

ALUMNI EDITION

ROYAL LEGACY

FALL 2017



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Maximo
Alvarez
Class of 1965

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The ILS Sports Hall of Fame

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Class of 2017
List of Colleges



Dear Alumni,

We are proud to introduce the most recent edition of Royal Legacy, the new Immaculata-La Salle magazine published specifically for our alumni. We are delighted to see many of you at the Hall of Fame ceremony, the alumni pig roast, and the Sports Hall of Fame, but we would still like to strengthen our relationship with all of you. We are hoping this magazine will help to reach more alumni, open channels of

communication, and bring you back to the “school by the bay” to re-connect with old friends and new.

Great things are happening at Immaculata-LaSalle. We have been enjoying notable recognition as an “Apple Distinguished Educator” for several years now, based on our implementation of the iPad era (the first Catholic school in the state of Florida to earn this distinction). We were the first Catholic school to earn accreditation for our S.T.E.A.M program. We have partnered with Mercy Hospital for a new Health Science initiative, a fast track program for students interested in careers in the medical and healthcare fields. We have even re-designed our classrooms into 21st century learning spaces where our students enjoy mobile, ergonomically designed furniture, smartboards, and a visually stimulating learning environment.

Our campus is constantly being updated, renovated, and improved. Our old library is now a modern learning center. We finished renovating the youth center and were able to develop space for additional practice fields. We installed a brand new, state-of-the-art stage in the cafeteria. We also have plans to build a new field house

adjacent to the football field, complete with spectator stands, new locker rooms, concession stands, a weight room, a new trainer’s facility, and a brand new sound system. We will be announcing a capital campaign in the near future to fund this ambitious project. With all of this new construction comes the possibility of naming rights for our senior donors. The new field house will have many distinct spaces which will be adorned with plaques commemorating the generous donations of the members of the Immaculata-La Salle family.

Despite our growing enrollment, our award-winning technology programs, our cutting edge curriculum initiatives, and our bold plans for the new field house, we remain, above all else, a Catholic school molded in the tradition of Don Bosco, founder of the Salesian society. We continue to embrace our rich history, and we look forward to continued partnership with our esteemed alumni in the future.

We would like to offer our thanks to all those who have contributed in different ways to the success of Immaculata-La Salle High School. We look forward to the continued support of our alumni community in the coming year.

Thank you and God bless.

Sincerely,

Sr. Kim Keraitis, fma

Sister Kim Keraitis, fma
Principal, Immaculata- La Salle High School

Credits:

Article Contributors

Jeff Kruse, Cristina Brito, John Kallergis
& The Florida Catholic

Graphics Coordinator

Elena Capablanca

Thank You For Your Collaboration:

Sr. Kim Keraitis
Yearbook Staff
ILS Alumni Association

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Hurricane Irma



Key West High Athletics & Student Activities is with Carson Hughes and Lesley-Anne Touzalin.



Yesterday at 5:15 PM • 🌐

Thank you to LaSalle High school for the generous donation to Key West High School. They presented our captains a check for \$3000 today at the football game. AMAZING!!!



Relief Efforts

ILS Golf Tournament





Alumni During Career Day



It was a productive and fruitful Career Day at ILS this past school year. Students were fortunate to receive career advice from some of the best and brightest in their respective fields. Among the best and brightest in our community are many ILS alumni. The following is a list of alumni (in alphabetical order) who generously donated their time to their alma mater on Career Day. Students, faculty, and administration are very grateful for the participation from our alumni community.

Rolando Aedo	Marketing, Public Relations
Armando Aguilar	Law Enforcement
Javier Alonso	International Relations / Market Intelligence
Frank Alvarez	Trial Law
Fernando Casamayor	Public/Government Administration, Finance
Lila Casas Musso	Petrochemical Industry
Ana Cuervo	News Reporter
Al Diaz	Photojournalist
Tere Estorino Florin	Public Relations / Communications
Lyan Fernandez	Banking
Luis Fernandez	Law
Carlos Figueroa	Paramedics / Firefighter
Amanda Gaetan Chin	Non-profit Organizations / Social Work

Leilani Garrido	Media (TV and Digital)
Victoria Gempton	Elementary Teacher
Manny Gonzalez	Government Works
J.M. Guarch	Law / Sports Agent
Melissa Hernandez	Entertainment Reporter
Leticia Herrera	Executive Producer, Telemundo
News	
Philip Mudd	Keynote Speaker, Deputy Director of CIA, FBI
Veronica Nur Valdez	Communications
Mike Parra	Business Management
Gabriel Penaloza	Entrepreneur
Ivonne Perez-Suarez	Government Relations
David Rodriguez	Broadcasting (News Operations Manager)
Tony Rodriguez	Civil Engineering
Ivonne Rodriguez—Schack	Law, Federal Prosecutor
Dr. Michelle Sierra	Physical Therapy



The annual ILS Alumni Pig Roast was a huge success this past year with a great turnout from the alumni community. Young alumni, more senior alumni, and even some future ILS alumni were on hand to enjoy some delicious pork and cold refreshments.





ALUMNI: PIG ROAST





MAXIMO ALVAREZ

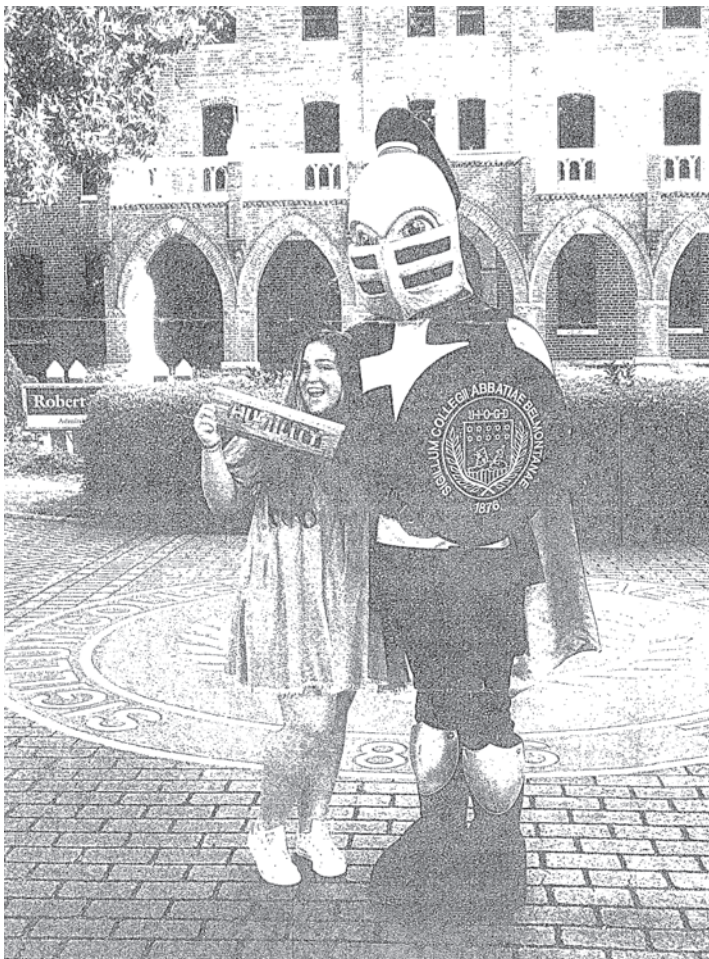
President, Sunshine Gasoline Distributors, Inc

Maximo Alvarez was born in Havana, Cuba in 1948, the son of Spanish immigrants. In 1961 at the age of 13, he came to America as part of Operation "Pedro Pan." He stayed in a children's welfare home with Monsignor Bryan O. Walsh who was also the Catholic Priest responsible for the Operation in which over 14,000 children under the age of eighteen were given refuge from Communist Cuba. Maximo attended La Salle High School and was a part of the school's very first graduating class in 1965. He then attended Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina from 1965 to 1967. In 1968 he transferred to Florida State University in Tallahassee, where he received his Bachelors Degree in 1969 and his MBA in 1970.

Soon after graduation, Maximo began his career in the oil industry with Cities Services Oil Company (CITGO Petroleum) where he worked from 1971-1973. In 1973 Maximo switched to Mobil Oil Corporation working as a marketing representative in Tampa, Fl. In 1976, Maximo left the corporate life and decided on his first business venture as an independent entrepreneur opening

Sunshine Citrus Corp. Sunshine Citrus enjoyed a successful 11 year run as a citrus gift packing and shipping enterprise. In 1987, when the expansion of I-595 caused Maximo to re-locate his business, he had the opportunity to purchase four underperforming gas stations from Southland Corp, (7-11).

These four gas stations were the cornerstone of Sunshine Gasoline Distributors, Inc. From barely two hundred thousand gallons per month, Sunshine Gasoline grew to over three-quarters of a billion gallons per year. As of today, Sunshine operates over 250 locations and supplies another 250 branded retail facilities (Chevron, Shell, Citgo, Exxon/Mobil and Marathon). Sunshine Gasoline is one of the largest independent branded suppliers for all of their represented brands in the South Eastern United States. In 2016, CSP (Convenience Store and Fuel News) named Sunshine Gasoline as #31 in their "Top 101 Convenience Stores" list, which ranks the largest convenience store chains by store count in the United States and Canada.



Alessandra Lopez del Rincon Recipient of the Maximo Alvarez Scholarship at Belmont Abbey College

Because of his humble beginnings, Maximo has always believed in helping the community, as well as the industry in which he has spent most of his career. Maximo has been extremely involved in the Florida Petroleum Marketers Association and was elected Chairman of the Board in 2000 and inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2005. He has worked closely with the Petroleum Council as a tireless advocate for the industry. He has also received awards for his work in Hope for Vision and the Transplant Foundation. In 2006, Maximo became a trustee of Pedro Pan Group, a non-profit organization for immigrant children. In 2010, he was inducted into the Belmont Abbey Wall of Fame. He later received a doctorate of laws honoris causa from Belmont Abbey in 2015. Maximo serves as a trustee for The First Tee, a junior program that sets out to positively impact the lives of young people through the game of golf. In 2016, Maximo was appointed by Rick Scott, the governor of Florida, to serve on the Florida State University Board of Trustees. In addition, he is also serving as chairman of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Florida Consumers' Council, appointed by the Florida Commissioner

of Agriculture, Adam Putnam. Sunshine Gasoline has been a constant sponsor of Miami Children's Hospital and the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Maximo's biggest dream was recently fulfilled when Centro Hispano Catolico opened its door to over 300 children. The Centro Hispano Catolico is a day care center for under privileged children created in honor of Monsignor Bryan O. Walsh. Maximo is a strong believer in the philosophy that every new generation must be better than the last. This philosophy is carried out by his legacy of generosity that began when he was thirteen years old. Ever grateful of the country that allowed him to be where he is today and proud of his success, Maximo states; "If I were to give back everything I have today, it would only be 10% of what was given to me".

Maximo has been married to his wife, Esther, for over forty-five years and has three children, Sandra, Maximo Ricardo and Eduardo. His three children are following in his footsteps, working at Sunshine Gasoline. Maximo and Esther are also the proud grandparents of Samuel, Eric, Maximo Jose and Lucas.



Chris Korge

Legacy is proud to spotlight Mr. Chris Korge, class of 1973. Chris' career has been as dynamic as it has been successful. Chris is a prominent South Florida attorney, investor, businessman, and real estate developer. He is a partner at Korge and Korge, a law firm he founded with his brother. Chris is also the co-founder and Chairman of NewsLink, an airport retail company that owns over 50 retail newsstands, specialty stores, and restaurants in different airports all over the country. Previously, Chris was an Assistant City Attorney of Miami Beach and the City of Miami, General Counsel for the Miami Sports and Exhibition Authority, and as such the point man in the development of the Miami Arena. Chris was instrumental in bringing the Miami Heat expansion franchise to the City of Miami.

Perhaps most notably, Chris is known for his political activism. He served as National Finance Co-Chairman for the Presidential Campaigns of Vice President Al Gore, Senator John Kerry and Hillary Clinton, and he has been known as one of the most prolific national Democratic fundraisers in America over the last 25 years. In fact, Chris was the biggest fundraiser in the nation for Hillary Clinton...twice! Chris has hosted many famous political figures in his own home, includ-

ing President Obama, President Clinton, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Senator Kennedy, Vice President Al Gore, and many other political luminaries.

Before Chris was rubbing elbows with people named Kennedy, he was a football player, a wrestler, and student council Vice President at La Salle. The summer between his sophomore and junior year, a young Chris Korge took a position working for Florida Congressman Dante Fascell as a "page," meaning he took notes to and from people on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Evidently this experience served Chris very well. In fact, it was during his senior year as class Vice President that Chris experienced his first foray into fundraising. The cafeteria desperately needed air conditioning, and an ambitious young Chris organized a raffle of a Porsche. With the help of Father Lechiara, the school was able to acquire the Porsche at cost from Joe DeMaria. Chris made a deal with Father Lechiara that if they sold enough tickets, students could get a day off from school. Wouldn't you know it?! They cleared \$25,000, just enough for the new air conditioning. The Porsche had a couple thousand miles on it when it was delivered to the winner. (Chris needed transportation while raising all that money!)

After graduating from ILS, Chris earned his Associate's Degree from Miami-Dade College, and then a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, from the University of Florida. Chris was working full-time in finance while going to law school at night at Temple University School of Law in Philadelphia. Chris certainly never had any problems with ambition. He commented, "There is no substitute for hard work." When asked for advice for current ILS students, Chris said, "Never let anyone tell you that you can't be whatever you want to be." Chris knows a thing or two about adversity. As a young boy, Chris had to overcome a reading disability with his eyes. Later in his junior year, he broke his femur playing football against Miami Military. He was in a full-body cast for several months during his junior year. Such a significant injury taught Chris about overcoming adversity. And it seems he has never looked back.

"I want to thank La Salle and everyone who was a part of my high school experience. It was a unique and wonderful experience, and I would not be where I am today were it not for La Salle." And a certain Porsche Boxter.



Elliott Rodriguez

Legacy is proud to spotlight our very own celebrity, CBS News Anchor Elliott Rodriguez. Elliott is an Emmy Award winning journalist whose career has spanned over three decades. Elliott has covered major stories all over the world, including major stories in the United States, Europe and Latin America. He is the recipient of two Emmy Awards and four Edward R. Murrow Awards. He has been named “Best News Anchor” by Miami New Times and one of “South Florida’s Sharp Dressed Men” by Ocean Drive Magazine.

But long before he was a famous news anchor (and a sharp dressed man) he was working right here for Immaculata-La Salle’s school paper, the Royal Courier. Elliott was the cartoonist for the newspaper, since he had a strong passion for art. Of course he also enrolled in Journalism as an elective, and that made all the difference.

Elliott recalls quite the dynamic staff on the 1974 Royal Courier. Gustavo Pupo was the Editor in Chief, and went on to become a media executive at Univision. Il-

eana Bravo was the Features Editor and eventually became a TV reporter. Ana Veciana was the News Editor and eventually became a columnist at the Miami Herald. And last but certainly not least, Al Diaz was the Royal Courier photographer. Al went on to become an award-winning photographer for the Miami Herald (and was also featured in the Spotlight section of this magazine 2 years ago.)

By his own account, Elliott was a “nerdy guy” at ILS before becoming a sharp-dressed and famous TV news anchor. He recalls sprinting to the cafeteria every day, in hopes of snagging some fresh made Italian bread. Elliott fondly remembers his teachers, including Ms. Montes (may she rest in peace), Coach Grosso (with whom he still keeps in touch), and of course Mr. Koziol, his Journalism teacher. Mr. Koziol has since passed on, but we are pretty sure he would be proud of his former student.

Elliott has had an amazing career. After graduating ILS, he eventually graduated from the University of Miami and majored in Journalism. Elliott worked as a newspaper reporter for the Miami Herald and The Miami News before becoming a news anchor at WTVJ and then WPLG in Miami, and WPVI in Philadelphia. He joined CBS4 in 1999 and has been there ever since. During his career, Elliott has had some incredible experiences, including interviewing Fidel Castro and reporting on the Pope from Vatican City. He has covered such events as the invasion of Panama, the Mexico City earthquake, Hurricane Andrew, and elections in Venezuela and Nicaragua. In 2014, Elliott served as moderator for a statewide televised debate between Florida gubernatorial candidates Rick Scott and Charlie Crist.

With all of these incredible experiences, Mr. Rodriguez still considers raising his 4 daughters to be his greatest accomplishment. His daughter Erica graduated ILS in 2001 and Bianca in 2005. When asked what advice he could offer young people about pursuing a career in Journalism, he responded with a bit of wisdom, “You need passion. Love what you do, and do what you love.” Elliott is grateful for his teachers for lighting the proverbial spark, and to his parents for their patience and support.

We are pretty sure that Mr. Koziol would be proud of Elliott Rodriguez, as is the rest of the Immaculata-La Salle community. Bravo, Mr. Rodriguez.



Frank Ibarra

Legacy is delighted to spotlight Mr. Frank Ibarra, class of 1975. Frank is an Executive Director and Senior Portfolio Manager, Wealth Advisor for Morgan Stanley in Naples FL. He is also a big fan of Immaculata-La Salle High School. Frank was very active in sports during his time at La Salle, having played football and competed on the track team. Frank ran the hurdles and was quite the pole vaulter. In fact, he placed in the Florida State Tournament for the pole vault.... twice! He placed 6th in the state his junior year and 2nd in the state his senior year. Frank's talents were not limited to track and the gridiron; he was President of the Chess Club, school ping pong champion, and graduated with a 3.4 GPA. Quite the diversified resume young Frank Ibarra compiled!

We asked Frank if there was anyone who made an impact on him during his time at La Salle. He immediately mentioned Coach Grosso, Coach Parsons, Coach Pat Warren, Coach Hewitt. In fact, he stated that these coaches were "the most important influence in building my character." In addition, he said, "These coaches made us believe in ourselves." Evidently that belief paid off. The football team went 1-9 in his sophomore year, 3-7 in his junior year and 7-3 in his senior year, and an undefeated 10-0 season in 1976. While playing for the team Frank led the Royals in interceptions his Junior and Senior years.

Frank also mentioned his appreciation for his teachers. "The teachers at La Salle were fabulous," he said. Frank was grateful for having Brother Richard and Brother Ramon as teachers, and he specifically discussed his appreciation for Robert Koziol (ILS class of '64) who earned the Brother Carl Shonk Distinguished Faculty

Award when he was inducted into the ILS Hall of Fame in 2009. After graduating from ILS, Frank went on to the University of Miami School of Business and Florida International University. He then joined Morgan Stanley, one of the premier investment firms in the world, in 1979 at the age of 21. Frank has been there ever since, having amassed 38 years of financial experience. His focus has centered around asset allocation strategies, equity selection, and alternative and structured investments. We may not be too familiar with these financial concepts, but that's why we have people like Frank Ibarra. Over the years he has dedicated his practice to serving the financial needs of individuals, families, foundations, endowments and retirement plans. Countless people rely on Frank's knowledge to keep their money, on track with their risk profile. As a member of Morgan Stanley's Chairman's Club, clearly Frank is doing a heck of a job.

Frank's ambition and expertise go beyond just finance. Always the thoughtful man, Frank is a member of The Society for Neuroeconomics, an interdisciplinary field that seeks to explain human decision making, the ability to process multiple alternatives, and to follow a course of action. Always the generous man, Frank serves on the Board of Trustees of St. Matthew's House as well as past President and member of the Board of Directors of Opera Naples. However when we asked Frank what he is most proud of, he immediately speaks of his family. Frank is the proud father of two daughters, Hanna and Francesca, both of whom were adopted from China. Frank was visiting a client in China who was with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and on the flight back to the U.S. he noticed several adopted babies making the journey to their new home. Shortly after his return, Frank's wife, Martha, saw an article about an adoption agency that found homes for little girls from China. Martha saw this as a sign, and they decided right then and there to adopt. A year and a half later, they brought home their new daughter Hanna, and three years later their daughter Francesca. Upon reflecting about his life and his career, Frank said that he wouldn't change a thing. "I would have the same job and marry the same woman."

Frank wanted to send a shout-out to the class of '75, and also a "Rest In Peace" to Mario Fernandez, "the nicest guy in the world." Also, "A special thanks to the coaches. They made me into who I am today." We are all proud to call Frank Ibarra an ILS alumnus.



Laura Fabar-Equels

Legacy is proud to spotlight Laura Fabar-Equels, ILS class of '73. Laura was active in many different clubs, societies, sports while here at ILS. She was a member of the National Honor Society, the chess club, student council, and president of the photography club. She was also in charge of the humor section of the Royal Courier and displayed her football skills on the Powder Puff football team, playing both tight end and half-back. Playing Powder Puff football was no joke back then, evidenced by the fact that Laura broke her hand playing her junior year. But she survived, graduated, and entered the University of Miami as a second-semester sophomore, due to her rigorous class schedule while here at La Salle. She graduated U.M. with Honors and a few years later, she graduated U.M. School of Law, with Honors of course.

Laura has been practicing law in Miami since 1986 and during that time has always dedicated a significant amount of her time and legal expertise doing volunteer work for a variety of organizations in the community. Laura volunteered her time for the local bar association in assisting the Spanish-speaking population of

Miami who could not afford an attorney, and was the first recipient of the prestigious Ray H. Pearson Guardian-Ad-Litem award for her tireless work protecting minor children in court proceedings. She has also been recognized for her volunteer work by the Dade County Bar Association, The Put Something Back Program, and the American Bar Association. "You can't be a taker," commented Laura. "Life is karmatic, very give and take. It's important to give back." Clearly, Laura practices what she preaches.

In 1999, Laura represented Elian Gonzalez and his family in the now-famous court case. She was the person who obtained the court order to keep Elian here in Miami and provided his uncle, Lazaro Gonzalez, the legal status to protect Elian in Federal Court proceedings.

Laura has devoted her time to lecturing on behalf of the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Florida Bar, the Legal Aid program, Family Court Services, and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. She has participated in many educational programs for unrepresented citizens of the community, and has authored articles for countless associations and charitable organizations. While still in private practice, Laura continues to represent (pro-bono) the Missionaries of Charity, who run a shelter and soup kitchen which was in danger of being closed down by the City of Miami. After successfully defending the Missionaries, she continues to work on their behalf to expand their mission and charity work.

Laura is married to Tom Equels and they practice law together at Equels Law Firm. They have two children, Darius and Liana, who also graduated from ILS. Laura and Tom are the proud grandparents of future Royal Lions Andres, Noah, and Nicholas. We look forward to spotlighting Laura's grandchildren in Legacy.



Lyan Fernandez

Legacy is thrilled to spotlight Lyan Fernandez, ILS class of 1971. Lyan is the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Risk Officer for Total Bank in downtown Miami. That means that Lyan oversees all operations for a \$3 billion financial institution. Thanks to Lyan's efforts, Total Bank is a major sponsor of virtually everything that happens here at ILS. We are forever grateful for her generosity and support.

After graduating ILS in 1971, Lyan went on to study at the University of Miami for her undergraduate degree. She then went on to law school at U.M. as well, graduating cum laude. Lyan began her legal career serving clerkships in the Third District Court of Appeal of Florida and the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. She then went into litigation where she specialized in complex commercial litigation and real estate law. However, when she became pregnant with her fourth child, Lyan decided that the gruel-

ing schedule of a commercial litigator was no longer for her. Instead, she accepted a position as in-house counsel for Ready State Bank in 1991. After five years at Ready State Bank, Lyan was offered General Counsel for Republic National Bank, where she was instrumental in taking the bank public. Quite a major feat! In 1999, Lyan moved over to Total Bank and transitioned from General Counsel to the position of COO. Her experience as an attorney made her extremely valuable in the area of risk management. As one would imagine, banks make virtually all of their decisions based on risk. As such, Lyan accepted the second position of Chief Risk Officer in addition to overseeing all bank operations as COO.

People who know Lyan are not the least bit surprised by her success. She was Class President in both her freshman and senior years. She was also Editor-in-Chief of the yearbook, a member of the French club, and played safety for the Powder Puff football team. As President of her class during her senior year, Lyan actually made good on one of her biggest campaign promises: to create a senior lounge. Sure enough, Lyan was able to convince the administration to agree, and the space known as the Black Box Theatre today was designated the senior lounge for the 1970-71 school year. Evidently the senior lounge concept didn't last, but that certainly did not take away from the achievement of a young Lyan Fernandez.

Lyan has many wonderful memories from her time at ILS, including wrapping the whole campus and relaxing on the seawall enjoying the beautiful bay view. To this day, she has regular get-togethers with her friends from Immaculata-La Salle's class of 1971. Lyan can still remember her favorite classes and her favorite teachers. Among them were Brother Alex Icaza's Political Science class, Miss Moffa's History class, and Brother James' Trigonometry class. Trigonometry? What kind of person fondly recalls Trigonometry?! The future COO of a major bank, that's who.



Philip Mudd (ILS class of '79), Deputy Director in both the CIA and FBI, Speaks at Immaculata-La Salle's Career Day

Mr. Philip Mudd has spent a lot of time standing in the Oval Office advising presidents about how to keep American citizens safe. He has held very important senior positions at both the CIA and the FBI, including Deputy Director of the CIA's Counterterrorist Center, and Deputy Director of the FBI's National Security Branch, a position to which he was specifically appointed by then-Director of the FBI, Robert Mueller. Mr. Mudd later became the FBI's Senior Intelligence Adviser. With such an impressive resume, it's no wonder that Mr. Mudd is a highly sought after contributor to CNN and every other network in the civilized world.

Philip Mudd, White House national security advisor, took time from his busy schedule to deliver the keynote address at Immaculata-La Salle's Career Day. Mr. Mudd immediately bonded with the student body,

recounting his days on the baseball team at ILS. Despite holding such a high position in the government, he repeatedly told the students, "I'm you." Mr. Mudd revealed a little about chasing terrorists, and explained how he tracks a person's "pattern of life." It was a valuable reminder to the students about what kind of patterns they are forming for themselves.

Mr. Mudd was particularly funny and entertaining, seemingly odd characteristics for someone with such a serious job. But Phil Mudd presented himself as simply a humble and thankful graduate of Immaculata-La Salle. Considering it was Career Day, Mr. Mudd offered some valuable advice for the students. He stressed the timeless values of writing and speaking effectively, as well as the importance of critical thinking. He told them they must learn to work as part of a team, regardless of their chosen career. Most notably, Mr. Mudd suggested choosing a career that brings them joy.

Mr. Mudd suggested that we all take a good look in the mirror. "You," he said, "can define your life as joyous or not. Choose joy and practice it." Coming from the Deputy Director of the FBI and CIA, would you argue with that?



Terrill Hanks ('15) Completes Second Year at New Mexico State

One of ILS' favorite sons, Terrill Hanks, is making us very proud as he plays Division I football for the Aggies of New Mexico State. Terrill was beloved at ILS, but not because he was a great football player. Terrill is a kind and gracious young man, who always had a smile on his face. During his senior year, Terrill racked up over 100 tackles, as well as two sacks and two interceptions. For his accomplishments, he was recruited to play DI football and eventually chose New Mexico State.

New Mexico State was the new kid on the block in DI football, meaning they had to prove themselves against more seasoned and more successful programs. In addition, the coaches at N.M. State moved him from his natural safety position to outside linebacker, where he would face significantly bigger and stronger players. It was a difficult freshman season for Terrill, but he played at a high level, racking up 81 tackles (including 6.5 tackles for a loss) ranking him third on the team as just a freshman. He added to those numbers with 1 sack, 1 forced fumble, and 1 fumble recovery, and tied a team record with 3 interceptions.

Terrill got even better during his sophomore cam-

paign. He led the team in tackles for a loss (12.5) while racking up 103 tackles on the season, once again good for third on the 85 man roster. He added to his numbers with 2 sacks and 2 more interceptions.

The highlight of Terrill's young college career must be his amazing, game-saving interception against rival Idaho. The interception was amazing on several levels. For starters, Terrill caught the ball between his ankles after the ball had been deflected by a teammate. Second, the interception came in overtime as the opponent was getting ready to score, thereby preserving the victory for his team. Thirdly, the catch (and ensuing victory) snapped a 17-game losing streak by the Aggies. Terrill jumped straight into the record books (and ESPN highlight reel) with this amazing play.

Semi-celebrity status has not changed Terrill one bit. He still calls Coach Eddie Cerdeiras before each game for a quick prayer to Mary Help of Christians. "I miss the atmosphere at LaSalle. I loved coming to school every day. I miss the retreats, going to Mass with my classmates, and boy do I miss the food!" We miss you too, Terrill. Thankfully we can see you on ESPN.



SPORTS HALL

It was an exceptional year for inductees to the Immaculata-La Salle Sports Hall of Fame. Fourteen esteemed athletes and alumni were inducted, including a husband and wife and 3 lady Royals, two of whom are sisters.

The complete list:

Emilio Gonzalez, '65

Alfonso "Fudge" Perez, '69

Raul Faget, '70

Albert Johnson, '71 (posthumously)

Marcelo Llorente, '72

Victor De Yurre, '72

Ciro Buttacavoli, '77

Luis Valcarcel, '77

Eddie Fraga, '78

Aida Wise Varcарcel, '79

Delia Wise Guarch, '79

Sister Rosa Lopez, SSJ, '79

Tyrone Garces, '80

Nevada Alba, '85



Tyrone Garces and Dr. Mike Masciello



Nevada Alba, her son Nathan Gomez



OF FAME 2017



Emilio Gonzalez and Coach Grosso



Al Fudge Perez introduced by Coach Grosso and Coach Parsons



Albert Johnson's wife and brother



Raul Faget introduced by Frank Alvarez



Marcelo Llorente introduced by Coach Grosso



Victor De Yurre with a couple other Hall of famers



Ciro Buttacavoli (right) and his brother Frank (left) and Coach Grosso



Luis Valcarcel and Coach Grosso



Eddy Fraga (left) with Eddie Cerdeiras and Coach Grosso



Aida Wise Valcarcel and Coach Grosso



Delia Wise Guarch



Sister Rosa Lopez, SSJ, Coach Grosso, and Raquel Rodriguez



Miami young adult pedals cross-country for the disabled

Catholic schools graduate undertakes 'Journey of Hope' from Seattle to D.C.

TOM TRACY

Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI | With a newly-earned college degree in hand, Matthew George has been spending his summer not by taking it easy around the pool — but by pedaling across the country in support of people with disabilities.

A graduate of both Sts. Peter & Paul School and Immaculata-LaSalle High School in Miami, George, 23, has been making his way from Seattle to Washington, D.C. as part of a college fraternity-sponsored bicycling event called Journey of Hope. The event is in its 30th year.

Pedaling some 60 to 135 miles a day over the course of 64 days, the Miami native is part of a three-team, three-route undertaking to raise funds and awareness this summer for a host of adult and youth disabilities, both mental and physical. His team began its ride June 7 in Seattle and are expected to reach Washington, D.C., Aug. 12.

"I didn't even get into cycling until I signed up for Journey of Hope, and now I hope to complete an Ironman (competition)," said George. He spoke with the Florida Catholic by phone from Bloomington, Ind., near the end of July. His team had taken time out to enjoy a dinner with a group of disabled youths and adults. "Today, for example we biked 60 miles into Bloomington and we

had a 'stage-up' arrival with our bikes and wearing our jerseys, arriving at a local nonprofit facility where we go in and play games with the disabled, and eat a sponsored meal," he said, adding that the age range for the disabled is from youths to adults.

"All the cyclists stood with our bikes and 50 people with disabilities came outside very elated and happy to see us," George said. "One cried. They wait for this every year, and after they greet us they invited us inside for some sloppy joes and we sat with them, mingled and played bingo.

"There was a dance floor, face painting, and I talked to a lady with cerebral palsy. That went on for several hours. Many had Down's syndrome, some have high and low functioning autism," he added.

George noted that he is taking the so-called TransAmerica route, one of three Journey of Hope cross-country routes. Each team consists of some 30 riders as well as eight crew members who support the cyclists with logistics and safety measures along the way.

With the support of family and friends, George said he personally raised more than \$5,500 in contributions that will support charity outreach to people with disabilities through the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity charitable program. The whole team and the overall



undertaking aspires to raise a total of more than \$700,000 this year.

George said he credits his Catholic education for instilling some of the virtues that set the stage for his summer adventure.

“The high school I went to prides itself on giving back to the community. I am a lucky guy and I have a great father and the least I can do is reach out and help others,” George said.

His father, noted Miami historian Paul George, is a member of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish. He told the Florida Catholic that all three of his children benefited from Catholic education and that Matthew has always been an exceptional athlete. The two boys in the family were also altar servers.

“I think it is fabulous what he is doing. It takes endurance,” George said of his son. “His best friend had done this ride last year, and there was a fiduciary investment on our part but we really like the event.”

“We made the sacrifice of sending them to Catholic schools because we felt it was worth it. The values have always been there. He has so much integrity,” he added.

Matthew, a biology major, said he isn’t absolutely certain what he wants to do following his Journey of Hope ride, but he expects to come home to Miami and seek a career in either sales or something related to wildlife and the environment.

“I may also do some video blogging in terms of educating people about wildlife in an adventure-show format, as well fishing,

camping, hiking, bicycling,” he said.

George said he will certainly have some adventures to talk about following this summer’s charity ride.

Seated on his nine-speed Domane brand trek bike and often hitting speeds of 50 mph, he recalled a few memorable days during the early portions of the journey in the Northwest, including the ride from West Yellowstone in Montana to Jackson Hole in Wyoming.

“We climbed Grand Teton Pass on backcountry roads and it was breathtaking,” he said. “We started out that morning at 4:30 a.m., when it was 30 degrees out, and my fingers were totally numb, literally frozen — it was scary as it took about an hour for my hands to thaw.

“We also climbed Mount Rainier on our second day. We were so high up there was sleet and cold rain, snow everywhere around us,” he said. “We stopped and got into a snowball fight.”

Most of the travel is on back roads but it encompasses interstate highways as well, he noted. The support crew drive ahead of the riders, marking turns and providing food and drink to the team. “You have to dig deep and realize who you are riding for and what is important and that is what keeps you going,” George said.

For more information about the race see:
www.abilityexperience.org or <http://bit.ly/2vbrVER>
<http://www.abilityexperience.org/pushcontent.aspx?id=351>



ILS Football Program Makes Huge Leap Forward

The 2016-17 Royal Lions football team had a great year and finished at 7-3. That record is the third best in school history, and a big step forward for 2nd year Head Coach Matt Dillon (not the movie star) and a two game improvement over last year's 5-5 team. The team went an undefeated 5-0 in the conference and beat historic rival Ransom once in the regular season, then again in the playoffs.

Although the Royal Lions football team fell just short of their goal of Southeastern Conference champions, there was no shortage of accolades to go around on this team. Captain Draquann "Doctor" Jones won a unanimous Offensive Player of the Year award for his second consecutive 1000 yard rushing season, as well as 1st Team All Dade. Captain "Uncle" Chuck Mickens won Defensive Player of the Year honors, as well as Linebacker of the Year. All-Conference selections

included Tavares "Tookie" Brownlee, Rafael "Irish Cream" Crotty, Alex Torres, Cam "the Man" Ryals, Jimmy Vargas, and Daniel Burke. Let's not forget Coach Dillon, who was named Conference Coach of the Year.

We should not be surprised by the success of the ILS football team, having so many ILS alumni on the coaching staff. Offensive Coordinator Jorge San Miguel (also Asst. Head Coach of the boys' soccer team) is a proud ILS alum, having graduated in 1978. Other alumni on the coaching staff include Defensive Coordinator Anthony Vuono ('99), Linebackers Coach D'Andre Mickens ('14), Offensive Line Coach Charlie Rodriguez ('13), Defensive Assistant Rolando Coto ('76), and Head Trainer Eddie Cerdeiras ('78).

Congratulations to the Royal Lions football team on a super year.





BASEBALL

The 2017 season was a tough one for the ILS baseball team. They finished with a record of 8-13 in one of the toughest high school districts in the entire nation. However they had some big wins along the way, including a complete game shutout by Joshua Leon against Archbishop Coleman Carroll, a walk-off win against rival St. Brendan, and a huge senior night walk-off win against Miami Beach High.

Several seniors from this past year's team plan to continue their baseball careers at the college level. Brian Garcia plans to continue playing at Dominican College in NY. Joshua Leon will continue dominating from the mound at St. Thomas University, and Jesus Villasis is contemplating offers from several DI and DII schools.

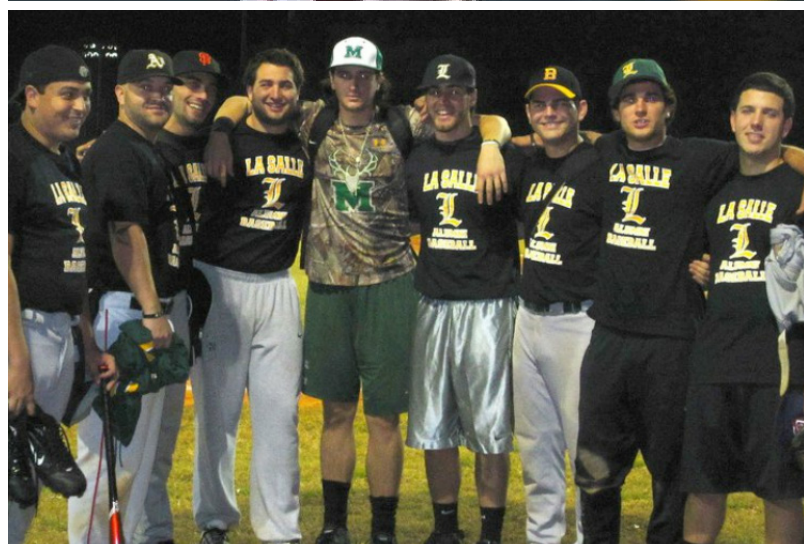
Miami is a hotbed for baseball talent, and ILS is no exception. ILS alumni are playing and coaching at both the college and pro levels. Robert Fajardo (ILS class of 2010) is interning with the Kansas City Royals as a Strength and Conditioning Coach. Robert played his college ball at Marshall University, along with Nate Gomez, Head Baseball Coach here at La Salle. Elier Rodriguez is playing in the St. Louis Cardinals organization. And Alex Perez ('11) continues to tear up the minor leagues in the Minnesota Twins organization.

Photo 1

Team photo, 2017 ILS baseball team

Photo 2

Seniors of the 2017 Royal Lions baseball team





SOFTBALL

The 2016-17 Royal Lions softball team had a banner year. Under second year head coach Rick Hernandez, and assistant coach Genevieve Roberts, the Lady Lions accumulated an impressive record of 16-3. The season culminated in a conference championship with a huge win over Miami Country Day. The Lady Lions steamrolled through the playoffs, including a blowout win over SLAM which was ended with the mercy rule after only 3 innings! Kudos to senior hurler Ariana Arroyo who was virtually un-hittable, along with underclassmen Beatriz Triay, Alex Tsotsos, and Kimberly “Kimbo” Montesi.



GIRLS BASKETBALL

It was a solid season for the Lady Lions basketball team. Head Coach (and proud ILS alumnus) David Fernandez has a goal each year: to exceed expectations. This year was no different. Despite losing a several key seniors, the team fulfilled Coach Fernandez' goal. The team finished the season with a respectable record of 13-10. They had huge wins against rivals Mater Lakes and iMater Academy, and swept the archrival Ransom. "The heart of the team is the juniors and seniors," commented Coach Fernandez. That was evidenced by the two co-captains, Cristina Hernandez and Sophie Benevides, both of whom are only juniors. Congrats to Coach Fernandez and the Lady Lions basketball team. They will have even greater expectations to exceed next year!



GIRLS SOCCER

The 2016-17 Lady Lions soccer team had a great season, finishing with a record of 13-5-2. Head Coach Anthony Vuono embraced a quote from Mother Theresa for the year: "Do small things with great love." Any coach or athlete knows that the key to success is concentrating on the small things, and this philosophy certainly paid dividends. Coach Vuono should know, as he was on the LaSalle soccer team in the late 90's that won the first ever district title for the boys' squad. Coach Vuono was joined by Assistant Coach / Strength and Conditioning Coach Delenia Gomez, who had the girls in great shape to face some serious opposition.

The Lady Lions were runner-ups for the district title. Although that was a bit of a disappointment, it did not overshadow a solid season. With big wins over Westminster Christian and Ransom, the team held its own. They also tied powerhouses Gulliver and Carrolton, the latter winning the regional finals. There were big contributions from some of the younger players.



Freshman Annabelle Toledo scored 12 goals on the season, and sophomore Stephanie Cuan was third on the team with 12 goals and 11 assists. Sophomore Kiki Marabona earned 2nd team All-Dade, and her big sister, co-captain Niki Marabona made 1st Team All-Dade. Niki earned a full scholarship to play soccer at the college level for St. Thomas University. Senior superstar and co-captain Karina Santin had another outstanding season. (Last year she set a school record with an astounding 31 goals.) This season she scored 21 goals, with 8 assists, and earning 1st Team All-Dade honors. She was also awarded Dade County Offensive Player of the Year, earned her second team MVP award, and was named ILS Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year, with a 3.71 GPA. Karina will attend Rollins College, an NCAA Division II school in Orlando, on a full scholarship.

Congratulations to Coach Vuono, Coach Gomez, and all the Lady Lions on a great season.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross country runners need to be brave. It's a very lonely sport. Thankfully ILS has some very strong-willed athletes competing on the cross country team. Junior Augustin Cardano had a great season, as did seniors Brando Mena and Juan Aguirre. All three runners placed in districts and advanced to regions.

Junior superstar runner Mariana Gonzalez (who also competes on the track team) completed a magnificent season by making history here at ILS. She placed in both districts and regions in the 5K. She became the first individual athlete to represent ILS in the FL State Championships. Big congratulations to Mariana Gonzalez on a fine season and a huge accomplishment.

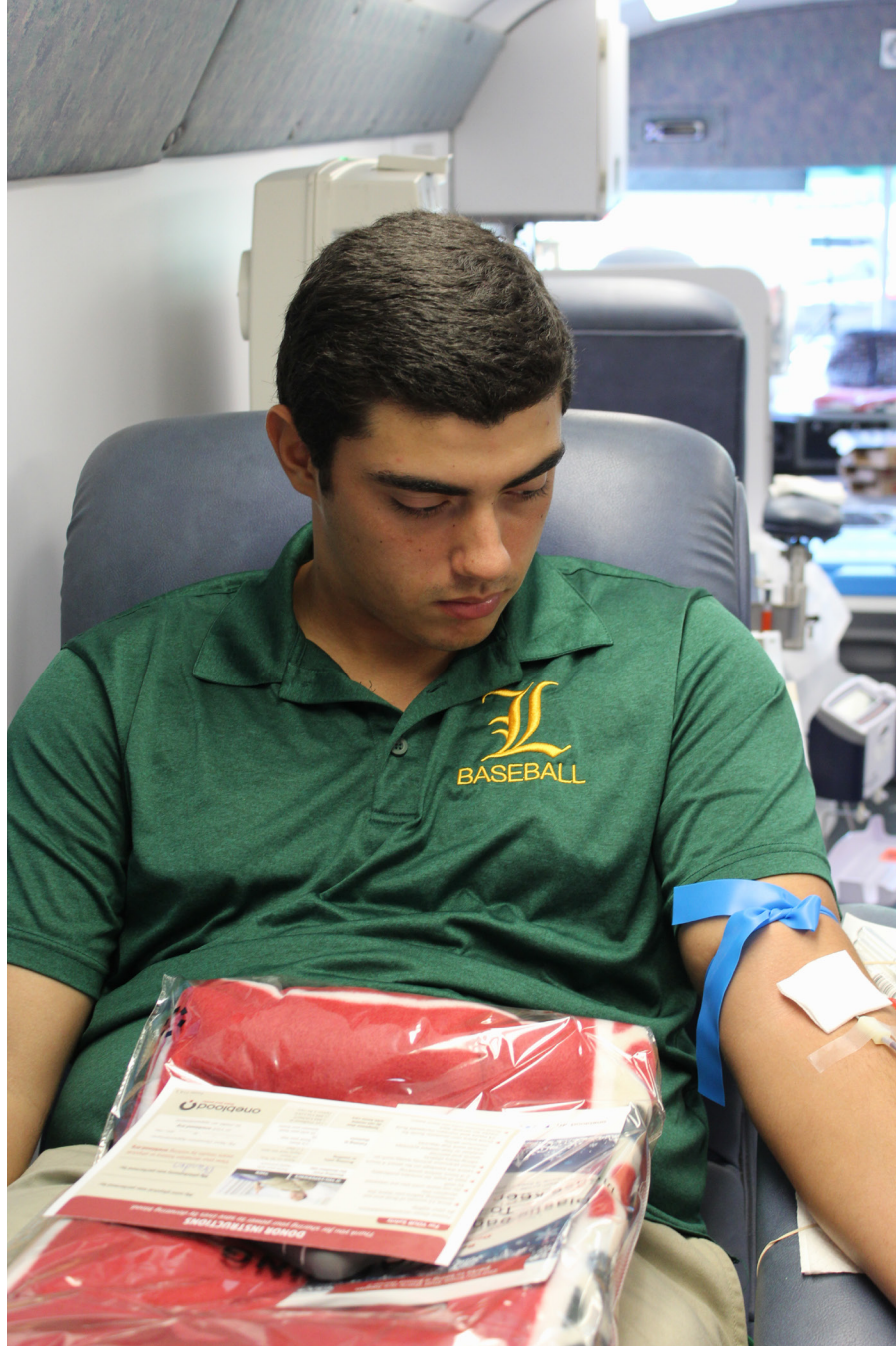




Blood Drive

It was another successful year for the annual ILS Blood Drive. Brave students volunteered their time (and their blood) for a very worthy cause. Considering there is a giant shortage of blood across the country, it's good to see ILS students and faculty pitching in. After all, every drop counts.







Boys Soccer

The Immaculata-La Salle boys' soccer team advanced to the Florida State Tournament this year after a great season and thrilling playoffs. It all started when this year's squad beat Edison to become District champs. They then went on to three rounds of regional tournament action. First they vanquished Keys Gate, then beat Archrival Gulliver Academy in a thrilling penalty kick shootout. The game ended 0-0, and after two scoreless overtime periods, ILS came out the winner by penalty kicks. Two days later, the ILS team again found themselves tied 0-0 with North Broward Prep through regulation and double overtime. Again,

superior goalie play enabled them to take the victory through dramatic best-of-five penalty kicks.

Eventually the Royal Lions ran out of miracle endings and succumbed to Tampa's Berkeley Prep in the State Semi-final round. Of course the game was tied 0-0 at the end of regulation. The teams battled until there were 2 minutes remaining in the second overtime, when Berkeley broke through with the winning goal. Never-the-less, huge congratulations to the Immaculata-La Salle soccer team, Region 4, 2A Champions.



Form Part Of Our Giving Tree And Leave Your Legacy For Years To Come

Boulder
\$150,000.00

Rock
\$100,000.00

Stone
\$75,000.00

Framed Acorn
\$50,000.00

Crowned Acorn
\$25,000.00

Acorn
\$15,000.00

Platinum Leaf
\$10,000.00

Gold Leaf
\$5,000.00

Bronze Leaf
\$2,500.00

Ways to give can be made in Outright Gifts (checks payable to Immaculata-La Salle) or in person. For any question or for further information please contact:

Cristina Brito
Office for Advancement
(305) 854-2334 ext.142



Keep the LEGACY Alive!

“Immaculata-La Salle High School commits itself to providing the highest quality of Catholic education based on the gospel and the Salesian Preventive System of reason, religion and loving kindness.”

Immaculata-La Salle depends on the generous support of our parents, alumni and friends to help close the gap to cover the full costs of providing our students with a superior educational program.

Donations like yours, in small or large ways, have a lasting impact on our commitment to help with our students' education. With many improvements heading our way and in trying to keep our exceptional education at its lowest cost possible, we rely fully on your generosity and kindness. Thanks for your interest in supporting our institution. Every effort counts and is greatly appreciated.

Together we can make our legacy better and greater!

IMMACULATA- LA SALLE

Upcoming Events

2017-2018

Alumni Sports Hall of Fame
November 2, 2017

Alumni Pig Roast
November 3, 2017

Tricky Tray
November 17, 2017

Royals Gala Casino Night
February 10, 2018

ILS Golf Tournament
May 11, 2018



Salesian Cooperators at ILS

This year some of our ILS family became part of the Salesian Cooperators, part of the lay Salesian community which help the formation of our youth in the ways of St. Don Bosco. Our group chose the name of Saint Francis De Sales in honor of the Saint who Don Bosco looked for guidance in establishing the Salesian order. St Francis de Sales is a Bishop and Doctor of the Church and is known to be the Patron Saint of: authors, deafness, journalists and writers.

Sr. Kim led the way in establishing the first 12 cooperators which included a mix of our teachers as well as parents in our ILS family who shared the same Catholic and Salesian values.

From Left To Right starting at the top row:

Anthony Vuono, Sr. Kim Keraitis, Chris Crotty, Eddie Cerdeiras, Fredy Padovan, Diego Garcia, Fr. Tom Dunne, Dr. Rolando de Leon, Michael Hahn, and Sr. Karen Dunn

Seated Left to Right:

Aimee Cerdeiras, Margarita Santana, Elena Capablanca, Araceli Crotty, Debbie de Leon, Sr. Denise Sickinger, and Loretta Soulner

Since this year was declared to be the Year of the Family, our focus throughout the year will be to help our ILS families. In hopes of growing closer together in the faith and continuing to strengthen their relationships within their own families as well as other ILS families.

TRACK

It was a solid season for the ILS track team. Head Coach Eddie Cerdeiras has his people in great shape to contend every year. Facing some intense competition from the likes of Gulliver, Booker T. Washington, Pace, and Ransom, you can bet those athletes will need to be in top shape.

Despite being comprised of mostly underclassmen, this past season was a success. Freshman Anabel Toledo placed 3rd in the district and advanced to regions in the 400 meter. Sophomore Anisa Requeny placed 4th in the districts and also advanced to regions. She joined fellow sophomores Stephanie Cuan and Jimmy Vargas in the regions, qualifying in the 200 meter, and shot put, respectively. Junior superstar Mariana Gonzalez advanced to the regions in the 1600. Junior Daniel Burke placed 2nd in the district in the pole vault, and he joined fellow junior Cam “The Man” Ryles who was a district finalist in the 100 meter. Senior Julian Pita placed 3rd in the district and went to regions in the high jump, and senior Collie “Flower” Williams took first place in the district for the long jump. ILS alumni in the college track stars include Mati de Leon, who is throwing the discus and the hammer at Spring Hill College in Alabama, and Katie Tillman who throws the shot put at Defiance College in Ohio.



Girls Volleyball

The 2016-17 Lady Lions had another stellar season on the volleyball court. Winning district championships has become fairly routine for the girls' volleyball team here at ILS, and this past season was no exception. The Lady Lions, under Coach Odette Parsons and Asst. Coach Saladrigas, captured another district championship by beating Mast Academy in a thrilling championship. They also had a huge win against Pace, one of ILS' most heated rivals. The Lady Lions took home an emotional win against Pace on their senior night, propelling them through the remainder of the season and the districts. The Lady Lions eventually fell to Gulliver in the regions, but that did not spoil an otherwise outstanding season. Kudos to Coaches Parsons and Saladrigas, and all the La Salle volleyball players over the last few years dominating their district.





Pedro Pan & ILS

By: Cristina Brito

Operation Pedro Pan was a mass exodus of over 14,000 Cuban children during the 1960s, known to be the largest exodus of unaccompanied minors to the United States. When Fidel Castro took over Cuba, Cuban parents feared their children would be sent to the Soviet Union for indoctrination with communist ideals and that they would lose parental authority over their children. Parents thinking this might be a temporary separation from their children bravely sent them to the United States.

Monsignor Bryan O. Walsh, director of the Catholic Welfare Bureau, started Operation Pedro Pan in November 1960 after meeting a young man who was sent from Cuba to live with relatives. These relatives were not able to provide for him and asked for assistance from the Catholic Welfare Bureau. Monsignor Walsh knew then that many children would be sent to the United States as Fidel Castro established a Communist government in Cuba.

Cuban Brothers of La Salle, with the assistance of Monsignor Bryan Walsh, opened La Salle High School with a few boys from Operation Pedro Pan on the grounds of the Immaculata School. In 1962 those boys were the first to graduate from La Salle High School.

Jorge Guarch and his wife Peggy played a very important role in Operation Pedro Pan and in the lives of the many children

arriving from Cuba. Mr. Guarch served as a volunteer and in 1961 Monsignor hired him to transport the children who were arriving daily. Mr. Guarch kept a log recording the names of all the children, their birthdays, types of visas and where they would be placed when they arrived. Some had relatives waiting for them and others were driven by Mr. Guarch to one of the camps in Miami. I, in fact, am one of the children who had relatives, my grandparents, waiting for me upon my arrival. At the time my father was a political prisoner and my mother stayed behind in order to take him food at the prison when visits were allowed. A few months ago Lynn Pardo, Mr. Guarch's daughter, sent me a copy of the logs which included my name. Seeing this brought tears to my eyes remembering that day when I stepped into the Pan American flight, not knowing when I would see my parents again or if I would ever go back to my beautiful country, Cuba.

In 2013, in their yearly Desayuno Martiano (breakfast) at the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity, known as La Ermita de la Caridad, Operation Pedro Pan honored Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Guarch by starting a scholarship fund for Immaculata-La Salle High School.

I sincerely want to thank Msgr. Bryan Walsh, Mr. and Mrs. Guarch and all who helped, for their love and kindness towards us Cuban children, whose parents were so brave to send us to the United States so we could live and be raised in a free and democratic country.

Overwhelmed by Kindness!

by Milagros Beltran
edited by David Fernandez

While my mother and I were in Puerto Rico mourning the loss of my aunt, the impending path of hurricane Maria was on our minds. Uncertain if we would make it off the island prior to hurricane's landfall, we joined countless others in preparing for what was to come.

Thanks to the tenacity and kindness of another faculty member at Immaculata-La Salle, my mother and I were able to make it home to Miami on the Tuesday before the storm. My family, like many other Puertorrican families, now struggle with the aftermath of the storm. The loss of property is the least of the worries, knowing that most are going without potable water and electricity brings a slew of worries that make the reality of watching from afar crippling.

With the aid of the Immaculata-La Salle High School family, we were able to collect a total of \$11,000 which have been allocated to assist with the needs of those affected by hurricane Irma in South Florida, the earthquake in Mexico, and hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. In addition, non-perishable goods donated have been delivered to Puerto Rico with the aid of Puertorrican celebrities - among them Chayanne and Ricky Martin!

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Mt. 25: 40)



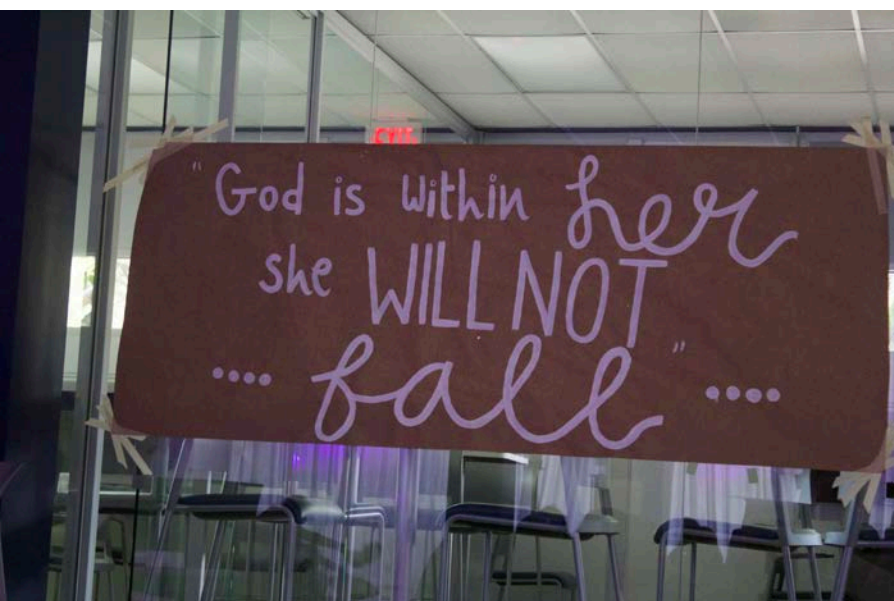


Campus Ministry: Helping Others Grow Their Catholic Faith

The Salesian spirit is alive and well at ILS. Students flock to the Campus Ministry department to participate in the development of the spiritual lives of their fellow students. Campus Ministers see themselves as modern day disciples, helping others in their journey towards Christ.

The Campus Ministry office at ILS certainly has their hands full. Campus Ministers assist in preparations for every school Mass, they run regular prayer services, and of course they organize and run retreats, which are popular here at LaSalle. There is a retreat specifically for freshmen called “Cornerstone” which is meant to provide a foundation for the young freshmen on their journey towards Christ. The retreat for sophomores is called “Ignite,” inspired by St. Katherine de Siena’s quote, “Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire.” Juniors and seniors attend the ETC retreats, which stands for “Encounter Towards Christ,” summarizing the spiritual goal of the Salesian experience.

Don Bosco said, “Walk with your feet on Earth, and your heart in Heaven.” Campus Ministers take this advice to heart. ILS is grateful to Julie Anne Cannon, head of the Campus Ministry Department, for cultivating such a successful program.





Archbishop of Miami Celebrates Ash Wednesday Mass at Immaculata-La Salle

Archbishop Thomas Wenski chose to celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass at Immaculata-La Salle High School in Miami. It was a special day for the Salesian community to have the Bishop on campus for the day. Enthusiastic Catholics from all over the Miami area flocked to Don Bosco Arena to have the opportunity of

attending Mass with Archbishop Wenski. The media was present, as well, and Bishop Wenski granted a brief interview during which he stressed the need for immigration reform. Hosting the Bishop on such a special day was quite an honor for everyone at Immaculata-La Salle High School.



HARVARD

ILS Debate Team on their way to Harvard University.



ILS ROYALS DEBATE TEAM DOES IT AGAIN!

The 2016-2017 season for the ILS Royals Debate team proved to be another successful year. Our team captain, senior and Valedictorian of the 2017 senior class, Kelly Liang, once again qualified for the Florida Forensics League State Championship tournament. Along with Kelly, two rookie team members also qualified to compete at the championship. Kelly and freshman Julia Taquechel showed off their skilled and confident style of debate in Congressional Debate, while sophomore Valentina Alaimo gained valuable experience compet-

ing in Lincoln-Douglas (one on one) Debate. Above all, perhaps this year's greatest team achievement was in the growth of the team. The leadership showed by Captain Kelly Liang, and the commitment to mentoring of Jessica Merino, insured that the enthusiasm and talent of the underclassmen is secured. These competitors have become the core of our team for the next three years, and have the potential to become champions. Good luck to the ILS Royals Debate Team in the 2017-2018 Debate season!

ILS Debate Team took a break from competing at Harvard University, and walked the Freedom Trail.



ILS debater having a moment.





ILS Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, the Foreign Language Department, together with the Spanish Honor Society and the Latin American Club organized a wonderful celebration called “Feria Latina,” a celebration of the Hispanic culture and the Catholic faith.

The day started off with Mass, which was celebrated in both English and Spanish, much to the delight of the LaSalle student body and faculty. The Mass was offered up to Our Lady of the Americas in order to reflect the celebration of Spanish culture.

After Mass, students and faculty were treated to a very diverse and delicious lunch, with dozens of types of

food, all representing Latin American countries. Each country had its own station set up, complete with visual boards displaying information about the country, its customs, and even a replica of the country’s flag. It was a combination of lessons in history, geography, culture, and cuisine.

Feria Latina was a tremendous success, as well as a wonderful learning opportunity for students at Immaculata-LaSalle High School. Many thanks to Araceli Crotty, head of the World Languages Department, for making sure that students are educated about culture as well as the Catholic tradition.



The Health Sciences

IMMACULATA-LA SALLE

COMPLETES YEAR 2 OF HEALTH SCIENCES CONCENTRATION

Immaculata-La Salle just completed year 2 of their comprehensive Health Sciences Concentration program with magnificent results. Students interested in the medical or healthcare fields enrolled in classes ranging from Health Explorations, First Aid and CPR, to more advanced courses such as Anatomy and Physiology Honors.

In addition to learning in the traditional classroom environment, all students completed mandatory rotations at Mercy Hospital in a variety of roles in different departments. Students fulfilled administrative roles such as medical records and risk management. They also learned about wound care, occupational and physical therapy. Juniors will be learning more advanced skills including radiology, pathology, and radiation therapy, while Seniors will gain valuable experience working in the emergency room, the maternity ward and even the behavioral health department.

The Health Sciences program also includes accumulating volunteer hours at Mercy Hospital, in addition to their mandatory rotations at the hospital. The students are placed in specific departments including, but not limited to: the emergency department, oncology, medical/surgical, orthopedics, post-partum, and cardiology.

ILS is very grateful for Rebecca Shaw, Science Department Chairperson, as well as Dr. De Leon, head of the Mercy Hospital OBGYN Department (and proud La Salle father) for instituting the partnership with Mercy Hospital. Great to see our students benefitting from the most in-demand curriculum and real-world experience, while at the same time learning the value of volunteering at a wonderful Catholic hospital.



Health Science students learn how to use a wound-vac during their wound care rotation

Health Science students get hands-on experience as they learn how to transfer patients from wheelchairs to beds that are unable to do so on their own

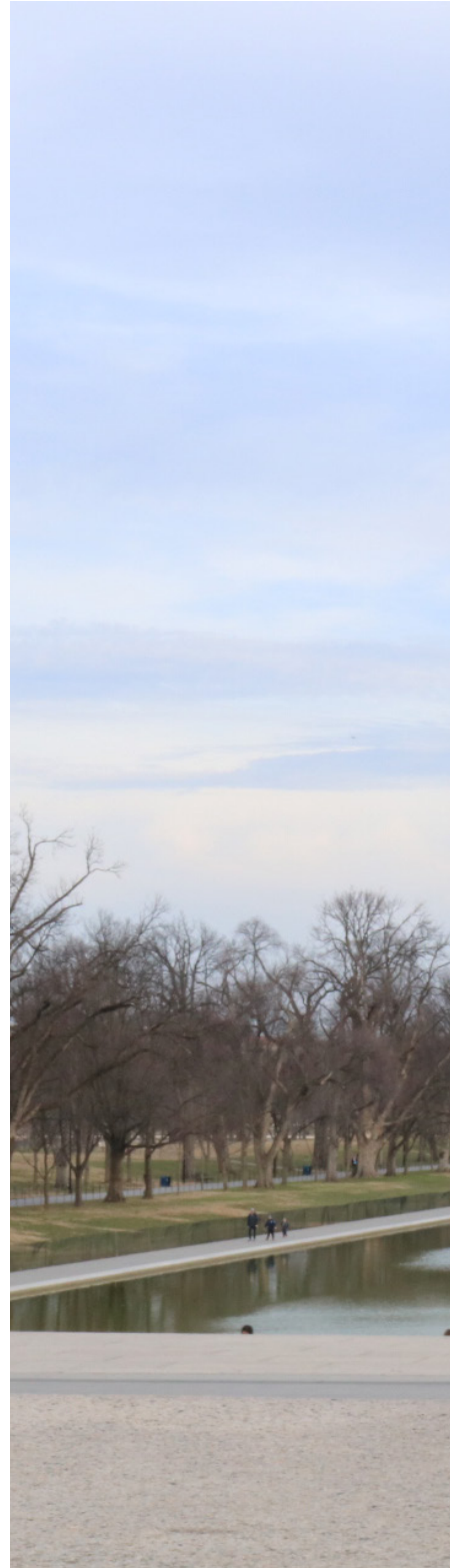


Miranda Omenaca works during the wound care rotation to seal a "bedsore" prior to connecting the drain



Health Science students learn different rehab techniques during the occupational therapy rotation

Group shot of Close-Up in front of the Capitol Building



Future politicians from ILS.



Close-Up moderator Gabe Suarez, contemplating a run for president.



A couple ILS students enjoying a view of the Washington Monument.



“Close UP” Club Visits Washington, DC

The 2017 ILS Close-Up club traveled to Washington, D.C. in order to have an inside look at democracy in action. Using the nation’s capital as a living classroom, participants get a “close up” view of the U.S. government. ILS students were able to visit and learn about many historic sites and memorials, including the Lincoln Memorial, the Holocaust Museum, the Jefferson Memorial, and the National 9/11 Pentagon Memo-

rial. Students also attended classes and workshops, to discuss and debate the purpose and significance of the historical sites they were witnessing.

Immaculata-LaSalle believes in developing engaged and informed citizens, and we owe a big “Thank you!” to Gabe Suarez and Ana Lourdes Garcia for chaperoning the trip.

Sisters of St. Joseph Celebrate 150th Anniversary in Florida



Sister Elizabeth Worley

This past September, the Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Augustine celebrated the 150th anniversary of their ministry here in Florida. Many ILS alumni fondly recall having Sister Elizabeth Worley (AKA Sister Red) running things at ILS. The Sisters of St. Joseph were founded in France in 1650 and came to Florida immediately after the Civil War at the call of Bishop (Augustin) Verot, who wanted to offer education to the thousands of newly freed slaves. According to Sister Jane Stoecker, general superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph, "Through Bishop Verot, God called them: 'leave your home, come to this place very foreign to you; bring Jesus and educate the poorest.' They left their homeland, came to the shores of Florida, brought Jesus, and educated the poorest, with the ripple effects that sent an uncontrollable wave across the state!"

With extraordinary generosity and courage, the eight Sisters arrived in St. Augustine on Sept. 2, 1866. Sixty had volunteered, but Bishop Verot could only afford to bring eight. The Sisters did not know the language, had no experience as teachers and knew nothing of the humidity and the challenging living conditions in post-Civil War Florida. They certainly had their work cut out for them.

The Sisters learned English and began by first teaching the children of those freed slaves and, in night school, the adults. The sisters supported themselves through the sales of handmade lace, private French lessons, music and art, and by boarding invalids. In 1874, they opened St. Joseph Academy and later similar academies in Jacksonville, Mandarin and other parts of the state.

The Sisters opened a school for black youth, St. Benedict the Moor School in Lincolnville, in the 1890's. Sister Katherine Drexel of Philadelphia, now a saint of the Catholic Church, helped fund the school's construction. In 1899, the Sisters of St. Joseph in St. Augustine were established as a diocesan congregation and assumed a statewide role as pioneers in the fields of education, health care and social services. In 1905, the Sisters of St. Joseph in Miami opened the Gesu School (St. Catherine Academy) and continued to serve in numerous parish schools, some of which were started even before the parish was formed.

In 1916, three sisters were arrested for violating a state law that white teachers could not teach in black schools. Two of the sisters

were released on their own recognizance. The third, Principal Sister Mary Thomasine Hehir, refused to pay the \$25 bond and was ordered to appear at the St. Johns County Courthouse the following morning. Instead of going to jail, the judge permitted her to be held under house arrest at the convent. The following month she was set free.

In 1950, the Sisters of St. Joseph opened Mercy Hospital, and continued to serve at various local schools, including the Cathedral school, Saints Peter and Paul, Saint Stephen, Saint James, Holy Family, and of course Immaculate-LaSalle High School.

The Sisters responded to the call of the bishop to serve wherever and whenever there was a need, including serving at the Archdiocese of Miami's Pastoral Center. Sister "Red" currently serves as archdiocesan chancellor for administration and chief operating office. Sister Rosa Lopez currently serves right here at Immaculate-La Salle. Interestingly, the Sisters of St. Joseph taught Archbishop Thomas Wenski when he was in elementary school.

To mark the occasion of the 150th anniversary, the Sisters celebrated with two ceremonies in the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine. Solemn Vespers were led by Bishop Felipe Estévez, and a Mass of Thanksgiving was said by Archbishop Thomas J. Wenski of the Archdiocese of Miami, as principal celebrant. Six other bishops join him as concelebrants. Here in Miami, the Miami the celebration for the Sisters of St. Joseph took place at Mercy Hospital. A PBS documentary about the Sisters of St. Joseph was produced, called "A Legacy of Faith, the Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Augustine, FL."

Speaking of the original eight Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister Jane said, "The greatest, most prized possessions, more powerful than any material wealth, were their zeal, their courage, their determination, their tenacity, their single focus of bringing 'neighbor to neighbor, and neighbor to God, that 'All may be one. (John 17:21).' From a small ripple flowed their great love of God!"

Today, their mission statement reflects that commitment: "Seized by God's love, we work in collaboration with others to bring union and reconciliation to our world, 'that all may be one.'"



They original 8 sisters were "eight ordinary women" with no outstanding accomplishments, riches, eloquence, great talents or doctoral degrees. "Just ordinary women with a very great love of God, of the 'dear neighbor' and of the Congregation." Much like St. Joseph, their patron saint...listening, obedient and strong."



A Successful Year in the Theatre Arts

This year at Immaculate-La Salle, the Drama Club put on two stellar productions. In the fall, they performed alongside the music students in *It's A Wonderful Life*- A Live Radio Play. This show has made its rounds regionally in Chicago, as well as other regional theaters throughout the U.S. It made its Miami premiere this past December at ILS. This telling of *It's A Wonderful Life* focuses on the storytelling- with actors standing at microphones in "WBFR Studio A in Manhattan." Audiences were transported to Christmas Eve, 1946, with the ILS chorus and keyboard students facilitating the storytelling as they played the holiday hits of the day.

What a wonderful way to end the school year before Christmas break!

For the Spring show, the Drama Club excitedly presented *Mary Poppins the Musical*. This production was filled with magic, music, dancing, and that Mary Poppins charm only a flying nanny could bring. Audiences young and old were treated to a colorful, intricate set that relied on wheels and the help of many stage hands to move. Sceneries included the inside of 17 Cherry Tree Lane (the Banks' home), a nursery, a magical park, a bank, a cathedral, and the rooftops of London! The



sets, choreography, and props were created by members of the Drama Club, as well as the art students of the school. Some of the most impressive costumes were designed and created by ILS alumni Bella Orelle. This musical was so much fun to produce. In the climax of the show, chimney sweeps flooded the Bayshore Ballroom and danced with audience members in a rousing rendition of "Step in Time!"

Drama students produced two One Acts in the brand new Black Box theatre. This new space is equipped with state-of-the art lighting, sound systems, and a mov-

able stage. And of course, the entire room is black from wall-to-wall. Students of Drama learned how to run the lights, design the costumes, create the sound effects, and act in their own shows. Family members were invited to enjoy the hard work that the students put into this year-long class. It was a proud moment had by all. Next year, we hope to feature the Black Box even more - with our annual Haunted Night benefiting a chosen charity, and so much more! Keep an eye out for next year's shows!



The Wishbone Project

The Maria Garces Wishbone Project provides a full Thanksgiving meal for families in need right here in the local community. The National Honor Society, moderated by ILS alumni Laura Aguirre ('06) and Ana Lourdes Garcia ('86), runs the service project that mobilizes the entire school to come together and help our neighbors in the community.

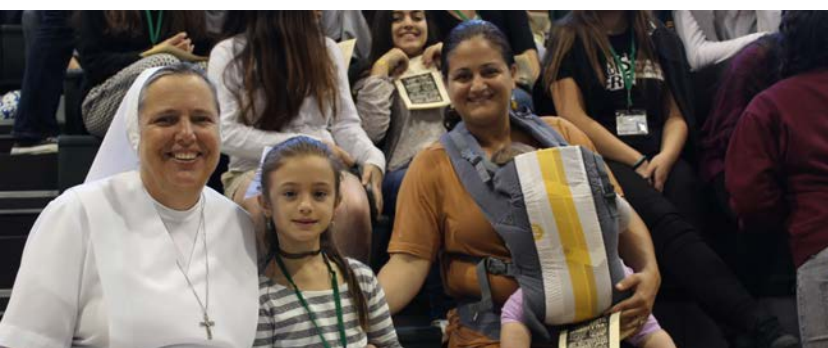
In keeping with the origin of the project in the year 2000, the NHS members and the faculty, administration, and staff fill large boxes with all the fresh food items a family of 6 would need to cook and prepare their own traditional American Thanksgiving dinner. This part of Wishbone serves the families of St. Mary's Catholic School.

The other part of the project serves the community of St. John Bosco parish. ILS students and their families fill boxes of traditional Hispanic food staples - such as rice, beans, canned meats and root vegetables - plus

basic items such as flour, sugar, cereals, peanut butter, and jelly. The ILS community, on average, provides 350 individual family boxes, 40 boxes of overbought items to stock the church's pantry, and \$1500 in grocery gift cards.

Wishbone was conceived by students enrolled in a Special Issues project-based class taught by teachers Maria de la Guardia and Ana Lourdes Garcia. After the first three years of the class doing the project which focused at that time on two small schools and roughly 75 families, the next class thought that more students should be part of the experience that meant so much to them. At that point, different school clubs and classes spearheaded the project involving more and more students until it finally became a traditional service project for the entire school.

This past year, Student Council even sponsored an afternoon in the cafeteria with music and pizza so that



students could pick up their empty boxes and decorate them before taking them home to fill. The three days before Thanksgiving, the school becomes a giant pantry with students volunteering to organize and restock and repack boxes assuring that each family box has all the food on the lists and is nicely decorated. Sometimes recent alumni, in town for the break, will even stop by and help. After Thanksgiving Mass on Wednesday, students help load the U-Haul truck that takes the food to St. John Bosco church, and this year, roughly 40 students helped unload and carry the boxes for each family to their cars, while sharing a moment to simply get to know the people they are helping.

It was under the leadership of Maria Garces (Rest In

Peace) as the moderator of NHS that Wishbone kept its commitment to St. Mary's but also expanded to help St John Bosco parish. For that reason Wishbone was renamed the Maria Garces' Wishbone Project - in honor of her dedication and vision to always strive to serve as many as we can.

As evidence of the impact the project has on our students, the clubs and classes that usually volunteer to spearhead the project in any given year have always been those led or taught by ILS alumni, who themselves participated in the project as students. We are very grateful to ILS alumni Ana Lourdes Garcia and Laura Aguiere for organizing such a worthy cause as the Maria Garces' Wishbone Project.



Coach Richard Jobson Named “Coach of the Year” for 2017

The Head Coach of the ILS boys’ soccer team, Richard Jobson, was named “Coach of the Year” by the Miami Herald, for leading his team to Regional Champions, and all the way to the FL State semi-finals. Coach Richard accomplished this in just his third year with the program.

Coach Richard is no stranger to coaching success. In his previous coaching position, he guided his team to 3 state championships in a 5 year span. He has earned “Coach of the Year” honors 4 times prior to coming to ILS. We are very grateful for having Coach Richard on staff.

Coach Richard is not just a great soccer coach. He takes an active role in the lives of his student-athletes, he defers credit and always accepts responsibility, and he demonstrates the values of an ethical and highly principled educator. Speaking to Coach Richard about his recent success at ILS, true to form, he designated much credit to his predecessor and good friend, Coach Jorge San Miguel.

“Coach San Miguel is the architect of the ILS boys’ soccer program,” Coach Richard said. “Jorge is the guy who built this program up. I am just continuing the success he started.” Coach Richard has a good point. Coach San Miguel is Asst. Head Coach of the soccer team, Offensive Coordinator of the ILS football team, as well as a professor at Nova Southeastern, and, perhaps most notably, a proud ILS alumnus. He is also the “hardest working guy on the field,” according to Coach Richard.

In the 2012-13 school year, ILS found themselves in sudden need of a Head Soccer Coach. Athletic Director Chris Crotty reached out to Coach San Miguel, who dutifully answered the call, despite his grueling schedule. In his first year as Head Coach, Coach San Miguel led the Royal Lions soccer team to become District Champs. The program has been flourishing ever since.

The ILS community, and certainly all our soccer fans and family, are very fortunate to have not one, but two magnificent coaches leading our young men on the soccer field.



ILS Teacher Ana Lourdes Garcia and The Teaching Shakespeare Institute's Summer Academy 2017: a deep dive into teaching Macbeth

From an overwhelming number of applications, 30 participants that come from 20 different states and territories, teach in a wide variety of schools, and have a range of teaching experience were chosen to spend a week at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., learning to teach Macbeth the Folger way: through attention to scholarship, performance, curriculum, and assessment.

Participants will make strategic use of the Folger's collection of rare materials-including the world's largest Shakespeare collection and major collections in early English books, manuscripts, and art-and work with scholars, theater professionals, and experienced teachers.

Summer Academy participants will...

- Study Macbeth-and how to teach it-as a scholar, a performer, and a classroom teacher.

- Engage in rigorous work all day, starting with scholarly lectures in the morning and ending with curriculum workshops in the evening.

- Create 3-day teaching modules on Macbeth that incorporate primary source documents, performance-based approaches, and a focus on language.

- Forge new relationships with Shakespeare, the Folger, and a professional learning community that stretches across the country and promotes exchange among teachers at all kinds of schools.



Julie Anne Cannon - Comparative Education Systems: Helsinki & Milan (July 2-10, 2017)

During the trip we will learn how Finland set about creating an educational system that today, allows equal opportunity to all of its population. We will interact with officials from the Finnish National Board of Education, visit local schools, and meet with local educators and examine this country's path to becoming a global education leader while exploring the culture of it's metropolitan capital, Helsinki.

The tour of Finland's education system and culinary traditions will lead into the Summit theme-the Future of Food-as we gather with fellow educators for a two-day Summit conference in Milan, Italy, July 8-9. There we will hear from world-renowned speakers, attend expert-led workshops and gain valuable insight into how food connects plates, people, politics and culture, while exploring the role of education in tackling global issues.



JC Moya Explores Scotland

Miami native JC Moya, who teaches world literature, international relations, and comparative politics, received the Key West Literary Seminar's Teacher & Librarian Scholarship this past January. He also has been awarded an Outstanding Teacher Fellowship to study Celtic literatures and nationalism at St. Andrews University in Scotland in July.

Moya's courses at Immaculata-LaSalle focus on African studies, gender studies, nationalism, comparative politics, and comparative genocide. He spent part of the summer of 2016 in Rwanda, conducting research on the ongoing process of post-genocide justice, reconciliation and reconstruction.



Teacher & Alumnus('02) Elena Capablanca

Immaculata-La Salle's graphics teacher and media coordinator, has received the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award from FIU's College of Arts and Sciences. She was honored on April 26, 2017 at FIU's 38th annual CASE Student Award Ceremony. She was 1 out of 3 graduates chosen in the entire Education program.

Capablanca has also been chosen as a recipient of Univision's "Un Maestro Especial" (A Special Teacher), which honors and recognizes educators who have shown exceptional leadership in their community and made a positive impact in the lives of their students. The awards ceremony took place at the Miami Lakes Educational Center. As part of the recognition, Univision 23 also aired a profile of Capablanca, her unique teaching methods and community outreach with our ILS students.

Capablanca grew up in Miami and after graduating from La Salle she earned scholarships to Miami Dade College's Honors Program and Florida Atlantic University, where she received two Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in graphic design and 3D animation. She is an Adobe Certified Associate, Adobe Campus Leader and a Certified Apple Educator.

In December of 2016, she graduated from Florida International University with a Master's degree in Art Education. She also received fine arts training through the FIU France study abroad program.

Capablanca has exhibited her own work at Miami-Dade College, Florida Atlantic University, AIGA Design Group and Florida International University Galleries as well as the Frost Art Museum.

She tells her students that art is meant to entertain, spark wonder or begin a conversation. It speaks to the imagination and spirit in ways that words cannot, and is a universal form of conveying emotion. Whether or not her students go on to become professional graphic designers or artists, all of them walk away from her classes with an appreciation for the craft or a life lesson.

Capablanca also believes that to those whom much has been given, much will be asked, so she serves as moderator of Immaculata-La Salle's Photography/Film club and Key Club. Key Club is one of the oldest community service organizations in the U.S. and a great vehicle for training student leaders. It also provides college scholarships for seniors who have excelled in serving their community. Our ILS students do much volunteer work through the Key Club organization as well as collaborate with other high schools who are doing positive outreach for our community.

It has been a busy year for Capablanca as she approaches her 10th year at ILS. We wish her continued success in all her endeavors!



Valedictorian:
Kelly Liang



Congratulations!

To the Top Two ILS Royals of 2017
May the Lord continue to guide
your education & life's journey



Salutatorian:
Sofia Incera

Great job to Immaculata-La Salle's class of 2017!
Earning **11,275,460.00 in scholarships & grants**
over the next four years!

**Don't forget to look for the Alumni table
at events throughout the year!**



**Alumni support education by helping others attend
our high school and making futures brighter!**

ALUMNI 2017 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 which came with scholarships for most of our graduates. Congratulations to the ILS Guidance Department for a job well done.

4 YEAR UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES OUT OF FLORIDA (48 Students-24%)

Belmont Abbey College
Catholic University of America
Dominican College, NY
Eastern University
Emerson College
Fashion institute of Technology, NY
Hofstra University
LaSalle College
Loyola University in Chicago
Loyola University in New Orleans
Marymount Manhattan College, NY
New York University
Parsons School of Design
Purdue University
Savannah College of Art & Design
School of Visual Arts, NY
Spring Hill College
State university of New York- Purchase
Syracuse University
University of Colorado, Boulder
Universidad de Navarra, Spain
University of Dayton
University of Notre Dame
University of West Alabama
Virginia Institute of Technology
Wabash College
Williams College
Xavier University

4 YEAR UNIVERSITIES PUBLIC in FLORIDA OUT OF MIAMI (18 Students-9 %)

Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Gulf Coast University
Florida State University
University of Central Florida
University of Florida
University of South Florida
University of West Florida

4 YEAR UNIVERSITIES /COLLEGES PRIVATE IN FLORIDA OUT OF MIAMI (4 Students-2%)

Ave Maria University
Bethune-Cookman University
Lynn University
Nova Southeastern University
Rollins College

4 YEAR UNIVERSITIES PUBLIC in MIAMI (49 Students-24.5 %)

Florida International University
New World school of The Arts

4 YEAR UNIVERSITIES PRIVATE in MIAMI (18 Students- 9 %)

Barry University
St. Thomas University
University of Miami

2 YEAR COLLEGES OUT OF MIAMI (9 Students-6%)

Broward College
Santa Fe College
Tallahassee Community College

2 YEAR COLLEGES IN MIAMI (49 Students-22% in Regular College-2.5% Honors College)

Miami Dade College
Miami Dade Honors College

GAP YEAR (2 Students- 1.0%)

ILS VS. BELEN



KICK OFF CLASSIC





Jr. Varsity \$10,000

Name on End Zones

Varsity \$25,000

Name on 50-Yard Line

Captain \$50,000

Name on Plaza

Assistant Coach \$100,000

Names of 4 Interior Rooms

Head Coach \$250,000

Name of Track and Press Box

General Manager \$500,000

Names of Buildings

CEO \$1,000,000

Name of Sports Complex

Building on the Legacy

Giving Opportunities

For giving opportunities please contact:

Cristina Brito
cbrito@ilsroyals.com
or by calling
305.854-2334 ext.142



THE LEGACY CONTINUES

IMMACULATA-LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL
3601 South Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33133
www.ILSRoyals.com