

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE



2026

Graduating Class

MAY GOD BLESS YOU

WISHING YOU CONTINUED ACADEMIC SUCCESS



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

THE REVEREND BRIAN MCSWEENEY, PASTOR

Ms. MICHELE PASQUALE, PRINCIPAL

Letter from the PRESIDENT



Welcome to the 2026 President's Dinner. A heartfelt thank you to all who are joining us this evening, and to those who are supporting the event from afar.

Now in our 60th year at Kennedy, we remain committed to the same mission the school was founded on when it opened as St. Mary's in 1924 – deliver excellence in Catholic education and inspire a life-long mindset of courage and compassion among our students. These values set our school community and tonight's honorees apart.

Marco J. Clark, Ed.D., President of Holy Cross College at Notre Dame, is a trailblazer in Catholic higher education and the recipient of this year's Lux Christi Award. Under his leadership, Holy Cross has experienced significant growth in enrollment and philanthropic support. Thank you for your partnership, which creates meaningful opportunities for our bright and talented students to pursue continued academic excellence, while forming them as thoughtful global citizens rooted in faith and service.

Hanora Lopez P'09,'11,'16,'23,'26,'30 is honored with our Divine Compassion Award for her unwavering support and dedication to Kennedy. Thank you for your advocacy, energy, and volunteerism, and for being a driving force behind many of the school's fundraisers and friendraisers over the years.

William Spelman, selected by his peers as this year's Teacher of Excellence, is a mentor to many, in and out of the classroom. Thank you for your devotion to Catholic education and tireless support of students along their academic journeys.

Our **2026 Students of Excellence** are a force – constantly moving their own goal posts and inspiring others to do the same. I am proud of you and admire your grit and determination. As you start your next chapter, let kindness and curiosity guide you. Make your mark. And, on the days when it's hard to be courageous, know that you have the prayers and support of your Kennedy family.

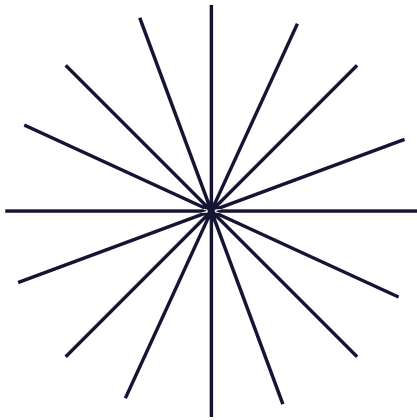
God bless each of you and enjoy the night.

Sincerely and gratefully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark G. Vaillancourt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

The Rev. Mark G. Vaillancourt, Ph.D.
President

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Evening PROGRAM

Welcome and Invocation

The Rev. Mark G. Vaillancourt, Ph.D.
President, Kennedy Catholic

Dinner

Students of Excellence Presentations

Mia Bailey, Stephen Brown, Mikayla Carravone,
John Cassidy, Liana Crawford, Julianna Esposito,
Monika Gojcaj, Victoria Grono, Erin Hirsch,
Conor Lopez, Mia McConnell, Stephen Moore,
Olukayode Nubi, Juliana Papa, Kevin Reynolds,
Dominic Rubino, Gina Savino, Allyson Stellwagen,
Jake Vanga, Timothy Vespucci,
Matthew Zhang, Molly Zych

Presentation of the Teacher of Excellence

William Spelman
English Department

Presentation of the Divine Compassion Award

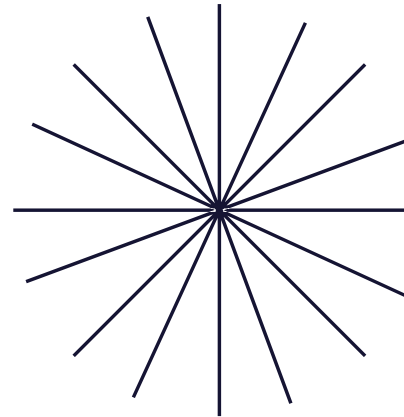
Hanora Lopez P'09,'11,'16,'23,'26,'30

Presentation of the Lux Christi Award

Marco J. Clark, Ed.D.
President, Holy Cross College at Notre Dame

Closing Remarks

The Rev. Mark G. Vaillancourt
President, Kennedy Catholic



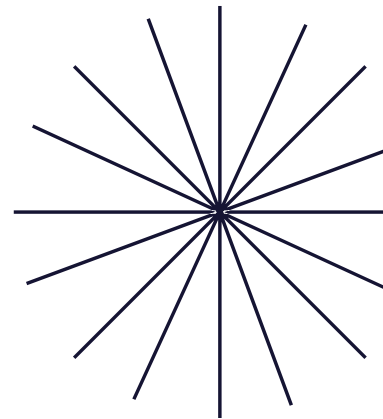
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Dinner Sponsors

Mark '71 and Denise Girolamo



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Lawrence Dwyer '61, P'93,'96

John Gojcaj

The Lewin Family

The McDermott Family

DONORS

We proudly recognize the kindness of those who generously chose to donate tickets or a table for our event. We also extend our sincere gratitude to those who made outright donations in support of our President's Dinner.

Anonymous (3)

Jack & Annie Cassidy P'26

Catherine Doyle P'86, '87, '89, '96, GP'25, '29

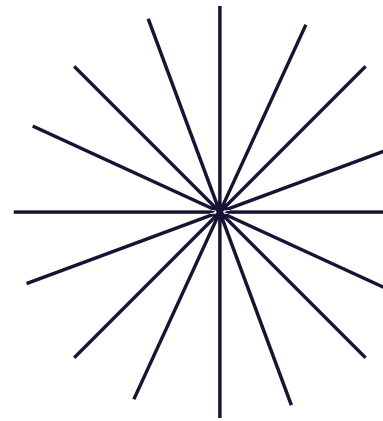
Mark '71 and Denise Girolamo

Rev. John Lagiovane

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The Reynolds Family

Teacher of **EXCELLENCE**

Mr. Spelman earned a BA in English and Philosophy from Skidmore College, an MFA from the University of Iowa, and an MA in Dogmatic Theology from the Institute of Religious Studies at St. Joseph's Seminary.

Mr. Spelman takes pride in fostering critical thinking skills and a love of literature and rhetoric among his students. He is particularly interested in leading students to notice the intersection where literary texts and our faith meet.

Mr. Spelman has been a Catholic educator for over 25 years. In 2017, he received the Stephen A. Murphy Award from Kennedy for teaching excellence and a commitment to Catholic education.

In addition to teaching, Mr. Spelman very much enjoys organizing the annual Shakespeare Competition here at Kennedy, as well as preparing the lectors for our Community Masses.



William Spelman
English Department

Divine Compassion **AWARD**

Hanora Lopez is a devoted member of the Kennedy community and a passionate advocate for Catholic education. Having attended Catholic schools herself, she deeply values the strong academic and spiritual foundation they provide. All of her children attended Kennedy, with her youngest also attending St. Mary's Academy. She credits the dedicated faculty, staff, and the leadership of Father Vaillancourt for helping shape her children's educational experiences.



Hanora Lopez

P'09,'11,'16,'23,'26,'30

In gratitude for all the school gave to her family, Hanora became actively involved through the Family Association and various initiatives. She has become known for her enthusiastic and tireless volunteerism, spearheading fundraising efforts beginning in 2023 with the launch of the Pocketbook Bingo fundraiser, followed by the addition of Sip & Paint in 2024 and Krispy Kreme fundraiser in 2026. She has also been an active participant in Family Association initiatives and teacher appreciation breakfasts, helping foster a strong sense of community and support throughout the school.

Beyond her service to Kennedy, Hanora has helped lead fundraising initiatives supporting St. Gregory the Great Church, where she is an active parishioner, Virtus facilitator, and Eucharistic Minister. In recognition of her faith-filled commitment to service, she was awarded the St. Augustine Medal of Service in 2022 by Bishop Frank Caggiano of the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Hanora retired from the New York City Police Department in 2008 after 20 years of service. She currently works for a nonprofit organization serving adults with disabilities in Valhalla, New York.

Through her unwavering dedication to faith, family, and community, Hanora embodies the spirit of the Divine Compassion Award.

Lux Christi AWARD

Dr. Marco Clark is in his 38th year as a Catholic educator, 29 of which he served alongside the Brothers of Holy Cross.

Dr. Marco Clark has led Holy Cross College since 2022, ushering in a period of dynamic growth and innovation that positions the College as a leader in Catholic higher education in Northern Indiana.

Under his leadership, Holy Cross launched its visionary strategic plan, *With Eyes of Faith*, in May 2023, centering on five core themes: Zeal for Mission, Educating Hearts and Minds, Transformational Student Experience, Mission Advancement, and Growth. Shaped by students, faculty, staff, and alumni, the plan envisions Holy Cross as a place that forms Innovative Scholars, Courageous Citizens, Virtuous Leaders, and Hopeful Disciples.

The momentum has been undeniable. In fall 2024, Holy Cross welcomed its largest incoming class to date, a 17.8% increase in first-year enrollment. The College continues to expand its academic offerings, with 13 majors, 22 minors, and graduate pathways at six affiliated institutions, including its tri-campus partners, the University of Notre Dame, and Saint Mary's College.

In support of a thriving campus life, Holy Cross will soon break ground on a new state-of-the-art residence hall and athletics facilities, further enhancing student experience. Additionally, the Holy Cross Center for Learning and Professional Excellence (CLPE)—established with support from the Lilly Endowment and in collaboration with the University of Notre Dame—positions the College at the forefront of workforce preparation and career readiness.



Marco J. Clark, Ed.D.
President
Holy Cross College at Notre Dame

Under Dr. Clark's leadership faith remains central to the Holy Cross mission. In 2024, the College dedicated a new devotional shrine to Our Lady of Holy Cross, a sacred retreat space overlooking the St. Joseph River, offering students and the broader community a place for prayer, reflection, and evangelization.

Before joining Holy Cross, Dr. Clark served as Executive Director of the Holy Cross Institute at St. Edward's University (TX), supporting 120 Holy Cross schools worldwide through leadership development, research, and mission integration. Prior to that, he spent 23 years at Bishop McNamara High School (MD), where he served as President & CEO and Principal, leading a period of transformative growth in academics, athletics, the arts, and campus facilities.

A nationally recognized expert in Catholic education, governance, and leadership formation, Dr. Clark holds a Doctorate in Education in Interdisciplinary Leadership from Creighton University, where his dissertation on leadership succession earned national attention. He has served on multiple educational and nonprofit boards, and currently serves on the Catholic Charities Board for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, A.T. Still Health Sciences University, and the University of Holy Cross.

Dr. Clark and his wife, Peggy, reside in downtown South Bend, where they are active parishioners at Holy Cross Catholic Church. A former Division I student-athlete and coach, he enjoys biking, kayaking, hiking, traveling, and spending time with their three grown children and nine grandchildren.

Students of EXCELLENCE



Mia Bailey is honored to be named a Student of Excellence. During her time at Kennedy, Mia has proven to be a dedicated and accomplished student, balancing academic excellence with a passion for community service and extracurricular activities. A recipient of multiple academic awards, Mia is a proud member of the National Honor Society and volunteers her time at a local hospital's Cancer Center, offering support and kindness to patients and their families. She is a three-sport athlete, having played basketball, flag football, and track, demonstrating teamwork, perseverance, and leadership. Mia also works at a gym, showcasing her

work ethic and interest in health and fitness. Balancing her studies, athletics, work, and volunteer work with her personal passions, Mia exemplifies dedication, compassion, and a drive to make a positive impact in every aspect of her life and in the lives of those around her. Mia will be attending the University at Albany Honors College, where she will pursue a degree in Political Science while working toward her goal of becoming an attorney. While she will miss her time at Kennedy, Mia is confident that her time here has provided her with a strong faith in God and a foundation upon which to continue building and achieving her goals.



Stephen Brown is honored to be recognized as a Student of Excellence for his achievements in academics, athletics, leadership, and service throughout his time at Kennedy. He maintained a 3.8 GPA while completing eight AP courses and earned recognition on the President's List and High Honor Roll every quarter. Stephen was inducted into the National Honor Society last year, received the Fr. Mark Vaillancourt Presidential Merit Scholarship as a four-year recipient, and was awarded the Deacon Frank Bruno Memorial Scholarship through Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. Outside of the classroom, Stephen served as a pitcher for

the Kennedy varsity baseball team while also competing in club baseball, soccer, and competitive swimming. He has been a coach for the Yorktown Swim & Dive Team since 2024. In addition, Stephen has studied and performed piano for the past ten years. Through summers and weekends with Keating Brothers Contracting, he gained hands-on experience in construction through painting, demolition, sheetrock installation, and general carpentry work. In the fall, Stephen will attend University of Scranton, where he plans to study Political Science and pursue a career in law. He looks forward to developing his skills in leadership, communication, and critical thinking.



Mikayla Carravone is honored to be recognized as a Student of Excellence. Throughout her four years at Kennedy she has been consistently recognized as a Principal's List recipient. Mikayla took rigorous courses including both AP and Honors classes. In her junior year she was inducted into the National Honor Society. Along with her grades she has been a member of the concert band and a captain for the track and field team. Outside of school, Mikayla is dedicated to dancing, she has held the position of company captain for two years; she also has been a member of the Northern Westchester Honors Band. Mikayla will be

continuing her education at Salve Regina University where she will major in Nursing in their honors program, with aspirations to become a nurse practitioner. Mikayla will always be extremely thankful for the wonderful teachers and staff at Kennedy who have encouraged her throughout these past four years.



John Cassidy is grateful for his recognition as a Student of Excellence. Over four years, he has succeeded in the Honors program, taken 9 AP classes, and maintained President's List recognition. He was inducted into the National Honor Society and took part in peer-tutoring for underclassmen. In addition to taking on the challenges of extreme academic rigor, John has participated in multiple extracurricular activities. He was the leader of the trumpet section in band, performing in concerts, pit orchestra, and community Masses. He continued to take private piano lessons and put his skills to the task of accompanying other musical

groups. On the baseball diamond, John played for three seasons on the Freshman, Junior Varsity, and Fall Varsity teams as a relief pitcher. Dedicated to community service, John gave over 200 hours to altar serving in his parish and coaching a local youth baseball team. Recently, John proudly gave the Words of Gratitude address at the Archdiocese Class of 2026 Senior Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. John will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, pursuing a major in Aerospace Engineering with a minor in music. The preparation he received at Kennedy will propel him to new heights of success in his future endeavors.



Liana Crawford is honored to be recognized as a Student of Excellence. During her time at Kennedy, she has consistently achieved both President's List and Principal's List while taking courses entirely containing AP and Honors curricula. She has been a member of the National Honor Society since her junior year. Liana has distinguished her leadership abilities as an elected member of Student Council and as a captain of the Girls' Varsity Soccer team, which she led to their first ever CHSAA State Championship this year. She has contributed to her community by raising over a thousand dollars for blood cancer research as a member of last

year's Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and by volunteering at New York Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital. With her club soccer teams, she has competed nationally, is a 2-time US Youth Soccer New York State Cup champion, and was recognized as an All-Region player in the ECNL-RL Northeast Region. Liana plans on attending Siena University where she will be pursuing her interest in the medical field, studying biology with aspirations of becoming a Physician's Assistant. She will also be pursuing her athletic dreams as well, playing Division 1 soccer for the Siena Women's Soccer Team. Liana is immensely grateful for the opportunities and the education that Kennedy had provided her with and looks forward to her next chapter.



Julianna Esposito is grateful to be named a Student of Excellence. At Kennedy and beyond, Julianna has been an active and hard-working member of her community. She has played four years of Varsity tennis, and acted as captain this past season. She also demonstrated leadership in her role as editor of the yearbook. Julianna is a dedicated member of Kennedy's arts programs, as she participates in both Chorus and Studio Art. Volunteering played a large role in Julianna's high school experience, as she worked with Blood Cancer United to raise money for cancer research and patient support, as well as the Patterson Community Church

to prepare and distribute meals through the soup kitchen. Julianna has maintained a high academic status throughout her four years, regularly receiving the President's List recognition for a 99+ GPA, as well as earning high averages and awards in subjects such as Latin and English. She also received awards such as induction into the National Honor Society and Kennedy's Courage with Honor award. Julianna plans to continue her academic career at Villanova University, and is excited for her future.



Monika Gojcay is blessed and honored to be named a Student of Excellence. Over the last four years at Kennedy, she has found a deeper calling within herself to bask in the great community she gets to be surrounded with each day. In the classroom, Monika diligently works through her AP and Honors course load, yet never failing to volunteer as a proud Gael representative for numerous school events. She also distinguished herself as a leader; elected into the student council and National Honor Society, while leading The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society campaign her sophomore year. Throughout her time here, she also

has been blessed with the opportunity to discover her passion in volleyball. Whether it was leading the team or bringing spirit and encouragement to those around, Monika thanks the volleyball program for paving the way to continuing this passion at Manhattanville University this fall. She brings her compassion outside Kennedy's doors and works closely with her church community to serve and find Christ in each person she meets. Monika couldn't be more grateful for the guidance and care her teachers have provided in shaping the person she is today, and knows she will carry the ideals Kennedy has instilled in her everywhere she goes.



Victoria Grono is honored to be recognized as a Student of Excellence. During her time at Kennedy, Victoria distinguished herself academically while balancing extensive co-curricular involvement. She earned numerous academic honors, including consistent placement on both the President's List and the Principal's List throughout all four years of high school. Alongside her academic success, Victoria is a dedicated athlete and leader in aquatics. She served as captain of the Kennedy Girls Varsity Swim Team during her junior year and has competed for nine years with the Rivertown Rays Swim Team. Victoria has also demonstrated a strong

commitment to service through her work as a Red Cross certified Water Safety Instructor and lifeguard. In these roles, she has taught swimmers of all ages and levels, including children with special needs. In addition, Victoria has been a member of the Kennedy Stage Crew for four years, serving as assistant stage manager in her junior year and later as stage manager and head builder in her senior year. This fall, Victoria will continue her education at Fordham University, where she plans to pursue a degree in Marketing in the Jesuit tradition.



Erin Hirsch has consistently earned placement on the Principal's List since Freshman year and was inducted into the National Honor Society as a junior. Erin has received numerous academic distinctions, including the Algebra 1 Medal, AP Biology Certificate, English 9 Certificate, Geometry and Statistics Honors Medal, Chemistry Honors Certificate, and Algebra 2 Certificate. Beyond academics, Erin has demonstrated a deep commitment to service and leadership through her involvement in the National Charity League. She has completed over 50 hours of service while holding chair positions on the Senior Recognition Committee and

the Engagement and Inclusion Committee. Erin also works as a counselor at an environmental education summer camp, where she fosters a love for nature and learning in younger students. A dedicated athlete, Erin has been a member of Kennedy's volleyball team since freshman year and has played club volleyball since sixth grade. She also founded her own tutoring business to support local students. Erin will attend the University of Delaware Honors College.



Conor Lopez is honored to be named a Student of Excellence. He attended Kennedy like his siblings before and after him. He was accepted into their Honors Program and was awarded an Honors Scholarship. He maintained a 92 GPA while taking a curriculum compiled of AP and Honors classes. During his time at Kennedy, he learned teamwork, leadership, and communication through his time on the soccer team. Conor also had the privilege to become a member of the National Honor Society. To give back to his community, he has completed more than 300 hours of community service for his parish and other organizations. The faith-based education

he received at Kennedy paved the way to his acceptance to St. John's University with a significant Merit Scholarship. He has also been offered the opportunity to join their Honors Program. Conor believes his Kennedy education is the reason for his success so far and will help him excel at St. John's, where he will pursue his dream to be an attorney. Kennedy was a very important chapter in his life that he believes gave him the skills to flourish in life.



Mia McConnell is honored to be selected as a Student of Excellence for her academic excellence and extracurricular activities. She has consistently earned a place on the First Honors and Principal's Lists, since freshman year and became a member of the National Honor Society in her junior year. She was presented with many awards, such as the first team all league for volleyball her senior year. Since freshman year, Mia volunteered to socialize guiding eyes dogs, and she volunteered at accepted students nights held at Kennedy to help run the lacrosse and volleyball tables. Mia has also demonstrated leadership skills as captain

of the Volleyball and Lacrosse teams her senior year. Mia is thrilled to study Nursing at the Catholic University of America in the fall.

The McAvoy Family
on behalf of Maureen's Wish for Hope

**proudly supports Kennedy Catholic Preparatory School
and congratulates the 2026 President's Dinner Awardees**

Marco J. Clark, Ed.D.

Lux Christi Award

Hanora Lopez P'09,'11,'16,'23,'26,'30

Divine Compassion Award

William Spelman

Teacher of Excellence

Students of Excellence

Mia Bailey	Stephen Moore
Stephen Brown	Olukayode Nubi
Mikayla Carravone	Juliana Papa
John Cassidy	Kevin Reynolds
Liana Crawford	Dominic Rubino
Julianna Esposito	Gina Savino
Monika Gojcaj	Allyson Stellwagen
Victoria Grono	Jake Vanga
Erin Hirsch	Timothy Vespucci
Conor Lopez	Matthew Zhang
Mia McConnell	Molly Zych



Thank your for the many ways
you strengthen our community
through faith, scholarship, leadership, and service.



Stephen Moore is honored and thankful to have been recognized as a Student of Excellence. While at Kennedy, Stephen challenged himself with rigorous coursework, including Honors and AP classes, while maintaining a 95+ GPA. Courses like AP Macroeconomics were particularly engaging and enjoyable for him by helping him understand real-world problems. He was inducted into the National Honor Society during his junior year. He has earned six certificates of excellence in specific classes, along with the medal for Physics in his junior year. His favorite times as a Gael come from playing sports, specifically varsity soccer, a team he would eventually be

the co-captain of, while also playing basketball and baseball during his underclassmen years. Stephen also enjoyed representing Kennedy at many open houses and working at Mountain Lakes Day Camp over the summer. He plans on attending Providence College, where he is currently undecided but will continue to pursue his education. Stephen is incredibly grateful for the lessons and opportunities that the Kennedy experience has given him and looks forward to his next chapter in college.



Olukayode Nubi is thankful to have been recognized as a Student of Excellence. Over his four years at Kennedy Catholic, he has consistently demonstrated excellence in academics, and maintained stellar grades in both Honors and AP courses. Kayode was inducted into the National Honor Society in his junior year. Kayode has shown dedication and passion in leading others as a member of the Student Council. In his senior year, he also explored interests beyond academics, and was part of the *Legally Blonde* Musical production. Throughout his high school years, Kayode has enjoyed being part of the Putnam Valley Community Food Pantry in

Putnam Valley, NY, and committing many hours to help people in need of food. Thanks to his previous participation in the Inspirit AI Club, Kayode has developed a great passion for technology, understanding code, and software development. He hopes to develop his own unique software in the future. This year, Kayode was accepted into University of Delaware, and plans on studying computer science. He is deeply thankful for the guidance and lessons he received at Kennedy.



Juliana Papa is honored to be selected as a Student of Excellence for her academic achievements, acts of leadership and service, and involvement in extracurricular activities. She has consistently earned a place on the President's List for seven consecutive semesters, along with becoming a member of the National Honor Society and National Art Honor Society in her junior year. She was presented with many awards, such as the Italian Medal in freshman year, the AP Scholar award for AP scores, and the National Recognition Program for outstanding academic achievement in junior year. Since freshman year, Juliana has been a part of various roles

both inside and out of school, such as a CCD teacher's aide at St. Patrick's Church in Bedford, a tutor in ESL for Kennedy's foreign exchange students, an original member of Young Medical Club, and the founder of the Veterinary Club. Furthermore, she demonstrated leadership skills playing Varsity Field Hockey, Varsity Tennis, and JV Softball throughout her time at Kennedy. Juliana will continue her studies at Boston College majoring in Biology with a specialization in the pre-vet program.



Kevin Reynolds is honored to be recognized as a Student of Excellence. During his time at Kennedy, he has challenged himself through a rigorous course load including AP and college-level classes, while staying involved in school life and service. He has shown leadership as an Eagle Scout, completing 71 merit badges, over 159 service hours, and an Eagle project that brought Little Free Libraries and a bench to the Pawling School District. Kevin has also been involved in LLS Student Visionaries of the Year, helping raise over \$30,000 as a team member and later leading a campaign that raised over \$40,000. Kevin plans to study economics at

the University of Southern California and hopes to use his education to better understand markets, decision-making, and the forces that shape people's lives. He is grateful for the opportunities and lessons Kennedy has given him and looks forward to the next chapter.



Dominic Rubino is honored to be named a Student of Excellence. Throughout his time at Kennedy, he has proven himself to be a leader as both an elected Student Council member and captain of the Varsity Baseball team. He has maintained a strong academic record while challenging himself with rigorous AP and Honors courses all four years. In particular, the dual-enrollment Business program Kennedy offers through Pace University allowed Dominic to fully grasp his academic forte. He will be attending Penn State Harrisburg this fall, studying Finance and continuing his baseball career playing at the Division 3 level. One of

his most memorable experiences as a Gael came from his sophomore baseball season, where his baseball team made a championship run. Although they ultimately fell short, Dominic grew as a person and as a player during that season. Dominic is beyond grateful for the opportunities and experiences that a Kennedy education has given him, and looks forward to what life has in store for him.



Gina Savino is honored and humbled to be selected as a Student of Excellence for her outstanding academic achievements and involvement in extracurricular activities. Throughout high school, she has maintained President's List, underscoring her dedication to academic excellence, for which she was inducted in the National Honor Society. Gina has earned numerous medals and awards across all academic disciplines. Her academic success includes extensive coursework in both Honors and AP subjects, successfully completing eight AP courses. Beyond academics, Gina has a strong faith, which has been a moral compass of her life, and

she has served as an altar server at her parish since elementary school. She has also demonstrated leadership as the president of the Girls in STEM Club. Showcasing her well-roundedness, Gina has participated in the National History Bowl competition, placing nationally for the U.S. History Bee. Gina enjoyed her experiences working with international students as a peer tutor and as an SAT tutor for College Board. Gina is thrilled to pursue her passions for Biology and Neuroscience, along with Computer Science, at Fordham University, where she has been awarded a merit scholarship to support her studies. She is thankful for her family's unconditional love and support.



Allyson Stellwagen has maintained a strong academic record with a 3.7 GPA while actively challenging herself and staying involved in her community. Allyson has completed over 500 hours of volunteer service, primarily in healthcare settings, where she discovered her passion for helping others. She volunteers at Northern Westchester Hospital and played a key role in organizing a fundraiser for the Northwell Behavioral Health Center, supporting teens facing mental health challenges. In recognition of her efforts, she was honored with a plaque at the center. Allyson has also gained hands-on experience by shadowing physicians

and is currently volunteering with Yorktown Volunteer Ambulance Corps learning EMT skills. A dedicated leader, Allyson is the founder of Kennedy's Young Medical Club and served as president of the SAT Club. Her achievements have been recognized with several honors, including the WPI Innovation Scholarship Award, National Art Honor Society, and multiple distinctions and subject awards in English, Spanish, and Algebra. Allyson will attend Siena University to pursue a degree in Nursing in the Belanger program.



Jake Vanga is honored to be recognized as a Student of Excellence. Over his four years at Kennedy, Jake has challenged himself to grow both academically and personally, striving to make the most of every opportunity. He has maintained a 4.0 GPA while completing a rigorous schedule of Honors and Advanced Placement courses, earning consistent recognition on the Principal's and President's Lists, along with awards across multiple disciplines. Beyond the classroom, Jake has found a true sense of purpose in serving others. As a Nationally and New York State-registered EMT and EMS Lieutenant with the Mahopac Falls Volunteer Fire

Department, he has developed leadership, composure, and the ability to act decisively in high-pressure situations. These experiences have shaped his ambition to become a trauma nurse specializing in emergency care. At Kennedy, Jake also has been deeply involved in music and athletics, serving as a pianist and Music Director while captaining the Varsity Soccer Team. He values the relationships and lessons that have defined his time as a Gael. Jake will attend Pace University to study Nursing, carrying forward a commitment to serve others with skill, compassion, and integrity.



Timothy Vespucci is honored and grateful to be named a Student of Excellence. He has worked diligently during his four years at Kennedy, both academically and in his extracurricular activities. Tim took advantage of Kennedy's rigorous Honors program, focusing on AP and dual-enrollment courses. He capitalized on Kennedy's partnership with Pace University, completing Business 101, Business Management, and Business Law with the Lubin School of Business. He was on the President's List for all four years and was inducted into the National Honor Society his junior year. In addition, Tim immersed himself in the arts by taking studio art, band, and

chorus, and was the head of sound for the stage production plays. As an athlete, he has been a part of the KCPS Varsity Soccer team since sophomore year. Outside of school, Tim is an Eagle Scout, works at Wilkens Fruit and Fir Farm, is active in his parish as an altar server and teen choir member, and was recently initiated into the Knights of Columbus. Timothy will be attending High Point University in North Carolina, double-majoring in Business Analytics and Entrepreneurship and double-minoring in Finance and Accounting. He is thankful for his Kennedy education and is very excited for his next chapter.



Matthew Zhang is honored to be selected as a Student of Excellence for his academic excellence and extracurricular activities. He has consistently earned a place on the Principal's or President's Lists since freshman year, and became a member of the National Honor Society in his junior year. He was presented with many awards, such as English 10, Global 10, Chemistry, and AMC 10 school first place. He also maintained a rigorous course load of 9 AP classes in total. Since sophomore year, Matthew volunteered to help international students from China to adapt to American culture and our school community. Since Freshman year, he volunteered to tutor math

classes such as Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus. Matthew has also demonstrated leadership skills as programmer of the Vex Robotics team for his junior and senior year. Matthew is thrilled to study Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Ohio State University's Honors College in the fall with the hopes of minoring in Robotics, Automation and Autonomy.



Molly Zych is honored to be recognized as a Student of Excellence. At Kennedy, Molly has maintained a rigorous course curriculum consisting of AP and Honors courses. While taking these challenging courses, Molly has been recognized on the President's List throughout her high school career as well as being named an AP Scholar with Honor for her performance on the AP tests she took freshman and junior year. She has demonstrated leadership skills as a two-year captain of the Varsity Soccer team that won states last fall. Molly was also a peer tutor in math and science. In the arts, Molly has been a part of the Strings Ensemble since freshman year.

Molly has also had the opportunity to serve her community through the Yorktown Youth Volunteer Ambulance Corps and as an assistant coach for both Yorktown and John Jay Youth Soccer. Next fall, Molly will be attending the University of Scranton as a student athlete in the Honors College, studying biochemistry while pursuing a Physician Assistant track through a 4+2 program with Le Moyne College. She is grateful for all the lessons and opportunities that a Kennedy education has given to her.

Congratulations

STUDENTS OF EXCELLENCE

and the

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Divine Compassion Award Honoree
Hanora Lopez P'09,'11,'16,'23'26,'30

Teacher of Excellence Award Honoree
William Spelman

&

The 2026 Students of Excellence

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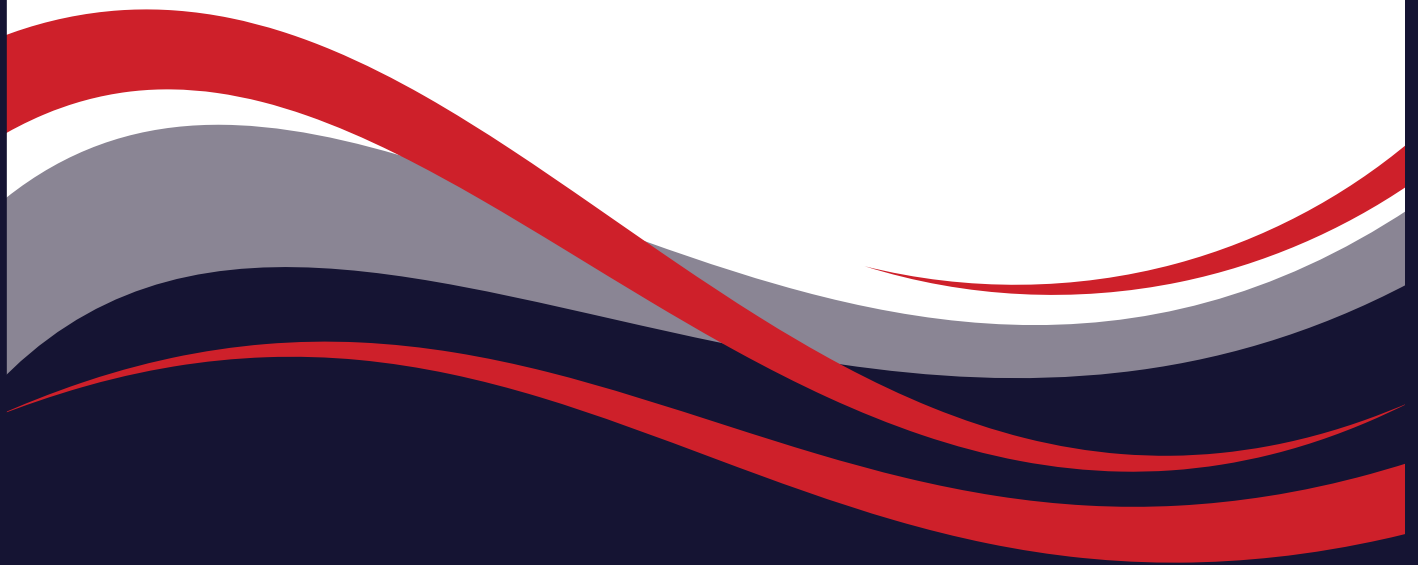


CONGRATULATIONS

to the Kennedy Catholic
Class of 2026!

Never forget where you came from.

Mark '71 and Denise Girolamo



**Best wishes for continued success
to Kennedy Catholic!**

**Fr. Mark Vaillancourt, Teachers,
Administration, Staff, and Students.**

Congratulations to the 2026 Honorees

Lux Christi Award

Marco J. Clark, Ed.D.

Divine Compassion Award

Hanora Lopez P'09,'11,'16,'23,'26,'30

Teacher of Excellence

William Spelman

The Students of Excellence



The Lucas Family

Warren '72, Susan, Danielle '98, Charles '00, Eileen,
Elizabeth '04, Warren '10

Congratulations to all 2026 honorees
& thank you for your contributions to
Kennedy Catholic!

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CONGRATULATIONS MATTHEW!

We are so blessed to have been your Host Parents
these last four years. You have worked hard,
accomplished your heart's desire and
blossomed into a truly special person in every way!

You will always be "Our Guy."

MICHAEL AND GAIL MALLOY HP'13,'14,'15,'18,'18,'21,'22,'22,'25,'26

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FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND ADVOCATE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HONOREES
BEING RECOGNIZED THIS EVENING.**

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ARE THE FOUNDATION OF A PROMISING FUTURE.**

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36-14 217TH STREET, BAYSIDE, NY 11361
917-597-2038 | SCOTTABOEHM@GMAIL.COM**



Congratulations Conor,

We are so proud that you have been selected as a Student of Excellence. We pray that your path in life is everything you hope for and much more. Remember "God is always in your corner."


Love your biggest fans,
Mom, Dad, Gary, Diana, Aidan, Erynn, Oreo & Winter



Hanora,

Thank you for your dedication to KCPS and SMA. You support our schools in so many ways that often go unseen, but they truly make a difference. From day one, you said, "I'm here to help," and you've gone far beyond that in everything you do. You are an absolute powerhouse, and we're so grateful for you.

With lots of love,
Jess Atkinson P'31



Dear Mac, we are so proud of you for taking the opportunity to attend KCPS four years ago...Look at what you have accomplished in and out of the classroom! Thank you for letting us be a part of your journey. We love you always and look forward to your next chapter at Salve!



Mom, Dad, Matt & Faith...and Archie

YOUR SUPPORT.

Their future.

Since its founding as St. Mary's School in 1924, Kennedy Catholic Preparatory School has formed young men and women of faith, scholarship, leadership, and service. While tuition provides an important foundation, it does not fully cover the true cost of a Kennedy education.

The generosity of alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, and friends helps bridge that gap and ensures that current and future generations of Gaels continue to thrive.

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Thank you for believing in our students, our mission, and the future of Kennedy Catholic.

Your generosity makes a Kennedy education possible.

The Annual Fund

Supporting the immediate needs of our students, faculty, programs, and school community.

Blue & White Funding for Education Campaign

Providing scholarship assistance and expanding access to a Kennedy education.

Sr. Janet Meehan Student Fitness Center

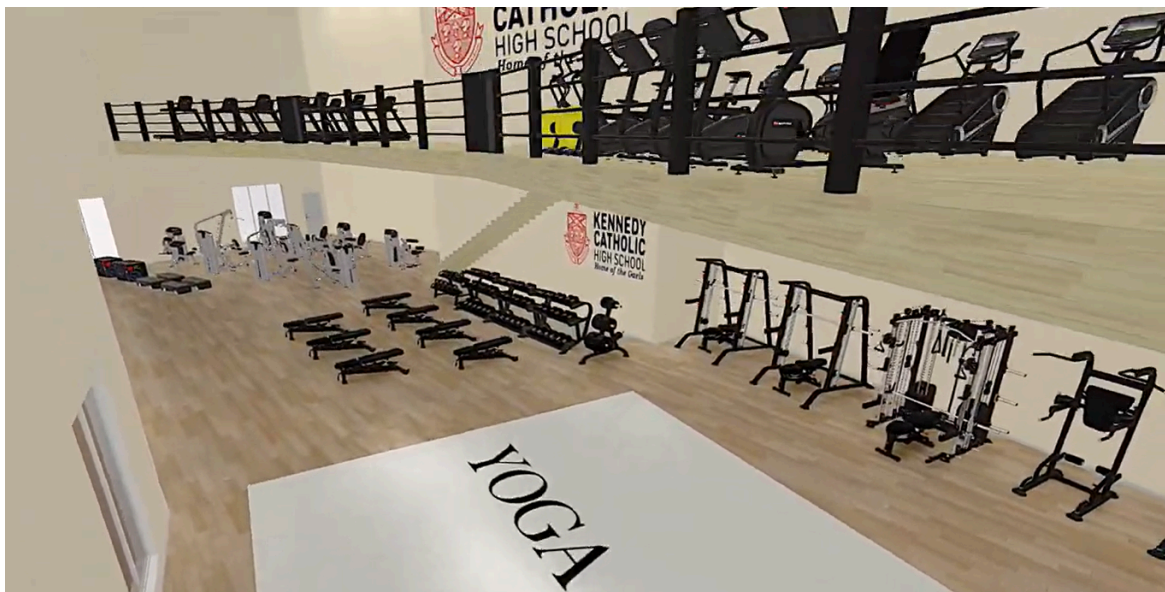
Helping create a transformational space dedicated to student wellness, athletics, and community.



Sr. Janet Meehan
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FITNESS
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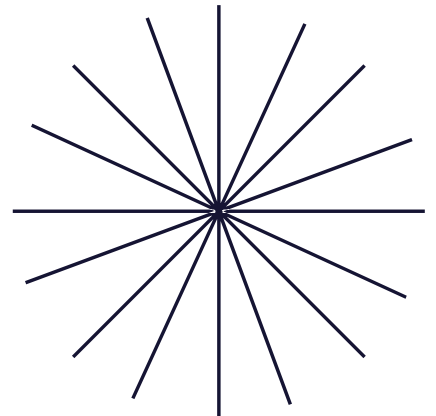


Special THANKS

It takes a village to put together this event.

Our sincere thanks go to the following who gave their time, help, and energy to making sure this event was a success.

Crown Awards
Davenport Marketing
Katie Glembotsky P'16
Courtney Jackson
Kennedy Advancement Team
Deborah Buckley LaPerch '75
Karen McKeegan
Phacient
Pre-Cycled, Inc.
Studio Art II Student Volunteers
Total DJ Entertainment
Fr. Mark Vaillancourt
Gregory Viceroy
Hospitality Team at Villa Barone Hilltop Manor



If there is anyone whom we have omitted,
you have our sincerest apology and heartfelt appreciation!



Sports Clinics for ages 8-16

Kennedy Catholic, Somers, NY



Learn a new sport or improve your skills with a Kennedy Catholic coach. Baseball, basketball, football, softball and volleyball clinics available.

Workshop Series for 5-8th graders

Kennedy Catholic, Somers, NY

NEW!

One-week workshops for rising 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders, taught by Kennedy teachers. Themes include: culinary adventure, art studio, musical theatre, band, math, writing, mindful moves and more.

Summer Camp for ages 3-5

99 Valley Road, Katonah

NEW!

Three unique weekly camp sessions for children ages 3-5, at Kennedy Arts Studio in Katonah, NY.

Sessions run August 10-14, August 17-21 and August 24-28, from 9am-12pm.



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