Quad Fest
A CELEBRATION FOR THE ACADEMY’S 150TH ANNIVERSARY
what a year it's been so far!

From the first day of school in 2016 to the long summer days of June, St. Teresa’s Academy has been enveloped in the events and activities honoring our 150th Anniversary. Take a look below at some of the highlights of this very special year so far.

JANUARY 4, 2016
FOX4 News broadcasts live from the Windmoor Center in honor of our 150th anniversary year. Alums, parents and current students are interviewed.

A surprise 150th birthday party is held for the student body on their first day back to school. Students dance with the DJ, see the premiere showing of the anniversary video and, of course, enjoy star cookies.

JANUARY 24-FEBRUARY 7, 2016
Digital boards celebrating our rich tradition of educating young women premiere on three electronic outdoor bulletin boards. The boards are visible for six weeks and can be found on I-35, I-70, I-29/I-35, and I-435.

JANUARY 31, 2016
An opening Mass of celebration is held at Visitation Church honoring the school’s founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Following Mass, guests enjoy a reception and receive a bookmark gift featuring a bobbin-lace heart. Lace-making was integral to supporting the sisters and the poor in the early 1650s.
Save the date

ACADEMY 150

ANNIVERSARY GALA

Mark your calendar for one of the most important events of this very special anniversary year: the Anniversary Gala. Held at the downtown Sheraton Hotel on November 19, 2016, this once-in-a-lifetime event promises to be an evening like no other.

Please join us on this evening as we honor the Academy and the 150 years she has served educating and empowering young women.

FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Mayor Sly James visits our campus to meet with students and teachers. Following a tour of STEAM classrooms and demonstrations by students, the mayor speaks to the student body about the importance of women’s education in today’s world. He then officially declares 2016: The Year of the Young Woman.

JUNE 4, 2016

From the cover: Quad Fest

Held on a beautiful summer evening in early June, the first annual Quad Fest honors the school’s 150th anniversary and is a resounding success. Friends gather on the quad to share time together and enjoy some of the best BBQ and beverages around town. Guests also enjoy live music and artwork on display.

JUNE 21-29, 2016

Alums and friends of STA enjoy an eight-day river cruise through Southern France as they sail the scenic Saone and Rhone Rivers where the Sisters of St. Joseph first began their ministry. Beautiful vistas and great friendships are the highlight of this incredible trip.
“But here we are 150 years later in one of the best schools in this entire region of the country enjoying a quality education...so it is only right that [we declare] **2016 as the Year of the Young Woman.**”

Mayor Sly James ~ February 1, 2016
As we continue to move forward with our STEAM plans, we can’t help but thank the men and women who sit on the STEAM advisory board. The board’s mission is to make proactive decisions that guide both the St. Teresa’s Academy and Rockhurst High School educational communities in the advancement of their individual STEAM initiatives.

At St. Teresa’s Academy, we look to the board to help identify how science, technology, engineering, creativity (art), and mathematics are integrated into real-world business and industry to ultimately determine the best course for instruction and curriculum. More relevant to STA, how can STEAM initiatives excite and attract young women into fields traditionally viewed as male centric?

“The Girls Who Code Summer Immersion program was an incredible experience that taught me everything about computer science—from learning how to code to learning the careers available with a computer science degree. I learned presentation skills, interview skills, networking skills, and was given the confidence to talk to CEO’s and CIO’s of major technology companies. I was able to visit major tech companies around the Chicago area and hear from many females in the technology field. My experience at Girls Who Code has influenced me to pursue computer science in college.”

—Clare Kenney, ’16
(Marquette University)
construction has begun

Donnelly Hall is a buzz with sounds of on-going construction this summer as the former library on the second floor is converted into a Math Hub with two large Active Learning Classrooms (ALCs) and separate areas for small group work, tutoring, and independent study. This type of dynamic environment could transform the daily math experience at STA.

The predominantly lecture-based approach to learning is no longer working. Replacing this method will be ALCs for teaching Geometry. ALCs support a variety of teaching and learning styles, including project-based learning. Students are able to grasp new material and put it directly into action resulting in a more comprehensive understanding of the subject and increased level of retention. For a school where a large portion of our young women seek to continue their education in STEM-related fields, the ability to develop spatial-visualization skills is critical.

The Math Hub will be open every day/all day and will be staffed by Math Department members along with members of the Math Mentor Scholarship Program. A Hub Menu will be published each week showing the different activities available, allowing students to make informed decisions to meet their needs.

Research* shows only about 5% of information delivered through lecture is retained as compared with 50% for group discussion and 70% for practice by doing. Our Math Hub will make hands-on collaborative learning a reality.

The new space includes two Active Learning Classrooms and spaces for comfortable, collaborative learning. The project will be complete and ready for students in the fall of 2016.

Comfortable classrooms—physically and psychologically—promote a sense of well-being, keep minds focused, and limit distractions. New furniture for the ALCs and study areas were selected to meet all learning styles and physical needs.

The real time projection capabilities of the Multi-Touch 90 see teachers reimagining the role of students.** A student’s work can be projected before the class directly from her tablet.

* A study from the National Training Laboratories in 2000
** Moving Classrooms to Third Space Learning, Microsoft.
The Windmoor Center is highlighted as one of the 100 most visited works of architecture in the United States by Arch Daily, the world’s most visited architecture website. Designed by local architecture firm Gould Evans, it will forever serve as a reference for millions of architects, students, and journalists that seek the most important, inspiring works of American architecture.

Based on a survey of students and faculty, the vision for the chapel emerged as a soft, feminine, contemplative space of worship flooded with light and connected to nature, while connecting to the narrative of St. Teresa, the patron saint of lace makers. The state-of-the-art classrooms also serve as a banquet space when combined; they are housed in a soft-edged brick form with tall windows that responds to existing campus buildings.

The sacred and secular elements come together as one rich architecture that not only completes the open end of the campus quad, but also serves as the new gateway to campus.

-Gould Evans, Architects
Two international mission trips to San Andres Ixtapa, Guatemala, occurred over Spring Break and then again in early June of 2016. Partnering with Homes from the Heart and hosted by the Carmelite nuns at their convent, students worked hard on various projects to provide or maintain adequate shelter for those in need.
Students and faculty members traveled throughout China for two weeks in mid-June exploring the cities of Beijing, Xi'an, Guilin, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. Highlights included tours of The Great Wall, the Terracotta Warriors, and Victoria Peak, all led by local tour guides.

French and Latin teachers, along with their students, visited Paris, France, and Rome, Italy, in June. Some of their highlights included Versailles, the Eiffel Tower, Pompeii, the Roman Colosium, the Pantheon, and Vatican City.

Students enrolled in Literature & Pilgrimage spent two weeks in Italy studying the works of Dante's Divine Comedy. Students traveled to locations associated with Dante's works, creating a cross-curricular, interdisciplinary experience to ponder how the essential questions of vocation, pilgrimage, and faith affect their own lives.

The 2016-17 school year marks the third consecutive year STA will host an exchange student from our sister school, Saint Joseph Joshi Gakuen in Tsu, Japan. Exchange students spend the academic year with host families to be immersed in the language and culture of life at STA.

STA’s Academic Principal Barb McCormick, along with four students, will travel to Saint Joseph Joshi Gakuen in early July to learn more about our sister school.

Students and faculty members spent Easter/Holy Week during Spring Break in Spain, experiencing one of the most relevant cultural traditions of the country. On this eight day trip, students explored the cities of Madrid, Avila, Segovia, and Toledo and toured world famous sites such as the Museums of El Prado, Reina Sofia and Thyssen, the Roman Aqueduct of Segovia, the Avila Medieval Walls, and the birth house of Saint Teresa.

Trips (Tentatively) Planned for 2017
- Paris and France (French)—Spring Break 2017
- England and France (World History)—Summer 2017
- Le Puy, France (birthplace of the Sisters of St. Joseph)—Date TBD
- Italy (English/Theology)—Summer 2017
- France and Italy (Latin)—Summer 2017
1958
MARY LOMBARD SAGE has worked for President and Mrs. Bush for 23 years since he returned to Houston from the White House. Since 1988, she has been actively involved in Republican campaigns. After voice lessons at STA and Rice University, she has been a Mass cantor since 1972. She enjoyed attending her 2011 reunion and loved reconnecting by email with her class. She hopes to return to STA soon.

1964
CONNIE SUE (GESCHWIND) MURPHY MCNAMARA lost her husband, John Murphy, after 47 years of marriage. Her sister and cousins persuaded Connie Sue to go on a Caribbean cruise with them and a Rockhurst friend, Tom McNamara. They met and became friends. Long story short, Tom and Connie Sue were married in September 2015 and went to Ireland for a fabulous honeymoon. They have recently purchased and moved into a home in KC. Between them they have nine children, their spouses, and 14 grandchildren to visit in various locations across the country.

1958
1964

1969

1970
PATRICIA JANKOWSKI MONKS spent 32 years as a special education teacher, retiring in June 2011. Her husband of 31 years passed away in May 2015 after a three-year illness with multiple myeloma cancer. Her four adult children are busy with different careers. She has two grandchildren and is very busy with many interests and activities. She is thankful for STA and Avila University, and proud to be a graduate of both learning institutions.

1975
MARY SANTORO LEONARD works with JS Paluch and handles bulletin advertising sales for Catholic Churches throughout Missouri and Kansas. She loves how this new job combines her experience in print advertising with her background as a cradle Catholic. Mary is amazed at how many STA alumnae are business owners or in leadership positions in her community. She always feels an "instant connection" with these women!

1972
DEBORAH SCOTT is a teacher who is involved with ACE (Advocates for Civil Engagement) and helps students see the connection between school and real life. The club also helps students become good and active citizens. Deborah’s commitment to her students is clear to anyone who sees her in the hall where she is typically trailed by three or four students who want to continue the conversations they started in class.

1976
ROSANA PRIVITERA BIONDO has helped turn Mark One Electric into a go-to contractor for the area's largest construction jobs. Along the way, she has helped build up prospects for others by serving on the boards of a range of local and national organizations. Biondo is co-chair of the Kansas City Area Development Council. She is a past president of the Women Construction Owners & Executives, and has led area chapters of the NAWIC’s Business Owners

1960
HELEN ALDER, CSJ, is happily serving as a parish nurse. She visits the homebound and those in rehab, hospitals, or nursing facilities. She checks blood pressures and other vital signs, explains medications and medical procedures, as well as takes people to the doctor or shop for them.

1967
VIRGINIA BRENNAN retired in 2013 from Murtis H. Taylor in Cleveland, OH. This is a non-profit agency that worked exclusively with family and individuals experiencing chronic mental health problems. In 2015, she began working part-time with the United Way.

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Council. She also was appointed to the National Women’s Business Council, a 15-member body that advises the President, Congress, and Small Business Administration on issues of women and entrepreneurship.

MEGHAN TALLMAN refers to all her kids as having either fur or feathers. She has two parrots and five Hungarian Vizslas. She shows her Vizslas in the breed and obedience ring and competes in the field as well as breed. This is her third year as event coordinator for Cristo Rey, Kansas City's Tenth Annual Dancing With the Kansas City Stars. She is still active in Democratic politics but not at the level she once was.

1978
MOLLY SHEEHAN CORKILL is celebrating 31 years in business with Sheehan’s Irish Imports. She and her sister KATY SHEEHAN MORRIS from the Class of 1974 run their family business. They just moved to Waldo and they love it! They have hired many STA alumnae. Stop by 410 E. Gregory Blvd and check out the wares as well as the alums.

1991
ANDREA GUNN CARROLL has three children, two of which are at STA, Audrey (16), Olivia (18), and Franco who is at St. Peters grade school. She plans to marry her fiancé, Matt Henderson, in June of 2016.

1992
MONICA CURLS completed two masters degrees from Avila University in June of 2015, a master of science in Organizational Development Psychology and a master of arts in Management with an emphasis in Project Management.

1993
ALICE RANDOLPH KROH happily married Miles Reed Kroh on July 12, 2014. She celebrated the day with dear friends from the Class of 1993 including (l to r): Libby Estell Wong, Laura McCormick Grobler, Alice Randolph Kroh, Katie McMahon Thompson, Erin Donnelly Cowan.

1994
KELI O’NEILL WENZEL is the creator and orchestrator of many of Kansas City, Missouri’s, most successful civic, corporate and entertainment events/festivals. She serves as the founding executive director of the Kansas City Irish Fest. She is co-founder and producer of the new Boulevardia. Keli is producer of KC Riverfest and many other city and corporate events. She most recently orchestrated the 2015 World Series parade and rally. Keli is on the board of Folk Alliance International, Kansas City Convention & Visitors Association, International Festival and Events Association Foundation, and Gordon Parks Charter Elementary. Married and mother of three, Keli lives just around the corner from her alma mater, STA!

1995
COLLEEN COWAN WILLIAMS loves being a stay at home mom and being a volunteer hospital liaison for Allison’s Angel Gowns, a non-profit that provides bereavement gowns for families who have suffered infant loss. This work is humbling and she is proud to be helping parents in a time of their darkest days. AAG is currently shipping gowns to 30 states and growing.

1997
MEGAN JEKEL PARDECK has been working for Burns & McDonnell for the past four years, focusing on the design and construction of a bio-diesel production facility. Prior to that she worked at Anheuser-Busch as a group manager for operations and maintenance. On July 29, 2015, they welcomed a little boy, Connor, to their family of three girls, Molly (8), Abigail (6) and Eleanor (2).

1998
EBONY RAMSEY enrolled in the Ph.D. in Higher Education Leadership Program at Colorado State University.

1999
ERICA OADES PEOPLES had a baby boy, Ayden Henry, on July 7, 2015. He was welcomed by his older sister,
Ava (3), and her two step-daughters, Eleanor (13) and Aby (11).

**ANNORA SMITH QUENZER** has been teaching special education for 11 years, working with children with mild to severe disabilities. She recently got engaged.

**2002**

**BETH HADEN** was chosen to be one of *The Independent’s* Rising Stars. She is an associate with Bryan Cave. She has served as the CCVI Trolley Run co-chairman from 2014-16 and is on the CCVI board of directors and executive committee. She also serves on the University of Missouri’s Griffiths Leadership Society for Women professional development committee and is chairman of Mizzou Women Give. Beth is a member of the Delta Gamma Greater Kansas City Alumnae Chapter and is part of STA’s Women’s Circle of Giving, eMentor Program, and Alumnae Association.

**2003**

**ABBY HEFT BEYRAU** was married in September 2015, with family, friends (including many from STA), and her pup in attendance. She is currently living in Chicago with her husband Jeff and working at a global performance marketing agency, Performics.

**KEISHA CLAY** received a promotion to Lead Program Analyst and Regional Administrator’s Congressional Team for the Federal Aviation Administration’s Central Region. She will graduate from the FAA Program For Emerging Leaders in November 2016. This program identifies 50 of the FAA’s top performing young leaders who the agency sees potential and success in.

**RICKEENA RICHARDS HOLLOWAY** married Terrell Holloway of Long Island, NY, on August 1, 2015, in Kansas City, MO. After a four-year stint as an education reporter for a daily newspaper in the St. Louis area, she moved to NYC in 2011 to become a teacher. Rickeena is currently the 6th grade math teacher at an all-girl middle school in Manhattan’s Lower East Side, and lives in Harlem with her husband and their amazing dog, Guinness.

**2005**

Laura Brewer Klavon married Evan Klavon in Lake Tahoe in August 2015.

**2006**

**MOLLY FRIEND** got engaged in the fall of 2015 and plans to marry in the KC area in 2017. She currently works for Amigos de las Americas, a youth leadership and cultural immersion organization based in Houston, Texas. She is the regional director for programs in Ecuador and Panama. She first became involved with AMIGOS when she learned about it in her St. Teresa’s Spanish class and participated in a program to Panama after her junior year of high school.

**2009**

**SAMANTHA BARKER HAWKS** married Dan Hawks on November 14, 2015, in Kansas City. Three fellow St. Teresa’s graduates were in her wedding party: Emily Bullington, Meg Hart, and Mallory Sweat. Emily Lodigensky, ’05, was their photographer.

**2012**

**CHRISTINA BARTON** is studying graphic communication with a concentration in design reproduction technology and a minor in photography in the College of Liberal Arts. She placed second in the 2015 Gravure Education Foundation/Flint Group Technical Writing Competition. On campus, she is part of the honors program and is a member of the Newman Catholic Center Student Board.

**2013**

**JANIE THOMPSON** was selected Scholar All-American from the NSCAA. She also was selected First Team Scholar All Southern Region, and First team All-Western Region, as well as All SCAC (her conference).

**MACKENZIE WARRENS** is doing optics research this summer at UCLA. Her project is to build an external-cavity diode laser for two-photon spectroscopy of rubidium. She was recently awarded a Clare Boothe Luce Scholarship, which promotes women in underrepresented STEM fields, specifically physics, math, and computer science.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Laurelle O’Leary, 1936
Virginia Rose Gregory Matthews, 1943
Cathy Emert Julkowski, 1961
Judith Ann Kenny Warren, 1965
Mary Fleming Vannice, 1967
Mary Nestor Casey, 1968
Beth Retonde, 1970
Shannon Murray, 1988
Elizabeth Musser, 1991
ROWING UP IN Visitation Parish in Kansas City, Missouri, Peggy Gramlich Baker learned at an early age about service to the Dear Neighbor. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet lived in the convent two blocks from the Gramlich home. Their presence and the community outreach of Visitation Parish inspired Peggy as a young girl to care and do something for others less fortunate.

Drawn to STA where her grandmother and mother had graduated and later her own two daughters Megan ('88) and Bridget ('89), Peggy was mentored by Sister Marie Loyola Sanders, CSJ. That’s when it all came together for Peggy. She entered the CSJ Community and was a member for ten years. “I witnessed and was encouraged to participate in issues of justice and the needs of the poor.”

In Peggy’s words: “I haven’t founded anything. I won’t be famous for anything. But I have tried to be aware of the simple needs of others and be there to help. I want to show up when there is a need.”

Peggy sees nothing unusual in her volunteer activities. She says yes to the question, “Will you help?” whether it be STA, Catholic Charities, CSJ Association, Journey to New Life, Rockhurst University Library Guild, Ladies of Charity, Seton Center, a medical clinic in Guatemala, or a Border experience in El Paso/Juarez.

“That might be what I’m most proud of,” says Peggy, “I show up!”

AS A WELL-EDUCATED WOMAN WITH GREAT ENERGY, PEGGY BRINGS HER TIME AND TALENTS TO THE DEAR NEIGHBOR.
The 17th Annual STA Golf Classic was held on Monday, May 2, at the County Club of Leawood. Although it was the second coolest day in May (about 15 degrees below average!), golfers layered up and hit the course. No one left hungry as guests enjoyed Italian sausages on the course followed by a luncheon and awards ceremony. The following players’ team came out on top this year: Charlie Haake, Jack Newman, Kerry Reardon and Jimmie Stark. Thank you to all who played and/or sponsored this event! Next year’s STA Golf Classic will be held on Monday, May 15, 2017, at the Country Club of Leawood. We hope to see you there.
grandparents’ day

St. Teresa’s Academy was host to an enthusiastic group of over 400 students and their grandparents on Sunday, May 1. It was a beautiful day on the STA campus as visitors toured the buildings, enjoyed the many student fine arts displays, and listened to the STA singers perform in the Windmoor Center. The traditional tea and refreshments were served in the Windmoor Center. Many thanks to all who attended and assisted with the event.


trivia night

Trivia Night has grown every year and 2016 was no exception. Friends, parents, and alums tested their knowledge during the “Back to the Future”-themed evening. Many thanks to all who attended and helped with the event. Proceeds from the evening benefit the Alumnae Scholarship Fund. Don’t miss out on the fun next year!


THE STARS-WALK-OF-FAME AND COLOR THROW raised nearly $45,000 for the school’s endowment, specifically supporting student scholarships and the Emergency fund, which provides assistance to families in financial crisis.

The senior class led the student body on a one-mile walk around the track followed by a colored powder throw. Thanks to co-chairs Laura Benge and Amy Sullivan for their leadership and support of this event.
NEVER REALLY GOT THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI. Sure, I’m a big fan of the Catholic sacraments and all, but it just seemed unnecessary. Don’t we celebrate the Body and Blood of Christ every Sunday, even every day?

But it finally clicked a few weeks ago. I was trying to weasel my way out of donating bone marrow, as I had been selected to be a match through bethematch.org (sign up, save a life!). So I sat down to pray and ask for guidance, and after 20 minutes of nothing I decided to check out the readings for the day.

So there I am, 21st century human Catholic man, reading a 1st or 2nd century text on the mystical Eucharistic theology of the Johannine community, and from that finding guidance on what to do with a medical procedure that would only be possible with today’s science and technology.

And it did give me guidance: You are what you eat, little man, and it’s time to share.

So then I decided to look up the disease: Severe Aplastic Anemia. It sounded brutal. The bone marrow stops functioning, so blood cell counts drop, and then fatigue, infection, weakness set in, even death if it’s left untreated.

But it was my wife who finally convinced me, through both her words and actions. Knowing that it would be her that had to sacrifice more if I was out of commission (we have a six month old baby boy), I asked her what she thought and she simply said: “Well you have to do it.”

Behind that simple phrase is the wisdom and compassion that only comes from 33 long hours of labor to deliver our son, from someone who has sacrificed her body, mind, and sanity to support this young life day after day after day. In comparison to what her and a lot of other mothers, fathers, grandfathers and grandmothers do every day, a bone marrow donation is a small thing.

So I guess that’s what finally clicked: this feast is all around us. Everyday people lay down their lives in love for their family, their students, their friends, their community members, for those on the margins of the society.

WE ARE ONE, whether we like it or not. Whether we build walls or build relationships, whether we fight or reconcile, we are built to give the life-transforming power of love to one another.

The Feast of Corpus Christi reminds me of this, and of how God chooses to come to us. Not in power and glory, but in humility and vulnerability.

The Incarnation is everywhere, it’s all around us. In spirituality and science, in supper-time and supernovas, in all the broken and beautiful things we do in the name of goodness and love, in the name of the clear bright light.
csj leadership camp

For the twenty-two girls and four adults participating in the recent CSJ Leadership Camp, their experience became life-changing in many ways. The campers met the first week of summer vacation and journeyed back to the school’s roots with a visit to the CSJ Motherhouse in St. Louis, Missouri. Their adventure far exceeded their expectations.

The following was written by two campers in preparation for their closing prayer ceremony. It says it all.

As we drove many long hours together to this beautiful Motherhouse, we bonded through music and stories. We started as a group of young women who knew little about each other but left the camp as a closer group of sisters.

In the Motherhouse we felt closer to each other and closer in faith. From wandering about the beautiful chapel to growing in our self-awareness, we discovered the benefits of furthering our spirituality. We are beyond grateful for the opportunities we have been given these past few days. Not only have we grown as a group but also as individuals.

“But in these walls lies a bigger meaning, our mission of unfinished lace. How we need to connect our past and present to help build our future.”

Sister Linda Markway, CSJ presenter
Students were thrilled to meet alumna Kate Brosnahan Spade during her visit to campus on March 10, 2016. Kate was in town to promote her new product line, Frances Valentine. FV purses, shoes, and accessories can be found locally at Halls Crown Center or online at francesvalentine.com.

Enjoy a variety of artistic and musical talents from our very own alumnae and STA community. Save the date for the next Fine Arts Evening: November 15, 2016.

If you would be interested in performing or you know someone who would, please contact Kathleen Barry at kbarry@stteresasacademy.org.

Alums from the Class of 1981 (l to r): Kathy Baker Rohr, Suzanne Tankard Hanger, and Kate Brosnahan Spade reminisce with their yearbook while touring the campus with STA President, Nan Tiehen Bone, ’69.

Megan Reardon Molle, ’02
The Mother Evelyn O’Neill Award, given out each March, recognizes excellence in leadership, community service, or educational reform. This year’s award recipients were Charlotte Davison, community leader and activist, along with STA senior Tricia Melland.

**CHARLOTTE DAVISON IS AN EXCEPTIONAL LEADER**, offering service to the greater Kansas City community and an abiding dedication to strengthening urban education over the past 25 years. She is an advocate of many causes, but devotes much of her time to the families of the Ivanhoe neighborhood of Kansas City. Through countless volunteer hours, she has become a loved and trusted member of this community.

**TRICIA MELLAND IS TRULY AN INSPIRATION** to students and the larger community as well. She and her dog, Kenny, graduated this past May, despite months of hospitalization and relying on a feeding tube for 20 hours a day throughout her four years at STA.

Tricia manages a complex gastrointestinal illness that has eliminated her ability to eat real food. Kenny, her therapy dog, alerts her to when her delicate health starts to decline. “Tricia is a trooper who has overcome numerous medical challenges while staying in school,” said Sarah Hoehn, MD. “She is an inspiration to other children struggling with chronic illness.”

This coming fall, Tricia plans to enter the University of Nebraska Lincoln honors program where she will study pre-medicine and become a physician. Kenny has been accepted at UNL as well!

Tricia is actively involved in numerous service agencies throughout the city, including Ronald McDonald House, Children’s Mercy Hospital, Operation Breakthrough, the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation, and Beads of Courage. She received an award gift of $250 in addition to anonymous gift of $250 to be given to the charity of her choice.
**did you know?**

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**NATIONAL MERIT**

(left to right): Commended Ally Moore, (University of Wisconsin Madison), National Hispanic Finalist Alison Muñoz, (University of California, Los Angeles), Commended Mary Hillard, (University of Notre Dame), Finalist Victoria Richardson (Oklahoma State University), Commended Sarah Cigas (University of Southern California), Finalist Margaret Queen, (DePaul University)

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**ACADEMY WOMAN**

Hallie Ryan (left) was recently named Academy Woman for 2016. Hallie is joined by nominees Katherine Mediavilla (center) and Madeline Medina (right). The award recognizes a senior who possesses the finest personal qualities and characteristics of an STA student, including leadership, loyalty, responsibility, and cooperation.

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**ACADEMIC HONORS**

Congratulations to Sarah Cigas, valedictorian (far left), and Sadie Green, salutatorian, from the Class of 2016. Both were recognized at the STA Honors and Awards Ceremony in April and were keynote speakers on graduation day. Sarah plans to study engineering at the University of Southern California and Sadie will study pharmacy at the University of Mississippi.
MATH TEAM AT STATE

Lizy Hagan (left) and Elsa Feigenbaum attended the Great Plains Math League State Competition in Columbia, Missouri, as representatives of the STA Math Team. Lizy earned first place within the Juniors Division in the individual round and second place across all grade levels. Congratulations to both on a job well done!

CONGRESSMAN CLEAVER RESPONDS

Inspired by a letter written to him by Senior Maggie Hodes, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver visited the Academy and spoke to the student body. Maggie, as part of an assignment in her US History and American Government class, wrote the congressman to relay her views about lobbying and the inherent corruptive nature of it. Congressman Cleaver spoke about the troubles associated with lobbying, his perspectives, and what he’s doing to fight corruption. Way to go, Maggie.

STAND-OUT SENIORS

(far left) Hallie Ryan has been named Missouri Scholars 100 for 2016, a statewide program that honors 100 of Missouri’s top graduating academic students. Additionally, Hallie has been selected as a candidate in the United States Presidential Scholar Program. Hallie will attend Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California, on a full-ride, four-year scholarship.

(right) Senior Meredith Raymer will be attending NYUAD (New York University in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates) in the fall on a full, four-year scholarship (tuition, room/board, travel, and stipend). Meredith plans to study engineering.
STATE DANCE

The Stars dance team concluded their competition season at the Missouri Dance Team Association State Competition in February at Kemper Arena. The Stars finished third in the Mix category and fourth in the Dance category.

STATE LACROSSE

The STA lacrosse team finished fourth at the Missouri State Lacrosse Association State Tournament, May 20-21, in St. Louis, Missouri. Following the MSLA tournament, STA went on to win the Kansas City Metro Girls Lacrosse regular season and tournament titles with a perfect 10-0 record.

SECOND IN STATE VOLLEYBALL

The STA volleyball team finished second at the MSHSAA Class 4, State Championships on Oct. 30-31 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The final four appearance was the third in program history and the first return trip since 2006 when the Stars finished as State Champions.

STATE SOCCER CHAMPS

For the fourth consecutive year, the STA soccer (18-4) team was back in the MSHSAA State Soccer Tournament at the Swope Soccer Village in Kansas City, Missouri, finishing as the number one team in the state of Missouri. The Stars opened play against Cor Jesu Academy and moved on to the final match against St. Joseph’s Academy out of St. Louis. This is the team’s second State win and the fourth state title match in as many years.

2016 IS THE 24TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR FOR STA GRADUATES TO CONTINUE ON TO THE COLLEGIATE LEVEL AND ALSO THE LARGEST GROUP FROM ONE YEAR

BASKETBALL
Ryan Wilkins, Bradley University
Eleanor Lueke, Truman State University

DANCE
Ellie Porterfield, University of Missouri

LACROSSE
Kristina Coppinger, Arizona State University

RODEO
Maggie Porter, Northeastern Oklahoma University

SOCCER
Rachel Allard, Grandview University
Abby Small, University of Missouri - Kansas City
Alyssa Seitzer, St. Louis University
Maddy Russell, Kansas State University
Grace Kitts, University of Missouri

SWIM
Andie Round, Pepperdine University

TENNIS
Meghan King, Wofford College

VOLLEYBALL
Delaney Meyer, Briar Cliff University
Maddie Torti, DePaul University
Emma Runyan, Graceland University
STATE MUSIC COMPETITION

These students earned entrance into the MSHSAA State Solo/Ensemble Music Festival at the University of Missouri: (back row, l to r): Lilly McGonigle, Courtney Talken, Hayley Burgess, Margaret Jordahl, Elise Malone; Greta Sonnenberg, and Lily Cosgrove; (front row, l to r): Bella Pichardo, Rose Genaris, and Libby Terril.

NATIONAL CERAMICS RECOGNITION

Congratulations to Karen Crouch (left) for acceptance of her submission entitled ”A Piece of the Sky” to this year’s national exhibition held in conjunction with the annual international conference of The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. This is the 50th anniversary of NCECA.

Iyanla Williams (far right) won a Gold National Scholastic Art Award in Ceramics. By receiving a Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Medal, Iyanla joins a legacy of celebrated authors and artists that include Andy Warhol, Sylvia Plath, and Truman Capote. Iyanla was recognized for her work at Carnegie Hall in New York City in late May. Her artwork will be on display at the Pratt Institute and Parsons School of Design. Nearly 320,000 works of art and writing were submitted by students in grades 7–12 this year.

DRAMA

Reilly Donnelly’s (left) new original work, The Presentation, has been selected for performance in The Coterie Theatre’s 2016 Young Playwrights’ Festival. Her piece was presented on The Coterie stage on May 1. Reilly’s work is a part of a three-way collaboration called WORDS + MUSIC, hatched between teen playwrights from The Coterie, opera composers from the UMKC Conservatory, and performers from the Lyric Opera.

Congratulations to Rose Genaris (far right) on her Blue Star Nomination for her performance in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.
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The Starbeams newsletter features news and information relevant to students, families and alumnae of St. Teresa’s Academy. For more information, contact Kathleen Barry, alumnae director, at 816.501.0023 or starbeams@stteresasacademy.org.

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