

# *insieme*

“Together”



Left to right: Sister Lois Castillon, O.S.U., Dani O'Sullivan '24, Rosha Vahadi '23, and Cecilia Nipp '85

## *Ursuline Roman Union Schools Respond to the Call of Pope Francis for a Global Compact for Education.*

Ursuline Dallas has joined a Global Compact initiative for Roman Union Ursuline schools designed to strengthen the fraternity and care of the world. Students and faculty will work side-by-side to establish bonds with other passionate members of the Ursuline community around the globe to act as agents of change, promoting peace, dignity, and inclusion of all people.

Worldwide, 50 schools from 20 countries are engaged in the Global Compact. Two students and faculty members selected from each school will participate in virtual conferences with other Ursuline school groups from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America, to:

- Exchange ideas, expertise, and experiences
- Share local realities and learn about other realities
- Come together as global leaders to make a positive change in the world and their local Ursuline community
- Develop a project to help implement Pope Francis' vision in *Fratelli Tutti* to build a better world post-pandemic

Serving on the Ursuline Dallas Delegation are **Rosha Vahadi '23** and **Danielle O'Sullivan '24**, with **Sr. Lois Castillon**, Director of Mission and Heritage, and **Cecilia Nipp '85**, Director of Global Relationships and Cultural Exchange. They are grouped with O'Connor Catholic College in Australia and Santa Maria Jakarta Vocational High School in Indonesia.

"We are just getting started, but our group is hoping that the focus of our project will be the environment," said Sr. Lois. "There is such great spirit among all the participants, with so much enthusiasm for the possibilities and hope for the impact of the work to be done!"

The project will require at least a year-long commitment. In addition to virtual meetings, participants will do independent work and contribute to an overall action plan for Ursuline students globally. Delegates will also work to help their local school community become engaged in the *Serviam* action plan they develop.

#### **Ursuline Global Education Committee**

**Sr. Lee Veriga, O.S.U.** – Australia  
**Ms. Andrea Raczynski** – Chile  
**Sr. Bogusława Kalinowska, O.S.U.** – Chile/Venezuela  
**Sr. Moekti Gondosasmito, O.S.U.** – Indonesia  
**Sr. Agatha Linda Chandra, O.S.U.** – Generalate – Italy  
**Sr. Zuzanna Filipczak, O.S.U.** – Poland  
**Mr. Peter Solodyna** – Poland  
**Sr. Diane Granger, O.S.U.** – South Africa  
**Ms. Julia Waters** – United Kingdom  
**Ms. Erin Prada** – United States  
**Sr. Jeannie Humphries, O.S.U.** – United States

### **Global Compact Reflections:**

**Rosha Vahadi '23 and Dani O'Sullivan '24**

#### **What most interests you and excites you about being selected for this project? What special gifts do you bring to share with others?**

**Rosha:** What interests and excites me most about this Global Compact is not only being connected to sister schools around the world, but also bringing out issues that we face and how we as students can help. Connecting with the sister schools makes me feel closer to the roots and history of Ursuline.

One special gift that I bring to share with others is my love of history and science. I find history so interesting for how it connects with science, such as pandemics in the past, and how our environment is getting warmer every century.

**Dani:** I am really excited to learn all about the members from the other schools we are working with and see what service they are passionate about. I think I bring a huge spirit for service and love to learn about new people.

#### **What do you look forward to in the coming year of this global compact project as you work with Ms. Nipp, Sister Lois, the Group 2 Ursuline schools in Australia and Indonesia, and others around the world?**

**Rosha:** The environment crisis is an important issue in our world today because with gasoline cars, pollution going in the air, and trash being dumped in the ocean, our world is warming, animals are dying, and landscapes are diminishing. What can we do as students in different countries to take this issue and resolve it?

World leaders and the United Nations had a meeting in Scotland recently, and we can talk about what they said. We can see what we would agree on and disagree on and maybe take actions on those specific issues regarding our climate warming.

**Dani:** I look forward to learning about our friends from other countries and their projects, and I am excited to share with them and everything we are doing with the rest of the Ursuline community.

# High Notes

To follow are highlights of recent professional, volunteer, and personal accomplishments submitted by Ursuline alumnae, students, and faculty. To read more, visit [www.ursulinedallas.org/highnotes](http://www.ursulinedallas.org/highnotes).

## ALUMNAE

**Cheryl Unis Mansour '66** was promoted to the Senior VP of Donor Relations at The Catholic Foundation.

**Lauren Kitchens '93**, owner of Fancy Cakes by Lauren in Dallas, created a beautiful wedding cake for Gwen Stefani and Blake Shelton's wedding.



**Jennifer Houston Scripps '95**, of the Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, joined forces with Will Evans of Deep Vellum and Jo Guidice of the Dallas Public Library to plan a new poet laureate program in Dallas to help boost the city's literary scene.

**Stathia Dimoulakis Orwig '96** was inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame in New York. She was recognized for her commitment to teaching and inspiring young people in their study of piano music. She has helped students lay the foundation for a lifetime of musical and artistic expression.



**Sarah Harris Eaton '97**, Managing Director at Slalom, was honored by the Dallas Business Journal as one of "25 Women in Tech" in Dallas. She also received the Excellence in Innovation Award from Consulting Magazine.

**Madeleine Huffman Harrison '98** and her son, Keegan, were featured on KWTX News 10, "Inspirational Mother-Son duo takes on TriWaco." They spread awareness about organ donation and advocate for disability inclusion.

**Caytie Sarandis Langford '98**, Executive Coach, Speaker, and Podcast Host, was featured in the *LeadHERship* Global Podcast, "How to Repurpose Your Career by Successfully Pivoting."

**Molly Marrin '99**, head women's basketball coach at Regis University, reached a career milestone of 100 wins in 2021.

**Mary Beth Koeth's '01** photography was featured on the cover of Time Magazine and accompanied the article, "The Fight for Working Mothers."



**Dr. Jacquelyn Jetton O'Banion '01**, at Emory Eye Center, received the Secretariat Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology. She is recognized as the

driving force in the development of the very successful Global Ophthalmology session at the Academy.

**Laura Randolph '01** launched a disability inclusion and accessibility initiative at her company, Oaktree Capital. The program, Oaktree Abilities, is the firm's latest employee network devoted to championing disability inclusion and accessibility.



## OAKTREE ABILITIES

**Sarah Crain Hambric '03** was promoted to the position of Deputy Director of Dallas Heritage Village at Old City Park and continues to promote historical education and urban green space conservation in collaboration with the Texas Historical Association and the City of Dallas.

**Dr. Allison Mathews '03**, Associate Director of Integrating Special Populations at Wake Forest Baptist Health in North Carolina, was appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to serve as member at-large to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission. She also accepted a position to be Executive Director of the Gilead Sciences COMPASS Faith Coordinating Center at Wake Forest University and was appointed to be a Research Fellow in Faith and Health in the Divinity School.

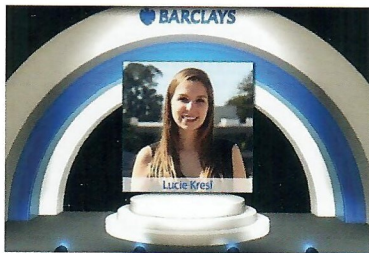
**Dr. Rita Saynhalath Ngai '03**, Pediatric Anesthesiologist at Children's Health, published a medical article about children with COVID-19 undergoing anesthesia, "Anesthetic Complications Associated with SARS-CoV-2 in Pediatric Patients."

# High Notes (continued)

**Madison Arcemont '15**, SMU law graduate, has written computer language for a smart contract that, if adopted by courts, could make it much easier and less expensive for someone to sort out the estate of a loved one who dies without a will.



**Lucie Kresl '15**, Technology Analyst at Barclays, received the 2020 Barclays Group Technology Entry Level Award. The Entry Level Award is voted on by colleagues across the bank and is awarded to a top performing analyst. She was nominated for this award because of her contributions to transitioning 500 traders to a virtual trade floor at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. She has recently been accepted into the 2022 Barclays Pioneers Program, a prestigious cohort for high potential women in technology.



**Isabelle Chapman '15**, J.D. Candidate at Texas A&M University School of Law, won the American Bar Association's national competition in mediation resolution.

**Katie Lund '15**, Racing Louisville Backup Goalie, kicked the winning shot in a shootout against Bayern Munich in the finals of The Women's Cup. *(Photo by Jamie Rhodes)*



**Madison Haley '17**, soccer player at Stanford University majoring in Science, Technology, and Society, was drafted in the first round of the 2021 National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) Draft by the Chicago Red Stars. She is also a two-time CoSIDA Academic All-American.

**Lucy (Lu) Calzada '18** was recently appointed Head Sports Editor of the *Loyola Chicago Phoenix* newspaper. Lu also won Best Sports Column in the university's division at the Illinois College Press Association. Currently interning for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, her first story was published in the Murals and Mosaics project, an ongoing series of pieces on public art in the city and suburbs.

**Gabrielle Gard '18**, SMU student studying biochemistry with minors in Spanish and mathematics, received the prestigious Goldwater scholarship. This scholarship encourages outstanding students to pursue research in careers in the natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics. Gabrielle was amongst 410 students across the nation to receive this distinction.



**Alexandria Tedeschi '18**, bioengineering student, was chosen by the Clemson University Department of Bioengineering for the 2021 Eugene M. Langan III Service Award. This award is given to a student who has mirrored the example of Dr. Langan's service to the department during the academic year.

**Meghan Bowen '14 and Laura Van Buskirk '14** had the opportunity to scrub in on a surgery together at MD Anderson in the Houston Medical Center.

*"We were both so shocked by the crazy coincidence, as Meghan attends PA school in Fort Worth and I attend medical school in Houston," said Laura. "She was happening to be participating in an away rotation, and I happened to be completing a surgery rotation that led us to run into each other."*



**Natasha Wyndham Hanners '94**, Infectious Disease Physician at UT Southwestern was joined on her rounds for a week by fellow Ursuline grad, **Courtney Johnson '14**, 3rd-year medical student at UT Southwestern.