

WINTER
2017

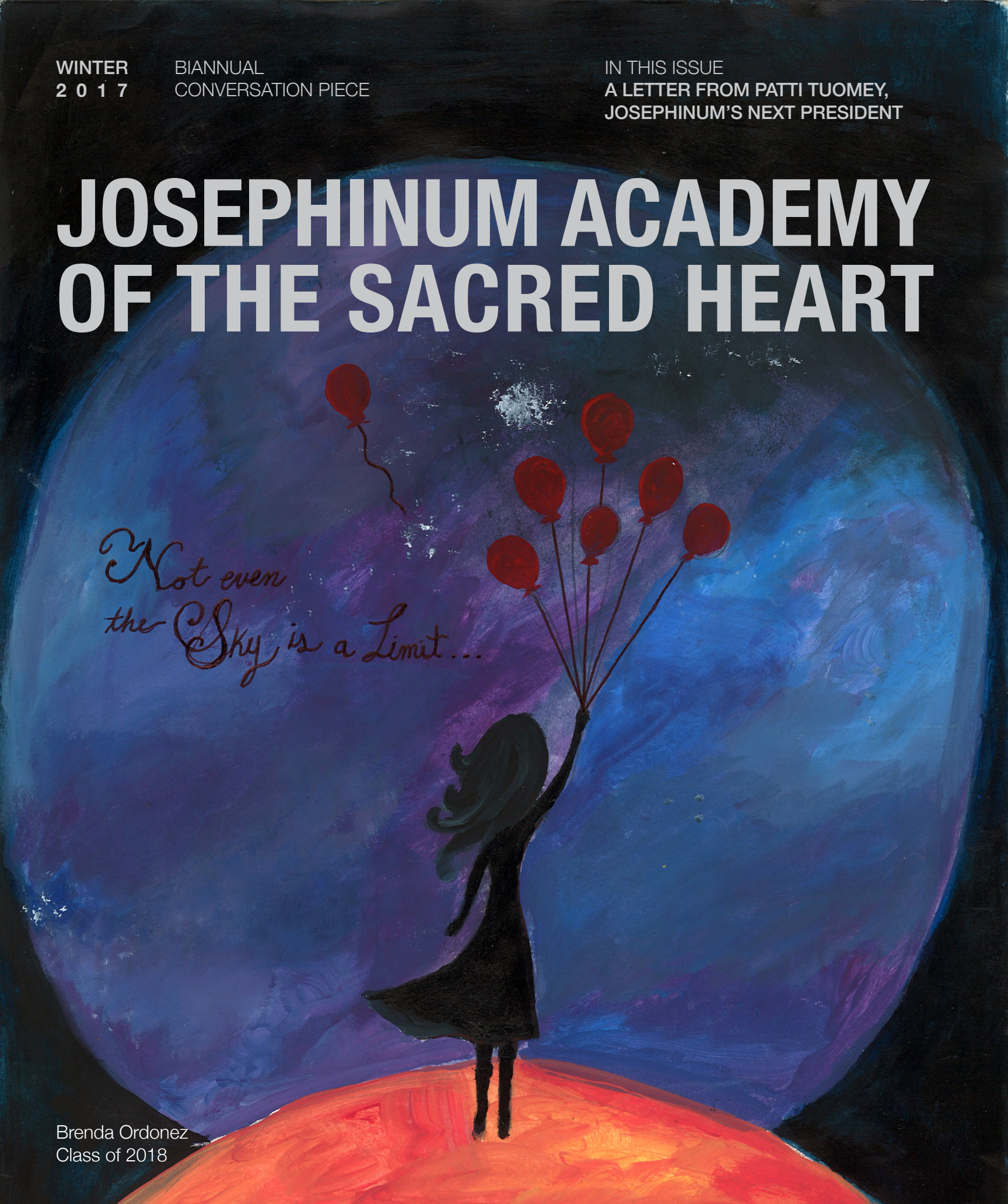
BIANNUAL
CONVERSATION PIECE

IN THIS ISSUE
A LETTER FROM PATTI TUOMEY,
JOSEPHINUM'S NEXT PRESIDENT

JOSEPHINUM ACADEMY OF THE SACRED HEART

*Not even
the Sky is a Limit...*

Brenda Ordonez
Class of 2018



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JOSEPHINUM ACADEMY OF THE SACRED HEART

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Brenda Ordonez, Class of 2018, designed this piece, which was selected as the 2016-2017 yearbook cover through a school vote. The artwork on the front of this issue of the Conversation Piece was also designed by Brenda, and will be the back cover of the yearbook.

OPENING DOORS CHANGING LIVES

“I’VE REALLY TRANSFORMED FROM THIS SHY, INTROVERTED GIRL INTO THIS REALLY STRONG LEADER WHO’S ABLE TO SHARE MY OPINIONS WITHOUT BEING SCARED TO. JOSEPHINUM HAS CHANGED MY LIFE IN SUCH A POSITIVE WAY THAT I WISH THERE WERE MORE PEOPLE WHO GOT TO EXPERIENCE THIS ENVIRONMENT.”

- MARIAH DE LA FUENTE ‘17

Each morning, Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart students come to school from 46 different Chicago zip codes. They travel upwards of one hour to make it to class on time. They are high-achievement students with incredible potential. Our students have realized that their communities’ public schools can’t provide the inspiration, connections, and opportunities they want and need. Josephinum can and does.

The program we provide to our students is very different from what is currently offered at the schools that are closest to our students’ homes. But Josephinum students aren’t willing to settle for what’s offered down the street. They believe in the potential of a Josephinum education to transform their lives and better prepare them for college and beyond.

The Future Leaders Scholarship Program (FLSP) ensures that the most deserving girls in Chicago receive the scholarships they need to make attending Josephinum affordable for their families.

Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart believes that every girl in Chicago has the right and responsibility to dream, pursue her passion, and positively impact her own life, as well as the lives of others. And, we are blessed with incredibly generous donors who make the FLSP a reality for our students.

IN THE HALLS

#GIRLSWITHOUTLIMITS NEWS

SUPPORTING ALUMNAE SUCCESS IN COLLEGE AND BEYOND



Our commitment to our students is not limited to the four years they spend in high school. We aim to help them face the challenges of higher education as well. This might include support in such areas as: academic advisement, time management, healthy living, college adjustment, financial aid issues, dropping classes, transfer plans, changes in major, career goals, and homesickness.

According to one Josephinum graduate, alumnae will be more likely to “go, stay and graduate” with timely interventions. The goal then is for Josephinum alumnae to acquire the tools they need to be persistent and successful amidst adversity, so that they will graduate from college and become the leaders of tomorrow. We are excited to announce that Dr. Mary O'Reilly-Kehoe has stepped into this role this year.

As Josephinum's Alumnae Support Counselor, Dr. O has already started connecting with recent graduates and welcomes any and all Jo alumnae to reach out to her at (773) 276-1261 x246 or mary.oreilly@josephinum.org.

INTRODUCING IB BUSINESS

We are excited to announce that Josephinum will offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Business course next year. Throughout the IB Business course, students will study and analyze real-world businesses and case studies, while applying their knowledge and understanding of management tools and techniques.

The course is divided into five units that will allow the students to explore different career paths and what they entail in human resources, marketing, finance, and operations management. The course will apply many experiential learning experiences, including a wholesale project, entrepreneurship and business design, field trips, and speakers, as well as an in-depth research project into a business or business issue of their own choice. For more information, contact English Department Head, Renee Vai, at renee.vai@josephinum.org.

NEARLY 70 SCHOOLS ATTEND THE JO'S ANNUAL COLLEGE FAIR



Josephinum hosted its annual College Fair in October, welcoming nearly 70 colleges and universities to meet with our students.

About half of the schools that were present are located in Illinois, but schools from Ohio, Indiana, California, Alabama, Michigan, and more were also in attendance.

All students were able to attend the fair to gather information and talk to representatives from the schools they are interested in attending. Many of these representatives shared that they were impressed by our students, their preparedness, and their thoughtful questions.

This fair is an important step in the college selection process, and we are grateful to Dr. Mary O'Reilly-Kehoe for putting together such a wonderful event each year!

RICK STEVES RETURNS FOR ANNUAL COMMUNITY SPEAKER SERIES

We welcomed more than 300 guests at Josephinum on January 22 for our Annual Community Speaker Series featuring Rick Steves. The topic of the evening was Travel as a Political Act, and Rick shared memorable stories and insights about the importance of travel and engaging with other cultures. One lucky attendee won a free one-week Rick Steves Tour of Europe for two in a raffle that wrapped up the evening. Thanks to everyone who attended, and to Rick for sharing his travel tips and tricks!

TWO SENIORS RECOGNIZED AS ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS

We are pleased to announce that seniors Jocelyn Duran-Martinez and Emily Pfeiffer were named Illinois State Scholars.

Illinois State Scholars represent the top 10 percent of high school seniors from 765 high schools across the state. They possess strong academic potential and

are chosen based on a combination of exemplary ACT or SAT test scores and class rank.

STARTING THE YEAR OFF RIGHT WITH A SACRED HEART RETREAT



Our faculty and staff started the new year with a special Sacred Heart Retreat with Sacred Heart Schools, Sheridan Road and Woodlands Academy.

This year's retreat theme was centered around Goal II, Schools of the Sacred Heart commit themselves to educate to a deep respect for intellectual values.

The day began with a lovely reflection from Fr. Tom Regan, SJ, about the importance of committing to life-long learning. Then, attendees were split into groups and headed to 11 different museums around the city to practice our commitment to continuous education.

The day concluded with presentations from each group about their museum visits, and a quick trivia game to put everyone's Chicago knowledge to the test.

The retreat was a wonderful way to get

to know educators from the other Sacred Heart schools and left everyone feeling refreshed and ready to head back for the new semester!

GIRLS WHO CODE COMES TO THE JO

This year, we are excited to introduce our very own Josephinum chapter of Girls Who Code. A group of 20 students from across the city gather at Josephinum once a week to put their coding skills to the test!

RENEWING OUR FOCUS ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS



We realize that providing for our students goes beyond helping them achieve academically. This year, we have placed special emphasis on health and wellness. We want to ensure that our students have the tools and opportunities readily available to them to stay healthy.

This fall, Walgreens came to Josephinum to administer flu shots for all students, faculty, and staff who were interested in getting them. Additionally, Scott Belleperche, Director of Health and Wellness, arranged


for Mobile Care Chicago (pictured above) to come to Josephinum and provide free dental exams for interested students, free of charge.

INTRODUCING THE WOMEN'S ACCELERATOR PROGRAM



Fourteen students are currently piloting a new six-month executive coaching program called the Women's Accelerator, led by Kathy Quinn, founder of The Q Group, LLC. The program offers one-on-one coaching sessions to students, as well as group meetings each month.

This is a modified version of the Women's Accelerator program that Kathy has developed for senior women executives. It holds the students to the same level of accountability as Kathy's other clients, and focuses on empowering women to add value by effectively using their voices, establishing presence, building confidence and easily navigating different environments and situations. Students are also learning how to regroup after temporary setbacks, listen without pushing an agenda, and to build and nurture a network that is broader than their current friend, peer and family group.

A portrait of Patti Tuomey, a woman with short brown hair, smiling and wearing a dark pinstriped blazer over a grey top. She is wearing large gold hoop earrings. The background is a textured, light brown wall.

PATTI TUOMEY JOSEPHINUM'S NEXT PRESIDENT

I CAN'T WAIT TO GET STARTED.

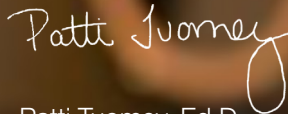
Dear Josephinum Community,

It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that I look forward to joining the Jo. I am thrilled to become part of a community with such a rich history and a strong commitment to facilitating transformational growth for each and every student. I will begin transitioning into my new role as president of Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart in early April, working alongside Michael Dougherty through June. I look forward to meeting each of you, and to learning more about the special stories, experiences, and dreams that make Josephinum such a vibrant community.

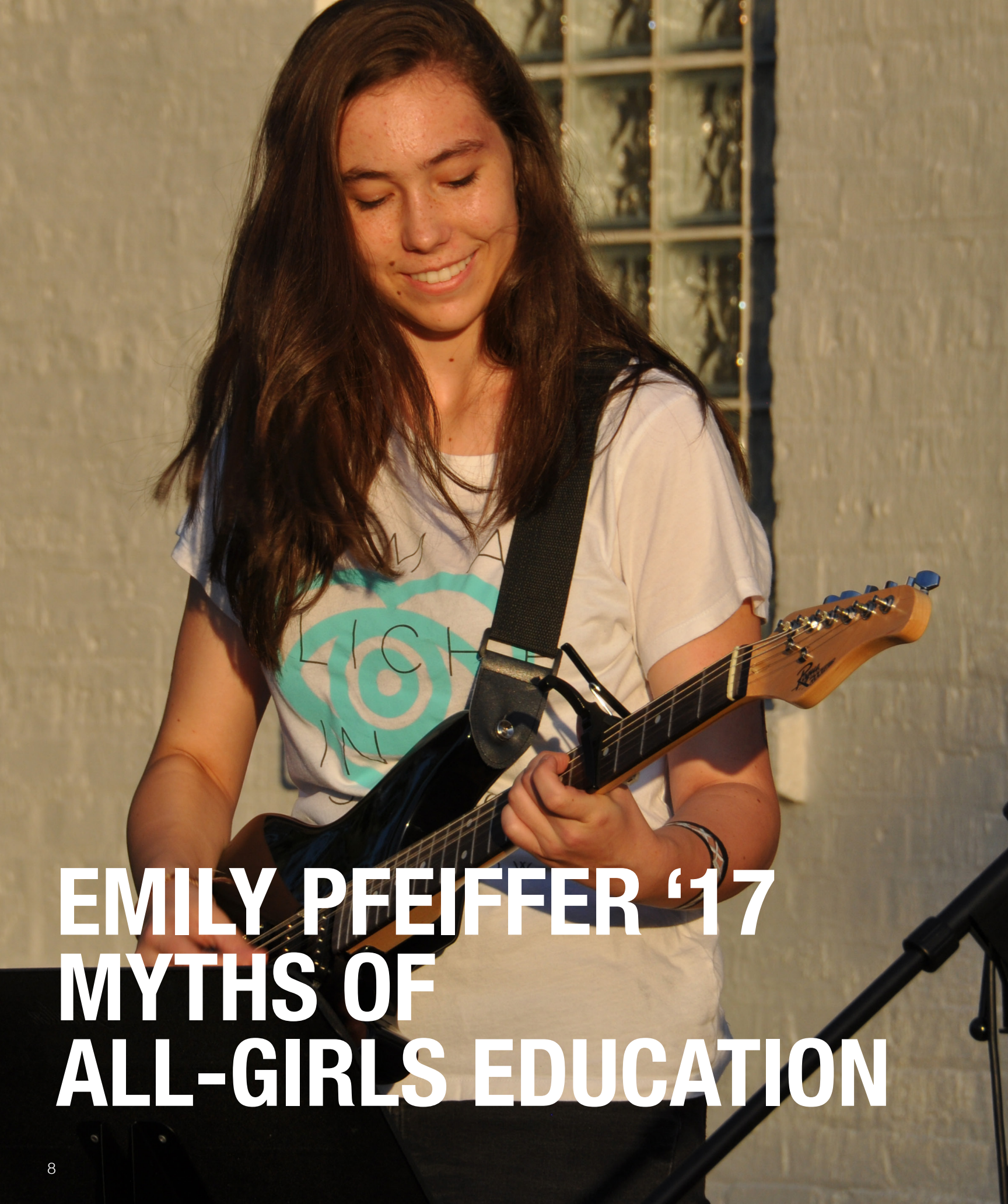
I was deeply moved by the warm welcome from the students, faculty, board, and donors I met during my interview process. It became clear to me that this is a special place that supports each student to “think big” and to find their place in a world that needs their talent, energy, and dreams. The students spoke of a sisterhood, and a genuine commitment to each other in a supportive environment. It was evident that the mission and traditions of Sacred Heart education were the underpinning of the rich and meaningful experience being offered at the Jo. With that kind of welcome, how can I not be excited by the opportunity to work with all of you?

Together, we will continue to deepen our relationship with the Sacred Heart Network and the International Baccalaureate Program, while pursuing additional partnerships in the Chicago area to further strengthen our curriculum and our community. I can’t wait to get started.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patti Tuomey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Patti Tuomey, Ed.D.



EMILY PFEIFFER '17
MYTHS OF
ALL-GIRLS EDUCATION

I love my school. That being said, usually when I tell people that I go to an all-girls school, I get some odd reactions. They range from the confused “Why?” to the (misplaced) sympathetic “That must be so difficult!” Why do people react like this?

There are a lot of misconceptions surrounding the ideology and culture that makes up an all-girls school. So, I decided to take a look at some of the most common fallacies, measuring how true their assessment is of a single-sex education.

MYTH #1

BY ATTENDING AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL, GIRLS LACK THE SOCIAL SKILLS TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE OPPOSITE GENDER LATER IN LIFE

This myth is incredulous for a variety of reasons. As an all-girls school student, I don’t speak some obscure foreign language that is impossible for males to understand. Being at the Jo does not mean you are in some sort of bubble in which no guy ever comes across your path.

The Jo encourages its students to become involved in service and leadership organizations that are co-ed and extend beyond the school. From the school’s participation in Chicago Ideas Week to Model UN Conferences, there are plenty of opportunities to talk to people of the opposite gender. In fact, attending an all-girls school has enhanced my ability to converse with others. **I used to stay quiet in a discussion or decision, but now I make myself known as someone who has valuable things to say and insights to share.**

MYTH #2

SINCE THERE ARE NO BOYS, NOBODY WEARS MAKEUP

This is the exact reason why **all-girls schools are such good incubators for positive self-esteem.** The assumption that the only reason girls “try” is because of the presence of males is ridiculous at best. One of the best parts of being at the Jo is that you can wear makeup or not wear

makeup, and no one is going to call you out on your decision. You can wear a full face because you want to, and it makes you feel good about yourself. You can also go without any because maybe you are running late, or want to spend that time studying for that big math test, or just do not enjoy wearing makeup. There is no requirement or pressure to lean either way, and your classmates will compliment you no matter what you choose to do.

MYTH #3

NO ONE WANTS TO WEAR A UNIFORM

Yes, you have to wear a uniform, but there are so many perks to it. I spent 20 to 30 minutes staring at my closet for the perfect outfit to wear back in my public, co-ed school days. With a uniform, I get to sleep longer (always a plus), and I don’t have to worry about exhausting my closet in an attempt to find a completely new outfit every day. On top of that, we have out-of-uniform days, which are treasured, and happen more often than you might think. At the Jo, you get to dress down on your birthday, and there are other out-of-uniform days sprinkled throughout the year. In addition, for spirit days, you get to wear jeans with the Jo’s super cool spirit wear.

MYTH #4

ALL-GIRLS SCHOOLS ARE RIDDLED WITH DRAMA

It is not until you attend an all-girls school that you realize that the majority of conflict in high school is centered around boys. There will always be small misunderstandings or arguments between friends, but this complete myth wrongly asserts that we lose our minds when it’s just us girls. Males do not moderate the behavior of females, and without boys, we do not lose all sense of propriety. **Our sisterhood as a school only strengthens us, and the sense of mutual motivation and support is stronger as a result.**

MYTH #5

THERE IS NO BENEFIT TO ATTENDING AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL

Dr. Gerald Eisenkopf et al. proposes that single-sex education has positive effects on the self-confidence and self-evaluation of skills in girls, specifically with skills pertaining to math. Even before that, Dr. Katherine Bradley’s findings indicated that single-sex classes for females improve reading and math abilities.

Personally, I believe I have only gained from attending an all-girls school. Because of my time at the Jo, I am applying to colleges of the highest national caliber, something I thought was out of my reach at my old public, co-ed high school.

I have found direction toward my future career path and received care from a faculty that takes the time to get to know each student and make her recognize her self-worth. The Jo truly embodies a spirit of unlimited potential and, in my opinion, it has stemmed from the focus on providing a quality education for girls, which defies all the urban legends.

References:

Eisenkopf, G., Hessami, Z., Fischbacher, U., & Ursprung, H. (2011). Academic performance and single-sex schooling: evidence from a natural experiment in Switzerland. CESIFO Working Paper No. 3592. Retrieved from Centre for Economic Studies website: <http://www.cesifo.org>

Bradley, K. (2009). An investigation of single-sex education and its impact on academic achievement, discipline referral frequency, and attendance for first and second grade public school students. Ph.D. dissertation, Mercer University, United States — Georgia. Retrieved September 20, 2010, from Dissertations & Theses: Full Text. (Publication No. AAT 3374139).

WE ARE EXCITED TO SHARE THAT EMILY WILL BE SPEAKING AT THIS YEAR’S WINTER LUNCH. VISIT JOSEPHINUM.ORG/WINTERLUNCH FOR MORE INFORMATION. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



**CONGRATS TO OUR
2017 POSSE SCHOLARS!**

ABOUT THE POSSE FOUNDATION, INC.

The Posse Foundation is a prestigious college access and youth leadership development program that recruits student leaders and sends them in groups called Posses to some of the top universities and colleges in the country. A Posse is a multicultural team of 10 to 12 students that acts as a support system to ensure each Posse Scholar succeeds in college. Each year, more than 2,500 students are nominated, of which less than 5 percent are selected to be Posse Scholars. All Posse Scholars receive four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships to attend college. In the past seven years, Josephinum has graduated five other Posse Scholars.

JOCELYN DURAN-MARTINEZ, POMONA COLLEGE

Between rowing team, violin practice, and her involvement with The Peace Exchange, it seems like there is never a dull moment for Jocelyn Duran-Martinez. And with all of that, she has managed to maintain high honor-roll status and perfect attendance throughout her time at Josephinum.

Jocelyn had the opportunity to travel to South Africa last summer with the Peace Exchange, and returned with wonderful stories of her experience and ideas for how to build peace right here in Chicago. She is passionate about giving back, and has been an excellent ambassador for Josephinum. Jocelyn dreams of one day attending medical school and becoming an obstetrician. She will attend Pomona College in Claremont, California as a Posse Scholar. We have no doubt that she will accomplish amazing things, and will leave a lasting impact in the world.

DULCIBELLA LARBI, AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

Over the last four years, Dulcibella (Bella) Larbi has made her commitment to school and giving back to the community clear. She has been named to the high honor roll every year, is a member of the National Honor Society, and has volunteered regularly at a number of local charities. Additionally, she has been involved in many extra-curricular activities including basketball, math club, soccer, dance team, and more.

Next year, Bella will attend Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia as a Posse Scholar. She plans to study chemistry and French, and wants to attend medical school. After college, she dreams of becoming a pediatric surgeon and opening a clinic in Ghana for the poor. We can't wait to watch her make these dreams a reality and share her talents with the world.

A portrait of Jean Spence, a woman with short, wavy brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a red top and a gold necklace with a teardrop pendant. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

JEAN SPENCE

WHY I GIVE

“WHEN SOMEONE IS GIVEN A GREAT DEAL, A GREAT DEAL WILL BE DEMANDED OF THAT PERSON; WHEN SOMEONE IS ENTRUSTED WITH A GREAT DEAL, OF THAT PERSON EVEN MORE WILL BE EXPECTED.” - LUKE 12:48

Jean Spence has spent much of her life raising the bar for women in leadership, specifically in STEM. As a member of our Board of Directors and a major donor to Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart, Jean gives because she sees herself in many of the students – “first-generation (college) students who are ready to learn and take on new challenges.”

Jean was raised in a middle-class family and was the first of her family to attend college. She received a full scholarship to attend Clarkson University where she studied chemical engineering. Despite humble beginnings, Jean’s parents were generous people and taught her the importance of hard work and giving back.

She served as Executive Vice President of Research Development & Quality at Mondelez International, Inc. (formerly, Kraft Foods Inc.) from January 2004 to March 2015. Jean joined Mondelez International in 1981 as a Research Engineer for Maxwell House coffee research and holds three U.S. and worldwide patents for her development work.

Jean attributes her success to her education, and now aims to help other students benefit from the same kind of great education that she received. “I want to enable Josephinum’s students to dream big dreams and believe they can accomplish them,” she said. “And, I’d love to see some of them pursue STEM careers as I did because they provide challenge and great opportunity, especially to women!”

Why do you give to Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart? We want to hear your story. Please call (773) 292-3964 x232 or email whyigive@josephinum.org to share.

LOOKBOOK



Anne Jenkins and Jackie Steves pose for a quick photo before the Annual Scholarship Gala on October 1.



Jackie Sweeney, Emily Craven, Liz Connelly, and Maggie Connelly stopped for a picture before Liz was awarded the St. Philippine Duchesne Award at the Gala.



Joan McCarthy Marber, Christy Kyhl, and Dr. Allen Marber had a chance to chat with Rick Steves before his talk at our Annual Community Speaker Series.



Maura Starshak, John Brady, Michele Sparks, Bill Starshak, Nat Wilburn, Steven Sparks, Katie Cherry, Chip Cherry, Brendan Gilligan, Maureen Gilligan, and Susan Brady gathered in celebration at the Gala.



Helen Bruns Ryan, Maureen Sippel, and Cardinal Blase Cupich prepare to enter the ballroom at the InterContinental Hotel before the Gala.



David Hackett, Kelly Hackett, Kathy Jackson, Bill Jackson, Tim Sheridan, Brenda Sheridan, Sue Sullivan, Tim Sullivan, Julie Asplund, and Julie Sullivan pose for a picture before the Gala program begins.

EDITH CASCELLA
... idealistic ... straightforward ...
sincere

(Prov., 4;18)

Vice-President

Dear Diane,
as all ways lead
as sweet and good
and you are now out
help me always have
the best of luck
sharing this year
with you and your
for the grand new
Gerry
I shall always
love you
God Bless you
Love, Clickit,
(Edith)

GERALDINE CHESNEY
generous ... cordial ... tolerant

PHYLLIS CIBOROWSKI
... unassuming ... journalistic ...
sweet

Dear Diane,
may the first
coming year bring
you the best of every-
thing.
Best of Luck
Phyllis '53

Dear Diane,
We've shared
four happy years
together and it
extend to eternity
Joan

JOAN DITTAMBL
... witty ... well-read ... observant

DIANE DEMBOWSKI
... scholarly ... affable ...
conservative

Good Luck
Diane

Do you have stories and photos to share from your time at Josephinum? We want to hear and see them! Please send your memories to alumnae@josephinum.org.



Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart
1501 North Oakley Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60622
(773) 292-1261
www.josephinum.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTER LUNCH

Keynote Speaker: Kim Vender Moffat
February 15, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.
University Club
josephinum.org/winterlunch

JOSEPHINUM EXPERIENCE

March 16, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.
Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart
josephinum.org/experience

SPRING LUNCHEON

Keynote Speaker: Cokie Roberts
May 2, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.
Michigan Shores Club
josephinum.org/springluncheon

BLOCK PARTY

June 17, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart
josephinum.org/blockparty