veronica Mary Maher, IHM '51
Barbara Bigley O' Brien '55
Gilda Sferrella Pace '52
Marie Jean Brinkman Sloan '54
Teresa Snider-Boring '98
Norma Wilson Wade-Miller '71
Reverend Curtis C. Williams '96

2003

Gabrielle Baker Burton '60
Mary Margaret Connolly '67
Maura D. Corrigan '69
Ann Moore Feeney '57
Deborah Hunter-Harvill '77
Mary Joseph Maher, IHM '53
Alice Geisler Raftary '49, '67
Richard J. Samyn, O.F.M. '95

2004

Ann Gabriel Kilsdonk, IHM '45
Angela Celeste May '90
Khris Nedam '98
Elsa Potter '60
Elizabeth Fischer Richards '64
Mary Ellen Riordan '41
Mary Massaron Ross '82

2005

Rosemary DeLaurentiis Blaszkiewicz '62
Edee LaFramboise Joppich '53
Kathleen Prendergast Kaiser '70
Lorraine Lubawy Ozar '68
Nettie Harris Seabrooks '55
Mary Anderson Walker '56
Jacqueline G. Woods '97

2006

Brian Christian '07
Margaret Brown Dudar '46
Rita Edgeworth Fields '96, '02
Bridget Gonzales '82
Mary Kathleen Hughes '66
Sheila Keefe '56
Yesenia Lara '07
Amata Miller, IHM '54

2007

Elizabeth A. Burns '72
Armando R. Cavazos '99
Lana Cavalier Cowell '64
Suzanne M. Fleming, IHM '57
Lynne O' Loughlin DeGrande Hackathorn '67
Victoria E. Jones '76
Amy Pavlov '08

2008

Debra S. Barash '09
Patricia Newman Brasseur '73
Mary D. Moore Hubbell '56
Sharnita C. Johnson '87
Patricia Mucci LoRusso '77
Mary Trepanier-Street '71
Elizabeth Walters, IHM '66, '08

2009

Nancy McDonough Geschke '64
Eileen Connell Heasley '67
Sharon Holland, IHM '61
Amy Lange '08
Kathleen O'Reilly '68
Brianna Williams '09

2010

Margaret Brennan, IHM '45
Mark Honeyman '85
Suzanne Stead Husband '65
Patricia Siroky Konovalov '87
Ann Petrie '60
Kim Redigan '08
Angela Watley '10

2011

Shanelle Jackson '07
Ann Burger Klocke '56
Mary Callaghan Lynch '76
Brittany Mack '12
Judith Tomlanovich Miller '61
Jan Soleau, IHM '59
Virginia Wadsworth '86

2012

Juliana Casey, IHM '62
Miriam Mohrhoff Poirier '62
Dorothy Seebaldt '66
Sharon Rodgers Simone '67
Francie Kennedy '73
Rochelle Dornatt '77
Jarell Williams '12

2013

Dorothy Jones Hogan Sweeney '48
Barbara Kent Freeman '63
Suzanne E. Sattler, IHM '65
Virginia Burdick Skinner '67
Jane Hammang-Buhl '68
Karel Bowlus Oxley '72
Robert D. Tompkins '14

2014

Mary Ellen Johnson McCormick '48
Yvonne Lawrence Larabell '64
Anne Fitzgerald '67
Patricia Dean Phillips '13
Alesha Jones '14



MARYGROVE COLLEGE

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Detroit, Michigan

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