

SACRED HEART ACADEMY CAREER DAY

April 20, 2018



Jessica Alves '08
Speech-Language Pathologist, NYU Langone
Education: St. John's University

Jessica is a Speech-Language Pathologist who currently works for NYU Langone Brooklyn Hospital as an Acute Care Speech-Language Pathologist. Jessica has worked in the NYU Langone Health care system across multiple domains and settings including Acute Rehabilitation, Short Term Rehabilitation, Outpatient Clinics, and in Homecare Agencies with both adults and pediatrics.

Jessica presently works primarily on the Acute Floors in the Intensive Care Unit specializing in early rehabilitation with patients suffering with speech and language impairments and swallowing impairments following a stroke, traumatic brain injury, and other critical illnesses. Jessica works closely with the interdisciplinary team to provide services at the bedside and assist in determining the appropriate discharge disposition for each patient. Jessica ran the New York City Marathon with American Heart and American Stroke Association to raise awareness.



Dr. Alice Ruscica '00
Pediatrician, New York-Presbyterian
Education: Villanova University/Thomas Jefferson Medical College

After graduating from Sacred Heart Academy in 2000, Alice went on to major in biology and minor in psychology at Villanova University and graduated in 2004. Dr. Ruscica graduated from Thomas Jefferson Medical College, Class of 2009. She completed her Pediatric residency at Children's National Medical Center in 2012, a Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship at New York Presbyterian Morgan

Stanley Children's Hospital (affiliated with Columbia University) in 2015. She is currently Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, New York Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital, Columbia University. Her medical areas of interest include medical education and global health.

Dr. Ruscica is currently completing a global health certificate through the University of Manchester and the International Federation of the Red Cross. Her volunteer work includes annual clinical work and medical education at Bernard Mevs Hospital in Port Au Prince, Haiti.



Casey White Spezzano '99

Managing Director, Natwest Markets

Education: *College of the Holy Cross/Columbia University (MBA)*

Casey is responsible for all US Treasury and Agency funding while managing the US Treasury and Agency matched books. Casey trades the front end of the Treasury curve including Treasury bills, short coupons and Floating Rate Notes, in both cash and repo. Her focus on balance sheet optimization, prioritizing customer relationships and tight risk management has helped Casey's team to be consistently one of the most profitable desks within the broker dealer.

Prior to her current position, Casey gained experience as a fixed income trader for 10 years, focusing on repo, short-dated treasury securities and commercial paper and, in 2012, was awarded the Women's Bond Club Rising Star Award for RBS. As one of the most senior women in the NatWest Markets (NWM) business in the US, Casey is passionate about the NWM Women's Network and sits on its Steering Committee. She is also the Chairperson for the NWM US Learning Council and sits on the Global Learning Council. Outside of the office, Casey remains active by playing golf, tennis and paddle while raising her three young children with her husband in Darien, Connecticut. Casey's board and profession associations include: RBS Securities Inc. Board of Directors, SIFMA Executive Funding Committee, BNY Mellon Client Advisory Council.



Michelle O'Donoghue Walrath '94

Founder, Organic Krush

Education: *University of Richmond/University of Bridgeport*

Michelle graduated from the University of Richmond with a double major in health and women's studies. She says she loved everything she learned and became passionate about sharing health information. Michelle went on to earn a master's degree in elementary education at the University of Bridgeport and stayed home to raise her children. She got involved with local environmental groups, learned how to cook, and studied all things organic and healthy, including yoga before starting a website for teen healthy living,

Dreamingreengirl.com. Realizing there was a great need for a healthy organic eatery and feeling strongly that she and her partners were the ones to do it, she founded the company, Organic Krush.



Allison Wren Chobot '99
Executive Director, JP Morgan Chase
Education: Fairfield University

Allison is a financial executive with a focus on strategic leadership, managing financial performance, and driving transformational change initiatives. She is an experienced leader who is able to attract top talent and build/manage high-performing teams and possesses advanced problem solving and analytical abilities.



Darcy Neill '62
Peace Corps

Darcy has been involved in consulting, training and management for forty-plus years in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and North America. Working with professionals, entrepreneurs, and organizations, her primary focus has been assisting people, individually and as teams, in cities and in villages, to produce outstanding results. Darcy has alternated between the private and public sectors, including many years with her own management/leadership consulting practice. Clients range from CNN/Time Inc. and Morgan Stanley to Peace Corps and the United Nations to the Missionary Sisters of St. Columban. From

2001 through 2007, Darcy served as the Peace Corps Country Director in Jordan. Previously she had served as Director in both Morocco and Thailand and (much earlier) as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Gabon and Senegal. From March through July 2012, Darcy undertook an assignment in Tunisia laying the groundwork for reopening the Peace Corps program there. Darcy serves as a Member of the Board of Trustees and as a UN Rep for The Temple of Understanding, an NGO with ECOSOC-consultative status at the UN which focuses on interfaith and intercultural projects and conducts a summer internship program at the UN for 18-20 year old students. Recent consulting clients have included Human Rights Campaign and WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment). "Unsuccessfully Retired" best describes Darcy's profession these days. As an expert/consultant with Peace Corps, she has recently been part of initiatives at PC/HQ (Let Girls Learn, a collaboration with the White House) and in the field working with Volunteers and staff in the Kyrgyz Republic, Philippines and Morocco. Darcy is fluent in French, has moderate ability in Japanese, and "meeting and greeting" skills in Arabic, Thai and Ouloff.



Liz Parks '03

FDNY

Education: *Anna Maria College*

Liz attended Anna Maria College from 2004-2008 and earned a BS in Fire Science, and is currently enrolled in Anna Maria College's Graduate MPA program in Emergency Management. Liz received her EMT Certification while in college, and after graduation, worked for Northshore LIJ as an EMT. In 2010 she joined FDNY as an EMT, took the firefighter promotional exam and crossed over to be a firefighter during the summer of 2016. She is currently assigned to Engine 298, in Jamaica, Queens. Liz is a part-time teacher for an EMT class at Northshore LIJ.



Suzanne Burnell Walker '83

VP Sales, Swim USA

Education: *Fordham University Class of '87*

Suzanne is the Vice President of Sales for Swim USA, which includes direct sales and merchandising for the Longevity Brands division of Swim USA, one of the largest swimwear manufacturers in the world. Suzanne manages and inspires sales teams to increase sales and profitability while exceeding customers' goals and expectations. She works with the design team to create beautiful garments that enhance the wearer's experience. Suzanne develops programs for young professionals entering the industry to better understand the nuances of the business of fashion and works with stores to train sales staff through product knowledge seminars to better serve retail customers.



Bernadette Finnican '91

IBM Global Financing- Director Worldwide Business Development

Education: *Bucknell University/University of Pennsylvania - The Wharton School of Business*

Bernadette is a top-performing executive with extensive experience in international operations, business development, sales, and team leadership. Highly skilled in overseeing all facets of daily operations with an organization, spanning multiple continents. Her key accomplishments include: Initiated and closed over \$750M of new client recurring financial in 2017, including entering a new IT segment not previously penetrated by IGF commercial financing; Maintained and grew client relationships with a portfolio of large multi-national clients; Established sales enablement and marketing materials in support of global business development and sales.



Laura Gillen '87
Town of Hempstead Supervisor

Education: *Georgetown University/Georgetown Law*

Newly elected Town of Hempstead Supervisor Laura A. Gillen has had a passion for serving others from a very early age, when she would regularly volunteer at South Nassau Communities Hospital and Camp Anchor. She is one of two women to be elected to the position in the Town's history.

Her interest in public service ripened while a student at Georgetown University, where she concentrated her studies in government. At Georgetown, Ms. Gillen participated in the Baker Scholar program, which impacted the direction of her life profoundly with its focus on community service. After graduating cum laude, Ms. Gillen returned to New York to study at Stella Adler Studio. She later became an agent for a leading speakers bureau. During these years, Ms. Gillen was also a GMHC volunteer, assisting persons living with HIV/AIDS and later embarked on transformational visits to destinations in China, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and India. The focal point of her travel was an extended volunteer mission in Calcutta with Missionaries of Charity, where she worked in Saint Teresa of Calcutta's home for the dying.

Afterwards, Ms. Gillen returned to Georgetown for law studies at night while also interning for Hon. Marian Blank Horn of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims by day. It was here where her passion for the law blossomed. Eventually, Ms. Gillen would take on securities regulation, defamation, employment and intellectual property cases, while also volunteering her time to assist victims of domestic abuse.



Alison Schmitt '09
MTA Police Department

Education: *Hofstra University*

Alison entered the MTA Police Department in 2014. Accepted into MTA K-9 unit in 2017 for explosive detection with her canine partner, Mac. She is currently in patrol school for tracking missing people, suspects and conducting evidence and article searches. She and her partner work in Grand Central terminal, Penn Station and anywhere along the Long Island Railroad and Metro North Railroad lines. Mac is named in loving memory of NYPD Detective Steven McDonald. He lives with, commutes and works with Alison, who describes her job as the best in the world.



Tracy Hayes Jordan '85, P '16, '18, '21
Business Owner, Invited Sales

Education: Adepfi University

After graduating from SHA, Tracy kicked off what would become a 10+ year career in the airline industry, first as a flight attendant covering both domestic and international routes, and then in various supervisory roles related to in-flight crew teams and customer service for TWA and United Airlines. The industry offered enough flexibility for Tracy to pick up some additional hours working for renowned orthopedic surgeon Dr. P. Leo Varriale and was instrumental in managing the transition of his solo practice into a four office group with more than eight surgeons. As the group's Director of Operations, Tracy's span of control included all human resource matters for 40+ employees, payroll, accounts payable and receivable, and surgical scheduling. In addition to these responsibilities, Tracy managed the group's buildout of two in-house physical therapy sites. After a nearly seven year break during which she focused on raising her four beautiful daughters, Tracy decided to return to the workforce in a completely different role. This time as an entrepreneur hosting tag & estate sales. Her business grew quickly and Tracy happily began to capitalize on the opportunity to turn her passions for learning about the history and relevance of items such as artwork, antiques, home furnishings, coins, and other valuable items found in personal collections into a thriving business. In addition to being a licensed appraiser and a highly sought-after expert related to valuing these items for sale in the secondary market, Tracy is a licensed auctioneer and estate liquidator and her business, Invited Estate Sales, offers its clients an end-to-end solution related to the selling and/or emptying the contents of a home to prepare the property for sale.



Caitlin Murphy '08
Post Production Coordinator

Education: Marymount Manhattan College

Caitlin graduated Magna Cum Laude in three years, thanks to the college credits she earned at SHA. After college, she was lucky enough to book numerous acting jobs around NYC, working with some of Broadway's best and creating some exciting new work. For many years, she also worked as a personal and executive assistant to notable performers/creative minds including Emmy Award winner Penny Fuller, three-time Emmy Award winner Mia Michaels, and Hamilton's Tony Award winning leading lady, Renee Elise Goldsberry. She has since transitioned to work in the TV and film industry, currently serving as the Post Production Coordinator on NBC's Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert! with John Legend.

