

# MOUNT NOTRE DAME DEVELOPMENTS

## *Blossoming into New Beginnings*

Photo taken in the East Garden at the Imperial Palace  
during the MND Cultural Exchange trip to Japan.



*Graduating young women who are strong in their  
Catholic faith, prepared for life and empowered to  
transform the world.*

2024 ISSUE 2



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# A Fond Farewell

Judy Back Gerwe '78

Dear Mount Notre Dame Community,

By the time you receive this publication in your mailbox, my time at MND will have come to an end. Although I am very excited about retirement and the next chapter of my personal life, I will certainly miss the relationships I formed with so many of you over the last nine years serving as President of this amazing school! I am blessed to be an alumna and promise to continue to be actively involved at MND in that capacity.

We have so much to be proud of here at MND – and you will read about some of these things in this issue of *Developments*. Of course we celebrate the amazing Class of 2024 and their Capstone and Commencement. But we are also sharing how our community is **Growing** through updated Empowerment Characteristics and our partnership with a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur School across the globe in Japan. MND was also recognized as a Laudato Si school by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati this year and you can read about it in our **Thriving** section. Finally, you will see how MND is **Lasting** through our amazing school spirit and alumnae engagement.

Growing, Thriving and Lasting have been the “themes” of *Developments* as these are the areas in which our 2023-2028 Strategic Plan is centered around. MND Leadership continually assesses how we are doing in reaching our goals and objectives in this plan and I am confident we will have achieved what we set out to do by the time the plan expires. The current Strategic Plan is on our website at [www.mndhs.org](http://www.mndhs.org) if you would like to view it in its entirety.

I am excited to introduce the new MND President, Mrs. Michelle Robinson. You will learn a bit about her in this issue and I hope you will welcome her as you did me. Please make some time to reach out to her and get to know her – I know she is excited for the opportunity to serve our community and believe she will do great things for Mount Notre Dame! Michelle and I have spent some time together so that I can share what I learned over the last nine years. I am grateful for the opportunity to help set her up for success.

Please know how grateful I am for your support of me and Mount Notre Dame. I hope you will continue to support the school and its leadership in the years to come.

Blessings,

Judy Back Gerwe '78







## ***A Bold Transition: Honoring Our Retiring President and Welcoming New Leadership***

After nine years of dedicated Service to MND, President Judy Back Gerwe '78 passes the torch to incoming President Michelle Robinson.

### **A Legacy of Excellence**

Judy Gerwe's tenure at MND has been marked by numerous accomplishments and a deep commitment to our mission of empowering young women. Under her leadership, the school has seen significant improvements in building enhancements and the growth of the school's endowment. Most importantly, Gerwe has invested wholeheartedly in the MND mission by modeling what it means to live out the Hallmarks of a Notre Dame Learning Community.

"Judy said yes...just like our namesake, Mary – our Mother (Notre Dame) did and just like St. Julie Billiart and Françoise Blin de Bourdon did. Judy's 'yes' has helped so many young women become empowered to learn, live, lead and serve," said Principal Karen Day. "We are so grateful for her time here at MND."

### **A Fond Farewell**

Students, faculty, and staff marked Gerwe's farewell in various ways. May 7, 2024, was officially Gerwe Games Galore - a day in which students and faculty alike came together to play board and card games with her. Games are a favorite pastime for Gerwe so sharing that activity with MND students was very meaningful. The day was topped off with a surprise game of Family Feud in front of the entire school. MND faculty and students faced off against the Gerwe Family, many of whom traveled quite a distance to surprise her for the event!



**Judy Back Gerwe '78**



Later in the month, a retirement celebration was held and speakers from various facets of the school community shared their memories and expressed their gratitude. The event was a true testament to Gerwe's impact, bringing together members of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, members of the MND community including MND Past and Present Board of Trustees members, MND alumnae, MND faculty and staff, current parents, parents of alumnae and friends of MND.

In her farewell speech, Gerwe expressed her deep affection for MND. "Although I am leaving my position, I will continue to support MND and attend events as an alumna, so I hope our paths will cross again in the future. Each of you has been a blessing to me and I appreciate you. How Good is the Good God!"

### Welcoming New Leadership

As the farewells to Gerwe were underway, excitement mounted at the appointment of Michelle Robinson as the new President. Robinson comes to MND from Carrollwood Day School in Tampa, FL, which is an International Baccalaureate World School with a focus on cross-cultural competency as evident by its nearly 50% diverse student body. Robinson has served for the past seven years as the Director of Advancement, working closely with the Head of School and Board of Trustees and has been involved in key aspects of the school including the strategic planning committee, the master planning committee, the capital campaign cabinet, and the accreditation committee.

As an alumna of an all-girls Catholic high school, Robinson is excited for the opportunity to share her commitment to Catholic education with generations of girls. Judy Gerwe shares, "Michelle is a wonderful choice as the next President of Mount Notre Dame. I have had the opportunity to partner with her for a smooth transition and look forward to witnessing her accomplishments as she leads MND into the future. I truly believe she will take us to the next level."

To prepare herself for a president role, Robinson has spent the past four years participating in the Florida Council of Independent Schools Prospective Head of School Institute. The program explored and delved into the complexities inherent in a leadership position and was facilitated by multiple Heads of School who shared their first-hand experiences. Robinson is thrilled to be coming back to Cincinnati, having established roots as a graduate student at Xavier University, as well as the start of her professional career.

"I am truly honored to assume the role of President at Mount Notre Dame, Cincinnati's prestigious and longest-standing all-female Catholic high school. It fills me with excitement to uphold and strengthen MND's rich Catholic identity and to contribute to

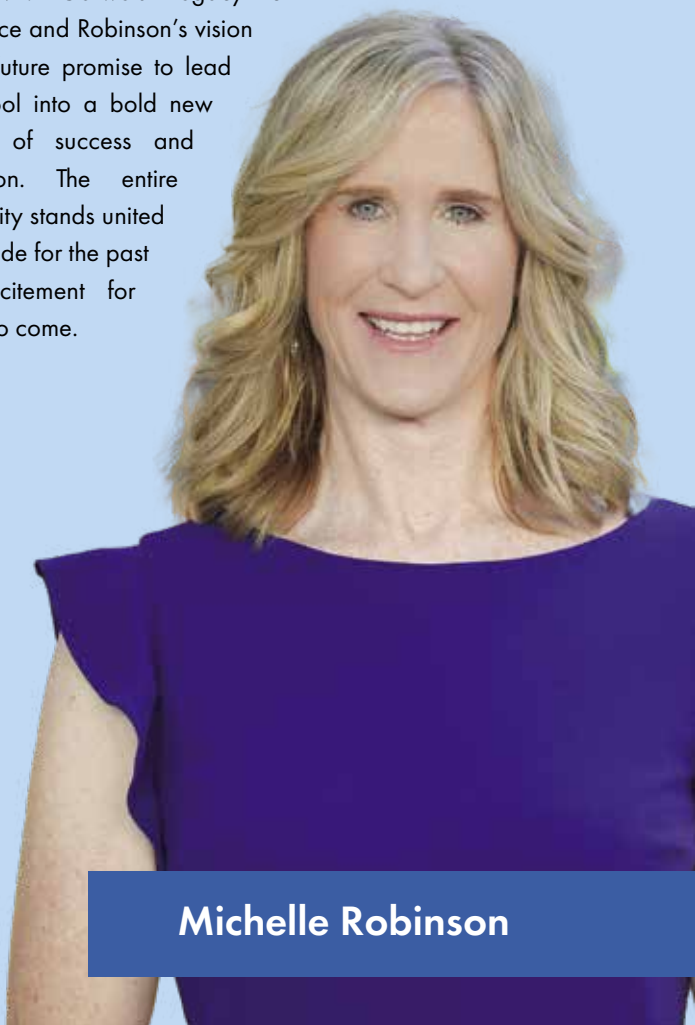
the continuation of the esteemed 164-year tradition of academic excellence and enduring hallmarks established by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. I look forward to collaborating with the entire MND community to continue our legacy of empowering young women to recognize and develop their unique capabilities to learn, live, lead and serve."

Robinson's wealth of experience and fresh perspective, combined with her collaborative approach and innovative mindset, are expected to build on the strong foundation laid by Gerwe.

### Looking Ahead

The transition of leadership comes at a time of both excitement and optimism for MND. With a solid strategic plan focused on our Bold Future, MND remains confident in our position as the premier all-girls Catholic high school in Cincinnati. While the community bids a fond farewell to a known leader, it also looks forward to the possibilities that lie ahead under new leadership.

As MND moves forward into its 165th year, the spirit of dedication and community remains a guiding force, ensuring that the school continues to be a place where students can achieve their highest potential. The retirement of President Gerwe and the arrival of President Robinson mark a significant moment for MND. Gerwe's legacy of excellence and Robinson's vision for the future promise to lead the school into a bold new chapter of success and innovation. The entire community stands united in gratitude for the past and excitement for what is to come.



Michelle Robinson





## ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

# 2024 Commencement

Mount Notre Dame held its Commencement Exercises for the 164th graduating class - the Class of 2024 – on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at Xavier University's Cintas Center. Valedictorian Claire Sitarski delivered the commencement address and Student Government Province President Mary Arengo offered the final farewell.



## Senior Recognition Awards

Academic Excellence –  
Valedictorian  
**Claire Sitarski**

Excellence in English  
**Johanna Keller**

Excellence in French  
**Fatima Bucio**

Excellence in Information  
Technology & Business  
**Ashlyn Hoffman**

Excellence in Latin  
**Samantha Bell**

Excellence in  
Performing Arts  
**Payton Miller**

Excellence in Mathematics  
**Reagan Bricking**

Excellence in Religious  
Studies  
**Kate Ryan**

Excellence in Science  
**Maya Corsmo**

Excellence in Social  
Studies  
**Emma Ganz**

Excellence in Spanish  
**Lydia Magness**

Excellence in Visual Arts  
**Hanna Lampe**



## St. Julie Billiart Christian Leadership Awards

The St. Julie Billiart Christian Leadership Award recognizes both an alumna of MND and a graduating senior who have demonstrated a deep personal commitment to Jesus Christ through contributions to the spiritual life of the MND community, as well as through their active participation in the life of their parishes and service in the broader community. MND bestows no higher honor.

This year, **Lisa Wagner Jennings '93** and **Emma Ganz '24** were our esteemed recipients. Lisa is a devoted mom, loving wife, and active parishioner of Nativity for nearly 20 years. Lisa's warmth, positivity and kindness is shared weekly in the halls of MND with her role as "Hank's mom" as she shares Hank, a registered therapy dog, with the students and staff at MND.

Sr. Janet Schneider from Nativity spoke on behalf of our student recipient, Emma. Sr. Janet eloquently spoke of the shared characteristics between St. Julie and Emma, Emma's participation at her parish, St. Cecilia, and how Emma leads through service at MND.



Emma along with family members, all of whom are MND alumnae or current/future MND students, including **Linda Ferkenhoff Knapmeyer '61**, **Amy Knapmeyer Hilberg '83**, **Wendy Knapmeyer Schworer '85**, **Nancy Knapmeyer Bowles '87**, **Molly Knapmeyer Ganz '93**, **Kelly Walton Knapmeyer '00**, **Maria Schworer Bowman '09** (and daughter Annie), **Ella Bowles '23**, **Claire Knapmeyer '26**, **Abby Knapmeyer '28** and **Tessa Ganz '28**. **Hayle Hilberg Phelps '13** was unable to attend in person and **Tracy Knapmeyer Justice '82** was present in spirit.

### Important Statistics

**\$28+**  
**million**  
reported in  
scholarships and  
grants.

### A record

**69%**  
of the Class of 2024  
earned college credit  
through College Credit  
Plus® and AP® courses.



**Lisa**, along with her family, including daughters **Kathleen '25** and **Caroline '25** and MND therapy dog, Hank.





GROWING COMMUNITY

## Our Sisters in Seishin

In August 2024, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur will celebrate 100 years of their mission in Japan. On July 22, 1924, six Sisters left by ship from San Francisco for Japan after accepting an invitation from the Archbishop in the Hiroshima Diocese. They would navigate cultural and language barriers as well as the global crisis of World War II as they worked to serve Japanese students and carry on the mission of St. Julie Billiart.

This is the foundation that paved the way for Mount Notre Dame to partner with Seishin Girls' High School for a unique global exchange opportunity. Founded by the Sisters in 1964, Seishin Girls' High School represents one of the 124 Notre Dame Learning Communities across the globe. The school is located in Niigata, a port city on Japan's main island of Honshu.

The MND Japanese Exchange Program began as a pen pal exchange with students at Seishin Girls' School during the Fall semester of the 2018-2019 school year. As MND's only cultural exchange without a language requirement, the experience is open to students who participate in MND's Japanese Culture Club. The travel portion of the exchange was launched the following school year, with MND students traveling to Niigata for a two-week stay. The experience included a weekend home stay with a school family and the rest of the stay boarding at the school's dormitory. Students attended classes and participated in extracurriculars, including the Japanese Tea Club and Flower Arranging Club.



This past February, six MND students, along with faculty chaperones Mrs. Joann Felczan and Mr. Bill Hughes, traveled to Japan for this year's exchange. The group visited iconic landmarks and attractions such as Disneyland Tokyo, the Imperial Palace, Sensoji Temple and the teamLab Planets museum.

Students and staff alike return with unique experiences and lasting memories. "My favorite memory was going to Mass and meeting the local parish members who welcomed me enthusiastically! I used my Japanese to explain that I was there on purpose, and that I had learned enough to sing the hymns in Japanese," expressed Mrs. Felczan. For Julia Powers '25, her favorite part of Japan was time spent with her host family. She shared, "I learned a new game called Othello and I played against all my host sisters."

The MND Japanese Exchange is truly a multifaceted experience that combines language learning, cultural exploration, personal growth, and memorable adventures. It also unites two very different all-girl Catholic high schools - one from America and one from Asia - in St. Julie Billiart's mission to "teach them what they need to know for life".





Coming Together for  
Coca

↑ ↑ THRIVING COMMUNITY



# Senior Capstone: A Transformative Journey

More than a decade ago, as the MND leadership team was planning for a senior year experience, the idea of a finishing stone that forms the top of an exterior masonry wall – a capstone – came to light. It was determined that this would be the perfect name for the final, finishing step of each student's empowerment journey – the MND Senior Capstone. The Capstone project is the culmination of Mount Notre Dame's My Action Plan (MAP) Program. MAP is a four-year empowerment journey that provides challenging and engaging experiences to encourage growth in the five Empowerment Characteristics. Through this program students become active members of the MND community, write and assess personal and academic goals, create a four-year academic plan and participate in grade level activities. The program is based on four key themes of MND's mission statement that challenge our students to recognize and develop their unique capacities to learn, live, lead and serve.

When the MAP program was created, MND identified the characteristics of an Empowered Young Woman. These are key areas that we believe that all our students will improve upon during her time at MND. This year, the empowerment characteristics were refined:

## Empowerment Characteristics:

**A Mount Notre Dame empowered young woman chooses to:**

- live her faith through Gospel values
- lead while serving
- pursue intellectual curiosity
- value difference
- grow in confidence and resilience

There are numerous ways in which the MND Capstone is differentiated from programs that other schools may have. First, our program is driven by mission. It is integral to our mission to empower our students to learn, live, lead and serve. The MAP program allows us to authentically live our mission through every grade level and every single student. One unique aspect of the MAP program is that it actually begins the summer before freshman year. Principal Karen Day further explains, "The MAP program helps MND families engage with our community before they even begin at our school. Prior to the freshman year, our families are invited for a meeting with their MAP guide, and this is really a connector person that

helps the family feel embraced from the first moments that they engage with Mount Notre Dame. It helps us to get to know the student on an individual basis, and it helps us learn the many ways that we can. It helps us get to know the student on a personal level so that we can help her find her unique connection to our community."

When describing the Senior Capstone Evening, where students present their projects in front of their chosen agency, faculty and staff, fellow classmates, and their families, MAP Coordinator, Christine Mencer brings a lot of insight from her many years of facilitating the evening. "The night of presentations, students are very nervous, but it is a nervous excitement. I've talked to a couple of girls who've said, 'I don't know if I can do this. I'm so nervous. I don't know if I can get up. I'm afraid I'm going to be emotional because my project meant so much to me.' And to see them have that switch flip, when they stand a little bit straighter and they start talking and they start sharing their story, that is what we're looking for. That is what we want our students to see in themselves. That is Capstone."

From a student perspective, the experience brings to life the mission to learn, live, lead and serve. "It's a long process. It's not really something you can just jump into. MND really focuses on learning, living, leading and serving, and it's really about making memories with the people you make along the way" says Tyana Holm '24 who completed her Capstone in the spring of 2024. "In senior year, you take everything that you learned before and you just go for it. You can make mistakes, that's okay. The whole time I was leaning on my teachers for support. It was amazing."

And it is not just current students who reap the benefits of the MND Capstone project. Our projects reach the entire Cincinnati community. Oftentimes, MND graduates come back as agency partners. These incredible partnerships are built upon shared sisterhood bonds, as well as the assurance of what kind of student is formed at MND. Myla Perry Hodges '99 is one such graduate who now serves as facilitator in the Capstone with her organization NyNy Inc. The organization focuses on maternal and infant health, a passionate cause to Myla. "Mount Notre Dame does a phenomenal job at cultivating young women and empowering us and giving us the tools and the confidence and the support to dream big, to know that we can truly go after whatever it is that God's put in our heart to be able to do and that we'll be supported. The opportunities they give here really prepare you to run your own business, to run your own foundation and be confident in doing so," affirms Ms. Hodges.



LASTING COMMUNITY

# Laudato Si' Community

"Laudato Si', Mi' Signore," or in English, "Praise be to you, my Lord!" That is how Pope Francis' letter on caring for creation begins, by quoting St. Francis of Assisi's "Canticle of the Sun."

In that spirit of praise for our Good God, MND is thrilled to have received the "Laudato Si' Community" designation by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati this past year. Following a facility inventory of practices and improvements geared toward sustainability and conservation, in addition to surveys completed by students, families, faculty and staff, MND received this honor of distinction.

But this praise that we offer to God for providing us with our magnificent, shared home, Earth, is more than just an eco-friendly banner presented in a small ceremony in the foyer. That was but a seed. A seed planted is still just a seed until it receives that life-giving water that softens the outer coating allowing it to answer the warmth of the sun and break through the soil to the air above. And those nurturing waters must continue for the full blossoming of what could be.

Without water, there is no life. Nothing, save the air we breathe, can be as easy to take for granted. With a quick flick of the wrist, crystal clear water of whatever temperature we choose effortlessly flows from an assortment of taps, faucets and fountains.

In "A Long Walk to Water," the MND Common Read for the summer, our community is reminded that is not the case for vast swaths of the planet. Lack of access to clean drinking water harms individuals and families,

causes death and disease, famine and even political instability. Certainly, there is great value in learning about the hardships of others. But merely knowing something is happening isn't fully helping our neighbors in the way God calls us to do.

An MND education does more than inform. It engages learners by uniting the intellect to the heart and combining creativity with compassion. It is students designing rain barrel watering systems for the pollinator garden and writing grant proposals to fund their work. It is participating in a field trip to the Millcreek Watershed seeing firsthand the vital role our watersheds play. It is classes entering what appears to be a fairly standard garage on the convent grounds which is actually a lab housing a solar-powered water pump system designed to deliver potable water in international locations lacking adequate infrastructure.

But more than the equations, hypotheses, theories, and facts, it is love. It is providing a home for monarch caterpillars to grow their wings before heading south for the winter and clean creeks so frogs can sing their summertime songs. It is our students working to relieve teenage girls living oceans away from the unending chore of fetching water so they, too, can receive an education. It is love of neighbor, love of creation and love of our Creator. It is but one way in which we praise our Good God.



## "Praise be to you, my Lord!"







LASTING COMMUNITY

# Alumnae Awards

On April 18, 2024, the MND community came together to recognize five outstanding members at the MND Alumnae Awards: A Celebration of Empowered Women. Many answered the call for nominations, and the caliber of all the nominees was impressive – so much so the event committee spent hours narrowing down nominees to the final honorees.

## Young Alumna Award - Madeline Briskin '21

At MND, Madeline distinguished herself as an active part of the school's spiritual life, notably through the Worship Commission club. Now at the University of Dayton, Madeline leads through her faith in Campus Ministry, the Marianist Student Community and Catholic LIFE. She also created and leads a group called "Planting the Seeds of Friendship," which serves as a sanctuary for students having trouble making connections with their classmates.

## Spirit Award – David and Chrissy Farkas, parents of Caroline Farkas '25 and Annie Farkas '26

The only award not limited to alumnae; the Spirit Award recognizes those from the MND community who raise up MND through their advocacy in advancing the school's mission. David and Chrissy (Team Farkas) do this through countless hours of support to our school. Collectively, Team Farkas has inspired hundreds of other parents to get involved.

## Hallmark Alumna Award - Meghan Meador Beach '00

Demonstrating leadership through innovation, Meghan earned the Hallmark Award for providing a solution for an unmet need in her community. Lacking a volleyball program for young girls, Meghan knew her daughters and their friends in her school district were at a disadvantage to being competitive in the sport she loved. She took it upon herself to create a program to fill this void, not only positioning girls for success on the court, but also in life by demonstrating lessons in leadership, teamwork, and overcoming adversity.

## Capstone Award – Angie George Arengo '94

The Capstone Award is a committee choice award that recognizes an alumna whose dedication to both MND, and her community goes above and beyond. A champion for organizations such as Brave Like Me and the Queen City Book Exchange, Angie helps to ensure local students have access to services and resources they need. At MND, Angie is a highly active member of the Parents Club and serves as a volunteer for many other events throughout the year.

## Distinguished Alumnae Award – Debbie Fritz Hayes '80

As the CEO of Christ Hospital, Debbie has demonstrated exceptional leadership within her field, utilizing her position to foster improvement in healthcare for everyone in the community. Her dedication to diversity, equality, and addressing healthcare disparities firmly aligns with the values of MND, making her an exemplary recipient of this award.

A special thank you goes to Chloe Marklay '17, Reporter with Local 12, who served as the evening's emcee, our event sponsors: Flynn & Company CPAs & Business Consultants, KDM POP Solutions Group, and The Christ Hospital Health Network, and to all our table sponsors.



David and Chrissy Farkas

Madeline Briskin '21

Debbie Fritz Hayes '80

Angie George Arengo '94

Meghan Meador Beach '00

# Athletic Highlights

## Winter 2023



### Basketball

The Varsity Basketball team finished the regular season with a 19-3 record and another perfect 8-0 GGCL record (48-0 over the last 6 years). As the #3 seed in the tournament, they defeated Huber Heights Wayne to win the District Championship. They would then go on to upset #1 seed Princeton in the Regional Semi-Final. The Cougars lost in double overtime to Springboro to finish the year as Regional Runner-Up. Junior Kailee Bransford won GGCL Basketball Player of the Year and Head Coach Drew Fladung won GGCL Basketball Coach of the Year. The JV team finished with a 18-3 record and the Freshman team finished with a 19-2 record.



### Diving

At the GGCL Diving meet, senior Hadley Erd finished 6th overall and junior Averie Heizman finished 1st overall, which earned her GGCL Diver of the Year. Three divers qualified for the District Meet, senior Hadley Erd, senior Grace Swaile, and junior Averie Heizman. Averie finished 5th at Districts and would qualify for the State meet. Averie had a great performance at State, and finished 10th overall.

### Bowling

The Varsity Bowling team finished the year with a 9-9 overall record. Junior Kaylee Braun qualified for Districts as an individual. At Districts, Kaylee bowled her career high three game series of 515. She would finish in 47th place out of 117 bowlers. The JV Bowling team finished 9-6 overall.



### Swimming

The Swimming team had several individuals have great seasons and qualify for Districts. Freshman Avari Gruber qualified for the 100 yard Breaststroke and the 200 yard IM. Junior Zaida Wagner qualified for the 100 yard Backstroke and 200 yard IM. Junior Sarah Koetter qualified for the 500 yard Freestyle. Senior Kate Ryan qualified for the 100 yard Freestyle and the 200 yard Freestyle. Senior Ashlyn Hoffman qualified for the 100 yard Butterfly and the 100 yard Backstroke. A few swimmers also qualified for State in the following events. Kate Ryan qualified for the 100 yard and 200 yard Freestyle. **Kate also broke Vanessa Beary's 25 year school record in the 200 Free with a time of 1:54.53.** Ashlyn Hoffman qualified for the 100 yard Butterfly. The 200 yard Freestyle Relay team of Kate Ryan, Zaida Wagner, Avari Gruber, and Ashlyn Hoffman.



### New Varsity Head Coach

**Drew Fladung** – Fladung completed his first year as Head Varsity Basketball Coach. He led the Cougars to a 24-4 overall record and to the Regional Final. He was also named GGCL Basketball Coach of the Year.



## Spring 2024



### Flag Football

In the inaugural Girls Flag Football season in Cincinnati, MND hosted the first games of the season. The Cougars took down Ursuline 38-6. They would end the regular season with a 3-3 record and the #4 overall seed in the postseason tournament. The team found their groove, and would beat #5 Seton in the first round, #1 St. Ursula in the second round, and would take down #3 Mercy McAuley to win the post season championship.



### Softball

The Varsity Softball team ended the year with a 14-4 record and continued their GGCL dominance with an 8-0 record (23-1 over the last three seasons). The Cougars received the #7 seed, and would match up against Oak Hills in the second round. The team defeated Oak Hills 7-3, and would then go on to play #6 Lakota East. It was a very tight game, but the Cougars came up just short, losing 2-1. Junior Grace Pitzer was named GGCL Softball Co-Player of the Year and Head Coach Julie Joseforsky was named GGCL Softball Coach of the Year.

### Lacrosse

The Varsity Lacrosse team had a rough start to the season with a record of 4-8 through the first 12 games. They turned it around, and would win 7 games in a row. The 7th win came against higher seeded Lakota East in the OHSAA tournament. They would fall to Springboro in the second round, and would finish the year with a 11-9 record. The JV Lacrosse team finished the year with a 8-8-1 record.



### Spring Signing Day

Laila Harrison – Basketball – Bowling Green State University  
Ella Hull – Softball – Kent State University Tuscarawas  
Kayla McCann – Lacrosse – Adrian College  
Katie Noschang – Volleyball – Northern Kentucky University  
Kate Ryan – Swimming – Bellarmine University  
Lucy Sander – Lacrosse – University of Indianapolis

### Track & Field

The Track and Field team had another great year, finishing in third at the GGCL championship for the second year in a row (only two points away from second place). This is only the second time the team has finished in third or higher since 2007. Several individuals won events at the GGCL championship. Junior Kali Smith won the 100 m and 200 m Dash. Freshman Elizabeth Herzner won the 400 m Dash. Sophomore Grace Kollstedt won the 800 m Run. Junior Camren Watson won the 100 m and 300 M Hurdles. The 4x100 team of Leah Seeger, Sidney Kelly-Murray, Camren Watson, and Kali Smith would win the race while setting the MND school record and the GGCL meet record with a time of 49.80. This relay team would continue their success at Districts, breaking their own record with a time of 49.72. Kali Smith was named GGCL Runner of the Year.





THRIVING COMMUNITY

## School Spirit Soars at MND

For decades, MND has been a beacon of school spirit, with student sections packed to capacity, with deafening cheers and unwavering enthusiasm. In the hallways filled with laughter, classrooms buzzing with curiosity, and athletic fields full of echoing cheers, school spirit serves as the heartbeat of any vibrant educational community. In fact, the MND school spirit has always extended well beyond the hallways of the school building into the broader community, giving us the unofficial honor of top fans in the city! However, amidst the challenges of recent times, this quintessential essence of high school life lost a little pep nationwide. In the past two years, the pendulum swung, and MND school spirit is experiencing a resurgence, igniting a renewed sense of unity and pride among students and faculty alike.

The Covid-19 pandemic forced schools into unprecedented territory, with remote learning becoming the norm and traditional events like pep rallies, sports competitions, and theater performances put on hold. As a result, the vibrant tapestry of high school life began to unravel, leaving behind a void where once camaraderie thrived.

However, as the world adapts and evolves, so too do the communities within it. The further we get from "covid days" the brighter the revitalization of school spirit shines.

One of the driving forces behind this resurgence is the collective desire to reclaim a sense of connection. Students, faculty, and administrators alike recognize the integral role that school spirit plays in fostering a positive and supportive environment. From organizing pep rallies to reviving beloved traditions, MND put forth a concerted effort to reignite the flames of enthusiasm, and that work has paid off!

Athletics, long considered a cornerstone of school spirit, are playing a pivotal role in this revival. As MND sports teams take to the fields and courts, students are rallying behind their classmates with an enthusiasm



that is as infectious as it is invigorating. The sight of fans decked out in school colors and themes, cheering on MND with unwavering passion, serves as a powerful reminder of the unbreakable bonds forged through shared experiences.

Yet, school spirit extends far beyond the realm of sports. It permeates every aspect of school life, from academic achievements to artistic endeavors. Whether it's celebrating a classmate's performance in the school play, band or choir performance or coming together to support a service or retreat opportunity, the sense of belonging at MND is palpable.

Moreover, the resurgence of high school spirit is not just about looking to the past; it's about embracing the future. Students are harnessing their creativity and innovation to redefine what school spirit means in the 21st century. From the formation of a new student media group, to organizing community service projects, they are finding new and innovative ways to showcase pride in their school and their peers. The MND Province System

was specifically built to support community in blended model across the grades. On C-Days, each community unites with tailored activities that build school spirit. In addition, MND's Girls Athletic Association (GAA) is our very own spirit squad leading efforts to generate excitement at all student-related pep rallies and events.

The return of high school spirit is more than just a resurgence; it's a reaffirmation of the values that lie at the heart of MND. It's about fostering a sense of community, instilling a pride in one's school, and empowering students to reach their fullest potential. As high schools continue to navigate the ever-changing landscape of education, one thing remains certain: the spirit of unity and pride that defines the MND spirit will continue to burn brightly, lighting the way for generations to come. You can see it for yourself at the end of athletic events, assemblies, and special gatherings, as we wrap our arms around one another in unison to sing our school song loudly and proudly. "To the glory of Mount Notre Dame!"



## ALUMNAE EVENTS

# Sisterhood Event Series



### Active STEM Panel

The Science Department hosted a series of STEM panels showcasing the expertise of 20+ MND Alumnae who are actively contributing to or studying within STEM-related fields.



### Alumnae Swim Meet



### Easter Egg-Stravaganza

In March, the Easter Bunny came to MND for our annual Easter Egg-Stravaganza! Alumnae, their families, and MND's Big/Little Sis Service Program enjoyed a morning of fun with an egg hunt, doughnuts, games, and crafts!



### Trivia Night

MND Alumnae came out to MVP Sports Bar & Grille, owned by **Jennifer Brady Baughan '00**, to be quizzed on their MND knowledge, pop culture, and famous movies!



### Alumnae Basketball Recognition Night



# Alumnae Events – Reunions



**Class of 1974**

## Golden Guild – 1974 Celebrating Their 50th Reunion

The halls of MND were filled with tradition, nostalgia, and sisterhood during our annual Golden Guild Induction and Luncheon. We welcomed the Class of 1974 as they celebrated their 50-year reunion! The day included a prayer service, pinning ceremony, lunch, a tour of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur convent, and a walk through MND's hallways, appreciating the enduring elements and the exciting changes shaping our future! The following day, members of the class attended their reunion dinner at deSha's to reconnect!



**Class of 1959**

The Class of 1959 celebrated their 65-year reunion at Slatt's. The group tries to get together every year.



**Class of 1964**

The Class of 1964 celebrated their 60-year reunion at deSha's. The group reconnected and tallied up the amount of grandchildren those present had – totaling 97 grandchildren and great-grandchildren!



**Class of 1993**

The Class of 1993 celebrated their rescheduled 30-year reunion on February 10, 2024, at Bishop's Quarter, owned by Mark Wiehe and Karen Gertz Wiehe '89, in Loveland, OH.



**Class of 2004**

The Class of 2004 celebrated their 20-year reunion on May 4, 2024, at Pearl's in Mt. Lookout, OH.



## MND on the MOVE:

MND was on the move to visit some of our alumnae in Naples and Sarasota. A special thanks to **Dottie Harmon Eveleigh '77** for hosting our Naples luncheon and to **Beth Feichtner Baxter '97** for hosting our Sarasota dinner!

### Naples Luncheon



### Sarasota Dinner





# Class Notes

## 1950's

**Sr. Mary Ann Barnhorn '52, SNDdeN**, celebrated her 90th birthday in February. She shares that she is enjoying living life to the fullest and credits our Good God for her health!

## 1960's

**Mary Pat Gunning Murphy '61** is retired. She and husband Jim have been married 58 years. They enjoy spending time with their grandchildren and Mary Pat has been active at the Blue Ash Y for the last 26 years in water aerobics.

**Patricia Johnson Schultz '61** is a retired nurse and resides in Cold Spring, KY. She teaches yoga and enjoys ballroom dancing with her husband of 51 years, Bruce.

**Carol Huber Tanner '61** and husband David reside in Cincinnati, OH. Carol has been enjoying working at the Queen City Racquet Club for the past 47 years.

**Janet Paully Steinmann '62** and husband Jim moved to Lake Tahoe, CA, after spending 25 years in the Sierra Foothills. Janet is enjoying gardening in her flower and vegetable gardens along with an orchard she has.



Four 1964 alumnae enjoyed their 31st annual girls' trip to Siesta Key Beach, FL! Pictured left to right are **Linda Bagford Kopriwa '64, Joyce Carlisle Harpring '64, Jenny Santel Valerius '64, and Connie Leinberger Petitt '64.**

**Vicki Bollmer Decker '64** retired in 2011 as a Nursing Manager and is enjoying retirement by traveling as much as possible!

**Carol Lichtenberg '64, SNDdeN**, shares that she has relocated to the Boston area to work at the international finance office of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. They have sisters in 13 countries on five continents. This year, Sr. Carol celebrates her 60th Jubilee as a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur!

**Terri Hayes Engel '65** has been married to husband Gary for 56 years. The two reside in Madison, WI, and attend Mass at St. Peter Catholic Church.

**Karen Huber Iversen '65** is happily retired and enjoying spending time with her four grandchildren, quilting, and writing. Karen is currently working on a book describing her life when she lived in San Francisco from 1973-2003.



**Joyce Hoerst Eling '67** celebrated her 75th birthday at Terwilliger Lodge in Montgomery, OH, surrounded by many MND alumnae in her family! Pictured left to right are **Marcia Hoerst Reuscher '75, Nancy Hoerst Hanson '70, Margie Schuster Merritt '67, Joyce Hoerst Eling '67, Joyce Eling Hoerst '61, Amy Vonderhaar Angel '94, Becky Hoerst '00, Emma Falci '19, Ann Eling Falci '91, Chris Bucheit Rielag '68, Sue Hoerst Mendell '73, Karen Hoerst Stevenson '77, Sara Reuscher Broderick '04, Julie Eling Bower '94, Marianne Falci '23, Elizabeth Stevenson '15, and Lauren Stevenson '18.**



**Ruth Beresford Hendrix '67 and Susan Bradfield Reyher '67** reunited in Milledgeville, GA, halfway from their homes last year. Ruth currently resides in Inverness, FL, and Susan resides in Vienna, GA.

**Karen Kerkhoff Gromada '68** lost her husband, Joe, and oldest son, Brandon, due to head and neck cancer. Karen is the Director for the Brandon C. Gromada Head & Neck Cancer Foundation. She has four additional loving children and nine grandchildren.

## 1970's



**Patty Miller Dean '71** mother of **Samantha Dean Depue '96** and **Abby Dean Held '02** has been traveling with her husband Jack since she retired in May 2023. In March, the two traveled down to Siesta Key, FL for vacation!

**Barbara Cozad Linser '71** and husband Paul are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary together on July 27, 2024! Barbara and Paul reside in Franklin, NC.

**Patty Powers Heimbuch '74** retired in August 2022 after 41 years of providing financial advice and comprehensive consulting services at Ameriprise Financial.

**Monica Martin Koch '74** is a retired woundcare and ostomy nurse. She is the proud grandmother of Emma (3) and enjoys spending time with her family, riding her bike, and traveling when she can.



**Diane Riedy '74** is a realtor for Sibcy Cline. In 2021, she reconnected with her grade school friend, Steve Kroeger, and the two purchased a home in Sarasota, FL. They plan to be in Cincinnati, OH, during the summer months and Sarasota, FL, during the winter months.

## 1980's



**Betsy Rieman Murray '82 and Amy Rieman '82** ran the Disney Princess Half Marathon in February to celebrate the twin's 60th Birthday. In 2014, Betsy and Amy celebrated their 50th birthday also running the Disney Princess Half Marathon.

# Class Notes



**Michelle Bedford Fall '83** has been married to Papa Fall since November 2008. Michelle is the mother of six, ages 19 to 38. She currently works for Delta Airlines as a Customer Support Supervisor. Michelle shares a photo of her and Papa on vacation in Senegal.

**Maria Chain Weller '83** took a new position with Best Upon Request as a Concierge at St. Elizabeth in the ER department and the Family Birth Center. Maria loves traveling, gardening, hiking/walking, and attending local events and sports.

## 1990's

**Heather Bessler '90** is in her ninth year as principal of Our Lady of Lourdes grade school on Glenway Ave in Cincinnati. She holds a Bachelor of Science in English and History from Bowling Green State University, an MAT in Writing from Miami University and an MEd in Administration from the University of Cincinnati.

**Amanda Korb '97** is heading back to the classroom! She will be attending UC Blue Ash and studying Applied Media Communications beginning in August 2024.

**Lori Shelley Daniels '98** is the Chief Advancement Officer at Mt. Healthy City Schools. She has eight-year twins, Olivia, and Logan. Lori and her family reside in Independence, KY.

## 2000's

**Brandi Forbes '04** works as an Emergency Department Social Worker/Conference Coordinator at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center – Bag It Cancer Support. She and daughter Callyn (4) reside in Liberty Township, OH.

**Amy Grote Short '04** recently was promoted to Senior Officer of Immersion at Denvr Dataworks, a tech startup delivering Generative AI cloud as a service. She will use her experience in Chemistry and Business Development to deploy sustainable data centers with immersion cooling technology.

**Amanda Mann '06** has been teaching first grade for 14 years. She currently teaches at a multilingual school in Cincinnati. Amanda shares that she married her best friend in June 2023 and the two have a Bernedoodle named Rosie.

**Meghan Murphy Kurtz '07** received a Bachelor in Nursing from Ohio University in 2011. She married Matthew in 2019 and together they have two-year-old twins, Maxwell and Millie. The Kurtz family resides in Loveland, OH.

## 2010's

**Maggie Speed Collard '10** has been a registered nurse for six years and has worked in open heart surgery and step-down open-heart units. She is currently a case manager for Quantum Health. Maggie and husband Joseph have two sons, Wyatt (4) and Colt (3). The family resides in Columbus, OH.

**Chelsi Creech '10** received her BA, MA, and PsyD from Saint Louis University Regent University. She is a Palliative Care Psychologist at St. Louis VAMC and recently founded a non-profit, Order of Judith, to help women escape domestic abuse and violence.

**Emily Bullock Sanchez Hernandez '11** is an Executive Services Associate at Fidelity Investments in Taylor Mill, KY. She and her husband Eduardo reside in Mason, OH.

**Carly Ems '13** graduated from Bowling Green State University in 2017 with a degree in Tourism, Leisure & Event Planning. She is the Event Coordinator for St. Xavier High School and resides in Liberty Township, OH.

**Katelyn Schaeper Guckiean '14** graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a degree in Early Childhood Education and is a 2nd grade teacher at St. Boniface School. She has been married to her husband Tyler since March 2020.

**Kayla Campbell '15** graduated from the University of Dayton with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She currently works as a Senior IT Product Manager for Procter & Gamble and resides in San Diego, CA.

**Alia Mack '16** became engaged to Tion Walker on January 23, 2023. Alia is a 2021 graduate of Langston University in Langston, OK. She is a registered nurse at Advent Health in Tampa, FL.

**Emily Moore '18** graduated from Miami University with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. She works as a National Sales Coordinator for Vector Media located in New York, NY.

**Angela Sebald '18** said a big "YES" to the proposal of marriage from Casey Lentz on April 7, 2023. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a BSN in nursing in May and is a staff nurse at UPMC Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA.

**Katherine Lemmons '19** graduated from Ohio University in 2023 with a degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders and currently works for Bright Mind Preschool as a Preschool Teacher in Arlington, VA.

## 2020's

**Lauren Hogan '20** is currently playing volleyball at Texas A&M University. Lauren is currently majoring in Kinesiology and will begin her Masters in Sports Physiology next year.

**Taylor Kincaid '20** is a recent graduate from the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash with an Associate of Applied Sciences in Radiologic Technology.



**Alexis Gerver '21** is currently studying for her Associate degree in environmental studies at UC Blue Ash and was recently awarded the Student of the Year in Environmental Science at UC Blue Ash.

**Elizabeth Steil '23** finished her freshman year at Thomas More University where she is majoring in Art/Industrial Design. She played on the school's Varsity Bowling team and was selected as Captain for the Women's team for the 24-25 season.

Class notes are only published when received directly from the individual who is the key focus of the photo/update. This is to ensure the safety and privacy of our alumnae and their families. There is no guarantee that all submissions will be published due to space limitations and printing deadlines. Please submit your news via the What's New form available on our website.



**Thank You MND  
Community for  
your support!**

**The 2023-2024  
MND Annual Report  
will be coming to you  
digitally next month!**



# In Memoriam

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



**Mary Funch  
Emmert '46**  
1/30/2024



**Patricia  
TenBiege '47**  
1/13/2024



**Mary Ellen McGraw  
Wisman '48**  
11/6/2023



**Mary Elizabeth  
Devanney Devitt '51**  
2/9/2024



**Mary Jean Test  
Leugers '52**  
4/27/2024



**Margaret Hurlburt  
Lockwood '52**  
12/18/2023



**Mary Lou Leugers  
Kissel '59**  
12/14/2023



**Marie Welsch  
Pillar '59**  
2/2/2024



**Karen Buschle  
Dressler '62**  
1/31/2024



**Kay Ryan  
Coburn '63**  
3/27/2024



**Bonnie Munz  
Garay '63**  
3/24/2024



**Sue Rieber  
Angel '65**  
1/27/2019



**Mary Dowling  
Donisi '65**  
1/29/2024



**Carol Bishop  
Weigand '65**  
3/5/2024



**Patricia Hoerst  
Crowder '66**  
4/25/2024



**Toni Bryers  
Mimms '66**  
2/23/2022



**Anne Harsch  
Hinman '68**  
1/9/2024



**Nancy Lang  
Hankins '69**  
6/26/2022



**Terri Doerger  
Shotwell '70**  
4/9/2024



**Chris Payne  
Nurre '70**  
5/3/2024



**Donna Yoas  
Briede '73**  
3/10/2024



**Vicki Cook  
Goldsberry '75**  
12/28/2023



**Carol Sullivan '75**  
2/27/2024



**Rita Sliger  
Milbern '76**  
9/23/2019



**Christine Pabst  
Edwards '92**  
8/5/2023



# Engagements/Weddings



**Madelaine Ryan Prescott '12** and Justin Prescott tied the knot on October 21, 2023. The two were married at Harbor Cove Beach located in Ventura, CA.



**Veronica France '18** said "YES" to Adam Szalay on October 21, 2023. Adam proposed to Veronica at the Oval at The Ohio State University, where the two met! Both share they were Karios leaders in high school which led to their connection.



**Becky Moss Johnson '19** and Lane Johnson married on September 16, 2023. Becky graduated from Ohio Northern University in 2022 and recently started a small business marketing consulting company.



**Cara Smith Gibson '16** (2013, '14, '15\*) and Jeremy Gibson married on October 7, 2023 at St. Francis de Sales in Cincinnati, OH. Pictured above to the right is Cara and MND alumnae who were volleyball state champs including **Jessica Towle '15** (2013, '14\*), **Kennedy Hart DeMoss '14** (2013\*), **Sydney Mukes '16** (2013, '14, '15\*), and **Sabrina Wolf '16** (2013, '14, '15\*).

\*Volleyball State Championship Years



**Amanda Puthoff '16** and Justin Buckel became engaged on March 5, 2023. The two will have their wedding on August 31, 2024. Amanda received a bachelor's and master's degree from Gannon University and currently works as a Forensic Biologist for Hamilton County Crime Laboratory.



**Madison Mullinger '18** and Dylan Sabol were engaged on October 21, 2023 for a July wedding. Madison is the fifth Mullinger woman to graduate from MND – following her sisters, **Megan Mullinger Lehmkuhl '08**, **Molly Mullinger '10**, **Mary-Kate Mullinger Wintz '12**, and **Malorie Mullinger Butz '13**.



**Michelle Dickert '20** became engaged to Tony Fleming on January 24, 2024. The happy couple met as freshmen at Marian University and instantly became close friends. They plan to have a wedding in the summer of 2025.



# Births/Adoptions



**Kelly Martin Carskadon '04** and husband Josh welcomed their first child, James Thomas Carskadon, into their family on March 7, 2024. Kelly and Josh share they are so blessed to be his parents and can't wait to see what God has in store for him!



**Britta Halpin Golueke '06** and husband Geoffrey welcomed their daughter Campbell Jean Golueke into their lives on April 17, 2024.



**Erin Mackey Shuler '07** and husband Eric welcomed their first child, Aidan Mackey Shuler on December 29, 2023. Erin and family currently reside in Syracuse, NY.



**Rachel Klosterman Joebgen '08** and her husband Steven welcomed their second child Francis John Joebgen born on November 4, 2023. Francis has one big sister, Dorothy (3).



**Cassidy Miller Newport '11**, our MND Intervention Specialist, and husband Scott welcomed their first child Helen "Ellie" Anne Newport into their family when she was born on December 15, 2023.



**Elizabeth Guye Klingensmith '13** and husband Kevin had their first child, Clark Robert Klingensmith on January 8, 2024, and are enjoying spending the time with him so far this year!



**Samantha Shoemaker Kanter '13** and husband Bradley Kanter welcomed their baby girl Crosley Kanter on February 17, 2024.



**Emily Baur Viola '14** and husband Charlie welcomed their child, Gregory Michael Viola, on January 28, 2024. The family currently resides in Baltimore, OH.



**Taylor Schmidt Anthony '16** currently works as an industrial engineer for UPS. Taylor and husband Matthew welcomed their son Gabriel John Anthony into the world on March 14, 2024. The family currently resides in Finneytown, OH.



**Mallory Shoemaker Vanderpool '19** and husband Bailey had their first son Ronin Reign Vanderpool on January 19, 2024. Mallory shares Ronin is the happiest boy ever and she is loving mom life!



## SISTERHOOD SERIES

### Mary Bahala '23

## A Lifelong Connection to Mount Notre Dame

A 2023 graduate of Mount Notre Dame, Mary Bahala's journey began in the Democratic Republic of Congo before her family fled to Uganda as refugees, ultimately arriving in the United States when she was seven years old.

When the family moved to Reading, Ohio, Mary became intrigued by MND after seeing the young women buzz in and out of the school. Despite the financial and logistical challenges, Mary was determined to attend MND. With faith and perseverance, Mary secured a scholarship and began her high school journey in the fall of 2019.

Mary dove into life at MND, becoming involved in multiple extra-curricular opportunities. Model UN helped her develop a passion for global issues and honed her debate skills while Campus Ministry allowed her to deepen her faith and lead her peers on their spiritual journeys. Mary was also a staple in MND Theatre, building sets, operating sound boards and acting in various roles.



Mary's dedication extended beyond the classroom walls. As the eldest of ten children, she played a crucial role in caring for her siblings, assisting with homework, cooking meals and reading bedtime stories. Despite these responsibilities, Mary excelled academically, taking college prep, honors and AP courses. When the time came, Mary applied to several colleges, with the University of Kentucky being her top choice. She was invited to interview for the prestigious UK Bachelor's to Law Undergraduate Education program, into which she was formally accepted.

Mary's success was made possible by her faith in God and support of the MND community and generous donors. Her story is a reminder of the impact that education, resilience and community support can have on a young woman's life. It also highlights the importance of continued support for MND's mission to educate and empower young women to learn, live, lead and serve.



Please consider supporting the MND Annual Fund to help create more success stories like Mary's. Together, we can empower young women for life.





## MND ALUMNAE SPOTLIGHT:

### *Jenna Hertenstein '18:*

### *A Journey from MND to Disney on Ice*



As the curtains rise and the crowd erupts into applause, Jenna takes to the ice, portraying beloved Disney characters, captivating audiences with every graceful glide and elegant twirl. But Jenna's journey to the spotlight of Disney on Ice wasn't just about performances; it was a culmination of her passion, dedication, and the values instilled from her MND experience.

#### **Embracing School Values, Community, and Faith**

Jenna's time at MND was marked by her experiences that laid the foundation for her future endeavors. Engaging in the Ambassadors program, the Billiard Scholars program, and the National Honor Society (NHS), she found herself immersed in a community that fostered friendships and growth. Beyond academics, she discovered a love for knitting, a hobby she still cherishes today.

At MND, Jenna found herself forming bonds within a tight-knit community that shared her interests and encouraged her pursuits. This sense of belonging and support stayed with her even as she embarked on a journey around the globe, demonstrating the enduring impact of MND's values on her life.

For Jenna, faith wasn't just a set of beliefs but a guiding force that anchored her through life's uncertainties. Returning to her faith during pivotal moments in her journey - especially transitioning into adulthood - she found clarity, purpose, and a sense of self that guided her decisions both personally and professionally.

Driven by a passion for science and art, Jenna navigated a rigorous academic path, balancing her studies with a competitive figure skating schedule. Despite the challenges, she delved into science classes at MND, laying the groundwork for her future pursuit of architecture at the University of Maryland. Her diverse interests in art and science combined, shaping her academic and professional trajectory.

#### **Skating: A Journey of Dedication and Achievement**

Jenna's journey in skating began with simple outings with her father from the age of five. She initially decided she wanted to try skating lessons after skating at Kings Island's Winterfest. This interest evolved when she placed first in her division at the age of nine during her first local competition. In 2015, Jenna's former ice dance coach, Krysztof Tomczyk, partnered Jenna with Damian Binkowski where the two represented Poland in distinction in national and international competitions. While in college, Jenna and Damian trained at the WISA skating academy in northern Virginia where they achieved notable successes, including Junior National Silver Medals during the 2015-2016, 2016-2017 seasons, Junior World competitors in Debrecen, Hungary in 2016, and were in the top ten finish at Lombardia Trophy, Senior International Challenger Series.



#### **Transitioning to Disney on Ice**

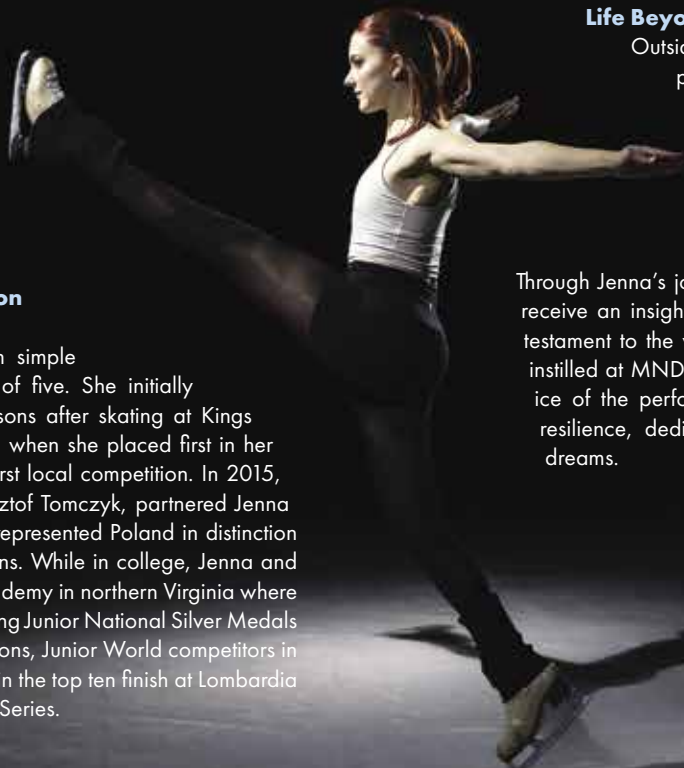
Inspired by her love for performance and a desire to continue skating beyond competitive endeavors after college, Jenna found her calling in Disney on Ice. This marked a new chapter in her skating career with performing by creating something new while wrapping up her skating career. The idea of bringing joy to audiences through beloved characters resonated deeply with her; she was happy to be part of this magic with Damian. The two portray Cinderella and Prince Charming often but can also be found on the rink portraying Belle and Prince Adam.

From rigorous rehearsals to enchanting performances, Jenna's days with Disney on Ice are a whirlwind of activity. Whether it's preparing for a single show day or navigating a three-show marathon, her dedication and passion shine through, captivating audiences with every performance.

#### **Life Beyond Skating**

Outside the rink, Jenna finds solace in simple pleasures like yoga, reading, and exploring new cities. Her love for knitting and sketching serves as creative outlets, offering moments of relaxation amidst her demanding schedules.

Through Jenna's journey from MND to Disney on Ice, we receive an insight into personal achievement, but also a testament to the values of community, faith, and passion instilled at MND. From the halls of MND to the glittering ice of the performance arena, Jenna's story is one of resilience, dedication, and the unwavering pursuit of dreams.





**MOUNT NOTRE DAME**

*Empowering Young Women*

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*Empowering Young Women*

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