You can see the future of healthcare from here.
It’s a new day at D’Youville

S

ince our founding in 1908, D’Youville has maintained an unwavering commitment to serving our community. I am proud that our record of enrolling and graduating high-need and first-generation college students is recognized by U.S. News & World Report in their 2020 Social Mobility ranking.

As part of our commitment to social mobility, D’Youville is now offering unlimited Say Yes to Education scholarships to students from eligible high schools, and we have designed a new Early College Bridge Program that extends our healthcare focused courses into local high schools.

Say Yes to Education is a national, nonprofit organization that provides a comprehensive array of services to increase high school and college graduation rates across some of the nation’s lowest-income school districts. Locally, 79% percent of Buffalo Public School students are from low-income families.

We have had an overwhelming demand for the 10 Say Yes to Education scholarships that we have offered since 2013. The new agreement with Say Yes allows us to offer an unlimited number of scholarships to qualified students from Buffalo, Syracuse, Cleveland, and Guilford County, North Carolina.

D’Youville’s signature investment in Say Yes to Education will inspire high school students to believe that an academically rigorous education at a private nationally ranked university is possible for them. Every student should be empowered to attend the best school for them because completing college will profoundly improve their life, and that of their family, for generations to come. These scholarships will offer that opportunity to many more students and their families.

Expanding Say Yes Scholarships at D’Youville is just one way we are serving our community. As you will read later in this issue, we are meeting the needs of the next generation of college students through summer camps, state-of-the-art classrooms that improve pedagogy and student performance, and college credits that are earned at no cost to the student through our new Early College Bridge Program.

Our Early College Bridge Program is designed to meet the needs of students of today, as well as the expectations of students of tomorrow. This fall, local high school students began taking advantage of our new healthcare pathway that leads to stackable credits and certificates. These credits they earn while still in high school help students graduate on time and puts them on a highly affordable pathway to a college degree.

The healthcare pathway has three tracks including health professions, pharmacy, and nursing. Students can earn an advanced certificate in Pharmacy Technician as well as associate degrees in Community Health and Pharmacy Studies.

Many individuals who would benefit from a college degree have significant household responsibilities that make completing a traditional four-year program difficult. These learners will have the ability to move in and out of higher education as their family and professional obligations change.

In designing programs that expand access to higher education we are growing our faculty, our community. As you will read later in this issue, we are meeting the needs of the next generation of college students through summer camps, state-of-the-art classrooms that improve pedagogy and student performance, and college credits that are earned at no cost to the student through our new Early College Bridge Program.
D’Youville has entered a new era: one marked by positive transformation, remarkable growth, and sustainable innovation that will shape our future. Roasted in the foundation of the university’s mission of leadership and service, we have grown into an institution redefining the role of higher education through the development of thriving communities. While Buffalo has long been known as “the city of good neighbors,” our university is poised to be the city’s “neighborhood university” — a community that is dynamic and global; living out the university’s mission in Western New York and around the world.

Through discussions and workshops, we invited the community to participate in this process and provide feedback about the story of D’Youville: where we’ve been, where we’re going, and who we are. In learning about the school’s shared goals and the strengths that can drive us forward as an institution, a new brand and logo identity was strategically developed to represent the school through collaborative ties throughout campus and through K-12 partnerships; and act as a driving force for the creation of new degree programs. She is a licensed clinical psychologist and previously served as department head and professor in the Department of Psychology at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey.

New dean, vice president named

Georita Marie Frierson, PhD, is the new dean of the School of Arts, Sciences, and Education (SASE). Frierson will oversee the implementation of the redesigned core curriculum; creatively grow student enrollment within the school in both online and on-campus programs; reinvigorate the school through collaborative ties throughout campus and through K-12 partnerships; and act as a driving force for the creation of new degree programs. She is a licensed clinical psychologist and previously served as department head and professor in the Department of Psychology at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey.

Pamela Say was named vice president for institutional advancement. In this role, she will lead strategic visioning to build and strengthen relationships with a broad range of constituencies and to encourage the advocacy of, investment in, and support of the university’s initiatives, programs, and students, as well as execute bold fundraising innovations for the university. Say previously served as the vice president for development and community engagement at Trocaire College in Buffalo.

Clemo named to Power 125 Women

D’Youville President Lorrie Clemo was named to the Power 125 Women list by Buffalo Business First for 2019. Clemo, who comes in at No. 36 this year, has been named to the list for the third straight time. Each of the women selected to the list are recognized for their talents and influence fueling economic, social, and cultural growth in Buffalo.

Want more D’Youville news?

Check out our monthly newsletter, D’Youville Digest. It’s sent out mid-month directly to your email inbox. If you haven’t received it yet, please let us know at alumni@dycc.edu and we’ll add you to our list.

Grants fund new programs in health professions, nursing

A three-year, $610,000 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) Paraprofessionals Program will help D’Youville develop a Substance Use Disorder Support Specialist Certificate Program for new and existing behavioral health paraprofessionals. D’Youville also will establish partnerships with community behavioral health organizations to provide experiential training sites for paraprofessional trainees in underserved areas of Western New York.

D’Youville believes this program will provide paraprofessional trainees with enhanced clinical judgment and reasoning to prepare them for providing care, especially for vulnerable populations in areas where there is a shortage of behavioral health professionals,” said D’Youville President Lorrie Clemo, PhD.

The primary partner in the project is Horizon Health Services, the largest, most comprehensive provider of services for mental health and substance use disorders in Western New York. “Producing the program together will allow employers to provide hands-on assistance to educators so that students are job-ready at completion,” said Briana Jegier, PhD, associate professor of health services administration.

D’Youville’s Patricia H. Garman School of Nursing received a $401,442 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Congressman Brian Higgins announced the Nurse Faculty Loan Program grant during a press conference at D’Youville. The grant is a loan forgiveness incentive aimed at training qualified nurse educators in an effort to increase the number of nurses entering the workforce.

Through this grant, which offers up to 85% loan forgiveness for nurses who pursue work as faculty, the School of Nursing can focus on recruitment and mentorship of nurses who aspire to nursing faculty roles. The university will use the resources to support 20 masters and eight doctoral students who commit to future teaching roles.

New marketing degree launches

D’Youville will expand our business offerings to include a Bachelor of Science in Marketing beginning in Spring 2020. This new program will build on the business department’s programs which combine cutting-edge theory and practical knowledge. “A BS in Marketing from D’Youville will prepare students for success in a fast-growing industry with high-income earning potential,” said Arup Sen, PhD, professor in the Department of Business. This marketing program will teach students to understand consumer needs and wants, identify target markets, and develop strategies to satisfy customer needs. Graduates can pursue many different careers such as marketing management, product development, brand management, market research, advertising, and professional sales.
Hundreds of D’Youville students, faculty, and staff celebrated the 31st anniversary of National Coming Out Day at the campus-wide event From the Closet to the Sidewalk. The event culminated with the unveiling of the Pride mural, “As Is,” at the College Center, created by celebrated LGBTQ+ artist and native Buffalonian Casey William Milbrand. D’Youville student Matthew Wild ’20 organized the event with the Office of Student Engagement. Wild said the mural will have a broader impact than beautifying the campus and the West Side of Buffalo. “It’s important that students, employees, and community members feel accepted and validated when it comes to their sexual orientation and gender identity,” Wild said.

D’Youville celebrates National Coming Out Day with Pride mural

From Left: Pamela Say, vice president for institutional advancement; Matthew Wild ’20, event organizer; David Braun ’20, Student Government Association president; Casey William Milbrand, artist; Tyra Henson, transfer admissions counselor; and Juanita Green, interim director of counseling.

Feast Day of St. Marguerite d’Youville observed with week of activities

During the week of October 14-19, D’Youville celebrated the legacy of our namesake, St. Marguerite d’Youville, with opportunities for service, prayer and worship. Led by Rev. Jan Mahle, recently retired campus minister, students participated in Days of Caring, where they performed service projects at several locations in Buffalo’s West Side. On October 16, employees, alumni and friends gathered to celebrate a Feast Day Mass in Sacred Heart Chapel, led by celebrant Reverend Juan Gaspar, O.M.E. A special highlight of the Mass was a prayer to St. Marguerite d’Youville in her native language of French, delivered by John McRoy, director of development operations in the Division of Institutional Advancement. The Mass was livestreamed to alumni and friends who could not attend.

Later that day, the university unveiled its newly-remodeled Interfaith Prayer Room. The space, located on the third floor of the Koessler Interfaith Prayer Building, is also near Sacred Heart Chapel. The freshly painted and carpeted room offers resources for a number of religious traditions, so students and others can have a peaceful place for prayer and meditation. All the Feast Day events were sponsored by The Roche Center of Mission Integration. Named after Sister Denise A. Roche, GNSH, the 14th president of D’Youville, The Roche Center of Mission Integration honors D’Youville’s Catholic heritage and the spirit of St. Marguerite d’Youville by providing opportunities for formation and fellowship, supporting holistic student development, and encouraging innovative, mission-driven responses to emerging educational and societal needs.

Here comes the Red Bus

This fall, D’Youville instituted a free shuttle service, the Red Bus! The shuttle operates whenever the university is open and helps students commute from free parking lots and travel throughout our compact campus. Stops include the Connecticut Street Apartments, the Montante Family Library, the Pauline Alt Building, Marguerite Hall, and the School of Arts, Sciences, and Education building. A virtual Red Bus Tracker also is available so riders can see where in the loop the shuttle is when they need a ride.
D’Youville friendships run deep—and sometimes span generations. This sat September’s Reunion and Family Weekend brought together a special quartet of women who have not only been friends for more than 50 years, but also have the distinction of each being the daughter of a D’Youville alumna.

Jean “Patsy” Bisantz Caldiero, Mary Alice “Mimi” Higgins Donius, Eileen Sullivan Herlihy, and Kathleen “Kay” Ryan Reilly, all Class of 1969, became a tight-knit group during their years at D’Youville. But in some ways their friendship goes back even further—to their own mothers’ friendships, in fact.

Patsy’s mother, Anne Jordan Bisantz, and Mimi’s, Elizabeth “Lee” Corey Higgins, graduated together in 1930, only 22 years after D’Youville was founded and at a time when higher education for women was much less common than today.

“Mimi’s mother and mine were D’Youville classmates and dear friends from then on,” Patsy says. “I met Mimi in elementary school, when her family moved a block away. Continuing our mothers’ history, our friendship developed through long bus rides to and from Holy Angels Academy in North Buffalo, and of course through our incredible D’Youville experience.”

“We would take the Elmwood Avenue bus and transfer to the Hart Avenue bus and get off at Holy Angels,” Mimi says. “We shared many a story on those bus rides!”

Eileen Sullivan Herlihy shares, “My mother, Mary Hennessey Sullivan, Class of 1935, grew up in Holy Angels Parish at 96 Fango Avenue, in D’Youville’s front yard. Her family had a strong connection to Holy Angels Parish and D’Youville, including a sister, Eileen Marie, who became a Grey Nun (Sr. Paula Marie) and a brother who became an Oblate priest.”

“The Grey Nuns were certainly a common link in our mothers’ lives,” says Patsy. “Eileen’s mother’s family lived on the West Side and belonged to Holy Angels Parish, as did my father, Gene Bisantz. The Hennessey/Bisantz connection eventually led to Mary and Anne becoming great friends. They had the D’Youville experience to cement things even though they graduated five years apart.”

Although Eileen’s family moved to South Bend, Indiana, early in her life, they returned to Buffalo every summer to visit family, and her friendship with Patsy grew. “The blending of church, school and neighborhood was so strong in those days that I feel all of our families were aware of each other, as well as having ties to one another,” Eileen says.

Kay Ryan Reilly met Patsy and Mimi when they were freshmen at Holy Angels Academy. “My mother, Ellen Drescher Jordan, Class of 1930, was the youngest of all our mothers so she did not know them at D’Youville, but she spent her early years at Holy Angels Parochial School and knew the Hennessey family,” she says.

“My mother met Kay’s mother when Kay and I were classmates at Holy Angels,” says Mimi. “She was a ‘student’ at Mrs. Ryan’s knitting shop and made a number of knit suits and ultimately sweaters for our daughter, Elizabeth (named for my mother). My mom and Kay’s became better friends through the knit shop.”

Patsy, Mimi, and Kay went straight from Holy Angels to D’Youville, and Eileen returned to Buffalo to attend D’Youville as well—each following in their mothers’ footsteps.

“My mother always valued education and I remember having great pride in the way she spoke, her knowledge of literature, history, and her use of French,” says Eileen. “There was always a grace and demeanor about her that I also attribute to her family, her education, and her friends.”

“My parents believed in education, and her friends,” Mimi says. “My mother always valued education and I remember having great pride in the way she spoke, her knowledge of literature, history, and her use of French.”

Throughout their years at D’Youville, the friends’ bond grew with each other and each others’ families. When Mimi visited her boyfriend (now husband), who went to Notre Dame, she would stay with Eileen’s family. Kay had a brother at Notre Dame and he and his college friends from Buffalo would also visit the Sullivans in South Bend. The classmates’ friendship continues to this day, even though Mimi now lives in Westchester, New York, and Kay in North Carolina, while Patsy and Eileen remain in Buffalo. They join each other every summer on vacations and at D’Youville and Holy Angels events, along with winter excursions to Florida.

“Even though we tell the same old stories, we never tire of each other’s company!” Kay says. Mimi says her experience at D’Youville was life-changing, in terms of her educational preparation, “but it also was transformative in terms of my faith and trying to live a life of purpose and meaning that I saw modeled in my mother, her friends, and my friends.”

Eileen sums it up: “Amazing, what almost a century of learning, sharing, and friendship can create.”

— CATHY WILDE
The Grey Nuns who founded D’Youville College more than 100 years ago might not recognize the school as it is today, but they would be proud to see its mission is still focused on St. Marguerite d’Youville’s motto, “Never refuse to serve.”

After adding a nursing program in the 1940s, D’Youville has expanded in recent decades to offer focused medical programs designed to accommodate the shifting demographics of its community and the national sea change in the philosophy of how medical care should be delivered. Heading into the 2020s, D’Youville is positioned to be a significant player in transforming and improving healthcare services in Western New York and beyond. For starters, D’Youville has become a leader in training students to work collaboratively across healthcare disciplines, with an emphasis on patient-centered, compassionate care.

“Having our students learn together through interprofessional collaboration has made us a leader nationally.”

MAUREEN FORRESTER FINNEY, EDD, PA-C
DEAN, SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
D’YOUVILLE CLASS OF 1997, 2005

A beautiful feature of the D’Youville (degree) offerings is that all of our curricula are grounded with the mission of the institution in mind,” says Maureen Forrester Finney, EdD, PA-C, dean of the university’s School of Health Professions. She earned her physician assistant degree and doctorate in health policy and education at D’Youville.

In her time here, Finney has seen an evolution of how students learn and work together, a response to the growing awareness that “real world” medical
care had become too fragmented, to the detriment of patients.

“Our (medical) curricula have been developed to include collaboration to optimize outcomes. If we just taught in silos, we know that’s not going to help our patients,” Finney says. “Having our students learn together through interprofessional collaboration has made us a leader nationally.”

As part of their coursework, students from different disciplines team up to assess real patient scenarios and simulations to come up with comprehensive assessments and treatment plans. They then carry that training into the work environment, and with many D’Youville students coming from Western New York, this is often where that training stays.

“The critical thinking skills students develop while working in teams help them grow in their careers, Dobson says, and that is also good for their patients and employers. “The integration of theory and clinical experience combined gives the students an excellent education, and they learn to become advocates for care, whether it’s at the bedside or in administration.” And they sometimes have to push aside barriers to do that.

Another D’Youville nursing graduate, Joyce Konrabcik Markiewicz, remembers when a colleague in her executive MBA program at the University at Buffalo asked her why a nurse would get a master’s degree in business. “The thought that the question would even be asked of me was somewhat disappointing,” says Markiewicz. She’s being a little tactful when she says she thought the question showed a lack of understanding of the role nursing graduates play in the wider healthcare industry.

“My response,” she adds, “was that healthcare is a business.” She should know. Markiewicz is executive vice president and chief business development officer for Catholic Health, a nonprofit healthcare system in Buffalo. She credits D’Youville for encouraging her to see beyond her nursing role, with faculty members and advisors making it clear that personal fulfillment is as important as career training if they are going to serve the community in the best way possible.

For her, that fulfillment came on the business side of care. After receiving her bachelor’s degree in 1980, she worked as an RN for several years, and that led to her becoming manager for a local home health services agency. She found she preferred management and, in 2003, she obtained her MBA and joined Catholic Health Homes Care, an organization with a mission similar to her alma mater.

“There’s always been such a pride in the school,” Markiewicz says of D’Youville, and she believes that continues under the leadership of its current president, Lorrie Clemo, PhD.

“What I see now is Dr. Clemo saying, ‘You take your education and what you have learned and there is no limit to what you can do with that. You can run a hospital!’ Or more. In her new position, Markiewicz is among the local leaders who are dedicated to discovering new ways to bring better care to people in Western New York, a region with a high poverty rate, aging population and, according to New York State’s Department of Health statistics, a troubling mortality rate.

One of the most innovative projects in this effort is rising right alongside the D’Youville campus. The school is building a brand-new learning and community center, the Health Professions Hub, which will house a public medical clinic and pharmacy for its West Side neighbors on its first floor and educational and training space on the upper floors (see page 12). Catholic Health is a key contributor, committing $5 million to the effort, and Markiewicz is the nonprofit’s liaison. Construction of the Hub is set to be completed by the end of 2020. Meanwhile, D’Youville students, graduates and faculty already are providing outreach elsewhere in Western New York.

D’Youville alumna Joanne E. Haefner is CEO of Neighborhood Health Centers, a federally supported program that provides a range of medical services to the public regardless of the patient’s ability to pay. Under Haefner’s guidance, the center has enhanced its services in existing locations and added new offices in underserved communities.

Haefner, who has her bachelor’s and Family Nurse Practitioner degrees from D’Youville, says the university’s mission of service dovetails almost perfectly with that of the centers.

“We’ve hired a significant number of D’Youville alumni — staff who trained there, our nurse practitioners, our nursing staff,” she says. “The Christine Verni on service and on community, and it makes them apply.”

It is also a mutually beneficial relationship. Haefner says Neighborhood Health Centers have opened their doors for training for students in the university’s RN program for their community health rotations; they have had physician assistant students come in for clinical support and training, and the D’Youville School of Pharmacy does clinical rotations at one of the center’s sites.

“I believe D’Youville attracts people who already have a strong pull toward service to the underserved communities, and who are looking toward lives of service themselves — social sector service types of individuals,” Haefner says. “We hire people who strongly believe in the concept that healthcare is a right — that’s another alignment with D’Youville,” she says. “And we appreciate graduates with diverse life experiences, who may have faced some significant issues in their life histories.”

Of course, healthcare providers cannot hire people if the people aren’t available to hire. That’s why D’Youville’s School of Nursing is thriving, says Christine Verni, EdD. As dean of the nursing school, Verni says enrollment increases each year and D’Youville has increased the support it gives, so students do well.

D’Youville continues to produce a solid core of registered nurses, with bachelor’s degrees and family nurse practitioners (who often fill the role of the old-fashioned family doctor). Beyond that, students can choose to study for their master’s in nursing management to fit critical roles like the ones held by Judy Dobson and Joyce Markiewicz, or they can specialize by becoming nurse practitioners in mental health, a field whose importance is finally being realized as a vital area of overall healthcare.

“As demographics change in the community around us,” Verni says, “nursing education has to change with that.” For example, she says, she works with Hospice and is co-teaching a religious
Innovation in the community
THE HUB: A CENTER FOR EDUCATION, CARE, AND GROWTH

You can’t talk about the impact D’Youville on healthcare in Western New York without discussing its new Health Professions Hub, currently under construction and scheduled to open in late 2020.

The Hub will be much more than just another new building on the campus’s West Side campus. A health center and pharmacy on the main floor will provide medical services to the university’s neighborhood, while elsewhere in the building students and current medical personnel will engage in classes and “up-skill” training.

The 59,860-square-foot education, research, and community health center and pharmacy on the main floor will provide medical services to the university’s neighborhood, while elsewhere in the building students and current medical personnel will engage in classes and “up-skill” training. The 59,860-square-foot education, research, and community health center and pharmacy on the main floor will provide medical services to the university’s neighborhood, while elsewhere in the building students and current medical personnel will engage in classes and “up-skill” training.

The growth and changes in the nursing and health careers programs are in response to the new type of student the university is seeing.

“Things are completely different in 2019 than they were in 2007, or even in 2016 when I finished my doctorate,” Verni says. “Healthcare dynamics have changed, and the student body is different. They know they want to do more (for their patients) than work at the bedside. More students are pursuing advanced degrees at a younger age.”

Canio J. Marasco Jr., PhD, dean of D’Youville’s School of Pharmacy, says the field of pharmacy is also evolving, especially in terms of patient care.

“In the simulation learning environment, including the use of medical simulations to recreate real-life situations for teams of students from different degree programs. The simulations will be a major part of the Hub learning experience.”

Unlike larger colleges and universities that may be hamstrung by layers of policy and ingrained practices, School of Health Professions Dean Maureen Finney says, “D’Youville is perfectly suited for this type of initiative. We have energy for it, we have enthusiasm for it and we love collaboration.”

If you are interested in supporting the Hub, contact Pamela Say, vice president for institutional advancement, at 716-829-7801 or sayp@dyc.edu.

Amazing alumni

MARY DILLON ’72
Vice President for Patient Care Services, Sisters Hospital

STEPHEN MERCURIO ’77
President, The McGuire Group

JOYCE KONTRABECKI MARKEWICZ ’80
Executive Vice President & Chief Business Development Officer, Catholic Health

CHARLENE HORNWOOD LUDLOW ’82
Vice President & Chief Quality and Patient Safety Officer, ECMC

KAREN ROGERS ZIEMIANSKI ’83
Senior Vice President of Nursing, ECMC

JUDY JORDAN DOBSON ’89, ’04
Vice President of Medical Surgical Nursing, ECMC

JOANNE HAEPNER ’90, ’00
CEO, Northwest Buffalo Community Health Care Center

CHRISTOPHER LANE ’10
President, Buffalo General Hospital/Gates Vascular Institute

BARBARA AHRENS KUPPEL ’14
Chief Quality and Patient Safety Officer, Buffalo General Hospital

D’Youville has supported other graduates in their careers:

“If it works both ways,” she says. “We do know that D’Youville’s are some of the smartest, best-prepared graduates that we have here. Now we also want to keep them involved, to be good partners with the university.”

— MELINDA MILLER

Deanna Romanowski / JAMIE WALTERS
So long, shuffle – hello, Solutions

Do you remember the "D’Youville Shuffle"? It’s the phrase students used to describe bouncing around the administration building to settle their class registration, which depended on their account being paid, which depended on financial aid, which were all located in separate offices.

Jumale Jumale, director of financial aid, says even though the offices of the registrar, student accounts and financial aid were all located on the second floor of Koessler Administration Building (KAB), students found the runaround frustrating.

“It wasn’t the walk between offices that was the stumbling block, it was the thought of, ‘ugh, I have to go see another person and tell my story all over again’; it’s stressful and intimidating,” Nowak says. “Students come to us because they have a problem. We don’t need to make things more difficult for them.”

Nowak and Matthew Metz, associate vice president for enrollment management and chief innovation and improvement officer, recognized the D’Youville Shuffle was negatively affecting the university’s retention of students.

“We looked at the integration of the three offices with two major considerations: how can we best serve students and how can we be as future-forward in the adoption of cutting-edge technology solutions in this space to meet their needs,” Metz says.

Solutions combines the functions and staffs of student accounts, financial aid, and the registrar, and houses them in one bright, accessible space.

“With renovations to the second floor of KAB already planned, Nowak and Metz studied how other schools handled integrating student services. Soon, a plan for the new office, Solutions, was born,” Metz says. Solutions combines the functions and staffs of student accounts, financial aid, and the registrar, and houses them in one bright, accessible space.

Instead of doing the D’Youville Shuffle, students can access the innovative and streamlined support systems to provide best-in-class service by meeting them where they are,” Metz says.

“The space is very customer-centric, with a number of people walking around, available to help,” Nowak says. “It’s a bit like an Apple store.”

In addition, most services have gone paperless thanks to technology platforms from CampusLogic. “We are still working on streamlining some processes, but we are much more in tune with this generation’s commitment to technology,” Nowak says.

“We’ve created a simplified path to help while meeting students where they choose to solve issues – in person, on their mobile devices, etc.” says Metz. “Combining these services allows a collaborative team approach to find the best possible outcome for each student.”

Proof of Solutions’ success can be seen in D’Youville’s increased retention rates. Not only has total retention increased from 81% to 85% in just the past year, but D’Youville now exceeds the national average for private college retention.

Jumale Jumale, a senior sociology major, has worked in Solutions for two years. He greets students as they come in, assesses their issues and directs them to the appropriate staff member. Jumale remembers doing the D’Youville Shuffle during his first two years at college and says the difference is amazing.

“It’s such an open and friendly environment now,” Jumale says. “I get to help people with what they need and they leave with smiles on their faces. Knowing you helped and made their day a little better is a great feeling.”

Most alumni probably don’t remember the D’Youville Shuffle with a smile, but the new configuration at Solutions has changed that, Nowak says. “Our goal is that no one leaves our space without a solution to their problem.”

— CATHY WILDE

Moving Forward

“D’Youville Shuffle” was negatively affecting the university’s retention of students.

“I know for a fact there were students who worked with financial aid when I told them they still had to go to one or two more offices, would just walk straight out the door – and we never saw them again,” Nowak says.

With renovations to the second floor of KAB already planned, Nowak and Metz studied how other schools handled integrating student services. Soon, a plan for the new office, Solutions, was born.

“We looked at the integration of the three offices with two major considerations: how can we best serve students and how can we be as future-forward in the adoption of cutting-edge technology solutions in this space to meet their needs.”
Five ways to make an impact with your gift

1. Save the date for Day of Giving
   D’Youville’s fourth annual Day of Giving will be April 1, 2020. Save the date and be sure to help your class rise to the top of the leaderboard by making a gift and sharing why you’re thankful for D’Youville on that day!

2. Make a gift to the Loyalty Fund
   D’Youville’s Loyalty Fund helps to bridge the gap between revenue generated by tuition and the cost of providing a high-quality education for our students. Your gift to the Loyalty Fund has an immediate impact on students and helps enhance the total education experience at D’Youville.

3. Ask your employer about matching gifts
   Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. Ask your employer for more information and double your impact to D’Youville!

4. Prepare for the future with a planned gift
   Choosing the right planned gift depends on your personal circumstances and financial goals. No matter the method, consider joining the many individuals who have made enduring gifts by including D’Youville in their estate plans.

5. Support student scholarships
   Last year, D’Youville awarded over $16 million in scholarships and 3 out of 4 freshman students were awarded a scholarship or grant. Because we are committed to making a college education affordable to all students, please consider making a gift in support of our students’ financial needs.

---

STUDENT STORIES

Halimah McBryde ‘20

When Halimah McBryde ‘20 walked into the newly remodeled interfaith prayer room this fall, she found a stark contrast to how it looked just a few weeks prior.

“It was very dark and dreary, and there was not much space,” says McBryde about the old room. “Many students, including me, would not go there because it was not a comfortable environment for worship. I would end up praying in school hallways or even outside.”

McBryde, a psychology major and president of D’Youville’s Muslim Student Association, was instrumental in the redesign of the new space, working hand-in-hand with Jeff Papia, chief mission officer at D’Youville.

It was Papia who reached out to McBryde directly to ensure that the needs of the Muslim students and students of all faiths on campus were met within the new space.

“Halimah’s passion and her dedication to our Muslim students on campus are readily apparent in all her efforts,” says Papia. “All the while, her gracious demeanor and inherent kindness made every encounter a reason to smile. Students will benefit from her and the entire group’s efforts well beyond her time here.”

The room includes prayer rugs, a bench for removal of shoes, resources for a number of religious traditions, and new carpeting and paint. Across the hall, a hand and foot washing station will soon be installed.

On creating the new space with Papia, McBryde says, “We were able to inform him of specific needs of the Muslim students and help in the development of the plans for the space. This is a perfect example of how the development of the university is focused on the students, as well as their willingness to incorporate and welcome students of different races, cultures, and religions.”

Located on the third floor of the Koessler Administration Building, the room has quickly become a favorite place on campus for students to reflect and relax.

“I love having a quiet, cozy space to go and perform my prayers, as well as just to unwind,” says McBryde.

McBryde founded the Muslim Student Association in 2018 to serve as a support system for herself and other students on campus. It started off with three members.

Fast forward just a year; it now boasts more than a dozen committed members, including six board members. The group organizes events and other activities on campus, which focus on community service, dispelling stereotypes about Islam, and educating the university community about what Islam is.

The events the association hosts now average about 40 attendees each, including lectures, poetry slams, and a food drive in conjunction with a men’s basketball game, which supported the D’Youville Campus Cupboard and West Side Community Services.

“The poetry slam is our biggest draw and has the largest non-D’Youville student attendance because we get quite a few high schoolers,” adds McBryde.

“Being a practicing Muslim and a college student is hard. Having a support system of other Muslim students that you can rely on to help you spiritually was very important to me,” she says. “I am so grateful for the people who have stepped up and have made the club such a success!”

— GARY STELTERMANN
Building a bridge to career success

The new, unmistakable energy permeating the D’Youville campus is manifesting in some pretty exciting ways. In challenging ourselves to dream big, think outside of the box, and envision a limitless future, we are developing new K-20 educational pathways to transform how high school students in Western New York prepare for college.

Our K-12 partnerships have always been about more than latter grades. We design programs to support the whole student and emphasize soft skills and increase social capital so that low-income and first-generation applicants can get into and succeed in college. We’ve long participated in the U.S. Department of Education’s Upward Bound program, which provides academic tutoring, course selection, counseling, and financial literacy for low-income students who come from families where neither parent holds a bachelor’s degree.

In November, D’Youville and Leonardo da Vinci High School, which is co-located on D’Youville’s campus, unveiled the Active Learning Center (ALC), a new space designed to stimulate higher-order thinking skills, promote engagement, and maximize student achievement. Teachers at da Vinci will keep a detailed journal of their classroom experiences.

Leah MacVie, PhD, associate vice president of institutional effectiveness and planning, and Jason McLeod, PhD, associate vice president of operations, are the co-principal investigators of a Steelcase Active Classroom Award, which will work to measure how the ALC influences instructors’ pedagogy and student learning. The data will be used to expand understanding of teacher practice and provide a living laboratory to guide the deployment of active learning spaces across the Buffalo Public School system.

D’Youville’s commitment to social mobility through higher education inspired MacVie to co-develop the Early College Bridge Program (ECBP) in collaboration with Briana Jegier, PhD, associate professor for health administration and public health, and Ali Newman, director of freshmen admissions. The ECBP is a cohort-based educational experience that allows high school students to explore careers and earn college credit.

The impact extends far beyond the classroom; it affects everything from exploring career options, to understanding educational pathways leading to those careers, to arranging transportation to campus tours, and understanding how to apply for financial aid.

As the first person in her family to earn a four-year college degree, MacVie is acutely aware of how important social capital is in successfully transitioning from high school to college. Today she holds a bachelor’s degree in fine arts, a master’s in education technology, and an interdisciplinary doctorate in creative and ethical leadership, but she remembers struggling in high school and feeling overwhelmed by the college application process. She designed ECBP to help D’Youville answer two important questions: how can we expose students to a variety of career options so they can choose a major that is right for them, and how can we better prepare students for college? Starting this fall, participating high school students will be able to engage in a healthcare pathway that leads to stackable credits and certificates that will help them graduate from college on-time and with less debt. The healthcare pathway has three tracks: health professions, pharmacy, and nursing. Students can earn an advanced certificate in pharmacy technician and associate degrees in community health and pharmacy studies.

The ECBP emphasizes career exploration and college preparation experiences. It is a holistic approach to college preparation aimed at helping students improve academic performance while acquiring soft-skills and building social capital. Summer camps and field trips with hands-on experiences are built into the program. The ECBP is largely based on the successful Bridge Year Maine. In the 2018-19 school year, 3,113 students participated in the program and collectively they earned 21,570 credit hours at no cost to them or their families. Studies following these students through college show that program graduates are more likely to finish their college degree on time and may graduate with less debt. The Early College Bridge Program, our ever-expanding partnerships with Buffalo Public Schools, and Upward Bound are important parts of D’Youville’s mission and our strategic objective of expanding opportunity and community impact.

We are proud that our work is receiving national acclaim. U.S. News and World Report ranked D’Youville No. 96 among national universities for social mobility, but our proudest moments will come when our ECBP students graduate from D’Youville and embark upon careers that will forever change their lives.

— JENNIFER TUTTLE
I f you ask a student studying in a healthcare program why they’ve chosen their field, you’ll often hear a story of how a professional in that career approached them or their family at a young age. When you ask chiropractic student Dina Al-Hashimi ’22, though, she flips the script a bit. “I am an atypical chiropractic student. I didn’t want to be a chiropractor at a young age, and I actually had never been to a chiropractor until I started here at D’Youville,” Al-Hashimi says.

What she does share with her fellow classmates, however, is a passion for helping others. “I always had a passion for helping others, and I knew that I wanted a career in healthcare,” she adds. “After exploring and researching different healthcare professions, I decided that chiropractic is the right fit for me.”

As a resident of Ontario, Canada, Al-Hashimi says that D’Youville’s proximity to her hometown was a major attraction. After visiting campus during an open house, she says that “meeting faculty and current students had the biggest impression, and I was pleasantly surprised at how approachable everyone was.”

Past forward to her final year, Al-Hashimi is all in on her educational experience at D’Youville. She is active around campus, including Technique Club, where chiropractic students practice manipulation skills; Journal Club, where students read papers and articles and discuss their importance to the profession; even Skyiving with some authors: as well as a fourth-year clinical internship she’s completing across three different sites, including Erie County Medical Center, University at Buffalo Neurosurgery, and Hagenian Chiropractic Campus Clinic.

On top of those roles, Al-Hashimi is active in the Student American Chiropractic Association (SACA). As part of that group, she joined her fellow students last year in the nation’s capital for a national leadership conference. “We met with lawmakers and lobbied for The Chiropractic Medicare Coverage Modernization Act of 2019 bill to provide Medicare patients full access to chiropractic care,” she adds. The bill passed in Congress this past fall.

When asked how she juggles it all, Al-Hashimi is quick to respond. “Surrounding myself with strong and positive mentors early on. I actually met one of my chiro mentors during Experience Chiropractic Day. Not only did I gain a mentor during that visit to campus, but also a lifelong friend,” she says. “Other support systems include my immediate family and my work family. Developing my own system for studying, strong organization skills, and prioritizing tasks have been crucial to my success so far.”

She also doesn’t hesitate when asked what her favorite part of the program has been. “I can’t single out one particular memory or person, but if I have to pick something, then I would say it’s the chiro faculty,” she says. “The support, guidance, and encouragement of the professionals and our clinicians throughout the program have been unmatched.” — GARY STELTERMANN

NOT ONLY DID I GAIN A MENTOR DURING THAT VISIT TO CAMPUS, BUT ALSO A LIFELONG FRIEND.

STUDENT STORIES
Dina Al-Hashimi ’20

I chosed D’Youville because I didn’t want to take a bus to school,” she says with a laugh. She walked to campus every day from her family’s home on Pennsylvania Street. When she first applied, she worried she might not get accepted, and then worried about how she would afford tuition. “It was a bit of a rough time at home and my mother told me I was on my own as far as college,” she says. Christopher credits her Grover Cleveland High School guidance counselor, Genevieve Geraty, an alumna, for her D’Youville education. “I’m sure Miss Geraty put in a good word for me with the admissions office,” Christopher says. She also believes the guidance counselor helped her receive a full scholarship through the Diocesan Scholarship Program. “I didn’t pay a cent – not even for books!” she says. The only stipulation was that she had to teach one year in a Diocesan school.

In the end, Christopher didn’t spend only one year teaching in the Buffalo Diocese – she spent 40. She taught at numerous Western New York Catholic schools, including fourth and fifth grade at Holy Cross from 1969-72. “I remember looking at those little faces and saying to myself, how do I do this? I was scared; I was only 19 years old at the time,” she says. She spent 37 of those 40 years teaching junior high school math at schools including St. Agnes, St. Mark, St. Andrew, St. Amelia, and Mount St. Joseph Academy.

One of her longest stints were at St. Aloysius in Cheektowaga and St. Thomas Aquinas in South Buffalo. She fondly recalls her 13 years at “St. A’s” as one of the favorite times in her life, because of the close bonds she forged. “I became friends with so many of the families, and I still hear from my former St. A’s students,” she says. “I get invited to so many weddings, birthdays, baptisms, and graduations, by the kids and their families, you wouldn’t believe it!”

Retired since 2009, Christopher stays busy as a volunteer at Villa Maria Convent and the Tonawanda Senior Center. She also helps care for several neighbors and enjoys Buffalo Bills and baseball games. “The Bills are my life!” she says. Christopher maintains ties with D’Youville as a Kavinoky Theatre usher and as an associate of the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart with a group that meets in the campus library. Several years ago, she joined D’Youville’s Providence Society, which honors alumni and friends who include D’Youville in their estate plans.

“It’s my way of saying thank you, because D’Youville paid for my education. It’s also a way to honor (former D’Youville president) Sr. Denise Roche, who I’ve known since 1967, when I took her sociology class. We used to play ping pong after class, and then she became president!” she says. “My years at D’Youville were some of the best of my life because I became a teacher,” Christopher says. “Someone once told me, if you love what you’re doing, you’ll never work a day in your life. I never thought of teaching as a job, because I loved it so much. It really was my vocation.” — CATHY WILDE

SAYING THANKS
Victoria Christopher ’70

Christopher received a cap and gown of her beloved Baltimore Orioles from her fellow teachers at St. Thomas Aquinas when she was honored for her 39th anniversary of teaching.
FACULTY Q&A

Gaia Bistulfi Amman, PhD

G aia Bistulfi Amman, PhD, is chair and associate professor of the biology and mathematics department at D’Youville, but she’s also a native of Italy, published novelist, world traveler, and lead singer in not one, but two, Buffalo rock bands.

How did you wind up at D’Youville?

“I was a post-doc at Roswell Park, doing cancer research. A professor at Canisius died suddenly and I was asked to finish teaching his classes as an adjunct. And I just loved it. That’s when I decided what I really wanted to do was teach.”

She was hired by D’Youville in 2011.

What’s your favorite spot in Buffalo?

“Probably Wilkeson Pointe on the Outer Harbor. It’s a park by the water with a little beach and a hill with wind sculptures. You can see beautiful sunsets there.”

What would our alumni find most surprising about you?

“I used to sing with a cover band when I lived in Italy, and I missed it so much when I came to the U.S. I saw an ad on Craigslist looking for a lead singer in Buffalo and my husband said I should go for it. And I got it! Now I’m with two bands—9TsOn, which is on hiatus for a bit, and Scarlet’s Gone Sonic, which will start performing in the spring.”

Who’s your biggest inspiration and why?

“People like Mahatma Gandhi and Mother Teresa. They were positive forces for change while still remaining peaceful and calm. There is so much anger nowadays. They showed me you don’t have to shout to be heard.”

Where was the most memorable vacation you’ve taken?

“Morocco – Marrakech, specifically. My husband and I walked everywhere, ate fantastic food, and went on a fun hot-air balloon ride over the dessert at dawn.”

What do you love most about D’Youville?

“Definitely the people. I love the mission of our school and I definitely think it is reflected in how people behave here – inspiring and motivating our students to help get them where they want to go. I know we are making a difference.”

FACULTY UPDATE

Carole Gutt, EdD

C arole Gutt, EdD, arrived at D’Youville in 1985 after 10 years at Niagara University. By the time she retired in 2011, Gutt wore many hats in the nursing department, now the Patricia H. Garman School of Nursing.

During her years as director of graduate nursing, enrollment in the programs doubled, with many new students coming from Canada. “The faculty in nursing were very creative and innovative, developing many new programs and student-friendly scheduling options,” she says. Many of the faculty still remain in touch. A group of retired faculty and staff meet every first Monday of the month at a local restaurant for lunch, she says. In the summers, when most of the retirees are in town, they can get between 30 and 40 people at these get-togethers. In addition to the retiree luncheons, Gutt keeps busy as a member of the Amherst Book Club, the Red Hat Society, and the UB Women’s Club.

During her years as director of graduate nursing, enrollment in the programs doubled, with many new students coming from Canada. “The faculty in nursing were very creative and innovative, developing many new programs and student-friendly scheduling options,” she says. Many of the faculty still remain in touch. A group of retired faculty and staff meet every first Monday of the month at a local restaurant for lunch, she says. In the summers, when most of the retirees are in town, they can get between 30 and 40 people at these get-togethers. In addition to the retiree luncheons, Gutt keeps busy as a member of the Amherst Book Club, the Red Hat Society, and the UB Women’s Club.

— CATHY WILDE
Athletics round-up

WOMEN’S SOCCER
The D’Youville women’s soccer team reached the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) semifinals for the third consecutive year after finishing with a 6-2-2 conference record and 10-6-2 overall. The women allowed two or less goals in all 10 of their conference games. Six Spartans were named to AMCC All-Conference Teams. Junior forward Malakina Magee, sophomore Kaylee Heschke, freshman attacker Sarah Milczarski, and sophomore goalie Laurie Poeller were named AMCC Second Team All-Conference selections, while freshman goalkeeper Laura Peterson was named AMCC Third Team All-Conference selections. Magee led the team with 11 goals and 22 points – all career highs. Peterson served as an extension of the defense at midfield while tallying two goals and three assists in her final season. Peterson tallied eight goals with 19 points, adding three assists, serving as the other half of the team’s high-powered scoring duo along with Magee. The team posted a 4-1-1 record in games where Peterson started. Following the senior class, freshwomen Kaylee Heschke and Milczarski grew into one of the best scoring duos along with Magee. The team scored 106 goals, which was more than double the previous season tally. Eight players scored two or more goals, and three players were AMCC All-Conference selections – the most in program history. Sophomore goalie Marla Pachla posted a 4-1-1 record in games where Pachla started. Both Heschke and Pachla were named to the AMCC All-Tournament Team for their performances in the playoffs. Magee was named to the AMCC Second Team All-Conference for her high-powered scoring. Heschke and Milczarski were named to the AMCC Third Team All-Conference selections. Junior midfielder Nick Dumond posted team highs with eight goals, three assists, and 19 points, earning him an AMCC Second Team All-Conference selection in his first season with the team. Senior forward Marco Coccarelli and junior defender Jake Kowalewski were named to the AMCC Third Team All-Conference Team. Coccarelli posted seven goals and three assists with 17 points. He ended his career as one of the best offensive players in program history. Starting every game for the team, Kowalewski used his speed and fast pace to net two goals on the season – both game-winners – to go along with two assists. The men will lose four seniors in Ciccarelli, Petrucci, Campisi, and A.J. Wade.

MEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
The D’Youville men’s cross country team started 2019 off strong with a 4-6 conference finish at the Buffalo State Invitational. They also added a first-place team finish at the Meghan Memorial. The Spartans placed fourth at the AMCC Championship. Rachel Luczak was one of the top runners for the women throughout the season; finishing as the top Spartan runner in every race she ran but once. Strong showings from seniors Mary Blackley, Jenna Donati, Alexa Dymond, and Stephanie Lisiecki all contributed to the team’s success.

MEN’S SOCCER
The D’Youville men’s soccer team finished the season with a 4-6 conference record with an 8-10 overall record in 2019. The team saw measurable improvement with an 8-10 overall record in 2019. The men will lose four seniors in Ciccarelli, Petrucci, Campisi, and A.J. Wade.

WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL
The D’Youville women’s volleyball team completed their season with plenty of promise from their young players. Freshmen Brianna Damstetter, Julia Peinikoff, and Sarah Wittak, along with sophomore Carly Milleville, make up the top offensive and defensive players for the team. D’Youville picked up a big conference and rivalry win over Hilbert during the fall season.

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
The D’Youville women’s cross country team started 2019 off strong with a third-place finish at the Buffalo State Invitational. They also added a first-place team finish at the Meghan Memorial. The Spartans placed fourth at the AMCC Championship.

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
The D’Youville men’s cross country team set several new records in 2019. Senior Patrick Moran set the 5k and 8k program records throughout the season. Moran recorded five top-10 finishes in seven matches, including an AMCC All-Conference selection for finishing eighth in the AMCC Championship. Senior Zach Bodnicky and Matthew Battagli showcased strong running all season; juniors David Oswald and Ed Apan continued to be two of the team’s most consistent runners.

WOMEN’S TENNIS
The D’Youville women’s tennis team advanced to the AMCC semifinals. The team posted a 5-3 conference record and a 6-7 overall record. In two of their three conference losses, the women lost by just one point. Senior Denia Ladaniza went 5-0 in conference singles matches and earned an AMCC Second Team All-Conference selection for third singles. Sophomore Lauren Karoglan lost only one singles match throughout the season as the number one singles player for the women. The future looks bright as Karoglan, Alisson Meissner, Faith Falkowski, Julia Clepper, and Amanda Wtaliszewski all contributed as important young players for the Spartans.

GOLF
The D’Youville golf team boasted its largest roster in years in 2019. Justin Varney was the team’s top golfer in several matches while Mackenzie Cox capped off his career finishing as the best golfer at the AMCC Championship. The team finished third at the D’Youville Spartan Invitational this season – their best team finish of the season.

WOMEN’S CREW
The D’Youville women’s crew team had a strong fall season in 2019, participating in four races. In their first race of the season at St. John Fisher, the women took second place. The women continued to race competitively throughout the season while taking on Division I and Division II programs. D’Youville will race again this spring to complete their season.

— STEPHEN McCARTHY

PHOTO: ANDREA

PHOTO: JOED VIERA

PHOTO: CHRISTOPHER

PHOTO: HANNAH
What a wonderful year it was to be a D’Youville alumna/us! 2019 brought with it exciting events, new groups, and a Reunion Weekend with record-breaking attendance! Here are a few highlights:

More than 800 new graduates joined the D’Youville Alumni Association earning their degrees in both our May and December 2019 Commencement Ceremonies. We are proud to recognize and celebrate many families of legacy graduates from D’Youville. During May and December Commencement weekends, graduates with family members who also attended D’Youville celebrated their accomplishments and their shared experiences. Many of our students share a D’Youville legacy connection with their grandparents, parents, and siblings!

Reunion and Family Weekend 2019 was quite the celebration! The Class of 1969 returned to The Armory to celebrate their 50th Reunion, alumni and students rocked out at Rock’n Redfest, alumni saw Buffalo’s renaissance aboard a double decker bus tour, and we ended the weekend with a beautiful Mass. To top off the celebrations, four alumni were honored at the annual Alumni Reunion and Recognition Dinner on Saturday evening.

Lynne Muth ’82 received the Delta Sigma Award for her selfless spirit and exceptional service to others. Currently a school nurse case manager, Lynne gives a voice to her students and works tirelessly to ensure even the least fortunate of families have the highest quality of life. Lynne’s daughter, Catherine Muth ’11, presented the award.

Kathleen (Kay) Ryan Reilly ’69 was honored as a Delta Sigma Award recipient. In more than 40 years as an educator, Kay went above and beyond to advocate for her students. Before moving into administration, Kay advocated for legislation that led to the desegregation of schools in North Carolina in the early 1970s. Kay’s dear friends, Patsy Bisantz Caldeiro ’69 and Eileen Sullivan Herlihy ’69, presented her award.

Mary Alice (Mimi) Higgins Donius ’69 received D’Youville’s highest alumni honor—the Anne Lum Distinguished Alumni Award. Mimi’s career in nursing is extensive; beginning as a public health nurse and leading to her current role as Dean of the College of Nursing at Sacred Heart University. Rooted in service to others, Mimi has dedicated her life to volunteerism, research, education, and philanthropy. Mimi is pictured with D’Youville President Lorrie Clemo.

Devllyn Nau ’18 was honored with the Young Alumni Award for his dedication to activism and enhancing the occupational therapy profession. While at D’Youville, Devlynn was an active leader in the Student Government Association, Student Ambassador, and Occupational Therapy Professional Promise awards. Devlynn’s friend and mentor, Marissa Benzim Strzelak ’15, presented the award.

For many more photos from Reunion, visit Alumni.dyouville.edu.
CAROL JOZWIAK ERNST ‘69 retired from the Cheektowaga-Sloan School District in 2021 after teaching K-3 for more than 30 years. She continued to substitute teach through 2013. She also kept busy vacationing in Jamaica, Hawaii, Florida, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. In 2014, Carol had a stroke which seriously affected her left-side mobility. She misses teaching and traveling but still enjoys going to the mall, movies, restaurants, and Bison baseball games with her son, David.

SUSAN WAGNER LENNON ‘69 is enjoying retirement. She has been married for 49 years and has two children and five grandchildren. She is grateful for good health and enjoys friends, family, and preparing good food.

MARY DILLON ‘72 was named to Buffalo Business First’s 2019 lists of Who’s Who in Health Care and Women of Influence. She is senior vice president of nursing care and Women of Influence. She is also vice president of nursing at Erie County Medical Center.

JEANNE BOROWSKI STREETER ‘88 joined SUNY Corning Community College as a hospital nurse and nurse practitioner.

CAROL JOZWIAK ERNST ‘69, a hospital nurse and nurse practitioner, joined SUNY Corning Community College as a hospital nurse and nurse practitioner.

JEANNE BOROWSKI STREETER ‘88 presented a talk entitled “To Love the Questions Themselves” during a visit to D’Youville in October. She is a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, New York, and has served as her congregation’s director of vocations since 2003. She currently works as a nurse one day a week at the Monroe County Jail and leads a variety of groups of youth and young adults in social justice retreats and service experiences.

TARA ONGLEY ‘04 was named assistant director of nursing at The McGuire Group’s Seneca Health Care Center.

CHRIS MAYS ‘05 was named partner with Athena S.C.W., a provider of demand generation, lead management, and sales support services.

NICOLE ZIMMER SWIATEK ‘06, ‘08, was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. She is the health services representative and consultant with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

MICHIELLE MURTHA KRAUS ‘99 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. She is the health center administrator and CEO of Fox Run in Orchard Park.

NITRAL SHAH ‘01 is a physical therapist at the University of Toronto’s David L. MacIntosh Sport Medicine Clinic. He has helped create three apps related to physical therapy and is involved in patient care, research, and teaching.

TARA ONGLEY ‘04 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. She is the health services representative and consultant with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

MAGDALENA KOMORIKO NICHOLS ‘09 was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is chief officer of administration and strategic partnerships at Jericho Road Community Health Center.

MALINAH MADUYI ‘10, ‘12, was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is the health services representative and consultant with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

ANDREA LAUDISIO ‘02 joined Sleep Insights as a sleep specialist. She has more than nine years of experience in sleep medicine.

LEONNE SCHAD ‘17 recently wrote and illustrated a children’s book called “Lil Saves the Sea,” published by Covenant Books. It is available online through Amazon.

STEPHEN MERCURIO ‘77 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. He is the CEO of Neighborhood Health Center.

JOANNE HAEPNER ‘80, ‘00, was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019.

TANICE MORGEN PENDERGRASS ‘91 is the development and strategic partnerships manager for Say Yes Buffalo.

CHIARA HOGUE DELOSH ‘98 lives in Florida and is helping D’Youville’s alumni engagement office plan events in the area for 2020. She is a senior financial consultant and representative with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

JOEY KONTRABECKI MARKIEWICZ ‘92 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019.

SUZAN HUFFENBACHER ‘93 was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is chief officer of administration and strategic partnerships at Jericho Road Community Health Center.

TARA ONGLEY ‘04 was named assistant director of nursing at The McGuire Group’s Seneca Health Care Center.

CHRIS MAYS ‘05 was named partner with Athena S.C.W., a provider of demand generation, lead management, and sales support services.

MICHELE KIMMEL MURTHA ‘99 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. She is the health services representative and consultant with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

MAGDALENA KOMORIKO NICHOLS ‘09 was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is chief officer of administration and strategic partnerships at Jericho Road Community Health Center.

MALINAH MADUYI ‘10, ‘12, was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is the health services representative and consultant with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

ANDREA LAUDISIO ‘02 joined Sleep Insights as a sleep specialist. She has more than nine years of experience in sleep medicine.

LEONNE SCHAD ‘17 recently wrote and illustrated a children’s book called “Lil Saves the Sea,” published by Covenant Books. It is available online through Amazon.

LUIS SALAS ‘03 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. He is the president of Buffalo General Medical Center.

CHRIS LANE ‘10 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. He is the president of Buffalo General Medical Center.

MAGDALENA KOMORIKO NICHOLS ‘09 was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is chief officer of administration and strategic partnerships at Jericho Road Community Health Center.

MALINAH MADUYI ‘10, ‘12, was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is the health services representative and consultant with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

ANDREA LAUDISIO ‘02 joined Sleep Insights as a sleep specialist. She has more than nine years of experience in sleep medicine.

LEONNE SCHAD ‘17 recently wrote and illustrated a children’s book called “Lil Saves the Sea,” published by Covenant Books. It is available online through Amazon.

LUIS SALAS ‘03 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. He is the president of Buffalo General Medical Center.

CHRIS LANE ‘10 was named to Buffalo Business First’s list of Who’s Who in Health Care for 2019. He is the president of Buffalo General Medical Center.

MAGDALENA KOMORIKO NICHOLS ‘09 was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is chief officer of administration and strategic partnerships at Jericho Road Community Health Center.

MALINAH MADUYI ‘10, ‘12, was named to Buffalo Business First’s 40 Under 40 Class of 2019. She is the health services representative and consultant with Fortune 500 companies and enjoys volunteering with various charitable organizations.

ANDREA LAUDISIO ‘02 joined Sleep Insights as a sleep specialist. She has more than nine years of experience in sleep medicine.
In memoriam

ANNE KINNEY OFFERMANN ’44
ELAINE BROWN CURTIN ’46
MARY ELENA GALLO GIANGRECO ’47
ROSALIE LOMANTO GIBRONE ’47
HELEN HAND LUSCHER ’47
MARY LOU FARRELL CURTIN ’48
ANNE MURRAY FORTE ’48
MARY ANN BALDUF MORLOCK ’48
MARY MARGARET “MOO” RANSFORD ANDERSON ’49
ANN GIANADDA CASARSA ’50
EVELYN M. SMITH LUDEMAN ’50
MARY COTTRELL RAHILL ’50
MARGARET CALLAHAN SIFORD ’50
LORAINA BLOCK WALLMEYER ’51
BARBARA MOORE YATES ’51
SR. ANNE BERNADETTE HARRON GNSH ’52
RENEE POWALSKI BARTKOWSKI ’53
MARIE CARNEVALE VETRANO ’54
TRUDY GANCEWSKI ZABLOTNY ’56
MARYLYN MONACO LYNCH ’57
SR. ANNE MARIE SRIEGL GNSH ’57
CATHERINE TORRE ’58
BARBARA ANNE CHMIELEWSKI ’60
SR. ANNE (JOSEPH MARIE) MCKEON GNSH ’60
ROSEMARY HUTHMACHER A’HEARN ’61
ALISON CAREY WACLAWEK, a 2016 graduate of the School of Pharmacy, was only 31 when she died in childbirth from a very rare pregnancy condition. She is survived by her husband, Justin, and daughter, Ada Rose, in addition to her parents, in-laws, and many family members. Waclawek was a supervising pharmacist at Walgreens in North Buffalo and served as a preceptor for the School of Pharmacy, which is establishing a scholarship in her honor. A number of students and faculty from the School of Pharmacy also made a gift to Oishai Children’s Hospital in her name. If you are interested in donating to the Ali Waclawek Memorial Scholarship Fund, contact Christopher Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

ALISON CAREY WACLAWEK, a 2016 graduate of the School of Pharmacy, was only 31 when she died in childbirth from a very rare pregnancy condition. She is survived by her husband, Justin, and daughter, Ada Rose, in addition to her parents, in-laws, and many family members. Waclawek was a supervising pharmacist at Walgreens in North Buffalo and served as a preceptor for the School of Pharmacy, which is establishing a scholarship in her honor. A number of students and faculty from the School of Pharmacy also made a gift to Oishai Children’s Hospital in her name. If you are interested in donating to the Ali Waclawek Memorial Scholarship Fund, contact Christopher Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

JOSEPH A. DUNN, PHD, passed away November 30 in Buffalo after a brief illness. Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

ALISON CAREY WACLAWEK, a 2016 graduate of the School of Pharmacy, was only 31 when she died in childbirth from a very rare pregnancy condition. She is survived by her husband, Justin, and daughter, Ada Rose, in addition to her parents, in-laws, and many family members. Waclawek was a supervising pharmacist at Walgreens in North Buffalo and served as a preceptor for the School of Pharmacy, which is establishing a scholarship in her honor. A number of students and faculty from the School of Pharmacy also made a gift to Oishai Children’s Hospital in her name. If you are interested in donating to the Ali Waclawek Memorial Scholarship Fund, contact Christopher Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

JOSEPH A. DUNN, PHD, passed away November 30 in Buffalo after a brief illness. Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

ALISON CAREY WACLAWEK, a 2016 graduate of the School of Pharmacy, was only 31 when she died in childbirth from a very rare pregnancy condition. She is survived by her husband, Justin, and daughter, Ada Rose, in addition to her parents, in-laws, and many family members. Waclawek was a supervising pharmacist at Walgreens in North Buffalo and served as a preceptor for the School of Pharmacy, which is establishing a scholarship in her honor. A number of students and faculty from the School of Pharmacy also made a gift to Oishai Children’s Hospital in her name. If you are interested in donating to the Ali Waclawek Memorial Scholarship Fund, contact Christopher Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

JOSEPH A. DUNN, PHD, passed away November 30 in Buffalo after a brief illness. Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

ALISON CAREY WACLAWEK, a 2016 graduate of the School of Pharmacy, was only 31 when she died in childbirth from a very rare pregnancy condition. She is survived by her husband, Justin, and daughter, Ada Rose, in addition to her parents, in-laws, and many family members. Waclawek was a supervising pharmacist at Walgreens in North Buffalo and served as a preceptor for the School of Pharmacy, which is establishing a scholarship in her honor. A number of students and faculty from the School of Pharmacy also made a gift to Oishai Children’s Hospital in her name. If you are interested in donating to the Ali Waclawek Memorial Scholarship Fund, contact Christopher Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.

JOSEPH A. DUNN, PHD, passed away November 30 in Buffalo after a brief illness. Dunn was a valued member of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2010, and was the son of a 1933 D’Youville nursing alumna, Ann Marie Johnson. He was an accomplished scholar, teacher, mentor, and public servant, who held a number of positions in state and federal government, including deputy under secretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Research, Education and Economics Mission Area.
Dear Fellow Alumni,

In an address before leaving New York University, Dr. Henry T. Heald stated, “The ultimately continuing strength of a university rests with its alumni.” That is so true here at D’Youville as our traditions and memories are treasured by generations of proud alumni who everyday carry D’Youville’s mission and values into the community and workplace.

Although the campus may have expanded since you were a student and degree programs have been enhanced and modified to keep up with the current needs of society, D’Youville’s mission has never wavered. It continues to emphasize leadership and service. As our alumni you are the most visible and positive examples of the university as you live the University through leading compassionate, productive, and responsible lives.

Our Alumni Association Board of Directors is proud to represent you and the more than 21,000 women and men who constitute D’Youville’s treasured alumni. Your Alumni Board of Directors is a vibrant and dedicated group of 22 members spanning the classes of 1967 to 2020. Our board members have chosen to give back to D’Youville by sharing their time and talents through their ideas and active involvement. Strengthened by the diversity in our board membership, we are working diligently to engage alumni of all ages and contribute to the life of the campus by working with university leadership, volunteering at events such as Redfest, and contributing non-perishable items to the Campus Cupboard. We encourage you also to support our students as future alumni through a gift to the Loyalty Fund during our upcoming Day of Giving. We encourage you also to support our students as future alumni through a contribution to the Campus Cupboard, our Day of Giving or the Loyalty Fund.

We encourage you to look out for invitations to D’Youville events in your area throughout 2020, and save the date for Reunion and Family Weekend, September 25-27, 2020. We hope you find opportunities to renew old friendships, reminisce, network, and find you new opportunities to connect.

As professionals in your field, your accomplishments are part of D’Youville’s legacy. We encourage you to share that legacy with those that follow in your footsteps and those that cross your path. Share those memories and stories that make you such a proud alumna. We hope you’ll stay connected. We’d love to hear from you.

All the best,

Dolores Gaeta Prezyna ’70, ’14

Thank you to everyone who completed our 2019 D’MENSIONS survey. We appreciated your responses and did our best to incorporate your feedback. We hope you enjoy the new D’MENSIONS. We’d love to hear your thoughts at dmensions@dyc.edu.
D’You remember Moving Up Day and “flip” hairstyles? The Class of 1970’s candidates for MUD Queen – Carmel Brady, Maureen Masterson, Regina Jordan, Joyce Moody and Nancy Sprague – show off the latest styles in hair and miniskirts as they vie for the crown.

The Class of 1970’s 50th Reunion will be celebrated at Reunion and Family Weekend on Sept. 25-27 at D’Youville. Watch your mailboxes and email for more information soon!