

Columns

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Breaking Ground for Fitness Center & Commons Project





HOLY NAMES ACADEMY

COLUMNS

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ON THE COVER:

ASB Officers and members of the Board of Trustees participated in the groundbreaking for the Fitness Center & Commons Project—front, L-R: Jo-Ann Pizzello Kelly '66, Diane Irvine, Jessica Irvine '17, Savannah Umali-Jepson '17, Joe Whitford, Liz Eldredge Swift '71; back, L-R: Sam Verhovek, Jordan Oakes '17, Joan Sullivan, Lauren Ahearn '17, and Mary Herche.



Dear Alumnae and Friends,

As you can read in the next pages in this issue of the *Columns*, we have broken ground on exciting new facilities that will touch the lives of all of our students. When work is complete, our students will enjoy a commons area to gather and work collaboratively, a library designed for new methods of digital research, and a fitness center to encourage personal health and fitness. The new facilities will go a long way toward meeting three of the programmatic goals included in our long-range plan, *Transcend: Beyond Excellence*:

- Embrace the SNJM tradition and charism of educating the whole person, and instill in students a deep commitment to lifelong learning.
- Explore the changing role of the library and methods of research to better prepare students for college and careers.
- Redevelop our physical education and health curriculum to emphasize lifetime fitness and health, and good health-related decisions.

The library will retain its historic character, but will be updated to better serve our students in this digital age. Digital books and research databases have changed our library collection and the nature of research. While we will keep a substantial print collection, the overall volume of print materials will be reduced. Some bookcases will be removed and the useable space of the reading room enlarged, allowing more students access to the facility for research and study. Energy-efficient LED lighting and new furniture will be added, and the circulation station will be replaced with self-check-out stations.

The new fitness center will have a similar impact on the experience of our students. It will be open for individual use and structured workouts. In addition, the physical education classes and athletic teams will access the facility on a regular basis, and we plan to pilot new fitness-related elective courses.

In other news this spring, our students and school enjoyed several recognitions:

- The Academy was ranked by *The Washington Post* among the nation's top 1% of secondary schools for offering our students a challenging program that emphasizes equity, access, and excellence—and we ranked fourth in Washington State.
- For the ninth year in a row, our athletic teams collectively won the Seattle Metro League's **All-Sports Trophy** for young women. This award is given to the school with the highest average finish in Metro competition in all 10 league sports collectively.
- HNA crew had another spectacular spring, sending three boats to the USRowing Youth National Championships, the 12th consecutive year our rowing team has qualified for the nation's highest level of competition for high school rowers. HNA's highlight was the national silver medal won by our Lightweight 8+.

As always, we appreciate your interest in, and support for, our students.

Sincerely,

Liz Eldredge Swift '71
Head of School and Principal

Fitness Center & Commons Project: New Spaces Bridge Buildings

HNA'S BIGGEST BUILDING PROJECT IN THREE DECADES WILL ENHANCE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE BY JOINING THE HISTORIC SCHOOL AND THE GYM.

WOULDN'T IT BE NICE?

- IF all Holy Names Academy students—not just the athletes—had their own fitness center, a high-tech, fully equipped place in which to develop a lifetime habit of well-being?
- IF students didn't constantly need to improvise spots in nooks and crannies of HNA's century-old building to just sit and hang out—to chat, relax, reflect, or study?
- IF large meetings of faculty, parent, or alumnae groups could be accommodated without having to temporarily close the historic library to students?
- IF students, on lovely, sunny days, had a place to sit in the comfort of the outdoors while they eat lunch, relax, or study?

It would be very nice. Work began in June on the Academy's new Fitness Center & Commons Project, the most ambitious—and visible—building project at the Academy since construction of the McAteer Lee Gymnasium in 1990. With a hoped-for completion date in spring 2017, the three-story project architecturally "joins" the gym to the 1908 main building. The project will not increase student capacity—currently just under 700—but is instead designed to enhance the daily experience for HNA students with new spaces, including an inviting student commons area and a fitness center for all students.

"So much of our work on the school facilities in recent years has focused on creating spaces that match today's learning style and emphases," says Head of School and Principal Liz Swift.

The existing atrium between the two

structures will expand up, down, and to the east and west to include:

BASEMENT

- State-of-the-art fitness center
- Expanded seating area for the newly remodeled HNA Café (formerly the cafeteria)
- New, additional entrance to the HNA Café from the southwest corner of the building and a new staircase from the basement to the second floor
- New, permanent sales kiosk for Cougar gear

"While the new **fitness center** will certainly assist our athletic program," says Swift, "it's designed more for the fitness and health of all our students—and for faculty and staff—as part of our emphasis on training for lifetime fitness." The gym will feature treadmills, ellipticals, "and bikes with interactive

screens so you can race or do an interactive fitness workout," Swift says. "It's going to be a lot more like a gym for which you have membership than like a traditional high-school gym."

The new entrance to the **expanded HNA Café**, and a new staircase to access it from the first floor, "means students will no longer have only one way into the Café through the fire doors from the tunnel," notes Darren Briner, Director of Information Technology and School Plant. "And we're adding more seating booths and round tables, which the students seem to like a lot in the Café."

FIRST (GROUND) FLOOR

"The new **commons area**," says Swift, "is going to be a great place for students to gather, not just while waiting for a ride, but for meeting, collaborating,

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"SO MUCH OF OUR WORK ON THE SCHOOL FACILITIES IN RECENT YEARS HAS FOCUSED ON CREATING SPACES THAT MATCH TODAY'S LEARNING STYLE..."



BRODERICK ARCHITECTS

Flexible seating will make the Commons (site of the current atrium) a welcoming gathering spot for students and for fans attending sports events.

HNA

FITNESS CENTER & COMMONS PROJECT

Multi-purpose **CONFERENCE ROOM/ TESTING CENTER** will lessen the need to use the library for meetings.

ROOF DECK will offer all-weather tables and chairs for students to relax.

A western corner nook of the **COMMONS AREA** enjoys a glass-enclosed view of the tree-shaded lawns.



Continued from page 3

sharing digital information.” Much greater in space than the gym atrium it will replace, the commons will have seating and table arrangements flexible enough to accommodate student daily use—as well as special events such as luncheons. Creating the commons area will also provide sports fans and parents with a more welcoming lobby entrance to the gym; a new trophy case will showcase Cougar athletic triumphs in a more prominent spot beside the gym doors.

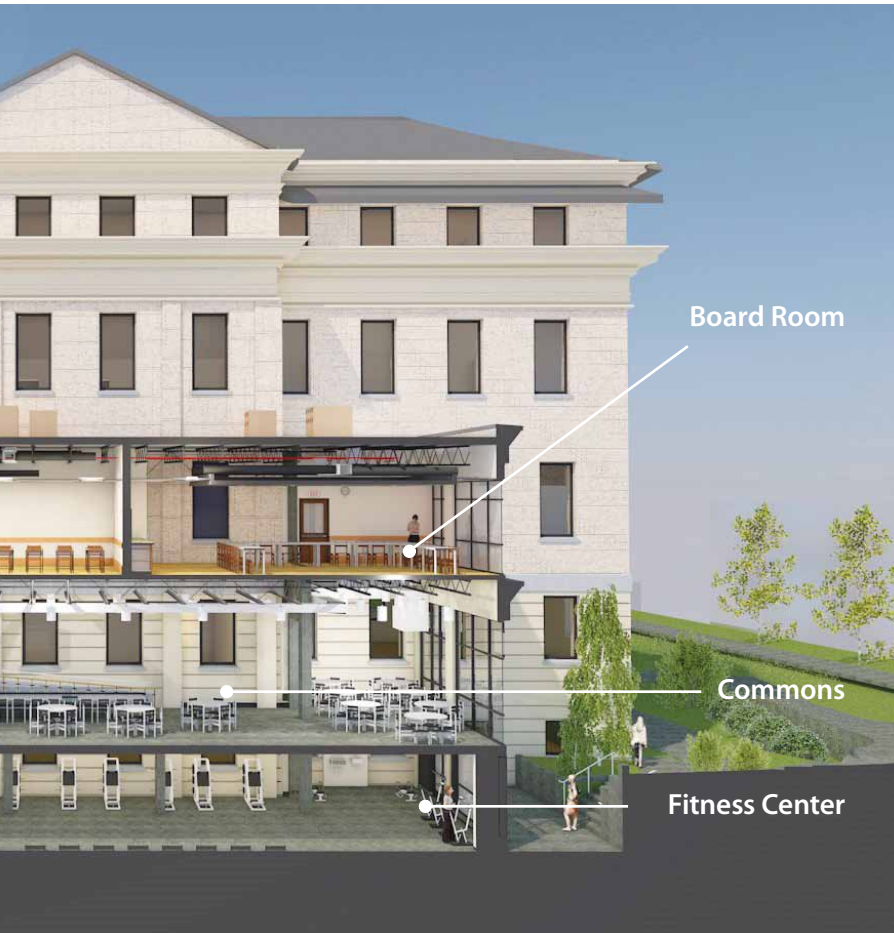
SECOND FLOOR

- Conference room/testing center
- Outdoor roof deck
- Board room

On the outdoor **roof deck**, with planter boxes and glass protective railings, “It will feel like you’re in a little rooftop garden,” says Briner. And if it rains? “Well, this is Seattle; it rains. There is no covering over the deck”—although, he adds, umbrellas for the tables are a distinct possibility for the roof deck furnishings.

As online digital resources reduce demand for stacks of reference books,

the existing **library** is undergoing a more open, reader-friendly remodel. A new corridor running past the library will lead to the multipurpose **conference room/testing center**. With flexible desk-style seating, it will relieve the need to use the library for meetings or taking special exams. “Right now,” says Swift, “if we have to close the library, such as for a meeting, students don’t have a good place to go before or after school or during lunch to study.” A new **board room**—featuring a small serving kitchen and dual, angled screens that will make viewing presentations



ANTICIPATED OPENING: SPRING 2017

CUTAWAY VIEW LOOKS TO THE NORTH.

Expanded **CAFÉ** with more seating booths plus a permanent kiosk for Cougar gear sales.

FITNESS CENTER equipment is specifically tailored to the needs of young women.

COMMONS AREA features flexible seating and tables, an open space with abundant natural light.

Additional, accessible **ELEVATOR** (not shown here) will supplement the historic 1920s elevator.

possible from any seat—will further alleviate the school’s chronic meeting-space crunch.

ALL FLOORS

The project includes a long-hoped-for addition to the main building: a new, **ADA-accessible elevator** serving all floors—to complement, not replace, the celebrated, 1920s elevator familiar to generations of alumnae. “It’s charming, but operating the historic elevator poses real problems to anyone with a significant physical challenge,” Swift says. Electrical work for the elevator was incorporated into the cafeteria remodel project in summer 2015.

DESIGN NOTES: A ‘DISAPPEARING’ ACT

From an architectural perspective, HNA’s Fitness Center & Commons Project posed a tricky challenge: to forge a new link between structures—the historic school building and the modern gym—of very different size and created almost a century apart. “We were intrigued by the constraints of the two adjacent buildings,” explains architect John Faley of Seattle’s Broderick Architects. “The scale of the school was such that anything we did was going to be dwarfed by the massive size of the south school wing. We wanted this to fit neatly into the void between the buildings.”

The designers took their cue from the 1989 architecture of the McAteer Lee Gym by the Mithun firm—designed “brilliantly,” Faley says. “They used common language to visually tie the gym to the school. For our project to work, we needed to make the connector ‘disappear.’ We carried the language of the gymnasium concrete cornice over to tie into the stone coursing of the school. That allowed us to keep everything else simple and clean.”



Congratulations Class of 2016!



VALEDICTORIANS

Pictured, front (L-R): Jenna Sneifer, Maria Mueller, Erin Kehoe, Vlasta Schutzenhofer, Corinne Johnston, Hillary Johnson, and Annika Kouhia.

Pictured, back (L-R): Aeron Langford, Tara Joy, Alexandra Kieras, Racquel West, Isabella Garcia-Camargo, Abigail Kostolansky, Emilia Darmstadt, Kristen Deife, Alana Andrews, and Erika Kiem.



CLASS OF 2016 – FACTS FROM HNA'S COLLEGE COUNSELORS

- **All 181 graduates plan to continue their education.** The Class of 2016 has earned the highest dollar amount of academic-based scholarships in the history of HNA! To date, 84.5% of the class collectively earned over \$30.7 million in college scholarships. Many students earned multiple scholarships at several universities. Significantly, over \$6.7 million will actually be used by the Class of 2016 to fund their college tuitions.
- **One-hundred sixteen grads (64.1% of the class) received the Washington State Honors Award.** The award is presented to the top 10% of graduates throughout the state, and selection is based on an unweighted GPA and either SAT or ACT scores.
- **The newest grads were admitted to 221 different institutions,** from which they have chosen to attend 80—located in 22 different states and the District of Columbia, plus Canada, Ireland, and Scotland.

CLASS REPS CHOSEN

Congratulations to Mackenzie Jorgensen and Claire Goudy, Alumnae Class Reps for the Class of 2016. They were selected by their classmates to keep the most recent alumnae connected with each other and HNA.

SALUTATORIANS

Left: Pictured, front (L-R): Alexa Andrews, Claire Goudy, Margaret Rutherford, Leila Hauser, and Emma Hokoda.

Pictured, back (L-R): Olivia Waltner, Sophia Looney, Sara Snowden, Isabelle van Zuylen, Kathryn Peaquin, Nicole Cullen, and Sarah Tocher.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO:

Alana Andrews, Alexa Andrews, Sofia Argeres, Lauren Arndt, Danielle Asencio, Emily Astrom, Kathryn Badley, Emma Bahnasy, Le'Chae Bell-Moore, Maegan Benadof, Gianna Bowen, Elizabeth Bradley, Isabel Brownlow, Sophie Brusniak, Megan Bucher, Hannah Byrne, Alana Cabrera, Nicole Carver, Orla Casey, Hanna Chao, Lindsey Cleary, Kiley Clisham, Grace Clumpner, Katerina Cockbain, Meredith Coffroth, Armistead Colee, Margaret Concepcion, Gabriella Conte, Nicole Cullen, Mary Cunningham, Anisa Daher, Solene Daigle, Emilia Darmstadt, Analise David, Laura De Boldt, Caitlin de Leon, Caroline DeFranco, Kristen Deife, Mariana del Fierro, Gabrielle Demick, Brianna Dimalanta, Kirsten Dodroe, Catherine Doyal, Siobhan Duffy, Elizabeth Dunigan, Angelou Dunton, Andrea Duong, Jana Ehlert, Lydia Ely, Lauren Estep, Phoebe Ewing, Madeleine Figgins, Kathryn Fine, Alicia Finney, Allina Flaar, Molly Flemming, Annie Flora, Kayla Florendo, Grace Frary, Anna Fraser-Philbin, Gabrielle Frogget, Alyssa Frugé, Isabella Garcia, Isabella Garcia-Camargo, Angelina Gawaran, Claire Goudy, Erin Graves, Megan Halvorson, Emma Hamlin, Delaney Harrison, Anna Hartz, Leila Hauser, Frances Hausmann, Graycee Hein, Jingmei Helm-MacLeod, Caroline Hennes, Nalica Hennings, Sophie Herbert, Ella Hileman-Kaplan, Gladys Hilerio, Jamie Himes, Emma Hokoda, Grace Holderman, Madeleine Holzman-Klima, Miranda Howe, Bridgette Hughes, Amelia Jacobsen, Caitlyn Jacquemart, Amelia Jenkins, Hillary Johnson, Corinne Johnston, Mackenzie Jorgensen, Tara Joy, Suzanna Kane, Alexandra Kehl, Erin Kehoe, Erika Kiem, Alexandra Kieras, Corinne Kieras, Bridget Kocer, Julia Koh, Anna Kong, Abigail Kostolansky, Annika Kouhia, Aeron Langford, Nona Larson, Madison Laughlin, Katelyn Lazarek, Janita Leal, Caroline Lee, Olivia Lewis, Sarah Liebel, Callan Liffing, Sophia Looney, Sophia Loughlin, Mary Luken Raz, Maude Lustig, Juliana Lynch, Katherine Mackie, Chiara Maggiore, Caroline Malone, Kendall Matt, Niccolina Merlino, Elisabeth Miller, Isabella Morales, Maria Mueller, Clementine Mulvihill, Elena Murphy, Lila Neal, Jamea Nielsen, Gina Olsen, Sarah Ortiz-Jones, Maéva Osemene, Allison Patacsil, Brooke Paulsen, Kathryn Peaquin, Jessica Peterson, Emily Pierce, Brooklyn Popp, Eshna Prakash, Shivana Ramdin, Cecillia Ramos, Anja Renkes, Emily Riccio, Grace Rigoni, Samantha Robbins, Emma Roffey, Sarah Ronchetti, Victoria Roszkowski, Margaret Rutherford, Anna Sajer, Gabriela Santana-Ufret, Cassandra Sartain, Amanda Schulte, Vlasta Schutzenhofer, Christina Sevaio, Jenna Sneifer, Sara Snowden, Gellila Solomon, Emma Sommerseth, Kathryn Spencer, Stella Stanard, Sophia Strabo, Eleanor Strigen, Claire Tevaseu, Kamla Thurtle, Sarah Tocher, Jaclyn Toepfer, Pei-Ming Tokuda, Grace Trask, Isabelle van Zuylen, Olivia Vasquez, Alba Villegas-Sotelo, Kelsey Wall, Olivia Waltner, Elizabeth Watt, Brynne Weed, Racquel West, Molly Whitson, Mackenzie Wilson, and Victoria Wu.

CHEER! 2016

An Across-the-Board Success!

A great crowd of Academy parents, alumnae, faculty and staff, and friends—more than 360 strong—gathered for the annual CHEER! dinner and auction on March 29. In celebration of the Kentucky Derby theme, the school was transformed into “Churchill Downs,” while guests wore splendid hats and sipped mint juleps.

Upwards of \$370,000 was raised through this year’s event to support the installation of a new ADA-accessible elevator on the south side of the building as part of the Fitness Center & Commons project. The new elevator will not replace HNA’s historic elevator, one of the oldest operating elevators in Washington State, but will be used in tandem to better accommodate our community of students, parents, grandparents, alumnae, and visitors with increased capacity and accessibility.

Brian and Caryn Geraghty Jorgensen '89 were honored as the Top Cats 2016 for their exceptional support of HNA: Brian was an active Parent Board member, and Caryn has served on the Board of Trustees, Alumnae Board, Long Range Planning Committee, and Finance committees. In addition, they co-chaired outreach to parents for the successful recent *Transcend: Beyond Excellence* campaign—and are themselves the proud parents of a new alum, Mackenzie '16.

Many thanks to CHEER! sponsors, volunteers, attendees, donors and underwriters for their amazing support. We raise our hats to you!



TOP CATS – Brian and Caryn Geraghty Jorgensen '89, Top Cats 2016, with Liz Eldredge Swift '71, Head of School and Principal.



Top: Catherine Potts '68 and Shelly Powell don Derby hats.



Left: Lita Zapata Llaneta '64 and Josephine Tamayo Murray '69 check in for CHEER! festivities.



Below: Sisters and alumnae, Mary Davidson '04 and Theresa Davidson Torgesen '93.

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Save the Date: CHEER! 2017

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017 | FREMONT STUDIOS