Twenty years ago, Rosary College became Dominican University.

The astonishing part is what happened next.
Dominican at 20

It has been two decades since Rosary College became Dominican University. This issue celebrates that coming-of-age moment and the rapid growth in size, quality and impact that has come with university status.

Dominican launches Powerful Promise, the most ambitious fundraising campaign in its 116-year history

In a trove of student survey data, DU sees a path to greater success

DU’s new master’s in physician assistant studies puts students on a fast track to the medical field

Staying ahead of enhanced requirements, nutrition science adds a graduate track

Dominican becomes a sanctuary campus

The School of Information Studies enters the influential iSchools consortium

Meet Gabriel Gongora ’17, Stars goalkeeper and 2016 Scholar All-American

Teaching Is Heart Work

For Ric Calabrese and Janice Monti, the journey to master teacher status took them—and their students—through some challenging real-world terrain.

A Personal History

Sister Jeanne Crapo spent 59 years at Rosary College and Dominican University. Now, in retirement, she is writing its history.

Twenty Moments in Time

From the state-of-the-art labs in Parmer Hall to the mission-centered Caritas Veritas Symposium, Dominican has built a strong foundation for its next century of service.

“You Can’t Afford To Have a Bad Day”

Kendall Moore ’09 works in one of the busiest emergency rooms in the country. That means staying strong and pushing past limits—because his patients need him.

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Moments of Reflection

Anniversaries are moments of reflection and renewed momentum. That is the case for Dominican University as we recognize the 20th anniversary of our name change and engage the powerful promise of a new academic structure. I am delighted that we are able to locate both activities within the larger Rosary-Dominican story as narrated by three of our longest-serving faculty—Sister Jeanne Crapo, Richard Calabrese and Janice Monti.

It was on May 4, 1997, the day after Commencement, that Rosary College changed its name to Dominican University. In an instant, the signage was unveiled, but the process behind the change was lengthy and thoughtful. This was not a marketing strategy, but rather a bold move to clarify mission and position the institution for growth. And, as my maternal grandmother would often say, “The proof is in the pudding,” and in this magazine. We continue to build upon the Rosary College tradition.

Dominican today remains committed to the liberal arts and sciences, and to a culture of care and challenge. Recent results of a student engagement survey, reported in Campus News, affirm that academic disposition. At the same time, there is an increasing relevance to our curriculum, a connection between the classroom and the real world that students highlight as high impact. That is especially evident in our graduate programs, where Dominican’s growth in the health sciences and our new iSchool designation expand reputation and career opportunities for graduates.

Such an opportunity-rich and adaptable curriculum would not be possible without the continuing investment of alumnae/i and friends, like you, who 20 years ago supported the name change and who continue to support academic innovation through your contributions to the Powerful Promise campaign. We currently are in the public phase of that campaign, during which every gift counts. You can find a summary of campaign priorities on pages 36–37 of this magazine. I thank you in advance for your support.

Let me also thank you for your confidence and guidance over the last two decades. Building upon the legacies of Rosary College and Saint Clara College, Dominican University continues to be a deeply mission-centered and forward-looking institution—one that changes students’ lives every day. What a privilege it is to witness the good work of so many, focused on student success. This magazine tells their story and identifies some of our hopes for the future. Enjoy.

Donna M. Carroll, President
The Powerful Promise Campaign

**Scholarships**

**$20 Million**

At Dominican, it is a student’s academic and personal promise that opens the university’s doors—not a family’s ability to pay tuition and fees. Scholarship gifts from generous donors make that happen. Last year, 93% of Dominican students received financial aid.

**Facilities**

**$20 Million**

The campaign seeks to build on the valuable asset that exists in the very bricks and mortar of our architecturally distinguished campus. Those aims include renovating classrooms, enhancing academic facilities and, most dramatically, building a new, $16 million Student Commons.

**Faculty and Programs**

**$20 Million**

A successful campaign will ensure Dominican’s continued academic distinction by supporting research initiatives, named lectures, a growing honors program and innovative programs in the health sciences and other disciplines.

**The Fund for Dominican**

**$5 Million**

These funds will support innovations in teaching and research, equip high-tech classrooms and laboratories, and keep class sizes small. It’s all about enriching the learning experience.

**Using the Data:**

A national survey provides a fuller picture than ever of student engagement at Dominican

**The university’s new Physician Assistant Studies program puts students on a fast track**

**Dominican declares itself a sanctuary campus**
A national survey shows Dominican students are more challenged in the classroom and more engaged in the community than their peers at many other schools. Now faculty and staff are using the data as a guide to greater success.

It’s the starting point for many college searches: the much-hyped college rankings that high school students and their parents pore over each year. But behind the scenes at colleges and universities around the country, the institutional leadership is intensely focused on a deeper kind of survey with a funny name. NSSE—pronounced “Nessie”—reports in dense and often compelling detail what real students have to say about their expectations for college and their actual campus experiences.

Its proper name is the National Survey of Student Engagement. Many administrators at Dominican and other schools believe the reams of data NSSE produces each year can be a powerful guide to understanding what any given school is doing right, and what it needs to do better.

“NSSE really came out of this movement that asked, ‘Why should we be evaluating colleges and universities or ranking them on metrics that don’t matter really in the big scheme of things?’” says Anne Deeter, director of continuous improvement in the university’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness. NSSE’s metrics, in contrast, cut to the core of the student experience. “For me, that’s what’s great about it.”

Each year since 2000, NSSE has collected detailed information on the perceived performance of hundreds of four-year colleges and universities. It examines the experience of students at both the beginning and the end of their college careers. The survey is based at Indiana University and receives funding from The Pew Charitable Trusts.

The 2016 edition is based on surveys of 322,582 students at 560 schools in the United States and Canada. The questions cover the level of academic challenge, the larger campus environment and many other topics. The results allow administrators to see how each school compares to the others in the survey. Dominican’s students rate the university at high levels in several key categories, including the level of academic challenge, the quality of student relationships with faculty, and the degree to which the classroom experience is connected to real-world issues. The results put hard data behind the university’s reputation for rigorous and engaging academic programs, thoughtful mentoring of students, the consideration of social justice issues, and the fostering of diversity among students, faculty and staff. “The findings indicate that Dominican does an excellent job of providing an environment that enables students to deal with real-world issues during and after college,” says Provost Jeffrey R. Breese.

Anne Deeter and Elizabeth Silk, the director of the university’s Office of Institutional Research, have teamed up to spread awareness of the survey and put its data to active use. They started a series of workshops called “Data Dialogues.” The first, in December, was dedicated to NSSE and drew several dozen faculty and staff.
The group dove deep into the data. For example, they worked hard to understand a finding that a lower-than-expected percentage of first-year students said they often collaborated with other students on projects or exam preparation. A plausible explanation surfaced in a separate NSSE finding that 54 percent of Dominican freshmen work at off-campus jobs. Among seniors the figure is 70 percent—and both results are far higher than the national average. That likely reduces the time students have to collaborate outside class. Dick Walstra, an assistant professor of accounting, proposed a solution: faculty should try to weave more time for collaborative work into the classroom.

Another participant, Professor Ellen McManus of the English department, said she might use the data in her work as director of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, which runs summer academies for faculty to improve their teaching. “It’s a great instrument for learning about your students,” McManus says. “It really gets at their interactions in the classroom and with each other, what they bring to the classroom and what’s going on in their lives.”

Administrative departments across campus also are planning to use the NSSE results to develop specific plans to enhance the hands-on ways they serve students. “To show that we’re going to take action on the data, I think, is really critical,” Deeter says.
A Profession in Serious Demand

“Most of them can get a job the day they graduate before the sun goes down.” That’s how Richard Salcido, director of Dominican’s Physician Assistant Studies program, sums up demand for PAs. The number of PA jobs is forecast to grow 30% between 2014 and 2024, according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics projections. One reason is the profession’s role in solving a goal of health care reformers: to serve more patients at less cost. There are more than 94,000 physician assistants in the U.S. The number is expected to reach 123,000 by 2024.

On the Fast Track into the Medical Field

DU’s new Physician Assistant Studies program taps into a dynamic sector and puts students on a faster route to high-level medical practice. It’s not your typical cadaver lab. No unpleasant odors. No chemicals. Just a single examination table—with a ton of technology inside.

On just their second day of class, the inaugural group of 30 students in Dominican’s new graduate program in physician assistant studies got to try their hand at doing a virtual dissection using the most advanced digital anatomy table on the market. On a life-size tabletop touchscreen, students zoomed in on real digitized 3D scans of the human body, rotated the images and swiftly worked their way through layers of skin, muscle and bone with the ease of someone swiping their way through a smartphone app.

It’s one of the standout pieces of technology in Dominican’s new two-year program to prepare students to become physician assistants. The program capitalizes on both the intense interest of students looking for a faster track into high-level medical practice and the growing need for highly skilled health clinicians in this sector of the health care field.

Physician assistants, or PAs, work in all areas of medicine and are qualified to examine, diagnose and treat patients under the supervision of physicians. In rural locations and other underserved areas, PAs sometimes function as primary care providers at clinics where a physician is only present a few days a week.

PA programs are rapidly growing in popularity. It’s a much quicker and far less expensive path to the medical profession than going to med school and becoming an MD. Students are also drawn by the flexibility of being able to more easily move between different areas of specialty over the course of a career and the chance to function as part of a team with other health care workers.

The number of PA jobs is forecast to grow 30 percent—much faster than other occupations—over the next few years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. So demand for graduates is intense. “Most of them can get a job the day they graduate before the sun goes down,” says Richard Salcido, founding director of Dominican’s PA program.

Dominican’s program, the start of which coincided with the launch of a new College of Health Sciences, drew lots of interest. Around 500 prospective students began the process of applying for just 30 spots.

“For me, I want a family. So I didn’t want to dedicate the next 10 years of my life to becoming an MD,” says Shelby Brewington, a Dominican PA student from Grosse Pointe, Michigan. “But more than
that, I really like that when you’re a physician assistant it’s more of a collaborative approach to medicine.”

Alex Vogt, a former rescue swimmer with the U.S. Navy, was drawn to Dominican’s program because of its push to recruit military veterans as well as underrepresented minorities and students who are the first in their families to go to college. Before grad school he worked as an ER tech, and he’s aiming to go into emergency medicine after Dominican. “That’s what I’m called to. I love the fast-paced nature of it, how it’s different every single day,” he said.

The push to recruit minorities is embedded in the program’s mission statement and points to a broader realization in health care that more needs to be done to diversify the industry. “The more people you have with different ideas around the table, the better decisions you can make. That’s why we need to have diversity,” Salcido says. “We also need to have a representation of the pluralistic community that we live in.”

While Dominican’s young program retains many traditional approaches to anatomy instruction, including the dissection of real cadavers, it also has some of the most up-to-date technology, including the digital cadaver table produced by Anatomage, a Silicon Valley-based medical devices company.

At work in the lab on their second day of class, a group of four students swiping around the table’s touchscreen struggled a bit to isolate a particular bone in the middle of the skull.

“Don’t be frustrated. You’re making great progress,” said anatomy and physiology instructor Dr. Timothy Woods. “You know way more now than you did 25 minutes ago.”

A little more poking around and they did it. “You guys got it!” Woods cheered.

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**Food for Healing**

DU’s nutrition science program launches a graduate track this fall. The field is undergoing intense growth as businesses and organizations seek dietitians to advise them on the role of food and nutrition in promoting health and managing disease. Here are a few things to know about the program:

**Tougher requirements for entering the field**

Dominican designed its program to get a jump on tougher industry standards. Starting in 2024, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics will require entry-level registered dietitians to have a master’s degree in order to be accredited. The change mirrors requirements for more advanced degrees in other health fields. And as the nutrition field grows, there is a push for practitioners to have more specialized knowledge.

**Great job outlook**

Employment in the field is projected to grow at about 16 percent over the coming years. That’s more than double the average growth rate for all occupations, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Careers are as varied as sports nutrition, clinical dietetics and food service management. Registered dietitians are also in increasing demand by businesses, especially health clubs, grocery store chains and the growing number of meal-delivery startups.

**Unique partnerships and real-world experience**

The two-year program will prepare students for jobs in clinical settings like hospitals and in community locations like nonprofits, food pantries and after-school programs. Students can choose from supervised practice rotations at around 100 sites that partner with Dominican, including, most recently, an animal nutrition program at the Brookfield Zoo. Dominican’s standout partnership is with Head Start, a child development program that serves preschool children and their families who live at or below the federal poverty level. Dominican’s Nutrition Science Department provides all of the nutrition services for its Chicago locations. “That is a huge partnership that makes us unique,” says Elisa D’Urso Fischer, director of the department’s coordinated program in dietetics. “Our students work in every facet of that program, from meeting with families and children to inspecting kitchens and affecting policy.”

**A focus on mission, a push for diversity**

Until now, the department’s only graduate offering was one that combines a registered dietitian degree with an MBA, the only such dual program in the country. The new MS in Nutrition reflects Dominican’s larger mission of service and includes a class called Food Health and Social Justice. Dietitians have an important role to play in alleviating child poverty, eliminating food deserts and targeting other injustices, Fischer explains. “Literally, one out of five children in Chicago are living in an insecure food environment,” Fischer says.
Dominican Becomes a Sanctuary Campus

The Dominican tradition of higher education is rooted in its service to immigrant students—originally the children of lead miners in the Midwest. In December, the university’s Board of Trustees affirmed the value of that tradition for a new and highly vulnerable generation of immigrant students. It passed a resolution designating Dominican as a “sanctuary campus.”

The resolution commits the institution to continue to provide academic and financial support to students regardless of national origin, race, religion, sexual identity or immigration status. It states that “the university will not provide access to student information, including any records that identify immigration status, except as required by federal, state or local laws, and only in the presence of formal documentation.”

“For the Dominican community, the issue of immigrants’ safety, and the safety of other marginalized student groups, transcends politics. It is a human rights issue, guided by faith,” the resolution states. “We are compelled by mission to advocate for, and walk alongside, our undocumented students, their families and their communities, whose future is so uncertain.”

The foundational elements of the resolution were recommended by the University Committee on Climate, Equity and Inclusion, in conversation with the Dominican Immigrant Student Collective (DISC). The resolution was endorsed by the President’s Diversity Advisory Council, and was approved by the trustees at their meeting on December 15, 2016.

The move comes at an unsettled moment for national immigration policy. Among other actions, the new administration is considering the elimination of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), an immigration policy established in 2012 that allows undocumented immigrants who entered the country with their parents as minors to obtain work authorization and receive renewable periods of deferred action from deportation. About 750,000 young people nationwide are affected by the DACA program.

Dominican was one of the first universities in the country to publicly welcome and financially support students regardless of immigration status. For more than a decade, the university’s administration and faculty have taken a leadership role around issues of immigration reform and the rights of undocumented students.

A committee of faculty and staff currently is working on grassroots strategies to implement the board’s resolution.

Among Leaders

The School of Information Studies has been accepted for membership in iSchools, a leading consortium of more than 80 information schools around the world dedicated to advancing the burgeoning field. The organization was founded in 2005 to bring together programs rooted in information technology, library science, informatics and information science.

Dean Kate Marek says acceptance into the organization is great news for the school, which until recently was known as the Graduate School of Library and Information Science. “iSchools advances the profession by looking at information and technology as interdisciplinary fields,” she says. “They represent the forward-thinking leaders of our field. This is exciting acknowledgement of our good work.”

The iSchools organization presents the iConference, an annual forum in which information scholars, researchers and professionals share insights on the most important topics in the field. The most recent iConference was held in March in Wuhan, China.

The School of Information Studies is well known for its Master of Library and Information Science program. It also offers Dominican’s first Ph.D. program. In the fall, the school launched a new master’s program in information management. It began offering an undergraduate major and minor in informatics in January.
Ever since he was a kid, Gabriel Gongora has been surrounded by soccer. Sundays were for watching games all day. His parents, both born in the soccer heaven of Colombia, made the sport a kind of family tradition.

When he was a middle-school student in Naperville, Gabe visited the family homeland and found himself kicking the ball in a schoolyard every day. That’s when a “love of the sport” swept over him.

“It’s always been about soccer,” he says, “it’s always been trying to kick a ball.”

Gongora capped his Dominican soccer career with an outstanding year as the Stars’ senior goalkeeper. He says the team has been a second family for him, one with high expectations for success. “Dominican soccer has a winning culture,” he says. “I think that’s what sets it apart.”

The Stars tend to excel in multiple venues: on the field and in the classroom, on campus and beyond. Gongora is an outstanding example of the phenomenon. An accounting and finance major, he has made the Dean’s List and Honors List multiple times, and is a member of the highly selective Honors Program. In December, the National Soccer Coaches Association of America named him a 2016 Scholar All-American. He served as a student representative on the Board of Trustees, and interned as a student fellow with MB Financial Bank. As an intern, he helped the bank nab a guy who was attaching sophisticated devices to Chicago ATMs to steal credit card information.

He credits his coaches for his discipline, his confidence, and the attention to detail that was the bank thief’s undoing. “My goalie coach, Ben Boyd, worked to develop me over four years to the point where I felt unstoppable,” Gongora says.

During the fall 2016 season, Gongora saved more than 80 percent of shots he faced, and helped the Stars to a 15-match unbeaten streak. At times he just took over a match. In the final game of the regular season, against Benedictine University, Gongora made two saves in the final six minutes of regular time and another save in the first overtime of a 1–1 double-overtime draw. That earned the Stars their first outright NACC Championship since 2012.

Gongora already has a job with MB Financial lined up for after graduation in May, thanks in part to the close partnership between the Brennan School of Business and the bank. “I’m super excited about it,” he says. “I can’t thank the faculty and coaches at Dominican enough, because they’re the ones that set it all up for me.”

He leaves the university with the knowledge that he left his mark. “He’s got a love for the game, a love for our program, a love to compete, a love to win and a love for Dominican,” says Erick Baumann, director of athletics and head coach of the men’s soccer team. “He has been a great role model for his teammates.”

In the fall 2016 semester, Dominican’s 200-plus student-athletes earned a combined 3.27 grade point average, the Stars’ 21st straight semester above a 3.0.

Forty-two percent of Dominican University’s student-athletes who competed last fall were named to the Dean’s and Honors lists.

On January 10, junior Tim Robertson became the 18th player in Dominican University men’s basketball history, dating back to 1981, to score 1,000 points in his career.
TEACHING is HEART WORK

Janice Monti and Ric Calabrese are two of the most respected and influential professors on campus. What’s more, they have been so for generations. They have spent their entire academic careers at Dominican, serving a combined 88 years.

Despite very different disciplines—Ric teaches communication; Janice sociology and criminology—the two professors developed remarkably similar teaching styles over the years: high impact, hands-on, demanding, down to earth and distinctly Dominican. They work to immerse their students in the real world—the good and the bad—and guide them gracefully to a place where they can experience for themselves moments of new awareness and true awakening. They pass on their experience and knowledge through engagement and example. They understand that it is not the mind alone that teaches but the person, the whole way of being.

Janice Monti and Ric Calabrese have thrived at a university that has allowed them to pursue their own particular journeys of discovery and to grow, as scholars and persons, as much as the students they have taught. Both professors are retiring this spring. In this anniversary year for Dominican University, we honor the careers of two of its master teachers. Here are their stories.
IT IS HARD TO GET CLOSER to the subject of race in America than by spending a night in a sharecropper’s shack in Mississippi. For students in Professor Janice Monti’s legendary travel course, “The Racial and Musical Legacy of Memphis and the Mississippi Delta,” it was a meaningful and unsettling experience—and not just for the reasons you might think.

It was not only the shocking austerity or the sense of the lingering presence of people who had endured backbreaking labor and indebtedness in what was effectively a new form of slavery. What also unnerved Professor Monti’s students was the discovery that the ramshackle, tin-roofed cabins on the former cotton plantation had recently been
outfitted with indoor plumbing and air conditioning. The concessions to comfort had been made to draw business from tourists on the blues trail; but to the students, the modest amenities seemed an offense to the dark history of the place—a new injustice piled atop many others.

“That hit me hard,” Stephanie Zavala ’15 recalls. “These were shacks where people had lived, died and really suffered. So for people to come in and renovate them and make a profit off of them … It was really frustrating.”

Such moments of sober realization and up-close reckoning with injustice have been frequent experiences for Monti’s students. In her 38 years at Dominican University—including 30 years as chair of the Department of Sociology and Criminology—she has embraced an immersive, high-impact, experiential style of teaching. Her students do not just read about Memphis and the Mississippi Delta, they go there. They meet blues musicians in class. They join the sold-out crowds of music and history scholars at the university’s influential Blues and the Spirit Symposium, which Monti was instrumental in organizing nine years ago, with a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council.

Monti is a much-honored professor at Dominican. She has twice won the university’s Excellence in Teaching Award, in 1987 and 1994; and she received the Sister Mary Clemente Davlin Diversity Leadership Award in 2008. Yet she remains modest about her craft. “I always think that you’re only as good as your material,” she says.

She believes she has had it somewhat easy in that regard. Her subject matter traverses such terrain as racial identity and popular culture, and offers a wealth of material from everyday life and current events to pull as examples. When she needs to stoke student interest, she can coax friends from the Chicago blues scene to her classroom. (Sharon Lewis has Monti collect her mail when the singer is out on tour. The harmonica bluesman Sugar Blue asked the professor to be the godmother of his child.)

Monti is a lifelong blues fan. She fell in love with the genre as a kid, listening to a transistor radio tucked beneath her pillow in the middle of the night, so her parents wouldn’t catch her awake. “The blues is the backbone of American music,” she says. “There would not be an American popular music tradition—there probably wouldn’t be rock and roll—if it were not for the blues.”

Over the years, Monti has made the genre a rich and engaging pathway for teaching subjects ranging from race in America and the Civil Rights Movement to cultural appropriation and oppression. “The history of African American music,” she says, “is a history of being pillaged and wrested away from its roots and made profit on by other people.”

Her office in the Fine Arts Building is filled with blues mementos. The most notable is a nearly life-size papier-mâché sculpture that a student made of Robert Johnson, the legendary singer-songwriter, strumming a guitar.

Monti grew up in Chicago Heights, a fading industrial hub southeast of the city. Her father was a steelworker; her mother, a stay-at-home mom. “All I can remember is that I wanted to get out, to travel, to experience the world,” she recalls. Janice and her older brother were the first members of the family to go to college. Janice earned three degrees at Canadian universities: her bachelor’s at the University of Ottawa and her master’s and doctorate at Carleton University. She marvels at how much easier it was in her day for the daughter of a working-class family to sail straight through to a Ph.D. without accumulating student debt.

Dominican was a natural place for Monti to pursue an academic career. She felt an immediate connection with the university’s enduring identity as a “first-generation-in-college kind of place.” At the same
time, the professor is mindful that today's students are struggling financially more than she ever did, working long hours at jobs off campus and often caring for families or facing legal predicaments around issues like immigration. “Some of them are carrying the weight of the world on their shoulders,” she says. “I am keenly aware of that.”

One former student, Christopher Phills, began life in a poor part of Shreveport, Louisiana. At times he didn’t know when he would see his next meal. He grew up around gangs, and once saw a student shoot a classmate on the school bus. He credits Monti with seeing promise in him and making an effort “to instill confidence in a shy country boy who started with nothing.” Monti took Phills on as a teaching assistant and entrusted him with the key to her office—the gesture meant a lot to him. “She was just real,” he recalls. “She would tell you what was on her mind and when she thought you were wrong. She was not going to belittle you; she was going to empower you. That was a first for me.” Phills graduated from Dominican in 2000, and now works in Chicago as a special agent for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He has led arrest raids on businesses illegally dumping waste or improperly storing hazardous materials that threaten public safety. Monti relishes his success story. To her, it seems to define the purpose of teaching: to enable students to “understand that they can play a role in making the world a better place.”

Overscenes at Dominican has taught a variety of courses at Dominican, including Research Methods, the Sociology of Gender, and Mass Media and American Society. But she always has come back to the blues; and the university supported her passion by enabling her to take a sabbatical to explore the genre’s roots. The sabbatical led her to develop the Mississippi Delta course, first offered in 2004. The trips took five days and began in Memphis at the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel, which began as a safe haven for black travelers in the South but became the site of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. The Memphis itinerary also included Sun Records, Elvis Presley’s Graceland and the Stax Museum of American Soul Music. The group then would drive down historic Highway 61 to the Delta.

For Monti, the trips’ most memorable experiences involved interactions with a disappearing culture—like an evening of music and dancing at Po’ Monkey’s juke joint, little more than a shack at the end of a gravel road in Merigold, Mississippi. The beloved owner, Willie Seaberry, farmed the land around the place, and was known for appearing in a different brightly colored suit every hour or so during music nights on Thursdays.

Monti’s students also would stop at the dilapidated ruin of the Bryant Grocery Store in Money, Mississippi, where a 14-year-old boy from Chicago, Emmett Till, encountered a white woman in 1955, setting in motion his torture and murder. The crime went unpunished but became notorious, and helped spark the Civil Rights Movement. “We read about it in textbooks,” says Stephanie Zavala, “but to be in that place, where that energy is still felt, was unreal.” Zavala now works on after-school programming at a nonprofit, Erie Neighborhood House.

The abandoned store, once the center of a lively town that is now all but deserted, also tells the story of the Delta’s decline and marks its status as one of America’s poorest places. Monti worries that the blues is dying along with the Delta. “Every time we go, something disappears,” she says. “That whole culture is just slowly eroding away.” Most painfully for her, Willie Seaberry recently passed away, and Po’ Monkey’s is all boarded up. Monti’s Facebook page is partly a memorial to all of the places and people connected to the blues who are no more. Ferrying students to the Delta all those years and exposing them to an “alternative message about race in America through the music” has been a consolation for her. It was great fun, she says, to see the impact the trip had on students who were so unfamiliar with the terrain they might as well have been in a foreign country. “I brought students from very diverse backgrounds, students who didn’t
know Muddy Waters from Miley Cyrus. I mean, really!”

Robin Curran, a 2014 graduate who made the blues trip twice, said it was among her most memorable Dominican experiences. In particular, she remembers listening to a former sharecropper describe the ways he and other fieldworkers were systematically kept in poverty as late as the 1960s. The depth of the experience enabled Curran to better understand the nation’s history. “It really forced me to grapple with it personally and emotionally and intellectually,” she says. Curran went on to raise funds for progressive causes through a Washington nonprofit, Revolution Messaging.

In 2008, Dominican inaugurated the biannual Blues and the Spirit Symposium to explore the shared roots of blues and gospel music and their enduring impact on music and society. The symposium has featured distinguished scholars of African American music and culture, as well as nationally known and locally revered blues and gospel performers. “It’s the only academic conference in the United States that focuses on the legacy of African American music and the blues aesthetic,” says Monti. “It combines scholarly presentations with a lot of really great music.”

The symposium “has been an incredible platform,” Sharon Lewis said in a phone interview from Prague, where the Chicago-based blues singer was on tour. “It makes people aware of the richness of this culture of the blues.” The symposium also works to empower musicians to take more control over the business side of their work, Lewis added. The singer said she admired Monti for persevering in her work despite the suspicion she encountered from some black musicians, who wondered why a white academic was offering to help them.

Monti will retire from teaching at the end of the spring semester. She plans to write and to work with the Koko Taylor Family Foundation, which provides social services and educates artists, especially women, about their rights in the music and entertainment industry.

She also intends to push for the City of Chicago to honor its legacy as the place where black artists came north in the Great Migration and electrified the country with the blues. In an op-ed piece in the Chicago Tribune last June, Monti argued eloquently for a public-private partnership to establish a Chicago blues and R&B museum. She envisions pairing the facility with an open-enrollment public school featuring a curriculum that recognizes the city’s musical legacy. Her proposal also calls for restoring the vacant Muddy Waters home in Kenwood and developing tours of music sites on the South and West Sides. The article generated private offers of assistance with tasks like grant writing, but little active interest from the city’s political leadership. Monti, however, is not about to give up.

In retirement, she knows she will miss her students. She also will miss the support of her colleagues and of a university that allowed her to pursue her distinctive passion, in fruitful and unexpected ways that came to inform her identity.

“I’ll always remember that,” she says. “I mean, I’m the blues professor.”

Dominican was a natural place for Monti to pursue her academic career. She has felt a connection with its enduring identity as a “first-generation-in-college kind of place.”
ALI AL-MARHOON is from the Gulf Coast of Saudi Arabia. Juan Garcia is from the “Mexico of the Midwest,” Chicago’s Little Village. They have only just met, but right away they are engulfed in conversation. The topics start small but range widely, and eventually go deep. Video games. Their respective struggles to learn English. Religion. What happens when you die. The essence of happiness. After about an hour, they wrap things up with a handshake and a hug—and mutual amazement at how much they have in common.

“What’s surprising is that we think we have so many differences based on where we came from,” says Juan, “but really we’re very similar, more similar than different.”
It is a lesson learned in the Dominican University classroom of Professor Richard Calabrese. In the space of an hour or so, the exercise bundles together a host of lessons, or “truths,” as Calabrese calls them, from the decades he has spent decoding the complexities of human communication and interaction and the ways they can bring people of vastly different backgrounds to a kind of mutual understanding. Calabrese has run the experiment for years. He brings together undergraduates from his intercultural communication course (most of whom grew up within 100 miles of campus) with students in the English Language Services program (who hail from all over the world). He encourages them to get personal, to take risks in search of deeper connections.

The eye-opening exercise is a time-lapse version of what Calabrese has been doing most of his life, as a lifelong student, avid storyteller, intrepid traveler and master teacher. He brings people together to bridge differences.

“You’re going to be drawing on this experience the rest of your life,” Calabrese says. He knows from years of listening to the scores of graduates who keep in touch with him that this exercise is one of the experiences students remember most from their time in his classroom. It is a high point of the teaching year for him, too. He loves to push his students out of their comfort zones and get them to question their own worldviews, in the challenging company of others.

When he retires this spring, Calabrese will have spent half a century at Dominican. He currently is the longest-serving faculty member. Over those 50 years, he has indulged interests and specialties so varied that it can be hard to pin him down about what is important to him. He is part academic, part mentor, part motivational speaker—

His signature line, which he repeats to students in his classes—every single one of them—is that “anyone can be an alpha human being.” You become one by looking out for people less fortunate than yourself.

Ric Calabrese grew up around Chicago, the only child in an Italian-American family. His dad, who was born in Italy, had only a year of high school education. The son grew up speaking the neighborhood street lingo: “dis, dat, dees and dohs.” As a freshman at Loyola in the 1960s, he required speech correction. He knows what it’s like to feel out of place.

“Most English majors in those days were not first-generation college students, they were not the children of immigrants,” he says. “These people knew the difference between ‘who’ and ‘whom.’ I remember having something of an inferiority complex.” It did not prevent him from graduating from Loyola, earning two master’s degrees from Bradley and a doctorate in human communication studies from Northwestern.

Now, Calabrese makes a point of looking out for Dominican students who remind him of himself in his college days. He tries to be the mentor he never had.

Chad Scott was one such student—a kid from southeast Missouri who was needleled during his freshman year for his “overwhelming” Southern accent. Calabrese helped Scott to see well beyond his differences and limitations and to embrace and develop
his gifts. The result was a kind of “epiphany,” Scott says. “What I think he’s so great at is helping students have an actualization moment.” At Dominican, Scott started a business from his residence hall room, selling custom youth sports-team posters; it is still flourishing almost a decade later. He also became a master of public speaking, which (along with the accent) has earned him comparisons with Bill Clinton.

**Calabrese’s long tenure** at Dominican has been filled with formal honors. He was the first Faculty Marshall of the university, leading the faculty and administration in convocations and commencement ceremonies. He served on the Academic Affairs Committee and the Board of Trustees. He received an Excellence in Teaching Award in 1993 and a Distinguished Service Award in 2013. His greatest honor, though, comes when his former students—50 years’ worth of them—write, call or visit their old professor in search of guidance on their careers or just to stay in touch. Making his way up the stairs to his third-floor office in the Fine Arts Building one afternoon last December, Calabrese was humming merrily. He had just received another letter, this one from a member of the Class of 1973.

Calabrese says it is the *caritas* of the place that has kept him at Dominican all these years. The love and appreciation come not only from current and former students but also, in particular, from the members of the university’s founding congregation, the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters. When he joined the faculty in 1967, Calabrese was one of a handful of lay faculty members; the sisters still ran the place. He remembers their hospitality as overwhelmingly warm. They would invite his entire family to Sunday dinners. Calabrese’s mother would return the invitation, and at his parents’ home in Elmhwood Park, his father would converse with the sisters about what he knew: gambling and horses. “He knew who could run on turf, who could run on dirt, who could run on mud,” the son recalls. “He knew the jockeys. He knew all that stuff.” One sister’s response blew him away. “She knew all that stuff, too! It was just so wonderful to see my dad really engage with her.”

Calabrese was still a junior faculty member when Rosary College students called a three-day “Time Out” in the spring of 1970 to demand a say in the curriculum. He remembers those days as more of a celebration than a confrontation. The faculty were just happy the students weren’t apathetic. The students “wanted to read this new hot book, *The Godfather* by Mario Puzo,” Calabrese recalls. “It wasn’t James Joyce, that’s for sure. But we read it. The faculty learned about collaborating with our students and trying to make joint decisions with them. And the students were much more excited about learning when they had some input into it.”

At a time when professors mostly stood behind lecterns dictating notes, Calabrese began experimenting with interactive workshops. Over the years, he filled 10 filing-cabinet drawers with experiential classroom exercises in areas ranging from diversity training to conflict resolution. People need to be taught how to build trust, he says, to give effective feedback and to demonstrate caring in ways that others can understand. It does not always come naturally.

Today’s students are great at communicating by text message and through social media, he says, but they often need coaching when it comes to genuine interpersonal communication. “The communication department in particular has a mission to teach our students not only to think critically but also to learn how to interact with people respectfully and empathically,” he says.
department, in particular, has a mission to teach our students not only to be critical thinkers but also to learn how to interact with people respectfully and empathically,” Calabrese says, “so that together we can come to some kind of common understanding.”

He is great at pushing his students to take risks, to break through barriers to intimacy and to question their fixed ideas. He likes to have students read Peggy McIntosh’s “White Privilege,” a seminal article from 1989 that challenges white people to recognize that they have certain unearned advantages. McIntosh’s list of such privileges includes things like “I can take a job with an affirmative-action employer without having coworkers suspect that I got it because of race.” Some students have a tough time accepting the validity of the concept of white privilege, but they leave Calabrese’s class understanding it.

Calabrese also likes to challenge himself. He works to understand the beliefs and experiences of people in life circumstances much different from his own. “You don’t know what you don’t know,” he likes to say. His curiosity about others is one of the reasons he regularly takes part in Dominican’s community-based learning trips and activities. It’s how he came to build latrines in a shantytown in Cuernavaca, Mexico, and rode in a bread truck through poor neighborhoods in Chicago.

Travel is in his blood. He has been to France, Poland, India, Africa, El Salvador, Honduras, Cuba, Mexico, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong and Singapore. After retiring, he plans to explore new territory for him, the Middle East. He might also teach for a lifelong learning group he has joined, and volunteer with the refugee-aid group Exodus.

The professor acknowledges that he finds it hard to contemplate leaving Dominican. At commencement, year after year, he has always felt a little sorry for the graduates who wouldn’t be returning in the fall.

At the end of a meeting in his office, Calabrese digs through his bag excitedly. “I want to show you something,” he says, pulling out his iPad and scrolling to find an email. It was a message from a Sinsinawa Dominican sister, thanking Calabrese for a holiday gift of some chocolates he had sent to her. It went on to reflect on his 50 years here, the brilliant teaching, the creativity in developing the communications program, the gracious way he welcomed the faculty to his home and helped the students to find their way.

“Thank you for giving your life here,” the email concludes. 😊
The institution that became Dominican University on May 4, 1997, actually dates to 1901, and the founding of Saint Clara College in Sinsinawa, Wisconsin.

In truth, the story begins even earlier. The best claim for a starting date belongs to August 4, 1847, when Father Samuel Charles Mazzuchelli welcomed the first two novices to a community of religious sisters that he was working to establish at Sinsinawa Mound, a beautiful but isolated corner of the Wisconsin Territory. A Dominican missionary from Milan, Italy, Father Sam was a great builder of churches and schools, and a community organizer before the term was coined. The community he organized at Sinsinawa Mound was intended to bring Catholic teachers to frontier schools. It would be called the Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary of the Order of Preachers, or, more commonly, the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters.

In 1852, the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters opened a boarding school, Saint Clara Female Academy. In time, the school would draw students from as far away as Massachusetts and California to Sinsinawa Mound. The curriculum was rigorous and forward thinking; it included not only French, Italian and Latin but also mathematics and the natural sciences—unlikely subjects for a 19th-century secondary school for girls. Over the summers, the sisters pursued their own studies; by the turn of the century, they were traveling to Florence and Munich to study music and art and enrolling at secular universities (Harvard, Wisconsin, Chicago) to earn advanced degrees. They began to offer college-level courses at the academy, and in 1901, they founded Saint Clara College, chartered by the State of Wisconsin.

Saint Clara College had a brief but impressive run at Sinsinawa. Like the academy, it took an expansive view of the academic potential of young women; its 12 academic departments included mathematics, chemistry, physics and biology. By 1922—it’s 21st and last year in Sinsinawa—the college was accredited by the North Central Association and had conferred 132 bachelor’s degrees. Thirty-four Saint Clara graduates had gone on to earn master’s degrees at major universities, and three had earned doctorates.

“The sisters decided to move the school from Sinsinawa because it was a poor place to have a college,” says Sister Jeanne Crapo, a Sinsinawa Dominican for 68 years. “It was a beautiful setting, but it was hard to get there. The roads were terrible. They kept praying for a railroad that never came. They started looking for a location near a big city. They looked at Milwaukee, Madison, Minneapolis and Omaha, where the sisters all had schools, but nothing worked out. The prioress, Mother Samuel Coughlin, asked the sisters to pray for ‘the establishment of a first-class college wherever God wills.’ In 1916, Mother Samuel reached out to Archbishop Mundelein of Chicago, and he responded with an invitation to move the college to his archdiocese. Mother Samuel chose a beautiful site in River Forest and hired a first-rate architect, Ralph Adams Cram. She

MOTHER SAMUEL, THE PRIORESS, ASKED THE SISTERS TO PRAY FOR “THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRST-RATE COLLEGE WHEREVER GOD WILLS.”

Sister Jeanne Crapo has known Rosary College and Dominican University for 59 years—as student, admission director, academic dean, teacher, scholar, avid gardener, founding archivist, and director of the London program. Now, in retirement, she is working on a history of the institution’s first 100 years.
wanted Collegiate Gothic—no square brick buildings for her. The college was originally going to be called Greater Saint Clara, under the patronage of Our Lady of the Rosary. But by the time Archbishop Mundelein laid the cornerstone in 1920, with 3,000 people in attendance, it was Rosary College.”

Sister Jeanne can tell the rest of the story in similar rich-and-breezy detail. But she prefers not to—she’s saving it for the book. Since 2007, Sister Jeanne has been working on a history of Saint Clara College, Rosary College and Dominican University, from the pioneer origins in 1847 to the centennial celebration in 2001. She has completed 10 chapters and has three to go. The work is painstaking. Sister Jeanne can draw on a handful of published sources; but mostly she examines yearbooks, letters, course catalogs, president’s reports, the minutes of board meetings, and, most of all, the “annals” of the Rosary College convent—daily, hand-written accounts of what the sisters and students were up to, from 1922 to 2012.

“It’s personal to her,” says Rose Powers, a 1977 Rosary College graduate and Sister Jeanne’s research assistant. “She’s lived a lot of it, and she remembers everything.”

A native of Denver, Jeanne Crapo came to Rosary College in 1942 to study chemistry. Her aunt, Sister Rosemary Crapo, was a Sinsinawa Dominican and the chair of the Italian and French departments. After four mostly wartime years on campus (“We rolled a lot of bandages”), Jeanne graduated in 1946 and joined the sisters, but left a few months later. A nearly lifelong case of rheumatoid arthritis was beginning to take its toll. She returned in 1949, and made her profession as Sister Mary Anna Crapo in 1951. (She reclaimed her original name after the reforms of Vatican II.) She earned her master’s degree at the University of Michigan, switching her discipline to English because “the sisters thought you had to be physically strong to be a chemist.” After 10 years of teaching in parochial and public schools in Wisconsin, Montana and Nebraska, Sister Jeanne returned to Rosary in 1961 as the college’s first director of admission. She went on to serve as dean of studies, to teach for 44 years in the Department of English, to create the campus’s “secret garden,” to run the Rosary in London program, and to establish the university archives, before retiring in 2007. That’s when she started the book.

Rose Powers began working on the book with Sister Jeanne after a chance encounter at a Music of the Baroque concert at Grace Lutheran Church in River Forest in December 2011. Jeanne had been Rose’s freshman advisor at Rosary, where Rose also earned a master’s degree in library science, in 1978. After a long career with the Chicago Public Library, Rose was prepared to meet Jeanne’s exacting standards. “She wants every fact checked, every quote verified. Everything has to be right,” she says. “She has the outline of every chapter in her head before she starts to type.” The arthritis has limited the use of her hands, so Jeanne types with her thumbs. “She’s pretty fast,” Rose observes.

The story of Rosary is filled with proud moments. A pioneering study-abroad program. Free night courses for neighborhood people thrown out of work by the Depression. A performing arts renaissance in the 1950s. The development of first-rate graduate programs. Generations of deeply engaged students, on campus and beyond. Sister Jeanne will stop the story at the centennial, three years after Rosary became Dominican, because “we’re too close to recent history to have any perspective.”

In the fall of 2016, Sister Jeanne moved to the Mound, after 55 years in residence on the campus. “It was time,” she says. She continues her research and writing. A recent visitor asked her to sum up in a few words what was special about Rosary. She paused a long time before she answered.

“It was a warm community, and a progressive place, religiously,” she began. “It had a Vatican II quality long before Vatican II. But academics were always the most important part of Rosary. We had a very strong academic program. I hate to say it, but women’s colleges weren’t always noted for that. The sisters insisted on standards that would fit any college. Rosary was not a finishing school in any sense. It was a gracious place, but if you didn’t do the work, you were out. The faculty were sophisticated scholars who had studied at places like the University of Chicago. They were really quite prepared, and they prepared you.

“It’s quite a story,” she says. In Sister Jeanne Crapo, the story has found a faithful witness.
In her forthcoming book, Sister Jeanne Crapo tells the story of the first century of the institution that became Dominican University. Here are some highlights.

SEEKING NEW ROOTS
The sisters seek a more favorable location for the college in the expanding suburbs west of Chicago. Mother Samuel Coughlin purchases nearly 30 acres of wooded land in River Forest. The new site offers both a contemplative setting and easy access to the city. Three years later, Archbishop George Mundelein lays the cornerstone of Power Hall, the first of three central campus buildings designed in Collegiate Gothic style by the renowned architect Ralph Adams Cram.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS
After a temporary halt to construction during the Great War, the new campus opens for classes in October 1922. With a new location comes a new name: Rosary College. Most of the first students are transplants from the Saint Clara campus in Sinsinawa. The college initially awards three degrees: a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Music.

A GLOBAL OUTLOOK
Rosary becomes one of the first colleges in the United States to offer study abroad, with a junior-year program at its Villa des Fougères in Fribourg, Switzerland. The curriculum includes music, German, English, and French language and literature.

A TRADITION BEGINS
The first Candle and Rose Ceremony is held. The annual procession begins in the Cloister Walk on the night before commencement. Seniors march in cap and gown holding a candle, symbolizing truth. Each senior is accompanied by a person who has shared his or her joys and burdens—that person carries a rose, symbolizing love. The symbolism is explained in the college’s motto, Caritas et Veritas, or Love and Truth, and the candles and roses are exchanged.
A VISIT FROM A GREAT LADY

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt visits Rosary to promote the value of peace, as the world again marches toward war. She describes her own experiences of war through her encounters with the wounded returning from the battlefields of the Great War.

JOINING THE WAR EFFORT

In April, four months after Pearl Harbor, Rosary achieves the best record of war bond sales of any college in the country. The following year, the college forms the Rosary Auxiliary Corps to keep the school going despite the lack of manpower due to the war. A headline in The Rosarian, the campus newspaper, says, "RACS SAVE ROSARY FROM IMPENDING RUIN."

A LEGACY OF FINE ARTS

The college begins a graduate fine arts program at the 16th-century Villa Schifanoia in Florence, Italy. Two years later, the River Forest campus breaks ground on its own Fine Arts Building.

A BIG STEP UP

Rosary introduces the first graduate program at its River Forest campus with its new master's degree in library science. Over the years, it evolves into a nationally recognized Master of Library and Information Science, the standard professional degree for librarians and managers of information systems and "big data" functions in corporations and organizations. It is accredited by the American Library Association.

A PASSION FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Rosary adds to its first collection of graduate programs with more advanced degrees in the arts. The North Central Association accredits the graduate fine arts program in Florence. The Graduate School of Fine Arts begins offering a Master of Arts, a Master of Music and a Master of Fine Arts.

"Bright college years, with pleasure rife, The shortest, gladdest years of life."
—Early 20th century American college song
In 1961, the Chicago Tribune ranked Rosary among the top 20 liberal arts colleges in the Midwest.

A CONNECTION TO BROADWAY
Sister Gregory Duffy, a theater professor at Rosary, serves as an advisor on religious life to the creators of the 1959 musical The Sound of Music. She provides an inside perspective on religious life for the great musical’s convent scenes. The collaboration develops from her friendship with the actor Mary Martin and her regular trips to see productions in New York.

HIGH RANKINGS
The Chicago Daily Tribune ranks Rosary College among the top 20 liberal arts colleges in the Midwest. (More than half a century later, U.S. News & World Report ranks Dominican among the top 15% of the region’s comprehensive universities.)

SUPPORTING THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE
The Rosarian backs the Civil Rights Bill and urges students to join activist causes. At the time of the 1965 march on Selma, a large group of students and faculty stage a sympathy march from the Rosary campus to the Oak Park Post Office, the nearest federal building.

A CENTER OF CAMPUS LIFE
Ground is broken for the Rebecca Crown Library, a new intellectual and community base camp for Rosary. The new library is named in honor of Rebecca Kranz Crown, wife of industrialist Henry Crown, the library’s principal benefactor. It opens in 1972. Major renovations—which created its current light, open spaces and included a two-story atrium, Cyber Cafe and smart technology classrooms—are completed in 2002. The signature spiral staircase was retained from the original structure.

TIME OUT
Though Rosary is not swept up in the unrest roiling other college campuses at the time, students call a three-day ‘Time Out’ to demand changes in the curriculum and suggest the college become co-ed. Many faculty members are supportive.

NOT JUST FOR WOMEN ANYMORE
Rosary goes co-ed, admitting 22 men, just as the college is about to celebrate 50 years in River Forest.
THE ROSARY BEADS WIN BIG
The distinctively named men’s basketball team wins its first trophies. Go Beads!

1976

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS
Rosary launches a Graduate School of Business, building upon an MBA degree that was the first in the Chicago area to be offered by a college (rather than a university). The program is also notable for offering a combined MBA and law degree with The John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

1981

CREATING GREAT TEACHERS
The School of Education is established, consolidating master’s degree programs in learning disabilities and special education in addition to new degree programs.

1987

PLANNING FOR A NEW CENTURY
The college anticipates the new millennium and the institution’s centennial by initiating an 18-month process of strategic planning, led by a team of faculty and administrators. They decide to think big.

1995

A NEW ERA BEGINS
Rosary College is renamed Dominican University on May 4 in a forthright acknowledgement of the institution’s impressive growth in size, quality and impact. Undergraduates enroll in the newly named Rosary College of Arts and Sciences.

1997

DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF “EXCELLENCE IN THE SERVICE OF TRUTH.”
Twenty years ago, Rosary College became Dominican University. “We aspire to be among the most vital, intellectually engaged, values-centered learning communities in the Midwest,” we declared. Here is a progress report.

**TWENTY MOMENTS inTIME**

On October 10, 1996, the Rosary College Board of Trustees met to consider the most important strategic document in the school’s 95-year history. It ran 19 pages, and was called “A Vision for the Centennial: The Rosary College Strategic Plan, 1996–2001.” It was the product of 18 months of work by the school’s Planning Committee, a group of leading faculty and administrators.

The plan began with a statement of values. It recommitted the institution to its Catholic Dominican heritage, its tradition of excellent teaching in the liberal arts and sciences, and its culture of respect for people of diverse cultures, beliefs and experiences. At the same time, it challenged the small school to grow significantly in size and quality, to “adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of the 21st-century learner,” and—not least—“to balance the operating budget each year.”

The planners acknowledged the “day-to-day pressures in a small, tuition-driven institution” that “often make it difficult to see beyond tomorrow.” But they did not dwell on them. Instead, they articulated a vision that was not without ambition: “We aspire to be among the most vital, intellectually engaged, values-centered learning communities in the Midwest.”

Near the end of the document, the committee listed “strategic initiatives without which the plan is unlikely to succeed.” The sixth and last initiative literally would make headlines: “It is the unanimous and enthusiastic recommendation of the Planning Committee that Rosary College become DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY.”

Later that day, the Board of Trustees approved the plan unanimously, and on May 4, 1997, Rosary College became Dominican University.

This issue of *Dominican Magazine* celebrates the 20th anniversary of a prominent milestone in the history of the institution that was founded in 1901 as Saint Clara College by the Congregation of the Most Holy Rosary of the Order of Preachers—the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters. “The name Dominican University is uniquely appropriate to capture the essence of this transition,” President Donna M. Carroll said 20 years ago. “It positions the Dominican sisters’ mission of truth, compassion, justice, community and partnership on the broader stage of a university environment.”

Here, in 20 parts, we present a sketch of Dominican University’s swift and impressive journey through time.
1. The courage to change

The new university began life with a freshly articulated mission: “As a Sinsinawa Dominican-sponsored institution, Dominican University prepares students to pursue truth, to give compassionate service, and to participate in the creation of a more just and humane world.” It was a statement of recommitment to fundamental ideals at a defining—and challenging—institutional moment. The strategic plan called for (among other things) increased enrollment, new undergraduate and graduate programs, expanded cultural and athletic offerings, greater diversity across the community and the development of a financial base large enough to support it all. “It is an enormous task to chart the future of an institution,” President Carroll said in a convocation address on October 9, 1997—one year (minus a day) after the Board of Trustees approved the strategic plan. “It requires a thorough understanding of and passion for the mission of the institution, a passion uncompromised by nostalgia or self-interest. It requires a strategic eye for opportunity. And, in the end, it requires the courage to change when change is needed.”

2. Growing in breadth and depth

Beginning in 1997, the move to university status inspired dramatic and sustained growth in the breadth and depth of the curriculum. The enhancements began in the Rosary College of Arts and Sciences, the newly named home of undergraduate studies, where the faculty refined the core curriculum and added majors in graphic design, theatre arts, journalism, criminology, environmental science, early childhood education and other disciplines. An academic partnership with the Illinois Institute of Technology enabled Dominican students to complete an engineering major. In three years, the university added 16 new programs, six new degrees and two new schools. The full-time teaching faculty grew from 71 to 89, as the institution worked carefully to maintain its 12:1 student-faculty ratio. (In 2017, the full-time faculty numbers 166, a 134 percent increase since 1997.)

3. Showtime!

The curtain rose on the first season of the Dominican University Performing Arts Center in the fall of 1999. The center presents annual series of concerts, plays, lectures, special events and productions of the university’s theatre arts program. DUPAC brings nationally prominent artists to the Lund Auditorium and Martin Recital Hall, and draws avid patrons from around metropolitan Chicago. What’s more, Dominican students are everywhere, on stage, backstage and cheering for actor-classmates from some of the best five-dollar seats in town.
4. National reputation, global curriculum

In 2001, Dominican launched a new School of Social Work. Its mission calls for it to advocate across borders for social and economic justice, and it has earned a national reputation for its global curriculum and commitment to extending the discipline of social work to communities in need around the world. The school has established partnerships with the University of Gondar in Ethiopia, the Autonomous University of Aguascalientes in Mexico, and the University of Milagro in Ecuador. Graduate students in social work pursue research in Uganda, take courses in El Salvador and Guatemala, and complete internships in India, Kenya, South Africa, Mexico, Ethiopia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Ireland and Azerbaijan. Specialized programs prepare students to meet the particular needs of veterans, active military personnel, schoolchildren and the elderly. The school challenges students to change the world by enabling them to obtain the skills they need to make a difference.

5. A beautiful campus—expanded

In 2002, Dominican purchased the St. Thomas Aquinas Priory from the friars of the Dominican Province of St. Albert the Great. The stunning property—eight blocks east of the main campus on Division Street—provided space for the university’s growing ambitions by expanding campus acreage by 23 percent. Within weeks, the old House of Studies, built in 1922, was humming with classes, conferences and the sounds of students in residence. The newly named Priory Campus became the home of the School of Social Work, the Rose K. Goedert Center for Early Childhood Education, and a robust set of English language classes for international students. It also provided the university with a rare opportunity to continue to grow its academic programs while sustaining a cohesive campus community. A substantial renovation of the Priory Campus is in the works, designed to transform a distinctly Dominican place of study into a vital center for innovative, socially engaged graduate education.

6. Winning in the classroom, winning on the field

The ideal of the student-athlete is struggling in some settings, but at Dominican it is alive and well and winning. The Dominican Stars (the former Rosary Rebels) joined NCAA Division III in 2002, drawn in large part by its dedication to athletes as scholars and coaches as teachers. In 13 varsity sports, the Stars take on the best schools in the Northern Athletic Conference and beyond. Since 2002, the men’s soccer team has qualified for the NCAA tournament for 15 consecutive years. The women’s volleyball team has qualified four out of the past five years. The Stars’ discipline and teamwork result in more than regular victories; they also promote strong academic performance. Collectively, Dominican’s student-athletes have earned a GPA of 3.00 or higher for 20 consecutive semesters.
7. As much like home as possible

Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, the founding father of the Sinsinawa Dominicans, challenged the sisters to “make college as much like home as possible.” With its cozy suites and apartment-style amenities, Murray Hall is the campus’s homiest building yet. It opened in 2004 as Centennial Hall, the first new residence hall at Dominican since the completion of Coughlin Hall in 1959. In 2012, it was renamed in honor of Sister Jean Murray, professor emerita of French and the institution’s ninth president. With space for 173 students, the Collegiate Gothic structure blends seamlessly with its elegant neighbors while advancing the university’s intentional efforts to build a vibrant, relationship-based learning community.

8. A thought leader in Dominican Catholic education

The university established the St. Catherine of Siena Center in 2003 to engage critical issues of church and society within the contexts of scholarship and faith. The center presents courses and lectures for members of the campus and of the larger church communities who wish to deepen their understanding of Christian life in the modern world. In 2007, the Siena Center was joined by the McGrail Center for Dominican Historical Studies, which supports scholarly research about the Order of Preachers in the United States and serves as a permanent repository of the congregation’s archives. The two centers and their complementary missions reflect the university’s determination to serve church and society as a thought leader in Dominican Catholic education.
9. **In the top 5% of business programs worldwide**

Dominican’s academic programs in business have experienced two decades of impressive growth in size, quality, impact and prestige. The school has launched a series of creative new programs, including the Entrepreneur’s Boot Camp, the C-Suite Speakers Series, and the Center for Global Peace through Commerce, which promotes social and business entrepreneurship as an international force for good. For more than a decade, partnerships with leading universities in Europe allowed the school to offer executive MBA programs in Poland and the Czech Republic. In 2002, it established the Christopher Chair in Business Ethics, reflecting its continuing commitment to preparing business leaders who will make a difference in their communities and the world. In 2006, the burgeoning school got a new name: the Brennan School of Business, in honor of Trustee Emerita Lois Brennan ’55 and her husband, Edward A. Brennan, the former chief executive of Sears. Eight years later, the Brennan School reached a new level of academic distinction when it earned accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the field’s largest and most prestigious accrediting body. AACSB accreditation signals a learning environment of exceptional quality, highly prepared faculty and a comprehensive business curriculum that can withstand exacting scrutiny. It places Brennan in elite company: of the 17,000 business programs in the world, fewer than 5 percent have earned AACSB accreditation.

10. **You can see the world from here**

Dominican was one of the first colleges in the United States to offer a study abroad program. It began with classes in Fribourg, Switzerland, in October 1925. The university’s first decade saw the start of a determined expansion of study-abroad options. Today, Dominican undergraduates can be found in Ghana, South Africa, Guatemala, Haiti, China, Austria, Ireland, and at multiple locations in Spain, Italy, France and England—including Blackfriars Hall at the University of Oxford. The first service-learning trip abroad took students to El Salvador in 2006 to monitor local and national elections. In 2011, Dominican was the first American university to send students to Cuba after the State Department lifted travel restrictions that had been in place for 50 years. Through its financial aid program, the university seeks to make the eye-opening experience of study abroad a viable option for as many students as possible.
12.

The thrill of discovery

The opening of Parmer Hall facilitated a remarkable increase in opportunities for student-faculty research. The trend was accelerated by the founding of URSCI—the Office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Investigations—which helps students finance original research projects and present their findings at an annual, day-long exposition on campus. The first URSCI Expo was held in April 2008. The 2016 version featured subjects ranging from gender issues in Hemingway’s novels to a comparative analysis of bipolar disorder in children, adolescents and adults. Students in Dominican’s burgeoning Honors Program are especially eager to team up with top professors to conduct and present advanced research on important social and scientific topics. It is outstanding preparation for graduate and professional school—a goal of more than 60% of Dominican’s undergraduates.

11.

A great building for a new era

In the summer of 2007, near the 10th anniversary of the name change, the university dedicated Parmer Hall, a $39 million facility that tripled the amount of campus space devoted to the sciences. The striking four-story structure—designed by the distinguished architecture firm Holabird & Root—is by far the largest on campus, with two wings, a soaring atrium and 124,000 square feet of instructional and research space. It has 15 classrooms, 50 faculty offices and 16 laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment, including a digital cadaver table and robotic “patients” for simulated learning in the health sciences. Parmer is the most dramatic and impactful capital improvement at Dominican since the original campus was built in the 1920s. The hall is named in honor of Carolyn Parmer ’52 and the late John C. Parmer, university benefactors, trustees emeriti and key members of a pioneering generation of lay leaders who built the strategic foundation of Dominican University.
“Growth is the only evidence of life”
Cardinal John Henry Newman, the author of *The Idea of a University* and of the above quote, would have found abundant evidence of life at Dominican in its first 20 years. Since 1997, the university has almost doubled in size. It reached a key milestone in 2008, when it enrolled its first freshman class of more than 400 students. (The “Vision for the Centennial” called for a freshman class of 200 students.) Undergraduate enrollment in 2016–2017 is the largest in the institution’s 116-year history. The current freshman class is the second-largest in Dominican’s history.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshmen</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>+148%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Undergraduates</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>2,306</td>
<td>+152%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Students</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>1,216</td>
<td>+37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Enrollment</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>3,522</td>
<td>+96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to a 2017 survey of entering students, the top four reasons undergraduates choose Dominican are:

1. “This university has a very good academic reputation.”
2. “Its graduates make a difference in the world.”
3. “Its graduates gain admission to top graduate and professional schools.”
4. “Its graduates get good jobs.”

A day that is distinctly Dominican
Since 1926, the institution has relied on a three-word motto to capture its distinctive ethos: *Caritas et Veritas*—Love and Truth. In 2010, the university inaugurated a unique annual event, the *Caritas Veritas Symposium*. On the last Tuesday in September, classes are cancelled and the campus community gathers, collectively and in small groups, for a day’s consideration of a mission-related theme—such as the meaning of work, the value of truth, or the search for the good life. More than 1,000 people attend the event, which includes an opening plenary session, workshops, presentations, roundtable discussions, creative exhibitions and performances, and the submission of formal papers. The day closes with the annual Academic Convocation and presentation of the Bradford O’Neill Medallion for Social Justice. No day of the year is more distinctly Dominican.
15. A student body for the 21st century

In 2011, the U.S. Department of Education recognized Dominican as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI). The federal program supports colleges and universities that actively work to expand and enhance educational opportunities for Hispanic students. The university’s commitment to serving first-generation college students and other underrepresented populations dates to its founding. In the current academic year, 58 percent of Dominican freshmen are members of the first generation in their family to attend college. Students of color constitute 46 percent of total enrollment; Hispanic students constitute 34 percent. The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, established in 2015, works creatively with students, faculty and staff to advance the university’s relationship-centered culture of inclusive excellence.

16. The gold standard of program endorsements in teacher education

In 2012, the School of Education received accreditation without conditions by NCATE, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education—the gold standard of program endorsements in the field. The same year, students in the Golden Apple Scholars Program ranked the school first in academic quality and student satisfaction among 53 teacher-education programs in northern Illinois. The school established a multiyear partnership with Teach for America, a nationally respected program that prepares graduates of some of the most prestigious universities in the United States to teach in underserved urban schools. In 2005, Jeremy Robinson, a Teach for America participant and candidate for a master’s degree, became Dominican’s first Rhodes Scholar. Jeremy continued his studies at the University of Oxford the following fall.

17. Mastering the information age

In 2016, the Graduate School of Library and Information Science got a new name: the School of Information Studies. It is the fourth name for the venerable academic unit founded in 1930 as the Rosary College Library School, and reflects the dramatic expansion of the discipline in the information age. The school also established the Follett Chair in Library and Information Studies, and launched a new master’s program in information management and an undergraduate major in informatics. The new programs joined the school’s highly regarded master’s and doctoral programs in library and information science. The latter program, launched in 2009, is Dominican’s first doctoral program.
The university began the 2016–2017 academic year with a new academic structure that will enable it to better integrate and leverage its extensive academic resources. The move was inspired by a recognition that the university (and higher education in general) has entered an era of constant challenge and accelerating change, driven by technological advances, demographic shifts and economic dislocations. The new structure organizes the university into four academic units: two continuing (the Rosary College of Arts and Sciences and the Brennan School of Business) and two new (the College of Health Sciences and the College of Applied Social Sciences). The reorganization reflects the institution’s commitment to advancing its Catholic Dominican mission in the service of an expanding, contemporary, multidimensional academic program. It also enhances the university’s capacity to remain financially healthy by eliminating administrative redundancies and cutting ancillary costs. The result is an institution that is more innovative, collaborative and sustainable.

Launched in 2016, the College of Health Sciences addresses the academic and professional needs of students in an expanding range of health-related fields. The college builds on the university’s established strengths in the social and natural sciences with new and continuing programs in nursing, nutrition and dietetics, medical science and physician assistant studies. It provides for an increased emphasis on student-faculty research, and enables Dominican to do its part to address critical shortages of health care professionals in the Chicago area and around the nation.

The key to Dominican’s early success—and its long-term prospects—can be summarized in a word: philanthropy. In its first two decades, the university completed two successful fundraising campaigns that transformed the campus and advanced the academic enterprise. In October 2016, the institution entered the public phase of a third campaign. Powerful Promise: The Campaign for Dominican University seeks to raise $65 million for scholarships, faculty, programs, facilities and general institutional support. Powerful Promise already has secured 62 percent of its goal. If the campaign succeeds in full, the total of private giving to this young university will surpass $150 million. No endeavor is more central to Dominican’s efforts to secure its mission and ensure its future.
In October 2016, Dominican University launched the public phase of a campaign to fulfill the promise of an outstanding education in the Catholic Dominican tradition for a new generation.

**Powerful Promise: The Campaign for Dominican University** seeks to raise $65 million for scholarships, faculty, programs, facilities and general institutional support. It already has raised more than $40 million toward its ambitious goal.

**Powerful Promise** is about creating experiences that transform lives. It affirms Dominican’s commitment to educating students from a wide variety of backgrounds—one by one, in the company of others, with care, tenacity and respect. It seeks to support the faculty, advance the programs and build the facilities that are critical to Dominican’s future as a mission-centered learning community.

Three key members of the university’s volunteer leadership are serving as co-chairs of the **Powerful Promise** campaign. Mary E. Callow ’67 is co-founder of the law firm Clingen Callow & McLean, LLC. She is vice chair of the university’s Board of Trustees and served as chair from 2005 to 2008. Richard M. King MBA ’83 is chairman of Kittelman and Associates, an executive search firm serving the not-for-profit sector. A trustee emeritus, he served as board chair from 2009 to 2010. Kevin M. Killips ’79 is the chief financial officer of The PrivateBank and the current board chair.

Recently, we asked the campaign co-chairs to reflect on their Dominican experience, as students and board leaders, and on the transformative potential of the **Powerful Promise** campaign.
What was your own student experience here like?

Mary Callow: I went to college in the Sixties, a time of protest, although I was pretty insulated from all that. I did get involved in political campaigns—knocked on doors for Bobby Kennedy, that kind of thing. I did not live on campus, so I was a little disconnected at first. I was able to change that by getting involved in student organizations. I would spend hours here, and formed relationships that have lasted a lifetime. In senior year I was elected president of our class. The relationships you can form at a school like Dominican are the most significant aspect of it.

Beyond those wonderful relationships, the school opened up new worlds for me that I had no idea were out there. It was amazing to learn about the politics of South Africa from professors who had studied at schools like the University of Chicago. That’s what I found most extraordinary.

Kevin Killips: I was unsure of my direction after high school, so I didn’t go to college right away. What suited me about Dominican was the smaller class size, the personal attention of the professors. For somebody who had been out of the classroom for a couple years and who may have been unsure of his journey, this was a very, very good place to go to school. The hands-on experiences I enjoyed here enabled me to develop interpersonal skills, communication skills and leadership skills.

Rick King: When I started work on my MBA the enrollment was pretty small here. In most classes there were maybe 10 students for every professor. I thought it was great! I had my professors’ phone numbers. I could call them; it was a close-knit group of professionals. Dominican has grown a lot since then, but from a cultural standpoint, the commitment to a highly personal style of teaching continues to this day. It may come from the mission—Caritas et Veritas—but wherever it comes from, it’s still here.

What was, or is, the biggest challenge facing the university during your time as board chair?

Mary: Bringing added diversity to the board was a challenge. The board needs to reflect the diversity of the students. We’ve been able to make tremendous progress. Today, we have board members, deans and faculty from diverse backgrounds—ethnically, educationally and geographically. That has been a tremendous change.

Rick: Like every midsize private institution, we faced the vicissitudes of enrollment and of external factors affecting access to education for those who most needed it. I’m speaking particularly of students who are in the first generation of their family to go to college, many of whom are Hispanic in the current era. The ability to provide these students with an excellent, affordable education, as we’ve always done, and at the same time to run a sustainable operation in a business sense—that has been the biggest challenge for the university. It’s especially challenging at a school that is strongly committed not just to educating people but to changing their lives in multiple ways significantly for the better.

Kevin: The economic downturn that began in 2008 compounded the stress on our students and their families. That has been a big challenge for a university that has a mission to do everything it can to get first-generation students to a college degree. Over the last four years, we have spent the vast majority of our time working to understand and address the impact of economic uncertainty on the university. After all, the board’s responsibility, first and foremost, is the perpetuation of the enterprise. We need to leave it better than we found it.

How will a successful Powerful Promise campaign advance Dominican?

Kevin: So much of the campaign is focused on students, and a successful campaign will make for a better student experience. That, in turn, will build the university’s reputation.

Rick: First, the campaign will enable us to improve, right now, the many ways we prepare students for leadership—in business, teaching, health care, social work, or wherever our students choose to serve. Second, the campaign will increase the institutional endowment, which in turn will enable us to continue to serve great students who otherwise would be unable to afford the type of quality education Dominican offers.

Mary: A larger endowment and better facilities will allow us to attract an even more outstanding faculty and to continue to enroll the kind of students who will be successful here—and later on, in work and in life. Those kinds of graduates make a big difference in the world.
“You can’t afford to have a bad day.”

Dr. Kendall Moore ’09
Kendall Moore ’09 wanted to be a doctor since he was a grade-schooler growing up on Chicago’s South Side. At Dominican, where he majored in biology and played varsity basketball, he took the first steps to turning that dream into a reality. Now in his second year of a four-year residency in emergency medicine in New York City, Moore says that his fellow students and faculty advisors at Dominican enabled him to stay on his professional course. In 2016, he was awarded the university’s African/African American Heritage Award, which honors graduates whose life and work reflect the Dominican mission of pursuing truth and giving compassionate service. In his own words, here is his story.

In emergency medicine, you have to be a jack-of-all-trades. You have to be comfortable with all the specialties, and able to treat people for whatever reason they have come to the E.R. I work in communities in the Bronx that are medically underserved. That means I not only am treating trauma cases but also sometimes serving as a primary care doctor. Even in the emergency room, you do examinations and educate patients about prevention. You have to be ready to fill whatever role you need to fill.

We see a very high volume of patients. I work in three hospitals. One of them, Montefiore Medical Center, has one of the five busiest emergency departments in the country. It’s a hectic, stressful place—but I’ve learned the importance of taking the time to explain to patients what’s going on with them in a way they can understand. I explain their condition, describe the plan to treat it, and generally
make myself available, so they can ask me whatever questions they need to ask.

You put in 12-hour days, and you see very sad things—domestic abuse cases, families going through hard times economically. You might be treating a patient who needs to be admitted to the hospital but simply can’t afford to take the time off from work, or a mother who doesn’t have anyone else to care for her kids. Things like that can get to you. But you can’t afford to have a bad day. People are depending on you to take care of them. I know how hard it is for some patients to even find the time to come in for treatment. So you push through your limits and you learn to be a stronger person, because your patients need you.

You ask kids what they want to be when they grow up and they say, “I want to be a fireman” or whatever. I have wanted to be a doctor since I was eight years old. I grew up admiring my pediatrician, Dr. Lee, because of his compassion and because of the patient population he chose to serve. Growing up, there were not so many African American role models. It was great for me to have Dr. Lee to look up to.

I came to Dominican from Carl Sandburg High School in Orland Park. I was so impressed with the university and with the campus—but the truth is, I didn’t do all that well at first. I was away from my family and I could do whatever I wanted for the first time. Too often I was off having fun with my friends instead of doing the work I needed to do. At times I didn’t think I would make it to medical school.

What helped was being around the students in the Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical program. They were a little older, had been out in the world, and now they were back in school to get somewhere. They were totally focused on their work. I was in a lot of classes with those students, and just being around them was a great influence on me. It also helped that I had great faculty advisors. When I thought I couldn’t make it, they urged me to keep trying. So now I tell the students I meet never to give up. It’s not too late; get serious about your studies.

Winning the African/African American Heritage Award from Dominican was such an honor. I grew up playing basketball, and I was used to winning trophies for sports—but this was something different. This was the first award I had received as a professional. The plaque the university gave me is on display at my mother’s house now. She is my biggest fan, and that award made her very proud.

I still have so much more to learn, and the physicians around me teach me and push me to expand my knowledge. Physicians practice medicine in different ways, so you try to take pieces from each to develop your own approach. I see some older physicians, still practicing medicine after many years, and it inspires me. It reminds me why I got into medicine in the first place. It’s such a good feeling to be able to help people and to make their lives better.

Dr. Kendall Moore addresses a campus audience in February 2016 at a reception where he received the university’s African/African American Heritage Award. “I grew up playing basketball and I was used to winning trophies for sports, but this was something different,” he says. “This was the first award I’d received as a professional.”
You Always Belong to Dominican

Class News provides Dominican alumnae/i with an opportunity to share news and celebrate life events. Class News is prepared through the Office of Alumnae/i Relations in cooperation with class agents. If you would like to be a class agent, have news to report or have questions, please contact the Office of Alumnae/i Relations at alumni@dom.edu or (708) 524-6286.

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Thank you for sharing your news!

Dear Classmates,

Last summer, Kathy Anglese Giamalva phoned to tell me she and Vince celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Fran Eytalis and Judy Behm Elfering, who were bridesmaids for the couple’s ceremony, attended their celebration. Kathy has been friends with Barbara Schroeder since their kindergarten days. She looks out for Barbara, who has health problems. Marilyn Hannum makes a habit of keeping in touch. Last October, Marilyn wrote that she, with her daughter and grandson, traveled to Los Angeles to see her granddaughter who was performing in a play. Many of our classmates have grandchildren and we delight in their accomplishments.

The annual Memorial Mass in November is always well attended because it is a beautiful and meaningful liturgy. Jeannette McBride Murray and I planned to attend, but the fates had other plans. The Tuesday before the date, Jeannette took a tumble on the sidewalk near her home and went to the emergency room for facial stitches. She was quite bruised. The city repaired the sidewalk. As I was walking in the Walgreen’s parking lot near my home on the Thursday before the Mass, a minivan hit me. Luckily, the car was moving slowly. I suffered a mild concussion, a fracture in my nose and another in my ankle. God was watching over us. Hopefully, Jeannette and I will attend the Mass next year with no mishaps.

Please keep in touch and let us know how you are doing. We’d love to hear from you.

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Class Agent

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Mary Melocik Hambleton and Betty Freehill DeGuzman
Class Agents

Betty Freehill DeGuzman has loved her conversations with classmates as she collects news of the Class of 1961. After 25 years teaching Spanish and ESL, Betty finally completely retired from teaching at a middle school and the New Jersey Institute of Technology. She is enjoying taking courses and traveling (to a long list of places). She and her husband, Bernie, who gave her St. Dominic’s last name when they married, have five children and nine grandchildren.

Donna Vanderheiden writes, “In the time of learning, live an important principle: to actively live my spiritual belief—to know and treat all God’s children with respect and appropriate levels of acceptance.” Donna has completed her house renovation on Whidbey Island and enjoys regular trips to Isla Mujeres in Mexico.

Mary Rose Yarrish has retired from teaching and is taking history courses at the University of Maryland. She has four sons and six grandchildren who all live nearby.

Nijole Semenas Etzwiler misses her wonderful husband, who died on September 17, 2016. After she and her husband had served in the Peace Corps, they married 51 years ago. Now, she is a teacher of the Žaibas Dance Group, a Lithuanian group that participated in a 2016 festival of 1,800 dancers and invited us to France for a week on a barge in the Burgundy region. What a way to celebrate!

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Donna Hutten Robbeman lives in an assisted-living facility in a Minneapolis suburb. She spends time investigating her genealogy and reports that she loved traveling with family to Hungary to find out more about her ancestry. Her husband, Henry, died in 2016.

1962

Elizabeth Freidheim, Kay Pielsticker Coleman, Mary Beth Vander Vennet Tallon, Carolyn Sweeney Judd, Gloria Adams Mills and Corrine Carnivele Hanley
Class Agents

Donna Allendorf Wahlert and her husband, Bob, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary by taking their children and spouses to France for a week on a barge in the Burgundy region. What a way to celebrate!

Corrine Carnivele Hanley and her husband, Robert, are very much involved in a new ministry called Open Hearts at their church. Our Lady of Grace. Its purpose is to bring harmony between the Catholic Church, its people and the LGBT community.

Donna Bloemer Cash’s family celebrated a family reunion this past summer. Unfortunately, Donna’s mother passed away in July.

Sue Meyer Hubbard is thinking she may have to cut back on her quilting, as the stack is as tall as she is.

Virginia Lane and Gloria Adams Mills spent a week together at Gloria’s home in Virginia. They had been in touch through the years but had not connected face-to-face since graduation. It was a great week of eating, sleeping, swimming, talking, talking, talking!
Carolyn Sweeney Judd is in seventh heaven. Her oldest granddaughter, Alexa, seems to have inherited Carolyn’s science-loving genes. She now gets phone calls with requests for help with hybrid orbitals. Sister Brandon must be smiling down on them.

Mary Beth Vander Vennet Tallon celebrated a Vander Vennet family reunion during the summer in Moline. Though no family still live there, the 53 participants packed the soda shop where her parents first dated and attended Mass at the church where her parents were married. Please keep her son Andrew in your prayers.

1963
Susan Flynn
Class Agent

Susan Sobey Druffel wrote in with news of work and fun. ‘2016 was our year of changes—new roof on the house and garage, and a new bathroom to replace one from the ‘50s. Both projects involved many headaches and delays so my husband, Tom, and I decided to run away from home. In late September, we took a two-week Viking cruise on the Rhone and Saone rivers. The croissants and bread were wonderful and it was great fun to see the vineyards, the Cluny Abbey and Van Gogh’s Provence. I have not visited these places I had not visited since my first trip to Europe in 1967. The Roman ruins have not changed, but life around them is so different. There are long lines to get into Notre Dame (one-way traffic with lots of security), computer-driven cars on the Métro, streams of cars/trucks bumper-to-bumper during rush hour. Paris is as beautiful as ever, especially on the one Sunday each month when there is no vehicular traffic allowed in the city between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. No noise, congestion, pollution or crazy drivers.

Families (and cyclists) love to wander freely and the tourists can really explore the city. We even ventured into the suburb Fontenay-sous-Bois to meet a friend. Having lived and worked in Paris for more than 30 years, she was the perfect companion. The best time was people watching from a café with coffee or wine in hand. There was no sense of urgency to ‘turn the tables’ even in Les Deux Magots, the famous haunt of Hemingway and Picasso. We would love to go back SOON.’ The rest of the class of 1963 seems to be plugging along, doing what we can, as we can. We will have our 55th reunion on campus in June 2018 and many of us are already planning to attend. Mark your calendars!

Please continue to be generous to Dominican.

A Trailblazing Trial Lawyer

Peggy Garrity ’69 earned a degree in chemistry from Rosary College with the thought of going to medical school. Instead she chose an equally unusual path for a woman of her time, setting off for Los Angeles and enrolling at Southwestern Law School. The rest of the story is in her new memoir, In the Game: The Highs and Lows of a Trailblazing Trial Lawyer, published by She Writes Press. Garrity raised four children on her own while working full time as a trial lawyer, helping the Davids of the world take on such Goliaths as IBM and Clint Eastwood. She became a certified yoga instructor after recovering from a serious illness. A grandmother of six, Garrity still works on civil rights cases while teaching meditation and yoga to private students, including young moms recovering from alcoholism. “I have always been motivated by the desire to seek justice,” she says, “to fight for civil rights and equality for women.”

1964
Mary McGough Schultz
Class Agent

Dear Classmates,
I was unable to attend the Rosarian Luncheon at Alumna/i Weekend, but was there for the launch of the Powerful Promise campaign, which has already raised more than $40 million. You would be so proud of our alma mater. Enrollment is up (including my nephew). You can feel the vibrancy and will be moved by the dedication of faculty and staff. I met our scholarship recipient. It was a short visit since she works two jobs to be able to stay at Dominican. Please say yes to Dominican when making your philanthropic decisions. With tuition over $30K, and 93% of students receiving financial aid, all our help is appreciated.

Pat Connery Koko is busier than ever. She writes ‘I was at Dominican for the Memorial Mass and Brunch. Classmates included Fran Buttitta Hicks and Joanne Knotek. Joanne and I are members of a local investment club. She is assistant treasurer and I am president. We are doing pretty well considering the wild swings of the market this year. In June, my daughter Marie and I went on an Alaskan cruise/tour odyssey. We sailed from Vancou-ver to Skagway then went inland where we went dogsled mushing (with wheels), zip lining, whitewater rafting and gold panning (we got about $20 worth between us). Shortly after we got home, I began feeling kind of ‘blurry’ and within a few days was hospitalized and feeling kind of ‘blurry’ within a few days was hospitalized and ended up with a pacemaker. All is well now. I celebrated my 74th birthday in November and then Paul and I celebrated 50 years of married life. We were introduced 50 years ago. on February 4, 1966, by Judy Colohan Blatherwick and we are now bringing that whirlwind introduction, courtship
and marriage to our anniversary. We also celebrated with Cardinal Cupich and some 498 other folks at the cathedral on September 18 for the Golden Wedding Mass. I was surprised to discover the new rector at the cathedral, Fr. Greg Sakowicz, was on staff with me in 1977–78 at St. Catherine–St. Lucy Parish in Oak Park, where we are still parishioners. He seemed delighted to reconnect with us as well. We are planning a cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to San Diego in January through the Panama Canal. I am making and selling jewelry. This is the busy season with many church bazaars and other small venues to sell my classic pieces. I named the company RBC Jewelry Design, after my mom. Otherwise, I serve as the newsletter editor for our local rock club, treasurer of a senior serving agencies networking group that I helped start in 1978, and treasur-er for the Celebrating Seniors Coalition, which is beginning our seventh year of honoring older adults in our local communities. Last year, I was privileged to co-present a workshop about this endeavor and will do so again in March for the American Society on Aging. Meanwhile our daughter Marie is happily working as a senior career counselor at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.”

I accidentally dialed Peggy Dug-gan von Briesen over the summer. She’s still working at a V.A. hospita-l in the Northeast, with daughter Amy and her son a couple of hours away. She promised to send news if an impending job change materialized. No news by the end of October when I’m writing this.

Maureen McMahon Hibbott was gearing up for a hip replacement in November that would mark her fourth major joint replacement. She and Richard travel to visit grandkids in the Far East; all three of the girls make it to the Hibbott farm at least once a year and the grandkids arrive from time to time. We were to have visited them on our trip to the UK islands. alas.

Sheila Durkin Dierks saw her first snow in the mountains while we flatlanders were still enjoying temps in the 70s in October. Her big news (which you may have already received by mail) is the launch of the Lucile Murray Durkin Scholarship for Women’s Ordination. The scholarship is primarily directed to women who wish to be ordained Catholic priests (including Ecumenical

### Mentoring the Next Generation of Entrepreneurs

**Caroline Sanchez Crozier ’79** (right) knows how to get an idea off the ground and keep it there. She founded an educational technology company that has been in business for nearly 30 years. Her top tip? Seek out mentors. Crozier recently was honored with a Legacy Award from the Women’s Business Development Center, a Chicago-based nonprofit that has helped tens of thousands of women become entrepreneurs. Her own company, Computer Services & Consulting, Inc., trains teachers in the Midwest and in her native Mexico to blend technology into effective instruction. Crozier wants to ensure that young people—especially girls—understand that with an idea and an internet connection, anyone can launch a startup. “They think, ‘Oh, you’ve got to have a lot of money to be a business owner,’” she says. “But you can be an entrepreneur in many different ways. You just need to work well on a team and be innovative, a self-starter and a problem-solver.”
Catholic and Roman Catholic women priests). Secondarily, it is open to women who are seeking priestly ordination in other denominations.

Fachon Schwop Wilson writes, "We took a 13-day road trip with five days of it spent in the Sacramento area with son Christopher’s family. Christopher is the architect of record (Stantec) on a San Diego/Tijuana airport project that has won a number of regional and national awards. We saw a lot of the USA that we had never driven through before. But I am never doing that again. As much as I dislike airport security rigmarole, I will fly in the future and rent a car at the end. wherever it may be. Brian continues as a smoke jumper. he was on fires all summer. His wife, Mary, is now the sole science teacher at West Yellowstone Junior and Senior High School. Julie and Butch bought their own interior store here in Sheridan. Rog is finally finished with Wyoming Senior Olympics in Sheridan, which has moved on to Laramie for the next two years. I was in charge of check-in (when I was recruiting volunteers to work at it), the audience thought I said 'chicken,' which got some laughs and puzzled faces. Six grandkids (ages 13–18) are all busy with what teenagers do. Alex is a freshman at Montana State University in Bozeman. I still make baby blankets. Gee, I wish I would stop going online in the middle of the night when I cannot sleep and finding panels I can’t resist. I am a docent at the Historic Sheridan Inn and the Brinton Museum, and sit at the hospital-sponsored check-in table for blood donations. "We were both precinct election judges on November 8 and are happy the campaign season is over.”

Maria Tsionis Stavrakos is definitely in love with her grandbaby, John’s son. Her daughter Evonne was honored for her work in preserving a historic building in Chicago.

Bill and Diane Farr Knittle continue to travel and visit the kids and grandkids.

1966

Judy Purvin Scully
Class Agent

Kaye Cassato Grabbage retired after 28 years as the director of the Lake Forest Public Library on April 30, 2016 (she made good use of the master’s in library science degree she earned at Dominican in 1972)! She and her husband, Ted, plan to spend more time with their twin grandkids, McKenna and Owen, who are 4 years old. Her father, Victor Cassato, died in May of 2016 at the age of 101. He had been a captain in the army during WWII and practiced law in Chicago for 50 years.

Linda Miller Drennan reported that her son Brian and his wife, Cynthia, moved to the Netherlands for a year so that their children, Maika and Lucas, could experience the Dutch culture and spend time with Cynthia’s family. They intend to travel extensively throughout Europe. Maika is 9, Lucas is 7. Within four months, both were speaking Dutch and attending a Dutch school. In October, Linda and her husband, John, visited them in Nijmegen and also traveled with them to Germany, staying in a cottage in the countryside for three days. Linda noted that it was a wonderful trip.

Alice Huene Finn and her husband, Pat, enjoyed a relaxing mini road trip to visit their son in Washington, D.C. After dinner dates and a special Japanese orchestra concert at the Kennedy Center, Pat and Alice meandered back home via a tour of Mount Vernon.

Various states’ byways through Amish areas in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and factory outlets in Pennsylvania, buying comfort food along the way.

Maureen O’Rourke Cannon and her husband, Jim, have a new granddaughter, Charlie Ann Lannon, whose dad, Keegan Lannon, is an adjunct professor in the English department at Dominican. University Ministry sent out the following email internally: "We sing out in gratitude at the safe arrival of the newest member of the Dominican family—Charlie Ann Lannon. Charlie Ann entered the world on the evening of October 20. She weighed in at 6 lbs. and measured 19¾ inches. Keegan’s wife, Catherine, and daughter are doing well!” A picture of the new parents with Charlie Ann was included. Doesn’t the birth announcement just say it all? We’re all part of the Dominican family and proud of it! Maureen reports that Keegan absolutely loves teaching at Dominican—the faculty, students and staff have all made him feel welcome. He has been impressed with the quality of the students and their desire to learn, as well as the support of the faculty and staff.

Kathy Kahler Matthews retired on October 31 after almost 18 years with the Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra. She got involved as a volunteer for EYSO when her daughter Sarah became part of the orchestra in high school. She eventually managed the organization and became the executive director. Under her leadership, it grew from two orchestras with 70 students to five orchestras with almost 400 students. One of the special experiences involved traveling to Scotland with the orchestra. In addition to loving and appreciating music, Kathy is a master embroiderer (and judge) and studied embroidery in England and Scotland. She was president of the Fox chapter of the American Needlepoint Guild and area representative for the American Needlepoint Guild. Kathy is obviously multitalented in the arts! She certainly does not plan to slow down in retirement, noting, “I want to travel more to study. I have lots of unfinished projects to work on. I also am a gardener and a member of the Pottawatomie Garden Club. I also have a 4-year-old granddaughter who is playing the violin, so she has a recital in the spring. Which I will have the time to attend now.”

Suzy Wills Kessler reported that administrators, board members of EYSO and some of the parents gathered to honor Kathy’s retirement on Friday, October 21. On November 6, Kathy was honored at each of the three EYSO concerts. Suzy and our adopted alumna, Joan Condon, were in Chicago to celebrate Kathy’s retirement and attended the November 6 concert. Congratulations, Kathy!

Mariann Haberle Leahy and her husband, Jim, attended the opening reception of her show at the Turquoise Tortoise Gallery in September where she was the featured artist. According to Mariann, “Ancient myths and symbols are my inspiration. As a clay artist, I celebrate symbols combining human and animal motifs. These symbols show the emergence and mystery of life’s energy.” A review in the Redrock News noted, “The stories portrayed in Leahy’s art pieces have been researched and influenced from the rich cultural traditions and ruins in the Southwest. Her symbols of horses, ravens and deer or human hands, spirals and other symbols are drawn with glaze onto fired, mica-rich clay that she has formed into wall hangings, platters and bowls. Each piece is then painted with many coats of glazes that come alive in brilliant colors during a second firing pro-
cess. Painting with glaze, which does not show its color until fired, requires an intense and precise inner vision on the part of the artist. Leahy must see every nuance in her mind’s eye as she creates each piece.” Congratulations, Mariann! To see her work, check out her website at MariannLeahyClayArt.com.

In November, Janice Ciastko Lane and Theresa Vertuno went to the University of Minnesota to see the documentary My Mother’s House, made by Lina Fruzzetti and her husband. Jan wrote, “The film was so beautiful about Lina’s Eritrean mother and her Italian father. I was nearly moved to tears. Afterwards, Lina spoke and took questions from the audience. It was a joy to see her and to hear about her life. The film will be released in January, but I am not sure where.”

With their son, Michael, daughter-in-law, Jenny, and 19-month-old grandson, Michael Patrick, Marcia Kerbel Stephen and her husband, Mike, celebrated the anniversary of Michael’s Saturday morning WGN radio show, “Outside the Loop.” Because the show has also been an award-winning podcast for 10 years, the entire family honored his success with a weekend of nonstop celebration. Their daughter Mia and son-in-law, Tom, came in from South Bend with their grandchildren, Lily and Jack, whose current favorite Chicago attraction is the Brookfield Zoo.

There were several of our friends celebrating 50th wedding anniversaries this year, including Mitzi Battista Witchger and her husband, Tom, as well as Linda Miller Drennan and her husband, John. We drove south from Minocqua and the Witchgers drove north from Indianapolis to celebrate with Linda and John at the wonderful gathering of family and friends at their home in Ivanhoe over the Labor Day weekend.

John and I, along with Kerry Hubata, attended the Memorial Mass on November 6 where we remembered our classmate Emily Ablonczy Bevington, the mother of Kathy Albright Roth and the spouses of Marina Krzeminski-Green and Patricia Jana Hassler. It was a beautiful Mass and reception attended by 200+ who were there remembering their loved ones. We were fortunate enough to be part of the pilgrimage to Rome in November for the investiture of Cardinal Cupich. We had spent time with him on several occasions and wanted to be part of the Chicago contingent celebrating his becoming a cardinal. It was truly a memorable experience. We spent the week after Christmas in Jamaica with 16 family members in celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary, followed by two months in Hawaii and two weeks in Florida with my parents, which pretty much kept us out of Chicago for the winter, with the exception of a few days between trips.

Please send news as it happens and stay in touch. Our 55th is only four years away and I hope to see all of you there since our 50th was such a blast.

1967
Elizabeth McGrath
Class Agent

Rita Wolaver Meier wrote, “After several different careers (including chemist and middle school science teacher) and two master’s degrees (secondary education and computer science), I spent the last 16 years in computer work for Thomson Reuters. When I retired in 2003, I cast around for new directions. I settled on yoga. A hobby turned into a passion – a career now!”

Sending a Taste of Tuscany to America

Sally Giannetti ’00 was the only child of immigrant parents in Highwood, Illinois, the “Little Italy” of Chicago’s North Shore. She grew up loving her mother and grandmother’s homemade Tuscan food. Now, she sends a taste of her childhood to customers from New York to Hawaii through Giannetti Artisans, her signature line of specialty foods. Giannetti lives in Florence and sends her products to the United States where she sells them mostly through Amazon. “In Italy, food has a value that it does not have in the U.S.,” she says. “Opening a bottle of olive oil can be as special as opening a bottle of fine wine.” Giannetti has two distribution warehouses, one in Florence and the other in Highwood, managed by her father. He was the one who encouraged her to attend Dominican, where she earned a degree in international studies with a minor in Italian. She worked in sales before starting her own company in 2014.
and before long, I began teaching yoga. Currently, I teach introductory yoga at two nearby park districts. I also work as a volunteer teaching yoga to cancer survivors. My main specialty has become the pelvic floor. In 2014, Yoga Chicago published my article, “Yoga for the Pelvic Floor: Kegels are not enough!” I’ve developed this material into a workshop, which I’ve presented to a number of local studios and park districts. It has become very gratifying work! When I’m not taking or teaching a yoga class, I enjoy traveling with my husband, John. We’re lucky that one daughter and her family are local. Our other two children have settled in beautiful places—San Diego and Boulder—and we have three grandchildren!”

Jane Dugan writes, ‘In January 2016, I went to Mississippi for a 50-year reunion with some of the people I met (civil rights) organizing there. Our host, a native Mississippian, was able to arrange for us to see the St. Francis Center where we worked, to meet the current pastor, and to meet neighbors of the center who still look out for it and are totally devoted to the women who made it possible. There has been a lot of change in Mississippi in 50 years. For instance, we had lunch in a restaurant that would have been closed to us 50 years ago. Last week, black and white families had tables side by side and I’m sure no one thought anything odd about that. The hard part was to see the poverty level is much the same today. Black neighborhoods rival the townships in South Africa we’ve all seen on TV. My heartfelt thanks to all those who helped raise enough money that year for me to be part of the project of five Rosarians and still go back for my junior year.”

Hilary Holding Merola notes, ‘I got married exactly a week after graduation and my husband and I went to live in Rome, Italy, which is where he is from. That lasted only a little more than a year. We returned to the Chicago area—Downers Grove—bought a house and got jobs, the usual stuff. I began teaching grade school and that lasted until 2010 when I retired. My last 25 years teaching were at St. Isaac Jogues in Hinsdale. We have two grown daughters, no grandkids. We moved to Chicago in 2002 and live on Chestnut Street just off the lake. We usually spend a few months every year in Italy. Recently we’ve been going there for the winter months. The weather is not tropical. but way better than Chicago.”

Carol Johnson Rubsam and I keep in touch through Facebook, which is how I know she is constantly expanding her artistic repertoire. Carol recently posted a painting she created from a photo she took at Olympia Park.

As for myself, I have lunch with Andrea Nagode several times a year and have the chance to visit with Lynn Yancey Crowley at a Winefest in Michigan this past summer. Nick and I will spend time with Margaret More Hunt in New York in December. I am so grateful to Rosary/Dominican for introducing me to so many forever friends—not enough of whom send me updates!

But all is not lost. There will be stories to share and reminiscences by the truckload at our 50th Reunion during Alumnae/i Weekend, Friday, June 9, through Sunday, June 11! Visit www.dom.edu/alumniweekend to gather details and start making plans to share face-to-face time with people who love and miss you. And why don’t you join the Reunion Committee? I’m in, as are several others thus far. Your input, energy and creativity will ensure an amazing 50th Reunion! My email is mczony@aol.com. You can also call Gina Hosch, assistant director, Alumnae/i Relations, at (708) 524-6490 or email her at ghosch@dom.edu.

1968

Class Agent Needed
Contact alumni@dom.edu to volunteer

Sybill A. Cook was honored with the 2016 Lampman Award, which was established to honor a living Oregon author, librarian or educator who has made a significant contribution to Oregon in the fields of children’s literature and library services. Sybilla is the author of Drawn Together: The Biography of Caldecott Award-winning Authors Berta and Elmer Hader. Cook is an accomplished author and school librarian who served schools in Illinois and Oregon, and an adjunct professor at Western Oregon University.

1971

Kathy Klem Large
Class Agent

I cannot begin this letter without tipping my hat to the Chicago Cubs...what a season, what a series and how proud you made all of us! As my deadline approached for this issue, Peg Rohr Duran wrote that she was boarding a plane with her husband for Indonesia and 11 days of small-boat scuba diving around Komodo. She also enjoyed the Reunion this past June.

From Anchorage, Alaska, Mary Ann Campbell Swalling wrote that her youngest grandchild started first grade this fall and her oldest started college at Montana State in Bozeman. “How can that be when I started at Rosary a few years ago myself? Guess time flies when you are enjoying life.”

Nancy Sidote Salyers called the 45th Reunion “a real treat” and is looking forward to our 50th, even though she can’t believe a half-century has zoomed by all of us. She and her family welcomed their fourth grandson in October!

Like other Reunion attendees, Linda Grezskiowski Hanrath enjoyed seeing and catching up with so many of our classmates and looks forward to the 50th reunion. In September, she and her husband went on a European river cruise. Starting in Vienna, they ended in Amsterdam with a few extra days in Bruges. They greatly enjoyed this trip and she highly recommends river cruising!

Martha Yancey Hellar saw her youngest daughter, Carin, get married in a chilly, but beautiful, outdoor ceremony on November 26. She said it was great fun, but she can now settle into retired life. She is looking forward to more travel with her sister, Susan Yancey Decker 68, and with her husband. She has also been working on the Yancey family genealogy. She, too, loved reconnecting with classmates in June and expects to see everyone again in June 2021!

Sending news from Sparks, Nevada, Anne Vonderhaar was excited about settling into her new classroom this fall. She is in a Catholic school and will now have “windows and no asbestos. Yeah!” She reminds us once again that it really is the little things that count!

Al and I also took our first Viking cruise this summer. We began in Berlin and it included stops in Warsaw, Prague, Krakow, Auschwitz, Birkenau and Terezin with a final five days in London on our own. The visits to the concentration camps were extremely emotional as our group included several Jewish couples whose families had experienced the Holocaust on a very personal level. As Linda Hanrath mentioned above, river cruising are...
“I always appreciated that at Dominican I was able to get a true liberal arts education. You were...encouraged to question and always search for truth. Now I take the same approach with my own students.”

Ryan Calabretta-Sajder ’05

especially relaxing and great way to see countries from a different perspective. We have booked another trip for next summer beginning in Amsterdam and ending in Transylvania.
That’s all the news for now. And remember, keep those cards and letters comin’.  

1976

Mary Gallagher Banaszak
Class Agent

In May 2015, Carl L. Sirotzki graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa, with a master of divinity (MDiv) He was ordained an ELCA pastor in November 2015 and is currently an ELCA pastor at Chriat Lutheran Church in Sharon, Wisconsin.

1979

Hilary Ward Schnadt
Class Agent

Some members of the classes of 1979 and 1980 gathered in Oak Park for a mini-reunion on October 29. Helen Hollerich was the “cruise director” who not only gathered the group, but also brought Dominican-related prizes. Ann Van Hoomissen Bixby, visiting from Idaho, won the distance award: a copy of A Journey into Love by Sr. Mary Clemente Davlin, OP. Helen had chosen it because the title echoed the theme of journeying the greatest distance. But for Ann, the gift had a deeper meaning since Sr. Clemente had been a classmate of Ann’s mother, who had welcomed Ann to campus and then later welcomed Ann’s daughter, Jean Bixby (named after Ann’s mother), to campus. Through the luck of the draw, Hugh Toner won the copy of Sr. Candida Lund’s If I Were Pope, and we all took a moment to imagine Hugh (or Sr. Candida) as Pope. Kathleen Johnson Williams won The Feminization of the Church by Sr. Kaye Ashe, OP. And Teresa Anderson Schultz went home with Rosary College: Transition and Progress, 1949–1974 by Sr. Aurelia Altenhofen, OP. Others at the event were Robin Nystrom, Nancy Greco, Augusta “Gus” Simpson Arthur, Lynette Cabell, Russina Rusev Grady ’80, Delmor ‘DD’ Thurman ’80 and me. A good time was had by all.

To Italy on a Fulbright

Ryan Calabretta-Sajder ’05 won a Fulbright Foundation for Southern Italy Award to teach at the University of Calabria. He also will pursue scholarly research during a six-month stay in Arcavacata. A visiting assistant professor of Italian at the University of Arkansas, Calabretta-Sajder specializes in queer theory in contemporary Italian and Italian-American film and literature. At Calabria, he will teach a course called “Gay Italian-American Male Voices from the AIDS Epidemic to the Present.” He plans to finish a book about the novelist Robert Ferro (1941–1988), the first in the American canon to write about AIDS. “Ferro referred to AIDS as ‘It,’” he says, “but everyone knew what ‘It’ was.” After double-majoring in English literature and Italian at Dominican, Calabretta-Sajder earned a master’s degree at Indiana University Bloomington and a doctorate of modern languages at Middlebury College. The son of an Italian-American mother and a Polish-German father, his love of all things Italian blossomed during his college years, when he served as an officer of the Italian Club and studied abroad in Florence and Milan. “I always appreciated that at Dominican I was able to get a true liberal arts education,” he says. “You were never forced to think through a Catholic lens, but rather were encouraged to question and always search for truth. Now I take the same approach with my own students.”

Teresa welcomed a grandaughter into the family in July of 2016 named Lorelei Albracht. Nancy shared that she had helped her mom celebrate her 90th birthday with a trip down the Rhine and Moselle Rivers in September. She was glad to run into Steve Clark while planning the trip. She added, “I am now working as a ‘swing’ in We Gotta Bingo, an interactive show in the city. I either play Sr. Gigi or Rosa Dimini.” Robin had also been traveling and spent two weeks in China. She shared “a rare selfie” from her trip to Hengdian World Studios—the world’s largest film studio—in Zhejiang Province. It was a drama series filmed, in part, at the studio that was the impetus for her trip to this part of the world. Robin and her friend just had to walk in the footsteps of Mei Changsu, the hero of Lányá Băng! Hugh and Rick Wilk had recently attended Jim Bednarczyk’s wedding to his high school sweetheart. Rick managed to meet with Ann in downtown Chicago while she was in town. Rick’s final news was, “My oldest son, Jeremy, was recently promoted to coach for the track team at a university in Michigan. He has worked hard for this opportunity and I’m very happy for him. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at Alumni Weekend in 2017. Happy holidays folks!”

Eva Klaus Bellingr wrote to say, “I finished putting together my dad’s WWII memoirs for the family. He wanted them to be part of a souvenir book for his submarine veterans group. Since what appeals to the family is different from what the submarine group needs. I’m working with them to see how to modify the story for their purposes. I’m still tutoring ESL to two women who never got to go to school ever. I’m also helping out in the ESL class for adults. When we have a learner who has zero English, I work with the learner on basics during part of the class so that they can follow along with the rest of the class later.”

Kevin Killips deserves our thanks since he is starting his fourth year as chair of Dominican’s Board of Trustees. He notes it was “quite a year with the uncertainty over state funding for our students through the state’s MAP program. Throughout Donna has done a magnificent job in guiding the university! On a positive note, another 79 grad, Hugh Toner, has
joined the board. Great representation from our year.”
You can see Theresa Kaminski without leaving home. She writes, “I was on television! A WWII symposium at the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia, was covered by C-Span.”

Bernadette Stepnowski Freeman visited Chicago from Santa Fe in August. If you attended the Fest for Beatles Fans, you might have seen her. As she noted on her blog, “I have been attending since its start in 1977. I now run the art contest and set up the art room twice a year, in the New York and Chicago locations. The contest is open to kids, amateurs and professional artists, in almost all media, featuring Beatles-themed art. The fans attending the fest vote for the artwork they like best. One of my favorite jobs is presenting the awards to the winning contestants.” She also conducted two collage workshops at the event and again hosted the Beatles Poetry Jam.

Marg Doss taught summer school and then attended the NEA convention.

Sr. Peggy Ryan, OP, published an article, “Serving or being served: We accompany with Christ,” in Global Sisters Report, a project of the National Catholic Reporter.

Mary Yu was re-elected to the Washington Supreme Court on November 8, 2016.

Claudia Tonella retired from the Fremont Unified School District in Fremont, California, and in April 2016 moved to Evanston, Illinois. Life is good!
I’ll end on that happy and inspiring note and encourage you to keep those news notes coming.

Hilary Ward Schnadt, hw schnadt@ucenter.org

1980
Linda Rohde
Class Agent

Mike Hattie reports, “I’m delighted to report the Knights Fall Food Drive exceeded 2,000 pounds for the first time—a ton of food! I’m helping to create videos for the St. Francis Xavier parish website about the Ushears and the Knights—a fun and an interesting learning experience. I’ll post more about that on Facebook and LinkedIn when they are both complete and published. I visited Mom and family in Ohio in September and got some things done and had some fun, too. I was very excited about the Tribe–Cubbies World Series. I have a long history with both teams, so it was my dream World Series. It was everything I hoped for and more. I’m so glad I attended the Alumni Association Cuba game in the spring. My son Greg is doing well. Amanda and the grandkids survived the hurricane with little inconvenience while Dan was in Kuwait. Dan is now back home with them. All is pretty well here. If you are on Facebook, please join us at Rosary College Class of 1980 & Friends (70s–80s). We are active with more than 100 members and growing. Come to Alumni Weekend in the spring—we always have a great time.”

Laura Brown Schmuck
Class Agent

Margaret Stec completed a second master’s degree in library and information science in May 2016 and was promoted to Children’s Services librarian at La Grange Park Library.

1989

1991
Rosann Grimm Bateman
Class Agent

Jessica Jakosalem Rolla married Mark Rolla in June 2016 in her hometown of Darien, Illinois. One of her bridesmaids was fellow Rosary graduate Linda Rolfe. Jessica works as a commercial model, tradeshow hostess and narrator. She is also on the board of directors of the Sampaguita Group, which helps bring awareness and raise college scholarship funds for young Filipina American women.

1995
Class Agent Needed
Contact alumni@dom.edu to volunteer

Megan Millen MLIS was recently named executive director of Joliet Public Library in Joliet, Illinois, which serves a population of 149,000.

1997

2004
Joe Bruno and Brandy Foster
Class Agents

Brandy Foster recently earned her MBA as well as her master of management degree from the Morris Graduate School of Management at Robert Morris University where her concentrations were management and higher education administration.

2006

2007
Mark Carbonara, Stephanie Lieberman and Stephanie Adams Taylor
Class Agents

Tina Gustafson Biel and her husband, Bob, welcomed their newest child, Casey Calvin, to the world on October 8, 2016. Casey weighed 4lbs. 12oz. Tina said that “he was the next heavyweight champion.”

Karolina Cabaj Haas married David Haas on January 24, 2015, in Chicago. They had their destination wedding ceremony on November 4, 2016, in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Karolina also started working at Wells Fargo as a business analyst in March 2016.

Ann Marie Mikucki married Jeffrey Scott Pfister on July 16, 2016, at St. Edward in Chicago. Zandria Robins SOE ’11 was a bridesmaid.

money and helps with awareness, honoring patients in treatment and remission, and remembering those who have lost their battle.

Lisa Pauletto Jerzyk and her husband, Eddie, welcomed their second child. Rocco James, on August 2, 2016. Lisa and her family also moved to Palatine.

Chris Burns and his wife, Katie, welcomed their third son, Benson Burns, on April 11, 2016.

In July, Kais Salhut was named to the Emerging Leaders Program of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Kais was one of 20 leaders chosen for the Class of 2017. The Emerging Leaders Program prepares the next generation of leaders in Chicago’s public, private and nonprofit sectors.

Contact alumni@dom.edu to volunteer

2007

Dominican Magazine SPRING 2017
2008
Catherine Calixto
Class Agent

Thomas Salek finished his doctorate in communication from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee in May 2016. He accepted a job as assistant professor in the Division of Communication at the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point.

2012
Ali Messina
Class Agent

Jacqueline Janeteas works at Chicago Public Schools as a seventh- and eighth-grade special education teacher. She completed her master’s degree in special education at Dominican University in May 2015.

After two years as a registered nurse working at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Georgina Zamudio has accepted a position at Havasu Regional Medical Center in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, as a medical/surgical travel nurse.


2015
Tanner Strong and Katie Schmidt
Class Agents

André Hayes has worked for Premier Physical Therapy at corporate headquarters in Burr Ridge, Illinois, since February 2016.

Relsey Myers works as an ABA therapist for children with autism and started graduate school to pursue her master’s degree in applied behavior analysis at Aurora University.

Kimberly Mathes is attending A.T. Still University’s Arizona School of Health Sciences to complete her master’s degree in occupational therapy.

Dave Kinsley graduated from the Chamberlain College of Nursing in April 2016 and is now a registered nurse working at Advocate Christ Medical Center.

Gerard Cafaro and Ashley Richardson married in 2014 and welcomed baby boy Vincent Paul Cafaro on September 10, 2016. Vincent was baptized into the Catholic Church at St. John Neumann in St. Charles, Illinois, on October 30. Congratulations!

A History Lover’s Dream Job
Trenton Carls MLIS ’14 has been promoted to technical services librarian at the Chicago History Museum, where he acquires materials and fields inquiries from both professional historians and everyday Chicagoans. Among the local callers, some are curious about the history of their homes; others offer to donate artifacts to the museum’s collections. As a graduate student, Carls completed internships not only at the Chicago History Museum but also at the Pritzker Military Museum and Library and the National Archives at Chicago. When he decided to get his master’s, he was surprised to learn that so many programs in library and information science were online only. “I chose Dominican because I wanted to be with like-minded people, to be part of a community,” he says. His job is a perfect fit for the lifelong Chicago history enthusiast. “I didn’t see myself doing something I love so much, so quickly.”

Dave Kinsley graduated from the Chamberlain College of Nursing in April 2016 and is now a registered nurse working at Advocate Christ Medical Center.

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Welcome Home!

ALUMNAE/I WEEKEND
June 9–11, 2017
dom.edu/alumniweekend
1. Artist Mariann Haberle Leahy ’66 and her husband, Jim, attend the September opening of her show at the Turquoise Tortoise Gallery in Sedona, Arizona.

2. Carol Johnson Rubsam ’67, in a Facebook post, shares one of her recent paintings, based on a photo she took at Olympia Park.


5. Lisa Pauletto Jerzyk ’06 and her husband, Eddie, welcome their second child, Rocco James, on Aug. 2, 2016.


THE LORD IS CLOSE TO THE BROKENHEARTED AND SAVES THOSE WHO ARE CRUSHED IN SPIRIT.

Psalm 34:18

in sympathy

Alumnae/i
Elizabeth Mortell Boker ’36 (MHS)
Nancy Crawford Tracy ’41 (NGA)
Rosemary Engel Cummings ’42
Sister Ancille Furlong, OP ’42
Agnes Dunigan Lavelle ’42
Mary Birch Scruton ’42
Frances Gilray Colianni ’43
Mary K. Meagher Moran ’43
Mary Pat McCormick Hitchcock-Rummerly ’43
Sarah Cassidy ’44
Sister Catherine Harrington, OP ’44
Joan Savage Marcus ’44, MALS ’67
Ann Linberger Troyan ’46
Mary Coad Schwinn ’47
Betty Kerz Gildner ’48
Lois Maser Holtz ’48
Catherine Kuruczovitch Tetek ’48
Dorothy Wolf Cormack ’49, MALS ’73
Patricia Ann Gallagher ’49
Mary Donne Myers ’49
Bernadette Sullivan Schoessling ’49
Kathrine Kiernan Ullman ’49
Barbara Johnston Gummersall ’50
Patricia Curry O’Keefe ’50
Sister Adrienne Schmidt, CSJ ’50
Joan Cahir Stephens ’50
Audrey Greeley Rhine ’51
Barbara McGoorty Starshak ’51
Teresa Fisher Grant ’52
Sister Dionna McNichols, OP ’52 (FS)
Juanita Simon Tabor ’52
Noel Kaufman Anderson ’54
Rose Marie Moline Prin ’55
Angela Howery Johnson ’56 (NGA)
Nancy Walsh Massoud ’56
Joan Gladstone Berg ’57
Elaine Minnec Sohn ’58
Janet Fick Darr ’59
Mary Frances Laurensana Musolf ’59
Mary Adler Dufner ’60
Alice Henseler ’61 (MHS)
Linda Sharp Winston MFA/ Schifanoia ’61
Sister Adele Myers, OP MFA/ Schifanoia ’62
Danielle Donnelly Jannick ’64
Virginia Zic MFA/Schifanoia ’65
Margaret Meyer Lowndes ’68
Maureen Kleba McCorquodale ’69
Virginia Allen Puchner ’71
Patricia Stimac ’71
Lorraine Olley ’74
Conrad Alexander ’78
Theresa Hogan ’78*
Lynn Siergiei Crawford ’82
Michele Greshiw Santucci ’83
Jeanne Skepnek Bell ’84
Kevin Coburn ’89
Sandra Torres Oliva ’93
Kathleen Prunty ’94, MBA ’97*
William Hejna, Class of 2017**

School of Information Studies
Sister M, Patrice Holahan, OSF, MAL’s ’55
Joanne Klene MAL’s ’59 (MHS)
Russell Daehler MAL’s ’62
(Mary) Suzanne Whetstone MAL’s ’63
Lee Brooke MAL’s ’65
Harold Ard MAL’s ’68
Jacqueline Headly MAL’s ’70 (MHS)
Mildred Reed Smith MAL’s ’71
Althea Kendall MAL’s ’72
Stephan Kepros MAL’s ’73
Leslie Carroll MAL’s ’75
Casper Morsello MAL’s ’81
Marion McMahon MAL’s ’83
Mary Kyle Christensen Lane MAL’s ’89
Beverly Holmes Hughes MAL’s ’90
Michelle Costable Rojek MAL’s ’90
Bonnice McCulloch Chauncey MLIS ’01
Colleen Ringel MLIS ’01

Family Member of
Raymond Alamilla*
Moira O’Leary Bell ’81
Lois Marek Deitschel ’64
Ben Freville MISPED ’02*
Stichan Keefe Juett ’89
Corrinne Marek Keefe ’89
Jeffrey McCormack ’99
Martha McHugh ’78
Mary Frances McHugh ’73
Kathleen Tracy Michaud ’80
Molly Mortell ’76
Grant Newman ’07
Alfa Giannasi Sassetti ’51
Revie C. Sorey II MSW ’05
Diane Costello Williams ’75
Sister Felicia Wolf, SSSF *

Grandparent of
Stephanie Ambuehl-Simpson ’03
Emma Bond**
Taylor Eishelman ’09
Nicole Gardner**
Matthew Gibson ’10
Jackelyn Nagel ’13
Denise Kozlowski Norris ’06
Kristin Peterson ’07
Theodore Weyna ’13

Parent of
Ellen Barnard Alamilla ’02, MSOL ’06*
Paula Biggio ’78
Steven Bluestein**
Andrea Conini Bond ’88
Juliane Bruska ’78
Donna Bloemer Cash ’62
Nancy Colianni ’74
Kathleen Wessels Cook ’68
Pamela Carrigan Dvonch ’71, MAEA ’94
Susan Guullo Evon ’81 *
Margaret Mary Fitch ’79
Anne Gardner *
Monica Bell Gieser ’72
John Iaccino ’86, MBA ’90
Robert Iaccino ’87
Victoria Johnson ’89
Jessica Mackinnon*
Amy McCormack MBA ’95*
Ellen McManus *
Tracy Soldat Moussadjaq ’02
Eileen Cahill Newman ’07
Alexandra Oliva**
Mary Rehor ’10
Barbara Santucci ’60
Jennifer Soldat ’04
Christine Biggio Weyna ’74
Susan Colianni Wrobel ’67, MAL’s ’68

Sibling of
Patricia O’Neill Baker ’78, MBA ’90 (T)
Renee Hogan **
Maryln Cahir Husar ’54
Arlene Kizanic MAL’s ’89
Victoria Henseler Kuntzman ’52
Felice Maciejewski *
Mary Lou Gladstone McCabe ’52
Mary Henseler Murray ’59
Francis Prunty ’99
Joseph Pullen *
Sister Felicia Wielock MAL’s ’91
Sister Patricia C. Smith, OP ’50 (FS)
Delma Torres Zia ’95

Spouse of
Colette McHugh Adams ’01
Nigole Semenats Ettzwiler ’61
Daniel J. Foley ^
Ethel McElory Herring ’49
Donna Hutton ’61
Ann Bauer O’Leary-Kerley ’47 +
Dolores Noviski Krajewski ’51
Judy McCarthy ^
John Slayden* 
Mary Louise McKeone Stefani ’53
Mary Chang Yeh ’52

University Friends
Sister Cecilia Carey, OP (FS)+
Susanne Flanagan
Kathleen Foley
Edward D. Lewis
Joseph C. Scully
John Shuler

Note: This list reflects deaths reported to the Office of Alumnae/i Relations between July 1, 2016 and January 31, 2017. Please call (708) 524-6286 regarding omissions or discrepancies.

The Mazzuchelli Heritage Society recognizes and honors the alumnae/i and friends of Dominican who have provided for the university through their estate plans. If you have included Dominican in your estate plans or would like more information, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at (708) 524-6283 or giftplanning@dom.edu.

+ Former Trustee
(T) Current Trustee
* Staff/Faculty member
** Student
^ Friend
(FS) Founding Sister
(MHS) Mazzuchelli Heritage Society
(NGA) Non-graduating Alumna
### Follett Lecture
**R. David Lankes**

The 2016–2017 Follett Chair is the author of *The Atlas of New Librarianship* and *Expect More*, and is a strong advocate for innovation and advocacy in 21st century libraries.

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017**
6:00 p.m.
Martin Recital Hall

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### The Pedrito Martinez Group

The Pedrito Martinez Group is a joyful adventure in Afro-Cuban spirit. Born in Cuba and raised in the Cayo Hueso neighborhood of Old Havana, Martinez began his musical career at the age of 11, performing as a vocalist and percussionist with such Cuban legends as Tata Guines and Yoruba Andabo. A consummate master of Afro-Cuban folkloric music and the batá drum, since settling in New York in 1998, Pedrito has recorded or performed with Wynton Marsalis, Paul Simon, Eddie Palmieri, Paquito D’Rivera, Bruce Springsteen and Sting and has contributed to well over 75 albums.

**Friday, April 21, 2017**
7:30 p.m.
Performing Arts Center

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### Families, Love and Justice in the Era of Pope Francis
**Julie Hanlon Rubio, PhD**

Professor of Christian ethics at St. Louis University

Pope Francis is beloved by many because he locates the heart of Christian faith in justice and care for the most vulnerable, including the very poor and the earth itself. Yet, he chose to utilize the powerful instrument of the synod of bishops to bring attention not to poverty or environmental destruction but to the family, and he wrote what is the longest papal document ever (“The Joy of Love”) on marriage. How are love and justice related in Pope Francis’ thought? What would it mean for Catholic families to embrace Pope Francis’ challenge?

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**
7:00 p.m.
Priory Auditorium

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### 2017 Latino Film Festival Screening

Dominican University is a venue partner of the Chicago Latino Film Festival presenting films of cultural and social significance.

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**
2:00 p.m.
Martin Recital Hall

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### World Cinema Series
**The Symbol of the Unconquered (1920)**

Julie Hanlon Rubio, PhD, professor of Christian ethics at St. Louis University

Renée Baker and her Chicago Modern Orchestra Project perform the last installment of a series of new, jazz-oriented scores for silent films with plots addressing timeless and universal issues of feminism, arranged marriage, the delification of youth, alcoholism, idealism and hate.

**Sunday, May 14, 2017**
3:00 p.m.
Martin Recital Hall

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### The Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest
**Central European Delights**

Jay Friedman leads a performance of Weber’s *Der Freischütz* Overture, Dvorak’s *Slavonic Dances*, OP. 72 Nos. 5–8 and Brahms’ violin concerto, performed by soloist David Taylor. Founded in 1931, the Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest is one of the nation’s oldest community orchestras.

**Sunday, April 30, 2017**
3:00 p.m. pre-show lecture
4:00 p.m. concert start
Lund Auditorium

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For a full schedule, go to [events.dom.edu](http://events.dom.edu)
Making Their Own Powerful Promise

Linda (Gentile) Korbel and Genevieve Ramirez are members of the Rosary College Class of 1971. Each has pledged a gift to address the high-priority needs of current students, while also providing for the university’s future by including Dominican in her estate plans. They point to their own undergraduate years as the inspiration for participating in the Powerful Promise campaign.

“The school provided me with strong, distinctive academic opportunities,” says Linda. “I am glad to help today’s students—and tomorrow’s—receive similar chances.” Gen agrees. “I could not have attended Rosary College without the financial assistance and scholarship aid it provided me,” she says. “The school made an investment in me. I want to pay that back by supporting students who live out the same spirit of caritas and service to the community.”

Linda (Gentile) Korbel and Genevieve Ramirez today, and in the 1971 Rosary College yearbook (below). Our graduates know firsthand the distinctive experience of a Dominican education, and are among the most generous advocates of the Powerful Promise campaign. We are grateful for their commitment to alma mater Dominican.
OUR MISSION
As a Sinsinawa Dominican–sponsored institution, Dominican University prepares students to pursue truth, to give compassionate service and to participate in the creation of a more just and humane world.

A Master Class from a Broadway Master
What's it like to sing for Broadway legend Ben Vereen? Kind of like a therapy session, theatre arts major Joe Farrell says with a laugh. Farrell was one of three Dominican students chosen to sing at a master class Vereen led on March 13 after performing at the university's Trustee Benefit Concert and Gala the previous weekend. Seeking to draw authenticity from the young actors, Vereen pressed them to get deeply personal about their emotions and experiences in front of an audience of other students and alumnae/i. It moved some of the performers—and audience members—to tears. "That's what I mean by being naked up on the stage," said Vereen, a Tony Award winner who has performed in musicals such as Pippin, Hair and Jesus Christ Superstar. "I'm talking about baring the essence of who you are to total strangers. You're breathing life into the character from your experience. That takes bravery."