

The Stanner

Vol. 54, No. 4

Archbishop Molloy High School

December 2010

Stanners send off list to Santa

By **Natalie Kurzyna '11, Julianne Broderick '11, Melissa Foley '13, Jennifer Foley '13, and Manpreet Sachdev '13**

'Twas the weeks before Christmas, and all through Molloy, not a student was doubtful of this year's must-have toys.

With Christmas just around the corner, most Stanners have already written their letters to good old St. Nick. Stanners spoke of what made it onto their current Christmas lists and remembered the best and worst gifts of Christmases past.

Teacher Assistant Ms. Mary Braunstein would like "a Red Ryder BB gun with a compass in the stock."

Ms. Braunstein said the worst gift she ever received was "coal" and her best "a Harry Potter calendar."

Ms. Kelly Early is wishing for "snow" this Christmas. She also hopes to find "a math clock" underneath her Christmas tree this year.

The best gift Ms. Early ever received was "my first cell phone."

Mr. Jim Sheehan said, "I want to be William Trevor for Christmas."

The best gift he's ever received was "a little flying plane that I broke in about five minutes" when he was a young boy. "It wounded me for life."

The worst gift he has ever received was "really cheap wine, because life is too short to drink bad wine."

Mr. Brian Klimas would like something that any Stanner who has been on retreat would like, "a house in Esopus."

His best gifts were "tickets to the NHL All Star Game in Dallas, Texas" and "a box of socks and underwear from my mom every year, because you always need socks and underwear."

Mr. Michael Harrison would like "Albert Einstein's intellectual capabilities as well as Thomas Alva Edison's creativity."



Illustration by Christmas Art Contest winner Karlovoy Cruz '12

Ms. Mary Ann Safrey said that the best gift she ever received was "my very own stereo; I must've been a sophomore in college."

Ms. Safrey also said that all she wants for Christmas "in these busy days, when no one has any time what with their busy schedules, is for all the ones I care for and love to be in the same place at the same time."

Senior Brandon Rodriguez would like a practical present, "a nice, red scarf."

The worst gift he ever received was "an ugly Christmas sweater" while the best was "a Squirtle doll I got when I was seven."

Senior Sean Harrison said the best gift he ever received was "eleven ties."

Senior Angelane Gonzales said she thinks "iPads and Blackberrys are the hottest gifts" right now.

Many Stanners have put Apple

electronics on their Christmas lists this year.

Sophomore Tarundeep Kaur said she wants "an iPod Touch 32G, the new one!"

Gonzales also would like to see an iPad under her Christmas tree.

Sophomore Sameera Kassim hopes for the iPod Touch 4th Generation with the camera while frosh Matthew Spataro, sophomore Amber Emmino, and junior Lauren Ippolito also want the new iPad Touch.

Ippolito's worst gift was "probably some cheap four-year-old makeup" and her best was "my Ugg boots."

Senior Jane Azarcon said the worst gift she has ever gotten was "a 'High School Musical' board game that I got last year."

Sophomore Graziella Ferrara would be happy to see "a waterproof camera"

under her tree because "I think they're so cool."

Frosh Madelein Glaeser and sophomore Amanda Ramphal also want new cameras.

Sophomores Frank Masi and Ashwini Chawla both would like the video game Call of Duty: Black Ops.

Frosh Sebastian Geraci would like Skull Candy headphones while frosh Jennifer Guerrero hopes for a new Blackberry.

Two Stanners want concert tickets under their Christmas tree this year.

Frosh Marco Mery wants Lady GaGa concert tickets while sophomore Monish Pahilajani said, "I want tickets to see Taylor Swift in Paris on my birthday."

Fashion also took up a big part of some girls' wish lists.

Sophomore Alexandra Bertolini wants a Michael Kors bag, while classmates Marisa Masi and Theresa Conway both would like to get a new pair of Uggs.

Junior Manpreet Kaur wishes for an entire new wardrobe via gift cards.

Sophomores Janet Nguyen and Cara Salvatore hope for old-fashioned items.

Salvatore wants a record player complete with vinyl records while Nguyen wants a Polaroid camera and the film to go with it.

Emmino hopes for a bike with a basket on the front handlebars.

Other Christmas dreams are more fanciful, as sophomore Kate Gribbon wants the old Nickelodeon show "Rocket Power" to come back on TV.

But there are also Christmas wishes that go beyond material goods.

Chawla wants her family to be together in Seattle for Christmas.

Sophomore Kate Gribbon and Alumni Office Assistant Mrs. Nancy Catalanotto hope for world peace.

So "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good break!"



Illustrations by Adrienne Zhou '12

Shouldn't school sweatshirts be OK?

Now that it's getting cold out, most of us need a little more than just a uniform cotton oxford dress shirt to keep us warm.

Some of us may have bought one of the sweater choices from Marlou, the uniform company that provides our uniforms, and wear either the school-approved sweater or fleece on subfreezing mornings.

Most of us, however, have purchased at least one of the Molloy hooded sweatshirts or a Molloy team or club sweatshirt and it's a shame the school does not approve of us wearing them to class.

There are obvious benefits to our wearing school sweatshirts instead of our school sweaters or fleeces.

The sweatshirts are warmer and more comfortable than the sweaters.

Wearing our sweatshirts allows us to show our pride and our support for our activities or clubs.

Molloy sweatshirts are also less expensive than the uniform sweaters and much easier to buy because they are sold right here at the school bookstore and do not need to be ordered from Marlou.

So why shouldn't we be able to wear them during class time instead of just before and after school and when we go outside after lunch?

Assistant Principal for Students Mr. Ken Auer said sweatshirts are banned for a reason.

"The Administration wants to keep the uniform looking professional," he said.

The Administration is serious about its dress code rules as a student who gets caught wearing a sweatshirt in class receives one hour of detention for the first offense and an additional hour for each ensuing dress code violation.

If a Teacher's Assistant sees a student wearing a sweatshirt in a classroom, the T.A. has been instructed to wait outside a classroom for that student to exit the room at the end of class and issue a detention for a dress code violation.

Yet despite the threat of punishment, a winter day doesn't go by without at least one Stanner wearing a sweatshirt in class.

Why does this happen?

When we're cold, we often are willing to risk detention to stay warm, especially when many teachers don't seem to mind us wearing Molloy sweatshirts.

"It's not fair to students that some teachers allow students to wear a sweatshirt [in their class] and then the students later get caught because of the teacher's lack of enforcement of the rule," said Mr. Auer. "But the rule is the rule."

Despite inconsistent enforcement, Mr. Auer said the Administration would not consider allowing students to wear school sweatshirts in class.



Wearing a Molloy sweatshirt to class can result in detention, as perhaps this Stanner covering her identity knows.

"We are trying to stay with the professional look here," he said, "and although we will not change the rule about wearing sweatshirts, if a more comfortable sweater from the uniform company is suggested that also looks professional, we may consider it, as we did with the fleece two years ago."

Given Mr. Auer's clarification of the school rules, it is understandable that the Administration wants to keep a clean, respectable look.

However, on certain days, when winter's inclement weather tempts too many students to reach for their sweatshirts to stay warm, perhaps a one-day "dress code pass" can be implemented to allow them to do so.

It would give students a morale boost and also help keep them warm!

— *Stephanie Bonanno '13 and AnnMarie Gaglio '13*

How Santa rolls

by Kevin Hong '11



Cruz wins first Christmas Art Contest

Junior Karlovy Cruz's Christmas illustration was selected as the main cover art for The Stanner's December issue and the winner the newspaper's first Christmas Art Contest.

Cruz's drawing, which looks even better in its original color version, was selected for the front page by The Stanner editors and production staff from among eight entries.

Some of the other entries that impressed the editors can be seen throughout the December issue.

In addition to earning a spot on the front page, Cruz also won Christmas cookies made by Editor-in-Chief Natalie Kurzyna.

The editors would like to thank each of the students who took the time to create a drawing for the newspaper's first contest and to congratulate them on their artistic skill.

The entire staff and the moderator of The Stanner would like to wish everyone at Molloy a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Stanner welcomes all letters to the editor

The Stanner welcomes all letters to the editor from students, faculty, alumni and staff that respond to any of the articles published in previous issues.

Send your letters to the editor to The Stanner newspaper via email at:

thestanner@molloyhs.org.

The Stanner reserves all rights to edit all letters to conform to space capacity and paper policy.

Thank you for your involvement and we look forward to your input.

The Stanner

Volume 54, Number 4

Editor-in-Chief:
Managing Editor:
News Editor:
Photography Editor:
Layout Editor:
Production Staff:
Stanner Moderator:
Publisher:

Natalie Kurzyna
Mary Rooney
Julianne Broderick
Monish Pahilajani
Carolina Mlynarczyk
Natalie Look, Pamela Decolongon,
Adrienne Zhou
Mr. Charley McKenna
Bro Thomas Schady

Open Mic show features fresh talent

By Sarah Stiglianese '14

The first of three Open Mic shows at Molloy was held on Dec. 1 in the Theater to showcase some of the many talented students at the school.

These talents included singing acapella, singing and playing guitar, and playing piano.

The Master of Ceremonies for the 90-minute show was junior Adrienne Zhou.

The show began three hours after Molloy's 2 p.m. dismissal because organizers needed the time to set up the sound system properly.

Yet despite a three-hour wait, the show attracted an audience of about 90 students who were there to support their friends.

The show's organizer, Mr. Frank Gambino, was pleased with the turnout.

Frosh Reaz Jafri, who sang acapella "Rabbit Hole" by Adam Lambert and "Hit Me Baby One More Time" by Britney Spears, said that he had a blast performing.

He said this was his first time singing acapella in front of a large audience but he had a lot of fun doing it.

Jafri said he will probably not perform the same act at the Talent Show in April.

"This kind of thing is only fun when it's unique," said Jafri, who would like to surprise the audience with his next

Molloy performance.

Jafri said his favorite performer at the show was frosh Allison Terranova, who played guitar and sang "Last Kiss" and "Teardrops On My Guitar" by Taylor Swift, because her act was unique and special.

Another frosh who preformed was Karla Silva, who sang "Catch Me" by Demi Lovato as a duet with sophomore Kiara Sigcha.

"Obviously, it was my first time ever performing at an Open Mic show," said Silva, who thought she gave an adequate performance but she thinks she could've done better if she had more practice.

Silva's favorite performer was Jafri because, "he put a lot of enthusiasm into his act."

Other performances included a piano piece by sophomore Tiffany Adrien, a duet sung by seniors Kathryn Christophorou and Ray Gejon, and individual singers junior Thomas Ashton and sophomores Amber Chia, Gisella Diono and John DiMaria.

Although Mr. Gambino said he thought all the performances were good, two really stood out, Gejon and Christophorou's duet on "Baby It's Cold Outside," and Adrien's beautiful piano piece.

To the surprise of many in the



Senior Ray Anthony Gejon performs at the first Open Mic Show in the theater despite battling a cold. The show was one of three Open Mic Shows scheduled for this winter, leading up to April's Talent Show. (Photo by Manpreet Kaur '12)

audience, Mr. Gambino sang two songs he wrote himself and played guitar.

His performance was a big hit with the students.

The next two Open Mic shows will be held in January and February in the Theater while the Talent Show will be held in April in the Jack Curran Gym.

"There has been a Talent Show held

at Molloy for about ten years." said Mr. Gambino.

He said students who first perform at the three Open Mic shows will be more likely to be selected to perform at the Talent Show but students can still audition and be chosen to participate in the Talent Show without first appearing at an Open Mic show.

Molloy lets clubs join Facebook age

By Sameera Kassim '13 and Stephanie Jaipaul '13

Archbishop Molloy has finally joined Facebook.

Assistant Principal for Students Mr. Ken Auer and Director of Student Activities Mr. Ed Cameron decided that because the site is so popular among Stanners, allowing Molloy clubs to have Facebook accounts made sense.

They knew that some school clubs already had created unofficial Facebook pages and so decided to allow these clubs to make them an official school site.

The Molloy Administration fully supported the creation of these pages in order to publicize and provide information about each school club and activity.

The goal of the project is to use these pages as bulletin boards to get out information about clubs in the most efficient manner.

However, these pages also provide a more efficient method of communication between club members by allowing them to remind each other of important events and meetings.

Though these pages may be publicly searched, visitors must be a "friend" to see the actual information the site offers, typical of any official Facebook page.

Any Stanner can join these pages as a friend to learn more about the club even if she or he was not a member prior to the creation of the page.

These pages will not be accessible from school computers, however, because it's unnecessary due to the fact

that the announcements on the Cafeteria video screens inform students in school of all events and meetings.

Facebook was chosen as the vehicle for promoting Molloy clubs because it is the easiest, most accessible site for students to visit due to its popularity among teenagers, said Mr. Cameron.

Three Molloy clubs, The Stanner Players, Campus Ministry, and Asian Club all have created their own pages and all are accessible now.

Mr. Cameron expects that in the near future most of Molloy's clubs will have created their own Facebook page, but in order to do so, the president of each club must inform Mr. Cameron that the club is doing so and go through the school to do it.

Senior Kate Pangilinan, the Asian Club President and editor of the school literary magazine "Out of the Box" who was interviewed using Facebook, said she also put out a "what to do, what not to do" guide for the Asian Club and literary magazine members because the pages are technically created by the school and so she wanted the other members to remember not to say something on the groups that they wouldn't say in front of Mr. Auer.

The upperclass student who is leading the club or activity is in charge of the page and will be made administrator of the Facebook Groups so that she or he could publicize events or post updates for the clubs.

Pangilinan said that the faculty

moderator of each club also could post updates as The Stanner Players' Moderator Ms. Jessica Petschauer often does.

The only other faculty members on the Facebook Groups would be "Cameron Molloy," which is there so Mr. Cameron can "watch" each group, rather than interact.

"It sounds a little [strange] at first, but honestly, you won't even know he's there," said Pangilinan.

She said the traffic on the Asian Club page is high. The club has 50 members on the group as of now, and since they've started using Facebook, there have been more members at meetings.

Pangilinan added that it would be hard to miss the site, especially if you are a member, because each member gets a notification every time someone posts in the group.

She said that the club's plans for the page are simple: after the year is done and the Facebook groups are done notifying, they'll be deleted and new ones would be made for the new school year by the new club leaders.

The ultimate goal of the groups is to have students remain "in the know" with their after school activities.

"It makes me feel a little less pressured and I definitely think clubs will become more popular through this," said Pangilinan. "It makes it easier for people to see what events are happening and when with more detail than we can fit in a slideshow or a flyer."



Illustration by Branden Warders '14

Chorus sings Xmas favorites

By **Monish Pahilajani '13** and **Rashanna Seymour '13**

The Junior-Senior Chorus sang 26 songs featuring 32 soloists at its annual Christmas Concert on Tuesday Dec. 14 in the Jack Curran Gym, where senior Kanad Ghosh also performed a violin solo on "Silent Night" and the 15-member Guitar Ensemble made its Molloy debut.

Most of the Chorus's songs in the show have been sung in previous years, including such familiar carols as "Deck the Halls," "Joy to the World," and "Silent Night."

However some not so familiar songs such as "For Us a Child" and "Ring on Christmas Bells" also were sung.

The performance capped a rehearsal schedule that began in the last week of September.

Chorus Director Mr. Jim Sheehan praised the work of his singers.

"Everybody has been doing well in rehearsals, especially Kate Pangilinan

and Maverick James [who sang a duet]," he said. "They have a difficult song and harmony, but have been doing great."

Mr. Sheehan also praised seniors Matthew Hunter and Jennifer DeMaria for their duet performance of "Baby, It's Cold Outside."

The goal for the Christmas concert was to give all Chorus members a chance to sing and to make sure the audience had a great time.

Senior soprano Angelane Gonzales enjoyed singing "O Holy Night" because the "harmonies are big and grand."

Hunter, who is in baritone, said he enjoyed singing "Rejoice!" because "all the parts of the chorus come together really well in this song."

Hunter said that the chorus had a "strong baritone section led by the seniors," and that the soloists were better than in past years.

Senior soprano Daniella Antolos

didn't mind giving up a free period every other morning this fall to prepare for the show because the rehearsals are "better than frees, especially because Mr. Sheehan is a model American teacher and America's sweetheart."

Antolos said that being a member of the chorus is really fun, and "everybody should try out, especially if you love to sing."

Junior baritone Kevin Singh said before the show that he was looking forward to it, "because it's my first one, and I remember seeing the concert in freshman year and loving it enough to want to be a part of it."

The Chorus's soloists at the Christmas Concert were:

Arleen Aguasvivas, Daniella Antolos, Gabriella Antonino, Jane Azarcon, Julianne Broderick, Sherise Bunche, Carina Bunnag, Kathryn Christophorou, Michelle Constante, Jennifer DeMaria, Gina Galizia, Ray Anthony Gejon, Angelane Gonzales,

Lance Hipolito, Matthew Hunter, Maverick James, Christina Jarosch, Carla Labrador, Jeannett Llave, Nicole Maniscalco, Eryka Morales, Stefani Morscher, Stacey Nieves, Rodelynn Orange, Katherine Pangilinan, Valerie Proano, Cynthia Rivera, Eric Rivera, Jovi Rodriguez, Joseph Smallwood, Nancy Strbik, Willy-Ray Vista.

The Guitar Ensemble played three classical pieces at the show: "Ukrainian Carol," "Sarabande and Variations" by George Handel, and "Sleepers Awake" by Johann Sebastian Bach.

"These are very complicated pieces with intricate rhythms and harmonies," said Ensemble Moderator Mr. Glenn DaGrossa. "But the guys are really playing them well."

The Christmas Concert marked the first time the Guitar Ensemble has performed in public.

"It's taken us a while but we finally did it," Mr. DaGrossa said. "We're going to perform again in the spring."

Band has a funky Christmas

By **Adrienne Zhou '12**

It's that time of year again for colorfully lit lawn displays, festive and sometimes tacky ties, Santas in every shopping mall, and the Molloy Stage Band's annual Christmas Concert.

The Band and the Freshman-Sophomore Chorus performed for the public in the Jack Curran Gym on Monday Dec. 13 at 7 p.m.

For the first time in school history, the Christmas Concert was a two-night event thanks to the addition of the Guitar Ensemble to the festivities.

The Band and Freshman-Sophomore Chorus played the first night and the Guitar Ensemble and Junior-Senior Chorus performed the second.

All the hectic Christmas shopping and eggnog drinking, however, didn't keep people from enjoying the Christmas music Molloy had to offer.

The Band is led by its president, senior trombone player Willy-Ray Vista, and its vice president, senior flutist Karen Zhou.

Since the rehearsals started Oct. 20,



The Stage Band's clarinet section, below left, and trumpet section, above, blast out "Funky Ol' Saint Nick" during a Christmas Concert preview in the Jack Curran Gym.



right after its performance at Open House, Zhou said the Band's group dynamic definitely has improved.

Junior trumpet player Melissa Gabriel agreed with Zhou, saying just before the concert, "We're getting to where we want to be."

The concert will feature all new numbers including, "White Christmas," "Portraits of Christmas," "Greensleeves," "A Charlie Brown Christmas," and "Funky Ol' St. Nick."

The last song will feature five soloists: seniors Jovi Rodriguez, juniors Gabriel, Andres Camaal, and frosh Edrean-Neil Kabigting and Gabriel Caamal.

The Freshman-Sophomore Chorus is singing "Carol of the Bells," "Gesu Bambino," "Alegria" in Spanish, "Come Little Children," "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus," "Venite Adoremus," "O Holy Night," and "A Grown Up Christmas List."

Both the Band and the Freshman-Sophomore Chorus gave a preview of the concert to frosh on Dec. 10 during the 9:45 a.m. class period.

Band Director Mr. Gregory Leonardo hoped the show impressed the audience. How can even the greenest of Grinches resist something as catchy as "Funky Ol' St. Nick"?

Merry Christmas



Illustration by Matthew Tibo '14

Toy Drive aims to spread joy

By Noelia Morales '12

Every school year Campus Ministry works its hardest to put Molloy students in the Christmas mood by holding many activities that help raise money such as Candy Cane Grams and the Toy Drive.

The Toy Drive contributed to seven different charities which distribute toys to thousands of needy children to make their Christmas a little more special.

Since 2004 Molloy has donated no less than \$1,100 annually to the cause.

Campus Ministry members who helped organize the Toy Drive included seniors Arleen Aquasvivas, Evan Kearney, Victoria LoBosco, Christina Lucci, Diego Martinez, Marissa Morales, Valerie Proano, Richard Ramsundar, and Stephen Scelfo.

The homeroom mission collection for the Toy Drive, which began Nov. 30 and ended Dec. 10, raised the money used by Campus Ministry to buy toys

in bulk to give to needy children.

Forms were distributed in homeroom to students who wanted to buy an individual toy for a child of a specific gender and age but students were free to contribute a toy to the drive without taking a form.

Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano hoped the homeroom collection would raise about \$60 to \$70 per homeroom for the Toy Drive.

Mr. Germano's other goal for this year's Toy Drive was for each student to bring in one toy so Molloy could donate at least 1,100 toys to kids.

He said there is no difference between donating an unwrapped toy to the Toy Drive or donating money because both are "equally fulfilling."

Ramsundar is especially excited about being involved because it is his first time working for the Toy Drive and he now wishes he had done it in the past.

He will be involved both in buying the toys and delivering them.

"Buying the toys for the kids is especially fun because you set your mind to think like a kid again and it brings back a lot of good memories," he said. "But nothing beats the look on a kid's face when they find out they got what they wanted for Christmas."

He said helping kids this way gives him a great Christmas feeling and he wants the kids he's helping to have the same feeling he had as a little kid at Christmas. "By helping buy these toys for kids, it sort of makes me remember what Christmas was like when I was a kid," he said.

But the Toy Drive is just one of Campus Ministry's holiday activities.

The annual candycanegram sale took place from Dec. 15-17 with each candycanegram costing \$1.

Last year this activity was able to raise about \$2,600 and Mr. Germano's



goal for this year was to raise at least \$2,000 for the Marist Missions.

Operation Christmas Child is another Campus Ministry Christmas activity and this year 104 gift boxes were donated to this charity.

Most of the students who contributed a gift box had done it before but Mr. Germano estimated that about 25 percent of students were new contributors.

He hopes more students will get involved next year because he would like to contribute 175 to 200 boxes to this a very worthwhile project.

Other activities during the holiday season included Advent prayer services in the Chapel and the Christmas Liturgy.

The Senior Encounter on Dec. 10-12 also took place during the a very busy holiday season.

Campus Ministry did not organize a Coat Drive in November this year but Mr. Germano said that it will do so again next year.



Liturgy Committee planning something special for Xmas

By Karla Hernandez '12

Although the annual Christmas Liturgy in the Jack Curran Gym on Dec. 22 won't be bustling with alumni as the Thanksgiving Liturgy was, it is expected to be just as creative and a great way to end the Advent season and enter the Christmas season.

As the Liturgy Committee began meeting earlier this month to begin planning the Christmas Liturgy, Campus Ministry Director Mr. Mike Germano had nothing but praise for its members' efforts in designing last month's Thanksgiving Liturgy.

"I have very faithful and loyal committee members who work hard together to make the liturgies special for their peers," he said.

The Thanksgiving Liturgy, which attracted about roughly 300 alumni and 600 students, featured the theme of ethnic diversity and Mr. Germano hoped the frosh in attendance were able to relate to the message since they had never experienced a Molloy Liturgy before.

Mr. Germano and the Liturgy Committee once again hope to engage the audience just as it did in the Thanksgiving Liturgy.

Committee member Caitlyn Ty, a junior, said she felt the Thanksgiving Liturgy was successful because it related to the ethnic diversity which can be seen throughout the Molloy student population.

"I loved the video and the use of different languages," she said. "We really tried to relate to as many ethnicities as possible."

For the Christmas Liturgy, the committee is hoping to incorporate the Molloy Step Teams into the Mass and some other interesting things to keep the liturgy fresh.

Instead of Father Frank Shannon, who said Mass at Thanksgiving Liturgy, the Christmas Mass will be said by Father Pat Flannagan.

The committee said all are welcome to attend the Mass and encouraged to come and join in celebrating this wonderful season together!

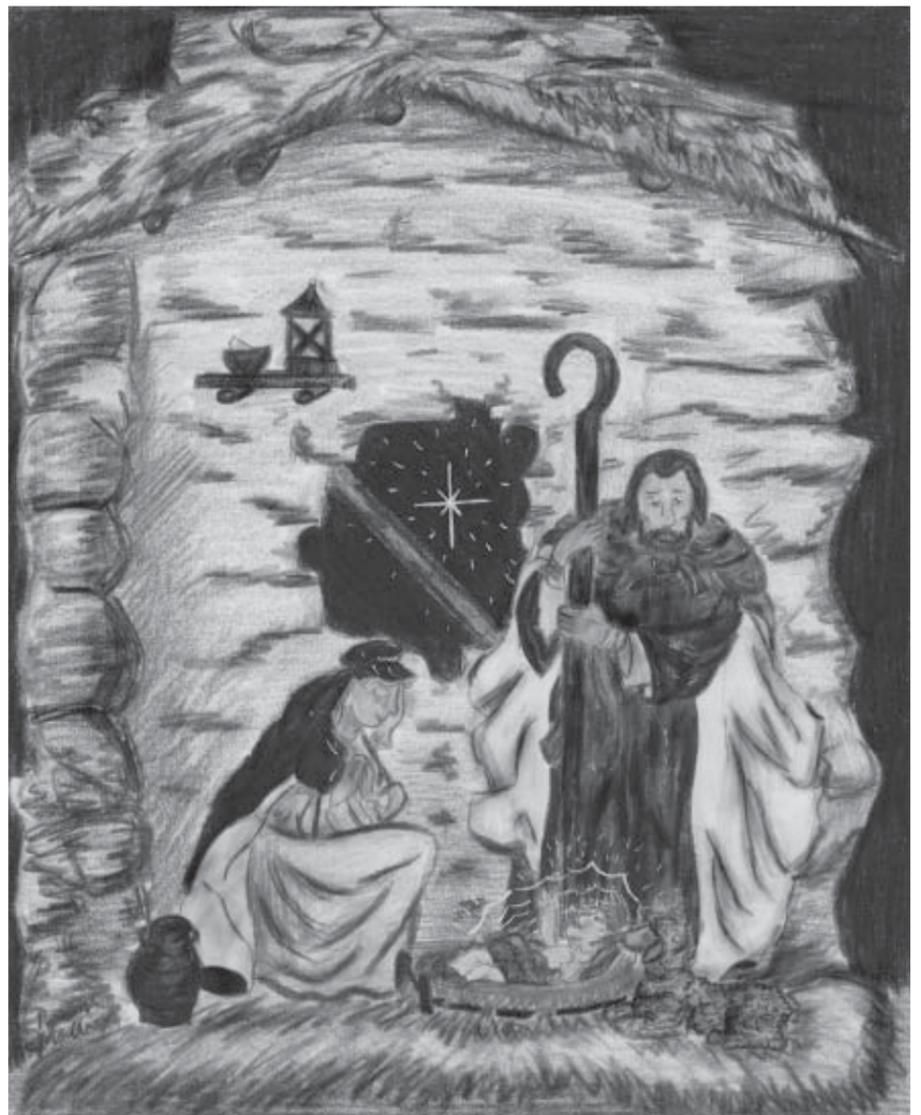


Illustration by Rosemarie Mulligan '12

Stanners get up early for CBS

By Roberto Bertolini '13

Forty Stanners departed Molloy at 5:45 a.m. on Nov. 5 to visit CBS-TV's "The Early Show" to provide support for the coat drive organized by Lands' End clothing company and the National Coalition for the Homeless, an organization founded by Mr. Robert M. Hayes, a member of Molloy's Class of 1970.

While they didn't appear on camera during the show itself, these Stanners had the opportunity to meet Harry Smith, Maggie Rodriguez, and Erica Hall of "The Early Show" and were given a brief tour of the CBS-TV studio.

Students were accompanied by Molloy Principal Bro. Thomas Schady and Mr. Michael Germano, Director of Campus Ministry.

Mr. Germano selected 40 students presently involved with Campus Ministry to make the trip by bus to the CBS Studios at 51 W. 52nd St. in Manhattan, arriving around 6:30 a.m.

The students left CBS at around 9 a.m. to return to school to rejoin their regularly scheduled day of classes.

Assistant Principal for Students Mr. Kenneth Auer said Lands' End had invited Stanners to visit "The Early Show" because the company wanted some high school students to help publicize its coat drive and Molloy had a direct connection to the National Coalition for the Homeless due to its founder.

"We thought it would be a great opportunity for our students to show support (of the coat drive) and be able to see the studio and meet the newscasters," he said.

Sophomore Catalina Tapia said that during the show, "We stayed outside in the freezing cold and held up signs for the coat drive."

She said the students were able to see what was going on inside the studio and what was on air by means of a small television outside.

Senior Diego Martinez said after taking the tour of the CBS Studio that it is "much smaller than you would think. It is one room but it appears bigger because of the way the news is filmed."



He also said that the news anchors were very "professional" in doing their jobs.

His favorite part of the day was "seeing the studio, where the news is filmed."

Martinez said standing in the cold to support the drive was worth it because many coats were donated to charity and they will be used by people who need them.

Tapia's favorite experience was getting scarves that were given to them by the Lands' End/NCH organization.

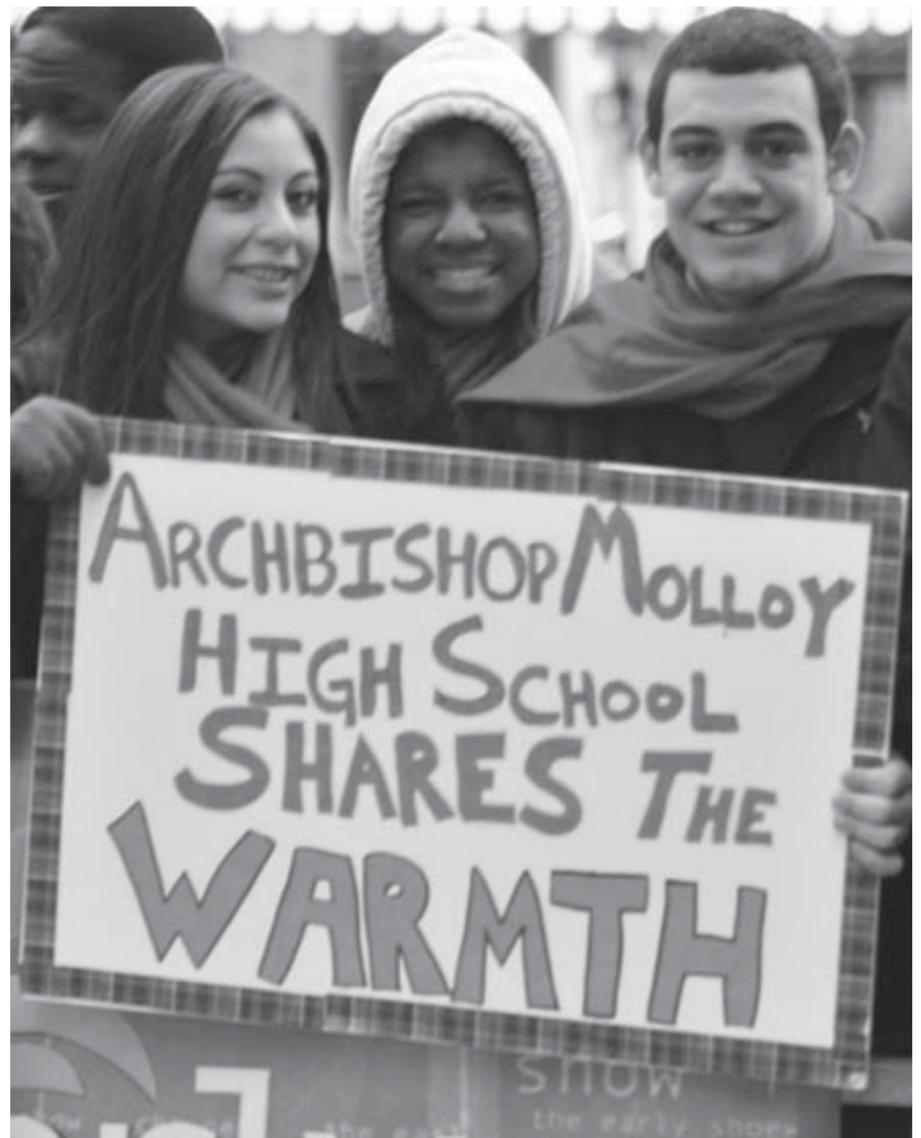
She said they had hoped to see "Harry Potter" star Daniel Radcliffe, who was being interviewed inside the studio, but it didn't happen.

Manpreet Sachdev learned from talking to Harry Smith that "being on TV can be fun but you must be serious and work hard."

From the tour, Sachdev noticed that not all of the cameras are stationary and that some of them move around as the show is being filmed by many different people.

The Campus Ministry members were happy to make this trip and hope that they can do it again in the future. They said it was not only fun but an opportunity to support a good cause.

Martinez said visiting the show "was a great experience" and hopes that people will continue to donate items to wonderful charities such as the National Coalition for the Homeless who support those in need.



Seniors Hiradean Sadik, Rashawn Gopaul, and Eryka Morales, top, talk to Harry Smith, the host of "The Early Show" outside of the CBS-TV Studios in Manhattan last month while seniors Valerie Proano, Sherise Bunche, and Stephen Scelfo show support for the Lands' End-National Coalition for the Homeless Coat Drive. (Photos courtesy of the Molloy Alumni Office)

An Evening at Catholic Underground

By Kirsten E. Paulson '13

Are you an actor, artist, singer, dancer, poet, filmmaker or musician?

Are you looking for a way to incorporate your creative passion with your religious faith?

Then maybe the Catholic Underground is for you.

Religion teacher Ms. Elizabeth Reichert takes a group of about 10 to 15 Stanners to the Catholic Underground each month.

"One thing I like about bringing students there is that it gives them a chance to make their faith their own rather than simply doing what their

parents do," she said. "It gives them a chance to experience God in a way they haven't before and a chance to meet other Catholics their age."

The Catholic Underground, which is run by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, is a direct response to a call begun by Pope John Paul II for Catholics to express their faith through modern technological and artistic forms.

The Catholic Underground, which was started in New York City, now sponsors free events on the first Saturday of every month in churches all over the country.

An evening at the Catholic

Underground, also known as the CU, begins with Vespers, the universal evening prayer of the Church.

That is followed by a time of praise during which the darkened church is illuminated by candles and the people present are given an hour to reflect upon and encounter Jesus.

The second half of the evening is spent enjoying performances by a variety of Catholic artists, who vary from month to month. Generally, performances include singers, dancers, poets, musicians, film directors and more.

After the performances, the Prayer of the Church and a hymn to Our Lady,

Daughter Zion conclude the evening.

Sophomore Kate Gribbon said CU is "different than what I thought it'd be. I was pleasantly surprised. I found it to be relaxing and spiritual. I would absolutely go again, and would definitely recommend it to other people."

The next Catholic Underground will take place on Jan. 8, the second Saturday of the month, due to the fact that New Year's Day falls on the first Saturday in January.

Students interested in going to next month's CU meeting should watch for the announcement regarding the event on the Cafeteria video screens.

75% of seniors on Honor Roll

By Cara Salvatore '13

As some students may already know after looking at the display case across from the General Office, the first quarter of the 2010-2011 school year ended with 279 out of 396 seniors making the Honor Roll.

With 75 percent of seniors having earned an academic average of 90 or better, it would be nice to think that the Class of 2011 works exceptionally hard in school and is one of the smartest classes as a whole in Molloy history.

However, could it be possible that this year's seniors are achieving such high grades for other reasons?

Assistant Principal for Academics Sister Elizabeth Bickar saw the seniors' achievement in a positive light.

Although she said she was surprised to see 75 percent of seniors on the Honor Roll, she said it can be attributed to two reasons.

Because seniors are able to take many more elective courses than any other grade level, this year's seniors must have chosen to take classes they're strong in, she said.

Sister Elizabeth also said that seniors, after taking so many rigorous Regents-preparatory classes for three years, are more apt to have more academic success their final year at Molloy.

She said she certainly doesn't feel that the Honor Roll has lost any its prestige just because three out of four seniors qualified for just one marking period.

"I don't think such a large percentage of the grade receives honors every year," she said.

Sister Elizabeth doesn't believe that such a high percentage of Honor Roll students means seniors are not being challenged enough by their teachers.

Instead, she believes that they are most-likely being challenged but

because they enjoy the courses, they are working harder and doing better than they have in the past.

While the first quarter for this senior year has been remarkable, Sister Elizabeth said it is only the first quarter, so there should be no assumption that the Class of 2011 is the smartest class in Molloy history.

"It would be nice if the seniors could continue to have such high grade averages," Sister Elizabeth said, "but we'll just have to wait and see how it goes."

Sebastian Altomarinno didn't think senior year is easier than the previous three, describing it as having "added pressure and responsibility," thanks to having to do college applications on top of school work.

Two seniors who made the Honor Roll, Sean Harrison and Danielle Catinella, said the large percentage of

seniors on it is due to the fact that everyone worked hard, especially because colleges pay attention to students' grades from the first quarter.

Harrison feels that the school work hasn't gotten easier but he's gotten more used to doing it.

Catinella thinks the fact that seniors can choose elective courses makes their grades higher because seniors for the most part want to be in their classes.

While seniors hope that the Honor Roll has as many seniors on it in the second marking period, some are skeptical this high level of achievement will continue once the spring comes and college acceptances are received.

Others say that, considering the fact that they achieved high grades while suffering through college application process during the first quarter, even when "senioritis" strikes, their grades should remain high.

Girls still dominate List

Juniors dominated the Principal's List for the first marking period of the 2010-11 school year, putting twice as many members of its class on the List as any other class.

Thirty-four juniors qualified for the Principal's List by earning a final first marking period average of 99 or higher.

The frosh had the next highest total with 17 followed by sophomores with 16 and seniors with 11.

Once again girls dominated the Principal's List as they have since its inception six years ago.

Of the 78 students from three grades that earned a spot on the List, 51, or 65 percent, were girls.

The frosh boys almost were able to achieve parity with the girls as eight of the 17 frosh on the List were boys.

The juniors had the largest gender disparity, as only nine of the 34 juniors who made the list were boys.

Here are the students who qualified for the Principal's List:

Frosh: Dhanesh Binda; Laura Blaszcak; Pamela Decolongon; Tiffany Dial; Georgios Gulino; Camilla Herbin; Edrean-Neil Kabigting; Maryanna Kelly; Jessica Kraker; Kristian Mosquito; Andrew Muscarella; Daniel O'Reilly; Shannon Pizzella; Samantha Sattler; Matthew Spataro; Tiffany Villacis; Branden Warders.

Sophomores: Roberto Bertolini; Jacob Borkowski; Alejandra Castano; Graziella Ferrara; Calvin Garcia; Maria Grbic; Joseph Ingrassia; Shibin Mathews; Aislinn Messina; Monish Pahilajani; Tatiana Requiyo; Cara Salvatore; Steffi Shilly; Jillian Spataro; Christine Stanolevich; Ayana Tan.

Juniors: Maverick Alzate; Andreea Arama; Olivia Balog; Jonathan Cortez; Stephanie Cruz; Agnieszka Czaja; Kristina D'Angelo; Katelyn Dial; Jackelyne Diaz; Alexandra DiDonato;

Alyssa Dolan; Stephen Eng; Claudia Fernandes; Melissa Fesler; Victoria Goldbach; William Hannigan; Melissa Jo Hernandez; Jennifer Hwu; Kaitlin Karcher; Kathleen Loftus; Simranjit Mangat; Leanne Motylenski; Marilena

Orfanos; Bianca Quiceno; Joanne Raptis; Sergio Rodriguez; Margaret Rooney; Christa Sankar; Sursehaj Singh; Raymond Sukhdeo; Niles Uy; Samantha Walker; Alexandra Woods; Adrienne Zhou.

Seniors: Arleen Aguasvivas; Timothy James Darcy; Kanad Ghosh; Daniel Holowiak; Judy Li; Christina Lucci; Carolina Ortiz; Dhandevi Persand; Mary Rooney; Christopher Vasile; Karen Zhou.



Seniors enjoy the Encounter

Member of the Class of 2011 had fun at the first Senior Encounter at Esopus on Dec. 10-12. Enjoying the great outdoors, above left to right, are Nancilee Rifenburgh, Anna Cedrowski, Priscilla Miranda in the hat, Kathryn Christophorou, and Jessica Perkowska. Meanwhile, the boys laugh it up in the warmth of the retreat house. (Photos by Derek Sokolowski '11)

Stepping up in Manhattan: Boys take first, Girls third

By Anna Poulakas '14

After months of strenuous daily practice with a constant focus on improving their routines, the Archbishop Molloy's Boys and Girls Step Teams saw all their hard work pay off on Nov. 20 at the Fifth Annual Daily News Manhattan Youth Step Competition at Wadly High School.

The Boys Team finished first and the Girls Team finished third in the 14-team competition.

The Boys Step Team finished second at the Daily News Bronx Youth Step Competition on Dec. 4 and at the Queens competition on Dec. 11.

Molloy's Boys Team has long been a powerhouse on the New York City step scene but the Girls' third place finish was an eye-opener.

"The tournament director said to me, 'Where have you been hiding the girls?'" said Step Team Moderator Mrs. Anne Lonergan. "The girls really did great. I told the boys, now you have some competition."

The members of the first place Boys Step Team were David Polanco, Julian Tobias, L.D. Nagales, Patrick Pagba, Luke Trovese, Brandon Concepcion, Juan Gomez, Ray Gejon, Steven Paciga, Joel Antolijiao, Adrian Estrada,

and Kelvin Li.

The Girls Step Team members were: Meliza Acoba, Geahna London, Eleni Kavvadias, Kimberly Garcia, Alexandra Brown, Ariel Roland-Waring, Stefanie Fernandez, Katherine Garcia, Melissa Lucci, Sachi Desse, Karen Sanchez, Agata Michalak, Kirsty Vista, and Aleisha Grandison.

Boys Step Team co-president and choreographer Concepcion, a junior, and choreographer Tobias, a junior, said that while they knew they were prepared for the Daily News Step Competitions, they still were surprised at their first place win in the Bronx.

The Boys Step Team may have won many trophies over the years but winning doesn't come easy, so the team practices every single day for two or more hours to correct whatever they got wrong in a show.

"There is always room for perfection," said senior Polanco, a team co-president and choreographer.

Polanco said all the team members are extremely dedicated and really concentrate on improving their routines and individual performances at every practice.

Mrs. Lonergan said she was very



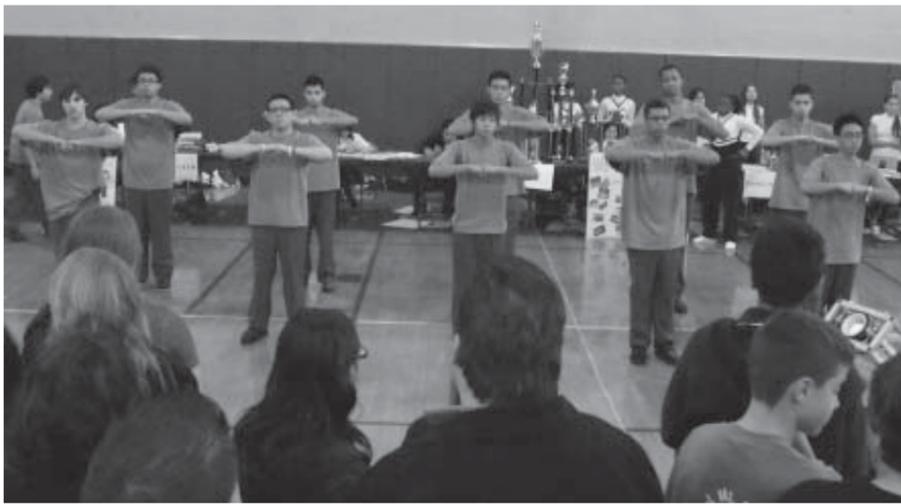
Members of the Girls Step Team perform at Open House. (Photos by Derek Sokolowski '11)

proud of both teams because the amount of dedication they show is just amazing.

"No one could ask for more," said Mrs. Lonergan. "Team leadership has been great and they all practice hard."

Mrs. Lonergan was also very pleased with the Girls Step Team's eight-minute routine that earned them a third place trophy.

Both the Boys and Girls Step Teams are aiming to qualify for the national step competition.



The Boys Step Team entertains the crowd at Open House.

HB Boys and Finbar James win IM football tourney titles

The HB Boys defeated The Hogue Franchise 35-14 in the finals of the Junior-Senior Division and Finbar James shut out Teenage Mutant Mighty Morphin' Teletubbies 14-0 in the finals of the Frosh-Sophomore Division to win the two-day Molloy Intramural Football Tournament, which concluded on Dec. 9.

Intramural Director Mr. Brian Kelly said he offered the two winning teams a chance to face each other in an intramural "Super Bowl" to determine the school-wide champion but both teams declined due to the weather.

"It was too cold," Mr. Kelly said.

The HB Boys beat Grape Eating Gorillas 21-14 in the opening round of the tournament and defeated Team Win 35-21 to advance to the finals.

"The Howard Beach Boys were a good team," said Mr. Kelly.

Rich DelGrosso was the captain of the all-senior team of John Rainone, Joe Rantinella, Dom Delio, Stephen Scelfo, and James Miele.

Finbar James, a team named after Mrs. Anne Lonergan's cat, defeated Border Patrol 28-14 and the Frittatas 14-0 to advance to the finals of the Frosh-Sophomore Division.

Anthony Maroutsis was the captain of the all-frosh team of Denes Kostel, John Young, Nick Morici, Virgilio Jimenez, and Adem Sadik.

Of the 16 teams in the two divisions, only two didn't show up to play on the tournament's first day on Dec. 7. Both teams were in the Frosh-Sophomore Division.

"We had only two forfeits, which is a big improvement from past years," said Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Kelly was pleased with how the first intramural competition went in the new tournament format and looks forward to the dodgeball and basketball tournaments later in the school year.

"We finished [the tournament] and had a winner and that's something we haven't done in while," said Mr. Kelly, referring to the old league-play intramural format which took weeks to complete and often saw so many teams forfeit due the length of the season that no champions were named.

Mr. Kelly said the players seemed to like the new, two-day format and liked the fact that they could form their own teams and not have to play for a homeroom team.

"They always could form their own teams but I'm not sure we communicated that fact to the students clearly enough in the past," Mr. Kelly said.

Members of the two winning teams will receive Molloy Intramural Champions t-shirts which are still to be designed.



Senior James DiMaggio moves in to tackle Kevin Kennedy during the Intramural Football Tournament. (Photo by Derek Sokolowski '11)

Sophomores step in for AM's missing seniors as girl hoopsters move to 2-0

Sophomore Carolyn Gallagher had 15 points and 19 rebounds and sophomore Alexa Dietrich had 13 points and five assists to lead the Girls Varsity Basketball team to a 42-33 victory over Sachem East at the Under Armour Girls H.S. Basketball Classic at St. John the Baptist High School.

Sophomore Amani Tatum was the defensive player of the game as Molloy improved its record to 2-0 despite having all but one senior miss the game to go on the Senior Encounter.

The Boys Varsity beat St. Joseph's by the Sea 83-47 at home on Dec. 7 after opening the season by beating Holy Trinity 59-56 on Nov. 27.

In soccer news, senior Kyra Meli was chosen as Queens Girls Player of the Year by the New York Post. Meli had nine goals and six assists playing both as a midfielder and defensive sweeper for Molloy's Girls Varsity.

Sophomore forward Victoria Antonino, with 10 goals and 8 assists, was named to the Post's All-Queens First Team and junior forward Casey Collins received honorable mention.

Boys Varsity senior co-captain, defender, Sebastian Altomarinno, was named to the first team of the Post's All-Queens team while senior defenders Stephen Buckley and Chris Zappel received honorable mention.