

Mount St. Mary Academy Family Connection

Volume 8, Issue 20

February 16, 2018

Volunteers Needed

MSM parents, can you offer a few hours of your time to help make our Chrysalis Dinner Auction a success? We're looking for the help of some Mountie moms and dads on the following dates:

- Wednesday, March 7 in the evening
- Thursday, March 8 in the evening (we could really use more dads for this date!)
- Saturday, March 10—Auction night!
- Sunday, March 11—morning clean-up

MSM students who need some extra service hours, or who just want to do a good deed, are also most welcome to help.

Please email Mrs. Julie Wojick at jwojick@msmacademy.org to sign up or with any questions you may have.

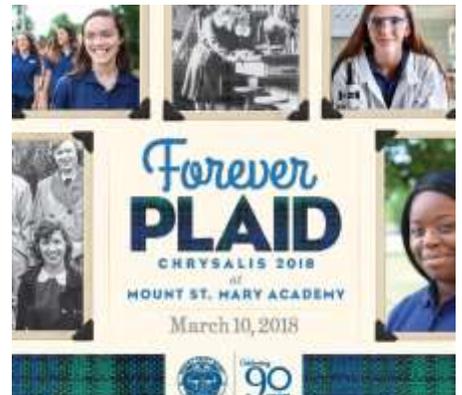


Chrysalis Auction is almost here!

Don't miss out on our Chrysalis Auction on Saturday, March 10!

Forever Plaid, hosted by Margaret Liegl Culliton '69, Megan Culliton Gomez '96, and Liz Culliton '00, promises a night of fun in support of our school.

Tickets are available now on our website at <https://www.msmacademy.org/ticket-purchase/>.

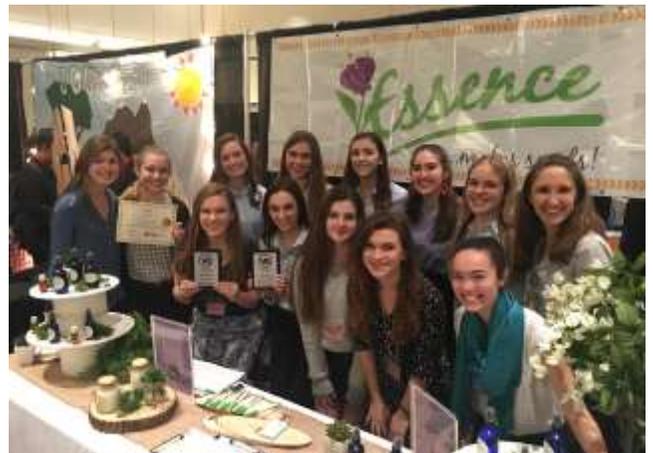


Entrepreneurs hit the west coast

Our Mountie entrepreneurs took their business on the road to compete in the Virtual Enterprises Los Angeles Area Conference and Exhibition this week. Our students, representing their business Essence, brought home top honors.

The team competed against 80 other student-businesses from schools throughout the United States. Essence placed third overall and received gold awards (placing third overall) for salesmanship and their elevator pitch. The team earned silver awards for branding, newsletter, and a commercial the students created. Student work on a detailed marketing plan, employee handbook, and impact marketing also earned top honors.

The trip was not all business for the students and their chaperones, Mr. **Tim O'Shei** and **Principal Mrs. Riggie**. The group met with Michael Healy, former Disney Channel executive, explored the Los Angeles area, and



even enjoyed surfing lessons.

Congratulations to members of Essence on representing Mount St. Mary so well: seniors Catherine Lippert, Julie Quebral, Hannah Schwallie, Amanda Thome, and Emma Winner; juniors Julia Barth, Hannah Fischer, Leah Giles, Annie Mack, Kristen Rider, and Erin Watson; and sophomores Ava Rosenecker and Chloe St. Laurent.

Join in the Fun!

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Upcoming Events

Re-Registration Due 2

Re-registration paperwork (including fee) is due by Friday, March 2. Please also remember that the financial aid application is due by Sunday, April 1.

No School 9

This is a reminder that students do not have school on Friday, March 9 as we prepare for our Chrysalis Auction.

Month at a Glance

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Mid-winter break						
25	26	27	28	1	2	3
			Spirit Wear Day		Jeans Day Bake Sale Blood Drive	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Jesuit Excellence Tour		No School	Chrysalis Auction

Guidance Website

Parents, don't forget to check our very informative Guidance and Counseling page on the MSM website for valuable information on college fairs, summer programs, and volunteer opportunities, as well as information about our upcoming career speaker series.

This website provides information about upcoming events including the National College Fair, which will be held on Wednesday, March

21 from 6 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Buffalo Convention Center (registration information is on our website) and the Tech Savvy program at UB, on March 17 (registration is due February 28).

You can access our site by going to the MSM website, msmacademy.org, click on "Academics" and then "Guidance and Counseling Department." Please check it out!

Collecting Pop Tabs

Clarice Scarpace '19 is collecting pop can tabs for Ronald McDonald House. Please save your pop tabs and bring them to the Main Office.



Dear Parents:

In light of recent events in Florida, I would like to remind you of our building security and safety measures. We take our building security very seriously and are consistently working to keep our **procedures up to date. Your daughter's safety, as well as that of our staff, is of utmost importance** to us.

Mount St. Mary is equipped with both closed circuit cameras and an electronic entry system. We have cameras at each of the three main entry points to our building. The main console for these cameras is in our main office and is monitored all day. In order for visitors to gain entry to the building, they must ring the doorbell and be admitted by the office staff. All doors into our building are locked, and students and staff are able to enter the three monitored doors at limited times using a fob. Other doors are not accessible for entry and are always locked to outside visitors.

While there are regular, daily visitors who come to Mount St. Mary, such as the US Postal carrier, and UPS or FedEx delivery personnel, there are also parents and occasional unknown visitors. Every effort is made to properly identify each visitor to ensure the safety and security of all. When in question, our maintenance personnel are instructed to attend to the person requesting access to our building. In addition, our staff keep a vigilant eye on all entry and exit points.

As a school community, we have been trained in proper lockdown procedures and emergency evacuation procedures. We are within the jurisdiction of the Town of Tonawanda police department, whose staff have reviewed our procedures and have familiarized themselves with our building. Shortly, they will be conducting additional training for their staff within our building.

New York State requires schools to hold twelve emergency drills annually and stipulates that **eight are held in fall and four in spring. Of the eight in fall, four must be "lock-down" drills. The lock down** drills are inclusive of issues such as an active shooter scenario, unidentified person in the building, medical emergency, or any type of disturbance where we would want to mitigate activity within our building. MSM is in full compliance with New York State regulations on this issue.

Annually our administrative and maintenance staff attend school safety training sessions, held by a variety of governmental and law enforcement agencies. We have made it a priority to stay informed and well-versed on these issues, and we have worked with the appropriate agencies to ensure that our emergency procedures and safety plan follow established best practices.

We know that your daughter is precious to you, just as she is to us. Please be assured that we work hard every day to keep her safe while she is in school.

Should you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact me directly at drig-gie@msmacademy.org or 877-1358 ext. 155.

Sincerely,

Dawn M. Riggie '71
Principal