

OLDENBURG ACADEMY

OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FALL MAGAZINE 2020
INCLUDING ANNUAL REPORT 19-20



GO BEYOND

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Over the years it has been common that people will ask me “how’s the school year going?” It often feels like the generic “how are you today?” query. But this year, there is an intentionality to that question and the feeling of individual and corporate concern. The good news is that I am able to respond “so far, so good!” As this magazine goes to press, we are finishing our 5th week of in-person instruction in what seems

like a surprisingly typical school year rhythm. The one-way hallways, face masks, and separate desks are feeling routine. Teenagers being teenagers does require us to offer an occasional nudge to “mask up” when they enter a building or help them resist the magnetic attraction they have to each other that causes them to spontaneously migrate together in little clusters. But **our Academy students are respectful, compliant, and willing to follow the guidelines.** They want to be in school. They want to see their friends, play on their teams, return to the structure and normalcy of daily life that they missed during the end of last school year. We ask for your continued prayers that they continue on this path.

You may have seen new banners hanging from the light poles around town and new OA navy blue t-shirts. They both feature our beloved Oldenburg spires and our new tagline “Go Beyond”. When the Administrative Team met this summer to discuss how to move forward with this school year, the opening of the Feldhaus, and all the challenges and opportunities that existed, we landed on this phrase as one that is both descriptive and prescriptive. **We are optimistic about this moment in OA’s history** because our past

experience reveals the continuity of service, capacity for growth, and clear mission-driven goals that have inspired the “VHE” culture that currently exists and announces to all our expected destination. This phrase also perfectly integrates with this year’s sponsorship value: justice and peace. I know you will enjoy the insights from newly welcomed back OA Board of Trustees member Sr. Barb Piller, OSF (see page 4).

The **Annual Report** data contained in this issue is another blazing example of how you, our generous partners in mission, have helped us go beyond. To be able to announce that we **exceeded our fundraising goals for 2019-20 during the time of a global pandemic** is beyond extraordinary! Your gifts of time, talent and treasure have been offered and received in so many creative and original ways. I am particularly thrilled with the impact of our “One Day @ OA” campaign! The results generated last May were wildly beyond our expectation; I can’t wait to see what May 7, 2021 will bring!

There is no doubt that the 2020-21 school year will continue to be one of novel experiences, challenges met and overcome, and unanticipated joys. **We honor our shared communion as members of our Franciscan spiritual family** under the protection of our Mother Mary. We commit to the ongoing search for wisdom, justice, freedom and hope rooted in the Gospel of Jesus that reminds us to look at the children, the marginalized and the weak to see the face of God. Together, we remember, we celebrate, we believe.

Wishing you continued peace and all good.

Diane Laake

Diane H. Laake

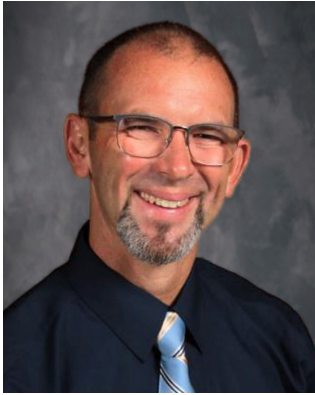
BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE 2020-2021 YEAR

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OA sincerely thanks retiring Board of Trustees Chairperson Darryl Maslar and Board members Julie Strasmeier and Sr. Diane Jamison, OSF for their many years of service to the Academy. We welcome Keith Moenter (photo left) as the new Chairperson and look forward to his leadership, enthusiasm and support.

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL



In a recent conversation with a fellow educator we were discussing the impact we have on our student body. The question was asked “do we teach them more than arithmetic & reading, is our impact greater?” I boldly say “YES”. Please allow me to explain and provide evidence to support this statement with information that we strive to improve upon each and every day. **We craft our goals each year to support our**

vision, to connect our past to the present and where we want to go and this year is no different as you will see within the goals that have been selected for the 20/21 school year.

We are working to provide our students with opportunities to not only be present for face to face instruction but we are also working to provide our students with Experiential Learning opportunities that ties directly into what we want our graduates to look like (Refer to the Spring, 2020 Magazine Grad @ Grad statement). The learning opportunities are provided through a number of opportunities that range from travel, (Italy, Germany & Puerto Rico) to academic competitions (Rube Goldberg & Innovate WithIN), to our Internship Program that places our students into areas of interest to provide a real work experience.

Our Culture that Goes Beyond at OA cannot be matched.

We continue to provide rigorous, differentiated instruction that meets the needs of the individual student. We work to create a family-like atmosphere that brings everyone

together to provide a strong sense of community and belonging. We transparently communicate with our parents via online & in person meetings, weekly updates from teachers & moderators to establish a true partnership in the education of their sons and daughters. This two-way communication is for the betterment of our students and school community.

And lastly, we are continually working together as a faculty and staff to engage in professional development that demonstrates how each content area is connected to the other. **Doing so provides our faculty the opportunity to think globally and provide our students a holistic approach** to each learning style and demonstrates the commitment we make to each and every student here at Oldenburg Academy.

We, Oldenburg Academy, are committed to providing our students with opportunities to connect their leaning with authentic, experiential learning opportunities. We strive to educate the whole child to meet the demands both intellectually and spiritually. As Pope Francis stated, we want our students to recognize that “we are a single human family that is journeying on toward unity, making the most of solidarity and dialogue among peoples in the multiplicity of differences.”

Go Beyond OA!



Brian A. McFee

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

PRESIDENT Diane H. Laake	DIRECTOR OF FINANCE Geraldine Moster Kuntz '81
PRINCIPAL Brian McFee	DIRECTOR OF GUIDANCE Laura Geis
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Jonathon Maple '07	ATHLETIC DIRECTOR Patrick Kolks '10
DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT SERVICES Annette Hunger	

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FRANCISCAN-JUSTICE & PEACE

Prayer before the CRUCIFIX

Most holy, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command.

Justice and Peace is the Franciscan value that OA will be focused on this year. Diane asked me to share a little bit about the importance of this value for Franciscans. It seems as if the school's tag-line "**Go Beyond**" is really appropriate as this value is explored and lived.

Pope Francis said, "To understand peace and justice through the lense of Franciscan spirituality we have to understand the man, Francis, a man of poverty, a man of peace, a man who loves and protects creation".

Francis of Assisi went to the crusades as every young Italian male did. After Francis was imprisoned during the Crusades Francis realized he did not want to fight against other human beings. Then he heard the message to rebuild Christ's Church. He did just that, rebuilt the little Church. Eventually it became clear to him that he was to **go beyond** and rebuild the Church through his love for the poor, his gift of preaching. He preached to the people the Gospel of peace and salvation.

You may know the story of Francis embracing the leper. This action was so hard for him but he felt that push of the Spirit to do it. He heard the call to **go beyond** what was comfortable for him. In touching the flesh of the poor, he knew he was touching the flesh of Christ.

From the Gospels he understood that he was to be one with the poor, the broken. There is where he found Jesus. Francis grasped God's creative presence in all people, in all things. He grasped that we are all connected.

Justice and peace is about how we treat one another.

Justice and peace is about respect and acceptance.

It is about seeing the big picture.

It is about going beyond the comfortable and the known, being curious about the unknown and being open to the unknown.

Our Rule states "The sisters and brothers are called to heal the wounded, to bind up those who are bruised and to reclaim the erring."

Our Constitution says "We are attentive to the cry of the poor and oppressed and the need to work for justice and peace."

Our Community has always served in the poorer schools and in rural parishes. WE began by taking in orphans and teaching children and women. We continue that focus. We continue to help support those who work directly with the poor and the underserved. We continue to ask ourselves how we can **go beyond** the familiar and the comfortable.

Living as a Franciscan means we make efforts to live a GOSPEL WAY OF LIFE.

As our OA students and faculty look at the Franciscan/Christian value of justice and peace, they have the wonderful sources of Scripture, the words and actions of St. Francis, the Catholic Social Justice teachings, and hopefully, the modeling of the Sisters of St. Francis as guides.

May we, together, GO BEYOND!

- Sr Barb Piller OSF



MOMENTS OF RESILIENCE AT THE ACADEMY

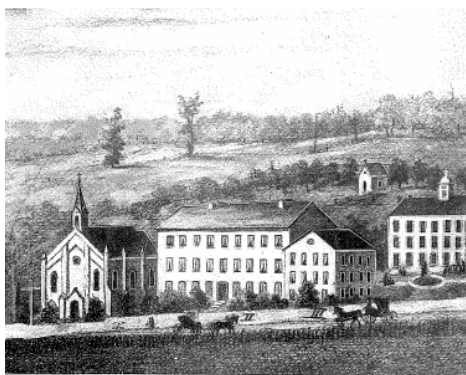
When alumni, parents, and members of the OA family look back on the year 2020, what will they recall? Our hope is that in terms of the Academy, it will be remembered as an example of another time of great challenge that ultimately became a source of strength and resilience in our capacity to move forward with our mission despite unimaginable circumstances. Just like these moments...

The Great Fire of 1857

The heavy snowfall and crisp wintry air that blanketed Oldenburg on January 23, 1857 soon became blackened and smoke-filled as the Sisters' six-year old convent, school, and chapel burned to the ground. Mother Superior Theresa Hackelmeier was severely injured in the fire. Upon her recovery she was forced to adopt a true mendicant spirit as she went begging for financial support in Cincinnati and St. Louis in order to rebuild. By November of that same year, new structures had begun to replace those that had been destroyed and the Sisters were again able to serve the local community.

"During the following year the Sisters had a larger enrollment in every department: 14 in the orphanage, 27 in the academy, and 125 in the village school. In a literal sense the community had been tried by fire and had not been found wanting. They entered the year 1858 with renewed courage and dogged determination to retrieve their losses. That year also brought one achievement particularly appealing to their Franciscan spirituality... Father Rudolf solemnly blessed the Sisters' new chapel, dedicating it to Our Blessed Lady, Immaculate.... (giving) all the Congregation's important actions to (her) protection and honor."

- *With the Poverello*



The Influenza Pandemic of 1918/19

Between October and the end of 1918, 4 Sisters had died at Oldenburg and many others were afflicted. On December 3rd, a number of children became sick and others were dismissed to their homes as soon as possible. One of the students who would have graduated later that year, Alma Kuntzler, had gone home to St. Bernard, OH and then became sick and died.

"The sickness diminished little by little and after the feast of the Three Magi, (January 6, 1919) the Academy was in session once more. The pupils returned and also new ones appeared so the school year was well blessed and had grown in attendance. Also, the pupils showed themselves better behaved this year."

- Archives of the Sisters of St. Francis



The Death of a Beloved Teacher



"Teachers and students will always have a place in their hearts for Mr. Kelly Munchel. The loss of a trusted friend and teacher was felt on January 10, 1976 when Mr. Munchel passed away. A life-long resident of Oldenburg, Mr. Munchel came to ICA in 1965. He taught World History, World Cultures, Psychology, Civics, and Economics. He was the moderator of NHS and the Senior Class. He was especially noted for the way he made his classes interesting as well as educational. Some of his favorite expressions were "quote, quote" and "glitter, glitter".... a sure (visitor tour) stop was Room 105 to view Mr. Munchel's mobiles, plants, old history projects and knickknacks. Once when asked why he had all those things in his room, he replied that if the students weren't looking at

him, at least their attention would stay in the room. We will always remember him as a person who was never without a smile or a kind word. He was a teacher of outstanding dedication... there are no words to express how much he will be missed..."

- *Concept*, ICA Yearbook, 1976

A scholarship was established in his name shortly after Kelly Munchel's death. Over the years this fund has benefitted dozens of students with much needed tuition assistance, ensuring that the gift of an Academy education now inspired by a new generation of educators, remains accessible. Memorial donations to this fund continue to be received in his honor each year.





Response To Covid-19 Pandemic

Following the nationwide closures in March of 2020, OA was responsive and responsible in our efforts to ensure our students continued to experience the highest quality instruction, be recognized for their successes and accomplishments, and be welcomed into the Academy Family.

- Launched a successful distant learning program with virtual classes 4 days a week throughout the 4th quarter
- Hosted two school-wide parent webinars and one freshman parent webinar over the summer about school plans to re-open in August
- Organized and orchestrated drive by visits and drop-offs of yard signs and alumni gift bags to celebrate the Class of 2020
- Organized and orchestrated drive by visits and drop-offs of yard signs and scholarship awards to welcome the Class of 2024 to the OA community
- Students had a “virtual” guest speaker in Mr. Maple’s Marketing Class. OA welcomed back Jennifer DeCilles ‘12, who serves as the Custom Success Manager, Business Outcomes at Vibes Media in Chicago. She talked to Marketing students about digital marketing, the impact of mobile wallets and digitizing business transactions.
- Held in-person awards night and graduation for the Class of 2020



IN. HON. B. MARIAE. V. IMMACULATAE.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

A GRADUATION THAT WILL BE REMEMBERED

Opening Remarks

“...But I am equally confident that this class is well on their way to achieving the vision and perspective to see the losses, struggles and fears of these past few months as the freshly tilled soil from which the seeds of their futures will germinate and flourish. As you will hear in the speeches from Henry and Biz soon, this class is ready. They are ready to move beyond the personal inconveniences of today to become a resilient force for a better world. All of us at the Academy are very proud of them and their evolving capacity to seek goodness, justice, and conversion/reconciliation (our sponsorship theme this past year). They are already proclaiming with St. Paul as we will hear in our 2nd reading today:

*“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor present things, nor future things,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Following Mass, we will recognize their individual accomplishments in our commencement exercises, but first, it is most appropriate that we begin – as we do all things at the Academy – with prayer. Nothing is more important – nothing sets us more apart from other high schools – than this central mission of the Academy. We have been committed these last four years to assist you, their parents and family members who are their primary faith formation guides, on this journey.

It has been our honor and privilege to do so.”

President Diane H. Laake

*“...How do we fill the passing of time as we wait,
and struggle through challenge and change?
Prayer. Reflection. Continue to carry the academy’s
values of virtue, honor, education with you
wherever you go. Be patient and kind. Be humble
and grateful. Carry yourself with dignity and have
respect for yourself and others. And continue to be
a lifelong learner. When you do these things you will
persevere in life’s challenges and you will bear great
fruit. You may think that your school days are winding
down, but there are still years of learning ahead of you.”*

Brian Knueven '05, Commencement Speaker

Class of 2020, I am filled with many fond memories; I, just as you, have gained great friendships and have enjoyed watching each of you grow into uncommon men and women in a far too common world.

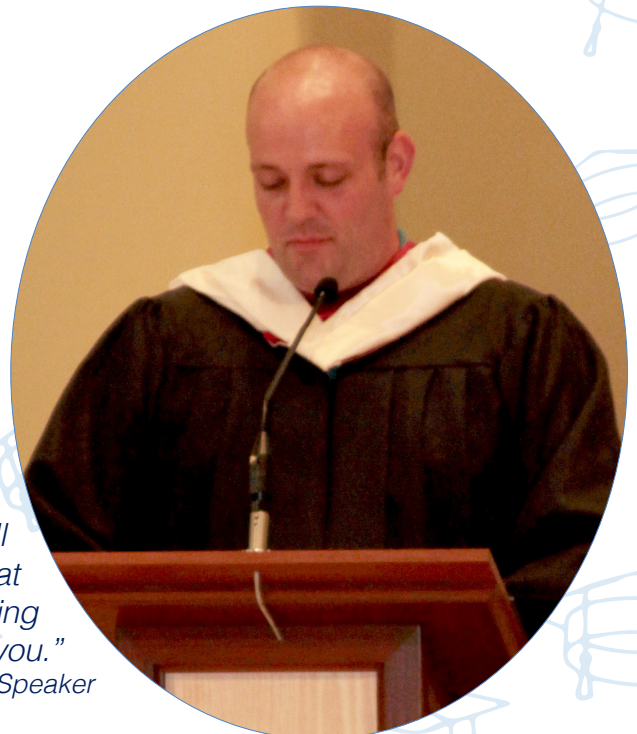
Class of 2020 and family members, you will find that this moment will be filled with joy and some sadness and a time of celebration not only of today’s graduation but of all of the experiences you have had together.

Family, friends and guests, I had the fortunate opportunity to join this class on their senior retreat and share with them my witness talk. During that time of fellowship, I wanted each student to know that they are never truly alone in this journey and the next phases of their lives.

We highlight all the time that we are a family here at OA. That bond began once you stepped foot onto this campus; you became a part of the OA family. You have never been alone during these past four years and here in just a few moments you will become a part of a larger family as an Oldenburg Academy Alum. Know that you can always rely on your Oldenburg family as you will always be a part of something larger than yourselves.

Thank you for 4 memorable years!! And I look forward to seeing and hearing about the next chapter of your lives.

Principal Brian McFee





Valedictorian Elizabeth Mullen '20

“...Today looks a little different than what we all imagined. Whether you imagined it 4 years ago, 1 year ago, or even just 6 months ago, I’m sure you did not envision graduation quite like this. When I used to envision this day, I thought I would have a lot more to say. I thought I could send the Class of 2020 into the next phase of our lives with wisdom and certainty.

To be fair, kids always think they know more than they really do, and part of growing up is learning that there is always more learning to be done. So, today, in a world characterized by uncertainty, let’s focus on what we do know.

First, every one of the students I see today has grown immensely in the past 4 years... We have each solved a collection of problems and overcome tough challenges... Take a moment to be proud of the growth that we have accomplished in 4 short years and welcome the growth that is coming as we enter into the next phase of our lives.

Next, we are about to gain much independence. For the past 18 years, our parents and teachers have helped us achieve great things by molding us into great people. They supported us and tried to push us in the right direction. We did not always like the direction that they were pushing us, but it has made us into who we are today. There is good and bad news, though. Past this point, parents and teachers will have less influence on us and our success... With the independence we gain today, we are gaining the responsibility of defining and seeking success for ourselves. Parents, teachers, and old friends will still be there to support us in this, but we need to take advantage of this independence to find our own place in the world, whether or not it is what others expect of us.

Finally, I would like to note that recently, we all may have seen some people in our communities seem to express disregard for the safety of others or even hatred towards them. Seeing others act this way can spark confusion, judgment, and distrust. I believe that this reaction only leads to more awful things in the world. Instead, let’s remember that each of us is created in God’s image, and, therefore, every person is essentially good. And even when people stumble and make mistakes, it is our job to love, not judge. This will be true even when we do not have to wear masks or hold signs reminding others that every person’s life matters.

So, Class of 2020, while we all face a world filled with uncertainty, I urge you to remember these truths. That we have grown immensely and will continue to grow as we enter this new phase of our lives. That we have been molded into great individuals, and we now get to choose how to use our greatness in the world. And finally, that we must face the world with love of our neighbors in our hearts. Remember these, and I believe we will all do great things.” *(Lightly edited for length)*

Salutatorian Henry Meyer '20

“... I see a group of people who became adults, graduated, and moved on to their next great steps of life in a historically tumultuous time. We have achieved so much as a student body, while also experiencing a global pandemic, an increasingly divisive world, and even the modern continuation of the civil rights movement. So much has happened in such a short amount of time that it almost feels like we have not had even a brief moment for ourselves...

High school is finally over and, no matter if that is a positive or negative realization for you, it is time for the next phase of our stories. We are now a part of the future of everything from this moment on. I look at you all and see a group of young men and women that are part of the generation that is going to foster positive and powerful change to the rapidly evolving reality of the world we live in. Although, to do this, we need to recognize the fact that we ALL must become the best possible versions of the people we are. To TRULY make the world a better place for everyone in it, we can’t hide behind a facade to fit in with a group of people or make it seem like you’re someone different than who you are. To impact the world, speak out for what you believe in, let your voice be heard, make a stance, and show the world who you really are.

I know that if most of you are like me, you didn’t really want to be here today. I feel we all rather would have liked to have been together back in May, been given our diplomas, and sent out into the real world. But I guess the real world had different plans... I’ll make the rest of this short with a quote from Kurt Vonnegut’s novel *Mother Night*. “We are what we pretend to be, so we must be careful about what we pretend to be.” To the Class of 2020, I urge you to not pretend to be something that you are not, otherwise the world will never see the light of change.”



Elizabeth Mullen

Henry Meyer

GO BEYOND



GRAND OPENING HILLENBRAND FAMILY FELDHAUS

We are all learning a lot these days about patience, perseverance and faith. And while this sentiment applies to much in our day to day lives, the Hillenbrand Family Feldhaus is also testimony that even an extraordinary vision can eventually come to fruition! Some members of the OA community may recall that shortly after the Academy welcomed young men to join us back in 2000, discussions began about how our facilities needed to expand to serve a growing number and diversity of students and their curricular and co-curricular needs. The first of many plans were drawn up – and though it took almost 20 years, we think it was worth waiting for. One of our goals of this project was to raise the profile of Oldenburg – the village as well as the school. We believe this beautiful Feldhaus is already doing just that.

The Feldhaus is the first major building to be built by the Academy in over 50 years. A capital campaign was launched in March of 2017 to raise funds. A ground-breaking ceremony was held in October of 2018 but site complications stalled excavation work until April of 2019. The building was 98% complete this past March when COVID-19 struck. The final touches were completed in early July and the grand opening was held on August 3, 2020.

With over 10,000 sq ft of air conditioned playing surface and a 900-person seating capacity, a huge entrance lobby/gathering space, a spacious mezzanine overlooking the court, men's and women's locker rooms, an ample concession stand and modern accessible restrooms, this facility will serve OA and the larger community for decades to come. The façade mirrors the exterior of the main academic building and auditorium creating a harmonious and visually appealing addition to our picturesque campus. The lobby is both beautiful and functional as it features two large graphic panels showcasing examples of the Academy spirit through the decades, digital projection of the Ammann-Brinkmoeller Athletic Hall of Fame and upcoming events/ sponsorships, and live streaming of the game. Above this wall is printed the opening stanza of the Alma Mater that begins: "Come all ye friends of our loved alma mater..."

There are so many people to acknowledge and thank – this facility is truly the embodiment of the hard work, dedication, and unflinching belief of many. The Sisters must be first on this list for

without their courage and fortitude to found, maintain, and sponsor the Academy for over 168 years, none of this would ever be. Their gift of the land to build on and the deeding of the other school buildings and grounds were true "leadership gifts" that launched our campaign.

We were blessed with great architects (Steed, Hammond and Paul), builders (Bruns-Gutzwiller), and so many individual companies that stepped up and provided their services, expertise, resources, and guidance.

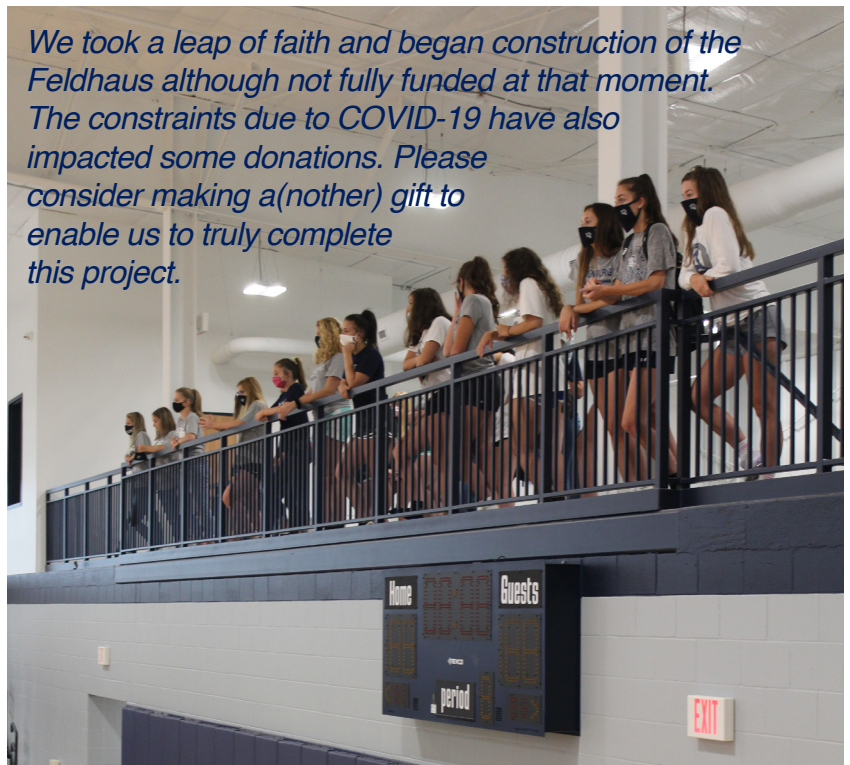
Special thanks to: New Point Stone/Wanstrath Family, Hirt & Ellco, Chris Geis Electronics, Chad Miles/ETC, Stone Studio, Keith Moenter/Delta Faucet, Alumni Association, Freudenfest Committee, Friendship Bank and the Build Committee – Angie Harmeyer '86, Roger Kirschner, Patrick Kolks '10, Diane Laake, Darryl Maslar, Brian McFee, Todd Reed, Ray Ronnebaum, Anne Suttmann '97, and Mike Wilhelm -- who brought insight, expertise, tenacity and vision to bring this project from inception to reality.

We are blessed in this community to have an extraordinary spirit of service and generosity. The Hillenbrand Family Foundations have been the undisputed leaders and role models in supporting the dreams and aspirations of individuals, non-profits and the local community for decades. It's hard to imagine what Batesville/Oldenburg would be without them? They came forward early on with leadership gifts of support that gave us the confidence to move forward with this project. We could not have done this without you!

There are so many additional individuals and entities that have supported us by their prayers, words of encouragement, and generous financial gifts. Please know how grateful we are now and current and future generations of students and their families will be for your support.

When we begin a major endeavor we should always be mindful that the original dreams and goals may shift "during flight". Who could have imagined that the Feldhaus would play a major role in OA's capacity to be able to open school during a pandemic? As we struggled with how to welcome, educate and feed our students in a safe and socially distant manner, we realized that the Feldhaus provided us ample space to accomplish these priorities. Lunch is served out of





We took a leap of faith and began construction of the Feldhaus although not fully funded at that moment. The constraints due to COVID-19 have also impacted some donations. Please consider making a(nother) gift to enable us to truly complete this project.

the concession stand; the juniors and seniors are able to spread out in the bleachers and mezzanine to eat; the lobby serves as a wonderful meeting space and overflow classroom. What a blessing!

Currently we are permitted to have reduced capacity (max 250) home volleyball games. We are hopeful that continued vigilance in observing the CDC guidelines will result in a winter basketball season and the annual Dinner Auction Gala which is scheduled to be held in the Feldhaus in February. As our "school tagline" this year announces, OA has always been committed to "Go Beyond" the ordinary and the mediocre. We set our sights above and beyond, striving for continued excellence. We look forward to all the ways the Feldhaus will empower and inspire us to continue this legacy and mission!



Follow us on social media & at oldenburgacademy.org/feldhaus for more photos and to see all the ways we are using this space

2019-20 STUDENT SUCCESSES

ACADEMICS

- 1 Lilly Endowment Finalist
- **1 Next Generation Hoosier Educator**
- 1 National Merit Commended Student
- 19 Earned STGEC (State Transfer General Education Core) through Ivy Tech
- **2 Graduates Earned an Associates through Ivy Tech**
- Class of 2020 are pursuing post-secondary education in 29 different schools in 8 states
- Class of 2020 earned **\$5.7 million in college scholarships**
- 64% of graduates earned Indiana Academic Honors Diplomas
- **First place at Maverick Challenge Regional Competition**
- First Place at Regional Innovate WithIN Competition at Ball State University
- 3rd Place at State Innovate WithIN Competition
- **Student photo and story featured in the New York Times publication**
- College-to-Career Readiness Program
- **100% of seniors participated in a semester-long internship and/or capstone project**
- 57 career guest speakers on campus throughout the school year
- **28 different partnering organization participated in our internships**
- 4 students completed capstone projects
- **18 colleges and universities visited campus** to talk with students during REACH
- OA Mural featured in Spring magazine – student led capstone project

SPORTS

- **Sectional Champs** – Boys Basketball
- **Sectional Champs – Girls Soccer – 3rd consecutive year**
- 2 students advanced to **semi-state** in Cross Country
- **First female kicker for OA football team**
- Indiana **Academic All Team** Award – Girls Volleyball
- 4 OA Alumni and OASIS founders inducted into the **OA Athletic Hall of Fame**
- 5 students sign to play **collegiate sports**: Jacob Johnson – Bethel University, Basketball; Alyssa Krekeler – Hanover College, Softball; Allison Storms – Centre College, Soccer; Kathryn Wilder – DePauw University, Tennis; Sam Mahoney – Trine University, Soccer

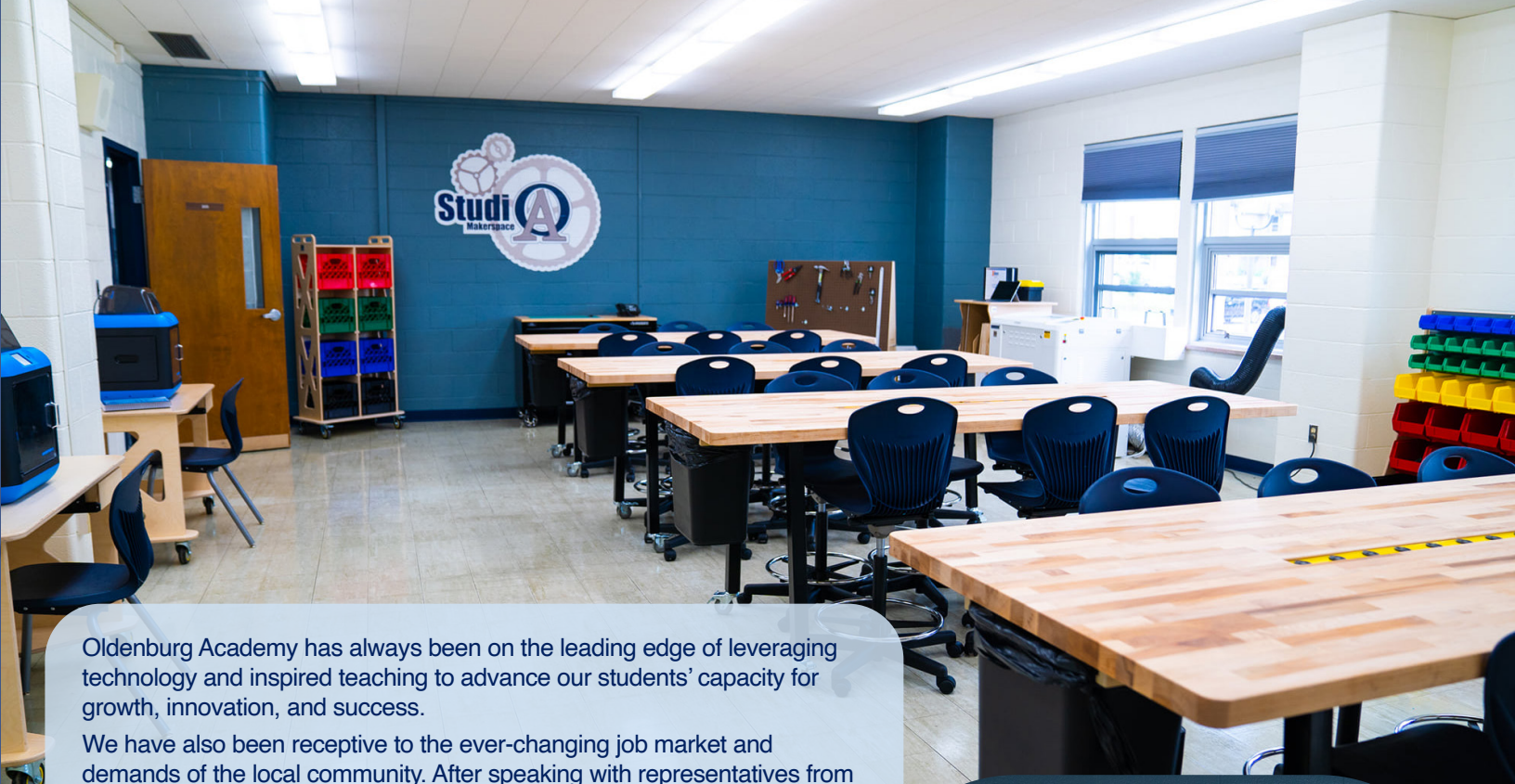
FINE ARTS

- **ISSMA Regional Instrumental** – Class 2 – 2 gold in cello
- **ISSMA State Vocal and Piano** – 5 gold and 2 silver in vocal / 2 gold in piano
- **Scholastic Art and Writing Awards** – 4 Gold Key, 3 Silver Key, and 4 Honorable Mention
- **BAAC Young Artist Showcase**: Drama – **2 trophies**, 5 ribbons; Music – **4 trophies**, 6 ribbons; Art – **4 trophies**, 10 ribbons
- **Regional Youth Artist Patriotic Award – First, Second, and Third awards**

Service

- March for Life – in Washington D.C. and 78 students attended service and walk in Indianapolis
- **Minnesota Retreat** – 8 students and faculty participated
- **First village-wide OA service project** – raked leaves throughout Oldenburg – collaborative activity with Ripley County Community Foundation's Ripley Youth Outreach and Red Ribbon Week.
- National Honor Society placed **"Blessing Boxes"** outside local food pantry using recycled newsstands filled with toiletries
- **Holidays Under the Spires** – Oldenburg community event led by OA's National Business Honor Society
- 4 seniors and a staff member selected to go on Franciscan **Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi** with Roger Bacon High School in Cincinnati
- **Class of 2020 provided 3000+ hours of service and volunteer hours**
- 22 seniors earned Centennial Service Award for 100 or more hours of service





Oldenburg Academy has always been on the leading edge of leveraging technology and inspired teaching to advance our students' capacity for growth, innovation, and success.

We have also been receptive to the ever-changing job market and demands of the local community. After speaking with representatives from area business and industries, including Hillenbrand, Batesville (Casket), Batesville Tool & Die, and others, they affirmed that the demands on high schools and their classrooms need to continue to evolve. OA has a comprehensive internship program that provides hands-on experience in the manufacturing sector; however, students need to have opportunities to cultivate manufacturing, problem-solving skills and explore opportunities in order to enhance and build the local workforce.

Our next giant leap in preparing our students for success was to renovate an existing classroom into a flexible learning Makerspace where students work collaboratively on projects that encourage using creative solutions to explore integrating science, technology, engineering, art and math. Funds were needed to purchase flexible furniture, tools such as 3D printers and laser cutters, electronics and robotics kits, and teacher curriculum integration materials.

Through the generosity of many attendees at February's Dinner Auction and the Rising Sun and Ripley County Regional Foundations, OA was able to secure the funding needed to create this exciting new space. We are very grateful!

Ruth Heile '20 designed the logo (right) designating this room, "StudiOA". A list of donors can be found in the Annual Report insert.



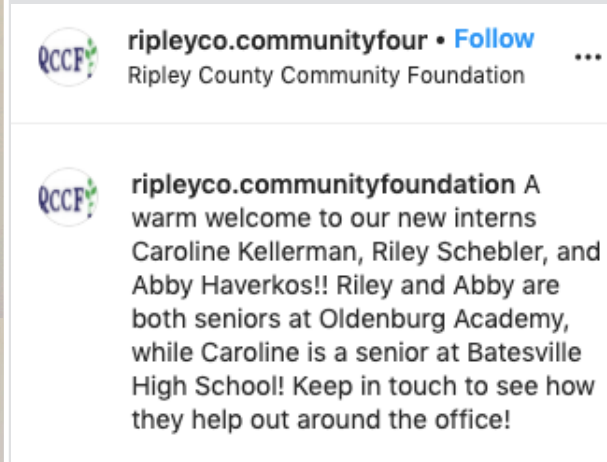
Thank you to our Campus Partners for helping OA Go Beyond!

2020-2021 Internship Partners for the First Semester

ANS
Cook Performance
Decatur County Memorial Hospital
Diversified Services

Global Atlantic
Krueger Maddox Greenhouse
The Morel Company
Ripley County Community Foundation

Safe Passage
St. Andrews Health Campus
St. Michael's Catholic School
Whitewater Publications



Take out Tuesday Partners



Without community partners like Batesville Tool & Die we would not have had such a smooth transition back to school. The plexiglass dividers they donated give our students the opportunity to still work collaboratively in StudiOA. Thanks so much to the Friends of OA who are always working to Go Beyond in their community.



WEDDINGS IN THE SISTERS' CHAPEL

Krystle Kraus '03 and Justin Pollick - August 17, 2019
Chelsi Eckstein '13 and Cory Billman - October 5, 2019
Erin Gish '09 and Casey Pierson - October 19, 2019
Brian Knueven '05 and Jill Kuntz '06 - November 23, 2019
John Kuntz '09 and Kayla Hash - June 6, 2020
May Hetzer '13 and Peter Lamping '13 - August 1, 2020
Charlie Ruberg '07 and Linda Brozyna - August 15, 2020

HAPPY 105TH BIRTHDAY

Martha Volk Hotel '35
Saturday, September 5, 2020



IN LOVING MEMORY...

Helen Hellmich Klosterkemper '40
Martha Meltzer Spalding '43
Dorothy Bersch '44
Velma Deffner Dieckmann '47
Audrey Brockman Brown '48
Sr. Rita Vukovic OSF '48
Regina Fehlinger Hoff '53
Mary Dudas Meek '53
JoAnn Murello '53
Darlene Freeland Meyer '54
Sr. Francis Assisi Kennedy OSF '56
Kathy Decker Conrad '57
Jane Dietz Fullenkamp '57
Viola Schoettelkotte Fullenkamp '57
Delores Glaub Litzinger '58
Janice Nobbe Roberts '59
Jeanette Gehring Lamping '60
Janet Barnhorst Meyer '61
Sr. Alice Retzner OSF '61
Darla Fichtner Benz '63
Sr. Pat Bietsch OSF '63
Mary Miner Donahue '63
Walita Weber '63
Susan Doll Blackburn '64
Mary Flaherty '71
Janice Uhlman '71
Susan Lampert Batta '77
Sr. Francis Joan Clements OSF Honorary Alum
Sr. Helen Eckrich OSF Honorary Alum

OA/ICA ALUMNI HOMECOMING CANCELLED

Dear Alumni,

In consideration of the continuing uncertainty with the current COVID-19 pandemic and the statewide restrictions, Homecoming as we all know it, will not take place this year.

The safety and well-being of all those involved must remain our top priority.

The good news is we are not forgetting about our anniversary classes.

We plan to combine the 2020 and 2021 anniversary class celebrations at next year's Homecoming on October 9, 2021.

We are eagerly planning a GRAND celebration for Homecoming 2021.

So stay tuned! Stay safe!

CANCELLED
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GIVING THAT “GOES BEYOND”

There are many ways to make a lasting gift and one that has an immediate impact for Oldenburg Academy. Recent studies* indicate that despite (or perhaps in spite of) the global pandemic, philanthropic responses have increased, not decreased. Today, more than ever, OA relies upon the generous financial support of our friends, families and partners to continue our mission. Here are just a few ways you might consider...

- Gifts of stocks and bonds. Donating appreciated securities is an easy and tax-effective way for you to support OA
- Gifts of retirement assets. Make donating part or all of your unused retirement assets or required minimum distribution from your IRA, 401(k), 403(b), pension or other tax-deferred plan an annual and simple way to make a gift to OA.
- Make a bequest in your will or trust. Is the Academy part of your estate plan?

IMMEDIATE IMPACT GIFTS:

- Establish a scholarship in honor or memory of someone, or as a graduating class. Gifts of \$1000 to the St. Francis Fund are awarded each spring to needy students.
- Indiana residents may consider a gift to OA through our SGO fund. Donors (individuals or corporations) are eligible for a 50% credit against their state tax liability for contributions made through a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) in addition to their regular federal tax deduction. For example, a \$1000 donation provides OA with enough money to fund 2 \$500 tuition assistance awards to families who qualify. And the donor receives a \$500 credit on their Indiana taxes plus an estimated \$350 credit on their federal taxes. Out of pocket expenses = \$150. A “win-win” for everyone!

For more information on how your gifts can support the future of OA students, please contact Debbie Lamping in the Advancement Office (812.933.0737) or Geraldine Kuntz, Director of Finance (812.933.0860).

**Lilly Family School of Philanthropy*

“Overcoming racism is a demand of justice, but because Christian love transcends justice, the end of racism will mean that our community will bear fruit beyond simply the fair treatment of all.”

United States Catholic Conference of Bishops “Open Wide Our Hearts”

There are many ways to respond to the renewed calls to promote racial justice and healing in our world. As a Franciscan Catholic educational institution, we are blessed that this is at the core of our identity and mission. It has long been one of our Guiding Principles to “Create and sustain an environment where students from all backgrounds are welcomed and respected.”

We are very grateful to the Sisters of St. Francis for a leadership gift to establish a new scholarship fund specifically established to support the expansion of our diversity and inclusion goals. The Diversity and Inclusion Fund will enable us to have resources at the ready as we continue to reach out and welcome students of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds to OA.

**THE
DIVERSITY &
INCLUSION
FUND**

If you would like more information or would like to help OA grow this fund, please contact President Diane Laake for more information.



GO BEYOND

Oldenburg
Academy's
2020-2021

LUCKY BUCK RAFFLE



All proceeds help
fund programs for
OA students!



One Lucky Buck ticket includes 12 months of chances!

There are 67 chances to win!

Winning tickets are put BACK in the hopper to win AGAIN!

\$100 52 Weekly Drawings (every Friday)

\$500 12 Monthly Drawings (last Friday of every month)

\$100 Alumni Drawing (October 10, 2020)

\$1000 Feast of the Immaculate Conception Drawing (December 8, 2020)

\$1000 Feast of the Assumption Drawing (August 15, 2021)

Buy one ticket for \$20 or three tickets for \$50. Triple your chances to win!

Purchase your tickets today!

Visit oldenburgacademy.org for more information



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GO BEYOND