

ALUMNI EDITION

# ROYAL LEGACY

FALL 2019



*Building on the Legacy*





# Building on the Legacy

BRAND NEW FINE ARTS, TECHNOLOGY BUILDING, AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES WILL PROVIDE IMMACULATA LA-SALLE WITH MUCH NEEDED RESOURCES, AND WILL ALSO ALLOW EXISTING CAMPUS USAGES TO BE OPTIMIZED. THIS IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT AND EXPENSIVE CAMPAIGN ILS HAS EVER LAUNCHED AND WE NEED ALL ALUMNI TO PARTICIPATE AND GIVE TO THE BUILDING ON THE LEGACY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

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MIAMI, FL 33133

YOUR DONATIONS ARE NECESSARY FOR IMMACULATA LA-SALLE TO CONTINUE PROVIDING THE SALESIAN SYSTEM OF EDUCATION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT BERTI PEREZ, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT





# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



## WHAT IS BEING BUILT

- TWO-STORY, 9,600 SQ FT FIELD HOUSE TOPPED BY AN 839 SEAT GRANDSTAND AND A STATE-OF-THE-ART PRESS BOX.
- ADJACENT 4,590 SQ FT LOCKER FACILITIES, SNACK BAR, AND BARBECUE.
- THREE-STORY, 14,640 SQ FT STEAM & FINE ARTS BUILDING WITH OPEN EXHIBITION SPACE, ROOFTOP CLASSROOMS AND A BAY VIEW TERRACE.
- 4,575 SQ FT PE PAVILION OVERLOOKING FIELD & SPORT TRACK.
- CAMPUS WIDE IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING PARKING, DRIVEWAYS, SIDEWALKS, LIGHTING, AND SAFETY.
- ESTIMATED COST: \$15 MILLION.
- GOAL: BREAK-GROUND IN 2020.



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Dear Alumni,



Whether you consider yourself an Immaculata Royal, a La Salle Royal or an Immaculata-La Salle Royal Lion, you are part of an amazing legacy that belongs only to us!

I recently read an article written by social researcher and educator, Susan V. Bosak, reflecting on “how a ‘legacy’ is about life and living, about learning from the past, living in the present, and building for the future. She explains how ‘legacy’ is fundamental to what it is to be human, using research to show that without a sense of working to create a legacy, adults lose meaning in their life. The idea of legacy offers a glimpse not only into human relationships and building strong communities, but also the human spirit.”

Susan V. Bosak continues with the question/answer, “Where do you think it’s best to plant a young tree: a clearing in an old-growth forest or an open field? Ecologists tell us that a young tree grows better when it’s planted in an area with older trees. The reason, it seems, is that the roots of the young tree are able to follow the pathways created by former trees and implant themselves more deeply.

Over time, the roots of many trees may actually graft themselves to one another, creating an intricate, interdependent foundation hidden under the ground. In this way, stronger trees share resources with weaker ones so that the whole forest becomes healthier. That’s legacy: an interconnection across time, with a need for those who have come before us and a responsibility to those who come after us.”

We are privileged to continue building on the foundation of a legacy you, our Alumni, have created for our students at ILS: a legacy that encourages confidence, creates an atmosphere of trust and love, opens to dialogue, promotes a love for knowledge, academic excellence and lifelong learning, witnesses to a joyful response to faith and empowers to be agents of peace.

At this moment in time, we are at a crossroads with our Athletic and STEAM programs. We need to expand our athletic and STEAM facilities in order to match the level of excellence we have established in our classrooms.

With much trust and confidence in your support and generosity, I am excited to announce our ‘Building on the Legacy’, 15 million-dollar capital campaign, to raise funds for the construction of new Athletic Facilities and Fine Arts/Technology Building at ILS.

‘Building on the Legacy’ capital campaign is a sign of our commitment to continue being a presence in Miami with the same passion, which has woven a living legacy and a fruitful educational commitment to form good Christians and honest citizens.

Thank you for all you have done and for all you continue to do for the Immaculata-La Salle Family ...Go Royals!

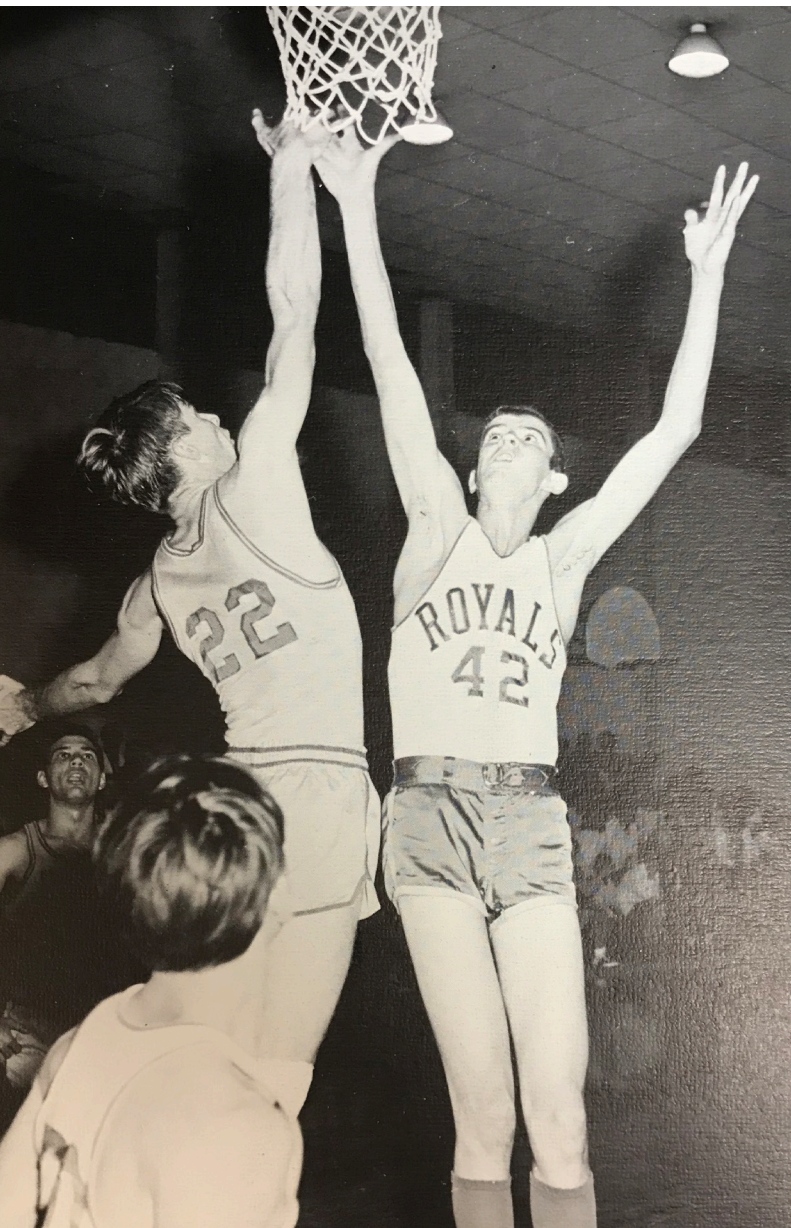
Sincerely,  
Sister Kim Keraitis, FMA  
Principal, Immaculata- La Salle High School

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*Building on the Legacy*





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Photo courtesy of ILS Yearbook

# Alumni Return To Teach

It says a lot about an educational institution and philosophy when many of the youth who were educated in the institution return to pay it forward...at Immaculata-La Salle High School, we are blessed to have over 33 alumni who have returned and are working for our youth in administration, the classroom, technology and the athletic department!

This group of alumni represents graduates from the '70's, '80's, 90's and today... close to five decades of Catholic educators dedicated to youth! They have embraced the Salesian spirituality and lead today's youth in the model of Don Bosco and Mary Mazzarello through reason, religion and loving kindness! Way to go Royal Lions!



*Congratulations!*



Valedictorian:  
**Ashley Zelaya**



Salutatorian:  
**Lillian Sanchez**

**To the Top Two ILS Royals of 2019**  
**May the Lord continue to guide your education & life's journey.**

Great job to Immaculata-La Salle's class of 2019!  
Earning **\$18,900,840** in scholarship awards over the next four years!

# ALUMNI 2019 LIST OF COLLEGES

Immaculata-La Salle is proud to announce the list of colleges and universities to which last year's seniors were admitted. It is an impressive list, with several Ivy League schools represented. **Over the next four years \$18,900,840 in scholarship money was awarded to our graduates.** Congratulations to the ILS Guidance Department for a job well done.

## (College Freshmen acceptances for 2018-2019)

Alderson-Broadus College	Johns Hopkins University	St. John's University
Alvernia University	Johnson & Wales University	St. Thomas University
American University	Le Moyne College	Stetson University
Arizona State University	LIM College (Laboratory Institute of Merchandising)	Stony Brook University
Ave Maria University	Lindenwood University	Suffolk University
Avila University	Louisiana State University	SUNY Albany
Babson College	Loyola Marymount University	Syracuse University
Baldwin Wallace University	Loyola University Chicago	Tallahassee Community College
Barry University	Loyola University Maryland	Texas Christian University
Barton College	Loyola University New Orleans	The American University of Paris
Baylor University	Lynn University	The Catholic University of America
Belmont Abbey College	Manhattan College	The College of Wooster
Bentley University	Marist College	The George Washington University
Bethany College	Marshall University	The King's College
Bethel University-MN	Mary Baldwin University	The New School
Boston College	Marymount Manhattan College	The University of Alabama
Bryant University	Marymount University	The University of Arizona
Butler University	Merrimack College	The University of Memphis
California State University, Chico	Miami Dade College	The University of Tampa
Carl Sandburg College	Miami International University of Art & Design	Tulane University
Chapman University	Michigan State University	Tusculum College
City University of London	Morningside College	Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
Coe College	Nazareth College	University of California, Los Angeles
Colorado State University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	University of Central Florida
Columbus College of Art and Design	New Mexico Highlands University	University of Colorado at Boulder
Culver-Stockton College	New Mexico State University	University of Connecticut
Defiance College	New York Institute of Technology	University of Dayton
DePaul University	Newbury College	University of Denver
Drexel University	Northeastern University	University of Florida
Eckerd College	Northwest Missouri State University	University of Houston
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Nova Southeastern University	University of Illinois at Chicago
Emerson College	Ohio University	University of Maine
Emory University	Pace University, New York City	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Fairfield University	Paris College of Art	University of Miami
Fashion Institute of Technology	Pepperdine University	University of Mississippi
Fashion Institute of Technology	Pratt Institute	University of New Hampshire at Durham
Florida Atlantic University	Purdue University	University of North Florida
Florida Gulf Coast University	Queens University of Charlotte	University of Notre Dame
Florida Institute of Technology	Regis University	University of Oregon
Florida International University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Rochester
Florida National University	Ringling College of Art and Design	University of South Florida
Florida Polytechnic University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Vermont
Florida Southern College	Rollins College	University of West Florida
Florida State University	Saint Joseph's University	Valencia College
Fordham University	Saint Mary's University of Minnesota	Villanova University
Full Sail University	Saint Michael's College	Virginia Tech
Geneva Business School	Saint Xavier University	Washington State University
Georgia State University	Santa Clara University	Wentworth Institute of Technology
High Point University	Santa Fe College	Westmont College
Hofstra University	Savannah College of Art and Design	Wheaton College MA
Hult International Business School	School of the Art Institute of Chicago	Wilkes Honors College of FAU
IE University - Madrid Campus	Seminole State College	Wingate University
Indiana University	Seton Hall University	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Iowa State University	Southern Methodist University	Xavier University
Ithaca College	Spring Hill College	
Jacksonville University	St. Edward's University	



# Baseball Team Visits Camillus House



Over a chilly weekend in December, the ILS Baseball Team had the opportunity to give something back to our community and those less fortunate by helping feed and supply the homeless at Camillus House with essential sanitary/hygiene equipment and house-ware items. Our student athletes understand that we who are fortunate enough to be members of the ILS family must count our blessings and be grateful enough to pay it forward whenever we have an opportunity to do so. It was a special two days for all involved, one filled with perspective, humility, rain, pizza and some of our best bonding moments yet.

A special thank you to Naomi and Lefty Sorondo for making all of this possible! We hope to be back next year or whenever help may be needed! Thank you, Camillus House, for receiving us all with open arms and the Quintana/Gonzalez family for all their support and effort!





# Miami-Dade Team Honors

We would like to recognize and congratulate several boys and girls soccer players who were nominated for All-Miami Dade Team Honors!

For the girls Kristina Maribona and Amanda Santin both received 1st team All-Dade, while Stephanie Cuan received 2nd team All-Dade honors. Miah Bermudez, Jessica Saavedra and Sophia Sousa each received Honorable Mention.

For the boys Kamani Turner, Eugenio Elizondo and Iker Sanchez all received 1st team All-Dade, while Stephan Linton received 2nd team All-Dade honors. Mohammed El Shaffie and Enrique Mejias both received Honorable Mention. Last but certainly not least, we had another athlete make 1st team All Miami-Dade Selection. Junior Baseball player Justin Quintana was selected 1st team for the first time in his career. Justin had a .490 batting average with 2 homeruns and 22 RBI's on the season. He did a little bit of everything for the team from playing third base and outfield and even starting and closing games as a pitcher for the team when needed. Justin looks to build off of a great junior year so he can get ready to be the team's senior leader next season!



KRISTINA MARIBONA



KAMANI TURNER



Justin Quintana



AMANDA SANTIN



IKER SANCHEZ

## Royal Lions Signing Day 2019



On April 8th, 2019, ILS held its first ever "Lion Signing day". Honored were the senior athletes who have worked hard and earned the opportunity to play their sport at the college level.

Leading the signees are brothers Andy and Adidel Quintana who signed with St. Thomas University for baseball. Joining them on the St. Thomas University Campus, will be Claumy Jean Francios who signed to play football. Jimmy Vargas signed to play Football at Baldwin Wallace University in

Berea, Ohio and Joseph Rodriguez signed to play Football with defiance College.

Gaby Antonini signed with Denver University for swimming and Sofia Sosa signed with Florida National University to play soccer. Additional athletes who signed to play soccer at the next level include; Stephani Cuan -Marshall University, Amanda Santin - Lynn University, Kiki Maribona – Nova Southeastern University, Enrique Mejia – Eckerd University, and Stephen Linton – Florida Gold Coast

University. Lucas Rodriguez, Andres Caceras, Iker Sanchez, and Mohamad Elshafie all signed to play Soccer with Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, Illinois. Lucas Blanco signed with Tusculum University for Volleyball, and Manny Iglesias signed with Alderson Broadbudds University for Lacrosse.

A record setting total of 19 ILS Athletes signed to play at the collegiate level. The ILS family is extremely proud of their accomplishments





# ILS SAILING TEAM INAUGURAL SEASON

In over 60 years of Immaculata-La Salle's existence, we have had many athletic programs roar into regional competitions, district titles and even state finals...but these are established programs who went through their normal growing pains associated with success! This year ILS commenced its first year of sailing competition with the hopes of showing our community solid success and competitive attitudes associated with the Royal Lions...who would have seen what the final outcome would be!

It began on a beautiful early morn in late September in Hollywood, Florida when the Royal Lion Sailing Team competed in their first high school regatta led by their coaches, Lior Lavie and Shane Riera. Over 20 teams from all over Florida hit the ocean to begin their seasons all hoping to qualify for States and Nationals...little did they realize that the Royal Lions were there not to show up, but to WIN!

The Southpoint #1 signaled to the sailing community that Immaculata-La Salle Sailing was for real and here to bring home the championships...but this was only the start!

As the season continued, the Royal Lions, led by two freshmen brothers, Mitchell and Justin Callahan, proved that we are not only ready for the big time in the State, but to extend our dominance on a national level. The ILS sailing team is comprised of six student-athletes who compete in their sailing clubs both domestically as well as internationally. They all have competed at very young ages, so building the program in one year was not only feasible but realistic with the talent present in ILS. The challenge was to translate their successes outside of school into the best high school sailing team in the region!!!

After qualifying for regionals in Tampa, Florida,

the team proved more than worthy for Nationals traveling to compete for the Mallory Trophy which goes to the top high school sailing program in the nation. The team ventured to Seattle, Washington and moved into second place after the first day of competition against the top 20 teams from all over the United States. By the end of the last day of competition, the Royal Lions had achieved something that no one thought possible; finishing fourth place nationally led by 2 freshmen, a sophomore and three juniors in their first year of high school competition!

The Royal Lion Nation is extremely proud of these young men and women, and their coaches as they have shown the pride of Immaculata-La Salle which was established 60 years ago and continues to grow each year! Good job Royal Lion Sailing Team and we hope to cheer you on for many years to come!



## 2018-2019 ILS Cheerleaders

The Royal Lions Varsity Cheerleading team is the FHSAA Region 4 -2018-2019 Regional Runner ups!!! Their second-place finish in the region allowed the girls to qualify for the State Cheerleading Championship in Gainesville Florida!

In the first year of eligibility, the Cheerleaders finished 5th in the State Championship. Congratulations are in order for coach Coral Buxeda and all the cheerleaders for all their hard work and their strong achievement at the highest level of competition in the State.





# 2018-2019 Girls' Soccer

The 2018/2019 Girls' Soccer squad finished the season with an overall record of 15-4-4, notching 4 more wins than the previous years' team and advancing all the way to the FHSAA Regional Semi-Final. This year's team finished with the second-best record in school history matching the 2007 squad, which was coached by Ana Grande.

The team is graduating 9 seniors with three of the 4 seniors already signed to play at the college level. Sofia Sosa signed with Florida National University; Stephani Cuan signed with Marshal University; Amanda Santin will play for Lynn University, and Kiki Maribona signed with Nova Southeastern University. The girls' soccer season came to an end after falling to Carrollton in the FHSAA Regional Semi-Final. A very special thanks goes out to all of the athletes and Coaches Vuono And Gomez get a special mention for bringing back to ILS another District Banner.



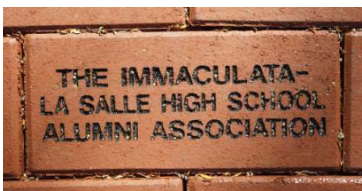
# 2018-2019 ILS Football

The 2018-2019 Royal Lions football season was remarkable for the number of individual accomplishments. Some of our student athletes' hard work on the football field did not go unnoticed, according to all of Miami Dade coaches and the Miami Herald.

Four of our football players made the All Miami Dade football team honors which is more than some of the top schools in the state! Deondre Dozier (2nd Team), Joseph Rodriguez (2nd Team), Jimmy Vargas (3rd Team) & Daniel Tremols (3rd Team). In addition to his being named, 2nd team All Miami Dade County, Deondre Dozier led our ground attack with 101 carries for 974 yards and 9 touchdowns. Deondre also added 10 receptions for 66 yards in the passing game. Junior Zach Barrios led the all receivers with 17 receptions and Sophomore Yaniel Rodriguez contributed 23 solo tackles to go along with Senior Dominique Vidal's 37 solo tackles and 6 sacks to lead the defense. Kicker Marcello Aedo was 7 for 7 on field goals and his season long was a 39-yard strike.

The team loses 12 seniors this year but the future looks bright with a strong group of underclassmen primed to take up the mantel and lead ILS Football to higher achievements.





## LEAVE A LEGACY at ILS With Your Personalized Brick

HAVE YOUR NAME & MESSAGE  
ENGRAVED ON A BRICK IN FRONT OF THE CAFETERIA



**Contact: Alumni Relations/Advancement Office 305-854-2334**

**Coach Carmen Grosso:** [carmen.grosso@ilsroyals.com](mailto:carmen.grosso@ilsroyals.com) (ext.2210) **Cristina Brito:** [cbrito@ilsroyals.com](mailto:cbrito@ilsroyals.com) (ext.2142)

Our alumni support education by  
helping others attend our high school, keeping our  
institution current and making futures brighter!

**Thank You!**





# ROYALS



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

DOMINO NIGHT | SEP 27

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME | OCT 24

ALUMNI HOMECOMING | OCT 25

TRICKY TRAY | NOV 15

PRE-GALA HAPPY HOUR | FEB 20

GALA MARDI GRAS 2020 | FEB 22

GOLF TOURNAMENT | MAY 01





# 2018-2019 Boys' Soccer CHAMPIONSHIP RUN

On a crisp late February afternoon, six busloads of raucous and rowdy ILS fans departed campus for the four plus hours journey to Deland, Florida. This collection of students, faculty, administrators, and parents journeyed north into the heart of Florida to support the ILS Boys' Soccer Team and their first ever appearance in a State Championship Game.

The trip up was not without suspense as one bus overheated, and rainy weather hampered the caravan's journey to the arena on the campus of Stetson University. With safe guidance from above, and skilled bus drivers, all obstacles were overcome, and the ILS fans poured into the stadium, just in time for kickoff, signing songs and chanting cheers.

The ILS boys entered the arena with an overall record of 22-5-2 having finished 2nd in the 2A Class, which is the best finish in ILS history in the toughest Division. The Royals were led by Junior

Kamani Turner with 11 goals on the year. Senior Eugenio Elizondo scored 10 goals followed by senior Enrique Mejia who had 6 goals. Iker Sanchez the team's Senior goal keeper, had 14 shutouts on the season.

The match, against Lake Highland Prep, was extremely hard fought, and defense was the name of the game. Both teams battled from one end of the pitch to the other and throughout the evening each goalie turned in an outstanding performance. As the game wore on, ILS fans could sense the need for a "pick me up" and that was when ILS Alumni and current Faculty member, Maria Cuesta, led the fans in a rousing recitation of The Hail Mary.

Regulation time ended with the teams tied 1-1. The pressure now mounted on the two goalies as the game moved to the Penalty Kick phase. Each Goalie performed superbly, and with the fans cheering

wildly from the sideline, and the pressure of the moment at hand, Lakeland Prep won the shootout by one penalty goal kick. It was a disappointing ending to a spectacular night of athletic competition but even in a loss, ILS will find a victory. Our kids learned the valuable lesson of spending themselves in a worthwhile cause. They were exhausted and came up short, but they experienced something very few people have and learned that competing at the highest level, is in and of itself reward and recognition of a job well done.

This 2018/2019 Boys' Soccer squad went farther than any other team in any other sport in ILS History. Their final record stands at 22-6-2 and they finished in the State rankings at number 2 and even after graduating 11 seniors, Coach Richard's squad is currently ranked 57th in the country.





# 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual ILS Golf Tournament

ILS hosted its 22 annual Golf Tournament on Friday, May 10, 2019 at the beautiful Crandon Park Golf Course on Key Biscayne. The support of the players and fans allows ILS to achieve many of our goals in the fields of technology, athletics and art.

This year, all the profits from this event went toward the Capital Campaign whose goal is to raise \$15,000,000 towards A new Arts and Technology Building and a new Athletic building.





# ILS Alumni in the Community



**Carlos D. Coton**



**Emma Lopo**



**Lloyd Dickenson**



**Ana Cuervo**



**Flavia Garcia**



**Juan F. Pujol**



**Joaquin E. Leon**



**Guillermo Cueto**



**Alessandra Angelini**



**Dr. Carlos D. Coton**  
*class of 1969*

Faith, belief in education, and family, are at the center of Dr. Coton's life personified by a lifetime of teaching and spirituality.

Dr. Coton's career is varied and diversified. He is the Vice President of a computer/point of sales company, the Financial Director of a multinational Latin American Firm, the Director of the Latino Center at FIU, as well as a Professor at Miami Dade College and Humboldt University. He graduated ILS in 1969 and was involved all four years in Student Council, the Spanish club, and intramural sports. He also played football the last 3 years of his High School career.

After ILS, Dr. Coton continued his education at Miami Dade College, Florida International University, and Nova University. He has distinguished himself as a professional, and when awarded the Marquis Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Award, it was noted that, "In our review of his profile since 1979, we ascertained how historically he has risen to the top of whatever endeavor he undertakes. Regardless of the industry, he has been able to translate his management skills. He has been successful from department stores to manufacturing, to cargo and air freight, to education, to computer sales and service. He has taught at graduate levels in the schools of business, education, and languages. He went to the highest levels of sports officiating becoming supervisor of officials in two sports.

This lifetime achievement award is granted typically for lifelong contributions to a profession or contributions to humanity and Dr. Coton was honored for his contribution to both. He has dedicated enormous volunteer time to his archdiocese in numerous capacities, becoming director of many programs and the first certified catechist of his parish. He rose to Grand Knight of his Knights of Columbus council in record time. We

have followed his trajectory since the late 1970's and Coton demonstrates dedication and perseverance in his professional life and in his humanitarian posture, which is an extremely difficult balancing act. Not only has he been able to do this but has done it consistently and for a prolonged period of time. It is because of this balance that he has been nominated for this Lifetime Achievement Award in both categories."

Dr. Coton's dedication to his faith is evident in his every day life and as a Grand Knight in the Knights of Columbus, which is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, he has walked the talk and served humanity.

Dr. Coton treasures and values his family whom he believes are the perennial and perpetual support group noting that without them nothing of value gets accomplished. He has been married to Susana Muriel since 1992. He has three children; Alexandra who is married and lives in San Diego, California, David, and Sean who live in Miami.



**Emma Lopo-Sullivan**  
*class of 1977*

"Get involved from day one! You'll never regret it. Don't set limitations, work

hard. Never stop learning and be curious." Words of advice from Emma Lopo - Sullivan who graduated ILS in 1977 and who made a career and life for herself following those exact words. Advise that she wants to share with today's ILS students.

During her time at ILS, Emma was the class President both her Junior and Senior years. She was the founder and President of the ILS Community Service Club, a member of the French Honor Society, MU Alpha Theta, and a Key Club Sweetheart. Additionally, she was the editor of the sports section of the school paper, a yearbook photographer and assisted in the creation of the senior class film. After graduating ILS, Emma

attended the University of Miami graduating in 1980 with bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. By 1984, she had earned a master's degree in Instructional Technology from the University of Miami.

Emma taught part time at ILS, teaching a French class to help Mme Andree Stayman who, along with Fr. Francis J Lechiara, Sr. Elizabeth "Red" Worley and Nestor and Iraida Mederos, were some of the teachers who left their indelible mark on Emma and who taught her life lessons she still carries with her today. From 1980 to 1984, Emma taught elementary school at St. Theresa School and then ran the first computer lab in a Catholic Elementary school in Florida.

After attaining her master's degree in 1984, Emma moved to Northern Virginia and became an instructional designer project manager. In 1994, Emma co-founded PerformTech, a performance improvement company, which was sold in 2009 to a publicly traded company. The political bug never left her, and Emma continued to volunteer in political campaigns where she met many people with whom she has enduring

friendships. It was volunteering for one such campaign that she met her future husband, Dan. Their marriage has produced one daughter and the family is very active in their local parish church, The Basilica of St. Mary in Old Town Virginia. Emma has been a part of the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion ministry for 22 years, and Dan and she are involved in the marriage ministry as well.

Emma believes that the two greatest gifts her parents gave her are the same ones that today's ILS students enjoy, namely sending her to ILS and an upbringing in the Catholic faith. This upbringing taught her all about compassion, faith and service and how to nurture lifetime friendships many of which were formed at ILS. Emma and Dan have raised their daughter to have the same experience knowing that being rooted in faith and a Catholic education are two of the greatest gifts one can receive.





**Lloyd Dickenson**  
class of 2003

Walk into the Aventura Mall in northeast Miami Dade County and you will be greeted by a giant advertising poster of a strikingly handsome young man fashionably slinging a back pack over his shoulder and telling the world with his

smile that he has places to go and things to do. That's exactly what Mrs. Araceli Crotty experienced when she entered Aventura mall and realized the smiling go-

getter in the poster was her former student and member of the class of 2003, Lloyd Dickenson.

Lloyd's resume reads as follows: Model/Actor; Independent Personal Trainer; Owner of Lloyd Dickenson Fitness; and the owner of 1st Look Models, but before all that, he was a star athlete at ILS and a major force behind bringing ILS its first two District Championships in Basketball, and the first two District championships in school history. Lloyd also starred on the football field. When asked about his time at ILS, in addition to playing basketball and football, Lloyd fondly remembers his time in the Choir and how much he enjoyed being involved in music. Lloyd comes from a musical family, so it became very special to him to actively be involved in music and to perform. Play-

ing high school sports, singing in the choir, and embracing all that ILS stands for helped build in Lloyd a strong, confident, hard working young man who has achieved tremendous success. His strength of character and faith in himself are also reflective of the lessons learned at ILS and he lives according to the words of advice he would tell today's ILS students.

"Know exactly what you want to get done; refuse to take no for an answer; work hard every day; and believe in yourself." This was the mantra that worked for Lloyd and he learned that success is hard work, perseverance and discipline are critical, but that desire to achieve something is paramount.



**Ana Cuervo**  
class of 1986

Tune in to Telemundo 51 Monday through Friday at 5:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 6:00 PM, and 11:00 PM and Ana Cuervo will be covering the breaking news and the political happenings of the day. This year marks 25 years that she has plied her

craft as a journalist, something that she dreamed about since she was 12 years old.

A member of the ILS graduating class of 1986, Ana matriculated to FIU to pursue a major in Broadcast Journalism with a minor in Political Science, graduating in 1991. She started working at WSVN, while still an undergraduate at FIU, doing all kinds of small jobs in the newsroom and made the connections she needed to get hired full-time by WLTV- 23. She then became a reporter at WSCV-51 Telemundo.

About 13 years ago, Telemundo merged with NBC Network and Telemundo gained greater technological resources. Hard work and perseverance do pay off and Ana had to prove herself working in the newsroom and assignment desk for managers and with colleagues who did not see her as an on-air reporter. The vali-

dation came when she won her first of four Suncoast Emmy Awards. The National Academy of Arts and Sciences recognizes television journalism by region and the Suncoast chapter includes the entire southeast United States. Additionally, in May of 2019, the Suncoast chapter of the National Academy of Arts and Sciences just inducted her into the 'Silver Circle' for 25 years of journalistic excellence.

When Ana visits ILS today, she recalls how in the 80's, there was no air conditioning in the classrooms. They would depend on the breeze from the bay to keep cool and on those rare Miami winter days, the girls wore knit leg warmers to keep their legs warm. She also fondly remembers Brother Carl who had an amazing love for the English language and the passion to plant that seed in his students. He was a very strict and demanding grammar teacher but also passionate about literature. The class analyzed everything from Greek Myths to modern novels and those classes set the foundation of her journalism skills.

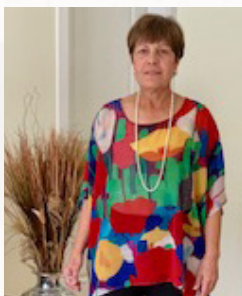
Ana's fondest memories include an event called 'Powder Puff', which was a flag football game between the girls from the Junior and Senior classes. This was a much anticipated event and boys from both classes were coaches training the girls for weeks on strategy and playbooks. Ana, by her own admission, didn't know the first thing about football but her best friend, who excelled at everything at school and graduated Salutatorian, was the quarterback. She really under-

stood and loved football and she is none other than the incomparable Ana Lourdes Garcia, the current head of the English Department at ILS. Ana and Ana Lourdes Garcia have an enduring friendship that dates back to fourth grade and was solidified during their days together at ILS.

She also holds a special place in her heart for the retreats and the ETC's which allowed students to retreat from the craziness of the world and to reflect on God's love with their friends.

Ana helps out several organizations that care for children and she has two of her own working tirelessly to balance her professional life with her family life believing that we all have to give children all of the love we can. Her family and ILS are intertwined and the success continues. Her sister, Alicia Cuervo, class of 90, holds a Masters Degree in Health services Administration and she is a Human Resources Director for Baptist Health Systems. Alicia is the mother of Claudia Penas, class of 2015, who will soon graduate from FIU with a degree in communications, and Sofia Penas, who is currently a sophomore at ILS and was just inducted into the Quill and Scroll Honor Society.

Her advice to today's ILS students is to learn everything you can, develop every skill you have an aptitude for, and if you know a second language, to never lose it as being bilingual will afford one opportunities that others don't even qualify for.



**Flavia (Garcia) Gead**  
class of 1972

Friendship, laughter and joy in one's work are the thoughts that Flavia wishes to share with the ILS family and she fondly recalls that "You've got a friend", by James Taylor, was the theme song of her 1972 graduating class. The

song continues to best express the character of that 1972 class and they have continued to add to those memories. Many of these classmates still get together and at times they laugh and at times they cry but the friendship and the bonds formed are a testament to the legacy of ILS.

Looking back over her four years at ILS, Flavia recalls two teachers in particular who touched her life in very

special and meaningful ways. Mrs. Daniels, the Social Studies teacher allowed the students the leeway and safety of forming their own opinions and provided a secure and nurturing environment that showed respect for the thoughts and views of the whole class. Mr. Micklic taught English and Flavia didn't realize it at the time, but what he was really teaching was critical thinking skills. This, in and of itself, was probably the most important of all lessons as it taught her how to think and solve problems and how to create and find solutions. Intramural sports were a big part of Flavia's days at school. She participated in volleyball, basketball, and softball, and the emphasis was always on fun and good sportsmanship, lessons that would serve her well later in life and in the professional world.

After graduation, Flavia lived in Spain for five years, where her husband was going to school. She returned to Miami and enrolled in Miami Dade Community College. During that time, she became pregnant with her first daughter, Jennifer. Five years later, her daughter, Cristina was born. In 1983, she opened a medical

practice management company to address the needs of her husband's, Juan Rene's, the group psychiatric practice. This afforded her the flexibility to be with her kids, picking them up from school, doing homework, and juggling all of the after-school activities.

Today, Flavia's daughters are accomplished professionals. Jennifer is an attorney and Cristina is a physician. More importantly, both are strong women and great mothers, and have provided Flavia and Juan Rene with three grandchildren that bring them great joy and pleasure.

Although hesitant to give advice, Flavia does however wish to share certain thoughts with today's ILS students. When seeking a career, choose one that gives you joy and satisfaction. Set your goals with the expectation of success, and keep in mind that there will be bumps and bruises to overcome, so develop the ability to adapt and adjust. Finally, nurture your friendships and never forget to laugh.





**Juan F. Pujol**  
*class of 1965*

Juan Pujol graduated ILS in 1965, three years after arriving in Miami from Cuba, alone as a Pedro Pan kid. He lived in the Opa Locka Camp, that had been set up to house the young refugees, but at 19, was forced to leave the Pedro

Pan program. Juan holds a special place in his heart for Monsignor Bryan Walsh, who was the director of Catholic Charities, for making sure his tuition was taken care of his senior year, and allowing him to graduate from ILS.

Brother Declan Malachy also was a significant person in Juan's life. He had been assigned to write an essay on Hamlet and as Juan's English was very poor at the time, he did his research in Spanish and then attempted to translate it into English. Brother Malachy recognized his efforts and that he had the aptitude for the work and gave him an A. He did let him know that the translation was awful but was wise enough to reward Juan for his efforts and thus help build in him the attitude that he could survive and succeed academically in America. Juan graduated with honors and was a

member of the National Honor Society. He holds fond memories of Brother Lewis, who worked tirelessly to find a college that would provide Juan with a scholarship, but unfortunately, He was not able to attend college.

At 19, Juan carried a heavy burden. He needed money, not only to sustain himself, but also to be able to send money to his ailing father who was ill in Cuba and needed medicine. He rented a room, with a fellow Pedro Pan Kid, and found work as a locksmith. He had no idea what the profession entailed but learned very quickly what he needed to know.

Juan was then drafted into the US Army and proudly served as a Military Police Officer with the rank of Sergeant. Upon being discharged, Juan returned to Miami and resumed working in the locksmith business.

Working diligently with his wife, they were able to purchase York Lock & Key, a business that had been established in 1937. Today, the company has grown to service not only mechanical locks, but also all kinds of visual and electronic security services for all types of properties. The company has also expanded out of the Miami area and currently provides service throughout the United States and several other countries.

Juan and his wife raised three children who, along with their spouses are all professionals but sadly, last

summer, after 54 years of marriage, he lost the love of his life. He takes pride that his wife and he remained grateful to the Catholic Church and to Catholic Charities for helping them to succeed in this great country.

He continues to work with The Operation Pedro Pan Group to keep the memory of the mission, that was led by Monsignor Bryan Walsh, alive and in the consciousness of today's young people, so they may know the greatness of faith and the power of the Church's compassion and love.



*Photos courtesy of alumnus*



**Joaquin (Jack) E. Leon**  
*class of 1965*

Jack Leon has had a wonderfully successful professional career, but the warmth and love comes out when

he speaks of his days at ILS and the friendships he has maintained over the years. Particularly the group known as "the terrible seven." This group included Jack himself along with Reinaldo Garcia (67), Ernesto Erdmann, Carlos Erdmann, Jorge Luzarraga, Teo Babun, and Fernando Espinosa, all of whom were members of the class of 66.

This group of friends, along with several others, exhibited a spirit and attitude refreshing and wonderful by any standards. Jack, along with several of the "terrible seven", and joined by Carlos Ziegenhirt, decided that they would help the school out by volunteering to rake the new area that had been cleared for the football field. The school didn't have the money to clear the field for the planting of the grass, so the boys decided to help out. Once the boys started, they realized the tremendous effort it would take, so Jack came up with the idea of using his 1956 Ford Fairlane as a tractor. With boys with rakes, hanging out of the open doors and the open trunk of the car, they made steady progress, when the engine on the Ford burnt out. Another memorable date was February 13, 1964. The Beatles

were going to stop at the Miami International Airport on their way to New York, and one of Jack's fellow basketball players suggested they go to the airport and meet the Beatles. The entire first string La Salle basketball team and Jack (who was second string but had a car), left campus and drove to the airport where they found hundreds of kids pressing against the doors of the main concourse, eventually shattering the glass into thousands of pieces. The next day, the entire basketball starting line up, and Jack, were suspended from the team for the year, and they lost their Letters.

After graduating ILS, Jack attended Miami-Dade Junior College where he earned an Associates Degree in Science in 1967. He then attended Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in January of 1971. Jack's ILS connections were alive and well in Louisiana. There were several La Salle Graduates from the class of '64 already in attendance at LSU. Jack's freshman dorm was under the bleachers at Tiger Stadium, and his two roommates were Emilio Dieguez and Luis Alvarez, both La Salle class of '64. During his time at LSU, he became good friends with Enrique Silva, who was his roommate for 3 semesters, and Rafael Diaz- Yoserev also members of the class of '64.

In the summer of 1970, Jack had also started working as a student engineer for FPL and then became a full-time employee in January 1971. He started as a field manager in the Miami area Underground Engineering Department and rapidly rose through the ranks to Se-

nior Engineer. This was when he started law school at the University of Miami. Jack attended law class in the evenings as he continued working full time with FPL being responsible for all design work at the Miami International Airport, and seven engineers.

Jack graduated law School in 1976 and was immediately loaned out to the law department at FPL. In 1977 he was offered a permanent position as an attorney, working for the manager of the law department. At the time there were only two attorneys, but the department grew to over a hundred attorneys, and at the time of his retirement in June of 2017, he was a managing attorney in the Law Department with responsibilities ranging up and down the organization.

Jack has two daughters and four grandchildren, and two step daughters and three stepgrandchildren, he is currently in a significant relationship with Virginia Ortega- Perrod, ILS class of '69 and someone who has been in his life since 1972 when she became his dental hygienist.

He credits lifelong friend Maria Forte, formerly Maria Restrepo, Immaculata class of '66, with introducing them when she helped out a young Jack in need of dental care, by introducing him to Dr. Carmona for whom Virginia worked.

His words to today's ILS students are that hard work and knowing what to study is paramount to success, and nothing will replace putting in the time needed to master the craft at hand.

*All photos courtesy of alumni*

*Picture on the right: (left to right) Octavio Crickett Solis, Al Diaz, Frank Maderal, Mario Carbonell, Coach Carmen Grosso, Alberto Carbonell, Richard Lage, Charles Ferguson, and Rudy Perez*





**Guillermo Cueto**  
*class of 1963*

At the center of Guillermo Cueto's life is his wife, and high school sweetheart, Norma Lucia Presno, and their four children and

eleven grandchildren. Through all of his life accomplishments, Guillermo is deeply rooted in a family that began when he met his wife to be, Norma, at ILS and she was the Homecoming Queen!

Guillermo was a member of the second ever graduating class of ILS, and was also one of the many "Pedro Pan" kids in the school. He recalls how much those students all loved the Brothers for their warmth and support during extremely difficult years filled with the terror of isolationism and separation from family. The Brothers and his classmates became his family. The spirit of brotherhood, solidarity, and support for each other, filled in the emotional vacuum, and allowed him and others like him, to be in an environment surrounded by love.

After graduating ILS, Guillermo graduated Miami Dade Junior College, as it was known then, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Thereafter, he graduated the University of Miami with a Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic and International Affairs. He subsequently received further education from the U.S. Govern-

ment specializing in national security training. He also received post graduate specialized immersion management courses in areas including management of national medical emergencies. During his University of Miami days, his young family had taken root. He and Norma had four kids in the span of two and a half years. This included one set of twins, and this made obtaining his degree, working, and balancing his family life, a time of struggle, but perseverance and character won out.

After graduating The University of Miami, Guillermo went to work for the Miami Dade County Manager's Office where he worked administrating a government funded program to assist hundreds of Cuban political prisoners. From this position, he was recruited by the Federal Government to work for U.S. National Security, Executive Branch, where he endeavored professionally for many years in various capacities. He served at CIA headquarters, as well as domestic and foreign sites; he worked on rotational assignments to the Department of Defense / The Pentagon; and actively participated in major US Military incursions and operations abroad. Following his work within the U.S. Executive Branch, Guillermo served as a civilian Officer in the Department of the Navy, where he worked with the Navy's Investigative Services as Chief of Protocol and Liaison Officer.

At the conclusion of his service to his adoptive country, Guillermo has worked tirelessly promoting and supporting Democracy and Human Rights, as well as humanitarian Missions abroad. His commenda-

tions for Exceptional Achievement, and Performance Awards are too numerous to list here but they come from The White House, The CIA, The US Department of Defense, The Joint Chiefs of Staff, The State Department, and The Secretary of State, The Treasury Department, The US Department of Commerce, and the US Secret Service, amongst others.

Together, Norma and Guillermo built a great family, and Guillermo enjoyed a career serving his adoptive country with pride. He marvels at how Norma was able to manage four kids during his frequent travels abroad, made more complicated as she achieved excellence as well in her personal and professional career working for over 20 years as a projects control engineer in some of the most prestigious engineering and infrastructure corporations. Today, their four children have all excelled in their respective careers as attorneys and entrepreneurs, and provided Guillermo and Norma with 11 grandchildren, each one a blessing.

If one reaps what one sows, then this couple was blessed from the beginning as at the start of their life together, their ILS values and Catholic education were displayed for all to see. Two days after their wedding, the young couple traveled to Dominican Republic as Catholic Missionaries, where they stayed for 30 days caring for the poor and ill, providing medical assistance and training to help mitigate their living conditions and suffering. This act, on their honeymoon, speaks volumes to the character and stature of Guillermo and Norma Cueto and is a testament to what ILS is all about.



**Alessandra Angelini**  
*class of 2005*

Fourteen years after graduation, Alessandra can look back at successes and accomplishments and clearly see a direct correlation from those high achievements to the Catholic education and upbringing she has enjoyed. After a stellar

high school athletic career, Alessandra turned down an athletic scholarship to play softball, from Hanover University in Indiana and instead, accepted an academic scholarship from Barry University.

She knows it broke Coach Crotty's heart that she didn't play ball for Hanover, but she knew that she was a Miami girl who was not looking forward to playing ball in the snow. Alessandra graduated Barry University with a Biology pre-med major and a minor in chem-

istry. After a last-minute change of heart, she realized she didn't want to be a Doctor but instead wanted to be more hands-on and more interactive with the patients. This led her to the field of nursing, and she enrolled in an accelerated nursing program, through Miami Dade College, and became a registered nurse.

Alessandra presently works at Mount Sinai Medical Center as a charge nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care unit but has already made the preparations to continue her education. She has been accepted into the University of Miami's DNP program and if she chooses to attend this school over others; she will seek a degree as a Nurse Anesthetist.

Looking back at her high school days, Alessandra has fond memories of teachers Mr. Ordunez, Mr. Naranjo, Mrs. Crotty, and Mr. Wexler but holds a very special place in her heart for Mr. Crotty, a man who went beyond the call of duty. She recalls how in many ways Coach Crotty was a father figure. He was a disciplinarian but also a support system, a person who pushed her to be and do her best, and someone whom she knows

she could reach out to at any time for help and support. Alessandra also is thankful and greatly appreciative of the sacrifices and support her mother made for her and her brother, Italo Angelini, to be able to attend and prosper at ILS. She marvels at how much support her mom provided attending all the games and practices that she had since the 4th grade, and understands today what a parent's constant and consistent love looks like.

Today, Alessandra is married, and has a 19-month-old boy named Alessio, who she hopes will one day attend ILS and play sports just like his mommy did. Her Catholic education taught her to help out those less fortunate, and she plans a future volunteer medical mission to not just live what her faith has made her, but to set an example for her son, and continue the values she developed during her days at Immaculata-La Salle. Her words to today's ILS students are to work hard at doing your best in school, be involved, be disciplined, have perseverance, and always respect others.

*All photos courtesy of alumni*





# Immaculata-La Salle Sports Hall of Fame 2018



**Armando Chapelli.....1964**  
Baseball

**Maria T. Astray Caneda..1965**  
Cheerleader

**Norman Asmar.....1965**  
Football

**Jorge Yoyi Luzaraga...1966**  
Football

**Manny Alvarez.....1967**  
Baseball

**Jose "Papa" Rodriguez..1968**  
Football

**William Khoury.....1969**  
Football

**Alberto Negrin.....1970**  
Baseball

**Cesar Pumariega.....1975**  
Football

**Luis Haro.....1978**  
Football

**Pat Tomblin.....1978**  
Track

**Arturo Alonso.....1982**  
Track

**Andrea Styer Blessman...1982**  
Softball

**Francis Suarez...1996**  
Basketball

**Allan Minter...1965-1967**  
Head Football Coach  
Assistant Football Coach  
English & History Teacher





# Alumni PigRoast

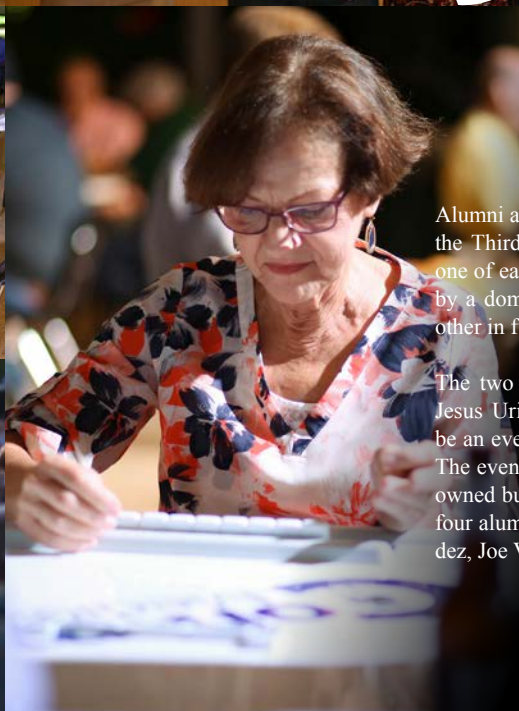
On Friday, October 26th, ILS celebrated a long-standing tradition of enjoying a traditional pork barbecue right before the home coming game. In the past, we used to roast two pigs in a caja-china, a process that took 8 – 10 hours. This allowed the Alumni to mingle, share memories, laugh, cry, and realize that these are the good old days. This tradition lives on at ILS.



# Domino Night

Alumni and friends gathered on Friday, September 28th for the Third Annual Domino Tournament. The evening was one of eating, drinking, dancing, and music and topped off by a domino tournament which pitted teams against each other in fun way of raising funds for the school.

The two big winners were both current teachers at ILS, Jesus Uriarte and Tony Mendez and the night proved to be an eventful and successful evening of fun and laughter. The event was sponsored by Matusalem Rum, an alumnus owned business and the idea for this event was hatched by four alumni from the classes of 1968 and 1969; John Mendez, Joe Valdes, Bill Khoury, and Ruben Torres.





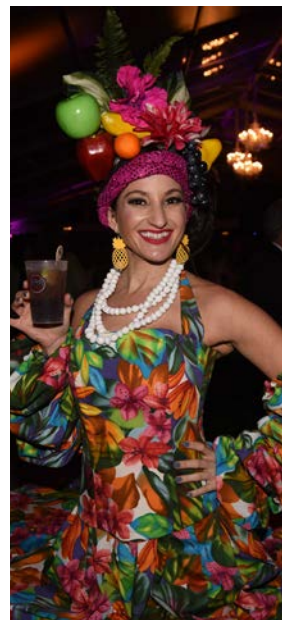


# The Annual ILS Gala

The Gala took place on the ILS campus overlooking beautiful Biscayne Bay on a striking January evening, and transported guests back to a Tropicana Night in Havana. The Honorable Francis X. Suarez, Mayor of the City of Miami and a member of the class of 1996, as well as his father, Miami Dade Commissioner and former City of Miami Mayor, Xavier L. Suarez, were the honorees of the evening.

Alumni and guests enjoyed a five-course meal, and were able to work off the calories by dancing to the sounds of Continental Brass, a local Salsa band loaded with talent and showmanship. Thanks goes out to our local sponsors and supporters, The Salty Donut (Alumni owned), Raw Juice, Perry's Florist, Razzledazzle Barber Shop, I've Been Framed (Alumni owned), Sentir Cubano (Alumni owned), Casa Faroy, Fireman Derek's Bake Shop (Alumni owned), Mercedes Benz of Coral Gables, Coastal Construction (Alumni owned), City National Bank, The US Sailing Olympic Center, and a special thank you to the Bacardi Company, whose distinct services provided the perfect complement to the theme of the evening.









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