

LOURDES
FOUNDATION

Supporting Lourdes students, faculty and alumni

The
Aquila

SPRING | 2014

Lourdes Foundation Magazine for Alumni & Friends ~ Fine Arts Issue

ON THE COVER:

Music in Motion, original artwork
by **Angela Patel '14**

The Aquila

SPRING 2014

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determines content. We apologize for
any inaccuracies that may occur and
will attempt to make corrections in
future issues.





The Aquila

SPRING 2014

features

5 **The Arts at LHS**
An interview with Bob Gardner,
Chair of the Fine Arts Department

6 **Theatre**

9 **Music**

12 **Studio Arts**

15 **LHS Artistic Alumni**
Read about seven Lourdes alumni who
have taken their passion for the fine arts
to the next level

19 **Sports Update**

20 **Class Notes**

This issue of the *Aquila* is dedicated to the Remick Family, in gratitude for their support of the arts, and for the gift of the Remick Family Fine Arts Building to the Rochester Catholic Schools.

Our Mission

“Lourdes Foundation attracts, manages and channels philanthropic resources to ensure a vital Catholic education at Lourdes High School.”

departments

4 Foundation News

5 Fine Arts at LHS

6 Student News

20 Class Notes



Leading, Growing, Inspiring - Lourdes Foundation at Forty Years Young!

You have been loyal, generous, and passionate for forty years and Lourdes Foundation's success is because of you. You are helping us, and **LEADING** the way in support for Lourdes High School. Thank you!

Forty years of success doesn't just happen. Commitment, dedication, tradition and hard work, along with your generosity, create a great recipe for growth and success. Lourdes Foundation's scholarship program for tuition assistance is a wonderful example of how working with all of you - our alumni, our parents, past parents, grandparents and friends - all of us coming together, builds a "foundation" of faith, hope, and possibility for so many deserving students at LHS - it works! Thank you so much, it's because of you that our scholarship program is **GROWING!**

Here's an example: led by **Hannah Kvaternik '14**, this year's senior class has dedicated time, talent and treasure to fund a scholarship in honor of their classmate who passed away two years ago, **Wyatt Currie '14**. It is their hope that this scholarship will become fully funded before their graduation - which would be a first at LHS. Thank you so much for your efforts, Hannah. To the Class of 2014 - you are teaching the next generation, and you are **INSPIRING** to us all.

Leading, Growing, Inspiring - and it's all because of you!

On a personal note, this is a good-bye message of sorts for me; many of you know that I announced my retirement from Lourdes Foundation earlier this year. By the time you receive this issue of the *Aquila* I will have already said my farewells to our board and staff at the Foundation. There are so many individuals to thank that if I attempted to do so, I know I would regrettably forget someone. So, to avoid that mistake, I will thank **ALL** the many Lourdes Foundation Board Members, benefactors and staff, who throughout our forty year history have given so many hours of service, dedication, and passion of furthering the Foundation's mission of supporting LHS.

In sincere gratitude,

Tim Sitzer
Executive Director (retired)
Lourdes Foundation

Lourdes Foundation's Sports Hall of Fame - December 8, 2013



With one of the largest crowds in its seven-year history Lourdes Foundation welcomed four new members into the LHS Sports Hall of Fame: **Gretchen Otto Pimentel '85, Santiago "Chago" Navarro '91, Thomas Resner '68, and Coach Denny Nigon '64.** We were thrilled that in spite of the travel times involved in getting to Rochester in early December - Gretchen traveling from New York, Tom from Indianapolis, and "Chago" from Milwaukee - all of our new inductees, accompanied by many family and friends, were able to come to together to celebrate their accomplishments. As always, what makes the event so moving are the acceptance speeches given by all the honorees.

Each year at this event Lourdes Foundation highlights teams that have had exemplary records during their time at Lourdes High School. This year the **1978-1981 Boys' Cross Country State Champions** and the **1981 Girls' Cross Country State Champions** were recognized for their achievements. Athletes from these teams who were able to attend the event received a certificate honoring their accomplishments. Along with the athletes and coaches, Lourdes Foundation honors with the Gene Eiden Award an individual who has provided exceptional volunteer support to Lourdes athletic programs. This year the recipient of the award was **Bernard Morrey, M.D.**



Please mark your calendars now and join us for our next **Sports Hall of Fame dinner on Sunday December 7, 2014** at the Rochester International Event Center. We will honor four new Hall of Fame inductees, and one of Lourdes High School's many state championship teams.



Outlook on the Arts at Lourdes High School

A conversation with the new Fine Art Department Chair, Bob Gardner

After spending ten minutes with Bob Gardner, it comes as no surprise that the students at Lourdes High School have asked him to give their graduation commencement address five times, in almost as many years. He is serious, sincere, insightful, knowledgeable and most of all, fun. In addition to being a popular religion teacher at Lourdes High School, Bob has taken on the visible role of chairperson of the Fine Arts Department, at a time of big changes. The move to the new school, with its state of the art theatre and performance space, presents new opportunities and challenges for both the staff and students. The opportunities are obvious: the school now boasts a brand new 600-seat auditorium with a full stage, an orchestra pit, a makeup room, set assembly space, a black box theatre, new music classrooms with private practice suites, and new facilities for drawing, painting, and ceramics. For the Fine Arts Department the challenge is to fine-tune an arts curriculum that is a match for the new facilities. According to Bob Gardner, that starts with a commitment. "We are committed to the process. That makes all the difference in the world. It's about cultivating a foundation for the fine arts."

Bob describes his vision of a fine arts curriculum that is interconnected between music, theatre and the visual arts. For example, the study of a particular composer would take into account that composer's artistic and cultural milieu. "My bias is to 'connect the dots' at all times, so that if I'm sitting in my woodwinds section of the orchestra, or I'm waiting off the wings of the stage, or I'm trying to decide which color to use next on my painting, I have some sort of awareness that these things are not disconnected. In the real picture of our humanity, all of these things are part of something meaningful." He stresses the interconnectedness of the arts and the communal aspects of the experience. "If we are doing it right then the curriculum is driving the rest of the program. It's about training the kids, giving them opportunities in the fine arts. We are providing a laboratory. So you don't just learn to play your instrument, but you learn to play it in a group."

Enhancing the arts curriculum entails developing new classes and performance opportunities as resources allow. For instance, two new acting classes have been added, and there are plans to develop an AP Theatre Arts class. The movement of fine arts from an extracurricular activity to a course of study is all about providing "depth of experience" according to Mr. Gardner: "The opportunity to study and learn about theatre, intellectually appreciate the history of theatre, the literature of theatre. That allows for a wholly different approach to the stage. And the fact that we have these new facilities means that now we have the potential and the technology to try things we couldn't try before."

"We are committed to the process. That makes all the difference in the world. It's about cultivating a foundation for the fine arts."

Bob hopes that for students, the opportunity to explore the fine arts leads to the realization that their artistic abilities and desires are intimately tied to their faith. "I go all the way back to the earliest stories in the Book of Genesis. The richest experience is about what happens in sacred space. And that space is sacred for maybe two main reasons: it's sacred because of what you experience there, and it's sacred because of the way you express yourself there. The opportunities that we have to realize the presence of God are enhanced by the ability to express ourselves from our deepest place."

When talking about the new facilities Bob is visibly moved. When asked about how he views his new surroundings he says, "I'm overwhelmed sometimes. Not only is it an amazing gift but I think about the whole universe of possibilities we have been given. Lots of people have invested in this for us. And we owe it to them to maximize the possibilities." 

Lights, Camera, Action! Lourdes Theatre



Lourdes High School Presents:

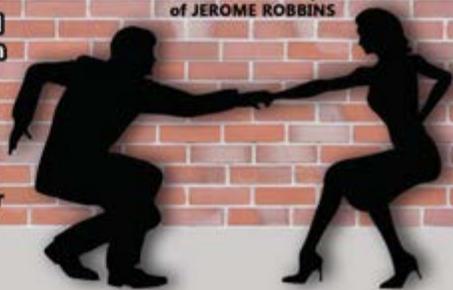
WEST SIDE STORY

Based on a Conception of JEROME ROBBINS



Lourdes High School
Fine Arts Auditorium

Directed by
Robert S. P. Gardner



Originally Produced on Broadway by Robert E. Griffith and Harold S. Prince
By Arrangement with Roger L. Stevens

WEST SIDE STORY

Book by
ARTHUR LAURENTS

Music by
LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Lyrics by
STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Entire Original Production
Directed and Choreographed by
JEROME ROBBINS

SHOW DATES:

May 8, 9, 10 : 7:30 pm
May 11: 1:30 pm

May 11: Mothers Day Brunch
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

TICKETS:

Show-Adult: \$10.00
Show-Senior/Student: \$6.00

Brunch-Adult: \$20.00
Brunch-Senior/Student: \$15.00
Brunch price includes show

For more information go to:
LHSmusical.homestead.com
2800 19th St. NW Rochester, MN

THEATRE DEPARTMENT FACULTY

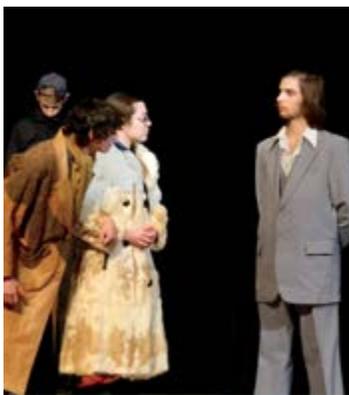
Robert S.P. Gardner has studied music theory, composition, and bass performance at Augsburg College, jazz arranging at Indiana University, and band arranging and bass pedagogy at Northwestern University.

He holds an M.A. in Fine Arts/Integrated Arts Education from University of Montana's Creative Pulse program, and an M.A. in Religious Studies, Philosophy and Literature from Indiana University.

In 2010 Mr. Gardner was chosen as an inaugural member of the Composer Teaching Artist Training Program with the Minnesota Composer's Forum.

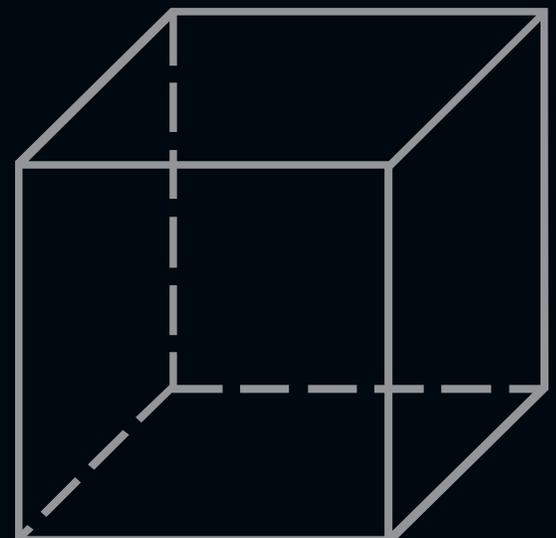
Since arriving in Rochester in 1991, he has been active as a full-time educator as well as freelance bassist, composer, and arranger. His works have been performed locally by Choral Arts Ensemble, Children's Dance Theatre, Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestra, Sonata Singers, and St. Paul City Ballet.

John Wiater has taught social studies, theology, English and drama and now that he is retired from teaching he serves as the LHS theater house manager. He loves interacting with students, actors, singers, orchestras and choral groups from both RCS and the Rochester community. He has acted in and directed plays in Rochester and Winona community theatre, at St. Mary's University, College of St. Theresa, and at Lourdes High School. He is thrilled that the John Wiater Theatre Scene Shop at the new high school bears the following inscription: "In honor of John Wiater, who taught and mentored students with wisdom, humor and kindness for more than 40 years with Rochester Catholic Schools."



What is a Black Box Theatre?

It's a flexible and unadorned rehearsal and performance space. At the new Lourdes High School it is a 40' x 40' cube of a room, with a black ceiling and walls. A black box allows for an innovative theatre experience because the space can be adapted to the artistic demands of the production. Because there is no fixed seating, the size of the audience and the stage configuration can be changed at will. Productions done in this environment typically are less focused on technology and more focused on the human element of theatre. Bob Gardner explains that it is painted black for the sake of flexibility. "It can be anything. The darkness is the starting point. It's meant to be an intimate space, where the work is focused and there are few distractions."



Watch for future productions in the LHS Black Box Theatre!



Matthew Walther '14 (left) and **Chris O'Connell '14** show us the ropes in the LHS auditorium control booth.

Technological Trailblazers

Lourdes senior theatre techs **Matthew Walther '14** and **Chris O'Connell '14** have plenty of fans. Their mentor and teacher, Mr. John Wiater calls them "incredibly dedicated". Mr. Robert Gardner, chair of the Lourdes Fine Arts department calls them "pioneers of the technical space". Both teachers agree that it's going to be tough to see the hard-working pair graduate. From junior high to their final semester as the Lourdes theatre department's "go-to guys", the tech team of Matthew and Chris has been providing lighting, special effects, and sound production for school plays and concerts. Matthew and Chris settled into their respective technical roles when they were freshmen at Lourdes and most of what they know is self-taught. In addition to their many hours in the control booth they are taking accelerated high school classes, and both are in the Lourdes marching band—Matthew is a musician and Chris is the band's drum major. When asked how they fit it all in, they respond simultaneously and with a laugh, "Late nights!"

This year, the team moved from the charmingly antiquated system in the old Lourdes auditorium to a new-high tech control room, perched above the 600-seat Performing Arts Center. "We went from having to meticulously plan everything, from worrying about blown circuits and hot lights, to this." "It was pretty scary," Matthew says of the old auditorium. "There was plenty of duct tape involved."

Watching Matthew at work on the soundboard and Chris at lighting, it's hard to believe that they are still in high school. They

toss around terms like "scrim screen", "gobos", and "cyclorama" as they deftly demonstrate some of the up-to-the-minute technology available to them in the new Lourdes High School theatre space. "Now we are working on an entire general lighting layout," says Chris. "It will be a starting point for future productions."

A change to the Lourdes school day schedule has provided them with unexpected opportunities for more hands-on learning. With the move to the new building, the entire student body gathers in the auditorium for a daily convocation. For the guys in the control booth it means more time doing what they love. Matthew says of convocation, "It's fun because we get in here (the control room) and play with the equipment everyday." Chris adds that they often have only five minutes to prepare for convocation lighting or music requests, so they are learning to be creative in a hurry.

A pegboard in the control booth displays programs from each of the productions Matthew and Chris have worked on in the new theatre. They have done the lights and sound for several school concerts, a one act play, summer drama camp, and most recently for the Rochester Symphony Orchestra's performance at the school. They are excited to begin work on the upcoming production of *West Side Story*, which they consider a big challenge. Chris, who will also play in the orchestra for the musical says, "For the first time we have an orchestra pit. So we are really excited about that. And from talking to Mr. Gardner it sounds like there are big ideas for lighting and sound."

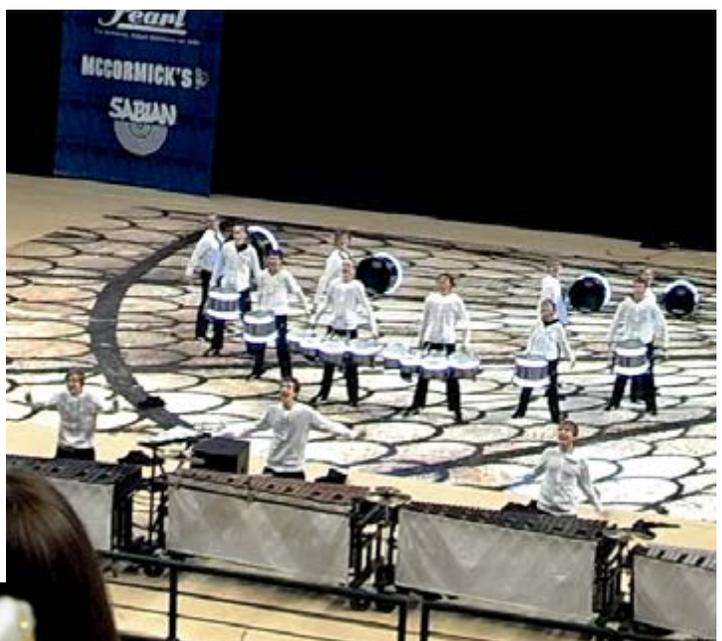
Lourdes Music: The Tradition Plays On

Lourdes High School is alive with instrumental and vocal sounds! The LHS Music Department continues its "Tradition of Excellence" at our new school, a facility that offers expansive resources for its many music programs.

The department consists of vocal and instrumental instruction, with band and choir at the core of a student's education. Twenty-five percent of the LHS student body is involved in music and those students participate in individual lessons, group lessons, and sectionals. Band and choir students also have the opportunity to participate in several different extracurricular ensembles. Instrumental opportunities include Jazz Combo, Hi-Lighters Jazz Band and Winter Drumline. Vocal ensembles include Center Street Singers and the Eagles Singers. The LHS community celebrates many music department accomplishments in the 2013-

2014 school year. In October, sixteen outstanding choir and band members performed with the Hiawatha Valley League Honor Band and Choir. In addition, Lee Krueger, RCS Percussion Instructor, was nominated in October for an Ardee award in the area of Excellence in Arts Education. In February 2014, we celebrated the All-State members of the Lourdes Band and Choir: **Paul Fritton '14, Zach Larsen '14, Ian McMeeking '14, Brenna Sherman '15, and Tim Fitzgerald '14.** These students, who performed at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis in February, are among the best high school musicians in Minnesota.

The annual "Night of Jazz" was held March 8th, and the evening's performances highlighted the vocal and instrumental talents of our junior high and high school musicians. It was an evening filled with incredible student talent and energy.



BAND

The Lourdes Marching Band prides itself on teamwork, commitment, student leadership, and individual responsibility. Marching band season kicks off with Lourdes musicians marching in two Rochester parades in May and June. Each summer a theme is chosen for the fall competition and students learn the basics at a two-week daytime “band camp” held in Rochester. Continued practices in late summer and fall see their program improve each week. The fall band competition season is a maturing experience for students as they learn to play new music and master complicated footwork while traveling to competitions most fall weekends.



DRUMLINE

The Rochester Lourdes Winter Drumline is in its 12th year of Minnesota Percussion Association competitions and is comprised of 20 dedicated students who strive to improve both individually and collectively as an ensemble. Lee Krueger directs the Winter Drumline and is assisted by Adam Aslakson, Val Halbur, and Pat Fitz-Gibbon. While Mr. Krueger loves all types of music, he has a special passion for marching percussion and enjoys working with high school musicians. Lourdes High School is fortunate to have the only competitive Winter Drumline in southeastern Minnesota.



CHOIR and CHORAL ARTS

Under the direction of Mr. David Phelps, the LHS Concert Choir set the bar high for the first performance in the new Lourdes Auditorium at the Fall Choir Concert featuring the LHS Concert Choir, Center Street Singers, Eagle Singers, Quintessential Harmony, and the Northern Lights Chorale from Shoreview, MN (under the direction of guest conductor Mr. Bruce Phelps).



LHS Choir



Center Street Singers



LHS Night of Jazz

MUSIC DEPARTMENT FACULTY

Michael Mangan is Director of Instrumental Music. Under his leadership, all areas of the instrumental program have advanced with special distinction given to his work with the Jazz Band. The Jazz Band was honored with an All-State Performance Award and many students take advantage of the combos and jazz improvisation classes. "Lourdes is an exciting place to be as the students and the community support are truly unmatched."

David Phelps is Director of Vocal Music for Lourdes High School including Center Street Singers, Eagle Singers, and Lourdes Concert Choir. David sang professionally for 5 years with the Minneapolis based a capella group, Marcoux Corner. Mr. Phelps philosophy of the Arts is "without heart, music is simply noise."

Lee Krueger is the Director of Percussion for the Rochester Catholic Schools and Co-director of the LHS Marching Band. Mr. Krueger is on the Board of Directors for the Minnesota Percussion Association and was recently honored for his contribution to the Arts as a nominee for the 2013 Ardee Award given by Mayor Ardele Brede which celebrates excellence in the Arts.

Bonnie Poterucha Throughout her 20 year tenure as an educator/volunteer at Rochester Catholic Schools, Bonnie has been involved in Junior High Band, Junior High Jazz Band, St. Francis Raven Theater, Lourdes High School Marching Band, Pep Band, and Concert Band. "The students I have been fortunate to teach have made a huge impact on my life."

Gene Eiden worked for 38 years as Band Director at Lourdes High School and volunteers every year with the summer marching band program. "It has always been a privilege for me to work with young people because I get to discover and work with an abundance of talent making music together."

Wendy Hanson teaches grades 5-8 band for the Rochester Catholic Schools and helps out with the Lourdes High School Marching Band. "I have the unique opportunity of watching these kids grow from noisy beginning band musicians to amazingly talented, thoughtful high school musicians full of pride in themselves and in their group."

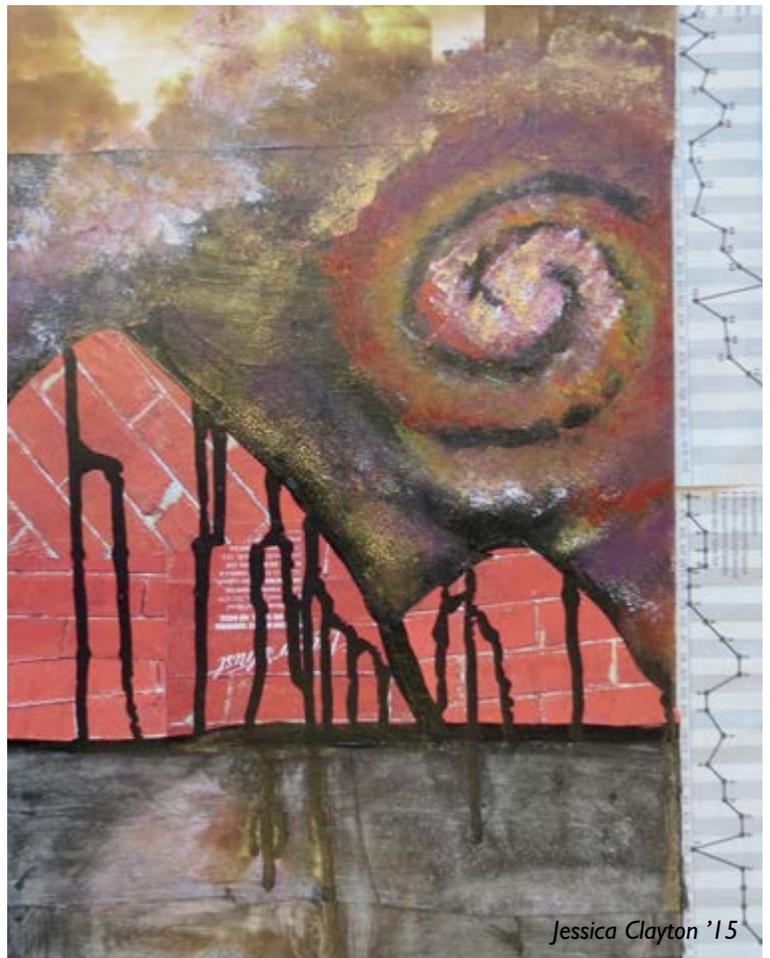
Studio Arts at LHS Studio Arts



at LHS Studio Arts at LHS



Melissa Carlson '15



Jessica Clayton '15



STUDIO ARTS FACULTY

Kate Pleskonko has known that she wanted to be an art teacher since she was in 5th grade. She graduated from Winona State University with a degree in art teaching, and received her M.A. in Literacy Education from St. Mary's University. Originally from Faribault, MN she spends her free time outdoors camping, hiking and fishing, which inspires much of her own original artwork. "One of my favorite parts about being a teacher is that I love being able to teach students to tap in to their creative vein, not only in art, but in their writing as well!" Kate teaches both Art and English at Lourdes High School.

Cally Young received her BFA from Bethel University and a degree in Art Education from Winona State. She enjoys working with the students and staff at Lourdes, whom she views as "exceptional". Cally has taken many of the photos that you see in this issue, of students and their artwork. "I enjoy bringing art into the area of cooking and photographing food." She is the newest member of the Visual Arts faculty at LHS and "is very excited to be here!"

Eric Klingsporn graduated from the University of Minnesota, Duluth in 1999. He taught for seven years at Studio Academy Arts Charter School, in Rochester. He enjoys spending time learning histories and stories of world cultures, through the work of artists and architects, and sharing that with students. In his free time he designs residential homes, kitchens, and baths. "I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Lourdes Fine Arts Department."



Painting by Anna Greenlee '15

The Studio Arts at Lourdes High School

The new art studios at LHS are exciting places to be this year. Resurrected from their former home in the basement of the West Center Street building, the visual arts are basking in their new natural-light-filled home. The new arts classrooms are larger, brighter and more conducive to the type of creativity the LHS art teachers are attempting to coax from their students.

New to the arts curriculum at LHS is an option for in-depth study: AP Studio Arts. The class has four students currently enrolled, and is open to juniors and seniors who have completed Foundations of Art, Ceramics I and Painting I. The students in the advanced placement class are required to submit a portfolio covering their entire year of study, containing a minimum of 24 critiqued examples of their work. They have the option of submitting portfolios in 2D design (painting, collage, and photography), drawing or 3D design (ceramics and sculpture). The first semester focus is on breadth of work; students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in various media and techniques. The second semester is devoted to concentration; they explore their chosen portfolio theme visually. Every ten days the students and teachers spend an entire class period reviewing the most recent submissions of work. Student portfolios are judged at the end of the year by the national board of AP exam readers. They are evaluated on fundamental competence and range of understanding of visual concerns and methods.

In addition to AP Studio Arts, Lourdes High School offers the following classes in the visual arts:

- Foundations of Art
- Mechanical Drawing
- Architectural Drawing I and II
- Drawing and Painting I, II, III
- Drawing & Painting Independent Study
- Ceramics I, II and III
- Ceramics -Independent Study
- Design

When asked about the goals for students experiencing the visual arts, Lourdes art teacher Kate Pleskonko replied, "We want the kids to understand how to be creative. We want them to learn to 'think outside the box'. To know that no matter where they end up in life, it's good to be a creative person."

Sports Update

BOYS TENNIS

The team enjoyed a successful season ending with winning the consolation bracket at the state tournament. The two doubles teams of **Alan Schembri-Wismayer '13/ Nico Villarraga '15** and **David Turlington '15/ Hadi Berbari '15** advanced to the state tournament after facing each other in the section final. Schembri-Wismayer/ Villarraga finished 4th at the state tournament.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Ian Torchia '14 and **Dakota Streit '15** qualified for the state cross country tournament. Torchia had his best state meet appearance with a 3rd place finish. His career included two consecutive Section 1A titles and all-state honors. Streit finished 54th.

FOOTBALL



The 2013 Football team finished with a record of 10-2 including a conference championship and a return trip to the Metrodome after winning the section championship. The team was led by an extremely hard working group of seniors.

BOYS SOCCER



The Boys' soccer team, defending state champions, ended the 2013 season with a record of 9-3-1 including a 13th consecutive season of an undefeated record in the HVL. The team earned their fourth consecutive section championship, excitedly decided by a 10 shot shootout. The team's appearance at the state tournament was led by captains, **Zach Hebl '14** (All Conference, All State Honorable Mention), **Johnny Lawson '14** (All Conference, All State and Tournament team) and **Robert Simari '14** (All Conference). **Calvin Kim '14** and **Jordan Victoria '15** were also All Conference.

COACH TOM KANE



Coach **Tom Kane '74** celebrated his 300th career win and finished the season with a 302-54-25 career record acknowledging him as the coach with the highest winning percentage in Minnesota Boys Soccer history.

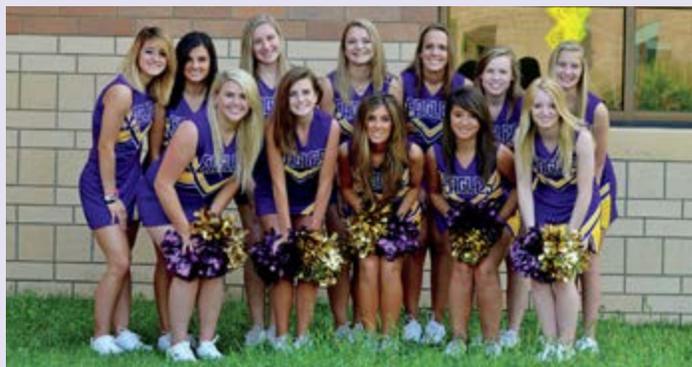
GIRLS SOCCER

The Lourdes girls' soccer team has a bright future ahead. With a young team and an experienced coach of eighteen years, the girls have a lot to look forward to. The 2013 season started as a year to rebuild but finished with a successful winning record of 7-6-3.

GIRLS SWIMMING

The girls finished with an 8-2 record in the dual meet season. They were earned 4th place at the Big 9 Conference and the section meet. **Anna Becker '14** and **Taylor Emery '14** were both All Conference swimmers at the Big 9 meet.

CHEERLEADING



The Cheerleading team, led by senior captains **Abbie Salz '14** and **Alexa Sinn '14**, worked to lead the school in positive cheering and strong school spirit. The year included performances at Homecoming, convocation and football games and was highlighted by a Halloween performance to Michael Jackson's "Thriller". The team had the privilege of practicing many hours in the beautiful new multi-purpose room. Go Eagles!

GIRLS TENNIS

Girls' tennis team had a celebrated season ending with a welcomed run at the state tournament, finishing in second place. This marks an 18th straight state appearance. **Sophia Terzic '14** finished 5th place in singles. **Jessica Alexander '14**, **Lucy Hansen '14** and Sophia Terzic earned academic all state honors.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The girls' volleyball team, led by **Sara Hobday '14** and **Georgianne Younger '14**, had the privilege of playing the first varsity game in the new William and Caroline Adamson Gymnasium.

LHS Alumni in the Arts



Since graduation from Lourdes, **Marko Bajzer '07** has completed a Bachelor of Music in Composition, Bassoon performance and Music education at the University of Cincinnati. He currently is pursuing a Master of Music in Composition at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Marko's days are filled with attending classes, teaching lessons, composing music and rehearsing and performing orchestra and chamber music. Bassoon is his primary instrument and he also plays horn, flute and contrabassoon, but he uses a piano while composing music. His current focus is on orchestra, chamber music, vocal music and electronic music.

In the future, Marko sees himself pursuing a Doctorate in Music Composition and hopes to teach at a university, while composing and performing music and seeking out diverse artistic and musical endeavors.

As a freshman at Lourdes, Marko thought he would like to study music after high school. He took advantage of all that the Lourdes

Music department offered! He was involved in band, choir, Center Street singers, Highlighters, Drum Line and Liturgical choir. He was chosen for the All-State Orchestra and was in the HVL choir, honors choir, community band and SEMYO orchestra. During his senior year he enrolled in the Music Mentorship program at LHS, learning music theory and history. Marko states, "The fact I was involved really prepared me for college."

He credits Lourdes music teachers Kent Jurgenson and Bonnie Poterucha with having the greatest influence on him in high school. "We worked hard and had a lot of fun doing it", Marko says of his time as a student in the music department. He remembers the fun learning environment and great times singing with friends in Center Street, performing in the Night of Jazz and wonderful bus trips with his classmates.

Marko enrolled in a Lourdes art class, taught by Bob Melton, and now, in addition to his musical pursuits, he is painting and selling his artwork online.

Check out Marko's website, www.markobajzer.com to listen to works he has composed and to view his artwork.

Daniel Fleming '06 is considered one of Milwaukee's most prolific and respected young, emerging artists. He has spent the last few years in a whirlwind of creation: solo and group shows, publications and sales of his artwork. He is currently preparing for an upcoming exhibition of his work for the Rochester Museum of Fine Art, in Rochester, NH.

Daniel works full time doing design and illustration for a local weekly paper in Milwaukee, which allows him to fund his artistic pursuits. He employs a variety of creative skills sets at his day job, and every night he works far into the evening hours on his artwork. This dedication to his work is a big part of his success. "I make it a point to create, start or work on one piece each and every day."

When asked about how his interest in the arts began, Daniel replies, "When everyone else wanted to be astronauts and firemen, I wanted to be a special effects artist designing monsters for sci-fi films. But while I have always been interested in a creative life, it wasn't until recently that "art" became a real option. It also took a lot of hard work, a lot of trying different avenues of creativity, and a lot painting things that really aren't very good before I realized that art was the direction I was headed. I've always been creative. But that creativity led down a few different paths before I fell head-over-heels for fine art."

While Daniel did take art classes while at Lourdes High School, and spent many of his "open mods" in the art room, most of his artistic development has been in relative isolation. He largely works alone, in a private studio. "I can say that my experience at

Lourdes is a constant influence on my life and work. The work ethic, desire to succeed, and motivation for accomplishment all were fostered with help from my parents, friends and the Lourdes community... and without those, I don't think I would be as prolific, as dedicated, or as informed about the work I do."



Being so young, Daniel knows that his art career is just beginning. He is proud of his accomplishments but is excited that he has a long way to go toward the realization and expression of his artistic dreams. "Being an artist is a constant push and pull, and while I can't complain about where I currently stand as a 25 year-old painter who is supporting himself and his career, I also cannot get complacent and allow my current status to become permanent. You take pride in the small accomplishments, but almost as quickly have to move onto the next big thing."

You can view Daniel's artwork by visiting: danielflemingart.com. You can contact him at dflemingartdesign@gmail.com.



Annie Lawler Young '78 and Todd Young '78, on their wedding day

For **Annie Lawler Young '78**, music started out as a very private love. Trying to carve out some quiet time away from her six siblings she recalls spending hours alone in her basement, pretending to play the piano while she sang along with Carole King's *Tapestry* album. She was "too shy to sing out" but

knew that her time spent singing was the happiest part of her day, and she dreamed about someday being in a band and performing in front of an audience. Her love of music deepened when she played in the marching and concert bands at Lourdes High School, under the tutelage of Gene Eiden. Crediting him as

a mentor she says, "Being exposed to him and the way he loved music was a big influence." Another powerful creative influence for Annie was her exposure to live music during high school. Recalling the monthly mixers held at the school, and attended by students from all over Rochester, she adds, "It was great that we were able to see a live band every month. I remember realizing how lucky we were." She talks reverently about how music has an incredible power to influence her well-being. And during a brief stint as a teacher after college, she learned to use that power to set the mood in her classroom. "It's such a positive way to start the day." Her love of singing and the "special feeling" it gives her eventually won out over her shyness. In 1989 she started performing in front of an audience. Since then she has opened for the Mavericks, Tim McGraw and The Marshall Tucker Band. Now that she has been singing professionally for 25 years she marvels at her good fortune and still never loses sight of the richness and wonder that music brings to her life. "If everyone sang a little bit every day, it would be a more peaceful world."

.....
The Annie Lawler Band can be heard at various venues around Southeastern Minnesota and in the Twin Cities. Check out the band's schedule at www.annielawler.com

.....
Steve Moran '69 states that while at Lourdes, his most influential teacher was former band director Gene Eiden. "It was not only his instruction but the way he introduced me to individual private teachers and the camps that I attended, one of which influenced me to go into music at the University of Minnesota. He had a lot of influence on why I went into teaching music as a profession."

Steve went on to become a music teacher and was recognized as Teacher of the Year in Sanborn, MN in his first year of teaching. He was a long-term elementary and middle school band teacher in New Ulm, MN and was inducted into the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame in 2009.

While no longer teaching, Steve now fulfills his passion for music by performing with a number of bands. He has the impressive talent of playing two instruments at once, in two different keys. He can play keyboard and trumpet, or keyboard and valve trombone, simultaneously. When asked how this came about he describes arriving for a performance with his band and realizing they were short one player. He gave it a try and succeeded in playing two instruments and now says "I get bored if I'm not playing two at once!"

Steve's primary instrument is bass trombone and he has an incredible list of additional instruments that he plays: tuba, baritone, french horn, flute, clarinet, alto and tenor saxophone,



piano, accordion, concertina and guitar. He plays primarily with the Wendinger Band and has a number of additional bands he performs with as well.

Steve recently returned from a band tour in Las Vegas, playing with the band "Ray Sand and the Polka Dots" where he performed with his former band director, Gene Eiden.



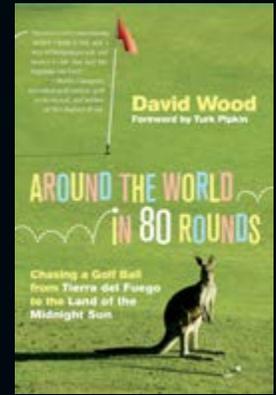
David Wood '74 admits that he has only “about a 10-year attention span”. But it seems that every ten years he is able to turn his attention to accomplishing things others only dream about: appearing on *The David Letterman Show*, opening for Diana Ross, writing his book “Around the World in 80 Rounds”

about his year spent exploring golf courses all over the world. How did a shy kid with a chaotic childhood accomplish so much?

David Wood moved to Rochester when he was in 8th grade, starting school at St. John’s. His mother had spent the last few years, with David and his two siblings in tow, roaming around the Midwest in search of a better life. He received a scholarship to go to Lourdes High School where he excelled at sports, and played on the 1973 state championship basketball team. “Lourdes was very kind to me and my family”, David remembers. And it provided him with his first audience: the high school friends and teammates who laughed at his litany of impressions and “my smarting off”, to the occasional dismay of former Lourdes

principal Denny Nigon ‘68. He remembers, “I was shy, but I was always able to write funny”, a skill that got him lots of attention in college. While taking a speech class at Creighton University, he noticed that his speeches were drawing an audience. “When people outside of the class started showing up, I thought ‘maybe I’ve got something here’”, he recalls. On a whim, he entered a student talent show and discovered that he was hooked.

Performing filled a void. “Show business replaced athletics in filling that need and desire to accomplish.” Abandoning plans to attend law school, he packed his car and headed for southern California. Years spent on the grueling process of building a comedy act resulted in a fulfilling and successful career, and led to other creative opportunities. David is most proud of his book, which he calls “my first original term paper since college.” He says that being a published author is a great feeling and one he looks forward to repeating. He lives in New York City and spends his time traveling around the county to speak at corporate events, and working on a screenplay and a novel.



You can read more about him on his website: www.davidwoodspeaking.com. You can read David’s short story titled “How to Raise a Comedian Without Really Trying” at www.narrative.ly.

Zach Mangan, '03, has followed his passion and dream to pursue a career in music. Zach lives in Brooklyn, NY and spends his days as a drummer – performing, teaching and recording – with his time divided equally between those three pursuits.

His band, *Secret Architecture*, performs in New York City and is also on the road two or three times each year. Recent destinations include festivals in France and Switzerland. A tour of the western US took the band to Colorado, Arizona, California and Oregon. They also found time for an East Coast tour.

Zach shares his love of drumming with his students, who range in age from children to adults. He explains that teaching is such a rewarding part of his profession: “When you are teaching you are also learning.”

He refers to his recording work as “session work.” Artists who are recording their music and need a drummer will hire him to play for that recording. He is given the music beforehand and arrives at the recording session, all prepared and ready to perform.

Zach became interested in music as a kid and credits his father’s strong love of music for influencing his career path. During his

time at Lourdes, Zach took advantage of many opportunities at school and in the surrounding area. He and his friends formed bands and had fun perfecting their skills while performing all around Rochester, in parks and at Rochesterfest.

Zach’s favorite teacher at Lourdes was Mr. Bob Gardner, who he says has been a valuable resource, a positive influence, and a great example of how to be an advocate for the arts.



Zach’s advice for current students interested in music? “Do all you can do, you never know who you will meet.” “Have fun and check out as much music as you can.”



A proud student of St. John's Grade School and graduate of Lourdes High School **Kevin Flicker '70** has made a name for himself in the world of clay. After high school he studied at the University of Minnesota – Morris, where he earned a degree in Psychology and English. After taking several ceramic courses at night school at UMM he fell in love with the medium of clay, and was thrilled with the possibilities it presented. Ten years and many ceramic courses later, Kevin developed his own personal and highly-respected style. His most influential training took place in 1985 under the guidance of the renowned ceramics artist-in-residence at St. John's University, Richard Bresnahan.

Kevin has been teaching ceramics at University of Minnesota-Morris since 1987, and his works have been displayed throughout the United States. In 2003 he created an innovative curriculum at UMM with his development of the course, "*Wood-Fired Kiln Design and Construction*." With the help of his students, he built the first wood-fired kiln on campus. The kiln hold several hundred pots and is capable of firing both stoneware and porcelain pieces. Firings last seventy-five hours and the process burns three cords of wood, gathered from deadfall and campus trimmings. The development of this course earned Kevin a Distinguished Teaching Award from the University of Minnesota's College of Continuing Education. Kevin was inspired by his commitment to sustainable environmental practices so the kiln was built using donated and recycled materials.

Kevin has the distinction of being one of five artists featured in the book *Stoked: Five Artists of Clay* by Matthew Welch, which is available through the St. John's University book store in Collegeville, MN. Kevin and his wife, Judy live in Morris, MN in a craftsman-style timber-framed home they built themselves.

When asked how his days at St. John's grade school and Lourdes influenced his life, Kevin said he attributes his fascination with ceremonial vessels to the many Sundays spent as an altar boy, along with rigorous chemistry courses at Lourdes, under the tutelage of Sister Bibiana.

Mary Bruns Pyfferoen '76 was bitten by the acting bug in 1998 when her daughter, Amanda talked her into auditioning for a part in the Rochester Civic Theatre's production of *A Christmas Carol*. After years of working behind the scenes, Mary moved into the footlights, and since then she has appeared in over twenty-five productions, in towns all over southeastern Minnesota. She's been involved in theatre for almost forty years, starting out doing small parts in community theatre while in grade school, then adding student directing, music, sets and house manager credits during her time at Lourdes High School. "My love of theatre started when I was young but my time at Lourdes really cemented it."

After finishing her graduate work at University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Mary moved back to Rochester and started teaching at St. John's School. She now teaches at Holy Spirit School in Rochester, "enjoying a lively bunch of third graders" when she's not hanging around a theatre.

She has written the One Act play for Lourdes High School for the past seven years. Her original play, "American Dream" about human trafficking was performed in January on the new Donald and Margaret Hoffman performance stage at the school. When asked about how it feels to switch to the new space she laughs

and says, "For the very first time I had to tell the kids, 'Now remember: when we go into competition the stage is going to be smaller.' The new performance space is just incredible." But it is clear that Mary will miss the old Lourdes theatre, where she has spent so much of her time. "There is such history and intimacy in the old place. The new school will get that intimacy over time. But it's a challenge for young actors to try to fill that big space. It will take some adjustment but it's such a great opportunity for the kids. In the past we had to be careful when choosing shows to perform, due to concerns about space. We don't have those limitations anymore!"

Mary is very proud of her family and their love of the arts: brother **Tim Bruns '81**, cousin **Katy Enger '85**, son **Joseph Pyfferoen '09** and daughter **Amanda Pyfferoen '05** have all been active in the Lourdes High School music and drama scene, and all have won the "Drama Student of the Year" award. Both of Mary's children went on to study theatre at the University of Minnesota. Mary continues to act, write and direct, both at Lourdes and in the Rochester community. She even found time to start a summer theatre camp for the Rochester Catholic Schools. You can see Mary at work in the spring 2014 Lourdes High School production of *West Side Story*.

1960's



Friends from LHS Class of '67 traveled to Fredericksburg, VA on their 2nd annual tour of historic battlefields. Pictured from left to right are with the LHS Traveling eagle are: **Jim McGover '67, Bruce Schmidt '67, Rick Smith '67, Dave Campbell '67** and **Steve Wente '67.**

1970's

Dave Mueller '77 is completing his first four-year term as Olmsted County Sheriff, and is running for re-election in November 2014. *"Lourdes provided me with an excellent education, opportunities to participate in sports, the arts and most importantly our Catholic faith. I am forever indebted to the teachers, coaches and friends that helped shape who I am by establishing an expectation of excellence, hard work and service."*

1990's

Lori Lawler Still '91 will be inducted into The Rochester Quarterbacks' Club Hall of Fame on April 21, 2014. She was a four-year starter in basketball while at Lourdes High School, and played a key part in the Eagles' back-to-back state championships in 1990 and 1991. Lori scored 1,655 points, with 733 rebounds while helping the team compile a 57-1 record during the two seasons. She went on to the University of Minnesota where she was a member of the Gophers first women's NCAA tournament team. In 2007 she was inducted into the Lourdes High School Sports Hall of Fame, in its inaugural year. After college she earned her M.A. in Physical Therapy at Mayo Clinic, in Rochester. She married Randy Still in 1999 and they reside in the Phoenix, AZ area with their three children.



U.S. Navy Cmdr. Brian Tanaka '92 calls himself a proud Minnesotan. In addition to being a proud Rochester native, he will assume command of the USS Minnesota, a newly commissioned 377-foot nuclear-powered attack submarine. The USS Minnesota was commissioned in September and will be available for six-month deployments anywhere

in the world. Cmdr. Tanaka will spend the next year at the Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, CT to get ready for deployment. He will have a crew of 130 officers and enlisted personnel under his command. During his naval career, Tanaka has been deployed to the northern Atlantic and western Pacific, completed two strategic deterrent patrols aboard, and most recently, served as a Navy liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives in the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs. Tanaka said that growing up in a close-knit Rochester neighborhood had prepared him for the tight bonds of the Navy. He describes this new assignment as "the opportunity of a lifetime".

2000's



In October **Cody Cossette '14**, went with his grandparents on a medical mission trip to Guatemala. Working with the group Hearts in Motion, a humanitarian organization that provides short term volunteer experiences in Central and South America, they worked in medical clinics in the Zacapa area of Guatemala. The group provided assistance to the

orthopedic surgery team, and served lunch at the HIM nutrition center. The extreme poverty and deprivation Cody witnessed has opened his eyes to the need for volunteers who can provide medical services in third world countries.



Andy Schulte '03 is a network engineer and works as a contractor for the United States Antarctic Program (USAP). He designs, implements and maintains network/communications infrastructure that provides connectivity to scientists and researchers working in Antarctica. His work allows

researchers to perform data collection in Antarctica, and transfer that data to their home universities.



Andrew Ziller '05 married **Courtney Hanson '06** on Sept. 14, 2013 at Pax Christi Catholic Church in Rochester, MN. Drew is a Project Manager at Meditude and Courtney is an Integrated Marketing Communications Planner at General Mills.

Where are you, Missing LHS Alumni?

Help us make sure that your fellow alumni don't miss out on LHS news and class reunions!

If you have contact information for any of the following missing alumni, please get in touch with our office.

Lourdes Foundation 1710 Industrial Dr. Rochester, MN 55901 507-289-2584, lourdesfoundation@rochestercatholic.k12.mn.us

LHS Class of 1964

Fernando Barros
Kathleen (Miller) Burvar
Robert Curry
Patricia Lenton
Kathleen (Tepoel) Mumford
William Myers
Mary (Daly) Nelson
Lynn Rausch
Elaine (Conway) Selmier
Mary (Ibach) Tutunjian
Sharon (Connelly) Utley
Thomas Webster
Mary (Lyke) Zacher

LHS Class of 1969

Kathleen (Smith) McKeon
Maryann (Heinz) Patnode
Mary (Mayhood) Polk
Nora Quirin
Francisco Rios
Diane (Naylor) Swedell
Sandy (Mross) Thompson
Elizabeth (Tarara) Warfield

LHS Class of 1974

Brian Harrison
Jeanie (Ohly) Herbert
Jim Hockert
Robert Huey
Teresa Huey
Daniel Jaquith
Veronica (Schad) Kalmes
Mark Kalscheuer

Dan Kerrigan
Robert Kirckof
Richard Lee
Diane (Heppelmann) Lund
Monica Macken
Stella Madden
Lynne Mahlum
Daniel Morse
Mark Mueller
Jorge Otero
Monica Overkamp
Darlene (Durgin) Peloquin
Amy (Hollenhorst) Petersen
John Pilla
Barbara Klaus Ryan
Paul Sandberg
Patricia (Zabel) Sandmeyer
Mike Sizer
Susan (Meyer) Smith
Sharon (Johnson) Spencer
Doug Stockinger
Jerry Stone
George Strauss
Joan Sturgis
Constance (Benson) Wagner

LHS Class of 1979

Patrick Holt
Dawn (Herber) Hoover
Daniel Mahoney
Kelly Ann (Cassidy) Mason
Liza (Walz) OBrien
James Parry
Deanna (Herber) Simonson

Timothy Staley
Patricia (McNary) Vavra
Jeanne Verdick
John Weiland
Michelle (Deutsch) Wood

LHS Class of 1984

Shelley (Miller) Koehler
Jeanne (Morrow) McGovern
Trung Minh
Catherine (Owen) Cabenala
Jeff Renner
Betti Resner
Pamela (Bruen) Schwanke
Donna Sherman
Paul Thein
Ha Thianh Tran
Ann Wenner
Anthony Macke
Eduardo Matillano
Matthew Meilander

LHS Class of 1989

Wayne Olson
Michael Onkels
Robert Petricka
Thanh Pham
Kevin Raasch
Daniel Saletel
Erick Sutherland
Scott Thompson
Cory Whalen
Scott Wright
Shoua Yang

LHS Class of 1994

Angelique Beaulieu
Joan (Muehlenbein) Krueger
Christa Lawler
Andrew Niekamp
William Owen
John Robinson
Kelly Siebenaler
Thomas Wright
Vang Yee Yang

LHS Class of 1999

Michael LaBerge
Adam Lindberg
Patrick McIntyre
Ben Molloy
Megan Nelson
Michael Ngo
Teresa Ngo
Adam Palen
Sara Peterson
Michelle Quinn
Andrea Nervig Scott
Albert Siebenaler
Stefan Streit
Elizabeth Valko

LHS Class of 2004

Marie Riester
Rommel Tortosa

Peace & Sympathy

We Will Remember

Our sympathy and prayers are offered to the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones. Please remember them in your prayers.

Margaret (Adamson) Walsh '29

Margaret Ball '45

Robert Truax '54

Brian Canney '57

Robert G Campbell '60

Kate (Reisdorf) Dannucci '64

Elaine (Carroll) Grassle '64

William J. McCoy '65

Michael J. Schoenfelder '67

John P Simon '70

Matthew S. Harrison '79

Nicholas B. Roecker '13

Kayla J. Koranda '13

Henry Erwin Brandt

Dale Chrysler

J. Mark Janes

Marshall "Wayne" Marx

Eugene Wente

Maxine Langdon

Thomas Dorsey

If you would like to inform the Aquila of a loved one's death, please contact the Lourdes Foundation and we will include the information in our next issue. We make every effort to publish accurate memorial information. Please accept our apology for any unintentional omissions. Lourdes Foundation, 1710 Industrial Drive NW, Rochester, MN 55901 507-289-2584, lourdesfoundation@rochestercatholic.k12.mn.us

Lourdes High School 2014 Calendar

APRIL 2014

Saturday, April 26th

Hearts of Gold, A Purple Tie Affair

Rochester International Event Center

benefiting Lourdes High School

for more information visit tinyurl.com/purpletieaffair

MAY 2014

Thursday May 8th-Sunday May 11th

LHS Production of West Side Story

see page 6 for details

Saturday, May 17th

LHS Spring Concert

JUNE 2014

Saturday, June 28th

Class of 1954 reunion

JULY 2014

Friday, July 25 and Saturday, July 26th

Class of 1969 reunion

AUGUST 2014

Friday, August 15th

Jim and Judy Daly Memorial Golf Tournament

Eastwood Golf Course

more information at www.dalygolftournament.com

Monday, August 4th

Eagle Open Golf Tournament

more information at LHS Athletic Office 507-289-3991 ext. 130

or tmiller@rochestercatholic.k12.mn.us

Friday August 15th and Saturday August 16th

Class of 1984 reunion

SEPTEMBER 2014

Friday, September 19th-Sunday, September 21st

Class of 1964 reunion

more 50th reunion info <http://lhs64.homestead.com/Reunion.html>

Friday, September 26 and Saturday, September 27

Class of 1994 reunion

Friday, September 26th

Lourdes Homecoming Football Game and

Post-game Party

If your class is having reunion, please contact the Lourdes Foundation office so we can add the information to our website.



How cool is this? Thanks to **Andy Schulte '03** the Traveling Eagle has landed in Antarctica!

“The arts are a chance for all of us to be touched by beauty. God gave us the visual and performing arts for us to appreciate and enjoy.”

– **Esther Poterucha**

Children of Polish immigrants who settled in Chicago in the early 1900's, Dr. Henry and Esther Poterucha are proud of their heritage and of their years as students and active members of Catholic schools and parishes in Chicago. Their five children were raised in southern Illinois and Esther made sure all of them had piano lessons and played an instrument in band. Four of their five grown children now live in Rochester and seven grandchildren are Lourdes graduates, their youngest grandchild currently is a student at St. Francis. Esther says, “Our children all have an appreciation of the arts, of beauty, and in turn passed this along to their children.”

Henry explains while reminiscing about their own upbringings and the lessons their parents taught them, “How little we had, (when I was young), we spent on education. Our parents showed us this was the way to go. Our legacy for our children is to know the value of education.”

Their passion for the Lourdes Music Department was sparked by former band director and current music department volunteer, Bonnie Poterucha. Esther explains, “Bonnie has a love for music and she passes it on to others. She passed it on to us. We see the students in concerts and performances and realize the positive value music has on their lives. All of the grandchildren participated in the arts and we were fortunate to attend band and choir concerts, marching band competitions, and plays.”

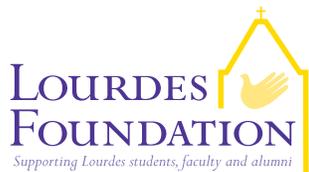
The Poterucha's are generous supporters of the Music Endowment Fund of the Lourdes Foundation. Proceeds of this fund are given annually to the Music Department at Lourdes High School to fund instrument and music purchases.

When asked about why they are such loyal donors to the music endowment, Henry states **“People were always generous to us. It is time to reflect that generosity back to others.”**



For more information about starting a Lourdes Foundation scholarship contact our office at 507/289-2584

Photo courtesy of Lifetouch Photography



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Read previous issues of the Aquila at:
www.lourdesfoundation.org

Your User ID to register for the Alumni Online Directory is located above your name and address.

Need a prayer for yourself or a loved one? Visit our website at lourdesfoundation.org to submit a prayer request.

[E-Prayer Request](#)



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[Facebook.com/Lourdes Foundation Alumni Connection](https://www.facebook.com/Lourdes-Foundation-Alumni-Connection)

*“Music gives a soul to the universe,
wings to the mind, flight to the
imagination and life to everything.”*

Plato

