

# Immaculate Heart of Mary Development Fund Newsletter

## SUPPORTING THE CATHOLIC AND INTELLECTUAL MINDS OF OUR STUDENTS: THE IHM DEVELOPMENT FUND

In our safe, Catholic learning environment, the fund allows for the security and long-term financial health of our school. The Immaculate Heart of Mary School Development Fund is an excellent way to contribute to the education and growth of our students. By donating to the fund, you are helping to provide our students with a quality education that is rooted in Catholic values and teachings. Your gift will help us to continue to provide a safe, nurturing environment for our students, as well as to maintain and improve our facilities. We believe that every student has the potential to be a leader in their community, and with your support, we can provide them with the tools they need to succeed. By donating to the Immaculate Heart of Mary School Development Fund, you can help us to continue to offer our students an education that is both intellectually challenging and spiritually rewarding. Thank you for your support of our school and our students. Together, we can help to shape the leaders of tomorrow and ensure that they are prepared to make a positive impact on the world around them.



## Newsletter Contents

### Catholic Schools Week #CSW2024

#### IHM School Happenings

- CYO News and Views
- Winter clubs and sports
- Beauty and the Beast
- 2024-25 Registration

#### Alumni Corner:

- Alumni Reunion 4/20/24
- Alumni Reunion Committee
- Young Alum Spotlight

#### Upcoming Development Fund Events:

- Giving Day 5.10.24
- Annual Golf Outing
- Development Fund Membership



### Catholic Schools Week 2024

IHM is fresh off of celebrating another stellar Catholic Schools Week. This is an annual celebration of the excellence and impact of Catholic Schools. As usual, Mrs. Keelin and her staff outdid themselves planning an amazing week for the student from the kickoff mass on Sunday, January 28th straight through the pep rally and 8th grade vs. faculty and parents basketball game on Friday, February 2nd. Students, their families, teachers, staff and Msgr. Sweeney came together to highlight the academic and community strength ever present at IHM. Current and prospective parents, special visitors and parishioners were invited to come see what makes IHM great. Religion and math bees, “Are you smarter than a 5th grader?” and 8th grade “Shark Tank” competitions were interspersed with career day, dress like a teacher day, buddy arts and craft projects, dance parties, students vs. faculty basketball and volleyball games, a raucous pep rally and the closing mass. These are just some of the amazing things happening at IHM!





# CYO News and Views



## 4th grade girls made the playoffs!

The 4th grade girls' school team made the Southern Westchester CYO playoffs after a successful winning season. Coached by IHM parents Mike Forte and Jeffrey Enerva and IHM alum Theresa (Vaccaro) Nicholson, the girls have put in the hard work to achieve their goal of reaching the playoffs this year. We wish them the best of luck and hope their winning ways continue in 5th grade!



## 7th grade girls win championship!

Seventh grader, Emma Forte, shows off her trophy after an incredibly successful championship CYO basketball season!

## IHM Middle School Girls Volleyball Team Starts Inaugural Season



Girls in 5-8th grades from IHM school and parish come together on our first CYO volleyball team. The lady Crusaders are already finding success on the court while having fun with friends! The start of a great tradition!



# A Glimpse into some of the awesome things happening at IHM!



CYO Basketball - IHM students in grades 3-8 are representing on IHM CYO basketball teams this season.



Author, Laura Bower, visited our lower grade classrooms to share her book, *The Imposter*, with our students. The inspiring writers loved meeting a real-life author!



Students earned donations for the American Heart Association through our jump-a-thon this February.



Student builders are loving the winter session of the iCamp Lego club



PreK and K students met some of our animal neighbors from the Weinburg Nature Center



Members of the IHM band meet weekly in the lower church to rock to the beat



IHM's Drama Club presented Disney's **Beauty and the Beast Jr.** this March! The cast took us on an amazing adventure, telling the tale of the bright and beautiful Belle, who yearns to escape her provincial life...and her brute of a suitor, Gaston. However, Belle got more adventure than she wished for when she became a captive in the Beast's enchanted castle! Dancing flatware, menacing wolves, and singing furniture filled the stage with thrills in this beloved fairy tale about two very different people finding strength in one another and learning how to love.





**Oh, the places you'll go...**

The Class of 2024 learned of their high school acceptances and scholarship awards! Students were accepted into all the schools of their choice and were awarded a total of \$541,260 in merit scholarship money! This is sure to be another inspiring class of IHM graduates ready to change the world!



**REGISTRATION IS  
OPEN FOR THE  
2024-2025  
SCHOOL YEAR!**

If you are interested in registering your child for IHM, please call the office at 914-723-5608 or email [info@ihmscarsdale.org](mailto:info@ihmscarsdale.org)



# IHM

**the  
reunion  
4/20/24**

If you decorated one of the tiles on this wall (or know someone who did) - this reunion is for you! Any IHM student or faculty from 1980 through 2010 is invited to join us for night of laughs and memories! Come by yourself or with a partner! Enjoy light dinner, drinks and the freedom to explore your old IHM haunts with friends from the past. Please r.s.v.p using this QR code or this link: <https://forms.gle/ywZcSkBzdixVJ5ng9>. Send any IHM pictures from your past to [emilyasaroihm@gmail.com](mailto:emilyasaroihm@gmail.com)



**RSVP HERE!**

**We can't wait to see you back at IHM on April 20th!**



# Alumni Reunion Committee



When word went out about the IHM Alumni Reunion this April, the excitement was evident on social media. The alumnae featured here immediately volunteered to help make a good idea into reality. The Reunion Committee have all generously devoted their time and ideas to help plan what is sure to be an epic night. We hope that all alums who attended IHM between 1980-2010 come join us as we celebrate and remember together.

## Allison Corley '94

Allison, a graduate of the IHM's class of 1994, went on to Good Counsel Academy for high school. Allison then received her undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from The George Washington University before graduating with her J.D. from The Catholic University of America. Allison is now an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx.



**What is one of your favorite memories, classes, teachers, or activities while attending IHM as a student?**

All the 8th grade memories: the trip to Boston, Canada, putting on You're a Good Man Charlie Brown and preparing for graduation. Mrs. Langford stands out as someone who made my time at IHM special as the art teacher, 8th grade teacher, and yearbook moderator.

**How has your education at IHM influenced or helped you in your life and career?** I remember in 8th grade, we had to write a term paper on a famous person who was a hero or influence on us and I chose Sandra Day O'Connor because she was the first woman on the Supreme Court. I like to think that first sparked my interest in becoming the lawyer I am today. As a Special Victims ADA in the Bronx District Attorney's Office, I often think back to my English and social studies classes which I think made me become a good critical thinker - an important attribute for an attorney.



**Do you have any advice for current students?**

Do your best, but don't put so much pressure on yourself. You might be better in some subjects than others and that's ok. Lean into what you're good at and what interests you the most!

**How do you (or plan to) give back or engage with IHM?**

I've been really enjoying planning the reunion and getting together with other alumni. I definitely plan to engage more in the future.

**What are you most looking forward to at the upcoming alumni reunion?** Just walking through the school as an adult, having all the memories come back. And seeing the kindergarten classroom with the little loft again! Plus hopefully reuniting with people I haven't seen in a while.



## *Carly Slivinski '95*

**Carly, class of 1995, graduated from The Ursuline School before going on to major in Communications at Villanova University. Carly now is a Director of Live Event Production and Operations at the National Football League. When she isn't the event lead at the Super Bowl, Pro Bowl, and NFL Draft she is helping to plan our alumni reunion!**

**What is one of your favorite memories, classes, teachers, or activities while attending IHM as a student?**

I have such fond memories from all my years at IHM from kindergarten through 8th grade. I remember loving our plays and singing in church, playing sports after school, girls scouts, banking Wednesdays, and cheerleading of course! And all our beautiful (or not so) art projects! I remember having to keep super warm during recess in the winter in the parking lot and trying to stay cool during the hot summer days. My most life-changing experience would have to be our 8th grade trip to Paris! It was incredible. I remember loving all my classmates and laughing a lot with Doc!

**How has your education at IHM influenced or helped you in your life and career?**

We had a sense of responsibility to each other as a family and community; we looked out for one another without judgement. I just finished my 20th season with the NFL as an event planner, where we also have a deep sense of integrity and responsibility to team. We work hard as teammates to produce some of the biggest and best events in the world and I'd like to think that deep-rooted sense of responsibility to team started with Mrs. C.'s kindergarten class.

**Do you have any advice for current students?**

Have fun! Work hard, but don't miss the memories!

**How do you (or plan to) give back or engage with IHM?**

We just held my daughter's baptism at IHM and I'm looking forward to bringing her into the IHM community. I am also looking forward to the reunion!

**What are you most looking forward to at the upcoming alumni reunion?**

Seeing all my old friends and sharing lots of laughs!



# Emily Asaro '04

Emily, a graduate of IHM Class of 2004 is perhaps the most enthusiastic member of the committee! After IHM, Emily attended The Ursuline School and then received her BFA in Acting from Pace University. Emily's creative talent is evident in the social media reels and recreation of the old IHM rec logo which will be featured on retro tee-shirts available at the reunion!



**What is one of your favorite memories, classes, teachers, or activities while attending IHM as a student?**

IHM always knew how to embrace the arts. Aside from all the fantastic plays and musicals, my favorite means of entertainment were, "How do I take this group project to the next level?"

Cue the rap we wrote for the "Prodigal Son" Parable for Ms. Chiocchio's religion class (I know what you're thinking... that rap probably slammed- and it did), a fashion show in Mrs. Lerbs class where Tori Frapallo and I made each class member and faculty a representative Barbie that would walk down the runway- I'm pretty sure Mr. Billings was Ken from Barbie and the Rockers- and the "Demonstrations of the Quartering Act" found footage skit with Kenny Quintano, Maria Zoulis, and Liam Byrne in Madame Cohen's History Class. Those were the days. Does anybody still have that tape?

**How has your education at IHM influenced or helped you in your life and career?**

My education was great, however, what really changed my life were the musicals and plays at IHM. Performing in them, watching them, waiting to find out what the next one would be!?! Sometimes the anticipation was the best part.

I even remember preparing my first monologue for the fall play, Out of the Frying Pan, from Jimmy Cameron's Titanic - "It's been 84 years...and I can still smell the fresh paint." Knocked it out of the auditorium with that one.

And the performing didn't stop once I left IHM. I continued my education at Pace University's BFA in Acting Program which led me to become part of the Artistic Team at the People's Improv Theater and the Armory in NYC and starring in/writing and directing monthly sold-out sketch shows.

**Do you have any advice for current students?**

Take advantage of the small pond. I knew the same group of kids for nearly 10 years. On top of that, I knew their siblings and their siblings' friends, their parents, and their teachers. Teachers still recognize me by name when I see them in the 'real world.' Even while I was in class, teachers knew who my sister was, and we were 9 years apart. The moment you leave IHM your pond gets a little bigger, but those connections you made can last a lifetime. That kind of connection is invaluable.

**How do you (or plan to) give back or engage with IHM?**

Organizing the alumni event! Before, when I was a kid, I had to sneak into my sister's room and beg to hang out with her and her friends. Now there's no sneaking around necessary! Getting together to plan the reunion has been a blast. I hope to help plan more events like this.

**What are you most looking forward to at the upcoming alumni reunion?**

I want to enter every classroom and ignite my childhood memories. Plus, my brother, Paul Asaro, and sister, Lauren (Asaro) Kuntz will be there, so it's like I get two reunions in one.





*Kathleen Lewis  
Bonello '99*



**Kathleen Bonello, class of 1999, went to high school at The Ursuline School and then received her B.A. from Wake Forest University. Kathleen is currently an oncology nurse in the Clinical Trials Program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She is seen in the above photo sporting an IHM rec shirt from the late '90s era.**

**What is one of your favorite memories, classes, teachers, or activities while attending IHM as a student?**

My memories of IHM are many and vivid. I was lucky enough to go to school with my siblings and many cousins so I've been a part of the IHM community for as long as I can remember. My favorite memories include decorating the bathroom in 8th grade, Friendly's after events, and Saturday morning Scarsdale rec sports. I loved playing live-action Oregon Trail in Mrs. Mikovitz's 5th grade class, the loft in Kindergarten with Mrs. C and Miss Donna, and of course reading 'Death Be Not Proud' with Doc. Having spent 9 years at IHM, this is just scratching the surface.

**How has your education at IHM influenced or helped you in your life and career?**

While at IHM I made lifelong friends and became a member of a loving and giving community that laid the foundations for my life. Working as a clinical trials nurse at Memorial Sloan Kettering, I can put into practice the lessons of service, compassion towards others and a desire to learn that were instilled in me at a young age.

**Do you have any advice for current students?**

Join everything and don't be scared to fail. Take advantage of all the opportunities given to you. You are a part of a generous and caring community, use this opportunity to grow. Most importantly, nurture the relationships with your peers and teachers because they will be with you for the rest of your life.

**How do you (or plan to) give back or engage with IHM?**

Help organize the reunion! I hope to help plan more events in the future where past alumni can connect with current students. My daughter, Grace, is currently in Prek4 and seeing the impact the school has on her makes me want to get more involved.

**What are you most looking forward to at the upcoming alumni reunion?**

Reconnecting with my former classmates and teachers and of course revisiting the kindergarten loft!

# Young Alumni Spotlight:

## Janine Gayanelo

### Class of 2015



Janine Gayanelo was IHM's class of 2015 valedictorian. She went on to Kennedy Catholic HS where she excelled at Cross Country track and field and started an ultimate frisbee club. She pursued civil engineering at Manhattan College, graduating Magna Cum Laude. Janine was a student athlete and rowed for Manhattan's crew team. She tutored students in math in high school and college. She was awarded excellence and leadership in the Undergraduate Study of Environmental Engineering. She is currently working at Marine Solutions, an engineering company. She loves her job where they get to inspect structures in the NY metropolitan area, on a boat, even ones underwater. She looks forward to train in diving to inspect structures.

***What is one of your favorite memories, classes, teachers, or activities while attending IHM as a student?***

*When I was in middle school I was interested in Track and Field, but unfortunately, at the time IHM did not have a track team. After hearing this, my mom (Mrs. G) decided to start the track team at IHM despite having no experience herself. I was never the most athletic kid in middle school but the track team was a great way for me to start. I carried on to win a few field events and even made it to nationals. Being on the team is still a fond memory, to this day (10 years later) I am still friends with some of the people I've met at track.*

***How has your education at IHM influenced or helped you in your life and career?***

*I remember my math teacher Sister Dorothy would always talk about the strong background in math that we were gaining in her class. It has taken me far in life, throughout high school I did well in math, and continued to pursue a STEM major and now I have a STEM career!*

***Do you have any advice for current students?***

*Do your best, be yourself, and the rest will follow. You're doing great.*

***How do you (or plan to) give back or engage with IHM?***

*Engage in community events, participate in questionnaires like this, and support my mom.*

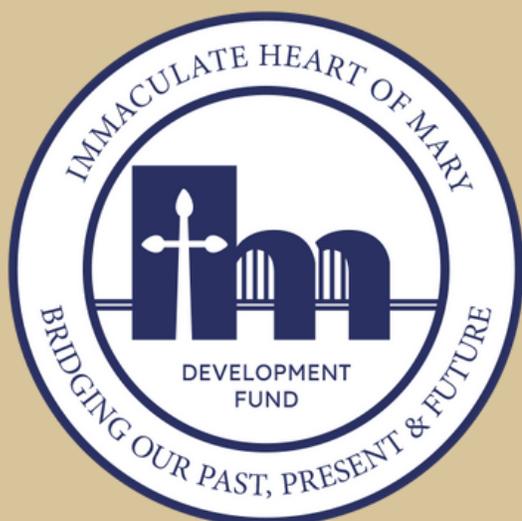
# IHM Development Fund

## Annual Giving Day

### May 10, 2024

Join us for an inaugural celebration of generosity and community spirit as we launch our first-ever Annual Giving Day for Immaculate Heart of Mary School! On this special occasion, we come together to support the mission and values that shape the hearts and minds of our students. Every donation, no matter the size, contributes to the growth and success of our school, ensuring that each child receives a quality education rooted in faith and excellence. Together, let's pave the way for a brighter future for our students and our school community. Join us in making a difference on this historic day of giving!

<https://ihmscarsdale.org/give-to-ihm-1>



#### Circles of Giving:

- Immaculata Circle: \$10,000+**
- Heart Circle: \$5,000 - \$9,999**
- Mary's Circle: \$1,000 - \$4,999**
- Crusader Club" \$101 - \$999**
- Young Alum (graduates within the last 10 years): \$10 - \$100**
- Young Crusaders: \$1-10**



# IHM DEVELOPMENT FUND ANNUAL OUTING

# GOLF

# OCTOBER 7, 2024

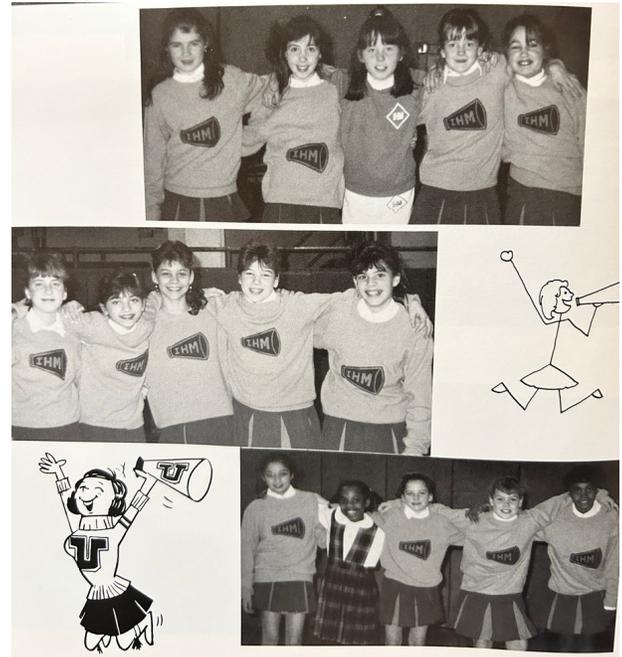
## Alumni Spotlights & News

We would love to start highlighting special news and updates about our amazing alums in our next newsletter.

*Any alumni news and updates to share?*

*Let us know!*

*Email: [alumni@ihmscarsdale.org](mailto:alumni@ihmscarsdale.org)*



## PHOTOS NEEDED!

PLEASE SEND ANY ALUMNI PHOTOS FOR  
OUR UPCOMING REUNION TO  
[EMILYASAROIHM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EMILYASAROIHM@GMAIL.COM)

We are looking for an alumni representative to join our School Development Fund Committee. The Committee meets in-person quarterly with the option for remote attendance if needed.

Please email [developmentfund@ihmscarsdale.org](mailto:developmentfund@ihmscarsdale.org) if you are interested in joining or have any questions.

Website: <https://ihmscarsdale.org/school-development-fund>

Email: [developmentfund@ihmscarsdale.org](mailto:developmentfund@ihmscarsdale.org)

Facebook: @IHM Scarsdale Alumni Group

Instagram: @ihm\_development\_fund



*Bridging the Past, Present and Future of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School*