



MARYVILLE

M A G A Z I N E

Mapping the Future

Maryville Welcomes First-Year
Students in Record Numbers

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Cyber Fusion Center Opens on Campus
Alumna Shares "Miracle on the Hudson" Experience

FALL 2016

In this issue



ON THE COVER

Featured are Nia Fajriani and Tia Fajriati, first-year international students and twins from Jakarta, Indonesia.
photo by Jerry Naunheim



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Maryville University is a private, independent institution offering 90+ degrees at the undergraduate, master's and doctoral levels. Maryville has forged its outstanding reputation based on academic outcomes, small class sizes, individualized student attention and academic excellence.

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photo by Jerry Naunheim

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photo by Sara Levin/Life Compositions

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Letter from the President

MARK LOMBARDI, PHD

Dear Friends,

These are times of achievement, innovation and rapid growth here at Maryville, and they are a glorious times indeed. During our recent Alumni Weekend many of you asked me, "Why is Maryville growing when so many other universities are struggling to attract students?"

Let me take a moment to answer that important question. The depth and breadth of our growth in enrollment is the result of a learning journey designed by faculty and staff to be challenging, engaging, rigorous and fun. We are breaking down walls and barriers to learning and empowering students to create their own educational experience.

We accomplish this through what we call our Active Learning Ecosystem. This extraordinary framework features three key pillars: **connectivity and bandwidth, life coaching and learning diagnostics, and education built around personalized learning.**

Students and faculty are engaged in a collaborative education built around the idea of connectivity – they explore, investigate and learn from each other and the rich content available to all through state-of-the-art technology resources. We've invested over \$4.5 million to make our campus, inside and out, one of the top 10 percent wired campuses in the United States. That means learning can happen anywhere and at any time.

The second pivotal element of the Maryville experience is our life coaching program, which matches each student with a full-time staff member who not only helps them navigate the campus experience, but helps them develop a critical sense of self-awareness utilizing the latest in learning diagnostics. This relationship allows students to have a deeper understanding of how they learn so they can best leverage those strengths across all of their education.

This leads to our third pillar, which is a faculty-led, new and dynamic student-centered learning environment that develops a 360-degree understanding of each student's own path to learning and empowers them to own that learning experience. This is what the learning journey should be. It is rooted in the most cherished of liberal arts principles: people learn best by doing – by building their own intellectual path.

I could not be more proud of our faculty and staff for leading this effort, and of course, our students. It is truly our students who shape their intellectual experiences so they may move forward and change the world.

Maryville University is revolutionizing higher education in this century, and your support and good counsel are vital to our effort. Thank you – I hope you will visit and see all the exciting learning and doing our Active Learning Ecosystem creates.

With best wishes,

Mark Lombardi



Shift Forward



ON-THE-JOB LEARNING: Through Maryville's new on-campus Cyber Fusion Center, cyber security students monitor the information security of actual clients in real time.

Major opportunity

The opening of Maryville University's new on-campus Cyber Fusion Center creates an extraordinary learning experience for students and provides an added measure of information security for nonprofit organizations served by the Center

BY JANET EDWARDS

photo by **Dan Donovan**

In St. Louis, more than 20 nonprofit agencies — including charities, churches, school districts and private schools, small businesses and social service providers — receive cost-free information security analysis through Maryville's Cyber Fusion Center (CFC). The need for nonprofit agencies to protect the private information of donors cannot be overstated, both from a compliance standpoint and as a matter of fundraising success. However, cyber security can be a costly endeavor. What's more, such operations divert money that might otherwise be used to advance vital social missions.

The Center is managed by faculty experts and staffed by teams of students enrolled in designated cyber security classes. Students are assigned projects according to their level of experience.

Services include penetration testing, vulnerability management, digital forensics and cyber threat monitoring.

"The CFC helps nonprofit entities meet compliance commitments and further secures the personal data of donors and customers," says Dustin Loeffler, JD, associate professor and director of Maryville's cyber security programs. "A nonprofit organization that experiences an information breach will find it very difficult to raise future funds, so the CFC helps secure these clients at no cost and in turn provides our students with an exceptional learning experience which translates into great jobs."

A leader of a local nonprofit agency sees the partnership with Maryville as an opportunity for growth.

"These services will expand our ability to serve more youth regionally, nationally and even internationally," says Wendell Covington Jr., president and chief executive officer of Mathews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club. "With a national and international focus, cyber security is a necessity."

Covington says the cost savings is significant.

"For nonprofit organizations, computer technology and cyber security services are a premium; the costs are prohibitive," he says. "Our organizations have to spend the majority of our revenue on programming expenses, leaving little room for computer technology expenses."

The Cyber Fusion Center, one of the most technology-rich spaces on campus, is driven by Apple hardware and software. Along with Mac computers and iPads, the Center is equipped with such state-of-the-art devices as a telepresence robot so clients can "meet" with students and faculty in real time — in the event of pressing concerns or for routine updates.

"Some cyber security issues will be re-

solved onsite quickly, while more serious data issues will be reported to subject matter experts," says Loeffler. "Students will also work on developing more long-range and meaningful information protection solutions for clients."

Students understand the CFC is a valuable training ground.

"The CFC gives me tangible skills," says Jonathan Tock, a junior in the cyber security program. "I enjoy the challenge of the ever-changing environment of cyber security and look forward to trying to stay one step ahead of hackers and those who compromise security."

Senior Davin Zatorski says he enrolled in the program because the need for cyber security is relevant in all aspects of today's connected lifestyle, so there's a growing need for qualified job candidates.

"The Cyber Fusion Center allows us as students to work in an educational environment while using real-world tools and practices," Zatorski says. "This is a state-of-the-art facility and we're very fortunate to have the opportunity to work here."

The Cyber Fusion Center derives its name from the various data feeds students monitor and then integrate into actionable intelligence for clients. About 35 students work in the Center.

"The academic focus at Maryville is changing from 'Let's talk about it' to 'Let's do it in real-world settings,'" says Loeffler. "In that regard, we are setting higher and more competitive standards for practical skills attainment for our students."

The University and client agencies find tremendous value in the collaboration.

Maryville students gain competitive skills and industry insight, while clients benefit in ways tailored to their mission.

"Maryville University is a valued partner in helping Mathews-Dickey foster the development of scholar-athletes in various capacities, from computer technology, teaching and learning, and college and career readiness programming," says Covington. "The strategic vision for Mathews-Dickey is to create a national replication model to help to transform the lives of inner city youth. The challenges are so great that in order to transform kids there must be a collective impact. The collective is better known as public-private partnerships. Maryville embodies this notion." **M**

Shift Forward

Frankie Muse Freeman Awarded Inaugural Peace and Justice Prize

Legendary St. Louis attorney and civil rights pioneer, the Honorable Frankie Muse Freeman, received Maryville's inaugural Sister Mary Byles Peace and Justice Prize at an event on campus last April.

The Sister Mary Byles Peace and Justice Prize and Lecture, which carries a monetary award provided through the Byles Lecture Fund, honors the legacy of Sister Mary Byles, an esteemed professor of humanities and theology at Maryville from 1972 to 1988. The Prize is awarded to remarkable individuals whose lives and work focus on issues of peace and justice.

"Mrs. Freeman's extraordinary record of service exemplifies the values and ideals that Sister Byles championed throughout the Uni-



VOICE OF EXPERIENCE: Civil rights pioneer Frankie Muse Freeman, inaugural award winner of the Sister Mary Byles Peace and Justice Prize, speaks to students and other audience members about her work in social justice. photo by **Jerry Naunheim**

versity and greater community," says President Mark Lombardi, PhD.

Freeman, who celebrates her 100th birthday in November, has served St. Louis and the state of Missouri for more than 60 years. She assist-

ed the NAACP in the case of *Brewton v. Board of Education of St. Louis*, and represented the NAACP in *Davis et al. v. the St. Louis Housing Authority*, a landmark case that ended legal racial discrimination in public housing.

Nominated by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964 as the first woman commissioner of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, Freeman was reappointed by Presidents Nixon, Ford and Carter. She also served under President Carter as inspector general of the Community Services Administration. In 2015, President Obama appointed her to the Commission on Presidential Scholars.

Her 2003 memoir is titled *A Song of Faith and Hope: The Life of Frankie Muse Freeman*.

Save the date! The second annual Sister Mary Byles Peace and Justice Prize will be awarded on Tuesday, April 11, 2017. The recipient has not yet been announced.

Academic Programs **Recognized Nationally**



Reflective of Maryville's innovative approach to teaching and learning and the University's commitment to providing valuable higher education, three additional programs have recently been honored with national rankings.

The national Top 10 Online MBA Degrees in Cyber Security, as recognized by *Online MBA Today*, cites Maryville's program for graduation rates, early career salary and other key metrics.

In addition, the music therapy program has been recognized as one of the Top 25 Master's Degrees in Music Therapy by the *Master's in Special Education Program Guide*, and Maryville's Design & Visual Art's interior design program has been ranked 15th in the country by the publication *DesignIntelligence* for preparing its graduates for their profession and designing a sustainable future. That program has also been recognized as a top school in the America's Best Architecture & Design Schools survey.

These programs join Maryville's actuarial science program, which has been ranked in the top 20 U.S. programs for return on investment — as recognized by *College Values Online*.

Lueckeman Named Chief Innovation Officer

Kathleen Lueckeman has been named Maryville's first chief innovation officer. She will lead the implementation of Maryville's new Salesforce platform, which will be used campus-wide to more effectively connect the University with students, parents, alumni and donors.

"Kathleen brings a unique skill set that is vital to Maryville's strategic goals," says President Mark Lombardi, PhD. "She has been working with Maryville for the past year and understands our enormous potential."

Lueckeman previously worked with Salesforce.org, where she was director for higher education strategy. In that role, she was responsible for initiatives and programs designed to orient prospective and new higher education institutions to Salesforce, promote best practices among current users and foster engagement within the higher education community.

She has also served as senior director of customer relationship management at Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich., where she oversaw an enterprise Salesforce deployment that included recruitment, service, retention and human resources, and economic development. During this time, she was named a Salesforce MVP, a designation restricted to the top 1 percent of Salesforce users in the world.



Maryville Authors Featured in 'Writes of Spring' Series

The **2017 Writes of Spring lecture** series will showcase the works of Maryville University faculty. The program began in 2016, and was created to establish opportunities for Maryville students and the community-at-large to hear poets and prose writers in an intimate setting.

All readings will be held in the Morton J. May Foundation Gallery in the University Library and are free and open to the public. Each event includes refreshments, a Q&A session with the author, and book sale and signing.

DU EWA FRAZIER

Adjunct Instructor

Feb. 24–3:45 p.m.

Frazier's poems, essays and editorials have been featured in *Essence Magazine*, *Kweli Journal*, *Reverie Journal*, *PW Review*, *Poetry Ink Anthology*, *X Magazine*, *Brownstone Poets Anthology*, *Poetry In Performance #37*, *Black Arts Quarterly* (Stanford University), *AALBC*, *Lyrical Times*, *Allhiphop.com*, *DaveyD.com*, *Mosaic*, *No More Silent Cries* and others.

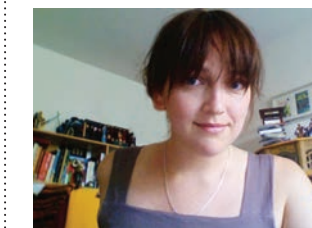


J. BOWERS, PHD

Assistant Professor of English

April 27–3 p.m.

Bowers' presentation will showcase her works in the newly published anthology, *Among Animals 2*. Her short fiction has appeared in *The Portland Review*, *cream city review*, *Redivider*, *Fringe*, *The Indiana Review*, *Zone 3*, *The Poydras Review*, *Oyez Review* and other journals.



DANA LEVIN

Distinguished

Writer-in-Residence

March 30–3 p.m.

Levin's fourth book of poetry, *Banana Palace*, was published this fall. Her poems have appeared in the *2015 Best American Poetry* series and *Boston Review's Top Poems of 2014*. Her first book, *In the Surgical Theatre*, was chosen by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Louise Glück for the 1999 American Poetry Review/Honickman First Book Prize and went on to receive nearly every award available to first books and emerging poets.



Year of **FIRSTS**

First-year student Katya Karre, shown here with her parents, Tony and Patty Karre, was the **first student to move into the new Saints Hall residence**, which opened in August. A St. Louis-area native, Karre is planning to double-major in graphic design and interior design. ►

photo by Dan Donovan



Boswell, '07, Named Career Success Director

by Nancy Fowler

A successful Maryville University alumna is now helping other alumni and current students find satisfaction in their own careers.

Erin Boswell, '07, began her job as director of Career Success and Professional Development at Maryville University this fall.

"Erin is a phenomenal addition to the Division of Student Success," says Jen McCluskey, vice president for student success. "With her leadership, I am confident both students and alumni will experience innovative improvements in both career services and engagement opportunities."

Boswell believes implementing new technology and expanding the office's life coach model will better assist graduates as they work their way into the professional realm.

Through a program focused on the whole student, Maryville's life coaches go far beyond career counseling. They develop a personalized learning profile for each student that is instrumental in preparing them for a successful career.

"It's really about bringing the services to the student in a personalized way, instead of waiting for the student to reach out to us," Boswell says.

Currently, all Maryville traditional first-year and sophomore students work with a life coach. As they move into their junior and senior years, they'll retain that individual, establishing a model in which every student has a life coach throughout their college experience.

The career office comes into play the minute a first-year student steps onto campus. Students begin working with life coaches to build résumés and LinkedIn profiles,

participate in mock interviews and make academic decisions such as changing majors. They're also introduced to Maryville's MyCareer online network, which will help them find internships and full- and part-time work.

Boswell is working on a PhD in educational leadership.

She previously worked as director of Undergraduate Student Services at St. Louis College of Pharmacy.

"My end goal is to place each student in a job they want within a year of graduating," Boswell says.



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CLEAN UP CREW: During Maryville Reaches Out, Maryville's annual day of service, students helped with landscaping at Compton Hill Reservoir Park. The event took place September 20.

photo by Dan Donovan

FACULTY & STAFF // Making a difference in their fields



JOHN WICKERSHAM, PHD, professor of philosophy, recently published his first book, *Morning is Always Nigh*, featuring stories loosely based on his childhood in Colorado.

LORETTA COLVIN, APRN-BC, coordinator for the online adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner program, was invited to speak at the annual conferences for the Association of Missouri Nurse Practitioners and the Sleep Professionals of Arkansas.

SANDY ROSS, DPT, professor of physical therapy, received the 2016 Florence P. Kendall Service Award from the physical therapy program at Saint Louis University. The award recognizes a PT who has performed outstanding service to the healthcare community.

REBECCA BIRKENMEIER, assistant professor of occupational therapy, was published in the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy* this summer.

STACY GEE HOLLINS, PHD,

associate professor of information systems, has been elected to the board of directors of the Mathews-Dickey Boys' & Girls' Club. In addition, she received a 2016 Excellence in Education Award presented by the St. Louis American Foundation.



J. BOWERS, PHD, assistant professor of English, has three pieces recently published in *Cartridge Lit*, Ashland Creek Press's anthology *Among Animals 2*, and Sundress Publications' *Curious Specimens* e-anthology. She will speak on a panel at the Associated Writing Program conference in Washington, D.C. in January.

FROM THE EDITOR // 314.529.9347 | jedwards@maryville.edu | Gander Hall #214



A REFLECTION OF MARYVILLE You sense it from all directions as you walk around Maryville's campus – the new Saints Hall student residence that comes into view on the north entrance approach, prominent new athletic fields that stretch out to the east, new academic programs in digital arts underway in the Design & Visual Art building on the west edge and a buzz of student activity happening in the Donius University Center toward the south, where 568 first-year students bring new vigor to the social scene.

It's a renewed sense of pride, a stronger-than-ever commitment to student success. The staff of *Maryville Magazine* aims to bring you the best stories on our traditional theme, that of Maryville as a community of successful learners and innovators. It became clear we needed to keep pace – reflect in our pages this bold promise of creating a university for the 21st century. We're digging deeper, revealing Maryville in stronger strokes, highlighting students, faculty, staff and alumni in the same context as we see the Maryville community meet their work every day – moving forward nimbly and with purpose, energy, inventiveness.

We're just getting started. This is your *Maryville Magazine* – help us make it meaningful and relevant. Do you have story ideas? Thoughts on our new look or comments about articles in this edition? How we can improve future issues? I'd love to hear from you! Please call me or send an email. And if you happen to be visiting this growing campus, stop by. I value your opinion and welcome your feedback.

Go Saints!
Janet



New graduation cords **reflect core values**

Beginning this year, students have the opportunity to earn a graduation cord through the Core Values Distinction Program. The cords represent exemplary pursuit of Maryville University core values, including civic engagement, diversity and inclusion, global awareness, learning

and mentoring and sustainability. During their Maryville years, students will participate in related activities and experiences and complete academic studies that engage them in one or more core values.

"Maryville's core values are an essential part of our teaching and learning," says Alden Craddock, PhD, associate vice president and director of the Center for Civic Engagement and Democracy. "We've developed this program to both encourage our students to engage more deeply in the core values and to be recognized for their efforts."

Experiences might include a semester-long internship with an organization representing a core value, participation in a related certification program or involvement with a project related to the area of emphasis.

A student will be required to take three designated courses, which are offered across academic programs. American Government, Special Studies Costa Rica and various science offerings are examples.

Sample activities include the University's annual day of service — Maryville Reaches Out; the Tunnel of Consciousness, a campus-wide awareness and tolerance program now in its seventh year; a campus voter registration project; or participation in a COREXplore Study Away trip. (See article on this page.)

Throughout the program, students are asked to reflect on their experiences and understand how their daily lives may be affected by what they've learned.

FIVE CITIES FEATURED IN NEW STUDY AWAY PROGRAM

Maryville's spring and winter breaks just got a lot more interesting for students who want to explore cities through the lenses of community service, history, culture and leadership. These opportunities are offered through a new Maryville program, COREXplore

Study Away, which provides opportunities to travel with fellow students and University faculty and staff.



Destinations and highlighted student activities during Maryville's 2017 spring break include Chicago—community service project, New Orleans—exploration of the city's history and culture, Pensacola—participation in the annual Habitat for Humanity Alternative Spring Break and San Antonio—exploration of history at the Alamo and the River Walk.

During Maryville's 2016-2017 winter break, a study away to Orlando features participation in the Disney Leadership Experience.

The programs are designed to engage students in Maryville's core values of civic engagement, diversity and inclusion, global awareness, innovative leadership and sustainability.



Global competitors

Hillel
Maryville

Maryville University and Maryville Hillel hosted a combined total of more than 2,000 athletes, coaches, parents, volunteers and spectators during the 2016 JCC Maccabi Games held this past summer. The Games provide athletic, cultural and social opportunities for Jewish youth from around the world.

St. Louis Speakers Series Underway

The St. Louis Speakers Series is underway with another lineup of engaging individuals who represent diverse opinions and world perspectives. The 2016-2017 season opened with a panel discussion on Racism in America, featuring Goldie Taylor, award-winning journalist, author and MSNBC contributor; author and *Wall Street Journal* columnist Jason Riley; and Morris Dees, co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center. November events featured former Prime Minister of Israel Ehud Barak and Academy Award-Winning actress Rita Moreno. Upcoming evenings include Monty Python co-founder John Cleese (Jan. 24, 2017); former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey (Feb. 28, 2017); broadcast journalist Ted Koppel (March 28, 2017); and presidential historian Jon Meacham (April 18, 2017).

For more information, visit stlouisspeakersseries.org.

LIFELONG LEARNING Three distinguished panel guests discussed Racism in America during the first evening of the 2016-17 St. Louis Speakers Series. Pictured: Morris Dees, co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center; Patrick Murphy (moderator); journalist Goldie Taylor; and Jason Riley, author and *Wall Street Journal* columnist. Now in its 19th season, the series continues through Spring 2017, featuring thought-provoking leaders in politics, social justice, entertainment, history and journalism. *photo by Jerry Naunheim*



SPECIAL DELIVERY: These flags arrive in the mailboxes of future Saints to welcome them into the Maryville University community. The flags are cleverly folded to serve as their own envelope.



GRANT WINNER: Rachael Huck won funding from the prestigious Psi Chi international honor society to study why some students seek mental health services and others cope on their own.

Mind matters

Grant allows student researcher to identify which college students are more likely to seek mental health services

BY NANCY FOWLER

photo by Jerry Naunheim

Maryville senior Rachael Huck is the kind of person that people talk to. *Really* talk to. When friends are stressed out over an exam or struggling with relationship problems, they can count on Huck to listen. And she's not shy about advising friends to see a counselor.

Huck is a psychology and sociology major, and this year, thanks to a sought-after grant from international honor society Psi Chi, she will study the reasons why some students take advantage of professional help while others choose to cope on their own.

She received the \$5,000 award in April to investigate how college students' willingness to use mental health services relates to their overall mindset. She plans to utilize work by Carol Dweck, PhD, a leading researcher in the field of motivation, who coined the term "mindset" in this sense: A "fixed" mindset assumes that traits like intelligence and personality are more or less inflexible. A "growth" mindset is illustrated by the belief that we can strengthen and change our abilities.

Huck believes these two different outlooks are in play when it comes to seeking treatment.

"If someone with a fixed mindset has depression or anxiety, they think, 'I'm stuck with that; there's not much I can do to change it,'" Huck says. "A person with a growth mindset says to themselves, 'I can work on this and take steps to make it better.'"

Huck learned about the Psi Chi grant opportunity from Brian Bergstrom, PhD, assistant professor of psychology, who worked with her to craft the application. This fall, they're developing a correlational survey to determine where students fall in the mindset categories and their general willingness to seek help.

"What I think I'm going to find is that students who have more of a growth mindset will be significantly more likely to seek mental health services," Huck says.

To assess mindset, students will be asked how strongly they agree or disagree with statements such as: "People have a certain amount of anxiety and they can't do much to change it."

"These questions are simple but deceiving, with a high validity," Huck says. "But the questions about one's inclination to seek help are a little more complicated."

For that component, Huck will use

a set of queries already developed by previous researchers. Students will be asked how much they agree or disagree with statements like: "There are certain problems that shouldn't be discussed outside the family."

Future Implications

One in five U.S. college students faces a mental health issue, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness. These include depression, anxiety,

the increase to growing enrollment, but also greater awareness.

Young adulthood is a time when many mental health issues begin to emerge, according to NAMI. It's a period when students face many new experiences, such as "going to college for the first time, having relationships and becoming more independent," Huck says.

Testing her hypothesis is only the beginning of Huck's endeavor. She also

wants to conduct further research to determine whether the way people look at life may be malleable.

"A subsequent study might examine how to potentially manipulate the mindset, which

"I want to be in a position to help people get through whatever is happening to them, to provide them with the skills and support they need to achieve greater mental health."

~ Rachael Huck

substance abuse and eating disorders.

Maryville University provides students with free counseling. In recent years, the Office of Personal Counseling has expanded the number of ongoing programs with meditation, recovery for addiction and body pride groups. During the past decade, the number of student visits has risen by 88 percent, says director Jennifer Henry.

"We have seen anywhere between 825 to 950 counseling sessions per academic year," Henry says. She credits

could lead participants to be more willing to seek mental health services," Huck says.

She plans to attend graduate school after earning her degree in December. Her ultimate goal is to assist people as they try to achieve their highest possible level of mental health.

"I want to be in a position to help people get through whatever is happening to them, to provide them with the skills and support they need to achieve greater mental health," Huck says. **M**

Perspective



POETIC LANGUAGE: Dana Levin, Maryville's first Distinguished Writer-in-Residence (fourth from right), shares a light moment with students before class.

The Art of Doing 'Soul Work'

Dana Levin, Distinguished
Writer-in-Residence, Takes Students
Inward Through Poetry

BY JANET EDWARDS

photo by Jerry Naunheim

The appointment of poet Dana Levin as Maryville's first Distinguished Writer-in-Residence has inspired a rising student interest in creative writing and energized the new narrative arts concentration in English.

Levin, who lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, first arrived on campus in Fall 2015 and will return each fall semester to teach courses in writing, literature and independent study.

Engaging in art of any kind, she says, is "soul work" — and it's imperative.

"Art is a primary way for college students to have an experience inside themselves. At a school like Maryville, this is of extra importance because so many are studying

in fields of practical application," Levin says. "We need to provide students with an opportunity to complement their experiences in STEM education and art is the best way I know to do that."

Levin's own soul work began in elementary school, when she wrote her first poem about a film the class was shown. Students were asked to describe the film in a paragraph.

"It was a cartoon about an astronaut being pursued through the cosmos by a monster," she says. "I thought about the words I would use to describe this film — chase, space, race, place — and because the words sounded the same I wanted to write

a poem instead of a paragraph."

Her teacher said yes.

"I've been really lucky that from my elementary years through college I've had some really amazing teachers who gave me room to be myself and bend rules," Levin says.

They inspired Levin to teach writing, which she has done at the college level for the past 20 years.

Even for students interested in the subject but who aren't aspiring poets, Levin offers up a lively classroom.

"Her teaching style is craft-oriented and passionate, with a dash of magic and electricity," says Luke Layden, '16. He is Levin's teaching assistant this semester and is applying to MFA writing programs.

Levin shares both writing and publishing expertise with students. Her fourth book of poetry, *Banana Palace*, debuted in October. Her first book, *In the Surgical Theatre*, was chosen by Pulitzer prize-winning author Louise Glück — Levin's longtime mentor — for the 1999 American Poetry Review/Honickman First Book Prize and received nearly every award available to first books and emerging poets. She has also written *Sky Burial* and *Wedding Day*.

Most recently, Levin served as former co-chair and faculty member of Creative Writing and Literature at Santa Fe University of Art and Design in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Levin's poetry has been described as image-driven, surprising, complex, challenging and celebratory. A *New Yorker* review of *Sky Burial* called Levin's material "utterly her own, and utterly riveting."

The reviews could easily be applied to her teaching style.

"Dana's lecturing style is very informal, and she encourages both critical thought and laughter in the classroom," observes junior Rachel Luebke. "She is straightforward, earthy yet energetic and insists on an

atmosphere of respect." Luebke is majoring in English and aspires to be a writer.

Levin is practical about the business of becoming a writer.

"Talking to a talented student about a life in poetry, you have to tell them there's not going to be remuneration," she says. "And they will have to work in the world and maybe they'll be lucky enough to maintain a life in poetry."

Teaching poetry to undergraduates presents some challenges, not the least of which

The following poem is featured in Levin's latest poetry collection, Banana Palace:

My Sentence

by Dana Levin

— spring wind with its
train of spoons,
kidney-bean shaped
pools, Floridian
humus, cicadas with their
electric appliance hum, cricket
pulse of dusk under
the pixilate gold of the trees, fall's
finish, snow's white
afterlife, death's breath
finishing the monologue Phenomena,
The Most Beautiful Girl you carved the
word because you craved the world —

is that students are typically taught to read through an analytical lens, Levin says.

"Reading poetry is a very different experience than reading a textbook or even a novel. We're trained to read for information and theme, trained to bring our analytical minds to what we read," she says. "Poetry is interested in subverting that kind of reading. Even the line breaks — why is a sentence broken in two? It's hard to negotiate that. Reading out loud, you hear it. So, a lot of what I'm doing at the introductory level is modeling for students how to read poems."

Perspective

Keeping up with the vast expanse of poetry is no easy task — there are many American poets Levin wants her students to discover early on. And that says nothing of contemporary poets.

"Up until now, our last true public poet to my mind was Allen Ginsberg," Levin says. "Claudia Rankine, with her book *Citizen*, published in 2014, became our next real public poet. The reception of that book caused a big turn back to the civic — and of course in relation to gun violence,

Ferguson and the election year, poetry is answering a call; we're feeling a lot of disturbance. Young poets want to talk about this."


What they want to discuss is where we are right now, politically and socially, Levin says, and the conversation has brought increasing attention to poetry.

"More poetry is being published and there are more readers, more outlets for publishing than I've ever experienced," Levin says. "Social media has tremendously helped dissemination — it's made poetry more accessible."

Inside Levin's Writing Poetry classroom, students create original work and study the literature of others, including the poems of their classmates. These poems are critiqued in structured workshops.

"Some students are scared to share," Levin says, noting the feeling is understandable. "It's hard to have 14 people weigh in on your poem."

But students see the value in the exercise, even if it causes some anxiety at first. They are writers of all levels, beginning to advanced.

"She meets us at our individual levels and encourages us to step out of our comfort zones," says Luebke. "Her workshops have greatly improved my ability to give constructive criticism, and by evaluating the works of my classmates, I'm learning to evaluate my own work." 

FIXING THE EMPLOYMENT GAP

MARYVILLE TRAINS EMPLOYERS AND JOB COACHES TO **HELP PEOPLE** WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES **GAIN INDEPENDENCE** THROUGH CAREERS

BY **NANCY FOWLER**

PHOTOS BY **JERRY NAUNHEIM**

Seventy percent of people with disabilities **who want a job are unemployed.** It's a **staggering number**, and a situation that prevents the majority of this population from **achieving their full potential.**

A St. Louis professional organization called Inclusion Coalition for Employment of Metropolitan St. Louis (ICE) aims to help individuals with developmental disabilities find jobs and gain independence.

Through ICE, professionals who work to find jobs for people with developmental disabilities meet regularly to share information. One professional might know of an opening but their particular agency doesn't have an individual whose skills match the job. Letting other agencies know about the position can lead to a win-win for clients, agencies and businesses.

Michael Kiener, PhD, ICE member and director of the Rehabilitation Counseling program at Maryville, says ICE replaces competition with collaboration.

"Before ICE, agencies were more protective of their employer contacts and less willing to share employment leads," Kiener says. "Now, because of this coalition, we're looking at the greater good: helping people with disabilities secure employment, which is a major path to independence."

The agencies — including St. Louis ARC, the Center for Head Injury Services, United Cerebral Palsy and the Productive Living Board — serve people with many diagnoses, including those on



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP: Michael Kiener, PhD, director of Maryville's Rehabilitation Counseling program, works closely with the St. Louis-based ICE coalition.

the autism spectrum, people who live with traumatic brain injury and people with Down syndrome.

ICE members foster much more than just a one-time connection for people they serve; rather, it's often a long-term commitment. "It's more than just finding a job for an individual," Kiener says. "The goal is to help individuals discover a career. I call it a career lifespan approach."

Training Job Coaches and Developers

Maryville's Rehabilitation Counseling program partners with ICE to provide training for newly hired job coaches and job developers as well as professional development for seasoned employees.

"Employers need to realize it's not charity when they hire an individual with a disability," Kiener says. "It's really about identifying the right person for the job and improving a company's bottom line."

Hiring people with developmental disabilities contributes to a business's success in a number of ways, says Valerie Hill, project manager for the Center for Head Injury's Talent Connect program.

"Hiring a qualified person with a disability brings greater benefits beyond just filling an open job. There's a solid business case, too," Hill says.

Employers get a tax credit, but there's much more to it. Hill and others make sure their clients are a good fit for a particular job. Because of

“I want to **get paid for working**. This position is **helping me be proactive** because if I wasn’t here, I would be sitting on the couch doing nothing.”

that, along with the loyal tendencies of this population, workers tend to stay with a company; therefore, businesses don’t spend money training new people over and over again for the same position.

That’s something Adriana Borojevic, human resource generalist with Watlow, a thermal solutions and products company, knows firsthand.

“At first, it was a fear of the unknown,” Borojevic says. “We didn’t really know or understand what it was like to employ someone with a developmental disability.”

A person with a disability may need more time to process information, or individuals may require concrete explanations about the

details of jobs, ranging from sorting mail to assembling machinery. For a company, success means crafting the initial training to meet individual needs. It also means educating the managers.

Before Watlow hired their clients, Hill and others with the Center for Head Injuries visited the company to allay management concerns. They observed, and they asked questions about what the



VOLUNTEER ORGANIZER: Mary Montani volunteers in the Bookstore through a partnership with St. Louis ARC.

jobs entailed so they could identify well-matched candidates, provide them with job coaching and demystify the process for managers.

Soon after, two clients of the Center began assembling heaters and other equipment, as a temporary assignment. After only a few months, they’d proven their worth.

“They did an exceptional job,” Borojevic says. “We ended up hiring them full-time. Here we are two years later and they’re still at Watlow.”

In a hiring capacity, the company has progressed, too; Watlow was named the 2016 Employer of the Year by the Missouri Rehabilitation Association — Eastern Chapter (MRA). Watlow was recognized for

making a significant difference in advancing the employment opportunities of individuals with disabilities.

Jobs are Life-Changing

Having employment is life-changing for all people, regardless of a disability, says Kiener.

“It’s amazing when you hear people tell you, ‘I’m able to pay bills for the first time,’” he says. “Employment is an avenue for greater inclusion in society. Having an income provides independence and freedom to make individual choices. If you want to buy a new pair of shoes, you can buy a new pair of shoes,” Kiener says. “It also gives people with disabilities an opportunity to engage in a full range of social activities with friends.”


Kiener has opened a path to employment for people with developmental disabilities on Maryville’s campus. Clients from several agencies volunteer in the bookstore. Mary Montani, who is sponsored by St. Louis ARC, is anxious to learn the skills needed to start earning a paycheck.

“I want to get paid for working,” says the 21-year-old. “This position is helping me be proactive because if I wasn’t here, I would be sitting on the couch doing nothing.” Montani is primarily tasked with organizing apparel on the sale racks and shelves, stocking food and beverage coolers and folding clothes.

“Mary is a very organized person. I think she’s a perfectionist at heart,” says Kate Ritter, manager of the Bookstore. “We enjoy working with her. One of her best traits is that she is a self-motivated worker; she will always try to find something to do.”

Montani has previously worked at St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store and SSM Health DePaul Hospital. Employment specialist Kathie Winston says Montani has specific goals to meet in her role at Maryville — such as developing social skills, demonstrating endurance and learning soft skills like taking direction and showing initiative — as she works toward a paid position.

The ICE program can also be a route to employment for Maryville students and graduates. The relationships formed through ICE lead to internship and practicum opportunities for those interested in working with people who have developmental disabilities. These temporary positions create connections and can lead to job offers after graduation.

“ICE also keeps graduates in the field connected to Maryville when they attend meetings as professionals,” says Kiener. “And it keeps Maryville’s name in the conversation among developmental disabilities professionals. Ultimately, it’s one more important way the University engages in the St. Louis area.” 

A (Foo) Fighting Chance

Maryville grad **finds joy** in **helping people** gain employment

by Nancy Fowler

Cole Sibley, '10, '12, knew for certain he’d landed in his dream job during a particular moment when he used a musical connection to help change a young life.

In his position as job coach at Mercy Hospital’s volunteer services, the psychology major with a master’s in rehabilitation counseling worked with a recent high school graduate with a developmental disability. Sibley was showing the volunteer how to stuff envelopes.

“He was completely shut down and made no eye contact,” Sibley says. But then he noticed a Foo Fighters shirt peeking out from beneath the young man’s uniform.

“I pulled up the Foo Fighters song ‘Learn to Fly’ on my phone and it was like a light switched on,” Sibley says.

The two of them began talking and soon the young man was mingling with others as he learned




the art of mail delivery. Later, when his

newfound social skills helped him land a job, he offered to train his replacement.

“It blew my mind. It was so awesome to see him succeed,” Sibley says.

Sibley says his own success stems from a Mercy Hospital internship which he believes was the result of Maryville’s Inclusion Coalition for Employment (ICE) program. Now, as part of his work there, Sibley attends ICE events.

Oh, and that former Mercy volunteer and Foo Fighters fan? He’s still working at his first job — in a music store. He’s not only flying but soaring as he tunes guitars and interacts with customers at the cash register. 

SKILL SET: Cole Sibley, '10, '12, shown here with a client, works as a job coach at Mercy Hospital.

ENROLLMENT AT-A-GLANCE 2016-2017

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Total: **568** Increase over last year: **45%**

International Students: **75**

- Farthest from home:
Indonesia
Australia



Top **5** Majors:

- Nursing
- Physical Therapy
- Rawlings Sport Business Management
- Cyber Security
- Business Administration

Top **7** States:

- Missouri
- Illinois
- California
- Texas
- Kansas
- Colorado
- Tennessee



OVERALL STUDENTS

Total (students): **6,828**
from **50** states
and **55** countries

Total (international students): **227**



FOR THE NINTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR,
MARYVILLE ANNOUNCED RECORD-
BREAKING FALL ENROLLMENT GROWTH.
THIS UNPRECEDENTED ACHIEVEMENT IS
MADE EVEN MORE AMAZING BECAUSE
OUR 2016-2017 CLASS GREW BY A
STAGGERING 45 PERCENT OVER LAST YEAR,
MAKING IT ONE OF THE LARGEST YEAR-
TO-YEAR INCREASES OF ANY PRIVATE
UNIVERSITY IN THE NATION.

SETTING A COURSE FOR

The arrival of 568 first-year students from 29 countries and 27 states was not unexpected.

"The message is out that we are building the new university for the 21st century," says President Mark Lombardi, PhD. "We're continually advancing a personalized learning model for higher education in the classroom and beyond, and the nation is taking notice."

In fact, Maryville's growth is the culmination of strategies and campus-wide innovations initiated over the past nine years. From academics to learning technology to marketing to student services to athletics to student life programs, the entire Maryville community is invested in providing a place for students that offers an education focused entirely on student outcomes and success. ▶

photo by Dan Donovan

MAPPING THE GROWTH

It begins with an admissions team that has done its homework. It's about geodemographic research, which helps pinpoint locations where recruitment will be most effective.

For example, an area may lack higher education availability, or a particular city might have an extraordinarily high college-age population. Another region might show a core group of young people who reflect the characteristics of Maryville students who are engaged and excelling in academics. Attracting those students to Maryville helps to ensure their success, too. "What sets us apart is the deep analysis of our data," says Shani Lenore-Jenkins, associ-

advantage of their collegiate opportunities.

"Life coaching is a successful tool employed by young professionals and we decided to provide this unique advantage to our students early in their educational path," says Jen McCluskey, PhD, vice president for student success.

It's not just life coaches who support students. Across campus, faculty and staff embrace the opportunity to help students find their niche. Newman is settling into his new home in the Midwest, thanks to this strong thread of mentoring.

"I like all the opportunities and events that Maryville has to offer, and how there are so many people here who are willing

Maryville does education backwards.

"We build curriculum backwards in partnership with practitioners and industry leaders so students get the education and skill development they need for their career," says Lombardi. "That means Maryville is constantly taking the pulse of the job market and aligning our educational programs with current employer demands."

Consider the cyber security program. Enrollment has skyrocketed, along with innovative opportunities for experiential learning so students can practice skills as they study them.

This fall, Maryville opened the Cyber

GROWTH

ate vice president of enrollment. "That's the key to helping our students succeed. We know we can meet their expectations even before they arrive on campus."

First-year student-athlete Jake Newman came to Maryville from California.

"I was looking for a college where I could play on a competitive golf team and one that has a good sport business management program," Newman says. It helps that he has family in Memphis, Tenn. — which is close enough for weekend visits.

EASING THE TRANSITION

Maryville is pioneering a life coach program to help each new student navigate the transition to college. Life coaches work with each first-year student to ensure that they understand how best to take full

to help," he says. He's making connections with peers, too. Newman immediately joined the Student-Athlete Advisory Council and Fellowship of Christian Athletes student groups.

"Students and parents select Maryville because they see evidence that everything we do in and out of the classroom is built around student success," says Lombardi. "Along with comprehensive life coaching, we're investing in state-of-the-art living and learning spaces, faculty professional development and technology upgrades that place us in the top 10 percent of wired campuses nationwide."

MOVING FORWARD THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

In one very intentional way, however,

Fusion Center on campus, staffed by students enrolled in cyber security classes. The high-tech Center works with nonprofit organizations to provide information security services at no cost. The benefits to agencies that have limited budgets, yet high need for such services, are significant.

Maryville has pursued other innovative programs with industry experts.

- In a partnership with St. Louis-based Abstrakt Marketing Inc., the University opened a satellite office on campus, giving students the opportunity to develop sales and marketing skills in the same space where their studies take place.
- The Rawlings Sport Business Management program is the only corporate-named and corporate-sponsored

sports business management program in the country, which means students have unique opportunities to engage with Rawlings executives in the classroom and in the boardroom. They develop marketing projects with real-world applications. Internships may lead to jobs, and students' industry networks are constantly expanding.

MANAGING THE GROWTH

While Maryville is experiencing tremendous growth, it is a well-planned trajectory of the University's seven-year strategic plan, "A New Century of Higher Education: Maryville 2022." By 2022 (our 150th anniversary) Maryville anticipates an overall enrollment of 10,000 students, with half of those students hailing from beyond Missouri and Illinois.

The strategic plan also affirms Maryville's commitment to continuing to build a welcoming and diverse campus community of students, faculty and staff. By 2022, the University anticipates an overall student body that reflects the racial and ethnic diversity of the American experience; faculty and staff will reflect that diversity. It is also expected that international student enrollment will increase significantly.

To accommodate the large cohort of new first-year students, Maryville opened Saints Hall, a new residence facility. A new fitness center and upgraded athletics fields are also markers of Maryville's enrollment growth.


FUTURE COURSE

Throughout these next years of growth, Maryville will continue to emphasize an intimate, student-centered learning experience, says Mary Ellen Finch, PhD, vice president for academic affairs.

"Student learning is at the heart of who we are as a university. We would never compromise that," Finch says. "So, even as we grow, our classes will remain small so our faculty will continue to know their students well. We're committed to adding faculty as needed to ensure that happens."

To further enhance student success, the University has created an Apple software- and hardware-based program known as Digital World, which encourages collaboration among classmates and creates a faculty-student partnership that puts students at the center of their learning experiences.

The drive to innovate and create new standards in higher education will continue to attract students who seek a campus culture of entrepreneurship, an education they help design and game-changing career experiences, says McCluskey.

"Looking ahead, Maryville will continue to differentiate from other nationally ranked universities by exploring new ways to build on the personalized education experience," says McCluskey. "What comes after Digital World and life coaches? The possibilities have ignited a vibrant campus culture of innovation, strategic partnerships and experiential learning all designed to give students a competitive head start when they graduate." 



"We have made lots of friends because it's easier to make friends when there's two of you," Nia says. ►

DISTANCE LEARNING

International Twins Travel Different Career Paths – Together

by Maureen Zegel

Nia Fajriani and Tia Fajriati, first-year international students and identical twins from Jakarta, Indonesia, hold the distinction of living the farthest from home to study at Maryville University – about 9,900 miles.

Two years ago, their family moved to Maryland so the children could attend an American high school. Once they graduated, their parents moved back to Indonesia. The twins' older brother also stayed in the U.S. and is studying biomedical engineering at a college in Maryland.

Like many junior and senior high school students, Nia and Tia worked with guidance counselors to identify potential careers, then colleges and universities offering those programs. They chose to study in the U.S. to keep their career options open.

"Here, there is more freedom," Nia says. "In Jakarta, the universities are fine if you want to study education, but if you want another career, you have to study somewhere else."

Attending school together was a priority, so the college needed to offer academic programs that satisfied career goals for both of them. A friend who knew about Maryville suggested they add it to their list of schools.

For Nia, the cyber security program offers a path to an exciting profession. "I love to work with computers," she says.

Tia is pursuing studies in pre-dentistry and was delighted to find a program specifically designed for that track, rather than a more general curriculum. The University's commitment to providing a global education helped convince the family Maryville was the right choice.

The twins keep in touch with their parents via Skype and FaceTime – "they want to make sure we're happy," Nia says – but they're also focused on their new home and exploring student life on campus.

"We've joined clubs like the International Student Association and the Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Islander Association," says Tia. "Everyone has welcomed us."

photo by Jerry Naunheim

FIRST-YEAR TRADITION: CONVENING OF THE CLASS

Maryville's newest students and their families are welcomed in a ceremony featuring the rare ringing of the Maryville bell, a tradition reserved for Convening of the Class and Commencement. Each fall, a new class of students and their families are welcomed into the Maryville community during Convening of the Class. The ceremony celebrates the beginning of their Maryville journey. When President Mark Lombardi, PhD, concludes the activities with the ringing of the Maryville bell, students know they are standing on the strong shoulders of alumni who came before them—and on the hopes and expectations of fellow students, faculty and staff. The bell, circa 1872, was brought to the present day campus from the original site of Maryville in St. Louis city. The only other time students hear its revered ring is during Commencement. The gavel used by President Lombardi to ring the bell is assembled throughout the ceremony with pieces brought forth by representatives of the new class. The pieces represent the coming together of the Maryville community: leadership, faculty, staff, students, parents and alumni. A guest speaker from each group shares a brief insight from his or her own Maryville experience, then accepts a gavel piece from a new student. ►►



photo by Jerry Naunheim

As Maryville welcomed first-year students to the campus community, words of support, wisdom and inspiration were shared by faculty, staff and students.

LEADERSHIP AND VISION: "We're dedicated to your success now and in the future, and beyond your graduation. We're thrilled to to get to know you and to see you on what I know is going to be a grand journey."
– President Mark Lombardi, PhD



Cameron Caldwell

STAFF: "As a member of this great community, you will be provided endless opportunities to make many connections and meet countless individuals who are willing to assist you in making your Maryville experience meaningful, rewarding and memorable."
– Nina Caldwell, EdD
Vice President for Student Life



Kathryn Verseman



Michael Stayton

FACULTY: "I want to alert you to the fact that you will be confronted with new ideas. Some will challenge you, some will challenge your beliefs, some will make you think and perhaps make you a bit uncomfortable – but that's what education is all about, and if we don't help you grow and learn, we simply are not doing our jobs as educators."
– Mary Ellen Finch, PhD,
Vice President for Academic Affairs

ALUMNI: "It is indeed a family here. It doesn't matter where you're from or what beliefs you hold; Maryville has a place for you. Opportunities start this very weekend. Through (my) rewarding experiences I learned who I am and who I wanted to become."
– Minyu Cao, '12, '13



Brittany Pomilee

PARENTS: "We are from a small town. We heard of Maryville through one of Brittany's dear friends who will be graduating this coming year. We wanted our daughter to attend a school with a dedicated staff and a faculty that would be welcoming and nurturing and give her an amazing opportunity to further her future and her interest in pursuing a career in medicine. After one tour of Maryville, we were sold. This was going to be Brittany's new home."
– Craig and Kimberly Pomilee



Alex Hendricks



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY,
MUSIC THERAPY STUDENTS HELP MIDDLE SCHOOLERS
RELIEVE THE STRESS OF POVERTY AND VIOLENCE

FINDING A VOICE THROUGH MUSIC

by Nancy Fowler

photos by Sara Levin/Life Compositions

A Maryville partnership uses music to bring relief to children whose daily experience includes a range of traumas involving poverty and violence. Working at Confluence Academy-Old North, a charter school located in St. Louis, music therapy students help middle schoolers pour their feelings into instrumentals and lyrics through a program called Life Songs. Local singer Brian Owens started the project in Spring 2015. It's part of the Sterling Bank for Life Community Partnership, a program Owens put together through the bank and his employer, the St. Louis Symphony. "I really like the model of the Maryville Music Therapy program," Owens says. "I thought it would be interesting to see what the program could do in the context of students dealing with urban trauma."

'We all bleed the same'

Confluence students who have composed and recorded original singles through the project live in families of low socio-economic status.

In this environment of insufficient resources, students have experienced significant stressors, including having a parent in jail and losing a loved one to gun violence. One young man whose father was killed by a bullet composed a song titled "Never Backing Down," which draws a straight line from his life to what happened on Aug. 9, 2014, in Ferguson.

Mike Brown, yeah he was just 18

(Continued on next page)

"WHEN OTHER STUDENTS
LISTEN TO THESE SONGS AND
TAKE THEM IN, IT CAN BE
AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE
LESS-THAN-POSITIVE MESSAGES
THEY GET ELSEWHERE IN THEIR
LIVES."
~ BRIAN OWENS

MUSIC MAKERS: Well-known St. Louis singer Brian Owens (above) works with students at Confluence Academy — Old North to share their life stories through music. He created the program, Sterling Bank for Life Community Partnership, in association with Sterling Bank and partners with Maryville University's music therapy program.



*About to head to college, trying to chase a big dream
It's pretty hard to hear your mama and your daddy scream
Same story, hoodies on, but a different scene
We all have the same blood; we all bleed the same
Shot down in broad daylight — can't you feel the pain
My mama loved my daddy too; he was the same age
I was six months and 13 days*

Maryville graduate student Stephanie McAllister Holly says the personal situations of students are often difficult for them to navigate. Holly is the first graduate assistant for the Life Songs program, a position funded by Sterling Bank. She identifies with some of the students' stories. She grew up poor, with a single mother who worked two jobs and clothed her children in hand-me-downs provided by relatives.

Working with the students one-on-one, Holly begins by asking what kind of music they like. She pulls up a song on her computer and they listen together and talk about how it relates to the young person's life.

"Then, I'll ask, 'Hey, is this something you want to write about or sing about?'" Holly says.

Songwriting is a path to broader accomplishments, like increased self-esteem and reduced anxiety, a component that gives Holly immense

job satisfaction. "What I do doesn't even feel like work," she says. "It just feels so right."

In her graduate assistant position, Holly supervises Maryville students like senior Kristin Moulder, who works directly with Confluence kids.

Moulder's first student was initially reluctant to open up. But after Moulder told the young girl that she, too, suffers from shyness, the middle schooler began to share. Like Holly, Moulder starts a session by listening to music and discussing it before any actual music is created.

Using the software GarageBand, students create sound through virtual and real guitars, keyboards and other instruments. They can record their own instrumentals and lyrics and apply special effects. Moulder's first student produced a song that urges listeners to never give up.

"Before, the student didn't like singing in front of other people," Moulder says. "At the end, she was singing in the hallway with one of her friends and the friend told her how good she was."

'Nothing Short of Amazing'

The Life Songs project is about giving these children a voice, says Cynthia Briggs, PsyD, director of Maryville's music therapy program. At

the same time, it has important implications for the University.


"It's really an opportunity for our students to work with a group they might not meet anywhere else," Briggs says. "It also introduces Maryville University into a neighborhood where we otherwise might not be."

Confluence principal Sonya Murray, PhD, says participants are chosen for their interest and ability. She calls the program "nothing short of amazing."

"Our kids are coming in early on the days they have it," Murray says. The students are eager for people to hear their songs and often perform at assemblies. The school sells their CDs as a fundraising activity.

"It's just a win-win for everybody," Murray says.

The middle schoolers also record their creations at Shock City Studios, which donates its services. The first group held a concert at the Sun Theater in Grand Center. Even though the number of kids who participate directly is limited, singer Owens says their music gives many more a new way to look at the world.

"When other students listen to these songs and take them in, it can be an alternative to the less-than-positive messages they get elsewhere in their lives," Owens says. 

One midnight in late August, biochemistry major Adam Rork took advantage of a rare bloom on the exotic corpse flower at the Missouri Botanical Garden to expand his research studies

A botanist isn't usually on call to respond in plant emergencies. However, when the opportunity arises to study a flowering plant that only blooms once every seven years or so, innovation is required.

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Honoring Diversity **Through Inclusion**

A conversation with Turan Mullins

Assistant Dean of Students / Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion



photo by Jerry Naunheim

At any given time, Turan Mullins might be seen mingling with students at the Taste of Latin America or other student-run event, facilitating a campus-wide Diversity Dialogue on current issues in social justice, conducting professional training focused on creating a more inclusive learning environment, meeting one-on-one with student leaders and engaging in the greater St. Louis community on issues of diversity and inclusion in higher education. Mullins previously served as assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Programs, as well as an assistant director for admission at Maryville. As an established diversity leader both on and off campus, he served as a Leadership Fellow with the National Association for Campus Activities. Mullins is a St. Louis Business Diversity Initiative leadership program alumnus and a 2016 Focus St. Louis Impact Fellow. He was recently named to the Board of Directors at the Diversity Awareness Partnership of St. Louis and is on the executive committee of Friends of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater St. Louis. He was honored with the 2016 Outstanding Alumni Award from Mathews Dickey Boys' and Girls' Club. Mullins recently discussed his role and the objectives of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion with Janet Edwards, editor of *Maryville Magazine*.

How do diversity and inclusion work together?

Diversity captures how our individual uniqueness plays a part in our group dynamics on campus. Through inclusion, we become more comfortable building relationships with students from all walks of life — we feel more comfortable sharing ideas and learning from each other. Maryville is intentional about helping students to find their voice. We aren't interested in creating a diverse population that assimilates to sameness. We want students to understand we value who they are as individuals.

How do you measure progress in the work of diversity and inclusion?

I see it every day: When students run into my office on the first day of school and say, "Wow, there are way more students of color this year!"; when colleagues say, "Great work you guys are doing; I want to put this on my staff meeting agenda, how do I talk about it?"; when departments ask for guidance on diversity training because they understand the University's commitment to diversity and inclusiveness.

I know our efforts are successful because the number of prospective student visits and inquiries has continued to rise since our Multicultural Scholars program first began in 2009, and the success rate for our students of color in the Scholars program is consistently high in terms of GPA and graduation rates.

"I know that my showing up to an 8 p.m. program means something to our students. I ask them to trust me in supporting their effort — I try to make good on that promise."

What are your primary aspirations for the students of Maryville University?

Leaders of tomorrow will have to work in diverse teams and will be challenged to work in a global environment. Our challenge, our mission, is to ensure our graduates can contribute, compete and succeed in this increasingly diverse economy.

My goal is that students experience people from different backgrounds and learn to manage and lead those differences. They may be our next police chief, president of a university, physical therapist or nurse, so cultural competence is imperative.

I also want students to understand they play a part in dismantling oppression in society — I hope they become change agents and that they understand their role in addressing social justice issues.

What are key goals of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion?

Our biggest goal is to help students live Maryville's core value of

Diversity and Global Awareness. We provide programs that expose students to cultural education, engagement and development.

Another strong focus is helping the University achieve its strategic plan of becoming a more diverse and inclusive campus by working with different departments to intentionally recruit and retain students, faculty and staff, and provide professional development opportunities and programs.

Professionally, what inspires you?

I love interacting with our students, and I want to be an important advocate for them. From my mother to my high school guidance counselor to my college admission representative, people supported me, often for no other reason than I showed potential. I may not know the young people who are prospective students,

but I know they deserve a chance — and access to higher education. They need to feel, just as I did, "I can do this."

The administrative leadership at Maryville is also inspiring. Commitment to diversity and inclusion has to come from the top down. Here, it's demonstrated through physical presence, action, financial investment; it's weaving the message of inclusion in University messaging and speeches to the Maryville community.

Nina Caldwell (EdD), vice president for student life, sets a tempo in our division that's unlike any other. She's nationally known for her work in higher education, but she's here at Maryville. That tells me I can do great work here, too. And having a university president that truly supports the work you do, one who removes roadblocks when it's prudent and necessary, is gratifying and helpful. We don't have to drag our feet to make things happen.

You're a fixture at student-led programs on campus. How do you balance a personal life with your involvement in student activities?

You just do it. It becomes a lifestyle. I don't mind putting in the extra hours because it doesn't feel like work, it feels like I'm serving a greater good. I know that my showing up to an 8 p.m. program means something to our students. I ask them to trust me in supporting their effort — I try to make good on that promise.

Saints Nation



OLYMPIAN: Giordan Harris landed in St. Louis just a week after competing in the 2016 Olympics in Rio to become one of the newest members of the Saints men's swim team. He competed for the Marshall Islands, his home country.

Olympic mojo

In building a young Saints men's swim team, Head Coach Erica Rose relies on Olympic-sized talent and experience

BY MAUREEN ZEGEL



When swimmer Giordan Harris was injured while training for the 2012 Olympics, his doctor told him he shouldn't swim until he healed.

"I was 18 years old, in awe of Michael Phelps, and my race only lasted 26 seconds," he recalls. "Nothing was going to stop me. I was going to swim, even if my arm was broken."

At 23, Harris is more determined than ever. He landed in St. Louis barely a week after competing in the 2016 Olympics in Rio to become one of the newest members of the Saints' fledgling swim team and has been named co-captain of the men's squad. He grew up on the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific and has traveled around the world competing in elite 50-meter competitions.

Olympic Memories

"Both London 2012 and Rio 2016 were the greatest moments of my life," Harris says.

"I've spent my whole life swimming and working towards these goals."

"For both games, from start to finish, I was just in complete awe; I was amazed and astounded by everything, every little detail," he says. "I remember the London 2012 opening ceremonies — as they announced our country, and we walked through the corridor to enter into the Olympic stadium and paraded through, the roar of the crowd was so loud I could feel the vibrations within me." Immediately after the parade around the Olympic stadium, Harris hugged his mother.

"We both started tearing up, in disbelief and sheer happiness," he recalls. "There is no one else I would rather share the experience with. My mother has sacrificed, and still sacrifices, so much and works just as hard as I do to get me to where I need to be."

Harris has yet to meet Phelps.

"Phelps, being not only the greatest swimmer who has ever lived, but also being the greatest and most decorated Olympic athlete in history, I was always too nervous to approach or talk to him," he says. "But I've met other swim idols of mine. They're extremely friendly, the famous and elite swimmers, too. They help the younger swimmers by sharing stories of their experiences to help us on our journey."

Harris hopes to expand his Olympic experiences.

"I've fallen in love with the process, fallen in love with the experience," he says. "The friends I've made along the way have become family to me, and yes, I will be working towards Tokyo 2020."

It's not just the competition, he says. It's the sense of community.

"There is just something special about the swim community. We may all be competing against each other, but at the end of the day we are all athletes, and no matter the flags we carry, we cheer

each other on," Harris says. "Watching Phelps push the limits of swimming, doing things that nobody thought was possible — the whole swim world cheers for him, because at the end of the day, he is human just like us, and regardless of the country a swimmer represents, we all love the sport and will cheer for and help our fellow swimmers achieve boundless feats."

The Swimmer Becomes a Saint

The decision to spend the next few years in the Midwest surprised some aquatic athlete watchers, but not Harris.

"I had finished two years of college in Iowa and taken a year off for Olympics training in Illinois," Harris says. "I like the Midwest and it was time to finish my education." Harris credits an Oceania Australia Foundation Scholarship for providing his first opportunity to study in the U.S.


As he dove into his next college search, Erica Rose, who last spring was named head coach of Maryville's men's and women's swim and dive teams, was busy recruiting for the men's squad. It was early June, her birthday, and she opened an email to find a message from Harris.

"He said he was looking at a few Division II schools in the Midwest and wanted to talk to me about Maryville," she says. "I checked out his bio and couldn't believe what was about to happen. Last year, I had one male on my team. This year I have nine, including an Olympic swimmer. It was definitely our lucky day."

Harris grew up on Ebeye Island, a mile-long coral atoll half way between Australia and Hawaii. The densely populated sliver of land measures 80 acres and is home to 15,000 people. It is one of the poorest nations in the South Pacific.

"Growing up, I was very fortunate to be a part of the Ri-katak education program, funded by the U.S. Army," Harris says. "They choose four or five Ebeye kids each year to attend schools on the base at Kwajalein from kindergarten into high school. That program really helped those of us who qualified."

Harris says "all the right things" have happened to him and he'd like to see the people of his homeland, especially the children, prosper and grow. A cyber security major, Harris wants to return to Ebeye to help build the island's economy.

"Everything I'm doing now will get me back to my country," he says. "Swimming got me off the island. I've traveled and received scholarships to finish college, which allows me to continue swimming. I want to see more Ebeye kids have those opportunities." 

Former Basketball Saint Goes Pro in Ireland

Trae Pemberton, '15, former Saints basketball player and sport business management major, was prepared to settle into the role of entrepreneur as a basketball trainer when circumstances suddenly changed his game plan.

He is now playing point guard for the Tralee Warriors in the Irish Super League, the premier professional league in Ireland.

"When I graduated college in May 2015, I had the thought of wanting to play basketball as long as I could or enjoyed playing," Pemberton says. "I am excited about having a dream of playing basketball professionally come true."

Pemberton is one of just three international players on the team and the only American.



"I like to say I'm breaking new ground, especially for someone from Indiana," he says.

Irish Super League basketball games are 40 minutes, the same as college play, but

there are four quarters, rather than two periods. The three-point line is further back than U.S. college lines, but that's not the biggest challenge, Pemberton says.

"The ball we use in Irish pro basketball is a lot different, and it takes a lot of getting used to," he says. Also, the season is longer; it runs from September to March.

"I could not be happier for Trae as he pursues his dream of playing professional basketball," Saints head men's basketball coach Kevin Carroll says. "He has a great story, going from an undervalued recruit to an all-conference player and now to a professional athlete. There is no better example within our program of how hard work and dedication can take you places in life that were previously unimaginable."

Pemberton was a second-team All-Great Lakes Valley Conference selection after his senior season.

Meet the 'Voice of the Saints' by Wendy Todd

Jim Powers, known around campus as "The Voice of the Saints," calls nearly every home game for Maryville's sports teams.

Powers began broadcasting for Maryville in 2012. He was recently named communications coordinator and in his new role he also oversees broadcast and video operations.

His work is inspired by his idol, retired broadcaster Joe Tait.

"He made it sound like you were there," Powers says. He remembers listening to Tait call the play-by-play for the Cleveland Indians baseball games on the radio.

Maryville has given Powers an opportunity to explore his passion for sports and promote the talent and hard work of student-athletes. He takes a lot of pride in his post, prepping at least three hours before each game.

"I'm living my dream," Powers says. "I'm having so much fun."

Powers says a highlight of announcing Saints sports was watching the women's softball team advance to the NCAA II tournament last season.

"Seeing the reactions of the players' faces when they announced our name on the line to make it into the softball tournament last year – that's what it's all about," he says.

He began his sports career as a high school basketball coach in his hometown, Youngstown, Ohio, and eventually coached football and softball. Powers's coaching connections helped land his first broadcasting gig at 1390 AM – WNIO, where he served as an analyst for high school football playoff games.

"That was the first time I ever got behind a microphone. I learned on my own and had some good friends who helped me along the way," he says.

After moving to St. Louis and continuing to announce on stations like 590 AM The Fan - KFNS, Powers caught the attention of Chuck Yahng, assistant athletic director for communications. Recognizing his talent, Yahng introduced him to Marcus Manning, vice president for Athletics and Recreation.

"Jim has been instrumental in the transformation of the way we cover Maryville athletics," Manning says. "He's provided us an ability and opportunity to tell the stories of our student-athletes, coaches and alums that we didn't experience prior to his arrival. He's been a true game changer for Saints Nation."

All Saints games are broadcast on the GLVCSN (GLVC Sports Network). Visit: glvcsn.com/maryville.

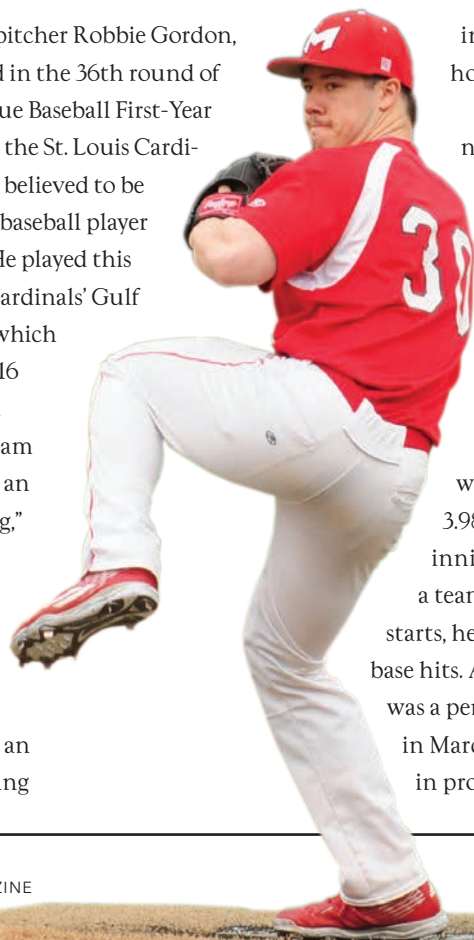


HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE: Jim Powers, Maryville's "Voice of the Saints," interviews Hall of Famer Lauren Dieckmann, '10. As communications coordinator for athletics and recreation, Powers oversees broadcast and video operations.

Gordon, '16, Drafted by St. Louis Cardinals

Former Saints pitcher Robbie Gordon, '16, was selected in the 36th round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft by the St. Louis Cardinals. Gordon is believed to be the first Saints baseball player to be drafted. He played this season in the Cardinals' Gulf Coast League, which claimed the 2016 championship.

"This is a dream come true and an amazing feeling," Gordon says. "Being born and raised in St. Louis and being a Cardinals fan, this is an incredible feeling



in getting drafted by my hometown team."

"He earned this opportunity through his work on a daily basis. Robbie gets to do something that so many young men dream about their entire lives," Saints Head Coach Seth Von Behren says.

Gordon went 4-4 in the 2015-2016 Saints season with two saves and posted a 3.98 earned run average in 61 innings of action. He recorded a team-high 57 strikeouts. In 11 starts, he only surrendered 12 extra-base hits. A highlight of his season was a perfect game against Hillsdale in March 2016, the first no-hitter in program history.

Saints Receive GLVC Sportsmanship Award

Maryville University is the recipient of the James R. Spalding Overall Sportsmanship Award for the 2015-16 season, presented by the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC). The award is Maryville's first-ever GLVC Sportsmanship Award.

Twenty teams, one per sport, and 32 student-athletes – one male and one female per school – were also named Spalding Sportsmanship Award winners.

The Saints accumulated the most points during the season and also received team sportsmanship awards in women's cross country and women's outdoor track and field, as well as men's soccer. Troy Payton from baseball was Maryville's James R. Spalding Individual male winner, while Elizabeth Kiblinger from cross country/track and field was Maryville's female winner.

Individual recipients of the James R. Spalding Sportsmanship Award are recognized for exemplary conduct of fairness, graciousness and respect toward teammates, opposing teams, coaches and officials before, during and after competition as a representative of the GLVC and their institution. Award-winning teams are cited for best sportsmanship throughout the season.

eSports Team Wins National Championship

In its first season in the C-Star League Division 1, Maryville University's eSports club team captured the League of Legends championship at Dreamhack; held last spring in Austin, Texas, it's considered the biggest tournament in North American history. Maryville ended the season undefeated, with a 40-0 record.

Student-athletes Andrew "Cackgod" Smith, Cody "Walrus" Altman, Tony "Saskio" Chau, John "Papachau" Le and Marko "Prototype" Sosnicki comprise the winning team. They defeated McMaster University – Canada in the championship round. The best of three match-ups were held back-to-back and involved a total of four consecutive hours of play.

"A big shout-out to the players for putting in the work all season long," says Dan "Clerkie" Clerke, team coordinator. "It's hard work to be a professional gamer and go to school. They put in

14 hours a day, practicing every spare minute."

A group of faculty, staff and parents, including Jarrett Fleming, coordinator of Athletics and Recreation, accompanied Maryville's team to the grand finals.

"This is a huge boost for our growing club sports program, and we're just getting started," Fleming says. "Dan and the eSports team have worked hard to help build a successful program. Their championship really puts us on the map in eSports."

"We've put in a lot of hard work setting up eSports at Maryville University, and it feels great to finish the season with a championship," Clerke says.

The tournament was broadcast online at twitch.tv, a website that caters specifically to the eSports industry covering the top players,

tournaments and leagues. The eSports industry is nearing status as a \$1.9 billion worldwide endeavor.

Maryville's eSports club team is one of six



CHAMPIONS: In its first season in the C-Star League Division 1, Maryville's eSports club team captured the 2016 League of Legends championship at Dreamhack. Maryville ended the season with a 40-0 record.

college teams that recently co-founded the National Association of Collegiate eSports in order to provide structure and official recognition for eSports programs. The league has since grown to 20 institutional members and is expected to grow.

Kiblinger, '15, '16, Adds to Accolades

Elizabeth Kiblinger, '15, '16, has been selected as one of the Top 30 honorees for the 2016 NCAA Woman of the Year. For 26 years, the NCAA Woman of the Year program has honored the academic achievements, athletics excellence, community service and leadership of outstanding female college athletes.

From the Top 30, nine finalists will be named (three from each NCAA division). The NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics will then select the 2016 NCAA Woman of the Year from among the nine finalists. (Finalists were announced after *Maryville Magazine* went to press.)

Earlier this year, Kiblinger was voted a CoSIDA first-team Academic All-American in Women's Track & Field/Cross Country, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of

America. She was just the third Maryville student-athlete to earn the distinction twice as she was a member of the All-American second team in 2014-15 and was one of the top runners in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. She posted top-20 finishes at the 2016 NCAA DII Outdoor National Championships in both the 5,000- and 10,000-meters in Bradenton, Fla.

Kiblinger holds multiple school records in cross country. She earned one of the most prestigious NCAA Awards when she was named the recipient of the Elite 90 Award for indoor track in 2016. She was selected Maryville University Female Student-Athlete of the Year in 2015 and 2016. She also is a two-time USA Track and Field Academic All-American.

SPORTING A NEW LOOK



Maryville's athletic fields have been renovated over the past year. Improvements include a new soccer and lacrosse multipurpose field with new scoreboards; a new baseball field and bullpens; and a new baseball scoreboard, slated for the spring season. *photo by Jerry Naunheim*

Dieckmann, Two Soccer Teams Join Saints Hall of Fame Roster

During Alumni Weekend this fall, the 1996 women's soccer team and the 1994 men's soccer team, along with women's soccer student-athlete Lauren Dieckmann, '10, were inducted into the Saints Hall of Fame.

1996 Women's Soccer

The 1996 team posted the best record in program history with a 17-1 record and claimed the SLIAC regular-season title with an undefeated 6-0-0 slate. The Saints surrendered only seven goals during the season, and still hold the school record for longest winning streak at 17. The team also set the mark for goals scored in a season with 98, and the record for most shutouts with 11. During that year, Maryville garnered seven Player of the Week honors. The Saints had three first-team All-SLIAC selections, three on the second team and three more who earned honorable mention. Amy Bornfleth was both the Player of the Year and the Newcomer of the Year, and Lonnie Folks was voted the SLIAC Coach of the Year.

1994 Men's Soccer

The 1994 men's squad is one of the most decorated at Maryville. The team still holds

the Saints record for wins in a season (18), best single-season winning percentage (.909) and shutouts (11). Jeff Muschick led the SLIAC in scoring that season with 61 points, including a school-record 25 goals, en route to earning SLIAC Player of the

Year honors. John Renaud was voted the SLIAC Coach of the Year in 1994. Four players were on the first-team All-SLIAC squad, and three others were selected to the second team. Both Muschick and coach Renaud are already in the Saints Hall of Fame.

Lauren Dieckmann, '10

Dieckmann is considered one of the best defenders to come through the Saints women's soccer program. With her tremendous physical skills, she was a tenacious one-on-one defender, outstanding on winning head ball battles in the air and a threat on offensive corner kicks. Dieckmann is the only player in program history named All-Conference in both the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and the Great Lakes Valley Conference. She was a three-time first-team All-SLIAC selection, and she was named to the SLIAC All-Tournament team in 2006-2008. As team captain her senior season, she earned third-team All-GLVC honors. Dieckmann led the Saints to an 18-5-1 record in three years in the SLIAC, including a co-conference title in 2007.



HALL OF FAMERS: Lauren Dieckmann, '10, and two soccer teams –1996 women's soccer and 1994 men's soccer—have been inducted into the Saints Hall of Fame. *photo by Brian Brinkley*

MARYVILLE STUDENT-ATHLETES BY THE NUMBERS

FIRST-YEAR STUDENT-ATHLETES

105 new overall student-athletes
17 new international student-athletes

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

359
326 LAST YEAR (2015-2016)
Over the last 5 years - 38% increase

STUDENT-ATHLETE BREAKDOWN BY GENDER

176 ♂
183 ♀

TOTAL NUMBER OF CLUB SPORT ATHLETES

152

MOST POPULAR MAJORS

#3 Biological/Biomedical Sciences
#2 Health Professions and Related Programs
#1 Business, Management, Marketing and Related Support Services

Alumni Weekend



photos by **Brian Brinkley**, **Dan Donovan** and **Jerry Naunheim**

Alumni Scene



DEFINING MOMENTS: Elizabeth McHugh was a passenger on the legendary US Airways flight 1549 when it made its emergency landing in the Hudson River in January 2009. After the harrowing experience, she set new life priorities.

Alumna Shares Story of Miracle on the Hudson

Elizabeth McHugh, '66

BY WENDY TODD

photo by Brian Brinkley

It's a sure bet alumna Elizabeth McHugh, '66, a member of the Golden Circle class honored during this year's Alumni Weekend, had one of the most interesting – and frightful – stories to share with classmates. She was a passenger on the legendary US Airways flight 1549 when it made its emergency landing in the Hudson River in January 2009.

The incident was chronicled in the book *Miracle on the Hudson* and in the film *Sully*.

At the time, McHugh was commuting regularly between North Carolina and New York for work, which placed her on that fateful flight. She vividly remembers the moments before the collision.

"We were at about 2,800 feet, and there was a loud explosion," McHugh says. "The plane shook and then settled a little. Most

of us first thought, 'Well, maybe one of the engines is gone, but we can fly back to LaGuardia with one engine.' After about three seconds, we realized there was no sound whatsoever," she remembers.

Then, the plane began to descend.

"Suddenly, we could feel the plane was no longer in an upward motion at all. On the left we could see skyscrapers getting taller and taller, and we were going lower and lower," she says.

McHugh believed she was going to die. "We were so close to the skyscrapers and the highway that runs along the Hudson River on that side, and that's where I thought we would be."

The plane veered to the left to avoid hitting the Washington Bridge, then crashed into the river.

McHugh was seated near the back. The exit behind her was blocked and water gushed in, but she and other passengers made it to the wing and jumped five feet down into a raft filled with freezing water. Besides being cold, McHugh escaped the ordeal physically unscathed. However, the emotional and psychological impact has been profound; her sense of gratitude has grown immensely.

"I am still alive. I am grateful for every minute of every day, for everything that I have right now," McHugh says. The following year, she reprioritized her life and retired from her longtime project management position.

She remembers thinking, "I could go on working 14 hours a day, or I can retire a year early and have time to live this life I've been given as a major gift." McHugh now devotes her time to volunteering at the Carolina Aviation Museum, where the "Sully" plane — so named for the aircraft's pilot, Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger — is on exhibit. She educates school groups about aviation safety

"We were so close to the skyscrapers and the highway that runs along the Hudson River on that side, and that's where I thought we would be."

- Elizabeth McHugh

CLASS NOTES

1950s

Ann Bardenheier Dames, '56, of Chesterfield, Mo., is a member of the DES National Catholic Honor Society and the Maryville Duchesne Society Board as well as an associate of the RSCJ. She enjoys music, theater, the symphony, art and travel.

Nancy "Rommy" Romweber Grote, '56, of Naples, Fla., spends much of her time cooking, entertaining and traveling. Rommy also enjoys golf, bridge and reading.

Ann Thornton O'Malley, '56, of Webster Groves, Mo., has volunteered for many groups over the years. Currently her main involvement is with the St. Louis Peregrine Society, which supports cancer patients.

Cynthia Westermann O'Neill, '56, of Carlyle, Ill., has served for two terms as finance chair for the Clinton County Board and chair of the Clinton County new courthouse project. She has also

served as a trustee for the Illinois Teachers' Retirement System and finance chair of the pension system.

Judy Anderson Molitor Smiggen, '56, of Naples, Fla., reports that for the last six and a half beautiful years she has been married to Thomas Smiggen, a dentist from Michigan, and they love living in Florida.

1960s

Ann Cunningham Ludwig, '61, of Englewood, Colo., sells real estate and plays tennis and bridge. She also travels when possible.

Mary Ann McGuire, '61, of St. Louis, stays active selling real estate and playing bridge.


Gretchen Wenstrup Schellenberg, '61, of St. Louis, enjoys gardening, music, reading and traveling.

Georgia Buckowitz Rankin, '61, of St. Louis, enjoys traveling, especially to see

and does speaking engagements about the crash. In addition, she volunteers in a medical office where her sister works and is involved in her church. Visiting her grandchildren is also a priority.

McHugh has seen the movie *Sully* and says it's mostly accurate.

"It was an intense, emotional experience to watch it. Tom Hanks and Aaron Eckhart did an awesome job," she says.

Surviving the crash of flight 1549 was a transformative moment in McHugh's life. She says, "I'd like to think it turned me into a saint, but I'm still very human." 

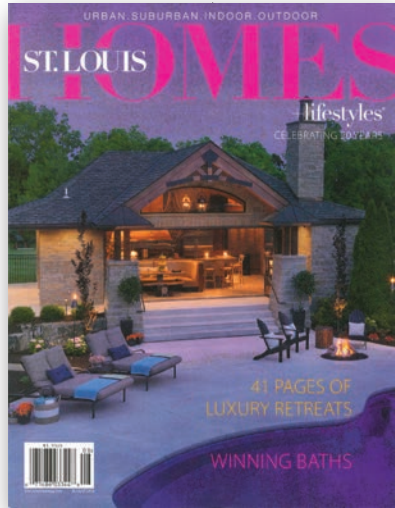

Alumni Scene

friends, from childhood and adulthood, both in the U.S. and abroad. She also enjoys theater, family gatherings and political events. Her daughter, Rachel, is connected with Maryville through the assistance Maryville has given the Angel Band Project, a music therapy program designed to provide healing for victims of sexual violence. This involvement keeps Georgia even more connected to Maryville.

Norma Vescovo Britt, '61, of Columbia, Tenn., is a Master Gardener. She also supports Keep America Beautiful, Lazarus Ministry and Ladies Guild of St. Catherine's.

Fran De La Chapelle, RSCJ, '61, of Cambridge, Mass., is the director of ministry for the United States Canadian Province.

Georgiann Guntly Donovan, '61, of St. Louis, enjoys the theater, bridge, computer games and volunteering. She was an usher at the Fox Theatre for 18 years.

Class Notes			Class Notes					
<p>Heather Heuchan Foderingham, ’61, of Clearwater, Fla., is a real estate broker, library volunteer, pickleball player and world traveler.</p>								
<p>Mary Stuart Katis, ’61, of Boxford, Mass., organized and established an outreach program at her local church, volunteered for local plays and musical events and served on the Family Services board for many years.</p>								
<p>Gail Porter Mandell, ’62, of South Bend, Ind., recently published <i>Angel Creek</i>, a memoir about a year she spent as a papal volunteer in Latin America. She mentions Maryville several times in the book. Mandell is professor and Schlesinger Chair of Humanistic Studies Emerita at Saint Mary’s College in Indiana. She has published four other books.</p>								
<p>Kathy Brennan Danna, ’62, of Wildwood, Mo., tutors at the Missouri Eastern Correctional Center in Pacific, Mo. She is part of a program working with offenders toward a high school equivalency certificate. Kathy meets one-on-one with the offender over a three-month period. It has been an eye-opening experience, and Kathy would be glad to talk to other retired teachers who might be interested in joining her. Kathy is also happy to say that her daughter, Kate, is teaching Business Law at Maryville.</p>								
<p>Patricia Stutz Kissing, ’66, of Wildwood, Mo., stays busy participating in the Assistance League, Cornerstone Bible Study, bunco and book clubs.</p>								
<p>Gretchen Maze Kolhs, ’66, of Carmichael, Calif., enjoys quilting, art history, music and reading.</p>								
<p>Mary Steinlage LaBarge, ’66, of St. Louis, is still working full time. In her off hours she enjoys traveling, hiking, reading and spending time with family.</p>								
<p>Susan Burns Mann, ’66, of Melbourne, Fla., fills her time with art, pottery, yoga and reading.</p>								
<p>Dede Hatch Motherway, ’66, of Reno, Nev., stays busy playing golf, traveling and babysitting. Dede met her husband of 51 years, Tom, at a sophomore social committee picnic; he was a blind date.</p>			<p>Joel D. Hermann, ’09, ’11, of Chesterfield, Mo., is now the associate director for the Center of Leadership and Community Engagement at Fontbonne University.</p>					
<p>Suzy Ryan Porth, ’66, of Burke, Va., is active in VOICE (Virginians Organized for Community Engagement), a social justice organization working for immigrant rights, affordable housing and access to health and dental care.</p>			<p>Tyler S. Saxton, ’10, of Green Bay, Wis., teaches social studies at Brookfield East High School.</p>					
<p>Joan Peskorse Steinlage, ’66, of Wausau, Wis., stays active serving as an art museum docent, supporting political groups, traveling, gardening and reading. She and her husband, Paul, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year.</p>			<p>Gregory M. Schwartze, ’10, of Harrisburg, Pa., is brand manager at The Hershey Company.</p>					
<p>Judy Gallagher Wickersham, ’66, of Kirkwood, Mo., is engaged in a community tree-planting project, poetry discussion group, book club and sewing projects.</p>			<p>Samuel T. Carlson, ’11, of Gilbert, Ariz., married Courtney Carlson on Sept. 6, 2015.</p>					
<p>Jean Bartunek, RSCJ, ’66, of Cambridge, Mass., is currently professor of management and organization at Boston College.</p>			<p>John F. Murar, ’11, of St. Louis, married Melissa Murar on May 28, 2016. Matt Renaud ’11, ’13, was in the wedding party.</p>					
<p>Margaret Hochreiter Bleem, ’66, of St. Louis, works part time, enjoys traveling and helped plan the 50-year class reunion.</p>			<p>Samuel T. Carlson and Courtney Carlson</p>					
<p>Dorothy Howe Brooks, ’66, of Punta Gorda, Fla., writes and teaches poetry.</p>								
<p>Beth White McHugh, ’66, of Lake Wyle, S.C., travels, gardens, sews and has fun with her grandchildren. Since retiring, she is checking items off her bucket list. Beth speaks publicly about her experience as a passenger on the plane that crashed in the Hudson River in 2009. That story was told in the book <i>Miracle on the Hudson</i>. (See story on page 38.)</p>								
<p>Dete Gieselman Reh, ’66, of St. Louis, has many interests, including serving as a St. Louis Art Museum docent and parish chair of Respect Life, traveling, playing bridge, cooking and reading.</p>								
<p>Terrie Regnier Reid, ’66, of Andover, Mass., enjoys music, poetry, the outdoors and her grandchildren.</p>								
<p>1970s</p> <p>Patricia Korte Botulinski, ’71, of St. Petersburg, Fla., reports that her husband, Thomas, was in the Navy for 38 years, which allowed them to live in many places, including Japan, Australia and Hawaii; and visit many others, such as China, Singapore and New Zealand. Throughout all their travels, Patricia was able to continue her nursing career. They are now retired and enjoying Florida.</p>								
<p>Bridget Walsh Hutchen, ’71, of Lake Forest, Ill., still works part-time as an attorney specializing in adoptions. When not working, she enjoys golfing and helping with her grandchildren.</p>								
<p>Mary Lynard, ’71, of Sonoma, Calif., earned a BA in music therapy following graduation from Maryville and was credentialed in special education. She used both degrees at the Sonoma Developmental Center. She is now retired and studying the upright bass.</p>								
<p>Cheryl Leone McKay, ’71, of Staunton, Ill., retired three years ago. She and her husband, Jim, spend a lot of time at their second home at Lake of the Ozarks.</p>								
<p>Mary Margaret O’Brien, ’71, of St. Charles, Mo., reports that following retirement she traveled with her BIS Irish wolfhound to dog shows throughout the U.S. In 2013, she joined the Patriot Guard Riders, supporting military and first responder families in their time of grief. She has crisscrossed the U.S. and Canada several times on her motorcycle.</p>								
<p>1990s</p> <p>Barbara McCane Daniels, ’90, of Chesterfield, Mo., has penned her first children’s book, <i>Timmy Teacup Transforms</i>. The book addresses low self-esteem. The positive messaging will encourage children to understand they are perfect the way they are.</p>								
<p>Olive Chiu Dempewolf, ’91, ’95, of St. Charles, Mo., is now the chief people officer at Boone Center Inc.</p>								
<p>James W. Brewer, ’96, of Weldon Springs, Mo., was named a top executive at Susan Brewer Service First Real Estate.</p>								
<p>Tony M. Spielberg, ’96, of Chesterfield, Mo., has been named chief executive officer at Boone Center Inc.</p>								
<p>Kelly Edgar Courtwright, ’98, of House Springs, Mo., is an accounting specialist at MOHELA, a student loan servicer.</p>								
<p>2000s</p> <p>Angela Roeder Earlywine, ’01, of Ballwin, Mo., was named a top executive at Forum Studio Inc.</p>								
<p>Lori Olsen McElvain, ’01, of St. Louis, designed an article and cover for <i>St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles</i> magazine.</p>								
<p>Melissa Yount-Ott, ’01, ’06, of St. Charles, Mo., was named principal of Parkwood Elementary School in the Pattonville school district. She was previously Pattonville’s director of elementary education.</p>								
<p>Patrick J. Holleran, ’02, of Chesterfield, Mo., was named a top executive at HDA Architects.</p>								
<p>Glenda F. White, ’02, of St. Louis, was named a top local executive at Medi Plex Healthcare Professionals LLC.</p>								
<p>Amy Bien Sebelius, ’02, of St. Louis, made the 40 under 40 in Retail Design list for <i>design: retail</i> magazine. Amy is the store design and planning manager for Save-A-Lot food stores.</p>								
<p>Lauren Stockhausen, ’08, of St. Louis, has been named marketing communications manager at Boone Center Inc.</p>								
<p>Stacy Decker, ’09, of Villa Ridge, Mo., passed the extra certification in her field and obtained a Certification in Hand Therapy (CHT) in May 2016.</p>								
<p>2010s</p> <p>Andrew “AJ” Fox, ’09, ’10, of Jefferson City, Mo., represented the United States at the 2016 Dodgeball World Cup in England.</p>								

Mycah M. Hudson, '13, of St. Louis, is assistant athletic director for external relations at Maryville University.

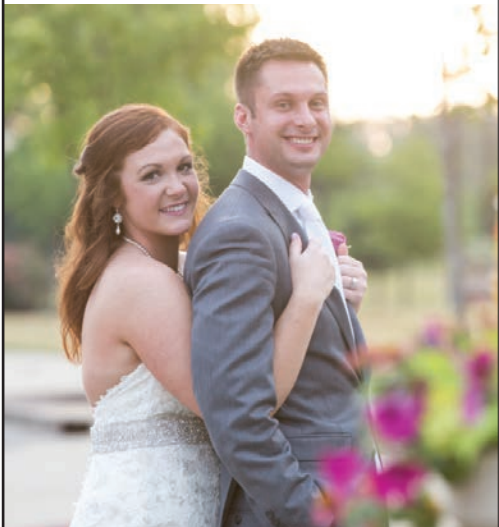


John F. Murar and Melissa Murar

Kayla M. Yettke, '16, of Ballwin, Mo., is coordinator of special events and donor relations at Maryville University.

Kristen Montag Rettenmaier, '13, of Kirkwood, Mo., married Dan Rettenmaier on June 25, 2016.

Cameron C. Fagundes, '15, of San Diego, Calif., is an inside sales representative for the San Diego Gulls.



Kristen Montag Rettenmaier and Dan Rettenmaier

Esther R. Dunlop, '15, '16, of Des Peres, Mo., is a pre-K teacher at Immanuel Lutheran.

J. Andy Painter, '16, of Bridgeton, Mo., is communication manager for the Mo. Dept. of Economic Development.

Regan B. Holland, '16, of St. Louis, is a financial representative at Northwestern Mutual.

Brianna Gray Silvers, '15, of Kirksville, Mo., married Chase Silvers on June 11, 2016.

Jessica M. Zorn, '14, of Bentonville, Ark., joined Hallmark as a creative assistant supervisor, partnering with Greetings Creative and Team Walmart in the Hallmark Bentonville office mocking up product displays.

Christina M. Gerst, '16, of St. Peters, Mo., is an actuarial assistant at RGA.

Megan M. Korte, '16, of Ballwin, Mo., is the marketing coordinator at True Fitness.

Lindsay Michele Forshee, '16, of St. Louis, is a third-grade teacher in the Mehlville school district.

Lauren M. Sullivan, '16, of St. Charles, Mo., is a registered nurse at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.

Alyssa A. Faust, '16, of Manchester, Mo., is a registered nurse at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.

Amanda "Mandy" M. Wagner, '16, of Manchester, Mo., is a staff nurse at SSM Health St. Clare Hospital – Fenton.

Ryan S. Shubert, '16, of Red Bud, Ill., is an actuarial assistant at RGA.

James "Jimmy" B. McGrath III, '16, of Saint Peters, Mo., is an account representative at Chubb.

Bayley Hotop Little, '13, and Nicklaus P. Little, '13, of St. Louis, announce the birth of a daughter, Caroline Rose, on June 22, 2016.

Hayley Kathleen Cronin, '16, of Ballwin, Mo., is a teacher at Remington Traditional



Bayley Hotop Little, Nicklaus Little and their daughter Caroline Rose Little

School in the Pattonville school district.

Kellie Nicole McCarthy, '16, of Valley Park, Mo., is a registered nurse at SSM Health St. Joseph Hospital – St. Charles.

Shelby J. Straher, '16, of St. Louis, is a registered nurse at SSM Health Care Hospital – Fenton.

Arielle K. Cotner, '16, of St. Charles, Mo., is a PICU registered nurse at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.

Erica Lorton Willimann, '15, married **Jordan A. Willimann, '13**, both of Washington, Mo., on August 13, 2016.




Erica Lorton Willimann and Jordan A. Willimann

Kirsten E. Warman, '16, of O' Fallon, Mo., is a contributing designer at *St. Louis Magazine*.

Austin Nash, '16, of St. Louis, is the UX designer at Fpweb.net.

Victoria Y. Reinders, '16, of Buena Park, Calif., is a middle school science teacher at Preclarus Mastery Academy.

Hannah Pool Wolfe, '14, of Atlanta, Ga., married Jon Wolfe on May 1, 2016.

Andrew J. Duqum, '16, of Chesterfield, Mo., is an actuarial analyst at Principal Financial Group. 



Hannah Pool Wolfe and John Wolfe



GOLDEN CIRCLE: The Class of 1966 was honored during Alumni Weekend in September 2016, as they celebrated their 50th reunion.

photo by **Brian Brinkley**

1930s

Margaret Claire "Kitty" Michelson, '38

1940s

Betty Burk Litchliter, '42
Janith McNabb, RSCJ, '43
Mary Kickham Ryan, '43
Phyllis Stewart Schlaflly, '45
Elizabeth McNulty Heinzmann, '49
Marian A. DeMenil, PhD '42

1950s

Maryrose Vigna Patrone, EdD, '50
Sara Shiels Finn, '50
Theresa Lane McGrath, '50

Helen O'Connell Gardiner, '51
Mary Meehan von Wahlde, '53
Jean Margaret Coyle Crowley, '55
Suzanne Clements Degan, '53
Margot O'Donoghue, '56
Nelwyn Landry, '56
Jane Jennings Corbett, '57
Colette Pezolt Padberg, '57
Araxie Jouharian del Real, '59

1960s

Elizabeth "Betty" Catherine Pfaff, '60
Evelyn Claire Llyod Berges, '66
Judith Ann Sherrod Phelan, '66
Barbara Gawalek Rountree, '67
Kathleen "Molly" Lawrence Dwyer, '60

1970s

Kathleen Galloup Dils, '70
Eleanor Houska Sanford, '77

1980s

Nancy Pace Wright, '86
Julia Finn O'Gorman, '87

1990s

William P. Fox, '92

2010s

Michael Kemp, '16

Connie Burdzy Donius, '55 (1933-2016)

The Maryville University community mourns the loss of treasured alumna Constance 'Connie' Burdzy Donius, who passed away on Sept. 2. She graduated from Maryville in 1955, and was a valued friend to many in the Maryville community.

"Connie Donius was a wonderful alumna who personified class, grace, strength and wisdom through her entire life as educator, mother, wife and philanthropist," says President Mark Lombardi, PhD. "She was a special human being who always brought joy and kindness to those she touched. I and the entire Maryville family miss her very much."

Along with her late husband, Walter Donius, Connie was a generous and longtime supporter of Maryville. She spearheaded her class reunions and was instrumental in planning Maryville's 125th anniversary celebration.

She enjoyed careers in education and travel, her lifelong passions.

The Donius University Center, a vital hub of student life on Maryville's campus, is named in honor of their family. The Thomas G. Donius Duchesne Society Scholarship honors the memory of their son, Thomas G. Donius.

She is survived by her two sons, Maryville Trustee William A. Donius and Michael J. Donius.



Silver Medalist: Eric Newby, '14

by Nancy Fowler

As a teenager in Nashville, Ill., Eric Newby, '14, was a star football and basketball player. But now he plays a different sport — rugby — and it took him all the way to Rio de Janeiro.

Newby competed for the U.S. in the 2016 Paralympics Wheelchair Rugby. In a hard-fought competition, the U.S. captured the Silver medal.

"We lost to Australia by one point in double overtime," Newby says. "Being that close to a Gold medal hurts, but it was probably the best wheelchair rugby game ever played and for it to happen on that stage and to get that much exposure for our sport is great."

A new challenge

At age 18, Newby changed sports because his life changed. On the night of his high school graduation, he was riding

with a friend when the truck they were in hit a concrete post and flipped, breaking Newby's neck.

While recovering, he watched the movie *Murderball*, a documentary about quadriplegic wheelchair rugby athletes who went to the 2004 Paralympics in Athens, Greece. Soon after, Newby had a serendipitous encounter.

"I actually met the coach of St. Louis' wheelchair rugby team in rehab," Newby says. "Then, the day I was released from rehab, I went straight to rugby practice — only five weeks after I got hurt."

The six-foot-five-inch athlete who could once bench-press 300 pounds was no stranger to playing hard. But this time, he had to get used to his different and changing body, the real strengths and limits of which he wouldn't know for a full year.

"When I look back on it, I was pretty terrible. It took me three years to get good at the sport," Newby says. It's no wonder. Rugby is the only full contact wheelchair sport.

"We play in wheelchairs that are custom built for each player and look like something out of Mad Max," Newby says. "Basically, the defense is trying to destroy the guy with the ball before he scores by crossing the end line between two markers. It's an insanely fast-paced, high intensity sport, but it's so much fun to play and really exciting to watch."

Changing goals

This past January, Newby moved to Littleton, Colo., with his fiancée, Megan Moauro, an occupational therapist he met through wheelchair rugby. He works remotely with Stealth Creative, in the same graphic designer position he had in St. Louis, and plays for the Denver Harlequins.

Newby has become friends with the athletes he once admired in *Murderball*, a dream come true. And he's achieved his goal to compete on a global level. The experience was memorable, to say the least.

"Rio was amazing," Newby says. "The crowds were as loud as could be, the venues were awesome; it's something I'll never forget for the rest of my life."

Newby has his sights set on a 2018 World Championship in Australia. But that may depend on a shoulder surgery he's facing. Wheelchair rugby is a brutal sport.

"I'm on my third concussion; I've broken my elbow, my hand and some fingers," Newby says.

Meanwhile, he's happy thinking about a future in which work and marriage are his focus.



PARALYMPIAN: Eric Newby, '14, competed on the U.S. Wheelchair Rugby team in the 2016 Paralympics in Rio. The team captured the Silver medal in a hard-fought competition that went into double-overtime.

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Submit a class note for the Spring
2017 issue of *Maryville Magazine*.

maryville.edu/classnotes

WEARABLE ART: ALLISON NORFLEET BRUENGER, '08

by Laura Derickson, '93

The hunger to create is strong for Allison L. Norfleet Bruenger, '08, whose handmade jewelry is inspired by nature and her love of various fabrication techniques. Her mixed media jewelry combines original drawings and paintings with her distinctive style of fretwork, wire wrapping and metal work.

"I start with sheet metal, a saw and a dream," says Norfleet Bruenger of her unique pieces. "I am inspired by everything around me. Anything can trigger an idea. I might take a picture of a tree stump because I like the pattern of the bark. I have little sketches on receipts and old napkins everywhere."

A firm believer in lifelong learning, Norfleet Bruenger already possessed a BFA when she came to Maryville to earn a second BA in metalsmithing and ceramics. Former adjunct professor Sherri Jaudes acted as her mentor and helped Norfleet Bruenger merge her various passions into her jewelry.

"I entered the program with a vision: I want my creations to be more than just a piece of jewelry you wear. I would like it to be an original piece of art that



a person can wear, adore and take with them anywhere," she says. To accomplish this goal, Norfleet Bruenger adds her own drawings or paintings to the jewelry. This requires assembling her metal pieces without fire, which would burn her artwork.

"Sherri helped me master the basics and then acted as a guide to help me realize all my passions in my jewelry," Norfleet Bruenger says. "She was instrumental in getting me to that point. Maryville

has a phenomenal reputation in the art community when it comes to metals, and I was blessed with great teachers."

As she continues to grow as an artist and learn new techniques, that skill is reflected in her work. "I still want to push the envelope regarding what can be worn, so I have started incorporating other materials like fabric, leather and found objects into my pieces," she says.

Norfleet Bruenger highly recommends artists become involved with local art organizations and guilds – a strategy that has helped in her own artistic journey. Selling one's art works takes marketing, connections and business savvy. These organizations can help build the business side of being an artist, she says.

Norfleet Bruenger's wearable art pieces can be viewed and purchased at local art galleries and art shows. Although galleries help keep her work in front of the public, she prefers shows. "Art fairs are my first love because I get to meet the customers, talk with them, and work with them when they are trying the pieces on," she says. "It's always amazing when I see people excited about wearing my pieces. Sometimes I even tear up. It's emotional, and I feel blessed."

Urban Health Advocate: Brenda Battle, '81, '96 by Janet Edwards

Brenda Battle began her career as a nurse, moving quickly into a broad spectrum of administrative positions. She currently directs multiple departments focused on the healthcare needs of urban populations.

As vice president of care delivery innovation at University of Chicago Medicine for the past four years, Battle directs community health initiatives. About 300,000 Chicago residents of all ages benefit from the programs.

"What I do insures that a patient has access to the resources they need across the full continuum of care," Battle says. "When I can see that patients start connecting dots around what they do in their environment and what they do in their home that could potentially create risk for them around their health – and they learn how to avoid those risk factors – it's gratifying."

Battle is also the medical center's chief diversity and inclusion officer. Her team promotes health literacy by translating documents into plain language, provides

cultural competency training, and identifies variations in healthcare outcomes so programs can be developed to close those gaps.

"When we convey complex healthcare language in terms that persons understand, they have a greater chance of being adherent and actually engaging in their healthcare," Battle says. "Our efforts also support workforce development and employee engagement strategies, by recruiting and attracting diverse talent; promoting efforts to ensure inclusion, such as diversity training and employee resource groups; and cultural competency."

Battle's career has given her deep experience across healthcare settings, including home care, hospitals, clinics and health disparity centers. She has also worked on the insurance side of the industry.

"I have always been in healthcare access and a large part of it has involved working to eliminate health disparities," she says.

Battle earned her MBA from Maryville 15 years after graduating from the nursing program.

"Healthcare is a business, and getting my MBA was tremendously helpful," Battle says. "I was fortunate to make it to a director's level without an MBA, but I was doing a lot of work like profit and loss management and developing people and teams and programs. I decided I could use the theoretical knowledge while already doing this work. Without a doubt it has been helpful in understanding and developing a business acumen."



Maryville's Longtime Alumni Director Named 'Ageless Remarkable St. Louisan'

by Mindy Schlansky

Erin Verry, who has been a mainstay in Maryville's Office of Institutional Advancement for more than 27 years, was recently named a 2016 Ageless Remarkable St. Louisan by St. Andrew's Resources for Seniors. The award recognizes St. Louisans who continue to live "active and vital lives" through ongoing careers, volunteerism or both. Verry was recognized at a ceremony held in October.

Verry says she was both humbled and delighted to be recognized as an Ageless Remarkable St. Louisan.

"The first time I visited campus I fell in love with Maryville," Verry says. "I'm thrilled to assist with Maryville's continuing growth, now more than ever."



Verry is known for her long and successful tenure as director of alumni relations during a period in which many Maryville alumni re-engaged with the University, often at Verry's personal invitation. When she took over as Maryville's new director of alumni relations in 1988, alumni engagement was minimal – approximately 250 people would attend the annual

Alumni Weekend and few were involved in committees or affinity groups on campus. Maryville now averages well over 1,000 attendees at this annual event each September and the weekend is filled with activities. Verry's intentional efforts to bring alumni into the fold, expand volunteer opportunities and encourage alumni to become ambassadors for the University is largely credited with the increased numbers.

Over the years, Verry's many duties have included planning and executing the annual Alumni Weekend, Alumni Trivia Night and Maryville's sponsorship of the St. Louis Speakers Series. She has also spearheaded Maryville's volunteer National Leadership Councils and Alumni Association, accompanied alumni on two university trips abroad and served on several University task forces. In her spare time, rather than retreating, she volunteers regularly for special Maryville events – such as those benefiting Kids Rock Cancer, Maryville's music therapy outreach program.

Verry recently assumed new responsibilities within the Office of Institutional Advancement, helping to ensure that graduates from earlier years – when Maryville College first moved to West St. Louis County and later became Maryville University – continue to feel closely connected to today's active, multi-dimensional campus.

photo by **Jerry Naunheim**

Your Legacy, Their Future

A Planned Gift to Maryville Helps Our Students Build a Bright Tomorrow

Arin Simon, '18, Elementary Education, is a recipient of the Irma Sue Macy L'Dor V'Dor Endowed Scholarship. Mrs. Macy's generous bequest will benefit students like Arin for generations to come.

To learn more about gifts that provide tax savings, or charitable gift annuities that pay you income for life, please contact Mark Roock, CFRE, Development Director, Planned Giving: mroock@maryville.edu; 314.529.9674 or 800.627.9855, ext. 9674.



In Retrospect



DORM SWEET DORM: As students settle into Saints Hall, Maryville University's new residence hall, we take a look back at unidentified photographs of student life in Duchesne Hall (which was razed in 2012) during the 1960s and 70s. 🐶 That television set! Snoopy! Water Balloons! Without iPads (which were invented 50 years later – and, amazingly, only six years ago), students wrote papers on typewriters and browsed magazines, but some important things depicted here remain the same: studying ... and gathering with roommates who might well become lifelong friends. 🐶 Do you have classic dorm stories and photos? Share them with us via email at marketing@maryville.edu. You may see your story published on Mpress (maryville.edu/mpress) or in the next issue of *Maryville Magazine*!

photos courtesy of University Archives



HOME AWAY FROM HOME: Student life in Maryville University's new Saints Hall provides quite a contrast to the days of Duchesne Hall (shown on previous page). As it has been for generations, students gather in their rooms to study and to relax. The differences between eras include modern amenities and devices such as microwave ovens, small refrigerators, laptops, iPads and smart phones. Each room features personal bathrooms and flexible-use furniture so students can customize their home-away-from-home. Saints Hall features a multipurpose room, fitness and exercise facility and student lounges on each floor.



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Junior from Houston, Texas

Majoring in Early Childhood
and Elementary Education

Recipient of the Margaret Amidei Galbraith
(Class of '59) Endowed Scholarship, and the
Monsanto Endowed Scholarship

*"The School of Education at Maryville University
is filled with passionate people, and I feel my
own passion and love of learning will inspire
any students I teach."*
– Deisy Avellaneda



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