

Alumnae Association | Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School

Alumnae Awards Ceremony

*Celebrate
the impact of Mercy!*

Trocaire Leadership Awards

**Margaret Beirn Barger '35
Distinguished Alumna Award**

Athletic Hall of Fame Award



Saturday, October 22, 2022

About the Alumnae Awards



Celebrate the impact of Mercy!

Trocaire Leadership Awards: Service to the World

Trocaire is the Gaelic word for compassion or mercy. The Trocaire Leaders embody the success and spirit of a Gwynedd Mercy education. They inspire and motivate others, exhibit outstanding leadership in their professional lives and throughout the community, and are committed to personal growth, social responsibility, and global awareness. During the School's 150th Anniversary Celebration, eight women from various fields were honored with the inaugural Trocaire Leadership Awards. Each year since then, women are honored in their fields.

Margaret Beirn Barger '35 Distinguished Alumna Award: Service to the School

This annual award is named for Margaret Beirn Barger, a 1935 graduate of the Academy of the Sisters of Mercy, who had a life-long dedication to the Alumnae Association. Margaret served as the backbone of the organization for more than 50 years. In the past, this award was given to graduates who represented commitment to the works of Mercy. Today, this award recognizes alumnae who epitomize the qualities of loyalty, service, dedication, and devotion to the School, all demonstrated by Margaret.

Athletic Hall of Fame Award

The Athletic Hall of Fame at Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School was established to preserve the School's successful athletic history, to honor outstanding athletes, teams, and coaches, and to inspire young women to compete with perseverance and the utmost Mercy Spirit. The Hall also is an extension of the School's Athletic Wall of Fame, installed in the Maria Lutz McHugh'46 Gymnasium in 2010 during the School's 150th Anniversary.

Reunion 2022

Alumnae Awards Ceremony

Welcome

Erin Reimel '12

Director of Alumnae Engagement

Denise Corkery Marbach '72, P'05, '09
President

Melva Exner, Esq. '77

Alumnae Association

Awards Committee Chair, Board of
Trustees member

Presentation of Awards

Trocaire Leadership Awards

Margaret Beirn Barger '35
Distinguished Alumna Award
Athletic Hall of Fame Award

Recognition of Alumnae Board

Emerita Member

Singing of Alma Mater

Mix and Mingle Reception

**Gather with classmates,
family, and friends.**

*Cocktails and light fare served
immediately following the awards
ceremony. Reconnect and mingle
while exploring the familiar red
and gold corridors.*



Trocaire Leadership Awards

Kelley Malott DeConciliis '99
Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer

Erica Weiler-Timmins,
Ph.D., A.B.P.P. '89
Education

Lt. Col. Dianna DiToro,
D.P.T., U.S.M.C.R. '97
Government/Legal

Alison McGrorty-Crotts,
M.D., M.P.H. '04
Healthcare/Science/Technology

Mackenzie Dougherty Driscoll '04
Philanthropy/Nonprofit

Margaret Beirn Barger '35 Distinguished Alumna Award: Service to the School

Kristin Kane Ford '00

Athletic Hall of Fame Award

Emily McCauley '12

Special Recognition for the Alumnae Association Board's first Emerita Member

Kathleen Roeder, M.D. '60

Kelley Malott DeConciliis '99

2022 Trocaire Leadership Award: Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer

Kelley Malott DeConciliis serves as Chief Operating Officer at Special Aerospace Security Services Inc. (SASSI), a Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB) in Chantilly, VA focused on delivering national security mission solutions to the U.S. Government. As an “exfiltration expert” operating within the Intelligence Community, Kelley led multiple operations to get families, allies of the U.S., and young female students out of Afghanistan. She also served as Chairman of the Board of Directors at International Stability Operations Association (ISOA), a global non-profit association representing over 150 government contractor companies in the stability sector operating in high-threat, unstable environments, specifically in the Middle East and Africa. Kelley devotes her time in mentoring national security graduate students at the Institute of World Politics (IWP) in Washington, DC as an Advisory Board Member.

Kelley has spent 20 years as a trusted advisor on counter-bioterrorism, exfiltrations, expeditionary medicine, health IT, emergency preparedness, and disaster response experience within international and government sectors. Prior to SASSI, she served as Vice President of International Operations at Comprehensive Health Services (CHS), providing expeditionary medical services to the Department of State in Baghdad, Iraq and Kabul, Afghanistan. She managed the second largest supply chain for PEPFAR (President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) at USAID to over 16 countries throughout Africa, and provided medical services to the world’s largest health care system under Defense Health Agency (DHA) which is comprised of 60 Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) around the globe, Forward Operating Bases (FOBs), detention centers, as well as the White House Medical Unit.

In her twenties, she worked for Microsoft Corporation under Bill Gates’ Research and Development Sector. After 9/11, she served as Inter-Agency Liaison at Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC on the “Federal ER One Project,” a national prototype for the next generation “all risks ready” emergency department working with Department of Homeland Security—Biodefense. Her background experience also includes counter-bioterrorism training and simulation for clinicians and first-responders during Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI). DeConciliis holds a neuro-psychology degree from The Catholic University of America. She has been featured as a national security expert and exfiltration commentator for CNN, Fox News, and The Washington Post, and she holds a Top Secret Clearance. Kelley resides in Aldie, Virginia with her husband, Matt, and three children: Wyatt (6), William (6), and Adeline (4).



When I graduated from GMA in 1999 and headed off to The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, I had such an amazing foundation in my education. I have been blessed with lifelong friends who have been woven into the fabric of my life and the lives of my children. Gwynedd encouraged my creativity with Glee Club and school plays and my giving back to others with Ministry Club. The Kairos retreat was such an amazing experience that I hold close in my core memories. A school that celebrates strong, smart, well-rounded female students formed who I am as a person, businesswoman, mother, wife, and advocate today. I am a mother to three amazing children under six years old. I married my best friend who is my biggest cheerleader in life. I manage a company that supports the national security of our great nation, while still being able to give my time and advocacy to non-profit organizations. My hope is for women to build pathways for girls looking to make a difference in the national security sector.

Erica Weiler-Timmins, Ph.D., A.B.P.P. '89

2022 Trocaire Leadership Award: Education

Erica Weiler-Timmins is the Director of Psychological Services and Training at Milton Hershey School, the largest residential school in the United States, serving students from pre-K through 12th grade who come from families of low income. As director, Erica provides administrative and clinical leadership and supervision for the Department of Psychological Services which includes clinical services, behavioral health services, contracted psychiatric services, and contracted drug and alcohol services. Erica is also the Director of Training for the Doctoral Psychology Internship program, which is nationally accredited by the American Psychological Association. Erica is passionate about abuse prevention, suicide prevention, and diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ). She has been an Act 126, Child Abuse Recognition, and Reporting Trainer for ten years. Erica serves on the DEI Advisory Team at Milton Hershey School and the DEIJ Advisory Committee at Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School.

While at Gwynedd, Erica decided that she wanted to pursue a career of service for children and youth who experienced adversity and trauma. Gwynedd's core values of compassion, justice, service, and respect for the dignity of all persons helped to solidify Erica's decision to devote her career to serving others. Following her graduation from GMA, she earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Loyola College in Maryland, which solidified her decision to pursue a career as a psychologist with a focus on children and youth from families of low income. She earned her master's and doctoral degrees in school psychology from Temple University. Erica obtained her Board Certification in School Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology in 2003. She was a recipient of Temple University School Psychology's Alumni Award in 2004.

Early in Erica's professional career, she became involved in presenting, publishing, and leading in professional associations to advocate for others. Erica served as Co-Chair of the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues Committee of the National Association of School Psychologists from 2004 to 2007 and served as its Chair from 2007 to 2008. She was the Board Secretary for the American Academy of School Psychology from 2014 to 2019 and an adjunct professor in the Doctoral School Psychology program at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine from 2016 to 2019. Given her passion in child abuse prevention, she served on the Board of Directors at Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance from 2014 to 2020 and was the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors from 2015 to 2020. She has published and presented extensively in the areas of abuse prevention, safe and affirmative schools, diversity, and suicide prevention.



I am very honored to receive the Trocaire Leadership Award from Gwynedd Mercy Academy. The education and experience that I had at Gwynedd was the catalyst for my decision to pursue a career of service with underserved populations.

The encouragement and guidance that I received from my teachers, particularly from Sister Maureen Quigley, and the support of my classmates helped me to gain the confidence to reach for challenging goals and to persevere.

I am thankful for my parents for being wonderful role models and for making my education at Gwynedd a priority. A special thank you to my beloved family, sister, and friends for cheering me on throughout my journey. I am blessed to have you in my life.

Lt. Col. Dianna DiToro, D.P.T., U.S.M.C.R. '97

2022 Trocaire Leadership Award: Government/Legal



Lieutenant Colonel Dianna DiToro, D.P.T., U.S.M.C.R. '97 has served as a United States Marine Corps (USMC) officer and as a government civilian for over 20 years. Dianna attended the USMC Officer Candidate School in 1998 while attending Old Dominion University and received her commission to second lieutenant in May 2002. Dianna trained in air support control and served two deployments during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2005-2006, during her second tour in Iraq as a first lieutenant, she was responsible for airspace over the Marine's area of operation (ground to 17,000 ft elevation), leading a dedicated team to accomplish that mission.

After deployment, Dianna worked at Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron-1, the Marine Corps' version of the Navy's "Top Gun" School where she attended and supported the rigorous Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course. Before completing her tour at MAWTS, she also earned a master's degree in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University. In 2008 Dianna left active duty to be a USMC Reservist to follow her husband, Major Tom Budrejko, USMC, a Cobra helicopter pilot. She gave birth to their son, Andrew in 2009. While in the Reserves, she served as a detachment commander and earned a master's degree in Exercise Science from California University of Pennsylvania in 2011, and later a doctorate in Physical Therapy from University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences in 2014. Tragedy struck in February 2012 when her husband was killed in a mid-air helicopter collision. With the support of many, including some of her closest "Gwynedd girl" friends, she buried her husband with dignity and continued to live her life while raising their son.

After several years of balancing being a Reservist, physical therapist, and a single parent, Major DiToro accepted orders in 2016 to return to active duty, this time in Stuttgart, Germany. There, she worked as part of the planning team at Marine Forces Europe and Africa that relocated Marines known as the "Black Sea Rotational Forces" from Romania to Norway.

In 2018, Dianna accepted a government civilian position to support the health and fitness policy at USMC Headquarters in Quantico, VA where she was also selected to attend the prestigious Command and Staff College. Successfully completing this program in 2019, Lt.Col. DiToro returned to active duty, reassigned to Marine Forces Europe and Africa as a planner. In 2020, she was assigned to the newly established US Space Command (SPACECOM) where she was chosen to serve as the first director of the SPACECOM Joint Integrated Space Team (JIST) to US Africa Command (AFRICOM). Lt.Col. DiToro set up the procedures, relationships, and activities required to integrate the needs and capabilities of SPACECOM with that of AFRICOM. Out of the nine teams positioned in combatant commands around the globe, she was the only one-person department and the only woman to lead such an effort, earning her the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. Currently, Dianna is serving in the newly formed civilian position of deputy director of the JIST in Stuttgart, Germany. Dianna was recently selected as the commanding officer of Marine Air Control Squadron-24, a role in which she will oversee approximately 400 Marines in Virginia Beach, VA and Fort Worth, TX.

I was rendered speechless when I learned of my nomination for this award. I hardly believed the words on my screen as I read the email stating that I had been selected as a Trocaire Award recipient. I am humbled to be in the same company as many pillars of our communities who share our Alma Mater.

At GMA, I learned how to study and learned some of my foundational values. While I often fell short of what was expected while I was in high school, I knew and saw the example of what was possible when excellence was pursued. I saw women around me with fantastic work ethics towards academics, athletics, and community service and never forgot the examples they set before me. I learned these lessons both from our teachers and my peers. It is my hope that I have served and will continue to serve with the heart of a Mercy girl. Please accept my deepest gratitude and appreciation.

Alison McGrorty-Crotts, M.D., M.P.H. '04

2022 Trocaire Leadership Award: Healthcare/Science/Technology

Alison McGrorty-Crotts, M.D., M.P.H. '04 is a board-certified pediatrician for the City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH). She dedicates her practice to treating the most vulnerable patient populations in North and South Philadelphia.

While at Temple University, Alison earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Sciences and Disorders, a minor in Spanish, a place on the University Dean's List and the Honors College Director's List, and membership in the Alpha Epsilon Delta and Rho Lambda societies. Pursuing her degree at Temple University School of Medicine, she started the first student-run HIV clinic in Philadelphia to visit homeless shelters and substance use recovery homes to provide free rapid HIV testing to patients. She also volunteered at the Mazzoni Center to provide STI screening and treatment to the vulnerable LGBTQ+ community and spent her final year of medical school in Nepal for several months, providing medical care as the lead physician at a remote medical outpost in Kolma Village in the Annapurna Mountains. Alison completed her pediatric residency at Thomas Jefferson University/Nemours-A.I duPont Hospital for children.

Since working for PDPH, Alison has cared for patients facing food and housing insecurity, aided her undocumented patients as they feared deportation in 2016, and protested with patients when the Black Lives Matter movement ignited. She cares for victims of gun violence and mourns their loss to that epidemic. Most recently she has worked with Afghan and Ukrainian patients as they fled their countries and immigrated to Philadelphia.

At the start of the COVID pandemic, Alison saw an opportunity to help the struggling community at Strawberry Mansion Health Center in north Philadelphia. She created a food and necessities market within the health center, Strawberry Market, a completely free and dignity-preserving free range shopping opportunity offering products that would be found on the shelves of any store. The market has become a gateway for the social work team to assist patients in accessing more long-term food, housing, and insurance assistance. In 2021, Alison partnered with the Gwynedd Mercy Alumnae Association to collect goods for the market, which is primarily stocked by GMAHS alumnae.

In 2022, Dr. McGrorty-Crotts graduated with highest honors from Temple University College of Public Health with her Master's in Public Health—Health Policy and Management. In her spare time, Alison enjoys every minute she has with her three children and husband. She also loves to binge watch any show that Bravo has to offer.



It is truly an honor to be awarded with the Trocaire Leadership Award in Healthcare. I knew at four years old that medicine was my destiny. The education and environment imparted to me at Gwynedd Mercy provided a vital foundation needed on my journey. Catherine McAuley knew the importance of educating women and the strength they possessed to make great change in this world; I plan to make those great changes. I work every day to help those less fortunate and to speak up when faced with injustices in our world. As Catherine McAuley said, "Let us take one day only in hands at a time. Resolve to do good today and better tomorrow." I thank my parents for always prioritizing education and adventure above all else. I thank my brother and sister for being my greatest cheerleaders. And I thank my husband, Russell, who has supported and encouraged me no matter what crazy idea I put in front of him. They are my team, my dream makers.

Mackenzie Dougherty Driscoll '04

2022 Trocaire Leadership Award: Philanthropy/Nonprofit



Mackenzie Dougherty Driscoll is the Vice President of Marketing and Communications at UNICEF USA, the United States national committee of UNICEF, which rallies the American public to support the world's most vulnerable children. UNICEF works in more than 190 countries and territories to pursue a more equitable world for every child by providing health care and immunizations, safe water and sanitation, nutrition, education, emergency relief, and more. In her role, Mackenzie oversees external communications for UNICEF USA by leading all public relations for News and Emergencies, Thought Leadership, and Entertainment and Sports Marketing, including the USA Goodwill Ambassador program.

Prior to UNICEF USA, Mackenzie was the Director of Communications for Autism Speaks, the nation's leading nonprofit supporting the autism community. In this role, Mackenzie developed and executed national communications campaigns to advance Autism Speaks' mission by sharing stories across the autism spectrum and throughout the lifespan, while communicating strategic objectives, progress, and impact.

Before entering the nonprofit sector, Mackenzie worked in the world of corporate fashion and retail for brands including Armani, Shopbop, Urban Outfitters, and most notably Gap where she was the PR Director for five years, managing the US communications team, overseeing press and influencer strategy, seasonal campaigns, cause marketing, and events. Mackenzie started her career supporting clients like Target and Adidas Originals at the PR agency LaForce where she accepted a job offer following her graduation from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC with a bachelor's degree in Media Studies.

Mackenzie's shift into philanthropy was triggered by significant personal and health obstacles she overcame in 2019. A month after the death of her father, Mackenzie was diagnosed with Stage 1 triple negative breast cancer at the age of 33. In an effort to bring awareness to the disease, her BRCA 1 gene mutation, and to build strength through vulnerability, Mackenzie chronicled her treatment journey at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center on social media and became a supporter of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF). In addition to sharing her story with *O, the Oprah Magazine* and *Glamour*, Mackenzie was the face of Gap's charitable partnership with the BCRF. This challenging time empowered her to forge a more rewarding life, both personally and professionally, starting with her role at Autism Speaks which was dedicated to her brother Mikie, who is profoundly autistic.

After living in New York City for over a dozen years, Mackenzie returned to Bucks County in 2020 with her husband David to be closer to family and for more space in the work-from-home era. They currently reside in Newtown, PA and just recently welcomed their son Luke on August 8, 2022.

It's an honor to receive the Trocaire Leadership Award in Philanthropy. I'm incredibly grateful to my Mercy sisters for the nomination along with the past and present Gwynedd Mercy staff for leading by example over the years.

Attending Gwynedd Mercy Academy offered me a world of opportunity through the character traits that were instilled in me throughout my four years. Beyond traditional education, we were given the chance to find personal growth and development—long before female empowerment was within the popular cultural landscape.

But none of this would have been possible without my mother, Tina, and late father, Michael, who encouraged me to apply to Gwynedd and made the financial commitment when I was lucky enough to be accepted. They saw the leader in me before anyone else—including myself.

And lastly, thank you to my husband David who supports me endlessly and always tells me my dreams are possible—against all odds, including our newborn son, Luke.

Kristin Kane Ford '00

Margaret Beirn Barger '35 Distinguished Alumna Award: Service to the School

Kristin Kane Ford '00 is a Partner and the Director of Marketing with Kane Partners LLC. In 2010, she launched the social media division, which has grown into a boutique digital marketing agency. Kristin and her team develop brand marketing communications for small to mid-sized companies. She has been a returning guest on NBC with Tracy Davidson and ABC Action News as a subject matter expert for career and social media related content. She has been featured in Forbes, CBS, KYW, Women to Watch Media® with Sue Rocco and *Glamour* magazine. She is a speaker at events and conferences across the country including the Pennsylvania Conference for Women. Kristin is a graduate of Fairfield University where she received her degree in classical studies and studio art.

She is an active member of the Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School community. Currently, Kristin sits on the Leadership Advisory Board, an advisory committee of alumnae who work in an array of professions and industries, work with the program's students to provide real-world insights, guidance, and mentorship. She was also an advisor for the She Is the Future strategic plan initiative and the Gwynedd Force networking platform launch.

Kristin has often returned to GMA to speak at career days and offers her time as a part of the Gwynedd Force Mentorship Program. She has also presented as a part of the Alumnae Speaker Series on topics including the complexities of juggling life, family, and career during a global pandemic and advice and tips for professionals on increasing marketability and skills for employment opportunities in a virtual world. Kristin also moderated the Q&A session of Gwynedd's first Distinguished Speaker Series on Women and Leadership featuring Angela Duckworth, Ph.D.

In 2021, she co-founded the Kellan Ford Foundation after the loss of her five-year-old son, Kellan to brain cancer. Kellan's goal was to raise a billion dollars to cure cancer. The nonprofit works to positively impact the lives of children diagnosed with cancer, while also sharing Kellan's message of "Today I Choose Happiness." The foundation directly funds pediatric research grants. They have collaborated with the Integrative Oncology team at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia to curate a "Happiness Box" inspired by Kellan with tools for at-home supportive therapies including resource cards and educational videos. To support the Kellan Ford Foundation, visit kellanford.com.

Kristin enjoys spending quality time with her husband, Mike, and their son, Parker. She lives by Kellan's motto: "Today I Choose Happiness."



In life there are many opportunities to give back. When it comes to supporting Gwynedd, it has always been an easy "yes" for me. I am honored to be recognized for doing something that I have been happy to do for a community that continues to give so much to others. Over the last two years, I have personally witnessed the power, love, and support of the GMA community. I am grateful to call Gwynedd my family. Thank you to those who have served alongside me, it has been a pleasure.

I'd like to dedicate this award to our community and encourage you to share your time and talents to make Gwynedd the best it can be!

To Gwynedd, thank you for teaching me what it means to say "yes."

Emily McCauley '12

Athletic Hall of Fame Award



Emily's mom, her first and favorite coach, introduced her to the sport of field hockey at a young age and soon discovered that she had a promising skillset. She arrived at GMA for preseason in August of 2008, hoping it would be a great opportunity to make some friends prior to starting at a new school, but it turned into much more.

During Emily's freshman season she made the Varsity team, and quickly earned a starting position as an offensive forward. Throughout her four years, Emily was a pivotal starter for GMA's field hockey team, primarily as a midfielder. As a Monarch, Emily was selected to the All-League Team and earned a spot on the Second Team Regional All-American list. During her senior year, Gwynedd made it to the PIAA District I state tournament. That year she was selected as team captain and Most Valuable Player—an honor she has always held very dear.

While at Gwynedd, Emily participated in many other aspects of the Mercy community. She was president of both the Mock Trial and Health clubs. She also made many lifelong friendships.

While at Gwynedd, Emily worked tirelessly to enhance her field hockey skills. In 2009 she joined the WC Eagles indoor club team, and her development exceeded exponentially. During this time, her team won indoor championships, and individually she won a bronze medal at the National Futures Championships, followed by a Silver medal at the field hockey Junior Olympics.

It was through these accomplishments that Emily was able to catch the eye of many Division I collegiate level coaches. In 2010, Emily accepted an athletic scholarship from Fairfield University.

Emily's accomplishments continued throughout her collegiate career. During her freshman year, she quickly earned her starting position on the team, and gained a spot on the America East All Rookie Team. Throughout her four years

at Fairfield, the team won the MAAC tournament and earned a bid to the NCAA Division I tournament. Emily also continued her development with the USA Field Hockey program. While at Fairfield, she participated in the Under-21 Women's National Championship as well as the USA Field Hockey's Olympic Development Pipeline program.

Since Emily joined Fairfield's team in 2012, several Monarchs have followed in her footsteps. Through her dedication and commitment, Emily helped elevate the field hockey program at GMA. In turn, Emily will always be grateful to GMA for its direction and leadership during her pivotal development years and will always look for ways to give back to the Gwynedd community. Most recently, Emily has become involved in GMA's Gwynedd Force Mentorship Program.

What an honor to receive this award from GMA! Many of my fondest field hockey memories took place as a Monarch. Gwynedd's athletic program inspired me to be the athlete I am today. I am incredibly thankful for the guidance I received from my Gwynedd coaches Marisa Holzman, Deb Lawlor, and Christina Mastropaolo '07. I would also like to thank my teammates; each one of you made me determined to be my best self on and off the field. Most importantly I must thank my parents, sister, and grandfather. These four were my biggest cheerleaders. My parents, especially, opened countless doors for my athletic future. They barely missed a game, and always provided the encouragement I needed to succeed. Thank you to everyone who made this honor possible.

Kathleen Roeder, M.D. '60

Special Recognition for the Alumnae Association Board's first Emerita Member



Kathleen M. Roeder, MD, '60, P'92, '92, GP'14 has been a presence at Gwynedd Mercy Academy since the Fall of 1954 when she received a scholarship to the Academy of the Sisters of Mercy, starting in 7th Grade. (The school was then at the old Byrne Hall at Gwynedd Mercy Jr. College, now demolished.)

A graduate of Temple University Medical School, Dr. Roeder began her medical career working exclusively in the Emergency Rooms of nearby hospitals, primarily Doylestown Hospital. There, she was the Medical Director of the Emergency Department and an active member of the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff. Additionally, she was one of the original physician volunteers for the Ann Silverman Community Health Center, a free medical clinic for the underserved residents of Central Bucks County.

Following college and medical school, Dr. Roeder joined with classmates, Eileen Cairnes Samtmann '60 and Judy McLaughlin Bucko '60, to assist Margaret Biern Barger '35, Ann Diehl Casey '50, and Mary Cunningham '50 with the administration of the Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School Alumnae Association. She has served on the Alumnae Board intermittently for decades. During this time, Dr. Roeder adopted two daughters Katherine Roeder '92 and Amy Roeder Wolfe '92, both of whom graduated from GMAHS.

An esteemed alumna, Dr. Roeder has been honored by Gwynedd Mercy on two occasions, first as recipient of the Margaret Beirn Barger '35 Distinguished Alumna Award for Service to the School in 1998 and then of the Trocaire Award in the category of Healthcare/Science/Technology in 2011.

In 2014, with great pride, Dr. Roeder witnessed the graduation of her eldest granddaughter Alicia Roeder '14 from GMAHS, and she looks forward to the graduation of her other granddaughter Charlotte Wolfe in 2025.

Most recently, in retirement, Dr. Roeder has used her medical expertise, traveling on Medical Missions to overseas countries, promoting the development of clean water and micro-loans for enterprising women. She has also been a member of the GMAHS Board of Trustees since 2016 and currently sits on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusive, and Justice (DEIJ) Advisory Council.

In May 2022, Dr. Roeder announced her retirement from the Alumnae Association Board, which she has staunchly supported for many years. While the Board members will miss her leadership greatly, they are happy to have her remain connected as the first Emerita Member.

It has been my pleasure and pride to serve with the women of the Alumnae Association at Gwynedd for so many years. I precipitously resigned at the last meeting of the Alumnae Board in the spring of 2022, having been on the Board, off and on, for over 62 years—and suddenly I was an Emerita. I'm not sure how that happened.

I am here only because a few courageous and stubborn women refused to allow this Alumnae Association to die. Mary Cunningham '50 and Ann Diehl Casey '50 continued with bake sales, dinner dances, and potluck dinners long after they had lost their appeal and they were joined by my classmates Eileen Cairnes Samtmann '60 and Judy McLaughlin Bucko '60, who kept it going.

But the Alumnae Association and its Board have survived, under the guidance of Karen Price Benson '79, and now Erin Reimel '12. The members updated its bylaws, recruited many new and younger members, and the Association is certainly now thriving. Good things are created and supported by the current Board, including service projects, fund raisers, reunions, the Circle of Mercy Luncheons, and invitations for the graduating seniors to join us and share a "comfortable cup of tea."

The Circle of Mercy is and will always be unbroken and I am proud to have been a small part of its growth over time.

Trocaire Leadership Award Recipients



2021

Allison Zaucha '10

Arts

Julie Eble, Ph.D. '71

Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer

Karalyn McGroarty Derstine, Ed.D '01

Education

Mary Ott, Ph.D. '75

Government/Legal

Clare Cherney, M.D. '75

Healthcare/Science/Technology

Sheila Nolan, M.D. '90

Healthcare/Science/Technology

Kate Daniels Imbesi, Esq. '92

Philanthropy/Nonprofit

Sr. Virginia Hasson, R.S.M. (posthumous)

Religion/Vocation/Volunteer

2019

Elissa Gore '68

Arts

Eileen Maguire Maginnis '75

Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer

Maura McLaughlin, Ph.D. '90

Healthcare/Science/Technology

Lori Fanelli Butrus '79

Religion/Vocation/Volunteer

2018

Catherine Wilson, Ph.D. '90

Education

Lisa Heilbronn, Ph.D. '72

Government/Legal

Angela Amarhanov '08

Philanthropy/Nonprofit

Sr. Rosemary Herron, R.S.M.

Sr. Susan Walsh, R.S.M.

Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Religious

2017

Melissa Maddonni Haims '90

Arts

Ann McKernan Robinson '54

Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer

Julie Tippens, Ph.D. '97

Healthcare/Science/Technology

Rev. Marianne Robbins '75

Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Layperson

2016

Susan Baumher Mitchell, Faculty

Education

Sallyanne Harper '72

Government/Legal

Kristina Wahl '93

Philanthropy/Nonprofit

Sr. Monica Sheehy, R.S.M. '63

Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Religious

2015

Jen Creed Rego '94

Arts

Carolyn Fontaine Davis '97

Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer

Joely Esposito, Psy.D. '88

Healthcare/Science/Technology

Andi Land Healy '80

Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Layperson



2014**Diane Dewhirst '75***Government/Legal***Kristin M. Risi, Ph.D. '87***Education***Teresa Araco Rodgers '91***Philanthropy/Nonprofit***Sr. Cathe Shoulberg, R.S.M. '65***Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Religious***2013****Margaret Walsh Huddy '57***Arts***Joan Murray Reynolds '48***Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer***Mary Ellen Miller, Ph.D., R.N., Past Parent***Healthcare/Science/Technology***Ann Diehl Casey '50***Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Layperson***2012****Mary Higgins Fletcher '77***Government/Legal***Sr. Mary Klock, R.S.M. '48***Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Religious***Kathy Myers, Ph.D.***Education***Corinne O'Connell '93***Philanthropy/Nonprofit***2010-11****Maureen Grogan Colburn '93***Education***Peggy Dolan, Past Parent***Philanthropy/Nonprofit***Rosemary McCarron Flannery, Esq. '39***Government/Legal***Frances Galante '75***Arts***Maureen O'Connell, Ph.D. '91***Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Layperson***Kathleen Roeder, M.D. '60***Healthcare/Science/Technology***Barbara Boyle Sullivan '54***Business/Entrepreneur/Engineer***Sr. Antoinette Zimmerman, R.S.M. '57***Religion/Vocation/Volunteer-Religious*

Margaret Beirn Barger '35 Distinguished Alumna Award

**2021** Michele Corkery Hanes '72 and
Marita Sommar Osborne '66**2019** Nancy Pannepacker McKeaney '64**2018** Cory Clark Shay '95**2017** Melva Exner, Esq. '77**2016** Karen McKeaney '88**2015** Cathy Cunneff Seese '46**2014** Eileen Cairnes Samtmann '60**2013** Carol Chiodo '75**2012** Cindy Antoni Conaway '71**2010** Linda Galante, Esq. '72**2009** Sr. Mary Trainer, R.S.M. '57**2008** Denise Corkery Marbach '72**2007** Mary Jane Leaming Wahl '56**2006** Sr. Peggy Mahoney, R.S.M. '64**2005** Alice Anne Goldkamp Bossow '60**2004** Jean Hepburn Lembach '50**2003** Kathleen (Toots) Cattie Fee '61**2002** Ann Diehl Casey '50**2001** Isabelle (June) McCullough
Bottke '51**2000** Mary Elizabeth Cunningham '50**1999** Kathleen Roeder, M.D. '60**1998** Sr. Mary Klock, R.S.M. '48**1997** Joanne Becker Rovno '57**1996** Sr. Gail deMacedo, R.S.M. '55
(posthumous)**1995** Judy McLaughlin Bucko '60
Peg McKenna Luksik '73**1994** Sr. Elizabeth Marie McCormick,
R.S.M. '32**1993** Nancy Faris Buckley '57**1992** Kate Harper Kelly, Esq. '74

Athletic Hall of Fame Awards

- 2021** Emma Keenan '13
- 2019** Clark Deardorff, Tennis Coach (posthumous)
- 2018** The 1995 Volleyball Team
- 2017** Lori Baiocchi King, Esq. '93
- 2016** Alex Malatesta McMahan, Esq. '05
- 2015** Moira Durkin Tozier '00
Kate Hosterman Tobias
- 2014** The 1962-63 Field Hockey Team
Maisha Palmer Kelly '95
- 2013** Colleen Gleeson Greshock '96
Lauren Morton '04
- 2012** Regina Graham Maioriello '79
The 2000 Swim Team

The Hall of Fame includes all those previously recognized on the 150th Anniversary Wall of Fame unveiled in September 2010.

Maria Lutz McHugh '46 Award for Outstanding Commitment to Gwynedd Mercy Athletics

- 2021** Coach Larry Wilson

2022-23 Alumnae Board

The Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School Alumnae Board, in conjunction with the Advancement Office, plans a variety of events throughout the year to help our Alumnae connect with each other and their Alma Mater. It is with greater support from our Alumnae that we build a sense of community and foster the legacy of Mercy and our lifelong sisterhood.

Anna Skoien Lall '02, *President*
Helena DeBald '10, *Vice President*
Jennifer Kin Cottrell '99, *Secretary*
Bethanne Mascio Connolly '03,
Immediate Past President
Kathleen Roeder, M.D. '60,
Board Member Emerita
Chris Ernst Ball '79
Karen Price Benson '79
Kellie Dunphy Brogan '87
Christine Burke '07
Casey Mulhern Cumiskey '04
Melva Exner, Esq. '77
Mary Kate McNulty Gallo '02
Andrea Geppert '05
Jennifer Cervone Guarnaccia '93
Elizabeth Hasson '18
Caren Cline Johnston '85
Alicia Jones, D.O. '87
Kathryn Ailtmar Kirk '03
Caitlyn Moynahan '11
Marita Sommar Osborne '66
Jenny Prior Schlegel '90
Sahiba Tandon '21

Learn how you can get involved and support your alma mater by visiting gmahs.org/alumnae/getinvolved.

Advancement Office

Colleen Belz Frascatore '89

Director of Advancement
cfrascatore@gmahs.org

Karen Cavacos

Director of Family Engagement
kcavacos@gmahs.org

Colleen Corace Connor '86, P'25

Director of Annual Giving
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Mimi Craig P'90, '93

Director of Advancement Services
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Erin Reimel '12

Director of Alumnae Engagement
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Caitlin Fitzgerald Straub '01

Engagement Coordinator
cstraub@gmahs.org



Save the Date!

Saturday,
February 25, 2023



Let the
Shenanigans
Continue

*Join our
Irish-themed pub
night celebrating
our girls. Wear
your green and
your jeans.*

All parents, alumnae, family, faculty, staff
and friends are invited.

Show your support and be part of a fun night!

gmahs.org/shenanigans

Gwynedd+
Mercy Academy
High School

GWYNEDD MERCY ACADEMY
HIGH SCHOOL

Alma Mater

*Hail to thee our Alma Mater!
School of schools all hail to thee!
We, thy children, here assembled
dedicate our hearts to thee.
Come, girls, your school now calls for you
to honor the Red and the Gold.
Give her your vow to go forth now,
her standards to uphold.*

*Dear Alma Mater Mercy,
we, your children stand
to pledge our lasting loyalty
in ever faithful band.*

*Let all in ardent chorus
her merits to uphold.
Strong and high her colors fly
as Mercy's Red and Gold.
So rise and cheer unto the sky
to honor the school you hold so dear.
Revere her name of widespread fame,
and sing year after year.*

*Dear Alma Mater Mercy,
we, your children stand
to pledge our lasting loyalty
in ever faithful band.*



Gwynedd Mercy Academy High School
1345 Sumneytown Pike, P.O. Box 902
Gwynedd Valley, PA 19437-0902
www.gmahs.org