Message from the President

As the end of another school year draws near, like always, I’m excited about the different rhythm that summer brings, but feeling a bit sad about the students to whom we’ll be saying goodbye. There are some incredible kids in the class of 2017 who have made really strong impressions on me. Colin Denzel, this year’s Cardinal Bellarmine Award winner, is a fierce competitor on the basketball and tennis courts, and equally as passionate in his pursuit of knowledge and truth in the classroom. Paolo Nguyen, this year’s Student Body President, has been a great model of a servant leader. Paolo founded the Sandwich Club, which makes sandwiches each week and distributes them to the homeless, because he is passionate about creating change in the community. I also noticed that after every single assembly we had this year, Paolo always stuck around afterwards to help fold and stack the chairs. It’s a job that hardly anyone noticed, but Paolo did it because it’s the right thing to do.

At times, it’s these small gestures that can leave an indelible impression. I love hearing stories from the Bellarmine community about acts of kindness and generosity. Sometimes, when I share these stories with the teacher, they won’t even remember— not because they were careless—but because conveying those lessons has been so integral to their work that it’s hard to keep all of the stories straight.

This year, we say goodbye to an unprecedented number of retirees—nine in all, totaling more than 300 years of service to Bellarmine. But those numbers don’t do any real justice to the impact that they have had on this campus, and the literally thousands of students whose hearts they have touched. It’s the countless small gestures that have made that impression.

It’s Juan Navarro showing up to every graduation ceremony hours before it begins to hand wipe down every single chair. Or Kim Jones showing her speech teams the meaning of love by rallying around those connected to the team who were struck by tragedy. Gary Cunningham worked countless hours behind the scenes to make every prom a night to remember for the past 30 years. Fr. Bob Shinsky, S.J., has shouted “Go Bells!” at so many practices and contests that it has become an automatic association for all of us at the school. Fr. Bob Mathewson, S.J., probably did more to modernize the Bellarmine education during his tenure as Principal than any other prior or since. Larry Rogers spent thousands of hours on the pool deck, teaching his student-athletes that a strong work ethic can help them to accomplish just about anything. Jan Scherbart was incredibly supportive to so many, but particularly to our financial aid students during his early years here, making sure that everyone felt welcome. Pat Taylor has done just about every job there is to do at Bellarmine—bringing Karios to this community, and providing a home out of his office for the boarders he looked after. And “Wild” Bill Sullivan provided tutoring services to Bellarmine students for his entire career, never asking for a dime from the school in return.

How can you quantify contributions such as these? I don’t think it can be done. But I know that these nine faculty and staff members have played a huge role in making Bellarmine the place it is today. They have nurtured hundreds and thousands of students over the years, who are inspired to follow their example, and make a difference in the way they live their lives.

Thank you for your leadership, and we wish you nothing but the best in retirement!

Chris Magnone ‘88
President

Editor’s Note

“Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer’s day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.”

—John Lubbock, “The Use of Life”

As we find ourselves in the midst of the summer season, I hope that members of the Bellarmine community are enjoying moments of respite similar to those noted in the passage above.

This edition of Bellarmine College Prep Magazine offers another look at this institution’s very active campus life. Through the text and images on these pages, I hope the reader will receive a greater awareness of the Bellarmine experience, unique to each yet with a shared commonality of goodness.

Whether it is the Bellarmine Mothers’ Guild presenting a record-breaking Fashion Show benefiting the Direct Financial Aid Fund and Financial Aid Endowment; the tremendous outpouring of support by students, faculty, staff, and parents during the Winter Warmth Drive and Lenten Food Drive; the transformative journey that occurs during an immersion trip or Christian Service Program experience; or the spirit of generosity of those who will be retiring after dedicating so much of their lives to our students, goodness certainly is in abundance at Bellarmine.

We hope that you take advantage of learning more about Bellarmine throughout the year by visiting our website (www.bcp.org) and by way of various social media platforms, including Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of Bellarmine and its mission. Here’s wishing you a restful summer filled with the making of memories.

Warm regards,

Brian Adams
Vice President
Office of Advancement

Supporting Bellarmine

On the Cover
Graduates receive congratulatory applause from faculty and staff in the Hall of Honor as the procession for Commencement begins.

(Photo by Sheila Collins)

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Supporting Bellarmine
As we wrap up the 2016-2017 academic year, we look back at all that was accomplished during the year and start preparing for the future. I am excited by all that we have planned for the 2017-2018 school year.

Throughout the summer, our science department will be participating in professional development and collaboration in preparation for the launch of Physics 9—a conceptual physics course with an engineering focus that all freshmen will take next year. Carney classrooms will also undergo renovations to support the hands-on activities and collaborative projects that will be essential elements of these new classes.

We are also examining how we might creatively incorporate our makerspace, otherwise known on campus as Bell Labs, into our curriculum. In just the last few months of the semester, it was great to see students sharing their final 3D printed projects with their peers. I am confident that the sky is the limit once students and teachers begin tinkering with the different tools in the lab.

While academics are an essential part of Bellarmine, we know that our mission-based experiences can be life-changing. Over 100 students will be traveling on Bellarmine immersion trips throughout this summer. Students and faculty will be traveling to West Virginia, Tanzania, the Philippines, Ecuador, Louisiana, El Salvador, Mexico City, Guatemala and South Africa. I appreciate the ways in which our students stand in solidarity with communities around the world.

Next year’s Summit on Human Dignity will focus on Understanding Race in the 21st Century. While we recognize this topic will challenge us in many ways, I am hopeful that the conversations over the course of the year will help us to know and understand one another. Pulitzer Prize-winning author and alum, Viet Nguyen ’88, a recent Hall of Fame inductee, will return to campus in October to share his experiences with our students. Throughout the year, we will utilize our website to share articles, resources, and reflections with our broader school community.

Thank you for all the ways you contribute to the Bellarmine community.

Sincerely,

Katherine Lohrer
Principal
Student Broadcasters Honored

For the first time in its history, Bellarmine College Preparatory’s radio station, KBCP, presented live coverage of a national presidential election. This achievement was rewarded in May 2017 by the John Drury High School Radio Awards, which recognizes excellence in high school radio broadcasting and named in honor of an award-winning ABC-Chicago news anchor.

On election night, November 8, several Bellarmine seniors provided commentary, predictions, and analysis of the many elections and ballot measures on local, state, and federal levels. In addition, eight Bellarmine faculty and staff were interviewed by students to provide an adult/educator opinion on the outcome of the election, as well as commentary on a variety of issues.

Adam Brown ’17, general manager of KBCP, said the idea to cover such an historic event came from the radio program Vitamin B, which featured Brown and classmates Ryan Biland ’17 and Peter Boennighausen ’17. “From this experience, we learned the importance of impartial media coverage, the changing shape of media in the 21st century, and the many issues which will impact the Bellarmine community in the years to come,” noted Brown.

The Bell broadcasters received 2nd and 3rd place for Best Public Affairs Program in the John Drury High School Radio Awards competition, for coverage of the Presidential election and California State propositions 65 and 67 respectively. This apparently marked the first time that a school west of Iowa has received such honors by the organization, according to Wendy Crockett, Bellarmine faculty member and KBCP moderator.

The awards were accepted by Brown at a ceremony held at Illinois’ North Central College.

Pravin Ravishanker ’17 was recently named a 2017 U.S. Presidential Scholar by the U.S. Department of Education and the Commission on Presidential Scholars. He is one of only 161 students from across the country to receive the award.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, and recognizes the nation’s most distinguished graduating seniors in education, the arts, and career and technical education fields. Application to the program is by invitation only, and is based upon scholastic and/or artistic achievement, demonstrated leadership, community service, strong character, and commitment to high ideals.

Scholars convene in Washington, D.C., in mid-June, where they participate in National Recognition activities, have the opportunity to spend time with fellow Scholars (both alumni and members of the Class of 2017), and receive their awards.

Faculty member Dr. Debjani Roy, who has taught each of the boys and moderated their club activities, said, “I am so proud of Arvind, Kevin, and Pravin for this tremendous achievement. They are fantastic young scientists in the making. Their projects are particularly special because they are contributing to the next generation research frontiers – advancing computer science and biomedical science.”

Details about the fascinating projects of these young men are available at www.bcp.org/news.
On Valentine’s Day of 2016, I, along with several of my friends, departed on a plane headed for Ecuador. We would not set foot on American soil for another 10 days. We had all signed-up for the Bellarmine Ecuador Immersion Trip, and I was excited to see what Ecuador had in store for us.

The main purpose of the trip was to expose ourselves to the culture and connect with the people of Ecuador. We helped cook meals, build a house, and clean-up. In the Working Boys Center, I talked with the kids staying there, helped teach them about making candies, and played soccer and a modified version of volleyball named “Ecuavolley” with them.

I loved learning about the Ecuadorian culture; their people, stores, and schools were similar to ours but had a certain lively charm not as present in America. One of the only things I didn’t enjoy about the trip was that 10 days did not seem like enough time to truly enjoy the country, although I doubt any amount of time will allow for me to fully appreciate it.

In the hours I waited on that plane on the way to Ecuador, I thought about the people of the country. I wondered if they would be accepting of me or if they would push me and my fellow Americans away. There was a slight “them and us” sort of feeling at first, but as time went on, a deep bond developed between us and the kids, teachers, staff, and other volunteers at the Working Boys Center. Who knew a week of soccer could form such a strong friendship between kids from completely different cultures?

Service has two sides: doing good for the world and finding good in yourself. I feel like I’ve accomplished both of those. I’ve helped enrich the lives of a few kids in another country, I’ve helped build someone’s home, and I’ve given some hard-working people a brief respite from their busy days by caring for the kids myself. I’ve found the side of me that enjoys serving others and I’ve tried to foster it into a lifelong trait. Bellarmine has contributed greatly to my view on service and social justice in general. I see now that serving one’s community is an important aspect of one’s spiritual and moral sides and a great way to have fun and meet great people.

My personality has changed dramatically since eighth grade. Much of this transformation I can attribute to service, especially the Ecuador immersion. I find myself to be more hard-working and diligent, likely because I better understand my advantages and the opportunities I’ve been given, and wasting my talents would be an insult to those who are not as lucky as I am. Serving others has really helped me learn empathy; interacting with the poor and disabled, instead of outright ignoring them, has opened my eyes to the experiences of those less fortunate than I am. I find myself interacting more with the homeless I see in everyday life, and treating disadvantaged people better than I probably would have had I not done any service. I find empathy to be a lot more fulfilling than ignorance. I plan to find ways to do service in the future, especially in college. It is a great way to meet people and learn their stories while also helping the people that need it most.

After a nationwide search and a very comprehensive process, Kristina Luscher was named principal of Bellarmine College Preparatory.

In the announcement made to constituents on January 30, Bellarmine president Chris Meyercord ’88 noted, “I am grateful for the very strong work that Kristina has accomplished as the interim principal since June 2015, and enthusiastic about the way in which she will lead the school now that the interim title has been removed.”

Having worked at two schools prior to joining Bellarmine’s faculty in 2000, Luscher has been an English and dance instructor, and served as the English Department chair, academic assistant principal, and interim principal for the past two years. Additionally, she has helped lead immersion trips, retreats, and choreographed school musicals, and currently teaches senior English.

“Beyond her resume, what has always characterized Kristina’s work is her great love for and deep commitment to Jesuit education,” noted Meyercord. “Everything that she does is imbued with this sense of cura personalis, considering how she and we as a school can best care for each individual student.”

“I am honored to have this opportunity,” said Luscher, who is now officially the first female principal of Bellarmine. “The work of our faculty, staff, and students inspires me each and every day, and I genuinely feel blessed to be a part of this institution.”

Nearly 100 people participated in the interview process, led by the Principal Search Committee, which helped to determine the school’s particular needs at this time, vetting the applicants for the position, interviewing the semi-finalists, and aiding in the discernment process that led to this final decision.

Bellarmine Names
Kristina Luscher Principal

Kristina Luscher, pictured here with Bellarmine president Chris Meyercord ’88.
Class of 2017 Award Honorees

Major Awards

Matteo Ricci Awards – named after the 16th century Jesuit missionary who truly embodied the Jesuit ideal of finding God in all things. This award is presented to those students who have contributed in a significant way to the entirety of life at Bellarmine. They have made lasting contributions to Bellarmine’s broad spectrum of co-curricular activities and their engagement in the academic program has been outstanding.

- Scott Baker
- Joseph Deck
- Dylan Doblar
- Joseph Deck
- Michael LaPierre
- Avind Sridhar
- Mihir Trivedi
- Alexander Yoo
- Roberto Young
- Dylan Doblar
- Benjamin Ma
- Arya Adibi
- Joseph Deck

Bellarmine Spirit Award – presented to that student who embodies our school’s philosophy of vision, leadership, and service within the broad spectrum of Bellarmine’s co-curricular activities.

- Paolo Nguyen

Rob Suarez Memorial Award – honors that student who has raised our spirits when we have needed it most – in classrooms and hallways – but most importantly, by how he has reached out in private to individual members of our community – his humor and compassion have brought hope and a sense of freedom into the midst of our own daily struggles. Each year, instead of choosing a “winner” of the Rob Suarez Award, Bellarmine chooses a student to represent all the nameless and often unnoticed acts of compassion that have occurred within our community.

- Joaquin Schmidt

Jesuit Secondary Education Award – presented to that student who is well-rounded, intellectually competent, open to growth, religious, loving, and committed to doing justice in generous service to the people of God.

- Kian Blewett

Pedro Arrupe Service Awards – named after the 28th General Superior of the Society of Jesus. It is presented to those students who have worked generously and effectively to translate into action our school’s commitment to the creation of a society more Godly and just, both in our own San Jose area and the world.

- Arya Adibi

Ignatius Loyola Ministry Award – named for the 16th century founder of the Society of Jesus and presented to the student who has not only internalized his Christian faith significantly, but whose actions have also given overwhelming evidence of his relationship with God. He has distinguished himself in his contributions to Bellarmine’s Campus Ministry program.

- Miguel Diaz

Salutatory Award – presented to that student whose contribution to Bellarmine’s graduating class has been visible and manifold. He has represented the spirit of the class through his manner of living Christian values, his consistent expression of personal integrity, and the multiple ways that he has embodied the life and spirit of this class.

- Conor Linehan

Cardinal Bellarmine Award – named for the patron of our school, St. Robert Bellarmine. It is the highest award that our school gives at commencement and is presented to that student who has personally incorporated the school’s values of faith, service, leadership, and a passion for justice in every area of contribution to the school’s life. The recipient of this award must be one whose personal character embodies the ideals and goals of this school.

- Colin Denzel

Valedictory Award – given to that student who has achieved academic success, demonstrated leadership qualities, and has the ability to express the values of the school as well as the spirit of the class. The valedictorian knows his class and his school and speaks for both at commencement.

- Peter Boennighausen

Academic Department Awards

Computer Science
- Ryan Johnson
- Tom Nobal

English
- Peter Boennighausen
- Louis McConnell

Mathematics
- Kevin Chang
- Louis McConnell
- Eric Wang

Modern & Classical Languages
- ASL – Mason King
- French – Jacob Boerma
- Latin – Leonardo Garcia Cerecedo
- Mandarin – Xavier Liu
- Spanish – Trevor Perey

Religious Studies:
- Miguel Diaz
- Conor Linehan

Science
- Eric Wang

Social Science
- Peter Boennighausen
- Trevor Perey

Visual & Performing Arts
- Payton Lacebal
- Perry Willig

Graduation Edition
Class of 2017 Award Honorees

Class of 2017 Award Honorees

Campus Ministry Awards

Alexander Aguirre
Paul Antanyo
Scott Baker
Kian Bitewett
Colin Denzel
Christian Jiménez
Matthew Lencioni
José Moreno

Co-Curricular Awards

Al Bihn Memorial Journalism Award
Alexander Bakeis
Ankit Mukherjee

Ben Summer Memorial Award for Service
Cameron Ormiston

Edward S. Romano ‘31 Perpetual Theatre Arts Award for Stagecraft
Marco Bui
Arthur Peterson

Jack Jensen

James Harville ’63 Perpetual Speech Award

Peter Boennighausen

Peter E. Tieman ’50 Speech and Debate Award
Xavier Liu
Nikhil Rajavasireddy

Jim Urhausen Robotics Award
Peter Feghali
Trevor Salom

John Hanna Award – presented to that student who has contributed most significantly to Bellarmine in more than one sport. This award is also known as the “Most Valuable Senior Athlete Award.”

Louis Ogbugu

Bellarmine Scholar-Athlete Award – presented to those students who have participated with marked success in athletics and who have maintained a high grade point average.

Benjamin Ma
Connor Mack
Kyle McMann
Trevor Perry

Robert Fatjo Perpetual Sportsmanship Award – presented to those students who have contributed significantly to Bellarmine Athletics by their leadership, example, and achievements on the field of competition. His leadership and example must also be evident in the Bellarmine community at large. He is also honored for the ideals of service and cooperation that Bellarmine hopes to inculcate in all of its athletes.

Benchman Harvey
Andrew Ton

Brother Wally Ryan, S.J. Award – awarded to that student whose work on the sidelines and off the field has contributed to the success of our teams on the field of competition. For over 40 years, Br. Ryan assisted the school and its athletic programs by being a positive influence on the athletes as well as the coaches. The winner of this award has lived his life on campus in Br. Ryan’s image.

Matthew Chew

Billy Schmidt Awards – named after a 1962 graduate of Bellarmine who lettered in football and baseball, and was the most valuable player on the football team in his junior year. Billy was a fierce competitor, an unselfish leader, a loyal friend, and a committed Christian. He was a proud loser and humble winner who won the love and respect of all who knew him. He was a great athlete and an outstanding human being. This award is presented to that athlete in each sport who has given evidence of good sportsmanship throughout the season, whose conduct on and off the field is exemplary, whose loyalty to his team is unquestioned, and whose leadership and inspiration as a team member is proven.

Baseball – Connor Mack
Basketball – Colin Denzel
Cross Country – Meika Beaudoin-Rousseau
Football – Robert Fachina
Golf – Eddy Lai
Lacrosse – Jacobelly Steinbock
Soccer – John Picker
Swimming – Michael Sager
Tennis – Cody del Rosario
Track & Field – Benjamin Ma
Volleyball – James Harvity
Water Polo – Aaron White
Wrestling – Isaiah Palomin

Community Service Awards

Amruth Men for Others Distinction – Fr. Pedro Amruth, S.J., who served as the 28th Superior General of the Jesuits, said that our prime educational objective must be to become men and women of others, people for whom love of God issues forth in love, service, and justice. This award recognizes those students who have distinguished themselves as Men For and With Others by giving over 200 hours of service.

1,000+ Hours: Kevin Tran
800+ Hours: Christian Simeon
Ankit Mukherjee

200+ Hours: (continued)

Bao Dinh
Peter Feghali
Michael Haynes
Matthew Heagerty
Franklin Irekere
Joel Joseph
Nicholas Kern
Conor Linehan
Benjamin Ma
Mark McLaughlin

Ryan Nazari
Dan Ngo
Hee Nguyen
Nicholas Nguyen
Paolo Nguyen
Matthew Rizzo
Michael Rizzo
Ryan Romualdo
Clayton Sanborn
Nathan Nguyen

Justice & Advocacy Leadership
Christopher Bittel
Paolo Nguyen

Larry Lauro International Solidarity Leadership
Kian Bitewett
Conor Linehan

JW Knapen Award for Creative Service Leadership
Arvind Sridhar

National Merit Foundation Awards

Letters of Commendation

George Ajit
Scott Baker
Jack Belshe
Michael Betlew
Ryan Biland
Kian Bitewett
Jacob Boerma
Bryant Cog
Matthew Cortese
Sean Costello
Colin Denzel
Dylan Doblar
Brendan Farris
Edwin George
Matthew Heagerty
Edwin Hooper
Ankit Mukherjee

Feng Lim
Cameron Ormiston
Laurance Palmer
Arthur Peterson
Nikhil Rajavasireddy
Prawin Ravishanker
Clayton Rosenthal
Seamus Ruiz-Earle
Tharun Shiju
Udaikaran Singh
Arvind Sridhar
Jonathan Tran
Yash Vanvari
Eric Wang
Alexander Yang
Nathan Nguyen

Tom Nobal
Cameron Ormiston
Laurence Palmer
Nikhil Rajavasireddy
Prawin Ravishanker
Clayton Rosenthal
Seamus Ruiz-Earle
Tharun Shiju
Udaikaran Singh
Arvind Sridhar
Jonathan Tran
Yash Vanvari
Eric Wang
Alexander Yang
Nathan Nguyen
Class of 2017 Award Honorees

National Merit Foundation Awards

Scholars with Honors – Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Scott Baker
Kian Biswas
Ardh Bulut
EDWIN GEORGE
COLE HAMMERS
Matthew Heagerty
Samarj Kulkarni
Manu Kumar
Payton Lacey
Shrivaam Mehta
Mustafa Nagiul
Nathan Nguyen
Cameron Ormiston
Shaunak Pandit
Sahil Rao
Eric Robison
Seamus Ruiz-Earle
Michael Sager
Bryan Tijanaka
Yash Vanwari
Alexander Yang

National Hispanic Scholars

Scholars

Ryan Biland
David Gonzales
Christian Hunter
Matthew Lowe

Advanced Placement Scholars

Scholars – Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Araya Atzila
Jason Archer
Peter Ciari
Leonardo Garcia Cerecedo
Edwin Hooper
Christian Jimenez
Ryan Johnson
Joel Joseph
Cade Kirschman
Xavier Liu
Matthew MacDonald
Carlos Martinez

U.S. Presidential Scholar

U.S. Department of Education

Pravin Ravishanker

National Merit Scholars

National Merit Foundation Awards

Scholars with Distinction – Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Jack Belshé
Michael Betteje
Ryan Biland
Peter Boennighausen
Jacob Boerma
Nathan Chan
Kevin Chang
Brandon Chow
Bryant Cong
Seán Costello
Quentin Delepine
Bao Dinh
Dylan Doblar
Brenden Farn
Peter Feghali

Pranay Pahwa
William Pramono
Pravin Ravishanker
Tharun Shiju
Christian Simeon
Udaikanan Singh
Anind Sinha
Jonathan Tran
Simon Tin
Mihir Trivedi
Eric Wang
Alexander Yoo
Maxwell Yun

National Merit Scholars – Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Michael Betteje
Peter Boennighausen
Nathan Chan
Kevin Chang
Brandon Chow
Quentin Delepine

Luis García Cercedo
Ryan Hayden
Michael Haynes
Johannes Hua
YongFeng Lim
Anay Limaye
Connor Liman
Benjamin Ma
Connor Mack
Vidu Maheshwari
Louis McCannell
Sejal Mitha
Ankit Mukherjee
Dan Ngo
Hieu Nguyen

National Merit Chlorists

Chile

Peter Feghali

Other Noteworthy Achievements

Music

John Philip Sousa Award:

Adam Brown

Louis Armstrong Award:

Eric Robison

Eagle Scouts

Drake Africa
Scott Baker
John Bennett
Marco Bui
Brendan Conway
Clifford Combs
Connor Fetter
Joel Joseph
Michael Kreit

Ryan Lewis
Thomas McCambridge
Joseph Michael
Andrew Minder
Mark Montano
Mark Nakama
Andrew Nguyen
Nathan Nguyen

Nicholas Nguyen
Cameron Olechowski
Steven Peck
Anthony Picchi
Pearson Randall
Seamus Ruiz-Earle
Tharun Shiju
Evan Sallagyi

College & University Acceptances for the Class of 2017

Adams University
The University of Alabama
Alcorn State University
American University
Arizona State University
The University of Arizona
Assumption College
Augustana College
Azusa Pacific University
Baylor University
Belhaven University
Belmont University
Benedictine College
Bennett College
Bezosa State University
Boston College
Brock University
Bowdoin College
Bowling Green State University
Brandeis University
University of British Columbia
Brown University
Brown University
Butler University
Caltech College
Cal Maritime
California Baptist University
California College of the Arts
California Lutheran University
Cal Poly State University
Pennsylvania
Cal Poly State University
San Luis Obispo
CSU, Bakersfield
CSU, Channel Islands
CSU, Chico
CSU, East Bay
CSU, Fresno
CSU, Fullerton
CSU, Long Beach
CSU, Los Angeles

Graduation Edition

CSU, Monterey Bay
CSU, Northridge
CSU, Sacramento
CSU, San Bernardino
CSU, San Marcos
CSU, Stanislaus
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
Carleton College
Carroll College
Case Western Reserve University
The Catholic University of America
Cheyney University
College of Charleston
College of Charleston
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Connecticut
ClaremontMcKenna College
Clark University
Clark University
Coastal Carolina University
Columbia University
College of Charleston
University of Colorado, Boulder
Colorado Springs
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Colorado College
Colorado College Chicago
Columbia University
Concordia University
University of Connecticut
Cooper Union
Cornell University
Crichton University
Dartmouth College
Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2017!
Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2017!

(continued)
The 41st Golden Bell Auction was held on campus the evening of March 11. The event, with its James Bond-type theme of “License to Bid,” was attended by more than 720 guests who enjoyed silent and live auctions, hors d’oeuvres, wine, and Martinis (shaken or stirred, by golly), and a wonderful dinner prepared by Bellarmine’s executive chef, Jeremy Soulia. More than $530,000 was raised to benefit the Direct Financial Aid Fund. Special thanks to Claudia DeNuccio, event chair and Bellarmine trustee; and Brian Christensen, director of annual giving; as well as the team of staff and volunteers who presented such a wonderful event.

Save the date for next year’s Golden Bell Auction:
March 10, 2018

The 62nd Annual Bellarmine Mothers’ Guild Fashion Show was held November 16, 2016, at the Santa Clara Convention Center. The event, featuring luncheon and dinner shows with the theme of “Bells, Boots & Bow Ties,” was attended by more than 1200 guests. Led by chair Annette Finsterbusch and co-chairs Heidi Burke, Gigi Harvey, and Erika Millard, the Fashion Show resulted in record net proceeds exceeding $451,000 benefitting the school’s Direct Financial Aid Fund and Financial Aid Endowment. Since the inception of the first fashion show in 1954, the Mothers’ Guild has helped make it possible for countless young men to attend and complete their Bellarmine experience.
With the conclusion of this academic year, we bid adieu to several faculty and staff members whose cumulative time of service to Bellarmine totals more than 300 years. An on-campus recognition event held on May 11 in honor of retiring faculty and staff was attended by 300 members of the Bellarmine community, ranging from alumni to current parents. Among those honored were Gary Cunningham, Kim Jones, Fr. Bob Mathewson, S.J., Juan Navarro, Larry Rogers, Jon Scherbart, Fr. Bob Shinney, S.J., Bill Sullivan, and Patrick Taylor.

We are grateful that while stepping down from their daily duties, both Fr. Mathewson and Fr. Shinney (see Behind the Collar features in Summer 2013 and Fall 2013 issues respectively) will remain at Bellarmine and continue to provide their important “ministry of presence” and of cura personalis. Juan Navarro will frequently still be assisting behind-the-scenes at Bellarmine, as he has for the past 25 years, albeit now as a retiree. Also acknowledged at the event were Dave Ianovich’s 35 years of teaching at Bellarmine, and the milestone of Hardy Beyrayer having reached an unprecedented 50 years of service to the school.

The following, edited for length, is a Q&A with several of this year’s retirees who were asked to reflect on their time at Bellarmine for this publication.

**What is your fondest memory of your years at Bellarmine?**

**Gary Cunningham:** “I don’t have a fondest memory, just many fond memories of my 30 years at Bellarmine. Starting with the 21 years of varsity baseball players that I had the great pleasure to coach (especially my three sons – Kevin ’91, Kelly ’93, and Patrick ’01); to all the talented students that I enjoyed working with in ASB (when I was the Student Activities Director); and all the faculty, staff, administrators, and parents that I have been able to interact with when I ran the Magazine Drive and as Director of the Campus Store.”

**Jon Scherbart:** “After 36 years it is hard to identify single moments, but my fondest memories, and what I will miss most, is mostly the non-academic stuff – goofing around with students and my colleagues, laughing, cracking jokes; just hanging, sharing our lives and concerns. That was most fun and meaningful for me.”

**Bill Sullivan:** “Fondest memory is very easy, it’s Kairos. We do many things well here at Bellarmine. We do many things outstanding here at Bellarmine … but nothing equals what we do all-decoratively on Kairos. Without Kairos, Bellarmine is just another, good Catholic high school.”

**Patrick Taylor:** “Some of my fondest memories: While the Dean of Students, Mary accepting my hand in marriage in 1978 (best decision I ever made) at the Santa Clara Mission Church, presided by Fr. Steve Privett, followed by a wonderful reception with both events witnessed and supported by Bellarmine faculty and staff friends; living on campus in Brechman’s Hall in 1964 as the Resident Hall Director and starting our family with the birth of Bennett Patrick; in 1984, serving as the Director of Student Activities for five years fostering student leadership, student government, intramurals, dances, proms, and helping to introduce the Freshman Retreat program in 1995, introducing the Kairos Retreat program in 1991 and nurturing it along as the first non-Jesuit Campus Minister – joy beyond words!; being a personal counselor and eventually serving as the Director of the Personal Counseling team – the relationships created with students and my fellow counselors like Jim O’Connell, Larry Lauro, and Ed Sarrett have sustained me in a very meaningful way; introducing the BCP Roller Hockey program in 1997 as the first ‘official’ club sport allowing Bells to wear the school colors, play the great sport of hockey, and represent Bellarmine as part of a team, and opening the door for Ice Hockey and Rugby; witnessing my two sons, Bennett ‘G09 and Andrew ‘13 grow and mature as Bells with support and guidance of my colleagues; introducing the SF Giants Fan Club in 2005 and as an avid fan sharing in the Giants World Series Championships in 2010, 2012, 2014 – Human Baby!”

**Kim Jones:** “That one is impossible. I would have to go with team dinners. We try to have dinner together after a day of competition when we travel. Sitting down with forty people who are excited to talk about the issues of the day, the opponents, and about their teammates, is about as fun as it gets. Plus, no one can ever figure us out. Who are these guys? Why are they talking about Angela Merkel?”

**Larry Rogers:** “The most important part of my Bellarmine experience has been the Jesuits. Such Jesuits as Father Reese, Father Wade, Father Cobb, Father Shinney, Father McFadden, Father Thom, Father Clemo, Father Capítulo, Father Drendal, Father Curnes, Father Moller, and many others in their actions, words, and deeds, set an example for the school and community. Whenever they said a Mass, it was relevant to the community and answered many questions that might be thought of. They allowed people to be who they were and supported, counseled, and encouraged students, as well as faculty, to achieve to their highest abilities. In their eyes it was ok to reach for the stars and if you failed, you learned from the loss, and if you were successful, to handle your success with humility.”

**Larry Lauro:** “I will miss the feeling of accomplishment after a good class. I will miss the times when I did things here – took some risks, and got involved with the many important things we do here.”

**Jon Scherbart:** “I will miss the feeling of accomplishment after a good class. I will miss the times when I did things here – took some risks, and got involved with the many important things we do here.”

**Bill Sullivan:** “The camaraderie of teachers and students, of teachers and teachers, of teachers and students.”

**Patrick Taylor:** “I think I will miss the most, the daily interaction with students and colleagues as well as involvement with the many extra-curricular events – coaching JV Baseball (thanks Gary Cunningham and Chris Dempsey) and Roller Hockey (thanks alumni dads for your assurance support and friendship) – both have been very special in creating relationships and good memories. Also the consistent support of Jesuits like Fr. Cobb, Fr. Wade in the times of struggle – with the death of my father in 1985 and my mom in 2012, as well as times of joy with baptisms, family Masses, Confirmations.”

**What will you miss most about Bellarmine?**

**Gary Cunningham:** “The daily interactions with faculty, staff, administrators, parents, and students.”

**Kim Jones:** “The guys. I spend four years with them; that means lunch together, after school several days a week, some of the summer. I’ve gotten to see them grow as thinkers, as teammates looking out for each other, and as leaders. It’s fun to see them begin to understand that they can speak for a lot of other people besides just themselves. I absolutely love how they disagree; they can teach adults a lot.”

**Larry Rogers:** “My friends, colleagues, students, and athletics. My friends and colleagues I will miss because they challenge me to be the best teacher I could be. Every day, whether you are sitting around in the morning, at lunch, or some other time, you can discuss the world situation, classroom problems, sports, or anything else you want to talk about, and gain a variety of opinions. The students, because they are open minds who can be challenged to develop opinions, apply what they have read to situations, and challenge you every day to answer their questions, and when they get affirmation, light-up with joy. The athletes, because they come to practice to become the best they can be at a skill, they are willing to work very hard to achieve their goals, sacrifice for their teammates, deal with defeat and victory with respect and humility.”

**Jon Scherbart:** “I will miss the things I did here -- took some risks, and got involved with the many important things we do here.”

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**What do you most look forward to in your retirement?**

**Gary Cunningham:** “Visiting a little more frequently my son Kelly, his wife Shannon, and my 2 grandchildren (Jalen 9 yrs. + Ashley 5 yrs.) in Gilbert, Arizona. Being able to spend more time with my other two sons (Kevin and Patrick), as well. Playing more golf and tennis, and coming back to Bellarmine to volunteer in various areas on campus.”
Kim Jones: "Click! as it might be. I'd love family time. I am thankful to have parents in good health, sisters and families not so far away, great friends, two sons and a sister of a husband, all of whom have heard. I'll be there next time. I'd like to attend school in the fall. When Jeff retires, we'd like to travel. I'll be helping in speech and debate, both at Bell and for the league as a whole. I may be coaching 4th graders in speaking, as well. Violet, my granddaughter, and I think each other are hilarious. We're going to spend a LOT of time together."

Larry Rogers: "For the first time in my life not having to answer to bells that begin a period or end one. The ability to do anything I want without time restraints or limits. Spend time working out and some new things too; always time to grow more."

Larry Rogers: "My life has been lived by values I learned from my parents, coaches, and teammates. To work hard, be honest, give everything you have, always be on time, support and work with your teammates, and respect all opponents and situations. If you can do all those things, good things will happen and if not, you will learn something about yourself and the situation. Failure is not a bad thing, it is another chance to succeed and learn."

Gary Cunningham: "I try to be a kind and caring person, a man for others, a loving dad/grandfather, and a good friend. I really like (and try to follow) the opening verse of Carole King's song "Beautiful": You've got to get up every morning with a smile on your face and show the world all the love in your heart …"

Kim Jones: "I have had the words of former Superior General Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J. on my wall for the longest time. "Mediterranea has no place in Ignatius' world view. He urges us to work for the Greater Glory of God because the world desperately needs men and women of competence and conscience who generously give of themselves for others. I will be gaps to work hard because we need leaders in every industry and every profession who remember that democracy and justice rely on an exchange of ideas, not a battle of words. If they settle for less than their best, they won't be those leaders and the voices of those men of competence and compassion will be lost."

Larry Rogers: "My biggest influence was at Bellarmine, for sure," Hurwitz told students gathered in the school's Leontyne Chapel on campus during a lunchtime question and answer session. "Here I fell in love with English," said Hurwitz, praising the Bellarmine English department and calling it "as good as the English departments I went through at Harvard and Oxford."

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With all his success in a variety of mediums, Hurwitz encouraged students to be true to themselves and to not sell out. "There is nothing but moral decisions … it's really about listening to yourself. Make your choices based on what you love … That's where you're going to be exceptional, and all of the logistics will take care of itself."

"The Book of Henery," a film from Hurwitz’s first original screenplay, was scheduled for release June 16.
Bellarmine Honors

Bellarmine College Preparatory held its Hall of Fame ceremony the evening of April 1, recognizing five distinguished alumni.

Those honored, and their respective categories, were: Michael Black ’81 (Business); Anthony Saglimbeni, M.D. ’81 (Science and Medicine); Fr. John Baumann, S.J. ’56 (Public Service); Dave Gaggero ’84 (Athlete); and Viet Thanh Nguyen ’88 (Humanities and Fine Arts).

“My experience at Bellarmine has challenged me to be more aware of social justice issues,” said Black during his acceptance remarks. “This school has helped me to be the man I am, and the man I aspire to be.” As a community leader, the president and CEO of Black Construction has been involved with a number of service organizations and nonprofits, including Rotary Club of San Jose, Sacred Heart Community Service, Silicon Valley Children’s Fund, Catholic Charities, and Santa Clara University. Black noted that his company annually donates ten percent of its profits to charities.

Among the people thanked by Saglimbeni, founder of South Bay Sports and Prevention Medicine Associates, were his patients. “They teach me to be human and teach me to be a better physician,” he said. He also cited three components of his Bellarmine education that continue to play important roles in his life: “Relationships, opportunities, and service,” and he added that Bellarmine ignited “that flame in me to serve.” Saglimbeni has traveled to Cuba with the USA Field Hockey team, served the Diocese of San Jose, and has been the team physician for Bellarmine, Presentation High School, Santa Clara University, the San Francisco 49ers, and the San Francisco Giants.

After graduating from Bellarmine, Fr. John Baumann, S.J., entered the Society of Jesus. In 1972, he founded PICO (People Improving Communities through Organizing). Its mission is to develop leaders through faith institutions who empower their power to build a more just and equitable society. Baumann gave credit to his Jesuit education, which began at Bellarmine, for leading him “to pursue a ministry that changed my life forever.” Working with some 1,200 religious congregations from 35 different traditions, PICO has a strong record of bringing an organized and strategic faith voice into fights against critical issues affecting people.

At Bellarmine, Dave Gaggero won a total of six individual CCS championships, and seven relay championships in swimming. He was a member of four swimming and three water polo championship teams, and a state water polo championship team. “I learned so many life lessons in the pool and in the classroom,” Gaggero said in his acceptance remarks, adding that his Bellarmine experience set “a great foundation for who I am today.” His good works include helping under-resourced communities in Oakland, and now his home of Atlanta, to have access to top-notch swimming programs.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen acknowledged many Bellarmine faculty members for having shaped his literary career. “I have to credit Bellarmine with so many things... to this day I credit my belief in social justice issues in all realms to my Jesuit education.” Nguyen, the Aerol Arnold Chair of English and professor of English and American Studies and Ethnicity at USC, has authored four books. His novel, “The Sympathizer”, won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction. His book, “Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War”, was a finalist in non-fiction for both the National Book Critics Circle Award and the National Book Award.

More than 300 guests, including San Jose mayor Sam Liccardo ’87 and former mayor Tom McEnery ’63, were on hand to witness the Hall of Fame inductions on the Bellarmine campus, with the awards ceremony taking place in the Main Stage Theatre of the Sobrato Center for Humanities and the Arts, followed by a dinner in the Samuel A. Liccardo Center. Longtime Bellarmine faculty member Tom Alexander ’60 was the emcee, and the awards were presented by the school’s president, Chris Meyer.

The annual Bellarmine Hall of Fame is presented by the Office of Alumni Relations. For more information, visit online: www.bcp.org/BHOF

Legacy Giving

Benefactor: one that confers a benefit; one that makes a gift or bequest
Beneficiary: one that benefits from something: a person named to receive proceeds or benefits

As each semester nears its conclusion, I always take the opportunity to look back and reflect on all that has transpired during the past several weeks of that particular term. Since I teach seniors, the reflection back has a bittersweet feel. I know that the young men I have had the pleasure of teaching will be moving on to continue their educational journeys, but we will no longer have their youthful insight and questions to guide us as we continue our work here at Bellarmine. This spring my reflection had me contemplating the connection and relationship between benefactors and beneficiaries. I began to think about the connectivity between the two roles. A benefactor and a beneficiary really work together in an almost reciprocal kind of relationship. As I thought about the above definitions, I noticed that while I am the benefactor of knowledge (educational benefits) to my students, I am also the beneficiary of their insights, comments, suggestions, and good humor.

My connectedness with my students is a true blessing. My ability to give to them enables them to give back to me in ways in which they may not even be aware. I think that return gift, the more intangible one, is really what makes the benefactor-beneficiary relationship a special one. While I have joked with the boys that my job as a teacher in the classroom could easily be replaced by some talking head on a computer screen, it is that personal interaction between teacher and students (the “giving” from both sides) that makes the learning process a dynamic one benefiting both parties to this endeavor.

So, what does that mean from the planned giving perspective? Well, to my mind, that wonderful relationship between benefactor and beneficiary can be brought to bear when you generously enable us to continue the work we do, both inside and outside the classroom, to form the young men who spend four formative years on our campus. Your gift to us is truly appreciated, and we are only able to educate and achieve like we have done for so many years as the result of your thoughtfulness and commitment to Bellarmine. We are hopeful that what we do here on these 17+ wooded acres (actually more like 27 now), provides you with a sense of accomplishment as well, as we complete another year here at school. What our graduates accomplish out in the world mirrors the generosity you show us.

How can you participate in this dynamic connection between benefactor and beneficiary? Well, one of the simplest ways is to name Bellarmine as a beneficiary on a bank, brokerage, or retirement account. Similarly, you can include Bellarmine as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy. Creating a beneficiary designation is a relatively simple process that in most instances you can do on your own (even online sometimes) without a lot of hassle. As always, make sure you check with your estate lawyer or tax professional to make sure you are getting the most benefit from your gift.

To learn more about Planned Giving opportunities to support Bellarmine, please contact Bill Colucci, Esq. ’82, Director of Planned Giving, at 408.537.9279 or via email: bcolucci@bcp.org

You may also visit online: http://plannedgiving.bcp.org

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Members of the Bells track team made history on April 28, as Bellarmine became the first school in California and west of Ohio to win the High School Boys Distance Medley Relay at the Penn Relays.

The Penn Relays is the oldest and largest track and field competition in the United States, hosted annually since 1895 by the University of Pennsylvania at Franklin Field in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Historic Relay

Following the historic race, coach Patrick McCrystle conveyed, “Standing down on the infield after the race, looking at one of the most historic venues in track in the world, realizing that we are the first western team to ever win, that was pretty cool!”

As described by McCrystle, Meika Beaudoin-Rousseau ‘18, who competed despite being ill at the time, was knocked sideways after 200 meters, got spiked in the foot, and somehow managed to stay upright and fight his way to a 3:11.42 for the open-leg, the 1200 meters/3 laps. “He handed off to Tommy Rocha ‘17, who ran his fastest leg of the year, 50.41 in the 400,” noted McCrystle. Ben Micallef ‘17 gained the baton in 5th, about 70 meters behind the leader. “Alex’s last 200 will stay with me forever,” McCrystle continued, “his 50.61 in the 400, the fastest leg of the year, 50.41 in the 400.”

“An Evening with ‘Mr. Roadshow’” occurred March 29 at the Main Stage Theatre of the Sobrato Center for Humanities and the Arts on the Bellarmine campus.

Richards has covered traffic and transportation issues, featuring popular Mercury News columnist Gary Richards. “Mr. Roadshow” has become a household name in the Bay Area as “Mr. Roadshow” since 1992.

Andrew Tor ‘17 is among only 32 players nationwide to be named to the second United States Tennis Association (USTA) Junior Leadership Team, which recognizes the finest U.S. junior tennis players who exemplify leadership, sportsmanship, and character on and off the court. He is also one of two recipients of the prestigious 2017 Bill Talbert Junior Sportsmanship Award from the USTA, recognizing outstanding sportsmanship displayed in tournament play. At Bellarmine, Andrew, who has been ranked among the Top 150 18-and-under players in the USTA’s national rankings, was a captain, three-time Team MVP and WCAL First Team selection. Capping off Andrew’s honors this year was his receiving Bellarmine’s Robert Fatjo (Sportsmanship) Award, “presented to that student who has contributed significantly to Bellarmine Athletics through his leadership, example, and achievements on the field of competition. His leadership and example must also be evident in the Bellarmine community at large. He is also honored for the ideals of service and cooperation that Bellarmine hopes to inculcate in all its athletes.”
Class Notes

1960s

Tony Dugan '62 has been retired for 11 years after being with the League of California Cities for 35 years. A Sacramento resident for more than 40 years, he now divides his time "between 5 grandkids and a lot of volunteer community and church work, reading and travel."

1970s

Robert Flice '70 married Patty, cousin of his classmate, Greg Saldivar '70 on Oct. 29, 2016. After a two-week honeymoon on Maui, the couple resides in Gilroy, where Robert is about to retire from farming.

William Purcell '70, Thomas Purcell '73, Gregg Fiscelli '73, and James Purcell '74 were all selected to the International Water Polo Hall of Fame last year as part of the Olympic Club program.

Mark Evans '71 recently retired from the Valley Transit Authority after 36 years.

1980s

Thomas Miller '84 reports: "My kids sprung a surprise party for me last June, my 70th birthday. Took over the grounds at one of our local wineries, and we rocked it into the night! Hope my classmates had equally memorable celebrations!"

John Banister '82 recently retired from the California Highway Patrol after more than 26 years, finishing his career as a lieutenant and commander of the Gilroy Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Facility. He plans on taking a cross country road trip to see America, a desire he has had since high school.

Earl Koberlein '82 is a senior associate athletic director at Stanford University, having worked in Stanford Athletics the past 24 years. "Happy and proud to announce my twin sons, Will and Janson, have been accepted into the Bellarmine class of 2021."

Pat Quinn '83, by virtue of his role as NCGA President, was among the amateurs being off in the 2017 AT&T Pro-Am. Pat used the occasion to raise money for Youth on Course—the nationally acclaimed, non-profit that provides youth with access to life-changing opportunities through golf, of which he is a Board member. The idea for Quinn’s Brigade was hatched by Pat and his lifelong friend, Bill Baron ’81.

1990s

Christopher Kais '85 reports that he found the right one, marrying Lesley Kroupa on October 22 in the resort town Traverse City, Michigan where she was born. It was a great wedding weekend, with several other Bells in attendance: classmates Dave Couture '85, Mike Schneck '85, Pete Mazolewski '85, Mike Schneck '85, Pete Mazolewski '85, Sam Kais '85, and JP Scandalios '85, along with Christopher’s cousin Jeff Koarme ’83. For the past 33 years, Chris and Lesley have lived in New York City, where Chris is deputy general counsel and corporate secretary for Chubb Limited.

Dr. Rouzbeh Kordestani '84 was named as the newest member of the Board of Governors of the Tulane School of Medicine. He also recently completed his second ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro in February of this year (wearing yellow in photo).

2000s

John Hoppin '97 lives in east San Jose with his wife, Nomi, sons John-John and Konami Rose Hoppin, born June 1, 2016. John hosts the Questionable Traditions radio show on KFJC 89.7 FM.

David Maracas '89 has accepted a three-year appointment to the American Association of Physics Teachers’ Committee on Diversity in Physics. “I’ll help shape policy at the national level that will affect women, underrepresented minorities and LGBTQ people in physics and physics education.”
Michael Semanía '97 and Laura Martínez Semanía welcomed Arábel Franciscus to the world on September 27, 2015. Both Michael and Laura are Bellarmine faculty members.

Matt Tuttle '01 and wife, Katy, welcomed their third child, William Gary Tuttle, on January 6, 2016. Grant and his wife, Kristina, welcomed their second baby girl, Soline Rose Cassingham, into the world on November 23, 2016, at Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz, California. Grant, Kristina, and their daughters, Meridian and Selene, reside in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

1990s

Eric Maida '06 married Tiffany Mathis Aman on December 3, 2016, in New Orleans.

Dominic Luca '13 earned his degree from Chapman University, where he played football all four years and received recognition as the Chapman University 2016 Defensive Lineman of the Year.

Nicolaus Robinson '05 reports that, “Our son and future Bell, Noah John Robinson, was born March 29, 2017. He came 10 weeks earlier than expected due to his and his mom being near ended on the freeway. Both Mom (Lindsay) and Noah are doing great! We wanted to find out this sex and couldn't be more excited that our boy will get the same great high school experience that his dad had!”

Daniel Smith IV '05 and his wife, Nicole, are proud parents of their son, Daniel Smith V, born April 19, 2017.

Nicolas Robinson '05 reports that, “Our son and future Bell, Noah John Robinson, was born March 29, 2017. He came 10 weeks earlier than expected due to his and his mom being near ended on the freeway. Both Mom (Lindsay) and Noah are doing great! We wanted to find out this sex and couldn’t be more excited that our boy will get the same great high school experience that his dad had!”

Justin Rebohah ’11 is now an account executive at Empire Broadcasting in San Jose.

Ryan Arjan Khajasteh ’12 shares that, “Having come from Bellarmine and now having graduated Santa Clara, I take the two schools’ motto of being a man and woman for others, with competence, conscience, and compassion, very seriously. I believe this education, along with everything I’ve learned in life, has prepared me for a life dedicated to public service and playing my part in the world. In December, in the midst of my law school finals week, I testified before the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for an appointment to the Immigrant Rights Commission. I was honored and humbled to be recommended after my testimony, and then unanimously appointed by the full board.”

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Josh Burnough '04 & Nicholas Adams '03 visited Panama, where they visited 500 wheelchairs to individuals without mobility, in partnership with Rotary International and the Silicon Valley Chapter of the Wheelchair Foundation.

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Justin Rebohah ’11 is now an account executive at Empire Broadcasting in San Jose.

Ryan Arjan Khajasteh ’12 shares that, “Having come from Bellarmine and now having graduated Santa Clara, I take the two schools’ motto of being a man and woman for others, with competence, conscience, and compassion, very seriously. I believe this education, along with everything I’ve learned in life, has prepared me for a life dedicated to public service and playing my part in the world. In December, in the midst of my law school finals week, I testified before the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for an appointment to the Immigrant Rights Commission. I was honored and humbled to be recommended after my testimony, and then unanimously appointed by the full board.”

Dominic Luca '13 earned his degree from Chapman University, where he played football all four years and received recognition as the Chapman University 2016 Defensive Lineman of the Year.

Nicolaus Robinson '05 reports that, “Our son and future Bell, Noah John Robinson, was born March 29, 2017. He came 10 weeks earlier than expected due to the baby and the mom being near ended on the freeway. Both Mom (Lindsay) and Noah are doing great! We wanted to find out this sex and couldn’t be more excited that our boy will get the same great high school experience that his dad had!”

Daniel Smith IV '05 and his wife, Nicole, are proud parents of their son, Daniel Smith V, born April 19, 2017.
In Memoriam.

Fr. John Leo Flynn, S.J., passed away on October 11, 2016, at the age of 83. Fr. Flynn was born in Santa Monica, May 24, 1933. He attended Loyola High School, Los Angeles, where he lettered in football and tennis. After graduation, he entered the Jesuit novitiate at Los Gatos in 1951. He taught Latin and coached football and baseball at Loyola High, 1959-61, and made his theology studies at Alma College, Los Gatos, 1964-65. He was ordained a priest in Blessed Sacrament Church, Hollywood, on June 10, 1964. A year of teaching theology, and counseling students at St. Ignatius High School, San Francisco, was followed by stints as Vice-Principal at Bellarmine College Prep (1967-70) and Jesuit High School, Sacramento (1976-73). He returned to Bellarmine in 1973, where he was to spend the rest of his active ministry. He served as director of admissions, 1973-79, teacher of Latin, and assistant in Campus Ministry until 2005. He left the classroom that year but continued his work in Campus Ministry until 2008, when he retired to Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos.

Fr. Flynn will be remembered as being friendly and gregarious, and his colleagues found him to be a true and inspirational Jesuit who was willing to volunteer for less desirable assignments in the community.

Upon learning of the death of Fr. Flynn, Thomas Flowers, S.J. ’02, studying in Rome, wrote the following remembrance and poem, which we gratefully publish with his permission.

Reflections on John Flynn, S.J.

by Thomas Flowers, S.J.

John Flynn was my Latin teacher for two years at Bellarmine. Somewhere in the middle of my junior year, I stopped by his classroom after school to ask a question about the homework. After he answered, he reached under his podium and pulled out a tri-fold brochure with a bunch of smiling Jesuits on the cover. “Have you ever thought about being a Jesuit?” he asked me. The question terrified me. My answer was no, and all I really wanted was to get out of his classroom as quickly as I could. But before I could cobble together something politely dismissive to say, he held up his hand, “You don’t have to answer right now. But what I want you to do is take this brochure home. Put it under your pillow. Sleep on it.” I took the brochure from his hand and hurried away. I didn’t put the brochure under my pillow. I didn’t sleep on it. I prayed he would never bring the subject up again.

I wrote to John the week I entered the Jesuit novitiate, six years later. I still remember the opening words of the card he wrote me in response: “Woo-hoo! There is a God! And he listened!” A lot had happened in those six years, and I had thought about entering the Jesuits off and on over the years. But when I was ready, after all that I thought and agonized over, the reason I entered was simple. When I looked back at John Flynn and other Jesuits I had met at Bellarmine as a high school student, there was something about them. John was not my best teacher. I did not, then, know him in any traditional “priestly” capacity: he taught me Latin, and we had never talked about anything spiritual. But everything John did, he did as a Jesuit. I knew that. It was obvious. It radiated off of him. There was this centereness, this delight in being who he was, in loving his students, in doing what good he could do. And so, when I decided to enter the Jesuits, I did it because I wanted what he was having.

I lived in the same community with John for two months when I was a novice. I was missioned for one of my novice experiments to live and work at Sacred Heart Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, where John had recently moved because of health problems. It was a true privilege for me to get to know John as a brother Jesuit. I got to hear about his prayer and his joys, his past and his hopes, and so I was able to experience his humanity in ways I couldn’t have as a student. And I remember so vividly the times when he would tell a nurse or a guest or another Jesuit—“You see this young man here? Who do you think inspired him to enter the Jesuits?”

John took great delight in my vocation. And that was, and is, an incredible honor for me. Even when I visited him in his room in the infirmary, years later, and he was too tired to get out of bed, he was always so happy I was there. And I was so happy to be there. I was happy to be with John, and I was happy to be with him as a fellow Jesuit. Because all these years ago, when he told me he thought I’d make a good Jesuit, even in my embarrassment and confusion, I felt the power of the gesture. He was telling me that the thing he had devoted his life to, the thing that made him so wonderful, that made the ordinariness of his life extraordinary—"he thought I’d be good at that. And he wanted to share the joys of being a Jesuit with me. He did—and I am so grateful.

Welcome Here

by Thomas Flowers, S.J.

It could have been Thursday.
Another quip, another grin,
I might have been
Plebe and then forgotten

But I remember
Because that was when
Fr. Flynn invited me
Into the rest of my life

Playfully, as was his way,
Eyes alight
With mischief
And warmth

As he assured me
Without great deeds,
With no holy word

That it was being
A member of
Your least Society

That made his life
Make sense,
That made exquisite
The ordinary.
Stephen Kekoa Caban ’15, passed away on December 27, 2016, at the age of 20. He was the son of Bryan and the late Teresa Caban, and the brother of Alyssa. Born in Mountain View and raised in Santa Clara, Stephen attended St. Joseph of Cupertino School and continued his Catholic education at Bellarmine College Preparatory.

Stephen had a passion for ice hockey and was a member of the JVA Bellarmine Ice Hockey team. He received numerous awards on the ice hockey team, and won a championship in the spring of 2014. Bellarmine’s ice hockey team paid tribute to their former teammate on December 8, 2016, while Stephen was ill. In a ceremony held at SAP Center prior to their game against Valley Christian, the team honored Stephen’s passion for the game by retiring his jersey. The Sharks Foundation made the event possible through its Fight Cancer program. Teammates celebrated Stephen’s constant smile and the example he set for love of team. Although Stephen could not attend the tribute, his sister, Alyssa, said “Stephen would be speechless, he would be so excited, and he would say Go Bells! Most of all, he loves Bellarmine; this is his community and his life.”

James Robert “Jim” Blair passed away October 5, 2016, in Parker, Colorado, at the age of 72.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Donna Blair, his sons, Steve and Ron ‘89, and daughters-in-law Kathleen and Lisa, all of Parker, Colorado. He also leaves behind five grandchildren, one great-grandson, and two siblings.

Jim was a very successful real estate developer in the Silicon Valley and Denver areas, and served as a member of Bellarmine’s Board of Regents for many years, also serving as chair of the Physical Resources Committee and then as Board chair. In addition to making a difference at Bellarmine, Jim served on many other boards over the years including Santa Clara University, North Park College, First Covenant Church, and Heritage Bank.

Gerald Richard “Gerry” Graham, Sr. died on January 29, 2017, at the age of 97. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Allene, and children Gerry R. Graham, Jr. ‘64 (Paula); Nan Marie Graham (Carol); Jane Ann Graham; and Timmy Ann Lumbly (Butch); as well as 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Gerry was preceded in death by his youngest son, S. Reed Graham ’65; and his first wife, Jane.

He spent his first three years of high school at Oakland High School, then moved to Santa Clara to live with his aunt, where he graduated from Bellarmine College Prep. He earned a baseball scholarship from Santa Clara University, where he played two seasons on the varsity baseball team. Following his service in World War II, Gerry joined C.E. Reed Road Oil Company in San Jose, eventually forming a partnership with Ted Reed and then incorporating as Reed & Graham in 1955. In 1972, Gerry became president of Reed & Graham, Inc. and led the company as it participated in the building of Silicon Valley.

Gerry was a founder and member of the Board of Directors of Bank of Santa Clara, past president of the Board of Fellows of Santa Clara University, past president of the Board of Directors of Santa Clara Valley Youth Village, past president of the Serra Club of San Jose, and past president of the Bellarmine Board of Regents. Gerry also served on the Board of St. Elizabeth’s Day Home and as a Board member of La Rinconada Country Club.

As noted in his obituary, “Gerry was respected and cherished by everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. His love, honesty, and perseverance toward the greater good of others will persist to eternity. He lived with magnificent gratitude, humility and grace until his very last breath.”
In Memoriam (continued)

The Bellarmine Community joins in prayerful remembrance of alumni, family, and friends who have died.

ALUMNI

Craig S. Vetter '60 (April 10, 2017).
Patrick Hilliard '13 (April 1, 2017), Brother of Gerald '14 and Richard '17.
Daniel J. Desmond '15 (March 22, 2017), Brother of Denny '16.
Joseph-Clemente Santonato '41 (March 10, 2017).
Donald Joseph Jonick '50 (February 27, 2017).
Arden Alfred "Andy" Anderson '50 (February 14, 2017).
Paul R. Keen '46 (February 10, 2017).
Gerald Richard "Gary" Graham, Sr. '38 (January 29, 2017), Brother of Jerry, Jr. '64 and of the late Reed '65.
Bellarmine Regent emeritus.

Bruney M. Filice '54 (December 20, 2016).
Stephen Kekoa Caban '15 (December 27, 2016).
Joel Quartuccio '66 (January 9, 2017).

Marty King '74 (January 14, 2017).
Bellarmine Regent emeritus.

Paul R. Kevin Jr. '46 (February 10, 2017).
Donald Joseph Jozovich '50 (February 27, 2017).
Joseph Clarence Santana '41 (March 10, 2017).
Craig S. Vetter '60 (April 10, 2017).

Marty King '74 (January 14, 2017).
Son of the late Roland '42.

Brother of Michael '57.

Brother of Gerald '60 and Richard '70.

Brother of John '54 and James '60.

Brother of Rich '64 and Peter '65.

Brother of the late John Hassur '48.

Brother of Paul '66, Frank III '68, and David '73.

Brother of John '54, Louis '55, and James '60.

Brother of Walt '69, Jim '72, and Jack '78.

Brother of Anthony '54, Dorothy Sprugasci (February 21, 2017), Shellie Schmitt (February 27, 2017).
July 6–9, 2017
Bellarmine Alumni Theatre presents
“Swift Justice”
Sobrato Center for Humanities & the Arts

July 8, 2017
5-Year Reunion for the Class of 2012
Bellarmine Campus

July 22, 2017
22nd Annual Fr. Joe Costa, S.J. ’41
Bocce Ball Tournament Campo Di Bocce,
Los Gatos

August 22, 2017
Mass of the Holy Spirit
Classes Begin

August 26, 2017
Los Angeles Alumni Chapter Baseball Game
Dodger Stadium

September 8, 2017
36th Annual Football Tailgate
San Jose City College

September 8–9, 2017
Celebrating the Classes of 1972, 1977,
Bellarmine Campus

October 9, 2017
30th Annual Golf Classic
Cinnabar Hills Golf Course, San Jose

Bellarmine Alumni Theatre’s production of “Swift Justice” takes place July 6, 7, 8, and 9 at 7:30 p.m., with matinees on July 8 and 9 at 2:00 p.m.

As noted in the Fall 2016 edition of this publication, “Swift Justice” is a drama written by former San Jose Mayor Tom McEnery ’63 and his nephew, John McEnery ’86. Based on the book written by the late San Jose Mercury News reporter Harry Farrell, the story chronicles events surrounding the 1933 kidnapping and murder of young Brooke Hart, a Bellarmine alumnus and heir to the Hart’s Department Store family fortune.

The cast of the Bellarmine Alumni Theatre production includes: David Koppel ’89, Andrew Marks ’13, Alejandro Shylowisz ’16, Brendan McCall ’90, Amy Choice, Sophia Dobrushin, Dan Findrick ’87, Mark Maccora ’99, Keith Larson ’90, and Jack Jensen ’17.

Crew members include Maren Lane, technical director; Corinne Di Tullio, costume designer; Sofia Dobrushin, assistant director; Rick Bacigalupi ’80, documentarian; and Paul Bernal ’80, resident historian.

Tickets will be available online at: www.bcp.org. Proceeds benefit Bellarmine’s Direct Financial Aid Fund.

We are saddened by the passing of beloved teacher, director, friend, family man, and colleague, Tom Alessandri ’69. At press time, a decision was pending regarding “Swift Justice,” the play Tom had been preparing to direct. A tribute to Tom will be featured in the Fall edition of this publication.

Bellarmine Alumni Theatre presents “Swift Justice”
Cinnabar Hills Golf Course, San Jose
Bellarmine College Preparatory, San Jose

Supporting Bellarmine

Giving to Bellarmine College Preparatory

Your investment in Bellarmine helps to nurture and educate current students as well as future generations of “men for and with others.” We are grateful for your social, intellectual, spiritual, and financial support of our community.

Unrestricted gifts designated for The Bellarmine Fund provide essential resources to the annual operations budget beyond tuition; contributions to our Direct Financial Aid Fund are essential in our ability to provide tuition assistance to qualified families who have demonstrated financial need; and gifts to our Endowment help ensure the financial stability of this institution for years to come.

How may I give to Bellarmine?

Mail or drop off a check to:
Bellarmine College Preparatory
Development Department
960 West Hedding Street
San Jose, CA 95126

We also accept major credit cards, including Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover.
Make a donation online at: www.bcp.org/give or www.GoBells.org
Give appreciated securities. Transmittal forms and instructions are available online at: www.bcp.org/give
Double your gift with a corporate Matching Gift. Check with your company’s Human Resources office to see whether your employer offers a Matching Gift program, or visit www.matchinggifts.com/bcp

For additional information regarding Annual Giving, please contact
Brian Christensen, Director, Annual Giving: 408.537.9210
or via email at: bchristensen@bcp.org

Remember Bellarmine in your estate planning:

Leave a Lasting Legacy: Create a named fund in honor of yourself, a loved one, or your family, and know that your legacy will encourage additional support by others.

Tax Advantages: Gifts may qualify for an income tax deduction at the time the gift is made, a reduction of estate taxes, or avoidance of capital gains on gifts of appreciated assets.

Charitable Estate Planning: We encourage you to discuss your needs and goals with your attorney.

Membership in the Mater Dei Legacy Society: Those who designate bequest commitments or life insurance gifts to Bellarmine, or who fund a named Financial Aid or Program Endowment, are recognized as members of the Mater Dei Legacy Society and listed as such in the Annual Report of Giving. For more information, please contact Bill Colucci, Esq. ’82, Director, Planned Giving, at 408.537.9279 or via email: bcolucci@bcp.org
MISSION STATEMENT

Bellarmine College Preparatory is a community of men and women gathered together by God for the purpose of educating the student to seek justice and truth throughout his life. We are a Catholic school in the tradition of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the Founder of the Society of Jesus. As such, our entire school program is dedicated to forming “Men For and With Others” – persons whose lives will be dedicated to bringing all their God-given talents to fullness and to living according to the pattern of service inaugurated by Jesus Christ.