

# DYOUNVILLE

THE D'MENSIONS MAGAZINE / SPRING 2023



# GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND



As we reflect on the progress of major brands offering increasingly personalized and memorable experiences over the past several decades, individuals' expectations for college are being influenced by the high-quality consumer interactions they are experiencing in other markets. Research shows millennials have higher expectations for consumer experiences than previous generations, and there is no evidence of that trend slowing for future generations of students. In alignment to these facts, this issue showcases examples of how D'Youville University is going Above and Beyond for our community.

As you'll read in the following pages, we've worked to carefully identify the needs of our stakeholders: our students, our alumni, our employees, and the local community members. Our goal is to not only meet those needs but exceed expectations in every way that we can.

From our student's perspective, we are living in a world where knowledge is at their fingertips, Amazon Prime delivers overnight, and immediacy has become the norm. These expectations are driving the demand for more flexible access and continuous interconnectivity to campus services, far beyond the parameters of our walls and traditional office hours. In many ways, you will see how we are redesigning student support services to meet our students where they need us in order to be successful in today's world.

From an employee's perspective, we have shifted with the changing world to promote the workplace as an essential part of a healthy lifestyle. The 32-hour workweek is a major driver of our recent changes, and it is promoting a flexible work culture which focuses

on technology and efficiency, while emphasizing the balance of family obligations, service, and personal interests. At the end of the day, the success of D'Youville university is not only dependent on student enrollment, but also the competition for attracting and retaining the best talent to work for the organization.

From an alumni and community perspective, we are always looking for ways to deliver on our mission and promote service and positivity in the world. We aim to foster and sustain a continuum of life-long engagement connecting our stakeholders and aligning the very positive values our community cherishes. We know our collective efforts can make the world a better place to live.

I hope you enjoy this issue of D'Mensions Magazine and are as excited as our students are to see the wonderful things happening at D'Youville University which are going Above and Beyond!

Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of D'Mensions Magazine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorrie A. Clemo". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Lorrie A. Clemo, PhD  
D'Youville President

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# Core4<sup>®</sup> TRAINING

## D'Youville Partners with Sports Medicine Concepts for Life-Saving Core4 Training in Response to Damar Hamlin's Cardiac Arrest



The collapse of Damar Hamlin on the field of the Buffalo Bills and Cincinnati Bengals game which left Hamlin fighting for his life in an intensive care unit made an impact on the D'Youville community. D'Youville University partnered with Sports Medicine Concepts to offer Core4<sup>®</sup> simulated training to local athletic trainers and coaches at the high school, college, and university levels with an associated cost of only \$3.00 in recognition of Damar Hamlin's jersey number.

The advanced simulated experience took place in the Health Professions Hub on campus on January 30. The event educated participants on how to effectively respond to four critical life-threatening conditions including cervical spine injury, isolated head trauma, truncal trauma, and cardiac arrest/arrhythmia. Upon completion of the experience, 50 professionals from Western New York were better

equipped to respond to game-time crisis situations and potentially save the lives of young athletes.

"As a transformative health sciences university that participates in NCAA division II athletic competition, the care and well-being of student athletes is always a top institutional priority," says President Clemo. "Seeing Damar Hamlin collapse on the field was a candid reminder of the safety risks that athletes accept each time they take the field. As an educational institution, we were compelled to offer training to local athletic professionals with the hope that it helps young athletes in our community who may face traumatic events."

To help support the initiative, D'Youville University administrators, faculty, and staff offered monetary donations in

measures of three at a recent University Assembly event. Considering the importance of this training, Sports Medicine Concepts arranged for a discounted cost while doubling the participant capacity from the standard 25 to 50 people.

"Responding to emergencies in athletics presents unique challenges that requires specific training," said Sports Medicine Concepts CEO, Mike Cendoma. "The right training allows sports medicine teams to exploit very small windows of opportunity to give critically injured athletes their best chance of survival. By providing access to Sports Medicine Concepts' sports emergency care training, D'Youville made it safer for all athletes across WNY."

In addition to offering Core4<sup>®</sup> on January 30, D'Youville also ceremoniously recognized the efforts of those Buffalo Bills trainers responsible for saving Damar Hamlin's life. "D'Youville University students are taught from day one that every moment matters when it comes to saving a life," says president Clemo. "The staff of the Buffalo Bills actualized this important lesson, for which I know Damar, his family, and the entire Western New York Community are incredibly thankful."



# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

## NFL's Senior Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Sam Rappoport

It's common to have DEI on campus, it is not common to integrate this focus into public ceremonies with a multigenerational and external community audience.

D'Youville University did just that for the May graduating class of 2022. This ceremony was truly a celebration of achievement, persistence and hope – all the qualities that D'Youville University embodies.

Sam Rappoport was hired by the NFL to, among other things, bring more women into the operational side of the league and ensure diversity hiring progress in football. She worked her way through the ranks at the NFL to become the Senior Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Her tenacity and dedication to the world of sport has created a platform that has since been replicated by other professional leagues. Through this effort, over 190+ female coaching, scouting and operations

candidates have been hired in a five-year period; a record number.

In 2019, Rapoport was awarded the NFL Commissioner's Award selected by Commissioner Roger Goodell, Fortune 40 Under 40, and was recently named one of People Magazine's 25 Women Changing the World.

While Title IX changed the laws on gender equity in athletics and academics almost fifty years ago, it is, and has always been, "up to us to change the expectations on equity, and to do so with unflinching courage." Sam Rapoport has risen to that challenge in a way that blazes the trails for the powerful women who follow in her cleats.



## Former President of Oishei Children's Hospital, Allegra Jaros



Former president of John R. Oishei Children's Hospital, Allegra Jaros addressed the graduates of the Fall 2022 commencement. Healthcare and the focus of family is necessary for a vibrant community. Allegra's leadership in one of only 43 freestanding children's hospitals in the nation aligns with D'Youville's core mission of education and upward mobility. Since 90 percent of graduates will seek positions in healthcare, exposure to such a successful and long-standing professional in their career field was a natural fit. Allegra has been instrumental in the evolution of the hospital's operational and business development strategies which has led to improvements in quality care, better overall experiences for patients, physicians and staff, and successful clinical outcomes. She has worked tirelessly to remove barriers to healthcare for children and families in the Buffalo community.

# NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS

## Matthew Shriver

'87 is the Vice President of Administration and Chief Financial Officer of YMCA Buffalo Niagara, a charitable community-based organization committed to providing programs designed to build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.



## Patti L. Stephen

is the Robert G. Wilmers Endowed Executive Director of Buffalo Prep, an academic enrichment program providing a robust pipeline of academic programming for under-represented students.



## Sam Burruano

has represented the financial services industry on legal and regulatory matters for over twenty-eight years. In his role as Executive Vice President: Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary for Financial Institutions, Inc.



# Employee Health and Wellness

In February of 2022, D'Youville announced a shift to a four-day, 32-hour workweek without any reduction to pay or benefits for full-time employees.

The decision grew out of the university's participation in a New York State shared work program through which the university temporarily reduced employee hours to 32 hours a week for the summer of 2020 and employees were eligible for unemployment benefits for the missing hours.

"The program in New York State gave us the opportunity to try a reduced workweek, and during that time, I noticed that we had more innovative programming, greater dedication of our employees, and much more collaboration," President Clemo said.

This move is a strategic one, as the campus has expanded to accommodate new degree programs, an influx of student-athlete talent, and a greater connection with our national and global partners.

Studies have shown that not only does a four-day work week increase employee satisfaction, company commitment and teamwork, it also decreases stress levels. And the university has found that reducing employees' work schedules has not harmed their productivity or company output. Rather, it has given them the time to spend with family, enjoying time away from work, and connecting with their community.

"That one day sets my family up for a week of success," says Belinda Penque of the Student Success Center. The opportunity to work a four-day week is a large part of what made her decide to join D'Youville last spring. It has been found that employers offering a four-day work week receive up to 30 percent more applications for open positions at their company.

"The truncated week has done more for our institution than raising employee satisfaction and motivation—it has driven teamwork and a greater sense of responsibilities," President Clemo said.

"The 32-hour week does force the team to be more independent," says Tyra Henson, Director of Strategic Enrollment Management in the Office of Admissions. "It pushes employees to trust their own independent thinking and actions."

The world of work has changed, and we cannot go back.

DR. LORRIE CLEMO  
President, D'Youville University



# NEW APPOINTMENTS

*Dean of the School of Arts, Sciences and Education,  
Director of Center for Doctoral Studies and Research*

## Fehmi Damkaci, PhD



Fehmi Damkaci, PhD, is the new Dean of School of Arts & Sciences and Director, Center for Doctoral Studies and Research, and Professor of Chemistry.

D'Youville has focused on visionary leadership to meet the needs of the community since its inception. As the

institute has transitioned to a university, the focus has expanded to global needs. The Doctoral Center will focus on cutting edge research through hands-on experience, research, and interdisciplinary connections across the globe.

"We are thrilled that Dr. Damkaci is joining us," said D'Youville University President Lorrie Clemo, PhD. "His teaching, leadership and research will spur us to increase research collaboration opportunities for undergraduate, graduate and

doctoral students and develop relationships around the globe."

"Dr. Damkaci will bring his experience in development of undergraduate research and other programs that enrich students' experiences to DYU," says D'Youville Vice President for Academic Affairs Natalia Blank, PhD.

Dr. Damkaci was most recently a full professor of Chemistry and the chair of the Chemistry Department at SUNY Oswego. Dr. Damkaci holds a PhD and MS in Organic Chemistry from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a BS in Chemistry from Ege University, Izmir, Turkey. Over the course of his career, Dr. Damkaci published over 20 peer-reviewed articles, many with student co-authors, presented over 50 times on the topics of chemistry and pedagogy, and received over \$4.6M in external grant funding.

## *Chief Mission Officer*

## Denise DiRienzo, EdD



As the Chief Mission Officer, Dr. Denise DiRienzo is responsible for integrating mission and service into all aspects of the campus community. The Chief Mission Officer is a strategic partner and influencer of the campus, functioning in a manner consistent with our heritage and values.

DiRienzo joins D'Youville after several years in higher education, most recently with Cornell University. There she worked as the Director of Outreach and Engagement in the Graduate School, developing career and professional

development programs, and expanding their graduate programs. An educational leader and project manager, DiRienzo's experience centers around strategic learning, community engagement and involvement, and developing innovative approaches to mentorship and curriculum design.

Prior to her work in higher education, DiRienzo worked with the Oneida Nation to break down social barriers and develop strong community relationships between partners as they constructed and opened the casino resort. She is also responsible for the restoration of the historic Landmark Theatre in Syracuse, steering it through not one, but two, phases of fundraising and renovation.

# THE EVOLUTION OF SPACES

**“Where people aren’t  
having any fun, they seldom  
produce good work.”**

DAVID OGILVY

## Adding More Green Space

Through the application and development of our Master Plan, the campus has unveiled some of our most exciting and influential renovations over the past twelve months. Our living, learning and play spaces are evolving around us, and resonating with the demands of today’s students, and the expectations of our alumni.



In Fall ‘22, the previously empty area between the D’Youville Academic Center and Bauer Hall, right outside Maggie’s Café, was filled with autumn flowers, live music, study spaces, and students. Designed by Brian McNamara, D’Youville’s Director of Design and Construction, the park features a shipping container renovated into an amphitheatre. The park features plenty of seating and social spaces, and the stage is open to all campus community members for presentations, classes, music, poetry and discussions. While it waits for its new name, the container park is set to be a draw for community members and students.

For naming opportunities, please contact our Office of Institutional Advancement at (716) 829-8458.





## Academic Neighborhoods

Research has shown that connecting with groups that share similar interests can build collaboration and conflict resolution, as well as more effective learning and close personal and professional bonds. This kind of peer learning is at the core of the D'Youville University's master plan.

**As one of only twelve programs of its kind in the country,** our chiropractic program has needed an adjustment for years, and updating the facilities for our chiropractic students was top of mind.

The new chiropractic neighborhood hosts spacious new lab and lecture rooms, fully modal to shift functions as needed. The space shares the hallway with a bio lab dedicated to chiropractic studies, and a fully functional clinic that provides hands-on experiential learning opportunities for our students.

"The space now offers more than just a traditional classroom setting. It's linked with practical and simulation spaces," says Jason MacLeod, D'Youville's Chief of Staff & AVP of Operations. "It's unified to maximize student potential."

## Physician Assistant Program Upgrades

The physician's assistant program was also updated to a neighborhood of its own, relocated to the third floor of the D'Youville Academic Center. Students have access to classrooms that have been renovated to function as a lecture hall one moment and a laboratory space the next. With desks that nest and store with ease, and laboratory spaces that can be converted with little effort both during and after a lecture, students have the tools they need to study within arms-reach.

"This centralizes students' studies and gives them a sense of belonging," said Brian McNamara, Director of Design.

## Adaptability Above all Else

The new Center for Doctoral Studies and Research is a space like no other, providing a collaborative environment for students and faculty. Conference rooms, and intuitive learning spaces allow collaboration to occur with ease. The Center is a space where students can engage in deeper research with more of their peers and instructors. Located on the first floor of the D'Youville Academic Center, the center features modular spaces, materials, and equipment, so that students can connect virtually across a number of platforms, stream effortlessly, and be in closer, more consistent contact with peers around the globe.

The center provides a solution to the needs of our developing campus and those in doctoral research programs. "This dynamic use of research space to solve problems through organic collaboration will give students ownership over their research," says Julia Hall, PhD and Director of the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program. "It's a structural solution to real-world problems."

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JULIA HALL, PhD  
Director of the Educational Leadership  
Doctoral Program



# ELEVEN UKRAINIAN STUDENTS AWARDED FULL SCHOLARSHIPS

It's expected that universities make statements regarding real world events from an educational lens. It's uncommon that universities step in and provide scholarships to support people influenced and living in those events.

D'Youville University hosted a powerful event, "Unpacking Ukraine" at the Kavinoky Theatre. The program included talks from reporters, medical professionals, artists, educators, and students, which provided a comprehensive look into the politics, culture, and real-time events of the war-torn country.



The first speaker for the program was **Vitus Spehar, a highly popular TikTok news correspondent** (see photo) with over 2 million followers. V is the host of @underthedesknews, and opened the conversation in their informed but informal manner. Known for their delivery of positive news we don't always hear, V delivered the scope and timeline of the developing war in Ukraine with heartfelt sentiment, context, and perspective. The journalist spoke to the pain they feel when needing to review the reality of the war, stating "I know that compassion fatigue can be a real thing." The impact of the realities of the war were not lost in V's concise but well informed long-form 'TikTok' delivery of how the war in Ukraine has escalated, and the reality of the tragedies happening right now.

Other speakers at the event included Ukrainian-American muralist Maya Hayuk and Aaron Epstein, MD, founder and director of the Global Surgical and Medical Support Group (GSMSG), an organization that provides medical relief to communities in conflict zones, austere environments and disaster areas around the world. By enlisting the most elite professionals in the world, GSMSG offers top tier services to those in need.

D'Youville University is committed to service and is now taking that philosophy to a global level. As the war in Ukraine unfolded, President Lorrie Clemo acted by forging a relationship with Mariupol University to establish higher education opportunities for students. Eleven Ukrainian students have been offered full tuition, room and board for the year. These young learners will study in fields necessary to rebuild this war-torn country.

Ukrainian students began arriving on D'Youville's campus in August, easing into college life by exploring Western New York during the scenic summer weeks before classes began.

These future Saints are adapting to American life and welcome the chance to interact with our global community. Of course, our canine companions, Maggie and Saint, are always there for a cuddle and nudge when some pet time is needed.

"I arrived at D'Youville a week ago and was astonished by the infrastructure," said Maksym Poplavskyi, a freshman from Ukraine. "The University has all the necessary conditions for students to achieve their goals. There is even a great gym!"

The fall class at D'Youville is from 16 countries with 92% of new students in health-related majors. Poplavskyi is among the health focused group. "As for my major, I needed a base that endows me with a good knowledge of chemistry, biology and related fields," he said. "I find the sciences are a fundamental part of every person's life. A PharmD degree will allow me to help the most people."

"We are following St. Marguerite's example of compassion and never refusing to serve," President Clemo said. "We are proud that we could step in to ensure a top-quality education that will make a difference in Ukraine.

"Education is a cornerstone of rebuilding the country. We are thankful that we are able to support this cohort as they learn and develop skills to bring back to Ukraine. I am proud of the leap of faith these students and their families took to entrust D'Youville with their education."

In continued support, D'Youville has signed a cooperation agreement with Mariupol State University to support visiting scholars, collaborative research and mental health counseling needs in Ukraine.

**The fall class at D'Youville came from 16 countries with 92% of new students in health-related majors.**



DYU recognizes the one year anniversary of the War in Ukraine with students and their support networks.



## Immersive Learning Environments

Students expect a blended learning experience, but they don't expect immersive learning environments which use virtual reality technology to simulate real-world scenarios to provide training in safe and engaging contexts.

"The whole metaverse is theirs to explore," states Benjamin Grant, Vice President of Student Affairs, in describing the launch of the Virtual reality technology program in the fall of 2022. Each incoming freshman received an augmented reality headset to participate in a cutting-edge technology program. Students are involved in twelve developmental programs that engage and enhance their soft skills. Instead of sitting in a lounge with a Resident Advisor talking about rules and how to develop life skills, each student will join the metaverse wearing a pair of virtual reality goggles.

According to Google, the metaverse is an "immersive, all-encompassing online world where people can gather virtually for a range of activities. It is a network of virtual worlds that incorporates technologies such as virtual and augmented realities." Students will create and use online avatars to travel to virtual settings to learn, communicate and play games. The possibilities are endless.

D'Youville University is the first, and only, university in the country giving each incoming freshman a set of goggles. "Residence halls are the great equalizer," said Grant. "Regardless of where you come from – socially, economically, culturally, everyone is the same in a resident hall." The metaverse promotes equality and fosters social mobility as students have the same opportunities to immerse themselves in Ancient Greece and learn the Hippocrates oath or travel to Antarctica and learn about climate change.

Students will have 18 different realms to explore – six social and 12 developmental. Social realms include touring Paris, virtual gardening, zoos, aquariums, the Great Barrier Reef, and art museum visits. Developmental realms cover proper laundry skills, interviewing techniques, dealing with a difficult peer, self-advocacy skills, basic



car maintenance, simple cooking techniques, Title IX bystander intervention, hospital room exploration, workstation and study organization, fire safety, exploring Buffalo, and beginners yoga /workout.

D'Youville is in the forefront of setting academic policies, studying metrics of learning, and establishing metaverse conduct policies.

"I'm thrilled that we are able to provide learning opportunities for our students that fit how THEY learn," states President Dr. Lorrie Clemo. "Students learn better with hands-on learning and, in turn, when they work in the community they are putting these principles into practice."

## Ubiquitous Student Support 24/7, 365

Executive Director of Student Success and Academic Advisement and Planning, Stephanie Atti welcomes incoming students into the age of exceptional student support, before they even know they need it!

With her team, Atti helped develop a one-of-a-kind, highly centralized Student Success Center on the D'Youville campus.

Student success has been redefined! The Student Success Center is now centrally located in the main hub of our academic buildings, providing academic advising and planning, transfer services, tutoring, and career and professional engagement. The Center provides 24-hour support through digital and online platforms, so that students have ubiquitous support and access to help at all hours, which is based on student needs, not traditional office hours.

It embraces the students and places them at the center of our approach. It has increased communication and degree commitments, and has already shown anecdotal and individual success in retention and student satisfaction.

## The Psychology of Dogs

A lot of colleges and universities have mascots. D'Youville has two living mascots that are trained therapy dogs providing support to campus. They welcome our students and support a greater sense of belonging. We strive for a welcoming atmosphere in which our students can learn and grow into compassionate, productive community members.

The St. Bernard embodies dignity, devotion, and sacrifice. A dog bred to guard and assist places of safety and worship, they were the first service dog in the world.

When D'Youville first considered shifting away from the Spartan as our school mascot, the challenge centered around how to define our identity as an institution, while honoring and serving our past.

Faculty member Dan Ramsey raised the idea of the D'Youville Saints and the gears started turning. Our very history is one of service, dedication, and loyalty, and our heritage is that of the selflessness of St. Marguerite d'Youville. How could we express that dedication and tenacity with our fierce drive to succeed?

What better Saint than a Saint Bernard?

Strong, bold, and loyal with an immovable countenance and a steadfast spirit, the decision to become Saints was an easy one.

At the time of this transition, our community, both large and small, was impacted by the physical and mental pressure of the pandemic. Even on our welcoming campus grounds, students, faculty and staff were struggling to feel connected and engaged with life and one another.



It is well documented that the simple act of petting an animal increases the levels of serotonin and dopamine in our bodies, which reduces feelings of loneliness and depression.

“Every student knows that these are their dogs,” says Grant, who is the caretaker to both of the sizable canines. Grant keeps and cares for the dogs, but he knows that they truly belong to the students.

Saint and Maggie are usually found lounging around in The Park on the second floor of KAB, or taking long strolls around campus with one of their many student walkers. They're easy to spot; they're usually surrounded by a crowd of smiling students.

Welcome to the  
**SAINTS ERA!**





## Wellness and Mental Hygiene

D'Youville University focuses on the mental wellness of our students. We offer a comprehensive array of educational wellness programming aligned to the mind, body, and spirit of students. Our Wellness Lodge breaks away from a traditional health center to a center that eliminates the stigma of mental hygiene and focuses on healing.

On any given day you can find students in line for chair massages, cuddling with therapy dogs in a comfy chair, registering for needed health services, taking a yoga class or grabbing some supplies from the campus cupboard.

Plants abound and it is a welcome respite for students to regroup and move forward with focus and energy to classes.

## Open Door Policy for Alumni

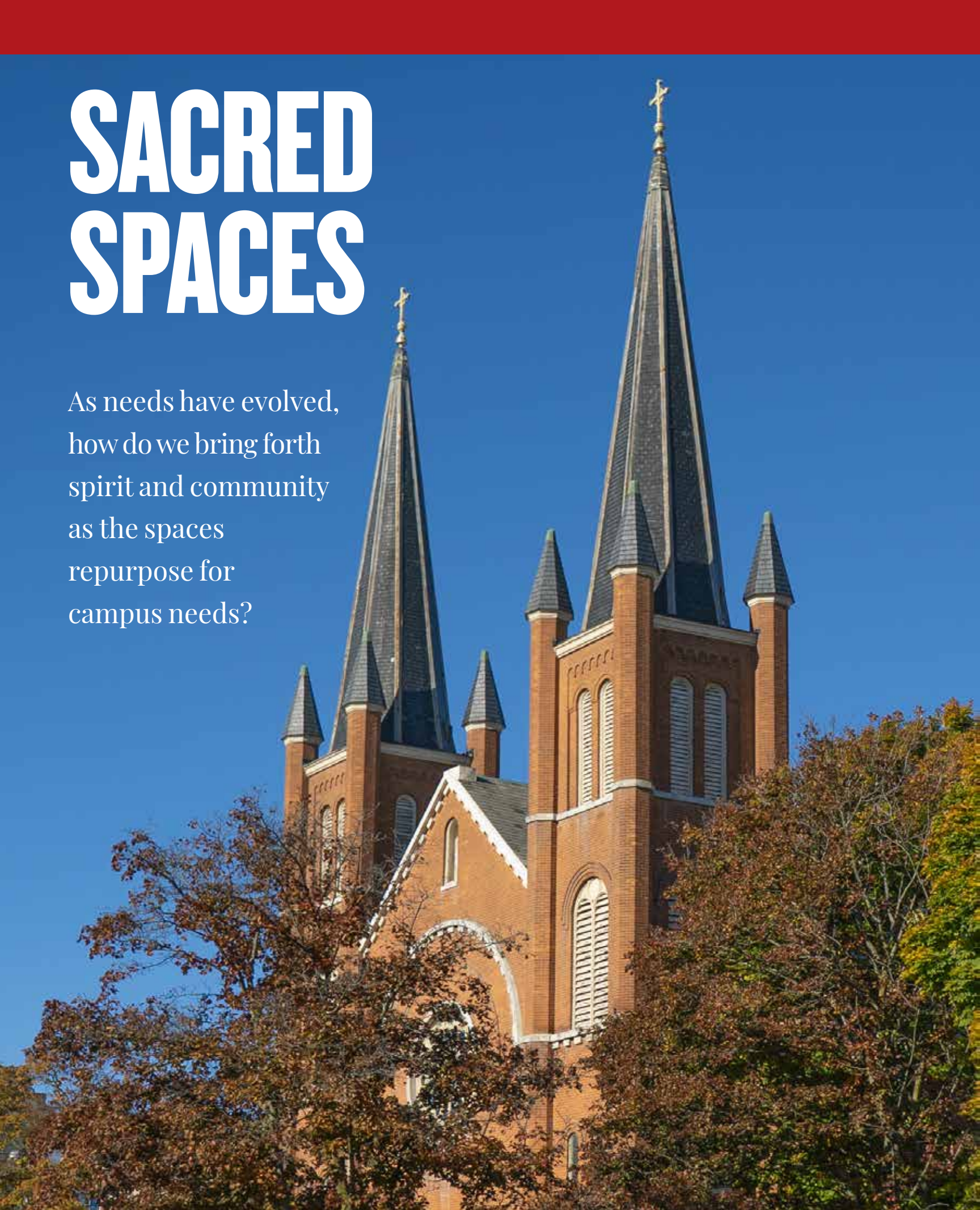
Front Doors symbolize welcome and opportunity. At D'Youville we take that a step further, our front door at 320 Porter Ave is the first point of entry for a college student as they arrive for an Admissions tour. They are welcomed into the history and service of D'Youville University. For an alumni it is a "welcome home." The same door leads to an archival library of history, memories, and information. Alumni are welcome anytime to peruse a yearbook, have a cup of coffee and reconnect their D'Youville home.

Many universities have alumni houses. At DYU it used to be 631 Niagara Street. We upgraded the Alumni Welcome lounge on the first floor of KAB as an opportunity for alumni to revisit Koessler and enjoy the history of DYU in a pictorial hallway with artifacts and photographs in chronological order.



# SACRED SPACES

As needs have evolved, how do we bring forth spirit and community as the spaces repurpose for campus needs?





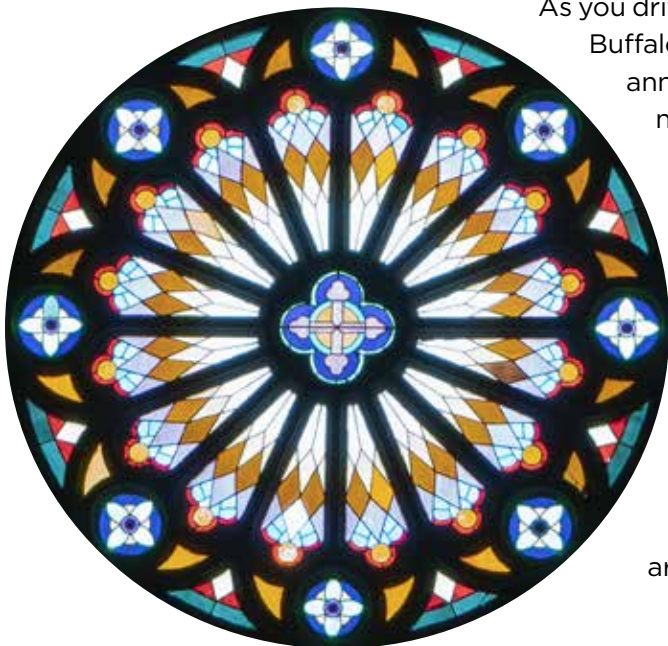
# Sanctuary, Peace, Spirit, Trust, Community—

those are top words or feelings that come to mind when one thinks of Sacred Spaces. In a recent series of discussions, DYU welcomed national historic architects who have worked around the country transitioning former churches into community treasures. Their passion to support evolution of places of worship into modern community hubs shone through.

Our first speaker, Reed Kroloff, PhD, Dean of the School of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology and noted commentator on Sacred Spaces, led a discussion on campus with students, staff, faculty and alumni that helped to explore how houses of worship have centered in communities throughout history and how people can transcend traditional uses of space. The discussion focused on what sacred spaces mean. As we delved into emotions evoked by sacred spaces the conversation centered around how the feelings were internal, not necessarily driven by bricks and mortar, or houses of worship. The intent or purpose played a large role in spiritual connections. Our sacred spaces have served roles of worship throughout the past centuries. As needs have evolved, how do we bring forth spirit and community as the spaces repurpose for campus needs?

## EXPERT SPEAKERS

- **REED KROLOFF, PhD, Dean of the School of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology and noted commentator on Sacred Spaces.**
- **BARBARA CAMPAGNA, a leading voice for the integration of historic preservation and green building practices, shared insight into completed restorative adaptations of some of the most historic houses of worship in the country.**
- **MIKE TUNKEY, Design Principal at CannonDesign, who has been an integral component of the University's master plan.**



As you drive along Porter Ave and enter the West Side of Buffalo, the spires of Holy Angels welcome you. They announce that you are entering a reverent place. The name Holy Angels holds beautiful memories for the D'Youville community. When the dioceses announced the closing, Father Devaney told the reporters that he hoped "in the death of Holy Angels School, there is a hope of resurrection, a change to something greater." (Devaney, Fr. M.J.; *Steeple and Crosses, A History of Holy Angels Church and School.*) That is the hope for D'Youville as the community comes together to think deeply on how Holy Angels, purchased from the Buffalo Diocese upon the church's closing in 2020, can serve the community on and around campus.



At open forums the D'Youville community spoke about how Holy Angels Complex and Karpeles Hall have been part of the landscape of the campus. Many shared graduation ceremony and pinning ceremony memories. A few remembered Holy Angels as their parish with major milestones – first communion, confirmation, weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Karpeles Hall, a few blocks from campus on Porter Ave, has been a staple in the West Side landscape. It once served as a Zionist church, a Methodist Church then a manuscript museum. D'Youville University purchased these sacred spaces with an eye to preservation and as much needed space for expanding health care curriculum. Karpeles large open space could adapt to well as a large lecture hall with small breakout rooms on the second level.

The Holy Angels Complex consists of a large cathedral, smaller auxiliary chapel, rectory, convent and open support spaces. Feasibility studies are occurring to understand best adaptation for the buildings' use by the campus community. A sacred spaces committee has been established. This committee is comprised of members of faculty, staff, alumni and students. Members are reaching out for thoughts and needs from their constituents. The campus has hosted several speakers who speak to examples in other communities. This spring recommendations will be shared and leadership will seek the best way to develop plans for use that supports the academic, social and spiritual needs of the D'Youville University community.

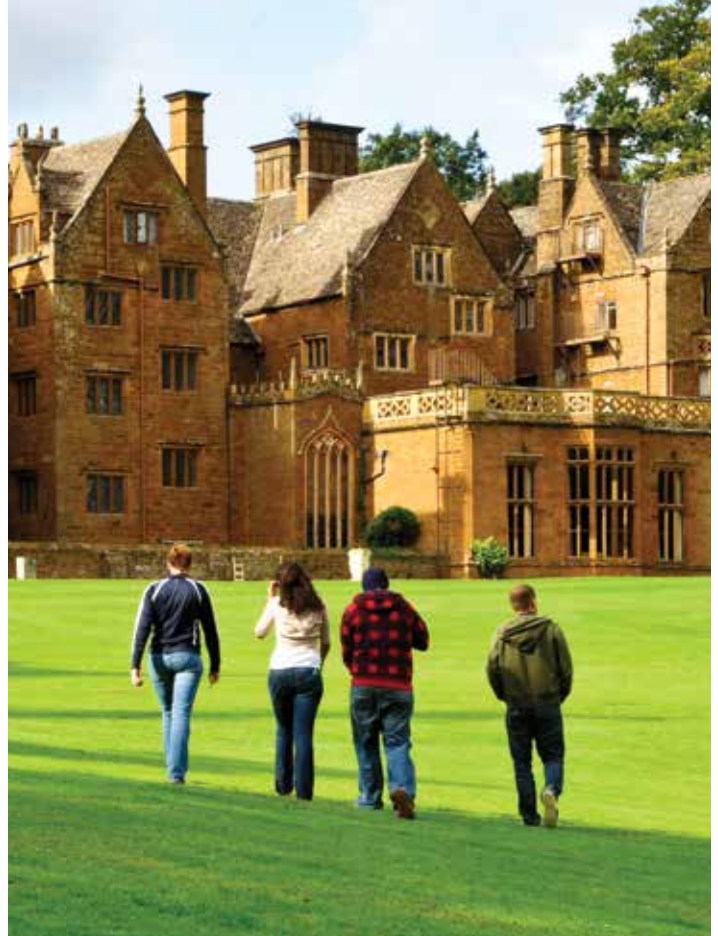
# SAINTS IN THE UK

Beginning Fall 2023, D'Youville University students have a campus in the United Kingdom. The University has developed a partnership with Wroxton College of Fairleigh Dickinson University.

For the next five years, D'Youville University will send at least 15 students per year, branding the Wroxton Experience as their own signature study-abroad program.

Wroxton College is located in Oxfordshire, northwest of London. The campus is housed in an exceptionally beautiful, completely modernized 17th century manor house where students live and attend class.

Students will learn from Fairleigh Dickinson University's British teaching staff, supplemented by visiting lecturers from British universities. Students will live in the Jacobean mansion and are provided with an extensive schedule of cultural and social activities.



"Education isn't possible without perspective, and today's students need a full understanding of the world outside of their culture," says President Lorrie Clemo. The opportunity for a fully immersive cultural experience, while receiving best-in-class education is a hallmark of D'Youville's commitment to creating the business and world leaders of the future.

As D'Youville launches an MFA program in the arts this fall, the opportunity to align with the Royal Shakespeare Company is alluring.

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, Wroxton College was recognized by GoOverseas.com as its Best Study Abroad Program for 2020. In 2019, GoOverseas.com also named the college as its Safest Study Abroad Program.



Education isn't possible without perspective.

LORRIE CLEMO, PhD  
President,  
D'Youville University

# ALUMNUS MARK BEEHLER, EdD '14

## *Earns Two New Titles*

Mark Beehler received his EdD in Educational Leadership in 2014. He recently obtained two new titles: Superintendent of the Salamanca City School District, and D'Youville University parent.

Beehler's daughter, Kaitlyn Beehler, Class of 2025, is a sophomore pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

"I encouraged Kaitlyn to evaluate a variety of schools, but she selected DYU based upon the excellent nursing program," Beehler said. "I was impressed with the campus improvements including the science labs, and the focus on application-based studies."

In addition to his title of "D'Youville Dad," Beehler also received the title of Superintendent of the Salamanca City School District in 2022 after serving as the deputy superintendent for the past seven years.

"This school year is very exciting because I get to work with incredible educators, exceptional support personnel, and a great community as we return to a sense of normalcy in school," Beehler said.

Beehler said he credits D'Youville and the "incredible professors like Dr. Garrison and Dr. Fiedler" for much of his personal and professional success. "DYU provided a challenging education where graduates must not only prove their worth to research, but must also be able to affect change in a complex educational system."



## JEAN M. ALBERTI '57

Educator, trailblazer, feminist, psychologist, and anti-bullying expert—there are many words to describe Dr. Jean Alberti's prolific career in education and psychology, but perhaps the one that describes her best is "inspirational."

Alberti has received numerous awards throughout her career acknowledging her many accomplishments and credits her education by the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, having been educated solely by them at Holy Angels Grammar School, Holy Angels Academy, and D'Youville University.

"I am who I am, and I've done what I've done, because they laid the groundwork," she said. "D'Youville is the foundation of my career."

Although her contributions to the fields of education and psychology are numerous, Alberti's crowning achievement, and her legacy, is the creation of the Dr. Jean M. Alberti Center for the Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence at the University at Buffalo, which she helped establish in 2010. The mission of the Alberti Center is to reduce bullying abuse in schools and in the community by contributing knowledge and providing evidence-based tools to effectively change the language, attitudes, and behaviors of educators, parents, students, and society. The center has become a national resource on the prevention of bullying and other forms of school violence among schoolchildren, as well as providing research and information to address these behaviors.

She began her career as an elementary school teacher while pursuing a Master of Educational Administration from UB. For the past 40 years, Alberti has been in



private practice as a licensed clinical psychologist doing cognitive-behavioral therapy and has become an authority in her field after founding her own clinic, Alberti Psychological Services, in 1981. She has co-authored eight manuscripts, six abstracts in eight professional journals, and has presented on 23 topics.

"I think of my clients as the children I never had, and teach them better ways of talking to and relating to spouses, children, parents, and others to help them and their families be healthier."

This fall, D'Youville was pleased to award the 2022 Anne Lum Distinguished Alumni Award to recognize Alberti's undeniable positive impact on children, her clients, and the world, through her work in the fields of education and psychology.

"I am who I am, and I've done what I've done, because they laid the groundwork. D'Youville is the foundation of my career."

*The 2022 Saints Crest Medal goes to...*

## AHMAD RASHID '22

Ahmad Rashid was born in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan in 1997. He and his family immigrated to Buffalo, New York in 2014. His father, a doctor who worked with American troops, sacrificed his degree to keep his family safe.

Ahmad was living with his family in Kabul when his father, an anesthesiologist working as a translator and a medic, decided to relocate the family to Buffalo, where Journey's End Refugee Services helped them find housing, enrolled the kids in school, and provided critical support.

Ahmad had to learn English, earn his GED, and learn the culture. He joined student government at Erie Community College and earned a scholarship to obtain his bachelor's degree in nursing at D'Youville University. He was a student government senator, men's soccer player, and worked numerous campus jobs to support himself. Ahmad also worked two jobs to help support his family and worked as a volunteer at Journey's End from 2014-2019 to help resettle other refugee families. "I had a calling to give back and help those who have similar backgrounds. I love what I do, and giving back to my community means so much to me."

"I have been blessed to be here and to be safe with my family while pursuing my education and following my dreams. I want to thank my father for all he has done by working in healthcare and supporting others."

Ahmad's commitment to our campus and leadership involving others in making a difference is why he was awarded the 2022 Saints Crest Medal. This award is given to a graduating student that has changed campus culture. Ahmad is recognized as a student who worked tirelessly to promote social change which improves lives for future Saints.

"Ahmad set up sustainable models so the students after him will lead the charge of service, involvement and having fun while making a difference." He personifies the trait of perseverance - a trait that Saint Marguerite also had!

Ahmad plans to work in nursing in Buffalo and continue his education in his quest to improve lives around him.



# MARY CATHERINE KENNEDY '68



Some may remember Mary as “Willie,” a nickname she went by while a nursing student at D’Youville from 1964-68.

Mary “grew up with D’Youville,” and described classmates from her clinical experiences as “my lifelong friends and extended family.”

Mary was a member of the student senate for four years, and was given the Senate Award which is still proudly displayed in her home.

After her graduation, Mary married her boyfriend, Marty, and began her nursing career as a second-shift charge nurse at Sister’s Hospital. She and Marty went on to have five children (Margaret ’95, Maureen, Tim ’99, John and Patrick).

While raising her family, Mary received her New York State Teacher’s license, her Master’s degree in Education at Buffalo State College, and a master’s degree in nursing from The University at Buffalo. She taught at Erie 1 BOCES and worked for the Buffalo Board of Education. Most of her career was spent at Buffalo General Hospital, where she helped establish the School of Nursing. When she retired from Kaleida Health in 2012, Mary became a clinical assistant professor at D’Youville, a role from which she retired this past May.

Reflecting on all that she’s accomplished, Mary said what most fueled her drive to teach and nurse was a deep desire to care for others. “My parents embedded in me a strong faith; a responsibility to help those in need whenever possible; the importance of family; the need to respect and accept all people; the value of life at every level; to stay devout to our faith; to be prayerful; to never give up; to cherish the value of the ideals that we learned from higher education. That’s why I chose to learn and work at D’Youville.”

Mary has also been a 43-year loyal supporter of D’Youville. Teaching at D’Youville for ten years helped Mary see how alumni support enables the school to build new programs and invest in state of the art equipment to provide an exceptional education for its students.

Mary plans to continue her legacy of caring by, “Daily prayer, never refusing to serve, and staying aware of what’s going on in the world,” she said. She plans to continue to support organizations that serve the underserved and underrepresented, and spend time with her five children and 15 grandchildren.



To cap off Mary’s career, Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown recently presented her with a proclamation stating June 18th is “Mary Catherine Kennedy Day.”

# ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

We had an amazing year connecting with D'Youville alumni across the nation and here at home in Buffalo. In-person events allow alumni to stay connected to our D'Youville traditions, be informed on the latest university updates, and celebrate with fellow alumni.



Our cross-country visits began with our D'Youville Physical Therapy Alumni Affinity Group (DYPTAAG). In conjunction with the annual American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting, DYPTAAG alumni gathered in San Antonio, TX. This event had an amazing turnout for our graduates!



The alumni association hosted a family friendly event - a Day at the Buffalo Science Museum. The day included tours of the museum, fun activities for the kids, and D'Youville- themed cookies for all!





# at D'YOUVILLE



The Presidential Series also showcased student-led discussion panels to provide a student perspective and answer alumni questions. Our Sarasota, FL event **featured a talk by famed aerialist and D'Youville parent Nik Wallenda on his new book, *Facing Fear***. In Philadelphia, PA, the Grey Nuns led a prayer service for Peace and Unity simultaneously with a service held at Sacred Heart Chapel on campus.





Our historic Alumni Tea returned—this year at the historic Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site. The Alumni Tea included authentic tea cups, delightful afternoon tea sandwiches and a private tour of the Theodore Roosevelt site.

Bringing alumni home to campus always means coming home! On the one-year anniversary of its opening, we held a Happy Hour at the Health Professions Hub. Sponsored by the alumni association, this networking mixer featured tours of the Hub by members of our Alumni Board. Our D’Youville exclusive Saint Sangria was enjoyed alongside more delicious food & drink on the 3rd floor open-air rooftop terrace.



We also celebrated the life of Elizabeth Boland Constantine, class of 1927, as we dedicated the space bearing her name in the Health Professions Hub. As we near the 100th anniversary of her graduation, it was an honor to celebrate her D’Youville legacy with her family.

**The office of alumni engagement is here to keep you connected. Along with the alumni association, we strive to uphold the mission, promote school pride, recognize alumni successes, and connect with the next generation of D’Youville alumni. We can’t wait to see you at our next event!**

**If you would like to host a gathering on campus or take a tour, call Kate Hammer at (716) 829-8705.**

Save the Date



DYU

DYUVILLE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI WEEKEND '23

SEPTEMBER 22-24



D'Youville has always valued teamwork—whether it's winning an athletic championship or ensuring that all deserving students have access to a D'Youville education.

TODD POTTER '12  
Chair, Alumni Board of Directors

At D'Youville, alumni are what we call, "Alums from Day One" and it's a relationship that is lifelong. All alumni will always be Saints, members of an extended family of professionals that stretches across the planet. Visit your alumni page online at [alumni.dyouville.edu](http://alumni.dyouville.edu)



**D'Youville University Alumni Association Board of Directors**

The Board solicits, stewards and engages alumni for the benefit of D'Youville University. It consists of alumni and is primarily responsible for engaging the 20,000+ strong alumni community. It strives to link the past, present and future of D'Youville through communication, programming and networking activities that encourage support of the university mission.



**Volunteer** Join us on move-in weekend as a Saints Volunteer. Please help us welcome our first-year students to their new home away from home. We need volunteers.



**Alumni Sharing Knowledge**

**(ASK Program)** You have valuable insights and experiences from which our students can learn. Join us in person or on a series of conversations via Zoom.



**Awards and Recognition** Nominate yourself or fellow alumni for the Athletics Hall of Fame, Distinguished Alumni Awards or the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

**Update your information** Career change? Moved? Remember to contact the alumni office with your new information. (716) 829-8705 or [alumni@dyc.edu](mailto:alumni@dyc.edu)

Follow us on     
All are D'Youville alumni

GET INVOLVED

# PLAYING HARD

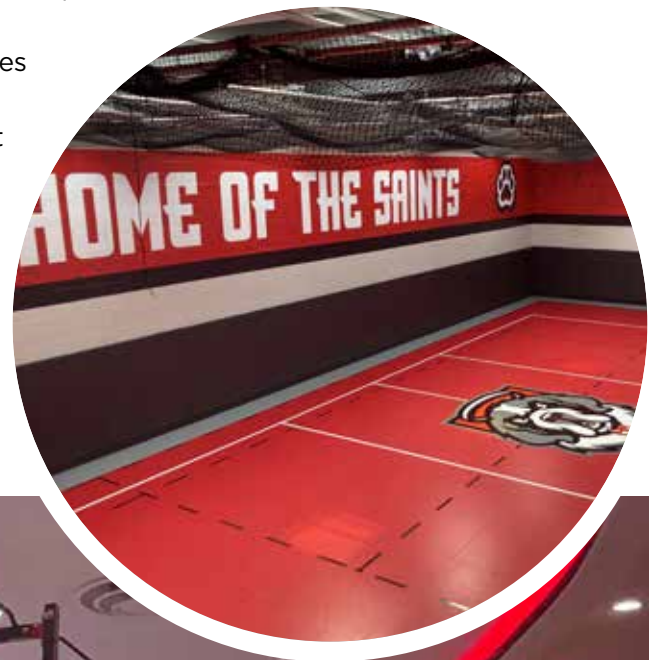
With two incredibly successful years as a Division II qualifying school, the athletics department has been growing. D'Youville has added men's lacrosse, women's lacrosse, and will be adding women's wrestling in the 2023-2024 season and field hockey in the fall of 2024. We are months from full DII membership, and our women's basketball team brought home our first USCAA National championship this spring.

Champions deserve state-of-the-art training facilities, and that is exactly what our new Strength and Conditioning Center delivers.

"This facility is state-of-the-art and sets us apart from our competitors," says Ona Halladay, Executive Director of Athletics. "The programming and capabilities it offers our student-athletes is going to be a critical element to our success in the East Coast Conference. This is a real game-changer. Watch out for the Saints!"

The new Athletics Strength and Conditioning Center is located in the front of the College Center.

The Auxiliary Gym is located in the campus center, and replaces what many alumni will remember as the pool space.



The space contains twelve power racks and a refuel station for athletes to get solid nutrition after workouts and between classes and practice.

# ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME Class of 2022-23

On February 11, 2023 D'Youville University welcomed Cara Berg-Carramusa '99, Amy Diziomba-Hahn '08 (posthumously), Luciana Payne '13, and Troy Tucker as the honorees of the 2022-2023 Hall of Fame class. In recognition of the best of the best, the Hall of Fame offers current student-athletes with a blueprint for success. "The contributions of each recipient have made a lasting impact at many levels of D'Youville University Athletics and they each were and are great advocates for all current and future Saints." Ona Halladay, Executive Director of Athletics. In addition to the induction dinner ceremony, awardees were recognized at halftime during the Robert Wesleyan basketball game.

Cara was a three-year starter for the D'Youville softball team, graduating in 1999. Berg earned multiple accolades throughout her career including being honored as a two-time National Small College Athletic Association All-American, becoming the first athlete in D'Youville history to earn the distinction. She was also named the 1998-99 D'Youville College Athletic Department Female Athlete of the Year.

Inducted posthumously, Amy was a four-year player and two-year captain of the D'Youville women's soccer team from 2005-2008. Diziomba had a decorated career in the red and black, including being recognized as the team's MVP all four years. She finished her career as the program's leader in career goals with 37, a mark that stood until 2012. She received Northeast Athletic Conference and NEAC All-Conference honors in addition to being named a NEAC Scholar-Athlete in 2005, '06, and '07. After the 2006 season, Hahn was named New York All-Region Second Team before being honored as the D'Youville Athletics Co-Female Player of the Year in 2007.

Luciana earned several accolades as a women's volleyball player during her time at D'Youville from 2009-2013 starting with receiving team MVP honors and serving as a two-time captain. She was named to the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference All-Conference Second Team in 2012 and Third Team in 2011 while also being named to the AMCC All-Academic team in all four seasons. Payne finished her playing career with 963 kills, averaging 2.61 kills-per-set. She ranked Top-10 in kills in the AMCC in 2010, '11, and '12, and led her team in kills all three years. Payne also led the team in blocks in all four-seasons.

Troy helped guide D'Youville to NCAA Division III membership and grew the athletic department from three varsity sports to nine during his tenure. He helped initiate the baseball, softball, men's and women's cross country, and men's soccer programs, while elevating the men's volleyball program from a club level to varsity status. Tucker was named the National Small College Athletic Director of the Year in 1997-98. He was also the Founder and Commissioner of the Independent Small College Athletic Association. During his tenure, he served the athletics department in multiple capacities including as head coach of the both the men's and women's basketball programs and softball team. In 1999, Tucker saw the men's volleyball team advance to the NCAA Division III National Championship match in Iowa.



Troy Tucker, Cara Berg-Carramusa '99, Luciana Payne '13, Amber Kossow, Womens Soccer 2009 graduate, accepting the award on behalf of Amy Diziomba-Hahn '08.

# KAVINOKY THEATRE

## CONTINUES TO DELIVER



Powerhouse performers and Artie Award winners Ricky Needham and Dan Urtz melting faces with the cast of our '22-'23 hit season opener **Rock of Ages**.

The 2022-2023 season at the D'Youville Kavinsky Theatre welcomed back *The BIG* musical, 2 classic movies adapted for the stage, a hilarious smash hit comedy and a new critically acclaimed drama.

And if that wasn't enough, the Kavinsky Theatre is proud to present two new key staff members and a new graduate degree program.

### New Kavinsky Staff

Ben Michael Moran has joined the company as Director of Development and Audience Services. Ben is no stranger to the Kav, having performed in several shows, including the role of Mr. Darcy (see photo) in last season's hit comedy *Pride and Prejudice*. Moran studied Theatre



Performance at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and at the University at Buffalo, where he received his BFA in Musical Theatre performance. "Buffalo, NY is my home," says Moran "and I'm incredibly grateful to be a part of such a passionate, dedicated and hard-working artistic community."

The D'Youville Kavinsky Theatre also has the extreme fortune of attracting the talent of Derek Moran. Hailing from Dublin, Ireland, Derek is an international award-winning Irish dancer. He was one of the original cast members in *Lord of the Dance*, where he danced multiple lead roles and understudied Michael Flatley. Derek has also danced with *Riverdance* and has been working exclusively in the theatre for over ten years at The Kavinsky. He is thrilled to join the team as the Production Stage Manager with the Kavinsky this season.

## A New Graduate Program

The Master of Fine Arts in Theater program provides advanced training towards a terminal degree for practitioners and is the first dramatic arts MFA offered in the Western & Central New York region. DYU's robust curriculum supports artists as they build holistic, sustainable careers with versatility to support cross-sector collaboration. Students study theater and performance texts, techniques, and theory to shape their own vision for the craft. They are then challenged to apply their skills to the implementation of that vision as civically engaged artists, change-makers actively engaged in reimagining and remaking the field. The ideas students explore in the classroom are put to the test through experiential learning opportunities on traditional stages, including D'Youville's Kavinoky Theatre, and non-traditional spaces within the local and global communities.

The MFA program welcomed its first cohort in fall 2022, along with a new Program Director, Katie Mallinson. A Buffalo native, Katie received a double degree in English (BA) and Theatre Performance (BFA) from Niagara University before graduating with her MFA in Dramaturgy from the Institute for Advanced Theater Training at Harvard University. Since 2012, she has collaborated with some of the best theater companies in Western New York (including the Kavinoky) as a director, dramaturg, and educator. Katie's joined by Annette Daniels-Taylor (MFA Media Arts Production, SUNY Buffalo) and Megan Callahan (MFA Acting, Walsh State University), two accomplished professionals who bring their expertise and experience as working artists to the program as adjunct faculty in Acting, Voice, and Movement. In addition to Annette and Megan, students will engage with an exciting roster of artists in the classroom and on stage.



# PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS



Lorenzo Shawn Parnell (AEA) stunning audiences straight to an Artie Award win for his portrayal of Motormouth Maybelle, with the rest of the cast of **Hairspray!**



D'Youville is excited to have Annette Daniels Taylor, who won an Artie Award for this outstanding performance in **From Honky Tonk to Protest, A Woman's View of Country Music**, as our MFA Acting Teacher! Welcome to the DYU family Annette!

Multiple Artie Award winner and our new Director of Development and Audience Services at the Kavinoky Theatre, Ben Michael Moran (AEA) as Mr. Darcy with Gabriella McKinley as Lizzy Bennet, in Kate Hamil's hilarious adaptation of Jane Austen's **Pride and Prejudice**.



Aleks Malejs (AEA) as Emma in **People, Places & Things**, a harrowing tale of addiction and recovery. A regular on the Kavinoky stage, Aleks was a key player in the Kavinoky partnering with Save the Michaels of the World (where she is a peer counselor) and other local addiction and recovery agencies for "Community Resource Nights" that included after-show "talk-backs" with the cast and representatives from several local behavioral health agencies. This moving show was directed by D'Youville's new MFA Program Director, Katie Mallinson.

# CLASS NOTES

## '50s – 80s

**Dr. Jean M. Alberti '57, Education,** received the University at Buffalo's Samuel P. Capen Award in 2022. Her distinguished career in education and clinical psychology led her to develop groundbreaking theories on bullying.

**Barbara (Cowley) Ryan '61, Nursing,** would like her classmates to know her husband, Dr. Gerard Ryan, passed away in 2022.

**Carol (Rudnick) Mahoney '71, Psychology,** along with her husband, Terrence, and daughter founded a non-profit organization for homeless dogs, Celebration of Canine Lives Sanctuary. Learn more at [celebrationofcaninelives.com](http://celebrationofcaninelives.com)

**Richard "Rik" Stavale '82, Nursing,** is living in Helsinki Finland. He credits D'Youville with changing his life. Peace, health and good fortune to all.



**Amy Gusek Martin '88, Nursing,** received the top sales promotion to Senior Executive Sales Representative in the Diabetes Business Unit. Amy has been with Eli Lilly for 24 years.

## '90s

**Joanne Haefner '90, '00, Nursing,** Nurse Practitioner, was named President and CEO at Neighborhood Health Center of WNY

**Julie (Nistler) Reinstein '93, Physical Therapy,** was featured in Buffalo Business First for Excellence in Health Care. She is the co-founder of Advanced Care Physical Therapy. Reinstein's specialty is treating patients suffering from scoliosis.

**Laurena Cullen '93, Nursing,** has been selected as Eastern Niagara Hospital's Nurse of Distinction nominee for 2022.

**Tracey Plekan Taylor '94, OTR/L,** is the academic fieldwork coordinator and faculty member in the Occupational Therapy Assistant program at Bryant and Stratton College in Rochester, NY. She is a founding member of Autism Up, a leading not-for-profit autism support organization for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families in the Greater Rochester area and is chair of the Rochester Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council and an advisory board member for Best Buddies of WNY, which offers one-to-one friendship, integrated employment, and leadership development programs for individuals with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## '00s

**David Parsons '00, Physician Assistant,** attended a summer 2022 mission trip to Haiti with the organization Serving in God's Name. The team



treated over 300 patients. He is a volunteer member of the board of directors, and is also the President. Parsons has been on multiple mission trips to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. He has organized and led many medical trips to Haiti since the 2010 earthquake.

**Praveen K. Mohanram '01, International Business,** is the President of Devi Polymers Canada Private Limited.



**Rashmi Mistry '02, Education,** recently published a self-help book for young adults.



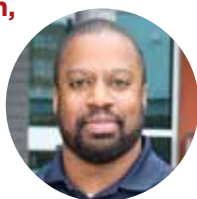
*Confident Resilient Fearless: A Guide to Revival from Within* will help young people gain the knowledge on mental health as well as social, emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being. It encourages young people to learn and unlearn, feel comfortable with uncomfortable and rewire the fixed mindset. If you are feeling overwhelmed by the changes and pressures you face as a young person and feel like a passenger, being dragged through life by your emotions, stresses, and external demands, this book will motivate you to be in the driver seat to take control of whatever life throws at you.

**Carolyn A. Moore '03, Education,** was named manager of public relations and community affairs at Mount St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston.

**Tricia Peter-Clark '04** was named president and chief executive officer of ConnexCare, a network of healthcare practices in Oswego County, NY, that operates a number of health centers in communities and schools.



**Louizandre Dauphin, '09, Education,** was named Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture for Mission, BC, Canada.



**Stephen Tyrpak '14, Biology,**

was named to the Industry Advisory Board for the University at Buffalo. He was named Product Development & Commercialization Executive in Medical Devices & Pharmaceuticals Industries for PQE Group.



**Elias Martinez '17, International Business,**

selected as a Buffalo Business First 40 Under 40 honoree for 2022



## '10s

**Barbara Bauer Arnold '12, Biology,** was named Research Project Staff Coordinator for the University at Buffalo.

**Dion Daly, Ph.D. '12, Business Administration,**

was named an assistant professor of business/economics/global studies on the Jamestown Campus for Jamestown Community College.



**Amanda Rivers '12, Psychology,**

welcomed baby River Matthew Schuhmann.



**Lisa Petty O'Connor, PT, DPT, '14, '17, Biology, Physical Therapy,**

welcomed baby Piper on March 15, 2022.

**Jillian J. Kish '15, Occupational Therapy,**

was named clinic director for an inpatient/outpatient facility in South Carolina. She has certifications in lymphedema, wounds, and oncology rehabilitation. On December 17, 2022, Jillian completed her Doctorate of Health Professions Education. Thanks to all of the staff who taught and inspired her.



**Kyle Murray '15, Nurse Practitioner,**

began a new Nurse Practitioner role in the field of Cardiology, Heart Failure, VAD, & Cardiac Transplant at the University of Texas Southwestern in Dallas, TX.



**Dr. Meagan Lewis, PT, DPT, CIDN '16, '19, Exercise and Sports Studies, Physical Therapy,**

was named Clinic Director for Leading FYZICAL Therapy & Balance Center in East Fort Myers.



**Sharisse N. Smith '18, Physician Assistant,** was named physician assistant for Canton-Potsdam Hospital Cardiology.

## '20s

**Alex Peters, PT, DPT, ATC '20, Orthopaedics and Physical Therapy,** is the owner of Impulse Physical Therapy.

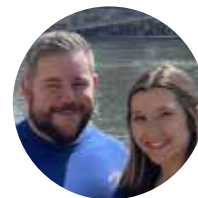


**Jennifer Switzer '20, Physical Therapy,** married David Buckley on October 15, 2022.



**Branden Master '21, Business Administration,**

was named supply chain analyst for Del Monte Foods in Pittsburgh, PA. He resides there with his wife, Molly A. Backus, '15, '19. OTR/L.



**Kate Taher '21, Human Occupation/ Occupational Therapy,**

was named to Business First People on the Move for 2022. She works in consumer products sold in the convenience store channel, including Acosta's national clients such as Campbell's, Procter & Gamble, Edgewell Personal Care, and Spectrum Brands. She has served on the NYACS Supplier Advisory Board for 15 years, including two as chair, as well as multiple NYACS committees.

Submit your **class note** and receive a **baby bib** for your little saint today!

**Emily (Hart) Jerge '13, Nursing,** was selected by the Leadership Development Program for Simulation Educators for National League for Nursing.

**Dr. Mark D. Beehler '14, Educational Leadership,** was named superintendent for the Salamanca City School District.

**Tyler Bueme '22, Physical Therapy,** has joined Buffalo Rehab Group as a Physical Therapist.

**Alex Juhasz '22, Physical Therapy,** has joined Buffalo Rehab Group as a Physical Therapist at its West Seneca location.

**Macauley Mackintosh '22, Chiropractic,** opened up a clinic, Buffalo Spine & Sport Chiropractic, in the Denver Metro Area of Aurora.

**Andrew Sipowicz '22, Physical Therapy,** has joined Buffalo Rehab Group as a Physical Therapist at the Hamburg Village location.

**Kimberly Ellerington-Beebe, RN** has been named director of employee health at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.



# SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

## Grants

**Dr. Renee Cadzow** – PI, along with community partners, awarded a Health Resources and Services Administration grant titled “Community Health Worker Training Program,” September 2022 (\$2,999,835).

**Rebecca Capinera** – PI awarded a Women’s Sports Foundation grant titled “Coaching Fellowship for Women,” (\$17,500)

**Dr. Chiahui (Kate) Chen** – Site Director under PI Dr. Jennifer Seaman of University of Pittsburgh, submitted a NIH grant titled as “Randomized Trial of a Scalable Nurse-led Intervention to Ensure Proactive, Interprofessional Family Meetings in ICUs” (pending, \$113,500), October 2022.

**Dr. Shannon McCrory-Churchill** – PI, along with community partners, awarded a Health Resources and Services Administration grant titled “Nurse Education, Practice, Quality & Retention + Mobile/ Pop Up Clinics,” September 2022 (\$3,966,653).

**Dr. Stacy Ruvio** (PI) and **Dr. Justin McGraw** (Co-PI), awarded an NSF S-STEM grant titled “Strengthening the STEM High School-to-Workforce Pipeline for Urban, Low-Income Students (D’YOU STEM),” July 2022 (\$748,250).

**Dr. Leona Soule** – PI, awarded a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield-Blue Fund grant titled “Pathways Pharmacy Tech,” (\$250,000)

**RaShon Thomas** – PI, awarded a Sisters of St. Francis Holy Name Province, Inc. – Providence Fund grant titled “Cultural Enrichment Center,” (\$5,000)

**Dr. Clara Voorhees** – PI, submitted an NSF IUSE grant titled “Improving New Student Performance and Increasing Retention with Educationally Equitable Pedagogy” (INSPIRE EP: Intro BIO)(pending, \$275,000), July 2022.

**Dr. Shoshanna Zucker** – Co-PI, awarded a University at Buffalo Center for Advanced Technology (UB CAT) grant titled “Preclinical safety and efficacy studies of medical devices to support IND submission,” (\$10,500)

# Articles

(DYU students are underlined)

**Dr. Victoria Belousova** – Co-Author, published at *American Journal of Pharmacy Education* “Well-Being Content Inclusion in Pharmacy Education Across the US and Canada,” October 2022

**Dr. Renee Cadzow** – Co-Author, published at *PLoS ONE* “Patient perceptions by race of educational animations about living kidney donation made for a diverse population,” September 2022.

**Dr. Lesley Georger** – Co-Author, published at *Surgical Technology International* “Matrix-Induced Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation (MACI) is Largely Effective and Provides Significant Improvement in Patients With Symptomatic, Large Chondral Defects: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis,” October 2022.

**Dr. Susan Lombardo** – Author, publication at *Home Healthcare Now* “Lipedema,” October 2022

**Dr. Kathleen Miller** – Co-Author, published at *Journal of Adolescence* “Peer sexual harassment, affect, and substance use: Daily level associations among adolescents,” October 2022

# Books

(DYU students are underlined)

**Dr. Julia Hall** – Series Editor, published a new book in the series of Critical Ethnographic Research in Education: “*Development, Education, and Participatory Action Research to Empower Marginalized Groups*” authored by Shireen Kely, published by Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, September 2022.

**Kimberly Boulden, Jeremiah Grabowski, Humberto Hernandez, Jamie Tabone** – Co-authored a chapter “Transitioning from an OPM: The Journey of Insourcing an Online Educational Unit After the Partnership Sunsets” in the book titled “*From Grassroots to the Highly-Orchestrated: Online Leaders Share Their Stories of the Evolving Online Organizational Landscape in Higher Ed*” published by Online Consortium, July 2022

# Conference Presentations

(DYU students are underlined)

**Donna Brzykcy** and **Sydney Wolder** – Presented at the NYS Occupational Therapy Conference, “*Expanding Horizons: Why Should we Pursue Non-Traditional Fieldwork Placements?*” (NYSOTA), October 2022.

**Dr. Renee Cadzow** and **Dr. Jonathan (Max) Mertel** – Co-Authors, presented at Western Michigan University Medical Humanities 12th annual conference, “*Exploring and critiquing US healthcare and health careers through immersion in simulation,*” September 2022

**Dr. Gina Camodeca** – Co-Author, presented at Western Michigan University Medical Humanities 12th annual conference, “*Reading Personhood, Treating Whole People Using Literary Texts to Engage Personhood in Medical Humanities,*” September 2022

**Dr. Gina Camodeca** – Co-Author, presented at American Society of Bioethics + Humanities, “*Health Humanities, Study of the Field in North America,*” October 2022

**Humberto Hernandez** – Author, presented at Distance Teaching and Learning Conference, “*Effective use and awareness of Instructional Design tools can create a more egalitarian system in human development,*” August 2022

**Dr. Stacie Lampkin** – Author, presented at The Alliance of Professional Health Advocates Expert Call In, “*Sneak Peak into Pediatric Patient Advocacy: Experiences when Advocating with Pediatric Patients & Families,*” September 2022

**Dr. Rocco Lueck** – Author, presented at Business Research Consortium of Western New York 17th Annual Conference, “*A Quantitative Analysis of Determinants of Inward Foreign Direct Investment to the United States,*” and “*A Quantitative Analysis Examining the Impact of Foreign Direct Investment on Employment in the United States*” and “*A Positivist Approach to Foreign Direct Investment*”

**Dr. Rocco Lueck** – Author, presented at Institute of Finance and Management National Conference, “*Five Red Flags to Identify and Mitigate Organizational Fraud*” and “*Leadership Strategies to Cultivate an Organizational Culture on Preventing Fraud using the Polaris Leadership Model.*”

**Dominique Johnson** – Author, presented at HEOP-PO Fall Conference, “*Resources, Resilience, and Retention,*” October 2022

**Christina Spink-Formanski** – Author, presented at HEOP-PO Fall Conference, “*Who, What, When, How? I am New and Help,*” October 2022.

**Dr. Dominic Ventura** – Author, presented at Biennial Conference on Chemical Education (BCCE), “*Teaching Chemistry out of the Text,*” August 1, 2022

**Dr. Clara Voorhees** – Author, presented at Animal Behavior Society 2022 Conference, “*Gamification of Learning: Designing Board Games to Teach Undergraduates about Evolution using Animal Behavior,*” July 2022

**Dr. Clara Voorhees** – Author, presented at Ohio Regional PKAL STEM Conference, “*Natural Selection Monopoly: Using Board Games to Facilitate Undergraduate STEM Education in an Introductory Biology Course,*” October 2022

**Dr. Shoshanna Zucker** – Co-author, presented at American Society of Healthcare Pharmacists, “*Combination nonthermal plasma and tirapazamine targets pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells via E-Cadherin downregulation,*” Midyear, Las Vegas, 2022

**Dr. Shoshanna Zucker** – Co-author, presented at American Society of Healthcare Pharmacists, “*Systematic review of non-thermal plasma for the treatment of basal cell carcinoma,*” Midyear, Las Vegas, 2022

**Dr. Shoshanna Zucker** – Co-author, presented at American Society of Healthcare Pharmacists, “*Systematic review of non-thermal plasma for the treatment of melanoma,*” Midyear, Las Vegas, 2022

## Scholarly Program Leadership

**Dr. Stacy Ruvio** (Biology) and **Dr. David Stewart** (Chemistry) coordinated hosting International Student Science Fair (ISSF) events at D’Youville on June 2022.

**Dr. Clara Voorhees** (Biology) elected a Chair of Education Committee for international Animal Behavior Society August 2022

# REMEMBERING SISTER MARY CHARLOTTE BARTON

*13th President of D'Youville*

Sister Mary Charlotte Barton, (Dorothy Elizabeth) GNSH, former President and Board of Trustees member. An outstanding educator and administrator, Sister will be remembered for her contributions to the growth and strengthening of the University as its 13th president, spanning the years of 1968-79. She served as a Trustee of the University from 1983-1992. In 1979 Sister was elected as the 10th Superior General of the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, in which capacity she served until 1988. From 1989 until 1998 she served as Parish Administrator of St. Hugh of Cluny Parish in Philadelphia, PA. Sister was reelected to Congregational Leadership in 1998, serving as a member of the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart Leadership Council and Treasurer until 2003.

Sister was born and grew up in Lowell, MA alongside siblings E. David, Priscilla, Mary, Charlotte, Alice and James. An outstanding educator and administrator, she previously held the position of principal of Melrose Academy and as a teacher of French and Latin at Cardinal Dougherty High School. Among the many awards she received was that of Outstanding Woman Educator in Western NY by the Community Advisory Council of SUNY at Buffalo in 1978. Sister was the recipient of Honorary Doctoral Degrees from St. Bonaventure University, Canisius College and D'Youville. She was listed in Who's Who in Religion and Outstanding Educators in America. Additional Board of Trustee Memberships included Holy Redeemer Health System, Meadowbrook, PA and A.B. Hepburn Hospital, Ogdensburg, NY.



“Sr. Mary Charlotte was very connected to the students. She had a strong affinity for being present for her students. She was a kind wonderful woman who really exemplified all the traits of Marguerite d’Youville.”

— PAT BISANTZ CALDIERO '69

# REV. DR. ROBERT J. PERELLI, CJM



Rev. Dr. Robert “Fr. Bob” Perelli, CJM passed away on August 2, 2022. Ordained in 1976, Fr. Bob was a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Eudist Fathers. He served as the weekend priest at St. Joseph University Church in Buffalo, New York for over 25 years and was the Founder and CEO of The Center for Family Systems Theory. Fr. Bob was the Campus Minister at D’Youville beginning in the 1980s.

He was responsible for establishing the AIDS Family Services of WNY on campus in 1989 to provide therapy for individuals and families at time when there was a great stigma associated with anyone who contracted the disease. Most recently, Fr. Bob had served D’Youville as its first Vice President for Mission Integration until 2017. He truly embodied the Spirit of St. Marguerite d’Youville in all that he did for others, especially those on the margins.

# MORE LIVES TO CELEBRATE

Please inform the alumni relations office if you know of alumni who have passed.

**Mary (Cosgrove) Miller '41, Social Work**, passed away on October 16, 2022.

**Yvonne E. Labaki '51, Business Administration**, passed away on January 24, 2023.

**Mary Alice (McNamara) Browne '52, Education**, passed away on January 28, 2023.

**Sr. Margaret Mary Duggan SSMN '52, Latin**, passed away on November 18, 2022.

**Elizabeth "Betty" Fox '53, Nursing**, passed away October 26, 2022

**Mary Ann (Meloch) Urbanski '53, Medical Technician**, passed away on November 23, 2022.



**Kathleen V. Damiano '54, Sociology**, passed away on December 2, 2022.

**Mary Ann (Lapczenski) Pyrak '54, Mathematics**, passed away on November 12, 2022.



**Sr. Frances William Avery (Mary Jane), GNSH, '56, Social Studies**, passed away on January 12, 2023.

**Sr. Rosemary Petrie, RSM, '59, Nursing**, passed away on December 20, 2022.

**Mary Fox Sullivan '59, Nursing**, passed away on November 20, 2022.

**Marie (Tinto) Burns '59, Education**, passed away on February 5, 2023.

**Sister Alberta Carey, S.C., '60, Nursing**, passed away on May 15, 2022. She was an associate professor of nursing and served at the Convent of Mary the Queen.

**Maureen (Crean) Mitskoff '61, English**, passed away on October 24, 2022.



**Marcia Whelehan Reynders '64, Education**, passed away on December 2, 2022.

**Diane Lindenmeier Green '65, History**, passed away on November 15, 2022.

**Col. Jane A. Bigelow USAF '67, Nursing**, passed away December 3, 2021.

**Margaret (Nightengale) Cavnar '67, Nursing**, passed away on May 24, 2022.



**Lois (Dolan) Needham '68, Nursing**, passed away on May 2, 2022. Lois taught at the College of Nursing for over 40 years.



**Mary Jo Giambelluca '70, Social Work**, passed on May 14, 2022.



**Barbara (Warren) Strzyz '74, Nursing**, passed away on November 8, 2022.

**Carol Gentile '80, Nursing**, passed away on November 1, 2022.

**Jacqueline Kazmierczak Kraft '81, Nursing**, passed away on September 26, 2022.



**Jay Bowers '85, Nursing**, passed away October 19, 2022.



**Pamela Roloff '00, Nursing,** passed away on October 22, 2022.

**Audrey Jean (Drozdiel) Buck** passed away on January 16, 2023. She was a professor of Occupational Therapy.

**Louis 'Bud' Jacobs** passed away on April 10, 2022. He was a friend to D'Youville.

**Angela L. Nazzaro** passed away on March 31, 2022. She taught nursing at D'Youville University.



**Sister Eileen Pinkel, OSF** passed away on October 16, 2022.



**Beverly Ann Whitehead** passed away on June 1, 2022. She worked for many years as assistant director of the Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity program.



**Marion "Marney" (Zimmermann) Schulz Broderick,** passed away on January 4, 2023.

- IRENE "HONEY" CLAIR '43 - 101 YEARS OLD
- MARY BUELL '52
- JOSEPHINE O'NEIL '54
- PATRICIA WICKENS '56
- CLARA MCNAUGHTON '56
- JOAN MURRAY '75
- JOHANNA KELLY '59
- FRANCES OSTERLING '60
- SR. MARGARET RUMSEY OSF '65
- SUSAN FREEMAN '71
- JEANNE VENTURIN '97
- PAUL SCIBERRAS '09

# MAKE AN IMPACT. GIVE TO DYU.

## The PROVIDENCE SOCIETY

If D'Youville University is in your estate, please contact us in order to receive your Providence Society recognition and membership card.

The university seeks to recognize your generosity and plan for the future of the University. If you would like someone to contact you regarding planned giving options or for more information on the Providence Society, please call Kim Pietro at (716) 800-5413.



## The SAINTS SOCIETY

The Saints Society is an opportunity to carry on D'Youville's rich tradition of alumni generosity—and help give current students the same opportunities you or your loved one enjoyed at D'Youville. The entry point into the Saints Society is an **annual gift of \$1,000 or more** to the Fund For D'Youville. However, recent graduates can earn membership into the Saints Society at a reduced rate.



## The PUPPY CLUB

Gifts of all sizes play an essential role at D'Youville. The Puppy Club allows supporters to **give on a monthly basis** and welcomes small dollar amounts in order to encourage the collective effort of giving. When you join with other alumni, parents, and friends in supporting the University, you contribute to our efforts to serve.

This program can be used in tandem with the Saints Society, so if you meet the dollar or graduate year requirements for Saints Society and choose to give monthly, you can be honored in both!



Learn more about giving and its benefits by visiting [alumni.dyouville.edu/give/giving-societies](http://alumni.dyouville.edu/give/giving-societies)

# DYOUVILLE

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT  
320 PORTER AVENUE  
BUFFALO, NY 14201



The entire campus community thanks everyone who gives back to the Fund for D'Youville each year to support current and future Saints. Students are learning firsthand the importance of philanthropy and how generous donors have made their D'Youville experience possible.

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DYOUVILLE UNIVERSITY  
**ALUMNI**  
WEEKEND '23  
SEPTEMBER 22-24

*See you at*  
**Alumni Weekend 2023.**



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