

A Message from Principal Marilyn Pigott



The second semester at Our Lady Academy is in full swing! I am very proud of all of our families, students, faculty, and staff. When this school year began there were doubts of how long we would be holding in-person classes and now we are nearing the end of the third quarter. This is in large part due to the dedication of the entire OLA family. This school year has not gone without its challenges, but we are so happy to be in-person!

We have a very busy second semester planned beginning with registration. We are in the process of changing our student information system from PowerSchool to FACTS which has made the registration process run very smoothly. We are already looking ahead to the great things to come in the 2021-2022 school year.

We have had so much fun with our new fundraiser, the Crescents Cash Monthly Drawing. Our next winner of the \$1000 prize will be drawn on Friday, February 26th. The remainder of the drawings will be held in March, April, May, and June. It is not too late to purchase a ticket and be a part of our monthly drawing!

As we look toward the end of the school year, we are anticipating many of our annual events such as our Junior and Senior retreats, May Crowning, Ring Ceremony, Senior Awards, and of course, Graduation and 8th Grade Promotion. Events will still have restrictions on them, but we have been so fortunate to be able to host many of our usual events.

I cannot let this article end without mentioning everyone's beloved Mr. Hull. There is not much I can say about him that has not already been said by so many others. I will say that one of the things - and there are many - that impressed me most about Mr. Hull was that he never forgot who anyone was. He did not just remember someone's face, he *knew* the person. My life is better for having had Mr. Hull in it. We all miss you and love you.

\$1,000 MONTHLY CASH RAFFLE

Have you heard about our Crescents Cash Monthly Drawing? Each month, on the last school day of the month, we draw one winner who will receive \$1,000!!! We have 5 drawings left this school year with the next drawing being held on Friday, Feb. 26th. Drawings are held Live on our school Facebook page. The great part is, when you purchase one \$20 ticket, your ticket is in the drawing every month even if you win!

Stop by OLA anytime to purchase your Crescents Cash ticket or mail in a check (222 South Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis, MS 39520). Be sure to include your name, email address, and phone number. Good luck!

OUR LADY ACADEMY



CRESCENTS CASH
\$1,000 Monthly Drawing
Fundraiser for
Our Lady Academy

Next Drawing will be held
February 26, 2021

No. 001971

THE MAN, THE COACH, THE TEACHER BEHIND OLA COACH HARRY HULL 1928-2021

Many would agree that Coach Harry Hull was the most recognizable and memorable Crescent icon in the history of OLA. But he was more than that to many of his past and present students. He was a phenomenal mathematics teacher, a dedicated and inspirational coach, a gentle giant, a sweet and beautiful soul, a genuine - caring man, an advocate for advancement, a great teacher, a great human being, an amazing and patient man, a humorous - witty character, a cornerstone of OLA, the absolute BEST, and to all, he was a devoted man of GOD! The list goes on and on. He is and forever will be a legend to many!



2011 Track Team

Some even say that his heart was mostly filled with his love for OLA and by his dedication and actions, many believe this is so true.

We all will remember his entertaining solos during Mercy Day, his jokes, his humorous comments, his stories, his array of outrageous ties, his colorful suspenders, and his infamous stop watch around his neck that was a part of his daily wardrobe, and one will never forget...his cheer "Gooooo Crescents!". There are so many fond and everlasting memories of Coach Hull. Words cannot describe all that he stood for and all that he gave to each and every one who had the privilege of knowing him.



2019 Mercy Day
Solo Performance

It is not how much we lost with his passing, but how much we have gained because of him and because of his love and devotion to the girls of OLA.

The halls of OLA will never be the same but his memories and dedication to our little school will live on forever.

Rest in Peace, Coach!



**HARRY HULL
MEMORIAL
VIRTUAL 5K**
MARCH 19-21, 2021

Sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/141462958517>

Registration closes February 27th. Participants will receive t-shirt and race packet the week before the race. Participants will complete the 5k on their own between March 19-21 and post results to event page.

FIFTEEN YEARS OF GIVING BACK

It has been 15 years since she first established a scholarship for an OLA student who has excelled in academics, leadership and service to her school and community. Schoen Heier Bonura, an '89 graduate, instituted a special scholarship as a means of helping a worthy student continue her pursuit of a Catholic education at OLA.



Schoen Heier Bonura '89 and
Danielle Dey '21

The 2017 recipient, Danielle Dey conveyed when receiving the award, "I am so excited and grateful to receive this scholarship. It is truly an honor to have received it personally from Mrs. Bonura. I love OLA! It is my second home and I cannot wait to come back next year."

Danielle, a senior now, has been accepted to the Croft program at the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) and plans to study international business with a focus on Korea; a very prestigious program that only a few are accepted to each year. Danielle added "I am so grateful for the assistance the scholarship provided for me and my family. I don't know if I would be here today at OLA, if it wasn't for that scholarship. Thank you Mrs. Bonura from myself and from all those whom you have helped!"

To date, the scholarship has contributed over \$38,000 to the education of numerous OLA students. Many of the recipients would have not been able to continue their education at OLA without the financial assistance this scholarship afforded them and their families.

Anyone who would like to contribute to this scholarship can forward their donation check made payable to OLA to Schoen Heier Bonura at 165 Rosemount Court, Enterprise, AL 36330.

ALEXANDRA "ALLY" GASPARD '17 STEPS UP AS OLA DANCE COACH

Alexandra "Ally" Gaspard has been named the new dance coach for the 2021-2022 season. Ally, a 2017 OLA graduate, performed as a cheerleader for four years while on campus as a Crescent and danced competitively winning numerous awards and scholarships.

Ally extended her dance career by earning a position on the String of Pearls dance program at Pearl River Community College (PRCC). Serving as captain of the String of Pearls, Ally performed at numerous football and basketball games and competed at Nationals in Dallas, TX. She was also honored with an invitation to perform with singer Rochelle Harper at "The Convey Awards" in 2015. She later was requested to choreograph the Picayune Junior High School dance team and orchestrate a summer dance camp.



Ally stated, "I am blessed to have been afforded the opportunity to study under various talented dance directors for many years and am extremely excited to take on as coach of the dance program at OLA. Dance has been a significant part of my life. In fact, my love for dance started when I was only 18 months old. I hope to inspire the art of dance, and share my passion, knowledge, and enthusiasm with the young ladies at OLA."

Since graduating from PRCC with an Associates in Art, Ally is continuing her undergraduate studies at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) in pursuit of a bachelor degree in Elementary Education. In addition to pursuing her degree at USM, she is currently teaching dance at the Studio of Classique Vibe.

BECCA WALK '20 NAMED FRESHMEN OF THE YEAR AND 2ND TEAM ALL-SUN BELT AT USA



Photo courtesy of Scott Donaldson
of South Alabama Athletics

Rebecca Walk, a 2020 Our Lady Academy graduate and All-American volleyball player, was recently named the 2020 Freshman of the Year for the Sun Belt Conference and a second- team All-Sun Belt Conference selection.

Walk, only the second player in program history to receive SBC Freshman of the Year and first since 2013, appeared in all 22 matches for the Jaguars this year and started 13 of them. She led the Sun Belt Conference in hitting percentage with a mark .377.

She tallied 153 kills on 305 attempts during the season and recorded 55 blocks. While at OLA, she led the Crescents to five consecutive state volleyball titles while being named an All-American twice and led the nation in hitting percentage (66.0%), kills (883), and kill percentage (70.9%) her senior season.

2020-2021 OUTSTANDING CRESCENTS



SENIOR NATALIE GARCIA ACCEPTED TO MSU VET PROGRAM
Our Lady Academy (OLA) senior Natalie Garcia received a letter of acceptance to Mississippi State University's College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM). The Early Entry Program (EEP) is a unique program of the MSU CVM that allows high-achieving high school seniors to earn pre-approved acceptance in the College of Veterinary Medicine. There are approximately 120 or more applicants each year with only 30 positions available for this highly competitive program.

Applicants are required to have a GPA of 3.6 or higher and an ACT score of 27 plus. In addition, the Early Entry Program Admissions Committee takes in consideration the applicant's animal and veterinary experience, work experience, leadership quality, as well as non-academic qualities.

SENIOR AUBREY WAWREK COMMITS TO PRCC

Senior Aubrey Wawrek signed a National Letter of Intent (NLI) to play soccer with Pearl River Community College Wildcats. Wawrek, a four-year letterman and captain of the OLA Soccer team, was selected to the 2020 Mississippi Coast All-Star Soccer team and has played for the Gulf Coast United Futbol Club (GCUFC) for ten years.

Aubrey has been a dominant player for the Crescents over her time in the program. She has helped lead the Crescents to the playoffs the last three seasons.



SENIOR SOFIA "FIA" SCHUYLER AWARDED THE 2020 RICHARD GILDER HISTORY PRIZE
Our Lady Academy former 11th grader Sofia 'Fia' Schuyler has been awarded the 2020 Richard Gilder History Prize by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the nation's leading organization dedicated to K-12 American history education. The prize recognizes 11th graders around the nation who have a record of high achievement in American history and demonstrated civic involvement in the community.

Fia is invited to apply for a prestigious, free program that Gilder Lehrman runs for high school students called the National Academy of American History and Civics. In addition, she receives exclusive eligibility for full-tuition scholarships at major universities.

JUNIOR RYLIE MOORE SELECTED FOR 2020 ALL-STATE SWIM TEAM

Rylie Moore, a junior at Our Lady Academy and captain of the OLA swim team, was chosen by the Clarion Ledger to join the All-State girls swim team. This is the second year in a row that Moore earned a spot on the State team.

Moore led the Crescents to capture the Class I South State title for the fourth consecutive year and the Silver Medal in the 2020 Mississippi State Championship. She won the Gold Medal for the second consecutive year in the Class I 100-yard freestyle with a time of 56.67 and the Bronze Medal in the Class I 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:04.23. Moore anchored the 400-yard freestyle relay team where they took the Bronze Medal, and she swam the breaststroke leg on the 200-yard medley relay team capturing the Gold Medal at the 2020 State Championship meet.



A GENEROUS DONATION GIFTED FROM THE LATE DAVID TREUTEL



Suzy Treutel Gachassin '86, Principal Marilyn Pigott, Missy Treutel Schmidt '79, and Cathy Treutel Kidd '83.

The family of the late David Treutel, Sr., presented Our Lady Academy with a charitable donation in memory of their mothers Pennie H. Treutel and Karen K. Treutel as bequeathed in their father's last will and testament. Mrs. Pennie Herring Treutel was a former member of the OLA school board and Mrs. Karen Kergosien Treutel graduated from St. Joseph Academy's class of 1953.

Mr. Treutel bequeathed this endowment in appreciation for the Christian education Our Lady Academy provided his three daughters, Missy Treutel Schmidt '79, Cathy Treutel Kidd '83, and Suzy Treutel Gachassin '86.



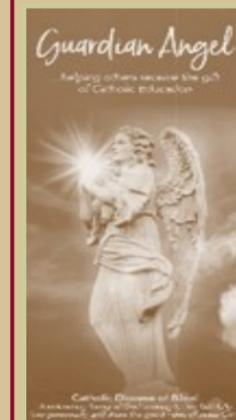
THANK YOU FOR GIVING CATHOLIC!

Thank you for giving so generously to help us purchase patio umbrellas for the courtyard tables. We received over \$4,000 in donations through the iGiveCatholic campaign.

Again, this year you have shared your blessings with our little school and we are so grateful to you!

Thank you for your continuous generosity and support!

BECOME ONE OF OUR OLA ALUMNAE GUARDIAN ANGELS!



Thank you to all of our present 'Alumnae Angels'. Your donation has helped so many of our incoming and current students to receive a Catholic education and to be part of the OLA family.

In honor of those that have participated in the program, we have etched your name on a plaque in the entrance hall of OLA. We hope other alums will consider being a Guardian Angel for an OLA student.

Anyone who donates \$300 or more per year is considered a Guardian Angel. Donations may be paid annually, semiannually, quarterly, or monthly and they are tax deductible. All donations are made payable to Our Lady Academy.

[Click here](#)

In Memoriam of Our Alums

January 20, 2021 - Madison "Mads" Katherine Conaway '10

Mads loved so many people and was a light in so many lives.

She is survived by her parents, Frank and Pauline Conaway; her siblings, Breana Gilkerson (Danny) and Joshua Conaway; her grandparents, Homer and Maura Lee, and Linda Monk; and a niece, Lillian Estoreffe.

December 21, 2020 - Martita "Mimi" Stella Pierce

Mimi was a mother of four, but a mom to thousands.

She is survived by; her daughters, Lisa Guyton (Jimmy), Sandra Boddie (George), Stella Wolf (David) and Vanessa Rodriguez (Jose), and alums Victoria Wolf '19 and Isabel Wolf '19.

September 30, 2020 - Courtney Clerc Eagan '04

Courtney had such a genuine beautiful soul.

She is survived by; her father, Frederick "Rick" Leitz Eagan, Jr. (Beryl); her mother, Catherine "Cathy" Eagan Gill (Stan); her sister, Caroline Eagan Hebert (Nick); her brother, Frederick "Fred" Leitz Eagan III (Cole White); her nieces, Chloe Eagan, Isabelle Hebert, and Vivian Hebert. And her faithful loving companion, Zeno.

In memory of alums that have passed away recently, we will have special intentions made in their name during OLA student body Masses. Please provide the names of any OLA and/or SJA alums that have passed to alumnae@ourladyacademy.com.



OUR LADY ACADEMY
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[Click here to update your alum info!](#)