



Dear Mercy Alumna,

Welcome to the re-launch of the *Alumnae News*!

This bi-monthly newsletter will provide our alumnae with all of the most recent Mercy news! We have heard that you are eager to learn more about our on-campus news featuring today's Mercy Girls, as well as news of your alumnae sisters. It is our hope that this newsletter will provide you with an even greater connection to Mercy High School and other Women of Mercy!

If you have an idea for a feature, please [contact me](#)! Likewise, don't forget to [send](#) your [Class Notes](#) updates so that we can celebrate you and your achievements! Do you know an alumna who should be featured in our monthly [Magic Monday Alumnae Spotlight](#)? I want to hear about that too! Or, do you want to recognize a fellow Women of Mercy with a nomination for one of our

prestigious [Mercy Alumnae Awards](#)? Send us your nomination for consideration!

I am looking forward to hearing from you!

Fondly,

Karen Lippy Maimone '92, P'19
Director of Alumnae Engagement

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2020!

For the first time in our nearly 60-year history, Mercy High School's commencement exercises were held on our beautiful campus. Since our first graduation in 1964, every senior had received her diplomas at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in North Baltimore. On Saturday, July 18, we creatively celebrated a socially distanced graduation at "home" on our new *Sisters of Mercy Field*!



Top Left: Hannah Snoops '20 & Stephanie Villatoro '20; Top Middle: Brea Jones '20; Top Right: Julia Hiebler '20 with her parents; Bottom Left: Asha Davis '20; Bottom Right: McKenna Shay '20



*Top Left: **Kirsten Edwards '20, Delaney Mavromihalis '20, & Alivia McDermott '20, Top Middle: Elena Schutz '20, Top Right: Members of the Class of 2020 pray together; Bottom Left: Laura Parada '20; Bottom Right: Julia Haley '20***

While social distancing requirements prevented the Class of 1970 from attending graduation in person, our Mercy graduates were thrilled to hear advice from their Grandsisters via our video scoreboard. The Class of 2020 first met their 1970 Grandsisters at Mercy Day/Ring Day when the Grandsisters presented them their longawaited Mercy rings. The Grandsisters program recognizes those alumnae celebrating their 50th reunion year. To read the advice from the Grandsisters, and to see their "then" and "now" photos, click [here](#).

FROM NIAKIA CHEESE, DIRECTOR OF EQUITY AND INCLUSION



I want to offer a sincere thanks to all who have reached out to me over the last month to share their concerns, thoughts, and suggestions for how we can build a more inclusive Mercy community. This is important work that takes care and thought and involvement across our constituencies. Many of our Black alumnae who participated in the listening sessions saw partnership as key to fostering a truly inclusive and equitable community. Those accomplished Mercy alumnae expressed a firm desire to be engaged in mentoring students, participating in Career Day, and working with our revitalized Black Awareness Club. For their time and generosity, our leadership team is deeply grateful. You'll be hearing from us about additional steps that Mercy is planning, but I could not finish my first

full month in this new role without being in touch. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me [here](#) if you want to be involved in these meaningful efforts to build the Circle of Mercy.

CONNECTING WOMEN OF MERCY WITH TODAY'S MERCY GIRLS



Calling all Mercy Alumnae: We need your best college advice for the Class of 2020!

Helping your Mercy sisters is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Go to [this listing](#) to see where our Class of 2020 will be matriculating.
2. Look for your college Alma Mater.
3. Send a note with words of advice to members of the Class of 2020 attending that institution by [emailing your note](#). Be sure to include "College Advice" and the name of your college or university in the subject line.

The Alumnae Office will then send along your message to girls attending your Alma Mater! Don't see your Alma Mater, but still want to participate? No problem! Send your best general college advice along too! We will send it to all members of the **Class of 2020!**

Thank you for your help with this important and fun project!

HIGHLIGHTING WOMEN OF MERCY

Have you seen the many ways we show our pride in our Mercy alumnae?

Check out [Class Notes](#) to learn about what your Mercy sisters from across the decades have been doing since graduation! [Submit](#) your own update today.



Visit our monthly [Magic Monday Alumnae Spotlight](#) feature on the web and our social media channels! Magic Monday Alumnae Spotlight showcases how a Mercy alumna has lived out her Mercy values and utilized her Mercy education in the world. These remarkable women share stories of their post-Mercy education and achievements, along with some of their favorite Mercy memories! Do you know an alumna we should feature? Please [nominate](#) her so that she may be featured in upcoming Magic Monday Alumnae Spotlights!



Have you recently received an award, been promoted, or been published? Then we want to hear from you! Alumnae Highlights are occasional social media posts which showcase recent achievements of Women of Mercy! [Email](#) your alumnae highlight information for possible inclusion in a future post!

FROM THE ALUMNAE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meet your 2020-2021 Alumnae Association Executive Board! The Executive Board works to create engaging activities and provide services that connect the members of Mercy's Alumnae Association. Every one of our 8,000 graduates is a member! [Click here](#) to see their "then" and "now" photos, read their biographies, and find out why they choose to give back to Mercy! We hope you will consider joining them. To join the Executive Board, please email President Shanna Williams Edmond '95, P'20 at AlumnaePresident@mercyhighschool.com.

We Want to Hear From You!

As the Alumnae Executive Board begins planning for the 2020-2021 year, we want to hear from the members of the Alumnae Association. Now is your chance to tell us how we can best serve YOU! Please take a minute to complete our [survey](#). Thank you for your suggestions!

A Mercy Girl...



Then & Now

The 2020-2021 academic year is underway and we are so proud of the many ways our 427 Mercy Girls, supported by their teachers, have adapted to this most unusual year! They continue to amaze us with their tenacity, flexibility, and love of our community. We have marveled at the innovative ways they continue to embrace not only their rigorous coursework but also the many Mercy traditions that are so important to the life of our school. We continue to watch them shine not only academically, but also in a variety of leadership positions. We are especially excited to welcome the Class of 2024 to the Mercy family. This year's class of 103 freshmen includes 11 legacy daughters, 11 legacy nieces, and 2 legacy granddaughters! While this year may not be the sort we have come to expect, we remain #MercyStrong!

Pictured above are Gina Rohleder Chambers '89, P'24 and her daughter, Avery Chambers '24 on their first days as Mercy Girls! Do you have a legacy photo to share? [Email](#) it for inclusion in future newsletters.

MERCY TURNS 60!

As we begin our 60th year, we want to hear YOUR stories of touchstone moments at Mercy. Do you remember the first day Mercy opened? How Mercy Girls responded during a significant historical moment? Did you catch a glimpse of George Harrison as he meandered our hallways? Did you join the school community to walk to the Senator theater to watch *Ghandi*? Did the Calvert Hall band help celebrate Mercy Day when you were a student? In celebration of our 60th anniversary, we want to hear your best Mercy stories! Throughout the year, we will share these moments on our social media and throughout our publications. Send in your story [here](#). We are so excited to share in your memories!



Join us for the Magic Nation Virtual Blood Drive!

Did you know that every two seconds, someone in America needs blood? Help us celebrate life by ensuring all patients in need receive life-saving blood. All members of Magic Nation are invited to participate in this virtual blood drive sponsored by the Alumnae Association.

Click [here](#) to make an appointment to give blood through your local American Red Cross. It is easy to find an appointment near you, and each donation can help to save up to three lives! In celebration of Mercy's 60th year, register to help us meet our goal of a minimum of 60 donors! Be sure to post your photo to the campaign site and also your social media using #MagicNationVirtualBloodDrive. Then, [send](#) your photo for inclusion on Mercy's social media. Let's show the world that Mercy Girls are "living flames of service bright!"

First Fruits Farm Service Opportunity

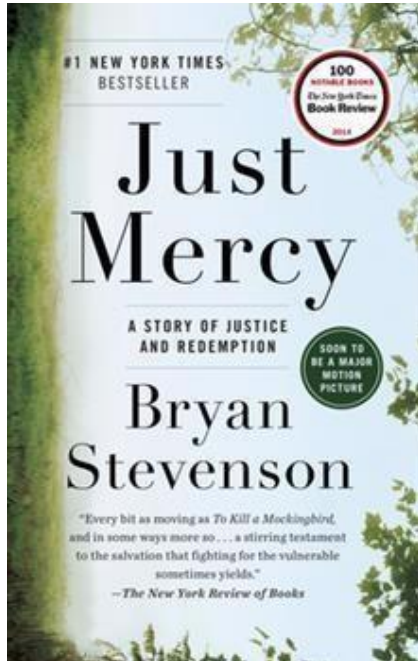
Please join the Mercy community in serving at [First Fruits Farm](#) on Saturday, October 10th, from 9:00 until 11:30 a.m.

First Fruits Farm is a non-profit Christian ministry dedicated to providing fresh produce to those experiencing hunger; 100% of the produce harvested is donated area food

banks, soup kitchens, and food service ministries. Check out this [video](#) for more information on the mission of First Fruits!

All participants must complete this [Liability Waiver](#) in order to reserve a volunteer time. All ages are welcome; but each participant must complete a waiver. Please refer to the information provided regarding COVID-19 precautions and procedures at the farm. Contact [Kate Bell Lipka '07](#), director of service learning, for more information.

MAGIC NATION BOOK CLUB



Join the Magic Nation Book Club as we read our second book, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. According to GoodReads.com, *Just Mercy* is "A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time. Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of

mercy and justice forever. *Just Mercy* is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice."

To join, go [here](#). As with our last book, we will have online discussions, culminating in a virtual meeting in December.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



Have a life update to share? Want to announce a promotion, job change, college news, or graduation? Now is the perfect time to share a class note!

[Class notes](#) are brief updates shared with the larger Mercy community on the alumnae section of our webpage. High-res photos of your special events are welcome and we will include them alongside your notes as space allows. Email your submissions to the [Alumnae Engagement Office](#) today.

STAY CONNECTED TO MERCY

Did you move? Change your email address? The Alumnae Engagement Office periodically distributes communications via US Mail and email and we want to keep YOU in the loop! Update your information [online](#) or by [email](#).

Mercy High School also has an active presence on social media. Be sure to like and follow our pages for immediate updates and as a way to share information and connect instantly with your Mercy sisters!



[Connect with Mercy High School on Facebook!](#)



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[Join our Closed Alumnae Facebook Group](#)



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We remember all members of the [Mercy High School community](#) who have gone before us. May they rest in peace.



Let us [pray](#) for one another.

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