

# WOMEN *of* VISION



**Living the mission.  
Servant leaders.**

Rosanna (Violi) Hoelzle '03  
Jenny (Conrad) Swope '83  
Gayle (Brennan) Beier '93



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#### **Mission Statement**

Notre Dame Academy, a Catholic college preparatory school for young women, educates in the tradition, vision, and principles of the Sisters of Notre Dame. We empower students to be intellectually curious, passionately faith-filled, and socially responsible servant leaders.

#### **Vision Statement**

In the spirit of the Gospel, we foster globally minded women of vision who are Bold, Brilliant, Beautiful, and Blessed.

>  
**Artwork**

Edda Wehry '27

*Sr. Julie Billiart -*

*The reason I am in  
the USA today.*



# Fueling our mission.

DEAR ALUMNAE AND FRIENDS OF NDA,



As we welcome a new calendar year, we pause to reflect on the many ways Notre Dame Academy continues to be blessed. This time of the year invites us to look ahead with hope and renewed purpose as we continue our mission of empowering young women. We are excited to share the meaningful progress taking place at NDA and the many ways our students, faculty, alumnae, and friends are carrying our legacy forward.

We are thrilled to share another milestone in NDA's story: the addition of a 6th grade class to our Junior Academy. This expansion allows us to welcome students even earlier in their academic journeys and offer them the benefit of an all-girls, faith-centered education during some of their most formative years. By beginning their NDA experience in 6th grade, students will have even more time to grow intellectually, spiritually, and socially within an environment designed to nurture confidence, curiosity, leadership, and belonging. We look forward to seeing how this new path strengthens our school community and supports the development of future *women of vision*.

NDA's 6th grade initiative serves as a powerful reminder that everything we do at NDA is centered on our students — the young women who spend their middle and high school years with us and graduate as intellectually curious, passionately faith-filled, socially responsible servant leaders. Their growth is made possible by the dedication, innovation, and support of our administration, faculty, and extended community.

As we begin this new year with hope and purpose, we are inspired by the ongoing commitment of those who walk alongside Notre Dame Academy. Your involvement helps fuel our mission and continue the legacy built by generations of alumnae, parents, and friends.

With each new student we welcome, and every young woman we embolden, we honor those who came before us and invest in the promise of those yet to come. Thank you for walking with us on this journey — together, we are shaping the future, one young woman at a time.

In Notre Dame,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Grilliot".

Kim Grilliot  
President

## Jenny (Conrad) Swope '83

# Tradition never Graduates

As the new year begins, alumna Jenny (Conrad) Swope '83 is also stepping into a new role—as Chair of the Notre Dame Academy Board of Trustees. A Board member since 2018, Jenny began her two-year term as Chair this school year.

**A** career cardiac nurse, Jenny returned to northwest Ohio in 2014 after years of moving for her husband Brian's career. Her reconnection with NDA began through a family scholarship established in memory of her sister, Carol (Conrad) Gabelman '80, supporting Gesu School students attending NDA. This renewed connection led Jenny to begin volunteering at NDA in 2017.

Since then, Jenny has co-chaired NDA's 2023–28 Strategic Planning initiative, working closely with President Kim Grilliot.

**NDA alumnae are living the mission as servant leaders, giving back to their alma mater.**



Jenny (Conrad) Swope '83  
Board Chair

Gayle (Brennan) Beier '93  
(left) Finance Committee  
Chair and Board Vice Chair

Rosanna (Violi) Hoelzle '03  
(right) is Advancement  
Committee Chair,  
Board Member

As Board Chair, her focus includes implementing the Strategic Plan, overseeing financial health, addressing enrollment and demographics, and supporting the introduction of a 6th grade.

"NDA has strong leadership guiding the school day to day," Jenny explains. "The Board's role is to oversee, guide, and ensure excellence."

Jenny is committed to engaging Board members more deeply in school life and strengthening formation in the charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame. Above all, she keeps the focus on NDA students, encouraging them to be present and enjoy each moment.

She also invites alumnae to return, mentor, and serve. "At the time we were students, I don't think we realized the value of our education, and the gift it was to us," she reflects. "Giving back to NDA allows us, as alums, to pay it forward." she reflects.

# Kairos. God's time.

**A powerful retreat centered on community, prayer, reflection, and shared witness.**



## Do NDA seniors still go on Kairos retreats?

**T**his is one of the most common questions alumnae ask – and the answer is a resounding yes.

Since the early 1990s, NDA seniors have participated in Kairos, a powerful retreat centered on community, prayer, reflection, and shared witness. Kairos, a Greek word meaning “God’s time,” invites seniors to grow spiritually and personally as they prepare for life beyond high school.

In recent years, Kairos has been led by seniors enrolled in NDA’s Catholic Leadership Seminar, a theology elective.

Uniquely, these student leaders guide the retreat without having previously attended Kairos themselves – experiencing it alongside their classmates for the first time.

“We experience it together,” shares Hayden Johnson ’26, “which makes leading our classmates especially meaningful.”

Payton Shively ’26 adds that this shared experience fosters honesty and vulnerability, strengthening relationships.

**“We experience it together...”**

For Julia Chryst ’26, the retreat models servant leadership through humility and connection.

Kaitlyn Morrow ’26 was moved by the depth of relationships formed through shared witness talks, while

Abby Beier ’26 found the experience most powerful in “seeing God in my classmates, especially those whose lives may not look like mine.”

Kairos continues to be a defining, faith-filled experience for NDA seniors – one that brings the class closer together at a pivotal moment in their journey.

## Servant Leaders

# To serve.

**N**otre Dame Academy's mission promises to empower young women to become intellectually curious, passionately faith-filled, and socially responsible servant leaders.

Servant leadership means leading through service: sharing power, putting others first, and helping others grow. At NDA, leadership is not about authority, but about responsibility to one another.

That philosophy comes to life through the stories of NDA alumnae.

Together, these stories reflect NDA's enduring truth: leadership rooted in faith and service has the power to transform lives.



**Isabel Nester '21** discovered servant leadership through mentorship—both receiving it and offering it. As she pursues a career in medicine, Isabel is driven by service at the intersection of science and compassion. “The harder your leaders and mentors work, the more successful the whole team becomes,” she shares. As a first-generation medical student, she now mentors younger students, carrying forward the support she once received.

Her sister, **Julia Nester '23**, leads by putting others first—creating inclusive spaces where people feel valued. “NDA shaped how I think about leadership,” Julia says. “It’s not about being in charge, but helping others grow.” She draws inspiration from Christ’s humility and carries that mindset into daily life.



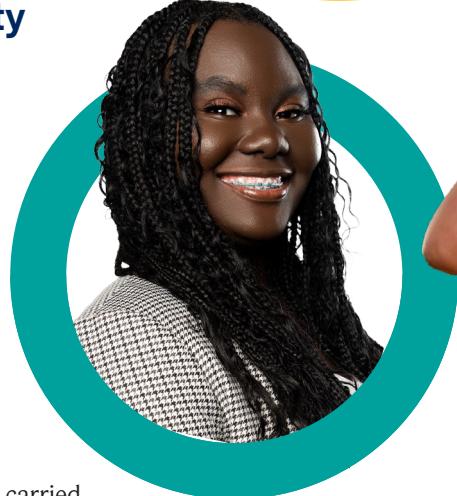
**Erin Dixon '95**, managing director at Golden Seeds, shifted from real estate development to angel investing to support women-led companies. She credits NDA with instilling collaboration and integrity. “It’s one thing to have a seat at the table, but another to have a voice,” Erin reflects. “NDA gives young women the foundation to use that voice.”



**Bonnie-Jean Chudzinski '93**, a Catholic educator for more than 25 years, servant leadership means steady presence and quiet service. “True leadership is measured not by authority, but by willingness to serve,” she says — a lesson shaped by formative service experiences at NDA.



## Responsibility to one another



**Nyla Brown '20** has carried servant leadership into public service, public health, and medicine. From government work to graduate studies in narrative medicine, Nyla leads with empathy, purpose, and faith. “Leadership isn’t about being the loudest voice,” she says. “It’s about sincerity, courage, and kindness.”

**Leading through service—  
sharing power, putting  
others first, and helping  
others grow.**



**Kyndra Gaines '15** has dedicated her career to public health, equity, and community leadership. From DEI work to leading the NDA Black Alumnae Association, she continues to create spaces of belonging and connection for future generations.



Scan to read more  
about these alumnae  
servant leaders or go to:  
[NDA.org/alum](http://NDA.org/alum)

## Student Spotlight



**Most high school seniors are busy with college applications, class work, and taking the SAT or ACT.**

**Rhiannon Zenz '26 is busy with those things, too. But she's also busy working toward getting her private pilot's license.**





# The sky's the limit.

"I have just one more requirement to fulfill – a solo, cross-country flight of 150 nautical miles," she shares.

Rhiannon's parents are behind her all the way. "Although my mom has said to me – you just learned to drive, and now you're flying," she laughs.

Already, Rhiannon has completed a three-month ground school course, taken flight lessons, and even flown her first solo flight. Her goal is to complete the multi-hour test to earn her pilot's license in January 2026, a full four months before she graduates from NDA.

"I've always been somewhat of an adrenaline junkie, and I've always wanted to travel," says Rhiannon. "Flying combines the two for me."

Although she's well on her way to earning her pilot's license, Rhiannon plans to attend Bowling Green State University after graduation from NDA, continuing her education in the BGSU School of Aviation. Her ultimate goal is to become an Airline Transport Pilot and work for a major airline.

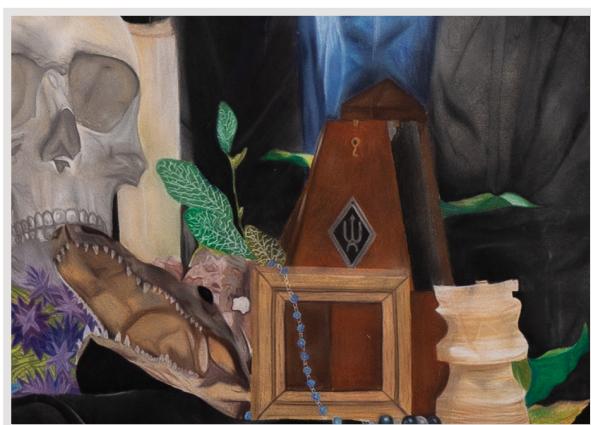
"I'm very proud of what I've been able to do so far, and I'm grateful for my parents' support," she shares. "Flying is the hardest thing I've ever done, but it's also the best thing I've ever done."

Art is life.

**T**he Mady Niles '21 Art Walk is in full bloom, turning NDA's campus into a dynamic gallery of student artwork and creativity.

From bold paintings to delicate drawings, each piece offers a fresh perspective, inspiring everyone who stops to explore.

Artwork rotates throughout the year, showcasing the talents of students from every grade and art course.



## Advancement

# Making a difference!

Three simple ways you can make an impact today.

### Mad for Plaid

NDA's only all-school fundraiser is coming up on Friday, February 27, at NDA!

2026 marks the 10th year of Mad for Plaid! Over the past decade, we have welcomed nearly 3,000 guests to Mad for Plaid and raised more than **\$2.1 million** to support scholarship, programs, and the overall education of young women at Notre Dame Academy.

It's time to get your tickets and break out your plaid – and join alumnae, parents, and friends to support the NDA students and community.

You also won't want to miss the 2026 Notre Dame Academy Alumnae Hall of Fame induction ceremony, which takes place at Mad for Plaid.

**Get your tickets today at [NDA.org](https://NDA.org)!**



### NDA's SGO



Did you know that you can **CHOOSE how your state tax dollars are spent** by contributing to NDA's SGO, or Scholarship Granting Organization?

You can reduce your Ohio state tax liability by making a donation to NDA's SGO. The amount you owe the state of Ohio will be reduced by the amount of your donation, dollar for dollar, up to \$750 for single filers, or \$1,500 for a married couple filing jointly.

Donation is simple – just visit [NDA.org/sgo](https://NDA.org/sgo), or scan the QR code. Keep the acknowledgment letter you receive from NDA, and submit it with your state of Ohio tax return.



It's time to put your tax dollars to work and providing opportunities for young women in northwest Ohio to become **BOLD, BRILLIANT, BEAUTIFUL** and **BLESSED** at NDA.

### Trish Sanders Stage Dedication Project



If you were one of the young women lucky enough to sit in Mrs. Sanders' classroom, you know the kind of teacher she was. For more than 36 years, **Mrs. Trish (Beazley) Sanders '71** devoted her life to NDA – not just teaching, but empowering every student to discover her gifts and believe in herself. Her impact lives on in every alumna who still carries that confidence through life today.

To carry her legacy forward, NDA is proud to announce the Trish Sanders Stage Dedication Project, which will:

- *Install new curtains and motorized tracks to enhance performances in the NDA Performing Arts Center.*
- *Upgrade the sound system in the theater, so every student voice can be heard.*
- *Add permanent signage naming the stage in her honor.*

By supporting this project and making a gift at [NDA.org](https://NDA.org), you can help ensure that future generations of NDA students will learn, grow, and shine on the Trish Sanders Stage.



## The Sisters of Notre Dame

# SHINE

The Sisters of Notre Dame hosted the 4th annual SHINE Women's Summit, connecting 450+ women across all faiths, ages and backgrounds to live out what it means to **SHINE – Support, Honor, Inspire, Nurture and Empower.**

The theme – *The Power of Creativity* – highlighted the transformative ways women shape the world through art, innovation, and imagination. NDA alumna and actress, director, writer and producer **Katie Holmes '97** was featured in a keynote conversation.

The 2025 Women Who SHINE were honored for their leadership and commitment to serving others, including **Regina Jankowski '89**, a passionate educator with more than 35 years of experience in early childhood education and the visual arts. Regina serves as a Museum Educator at the Toledo Museum of Art, where she manages the Family Center – a free, interactive art studio and play space designed to engage children and their caregivers in hands-on creative exploration.

**Sr. Carol Gregory SND '58** addressed the sold-out crowd.

“For the Sisters of Notre Dame, creativity is more than art – it’s a way of responding to the needs of the times with imagination and hope. When women embrace their creative power, they become catalysts for transformation in families, communities and the world.”

Proceeds from the SHINE Women's Summit will help fund the ministries of the Sisters of Notre Dame.



**NDA students served as SHINE ambassadors.**

*Above: Pictured L to R: NDA Vice President of Advancement Tolani Afolabi, Mylee Rochelle '26, Laine Shinaberry '27, Emma St. Pierre '27, Marla Morris '27, Claire Ma '26, and NDA President Kim Grilliot*

*Right: Sr. Regina Fisher '81, Provincial Councilor for SND USA Toledo, presented the 2025 Women Who SHINE Nurture award to Regina Jankowski '89*



**Featured speaker Katie Holmes '97 was welcomed by Sr. Carol Gregory SND '58 (left) and Sr. Sally Bohnett SND (right)**

# Leaders in Athletics & Life!

NDA's SportsLeader program integrates Catholic virtues into athletics, inspiring NDA athletes and coaches to grow in their faith through weekly activities, team retreats, and meaningful ceremonies.

NDA launched SportsLeader in 2016, and remains the only school in northwest Ohio to offer this unique program.

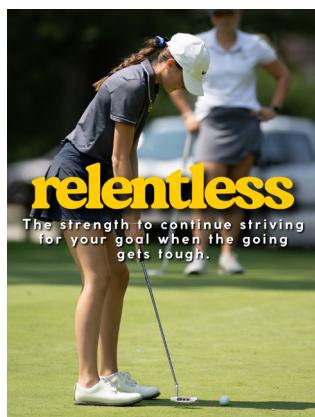
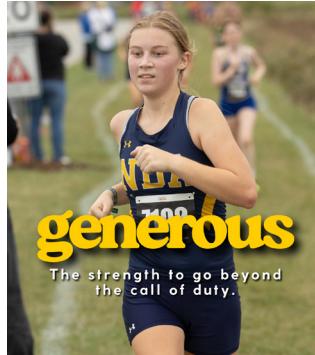
“SportsLeader is such a powerful program,” shares **Samantha Moscinski '17**, assistant athletic director at NDA. “It encourages our student-athletes to become leaders and also teaches them about Catholic virtues.”

Each week, a different virtue is shared with coaches and athletes, and the teams decide how to incorporate that virtue into their practices and competitions. Virtues such as, “Generous,” “Relentless,” “Heroic,” and “Considerate,” provide opportunities for reflection and introspection.

Stephanie Egan, NDA's head cross country and track & field coach, loves how SportsLeader reminds the athletes, “that they are blessed to be able to do the sport we love with one another and our faith,” she shares.

Coach Stephanie incorporates the weekly virtue to allow the athletes to put their faith into action in their sport.

“I choose [student] leaders each week, and they read the prayer of the week and challenge their teammates to embody that virtue,” she explains. “This can be done through discussion, journaling, or highlighting something a teammate did to represent that virtue.



“It provides an opportunity for them to recognize each other for the little things they do and reminds us all that it's bigger than the sport. It's about working together in a faith-filled team to accomplish a common goal.”

In the SportsLeader program, every season begins with a retreat, where athletes learn about their faith and the virtues, as well as meet other girls on their teams, and begin to develop relationships with one another.

Toward the end of each season, a moving Letter Ceremony is celebrated by each team. During the Letter Ceremony, each athlete reads aloud a personal letter to her mother, and is read a letter from her father, with her entire team there to support her and witness the occasion.

“Listening to the girls as they share, and let themselves be a little vulnerable, has a very strong impact on them,” explains Samantha. “It can surprise them, in good and positive ways.”

## What's up around campus

# StudentLife

### Connecting Kids to Meals

For the second year in a row, NDA kicked off the school year with a day of service with Connecting Kids to Meals!

We packed 3,000 bags of food and created over 5,400 cards of encouragement to spread hope & joy.



### Fall Musical The Addams Family



The Fall Musical was extra spooky with The Addams Family rolling into town.



## Viva Carlo & Pier Giorgio

We celebrated the canonization of Carlo Acutis & Pier Giorgio Frassati with a night full of faith and fun! Students enjoyed video games and lawn games in the spirit of these new saints, and then gathered together for Adoration with praise and worship with students from the other local Catholic high schools.



Congratulations to Elise Busse '26 (L) & Zoe VanOrden '26 (R)



## National Merit Scholarship Program

Elise Busse '26 was named a semifinalist for the National Merit Scholarship Program and represents less than 1% of U.S. high school seniors. Elise earned one of the highest scores in her state.

Zoe VanOrden '26 was named a National Merit Commended Student for her performance in the PSAT last fall. Commended students are identified as earning the top 50,000 scores in the nation of over 1.3 million juniors who took the test last fall.

## Celebrating 175 Years

From 1850 to 2025 and beyond — this year's Founder's Day celebrated 175 years of the Sisters of Notre Dame's vision that continues to inspire NDA.

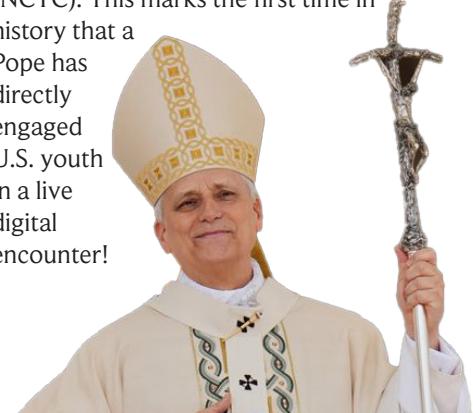


## Father-Daughter Dance

A night full of tropical smiles and lasting memories! Our NDA fathers and daughters danced the night away at this year's Luau-themed Father Daughter Dance.

## Pope Leo XIV

NDA girls joined Pope Leo XIV's digital dialogue with young people during the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC). This marks the first time in history that a Pope has directly engaged U.S. youth in a live digital encounter!



## Athletics

# EAGLES WINNING

## Sports Teams Triumphs

Fall Athletics was a competitive season for the NDA athletics program. We are so proud of our student-athletes in their commitment to being mighty on and off the playing field.



### Varsity Golf

Individual OHSAA State Tournament Qualifier

**MACY VALENTINE '26**

### Varsity Cross Country

CHSL Finalist & Team OHSAA Regional Qualifiers!

### Varsity Soccer

Head Varsity Coach  
Chip Smith  
NWOSSCA Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity Award

### NDJA Cross Country

CYO Championship  
Runner-ups

### Varsity Tennis

Northwest Ohio Catholic Girls Tennis League  
Runner-up



### Varsity Tennis Doubles Team

OHSAA State Tournament Qualifiers & OTCA 2nd Team All Ohio

Nora Johnson '26 and Emily Mayhall '29

### Varsity Volleyball

OHSAA District Runner-up

### JV Volleyball

CHSL Champs

### Rowing

Head of the Hooch  
Doubles Boat  
Julia Chryst '26 and Tess Luebke '26

### NDJA Cross Country

CYO Championship  
Runner-ups

### CYO Outstanding High School Athlete Award

Cross Country  
Jenna Chryst '26  
Soccer  
Sarah Hitts '26  
Volleyball  
Morgan Smith '26

### CHSL Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award Nominee

Cross Country  
Violet Gies '26  
Golf  
Macy Valentine '26  
Volleyball  
KylieEmma Obeto '26

## NDA COMMITTS

**Tess Luebke '26**  
University of Toledo  
Rowing

**Lauryn Hancock '26**  
Cleveland State University  
Soccer



# NDA ON THE ROAD



CLEVELAND, OHIO

L to R

Lily Ogradowksi '25  
Maria Babula '84  
Vontyna (Liggins) Smith '92  
Bridgette (Langhals) Dempsey '89  
Rebecca (Roman) Jenkins '89  
Kaetlyn (Veluscek) Stankie '10  
Melanie (Egan) Ogradowksi '93



ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

L to R

Dee Dee (Henzler) Eberle '88  
Tolani Afolabi, VP of Advancement  
Julie (Matzinger) Murray '98  
Elise (Seiwert) Conner '04  
Beatrix Randolph '16  
Kim Grilliot, President



COLUMBUS, OHIO

Clockwise from left

Karen (Kuhlman) Vaeth '74  
Sharon Ockuly '74  
Tolani Afolabi, VP of Advancement  
Christiana Jefferson-McKey '15  
Marissa (Camacho) DeJesus '92  
Barbara (Backus) Roshon '79  
Olivia (Wilson) Spencer '97  
Lindsay Fork '97  
Melanie (Egan) Ogradowksi '93  
Megan Henry '14  
Gail (Vascik) Hogan '74  
Lynsay Bensman '00

## Class Notes

# EagleWatch

## 1950s



**Sisters and alumnae Sharon (Maher) Schweickert '53 (left) and Susan (Maher) Speweik '57 love reminiscing about their days at NDA!**

## 1970s



**Sr. Mary Ann Culpert SND '75, along with members of the Sisters of Notre Dame congregation, was blessed to meet Pope Leo XIV. Sr. Mary Ann has been serving in Rome as Superior General of the Congregation since 2022.**

**Sandra (Loeffler) Fay '70** shares that she has been retired since October 2018 - and she's loving it! She loves spending time with her 16-year-old grandson, Eli, and watching him play rugby, even though she's still learning the game. She spends as much time as she can with her family, traveling with her daughter and grandson.

**Clara (Conner) Petty '75** leads the Savvy Seniors Travel Group - helping senior citizens stay active once they retire. Clara never set out to be a travel curator, and Savvy Seniors is not just about travel experiences. It's about relationships, and rewriting the story of aging, showing that life doesn't slow down at 60, instead, it simply changes lanes. "Travel is so good for your mental health," Clara says. "It reduces stress. It's what allows you to take a step back from your daily routine and view the world in new ways. And when you do it with friends, it makes the journey that much sweeter."



## 1980s

**Wendi Huntley '83** (center) was recognized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals as the Outstanding Fundraising Professional at this year's National Philanthropy Day celebration. Wendi is the President and CEO of Connecting Kids to Meals (CKM). CKM provided 600,000 healthy meals to kids last year, and has been feeding hungry children in NW Ohio for 24 years. Wendi's NDA classmates, **Barbara (Beham) Thomas '83** (left) and **Jenny (Conrad) Swope '83** (right) joined in the celebration!



# 1990s

**Erin (Cullum) Kramer '92** was elected to an at-large seat on Toledo City Council and sworn in on January 2, 2026. Erin has been a community activist for many years, dedicated to keeping neighborhoods safe. She also has volunteered for many local and national political campaigns in the past, and even completed her senior project in 1992 by shadowing at Congresswoman Mary Kaptur's office! Erin is excited to make a positive difference in the City of Toledo.



**Sarah (Gospodarek) Nadolny '99** was the honored breast cancer survivor celebrated at the 2025 Northwest Ohio Race for the Cure. Sarah shared that she carries the values instilled in her at Notre Dame Academy every day, and she's proud to be part of a community that continues to uplift and support one another.



# 2000s

**Taylor Balderas-Burciaga '01** received the 2025 Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Award from the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission for her leadership in community engagement and cultural enrichment, including her work as Executive Director of the Sofia Quintero Art & Cultural Center and more than 15 years of nonprofit service in Toledo.



**Anneke Kurt '02** wrote and released her memoir, *Heard: Risk, Ramen, and the Recipe That Rewrote My Life*.

The self-published book shares how one decision shifted the course of her life: her choice to help open Kato Ramen with her sister Amanda (Kurt) Kato '04 and her sister's husband, Kengo. Anneke also serves as the corporate manager of Kengo Sushi & Yakitori, Kato Ramen, and Papa Kato's Karaage in Toledo's Warehouse District.



Photo courtesy of THE BLADE/DANIEL CARLSON.

**Megan DeLaney '03** ran her second Boston Marathon last April. She finished in 3:19:14, her fastest time of the 13 marathons she has run! Her husband Brad also raced, and Megan's family came out to Boston to cheer her on. (Her sister, Erin DeLaney '01, is pictured far right). Megan is no stranger to Boston or the final miles of the marathon course. She spent several years teaching in Boston's inner city Catholic schools and earning her Master of Education from Boston College. Back then, Megan was

just starting out as a runner and never dreamed she'd be fast enough to run the iconic Boston Marathon. She said of her race, "I ran with pure adrenaline and joy once I hit Boston College at mile 21, and all the roads leading into the city were familiar to me. Crossing the finish line with a personal record on one of the country's most tactical and historical courses was something I'll always be in awe of doing." Megan lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, with her husband and is currently in her 19th year of teaching.



## Class Notes

## 2000s

**Meagan Jackson '04** was hooded in a doctoral ceremony and graduated with a 4.0 GPA from Bay Path University in Massachusetts. Her degree is Doctor of Health Science, concentrating in Health Informatics Management. A fun fact she shares: Bay Path offers an all-female undergraduate program on its campus!



**Brianne (Dokurno) Ridgeway '05** was appointed and sworn in to the Macomb County 16th Judicial Circuit Court as a Court Case Manager. Brianne earned her Juris Doctorate (J.D.) from The University of Toledo, College of Law in 2013.

## 2010s

**Congratulations to Becca (Gerken) Cherpak '11, who received the Student Choice Staff Member of the Year Award for her work as the Coordinator for Student Engagement at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs. Becca works with their student clubs, organizations, and fraternities and sororities. Becca's recognition was one of just two official University Awards that was nominated and awarded by students.**



**Crystal Greenage '14** is the new Department of Catholic Education Administrative Assistant serving the Diocese of Toledo. She graduated from Rosary Cathedral School and Notre Dame Academy, and also earned her degree from State University of New York and lived in NYC for several years prior to returning to the Toledo area.



Artwork designed by **Zahra Amin '16** is being featured on the electrical boxes in Streetsboro, Ohio, where she lives. Zahra shares that “the artwork is places and motifs important to Ohio in a style evoking stained glass mosaic art” to represent Toledo, a bridge from Cuyahoga National Park, and a cardinal, buckeye leaves, and corn to represent Ohio.

When **Ali Rose Hotz '14** (right) performed at the Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, SC, she was amazed to learn that one of the dancers was a fellow NDA alumna, **Sophia Brodin '15** (left)! Ali Rose shares that it was great to catch up and talk about NDA and Toledo.

*“I often go to gigs and see people I know from college or grad school or past performances, but I’ve never seen someone from high school. It was so exciting!”*





**Emily Kraus '16** was accepted into the Themed Experience master's program at the University of Central Florida. Over the next two years, she will be learning from the best in the business in the heart of Orlando. The program teaches unique creative skills, processes and concepts used to design and produce theme parks, zoos, aquariums, themed retail, dining, museums, virtual worlds, and exhibitions.

**Christina DuPree '17** graduated from the University of Toledo with her Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

**Mariella Quintero '17** earned her bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Toledo. She works as a nuclear engineer for Newport News Shipbuilding in Virginia.



**Julianna Sim '17 and her aunt Rowena Sim '80** were featured in *The Blade* in an article about their family's medical legacy. Julianna graduated with her Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Toledo College of Medicine in May and began her Internal Medicine residency at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit in June.

**Carol Ann Wedding '17** graduated from the University of Toledo with a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering.



**Emily Goodyear '18** celebrated a remarkable milestone - earning her Doctor of Pharmacy from The University of Toledo on May 3, 2025, which also happened to be her birthday! Emily was selected by her peers to serve as the commencement speaker at the graduation ceremony. The next step in Emily's professional journey is starting her pharmacy residency at the Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center in Ann Arbor.



**Kathryn Rex '19** was awarded a three-year US National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship to study shoulder biomechanics - specifically rotator cuff tears and surgical repair. "A lot of times when people get a rotator cuff tear, they change how they move their shoulder because of it," Kathryn said. "We're trying to see if those abnormal patterns persist after surgery, and if that might be one of the reasons the repairs fail." Kathryn is a doctoral candidate in the Penn State College of Engineering's Department of Biomedical Engineering.

**Emily Vining '19** graduated from the University of Toledo with her master's degree in Environmental Sciences.

**Madeline Vining '19** is working toward her Doctor of Law - JD degree at the University of Cincinnati, with plans to graduate in May 2027.

## 2020s

**Reagan Root '20** graduated from Xavier University with her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. She now works at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona.

**Adele Puhl '27** celebrated Junior Induction and showed off her new class ring with her Aunt Kathleen Puhl '95 (left) and Great Aunt Mary (Puhl) Moran '59



## Our Eagle Family is Growing

## EaglesNest

**Krystal-Ann Tackett '04** and Joseph Muranyi, Jr. welcomed a daughter, Raelin Jaine

**Erika (Miller) Volker '04** and Jay Volker welcomed a son, Maverick Paul

**Elizabeth (Brownson) Fuhrman '06** and Drew Fuhrman welcomed a son, Samuel Drew

**Mallory (Myers) Holliday '06** and Spike Holliday welcomed a son, Klay Felix



**Kathryn (Young) Burton '08** and Samuel Burton welcomed a son, James Aloysius



**TaTiana Sanders '08** and Ryan Smith welcomed a son, Atlas

**Rebecca (Todak) Schmidt '08** and Brian Schmidt welcomed a son, Alexander Michael

**Sara McComish '09** and Matt Connolly welcomed a daughter, Everett Cait

**Haley (Phillips) Angeli '10** and Isaiah Angeli welcomed a daughter, Veronica Agnes



**Hannah (Ogden) Steele '10** and Matthew Steele welcomed a son, Cooper Joseph



**Molly Eddingfield '11** and Rob Goodale welcomed a daughter, Norah Elaine

**Amanda (Martis) Mariasy '11** and Stephen Mariasy welcomed a daughter, Margot Kathleen



**Megan (McNamara) Rightnowar '11** and Nick Rightnowar welcomed a daughter, Juliet Alexandra

**Bernadette (McCarthy) Caris '12** and Mark Caris welcomed a son, Phillip Joseph

**Kimberly (Myers) Kunkle '12** and Samuel Kunkle welcomed a son, Oliver Wayne

**Kathryn McKenty '12** and Brad Warsaw welcomed a son, Bennett Robert

**Victoria Zajac '12** and Michael Amos welcomed a son, Arthur Michael

**Jessica (Williams) Berry '13** and Shamus Berry welcomed a son, Fynn Patrick

**Kristin (Stobinski) Canfield '13** and Jeremy Canfield welcomed a son, David

**Zowe (Hamizadeh) Clark '13** and Tyler Clark welcomed twin boys, Hudson Robert and Sawyer David

**Caryn (Bartholomew) Johnston '13** and Dave Johnston welcomed a son, Nathan

**Christina (Ohlinger) Safford '13** and Eric Safford welcomed a son, Eric III

**Allison (Keane) Evans '15** and Patrick Evans welcomed a son, Linus Paul

**Natalie Walter '15** and Nick Cooper welcomed a daughter, Violet Noelle

**Hope Poolos '16** and Brian Devaney welcomed a son, Colin Patrick

**Ann Marie Saccuzzo '16** and Matt Marilley welcomed a daughter, Eden Juliette

## EaglesNest

If you have a new Eagle in your Nest we would love to know about it!

Email  
Melanie (Egan) Ogorodowski '93 at [mogrodowski@nda.org](mailto:mogrodowski@nda.org)

# OneEagle

## Engagements

**Mikayla Grajczyk '17**  
to Cameron Bernath



**Caroline Kurtz '18**  
to Charlie McCartney



## Marriages

**Meghan Slates '08**  
and Lonzio Palombo

**Kathryn Grilliot '09**  
and Nathaniel Sawyer

**Sarah Knepp '13**  
and Cameron Ervin

**Alexandra Hotz '14**  
and Andrew Hammond

**Megan Goedde '15**  
and Jacob Yunker

**Erin Schaefer '15**  
and Tommy Dzierzak



**Stephanie Sim '15**  
and Ben Roth

**Claire Haudrich '16**  
and Joseph Klekamp

**Jessica Rutkowski '16**  
and Adam Jones

**Brianna Sweeney '16**  
and Jackson Lubor

**Alexandra Deku '17**  
and Luca Lima

**Lauren Sasala '17**  
and Matthew Thomas

**Victoria Lewandowski '18**  
and Kevin Hileman, with **Graci Lewis '18** and **Marissa Dzotsi '18** by her side.

Victoria shares, "Even though it rained, we chose to make it a great day because the choice is ours!"



**Natalie Nester '20** and **Colby McDonald**

## In Memoriam

**Joanne Malikowski '42**

**Sr. Mary Rose**  
**Bernard Groth SND '49**

**Jeanne (Kennedy)**  
**Todak '50**

**Sr. Mary Gertrude**  
**Ann Mueller SND '55**

**Patricia (Hoyt) Cygnor '56**

**Sharon Turby '57**

**Sr. Mary Nadine**  
**Mathias SND '60**

**Joan Dowling '69**

**Joan (Sturtz) Stebbins '69**

**Cyndi (Davenport)**  
**Green '82**

**Adaeze Igwebuike '89**

**Cheri Budzynski '90**

**Darcy Gill '92**

**Deanna (Welch)**  
**Cromly '94**



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February 27  
6pm**



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Mad for Plaid is NDA's annual fundraiser. Proceeds raised will support the following initiatives:

**NDA Fund  
Athletic Field Enhancements  
Trish Sanders Stage Dedication Project**

**Get Your Plaid On!**

**NEW THIS YEAR - Strolling Buffet**

**For more information scan  
QR code or contact:  
Nikie (Biler) Kunz '94 • nkunz@nda.org**

