



2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT



THE CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY
OF AMERICA





THE ARTS AT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

BY PRESIDENT JOHN GARVEY

In 1939 an original musical comedy was mounted at Catholic University. Written by drama professor Walter Kerr (the great theater critic) and undergraduate Leo Brady, *Yankee Doodle Boy* told the story of George M. Cohan, the accomplished composer, actor, and playwright who wrote “Give My Regards to Broadway” and “You’re a Grand Old Flag.” Cohan himself came to campus to see the production that later inspired the film *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, starring James Cagney. The composer called it “one of the greatest nights in the American theater” and encouraged his fellow entertainers to “come down here to the University and learn a lesson in play production.”

The arts have a storied history at Catholic University. In 1937 Dominican Father Gilbert Hartke founded the University’s Department of Speech and Drama, which earned him the nickname “the Showbiz Priest.” In the 1930s Washington, D.C. did not have many places in which to practice dramatic arts. Father Hartke founded a professional group called the University Players, which evolved into the touring group the National Players. Many credit him with igniting a passion for theater in the Nation’s Capital. He led the department until he retired in 1974, but not before leaving us a theatre with his name on it.

Father Hartke’s legacy continues at Catholic University. Throughout the academic year our art gallery is filled with exhibits by well-known artists, and by our own students. For more than 50 years we have had the only school of music in Washington, D.C. Our students grace the stage of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts several times each year. Open any playbill, at any one of the hundreds of theaters in the D.C. region, and you are sure to find our alumni on stage, in the orchestra pit, behind the scenes, and in the playwriting and composing credits.

This annual report offers a snapshot of one academic year for our campus arts community, beginning with a concert by the Sistine Chapel Choir and ending with a performance by our students alongside the L.A. Philharmonic at the Kennedy Center.

A couple of years ago we formed the Catholic Arts Council to further enhance our University arts community. In June 2018 our Board of Trustees approved the formation of the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art, bringing the departments of drama and art together with the school of music. We appointed music alumna Jacqueline Leary-Warsaw as dean. She brings to the position a love of the University along with an accomplished record as a scholar, television personality, and singer. This new school offers greater opportunities to collaborate and enhance the arts on campus, not just for the benefit of students who are visual artists, playwrights, composers, actors, directors, conductors, poets, and musicians, but for our entire University community. We all find our lives enhanced by the joy and enlightenment that come from experiencing the beauty of art.



SISTINE CHAPEL CHOIR CONCERT A RARE MUSICAL GIFT

Some of the finest examples of Renaissance music were brought beautifully to life during a rare performance by the Sistine Chapel Choir at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in September. The concert, presented by Catholic University's School of Music and the University's Catholic Arts Council, marked the choir's first visit to the United States in more than 30 years.

Widely known as the oldest choir in the world, the Sistine Chapel Choir continues a tradition of papal musical patronage dating at least to the sixth century. The choir comprises approximately 20 adult singers and 30 boy choristers. It performs at significant papal celebrations and liturgies, including Christmas Eve Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

During the concert in the Great Upper Church, the choir performed works by 16th- and 17th-century composers Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, Orlando di Lasso, Gregorio Allegri, and Tomás Luis de Victoria.

Earlier that day, the adult members of the choir presented a master class for students in Caldwell Auditorium.

"The quality of the choral sound they made was unlike anything I've ever heard; it's fitting that the pope's choir sounds like angels," said sophomore Sophia Anastasi, who attended both the morning master class and the concert.

SACRED MUSIC AT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

The Institute of Sacred Music in the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art integrates the comprehensive study of music with the worlds of liturgical, theological, classical, and humanistic studies. The program immerses students in liturgical, analytical, and historical studies along with the school's superlative standards of musical performance.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
BETHEL ELIAS

When Bethel Elias, a musical theatre major, and some classmates took a weekend trip to New York to see a show, she discovered what she hopes might be the perfect role for her some day.

“I’d love to play Celie in *The Color Purple*,” she said. “When I saw it on Broadway, I became obsessed.”

Elias’ ambition to play Celie may be of recent vintage, but her desire to perform on Broadway is longstanding.

“I’ve been singing since I was out of the womb,” she said. “Acting came a little bit later. I started doing theatre in seventh grade.”

A mezzo-soprano, Elias happily made use of her full vocal range while working at her summer job as a singing server in an ice cream shop on the Jersey Shore.

“I think my strong suit is belting,” she admitted, “but I like singing high, too.”

She looked at several programs when she was applying for college, and was impressed by what she learned about Catholic University’s musical theatre program.

“I applied to seven or eight schools,” she said. “I didn’t know much about Catholic University before applying, but I did a little research and found out that here, I would get a bachelor of music, instead of a bachelor of fine arts, and that got me interested. The focus here is more on the music aspect, making sure we have really good music theory training and making us well rounded, and I found that really important. I’m thinking about getting my master’s in vocal pedagogy. So having the music theory training and being surrounded by strong musicians is something that I was interested in.”



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT
IVO KALTCHEV

How did a boy from a small town behind the Iron Curtain happen to earn a master’s degree at Yale University, win international piano competitions, perform in the most prestigious music centers around the world, including Carnegie Hall, and become head of Catholic University’s Piano Division? It sounds like a fairy tale, but Ivo Kaltchev, D.M.A., said it is true to his life.

Kaltchev graduated with highest honors from Bulgaria’s Sofia Conservatory and then began teaching there. His talent landed him an invitation to the prestigious Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition in Israel in 1989. Bulgaria, as part of the then-communist Eastern Bloc, did not have diplomatic relations with Israel. “I still can’t believe I was allowed to travel there,” Kaltchev said. A competition jurist from Yale University’s school of music invited him to pursue a master’s degree at Yale.

After the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc collapsed in 1990, Kaltchev received a full scholarship to Yale, which he believes changed his life completely.

Kaltchev says he would not be where he is today without his piano teachers. His students would likely say the same about him. He earned the University’s Overall Teaching Excellence Award for 2016–2017. He prides himself on customizing his teaching approach to each student.

In 2009, Kaltchev cofounded the Washington International Piano Festival, which now attracts students and guest artists from all over the world.

“I love the versatility of piano,” said Kaltchev. “In the hands of a master, it can sound like any other instrument, a full orchestra, a human voice. It can speak many languages.”

ART SHOW BRINGS AN ALUMNA'S UNIQUE PRESENCE BACK TO CAMPUS

Georgia Mills Jessup, who earned her M.F.A. at Catholic University in 1969, was an artist fascinated by rainy nights in the city. She depicted them in several works and in various media. Her oil painting, *Rainy Night, Downtown* (1967), in the collection of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, is a Washington street scene primarily contrasting orange and black. In *Blue Rainy Night, Downtown* (1979), a mixed-media collage and acrylic work, the color palette is more somber.

Opposites collide and merge in these wet cityscapes, which manage to be both abstract and representational at the same time. They are elegant, jazz-like improvisations, at once intricate, celebratory, and grave, eloquently dramatizing the tensions between the recognizable and the obscure, the known and the supposed.

Works by Jessup, who died in 2016, were highlighted in a posthumous, one-woman show for six weeks in fall 2017 in Catholic University's Salve Regina Gallery, where works by faculty, students, alumni, and prominent artists are exhibited throughout each academic year.

"Georgia made very beautiful, transformative objects out of the simplest and most basic objects and materials," said Nora Heimann, associate professor of art history and chair of the Department of Art. "Her sculpture and painting both reflect a life that was lived richly, with the utmost integrity."

Jessup referred to herself as a "melting pot" when describing her diverse ancestry, including Native Americans, African Americans, and Europeans. She could also have been describing her work — in its variety and richness — as a painter, collagist, sculptor, ceramicist, and muralist. Sometimes, as the saying goes, when it rains, it pours.



STUDENTS SHINE IN 'BERNSTEIN AT 100'

Music students had the opportunity to celebrate one of the greatest American composers on one of the greatest American stages in January 2018. Performing at Washington, D.C.'s Arena Stage, the students were part of a three-night engagement honoring the life and work of renowned composer, conductor, and musician Leonard Bernstein.

"Bernstein at 100: The Theater Songs of Leonard Bernstein," was a musical showcase highlighting Bernstein's most-beloved theatrical music, including songs from *West Side Story*, *A Party with Comden and Green*, *Wonderful Town*, *Peter Pan*, *The Lark*, *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*, and others. The show was part of a yearlong celebration of Bernstein's life.

The night included performances by students in the Musical Theatre Division and the Catholic University Symphony Orchestra, as well as professional musicians from the area. The special guest artist for the evening was Kurt Boehm, who earned a bachelor's degree in music from Catholic University in 2005.





MAKING MUSIC TO HELP HIS HOMELAND

Valencio Jackson, a doctoral student in composition at Catholic University, had largely written his new piece for the 2017 Annual Christmas Concert for Charity before Hurricane Maria unleashed extensive damage on his family’s home in St. Croix in the Virgin Islands.

His story and his composition — “Hush” — tied in well with the year’s charity: Catholic Charities USA Hurricane Relief.

His original work, based on the text of Isaac Watts’ “Cradle Hymn,” was inspired by the hopefulness and joy in a moment between mother and baby. He said it reflects the “hopefulness I see in the eyes of folks at home. With the Lord’s help, we can weather any storm, every storm.”

His trip home two weeks after the storm required a lot of patience. His flight was canceled three times. When he arrived, he saw trees stripped of all their leaves and branches. Roofing material was spread across the landscape, and power lines and transformers were down in the roads. Once he and his brother arrived, they scaled the walls of their parents’ house to help cover the open roof with a tarp.

In December, at the Christmas Concert, Jackson, left, was able to further help families like his own. He presented his original composition at the concert that raised more than \$15,000 for hurricane relief. The Archdiocese of Washington donated an additional \$25,000 to the cause. The Christmas Concert was seen by a worldwide audience as part of the EWTN series *In Concert*, hosted by Jacqueline Leary-Warsaw, who is now dean of the University’s new School of Music, Drama, and Art.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT FOR CHARITY

This much-anticipated Christmas tradition, now in its 29th year, brings together the Choir of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception with the University Chamber Choir, the University Singers, and University Symphony Orchestra. At the heart of the evening of seasonal sacred music is a charity that is the beneficiary of the audience’s goodwill offering.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT DYLAN FLEMING

Three years ago, Dylan Fleming, M.F.A. 2018, left his hometown of Tickfaw, Louisiana, and walked onto a stage in New York City with nothing but his dream of becoming an actor. He stood and delivered his monologue in the annual audition for the University Resident Theater Association, where representatives from dozens of colleges and universities listen to potential students in an effort to discover rising stars for their theater programs.

Many were impressed with Fleming's performance, but when he got the call from The Catholic University of America to pursue its Master of Fine Arts program, he knew what his next step would be.

"When I looked at the Department of Drama at Catholic University, I really liked the opportunities it offered," said Fleming. The program at the University helped him discover new ways to explore the depth of characters he portrayed, to hone his craft, and to make connections with theater communities.

"So many people who work for theaters around D.C. worked at Catholic or graduated from Catholic," he said. "It has opened doors I never even knew existed."

In 2017, Fleming performed in *As You Like It* with Prince George's County Shakespeare in the Parks. In February 2018 he played Shields Green in Theater Alliance's production of *The Raid*. More roles followed, in *The Crucible* at Olney Theatre Center, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, also with Shakespeare in the Parks.

Despite missing the warm Louisiana climate, Fleming plans to stay in D.C. and continue to build his growing acting career.

"As an actor," he joked, "auditioning is my job. Getting the role is just a bonus."



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT GARY SLOAN

During a visit to Mount Auburn Cemetery outside Boston in the early 1980s, Drama Professor Gary Sloan lay on the grave of famed Shakespearean actor Edwin Thomas Booth. Sloan, who reveres Booth, remembers the moment as "poignant, like visiting a great-grandfather." The visit was one of many to Booth's grave — part of Sloan's research for a one-man play about the American actor whose brother, John Wilkes Booth, killed President Abraham Lincoln. Sloan has been researching the actor ever since, striving for a performance that captures the genius of a man whose theatrical career was overshadowed by his brother the assassin.

"We choose heroes to inspire us and after a while we realize their stories may have chosen us," said Sloan, co-head of the Master of Fine Arts in Acting program and a seasoned actor who has appeared in 30 Shakespeare productions. "I feel compelled to tell the world that an actor by the name of Edwin Booth was not his brother the assassin, but rather America's most celebrated Hamlet."

In June 2018, Sloan performed the latest iteration of the play, "Haunted Prince: A Requiem for Edwin Booth," at the Brian Friel Theatre in Belfast, Northern Ireland. He performed an earlier adaptation at the National Portrait Gallery in D.C. in 2007, and again at D.C.'s Metropolitan Club.

Sloan, who also teaches acting to New York prison inmates as part of the Rehabilitation Through the Arts program, said his work has become "a kind of spiritual support," a way of finding "universal human love and connection."

A PLAY FOR OUR TIME

Óyeme, the Beautiful tells the story of Laura and Valentia, two teenagers trying to make it through middle school with the added stress of being refugees from Central America. They have fled brutal violence in their home countries to seek a safe haven in the United States. The play invites audiences to step into their shoes, hear their stories, and feel their strength.

Written by Miriam Gonzales, the play was produced at Imagination Stage in Montgomery County last spring, under the direction of Elena Velasco, B.A. 1998, M.F.A. 2015.

“Theater is the ultimate form of free speech,” said Velasco, who likes to explore themes of social justice in the work she chooses to direct and produce. “Theater has the power to open people’s minds and to inspire them to action.”

After earning her undergraduate degree, she went on to establish herself as a director, choreographer, playwright, and actor in the greater D.C. arts community, all while raising seven children. She returned to the University some 20 years later to pursue her M.F.A in directing. “The faculty was so willing to meet me on my journey,” she said. “I wanted to live out my faith through my commitment to social justice theater, and they supported me wholeheartedly on that track.”

In May, Velasco and Imagination Stage partnered with Catholic University and the Hispanic Heritage Foundation to sponsor two free special performances of *Óyeme* in one day. In the morning, an abridged version was performed at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, and in the evening a complete performance was hosted on campus at the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center. Each performance was followed by a panel discussion.



STUDYING LITERATURE AS LITERATURE

When Ryan Wilson visited Catholic University to learn more about the doctoral program in the Department of English, a flyer for a class caught his eye.

“The class was called Milton,” Wilson recalled. “It didn’t have a colon or a subtitle; it was just ‘Milton.’ The description of the class was, ‘Read all of the poems of John Milton.’ That kind of a class, I think, is unusual at many universities, where there will be a particular lens or angle through which professors want to look at a given author. As someone who identifies as a poet, I always want to begin with the poems themselves rather than approaching poems with a given ideology.”

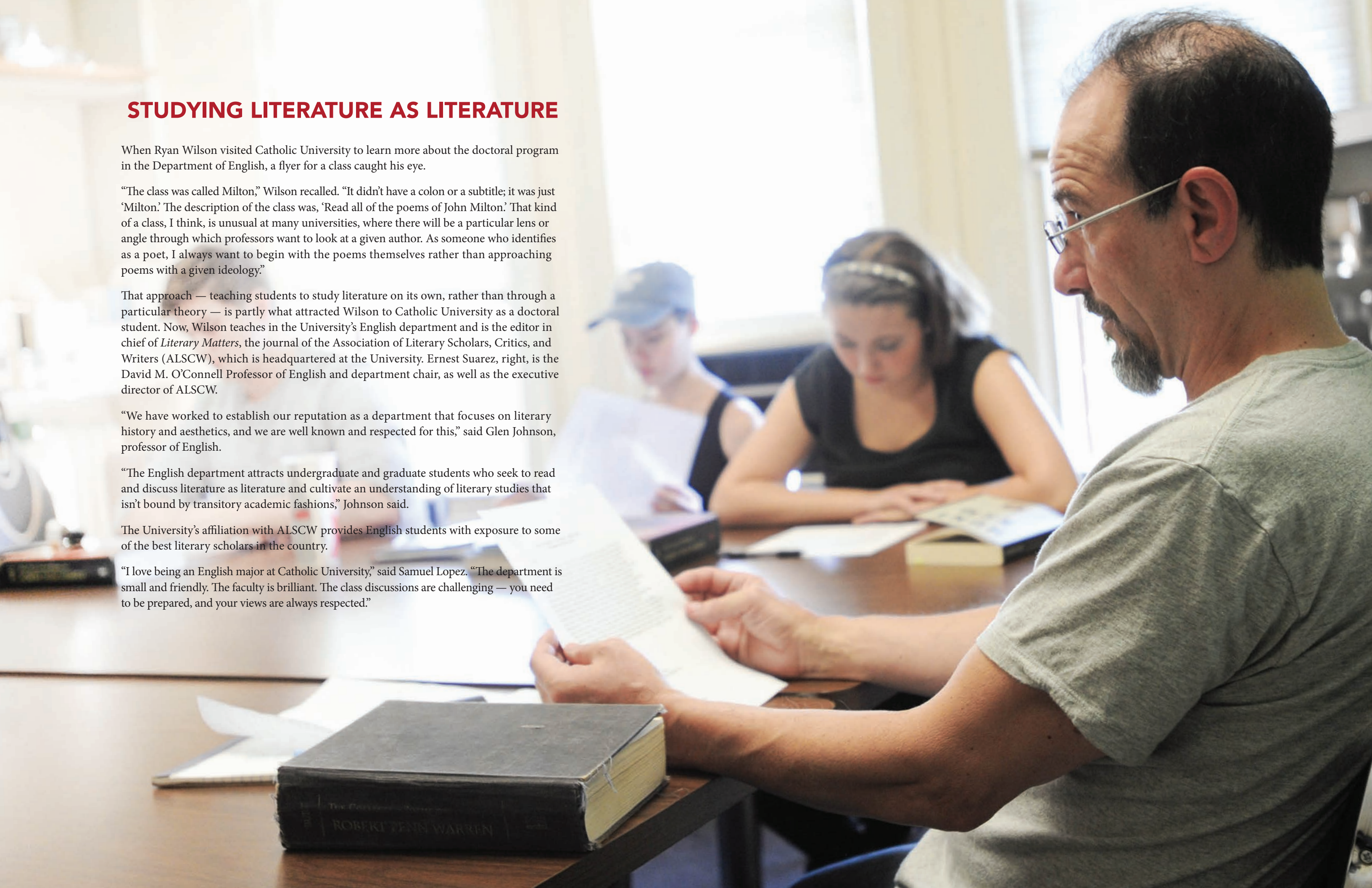
That approach — teaching students to study literature on its own, rather than through a particular theory — is partly what attracted Wilson to Catholic University as a doctoral student. Now, Wilson teaches in the University’s English department and is the editor in chief of *Literary Matters*, the journal of the Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers (ALSCW), which is headquartered at the University. Ernest Suarez, right, is the David M. O’Connell Professor of English and department chair, as well as the executive director of ALSCW.

“We have worked to establish our reputation as a department that focuses on literary history and aesthetics, and we are well known and respected for this,” said Glen Johnson, professor of English.

“The English department attracts undergraduate and graduate students who seek to read and discuss literature as literature and cultivate an understanding of literary studies that isn’t bound by transitory academic fashions,” Johnson said.

The University’s affiliation with ALSCW provides English students with exposure to some of the best literary scholars in the country.

“I love being an English major at Catholic University,” said Samuel Lopez. “The department is small and friendly. The faculty is brilliant. The class discussions are challenging — you need to be prepared, and your views are always respected.”





A SCHOLAR'S WONDERLAND REOPENS

"I cannot help buying books," confessed Manoel de Oliveira Lima, a Brazilian diplomat and writer. In 1916, he donated his library, containing thousands of rare and valuable items, to Catholic University. A little more than a century later, a concerted effort has begun to enhance the University's ability to showcase the collection, which was effectively closed for the last two years due to lack of resources. To celebrate the reopening in January 2018, the collection's curators hosted Brazilian Ambassador Sérgio Amaral, left, during a special visit.

The Oliveira Lima Library is a wonderland for scholars interested in topics ranging from slavery and diplomacy to religion and literature, especially as they relate to the history of Portugal and Brazil. The collection includes not only many rare books, but also paintings and other art objects, including landscapes by Nicolas-Antoine Taunay and Frans Post (the latter's *Brazilian Landscape, Probably Pernambuco*, c. 1660, is on loan to the National Gallery of Art), as well as works by the Brazilian master Antônio Parreiras.

There are photographs and postcards as well as numerous maps, drawings, prints, manuscripts, and sculptures. Thousands of pamphlets, some dating back to the late 18th century, are especially rich on matters surrounding Brazilian independence. Letters from more than 1,400 correspondents round out the collection, along with scrapbooks, medals, and other items.

University Trustee Enrique Segura and his wife, Alejandra, recently donated funds to fill a curatorial position and to provide seed money for a marketing effort to heighten awareness of the collection. In November 2018, the Lima Library was presented with Brazil's Order of Cultural Merit award. With preservation work underway, future plans include restoration of some artworks and digitization to help preserve items and widen their availability. Finally, there is the dream of building a new, modern Brazil Center on campus, with space for performances, lectures, and exhibits, as well as reading rooms for scholars.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

KEIRA LYONS

For senior Keira Lyons, a double major in physics and studio art, much of her art is inspired by her studies in physics. Lyons came to Catholic University as a physics major with a love of art. She began taking art classes and soon realized she was equally interested in both fields and wanted to integrate them in her studies.

As she sees it, physics and art are “different ways of learning about how the world works around me. Physics is very analytical; we’re breaking apart mathematically how we understand the world. ... Art is also a way that you’re trying to understand the world around you. It’s just in a very different way in which you learn more on nuance, visual thinking, visual processes. ... You can’t necessarily put a mathematical equation on emotion.”

The theoretical integration that Lyons sees between art and science has been made practically possible at Catholic University. Both the art and the physics departments, she said, “have been quite supportive.” While at some art schools “you have to submit a portfolio to even take a class, Catholic’s art program isn’t like that. It’s very inclusive. So if you don’t necessarily have a strong art background you have the ability to start taking classes and grow from there.”



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

NORA HEIMANN

“Art is the way we express our deepest and most profound thoughts, beliefs, feelings, and experiences,” said Nora Heimann, associate professor and chair of the Department of Art. In addition to helping students become more visually and verbally literate, she believes learning about art fosters empathy and compassion, and helps students gain a better understanding of the world around us.

Heimann’s expertise is in European and American Modern and Contemporary art history, and the relationship between art, religion, and national identity. Her books include *Joan of Arc: Her Image in France and America* (2006) and *Joan of Arc in French Art and Culture (1700–1855): From Satire to Sanctity* (2005).

Heimann is dedicated to helping students fulfill their potential. Her office hours often stretch into the night, especially toward the middle and end of each semester, when students regularly ask for help with refining their paper topics, revising drafts, and improving their résumés, cover letters, and application essays. Her careful attention has helped students land coveted internships with the Library of Congress, the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian Institution, and other museums and galleries in the D.C. area and beyond. And it has helped many gain admission to top graduate schools and scholarship funding.

“We’re committed to working together to grow, refine, and advance our program,” Heimann said. “Together, the faculty and students of the arts at Catholic University are inspired by the words of Pope Francis, who in February 2018 called upon musicians, actors, painters, sculptors, and other artists to help ‘discover the beauty of being loved by God and bear witness to it’ by creating ‘an oasis of beauty.’”

CHOIR MEMBERS PERFORM WITH LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC

Catholic University choir members had a rare opportunity last April to perform with an orchestra hailed by the *New York Times* as “the most important orchestra in America,” when they joined the Los Angeles Philharmonic, conducted by renowned music director Gustavo Dudamel, for a performance of Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony*. The concert, presented by the Washington Performing Arts, was held at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Catholic University was the only university invited to participate in the concert, which featured a chorus drawing from several prestigious Washington, D.C., choral groups, including the Washington Chorus, the Choral Arts Society of Washington, and members of the Washington Performing Arts Men and Women of the Gospel Choir. School of Music alumnus Kevin McCarthy, B.M. 1977, his wife Debbie, B.A. 1978, and their McCarthy Family Foundation underwrote a reception prior to the concert for alumni, parents, and friends of the University.

Performing with a conductor as highly regarded as Dudamel was “the experience of a lifetime for students,” said Timothy McDonnell, Catholic University’s director of choral activities and the Institute of Sacred Music.

“I can’t emphasize enough how important Maestro Dudamel is in the world of music,” he said. “This is like our students sharing the stage with Bernstein, or Toscanini, or Mahler.”

Among the student singers was Stephanie Kocka, a double major in math and musical performance.

“Not many people get to do these kinds of things and yet our school has found these amazing opportunities for its students,” she said.

THE ARTS IN D.C.

Music, drama, and art students and faculty are actively engaged in D.C.’s thriving arts scene — from an art history course taught at the National Gallery of Art, to a Friday-night choir performance at the Church of the Epiphany, to playwriting students presenting their work on the Kennedy Center’s Millennium Stage. The city’s museums, galleries, theaters, embassies, concert halls, and churches are an extension of campus for students in the arts.



WHERE THE ART OF DESIGN COMES ALIVE

During peak studio hours, the Crough Center for Architectural Studies is alive with the sounds of scissors cutting, saws whirring, and mouses clicking, punctuated by the occasional silence when budding architects stop to reflect.

Architecture Professor Eric Jenkins, right, refers to this artistic process of making, reflecting, and then responding as the action/reflection cycle. It's one of the building blocks of the curriculum that encourages students to embrace the physical nature of design.

"We do a very good job of preparing our students to move with fluidity between different media in model making," Jenkins said. "We don't tell them which tool is best, but allow them to explore their abilities in drawing, physical model making, and digital design."

Senior architecture student Julia Pryor finds that the University's emphasis on creativity has made her more confident. Her latest project consists of foam board, cut precisely into pieces and arranged in the form of an apartment complex.

"I am best at digital design," said Pryor. "I have had to work hard to build my skills and appreciate other design mediums."

"Models are about communication," said Jenkins. "They are analogs to the built world. We can hold a model in our hands and grasp the ephemeral feeling that the building is trying to convey."

Working with physical models also encourages students to push past the brick and mortar to see the deeper spirit in building design. One of the things that sets Catholic University students apart when entering the workforce, Jenkins said, is their ability to understand the spiritual element of place.

"Our students have a strong sense of thoughtfulness and soul in everything they do," said Jenkins. "Part of that stems from the fact that we are not a secular University. We can talk about spirit and soul and God here."





VETERANS HONORED AT DRAMA PERFORMANCE

Veterans and active members of the military enjoyed an evening of theatre in April, as the Department of Drama partnered with the Gary Sinise Foundation to host Vets Night. Military members were treated to dinner in Caldwell Auditorium as well as a preview performance of the University production of *Our Town*.

Written by Thornton Wilder in 1938, *Our Town* presents the story of a small American town through the lives of its residents. The production featured an all-student cast and was directed by Matt Ripa, M.F.A. 2008.

Service members in attendance came from various bases and institutions in the Washington, D.C., area, including the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the Armed Forces Retirement Home, Fort Belvoir, the U.S.O., and the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA.

In an introductory video at the event, actor Gary Sinise (winner of the University's 2017 James Cardinal Gibbons Medal) said the evening was an extension of a long-standing tradition at Steppenwolf Theatre, which he helped found in Chicago in 1974.

"To all veterans in the audience, we're grateful for everything you've done for this country," Sinise said. "Vets Night is a simple way of showing appreciation for your service, sacrifice, and bravery."

Christina Rimbey, an international business major who is also a member of Army ROTC, volunteered as a greeter for the night's event.

"We are who we are because of the people who came before us," said Rimbey, who was commissioned in the Army in May. "It's a great experience being able to give back to the people who paved the way for people like me."





FACULTY SPOTLIGHT JONATHAN MONAGHAN

In 2016, Jonathan Monaghan, assistant professor of art, received the University's New Faculty Scholar Award. It was one honor among many in his still-young career.

Monaghan, who joined the Department of Art in 2013, is a computer animator and artist, with expertise in 3-D printing, 3-D modeling, and 3-D CGI animation. His film *Escape Pod* was installed at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival. He was a resident artist at the 2017 Digital Stone Project in Gramolazzo, Italy, one of only 13 university educators and students from around the world selected to share their research and work on marble sculptures. Most recently, his show, *After Fabergé*, was on exhibit for eight months at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, running concurrently with *Fabergé and the Russian Crafts Tradition*. In November, he was awarded the Trawick Prize, Ruby Award, which honors the best contemporary artists in the D.C. metropolitan area.

As critical acclaim for his work rolls in, most reviewers note that Monaghan's art makes a statement. That's intentional, he said. "Artists like to contemplate the society that they live in without making direct statements. You have to leave something to the viewer's interpretation. I want to make people think, to move them out of their comfort zone both artistically and intellectually."

As he continues his prolific career as a working artist, Monaghan said he is fueled by his students. "The students here are bright and engaged. Our classes are always full and we have a broad range of students. I love sharing and creating a dialogue around technology and contemporary art, especially with young people. They have a unique perspective on technology."

The following pages highlight events at the University and accomplishments by its administrators, faculty, and students during the period following Commencement 2017 through Commencement 2018. Position titles reflect that time period.

MAY 2017



Three professors are honored for their teaching achievements at the spring faculty luncheon. From left, **Greg Miller**, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry, is honored with the Advancement of Teaching Award; **Caroline Sherman**, assistant professor in the Department of History, is honored with the Teaching Excellence in Early Career Award; and **Ivo Kaltchev**, professor and head of the Piano Division at the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art, is honored with the Overall Teaching Excellence Award.

Associate Professor of Law **Mark Rienzi** and his clients, the Little Sisters of the Poor, are recognized in a ceremony at the White House, where President Donald Trump signs an executive order protecting religious liberty. Rienzi represents the Little Sisters with his colleagues at the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a nonprofit organization that helped the nuns gain a key exemption from the Affordable Care Act.

Catholic University commemorates the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation with, “**Luther and the Shaping of the Catholic Tradition.**” The conference focused on how Martin Luther came out of, engaged with, and shaped the Catholic tradition.

John Judge is appointed dean of the School of Engineering. Judge joined the University as assistant professor of mechanical engineering in 2004, became associate professor in 2009, and was granted continuous tenure in 2010. He succeeds Charles C. Nguyen, who is appointed dean emeritus. Judge has been the principal or co-principal investigator on research grants totaling approximately \$1.8 million; he is the recipient of the National Science Foundation’s CAREER award for junior faculty as well as grants from the Office of Naval Research, Army Research Office, and U.S. Department of State.

Thirteen junior faculty members attend a weeklong writing retreat sponsored by the **University Writing Center and the Office of Sponsored Programs**. The retreat is focused on helping them polish their grant-writing skills and includes guest speakers, webinars, and scheduled time daily for focused writing.

Commencement speaker **Peggy Noonan**, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Wall Street Journal* columnist, author, and former special speechwriter for President Ronald Reagan, addresses the Class of 2017 in the Great Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception during the University’s 128th annual Commencement ceremony.

Prominent Catholics in the worlds of politics, philanthropy, and health care, including speaker Peggy Noonan, are honored at the Commencement ceremony. Noonan receives the degree Doctor of Fine Arts, *honoris causa*. Additional honorary degrees are conferred on **Joanne and William Conway**, cofounders and trustees of the Bedford Falls Foundation; **Mario J. Paredes**, the CEO of Advocate Community Providers; and **Joseph P. Riley, Jr.**, former mayor of Charleston, S.C.

Meredith Eib, of Kingston, N.H., who earned a Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre, is honored with the President’s Award, the highest honor given to a graduating senior in recognition of service, leadership, and outstanding scholarship, at the University’s Commencement ceremony. After recognizing the power of music to heal and offer hope for people who are suffering, she developed an original minor, “Music as a Form of Education and Service.”

Commencement speaker **Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky**, senior international partner at WilmerHale and a 1975 law alumnus, addresses the Columbus School of Law 2017 graduates.

The University’s **Center for the Study of Early Christianity** sponsors a two-day colloquium on the discovery of a large volume of lost ancient homilies on the Psalms. The homilies were written by the great early Christian theologian Origen, who lived from the years 184 to 254.

JUNE 2017

Goli Yamini, a Ph.D. candidate in biology, is selected to receive an American Association of University Women American Dissertation Fellowship for the 2017–2018 academic year. As a fellow, she receives \$20,000 in funding as she works to complete her dissertation examining the anthrax toxin and its characteristics while designing and developing antitoxins for comprehensive treatment of anthrax.

The **Office of Campus Ministry** and Beacon House, one of its community partners, collaborate to create Girls in Action, a

program that empowers young girls through weekly educational workshops on healthy living led by Catholic University student athletes. The program serves more than 50 girls ages 7 to 13 in Northeast D.C.

Eighty-three rising high school juniors and seniors from 18 states and two countries arrive at Catholic University to take part in the **Second Annual Summer Business Institute** at the Busch School of Business. Under the guidance of 22 University student counselors from all class years and business majors, the high school students participate in a six-day educational experience that was modeled after a *Shark Tank* competition.

Catholic University adopts a new governance structure intended to permit greater lay participation in the affairs of the University while preserving its uniquely Catholic character. **Joseph Carlini**, Class of 1984, is elected and installed as chairman of the Board of Trustees. Carlini is the cofounder and chief executive officer of McKean Defense Group, Inc. **Dr. Enrique Segura**, chairman of ENSE Group, president and chief executive officer of Alex Stewart, International, and Securiport, LLC, serves as the vice-chairman of the board.

Assistant Professor **Jonathan Monaghan** is a resident artist at the 2017 Digital Stone Project in Gramolazzo, Italy, one of only 13 university educators and students from around the world selected to share their research and work on marble sculptures during the month-long program.

JULY 2017

A group of Catholic University faculty and administrators led by **President John Garvey** and **Provost Andrew Abela** participate in the Convocation of Catholic Leaders, a historic gathering of bishops, priests, religious, and lay people aimed at forming missionary disciples to share the Gospel and re-energize the Church. The convocation, held in Orlando, Fla., draws more than 3,200 participants representing 160 dioceses. The group from Catholic University participates in panel discussions at the convocation.

The **women’s lacrosse team** garners intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA)/Zag Sports Academic Honor Squad status and leads the nation with 11 members on the Academic Honor Roll. The Cardinals are the only team in Division III to boast more than nine selections to the honor roll as all 11 Cards registered cumulative GPAs of 3.50 or greater as juniors, seniors, or graduate students.

Catholic University is selected as the first research university to participate in the **South Africa Washington International Program**, which brings South African students to Washington,

D.C., to help prepare them for leadership positions in their own communities. The University hosts Blessed Ngwenya, a senior at the University of Cape Town, as an intern in the Vitreous State Laboratory. He works closely with physics professor **Tanja Horn** on a project to develop advanced particle detection instrumentation to detect uncharged light particles like photons and neutral pions.

Simeone Tartaglione, clinical assistant director of conducting, is appointed principal conductor of the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Greater Washington.

AUGUST 2017

Steve Kraemer, director for the University’s Institute of Astrophysics and Computational Sciences, is part of an international team of astrophysicists awarded a \$100,000 research grant from NASA and 21 orbits of observing time on the **Hubble Space Telescope**. Data from Hubble helps the group better understand the outflow of gases, or winds, from regions surrounding supermassive black holes.

Physics professor **Tommy Wiklind** was awarded Hubble observing time for a project with the **Atacama Large Millimeter Array Observatory** in the Atacama Desert of northern Chile. He will use the observing time to study the organic molecules in a galaxy seven billion light years away.



More than 20 priests from 17 dioceses around the country arrive on campus to take a week of classes as part of the **Master of Science in Ecclesial Administration and Management (MEAM)** program. Offered by the Busch School of Business, MEAM is a 30-credit program that prepares clergy for effective and efficient parish and diocesan leadership. The program consists of the weeklong intensive immersion session as well as online course work.

Catholic University has the largest contingent of faculty presenters during the 26th biennial **Congress of Societas Liturgica**, an international ecumenical society for the study of liturgy. Four faculty members and one graduate student from the Liturgical Studies Area of the **School of Theology and Religious Studies** presented papers at the congress in Leuven, Belgium.



Students, faculty, and staff members celebrate the **Mass of the Holy Spirit** at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, an annual Mass that marks the opening of the school year.

SEPTEMBER 2017

The University formally launches the **Center for the Study of Statesmanship** at the National Press Club in downtown Washington, D.C. Specific areas of study for the center include diplomacy, military affairs, intelligence, and constitutionalism, among others. The center is part of the Institute for Human Ecology.

Provost Andrew Abela signs a new agreement to continue a long-standing partnership between the University’s **Vitreous State Laboratory** and **Atkins Company**, one of the world’s most respected design, engineering, and project management consultancies. The new agreement has a projected value of \$80 million over its 10-year term.

Bishop Edward Braxton, of Belleville, Ill., addresses hundreds of students on campus during a lecture about the deep roots of the racial divide in the United States, calling it a “flaw at the very

foundation” of our country. Bishop Braxton is the author of the 2015 pastoral letter, “The Racial Divide in the United States.” The lecture, sponsored by the **National Catholic School of Social Service**, is part of a daylong teach-in aimed at addressing racism and its manifestations in social policies, nonprofits, and social service organizations.

The **Columbus School of Law** receives gifts and commitments totaling \$1.4 million to provide initial funding for three new initiatives supporting research and educational opportunities for faculty and students: an enhanced program in compliance, investigations, and corporate responsibility; a center for religious liberty; and the criminal justice pilot program.

Nobel Prize-winning pharmacologist **Louis J. Ignarro** chronicles his research work studying nitric oxide as a unique molecule in the cardiovascular system during the 2017 Biology Graduate Student Research Symposium.

The **Sistine Chapel Choir** performs at a concert in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The concert is presented by Catholic University and the newly established **Catholic Arts Council**. It is the choir’s first visit to the United States in more than 30 years.

The **Busch School of Business** and the Boston-based Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) launch a unique partnership as the owners of 125 D.C.-based small businesses gather on campus to learn from experts about strategy, leadership, marketing, and finance, to network, and participate in coaching sessions. The event was the beginning of a four-year commitment on the part of Catholic University to ICIC’s flagship program, **Inner City Capital Connections**, which has created more than 12,000 jobs since its inception in 2005.



Accomplished film and television actor **John Carroll Lynch**, a Catholic University drama alumnus, returns to the Hartke Theatre to share his experience and expertise in a master class for performing arts students.

Catholic University moves up in the U.S. News & World Report 2018 listings for universities and graduate programs nationwide, ranking 120th out of 311 on the list of best universities across the country. The University also makes the list of “**best colleges for veterans**,” thanks to its support and benefit programs for students who are veterans and active-duty service members. The **National Catholic School of Social Service** is ranked 47th out of more than 220 social work programs in the country; and the Columbus School of Law’s part-time J.D. program is ranked 24th out of more than 61 programs nationwide. The **School of Nursing** is recognized twice: the Master of Nursing was ranked 31st among approximately 292 accredited master’s programs nationwide while the Doctor of Nursing Practice was ranked 26th among 186 programs. Additionally, the nursing school’s online graduate programs were ranked seventh in the nation.

OCTOBER 2017

The University’s Chamber Symphony, led by music director Simeone Tartaglione, performs the music of Spain at the Former Residence of the Ambassadors of Spain. The concert, a partnership between the **Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art** and the **Cultural Office of the Embassy of Spain**, featured Spanish soprano Amaya Arberas, who was the first-place winner of the International Shining Stars Competition in 2014.

Three University professors outline the ways in which their separate disciplines have studied and taught St. Augustine’s best-known work, *Confessions*, over the past century at a panel discussion. **William Klingshirn**, Margaret H. Gardiner Professor of Greek and Latin and director of the Center for the Study of Early Christianity; **Kevin White**, associate professor of philosophy; and **Thomas Clemmons**, assistant professor of Church history, address the overflow crowd. All have taught courses on *Confessions*.

The **Center for the Study of Early Christianity** hosts a three-day marathon public reading of *Confessions* in the McMahon Hall foyer. More than 40 students, faculty, and staff participate in the reading.

A three-day conference centers on the question, “How can a profitable business be a force for good?” The Good Profit conference was organized by the **Busch School of Business** and the **Napa Institute**, and was inspired by the 2015 book, *Good Profit: How Creating Value for Others Built One of the World’s Most Successful Companies*, by Charles Koch, chairman and CEO of Koch Industries, Inc. The event features high-profile speakers including Koch and Cardinal Peter Turkson, who serves as prefect for the Vatican’s Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

Biology professors **John Golin** and **Ann K. Corsi** receive National Institutes of Health awards totaling \$470,000 and \$442,000, respectively. The three-year awards will support graduate student and undergraduate student projects in the professors’ research laboratories.



U.S. Rep. **Francis Rooney** (R-Fla.), who served as the U.S. ambassador to the Holy See from 2005 to 2008, addresses how subsidiarity can serve as a guiding principle for communities at “Subsidiarity in Politics, Culture, and Economy,” a symposium hosted by the Institute for Human Ecology. Rooney was joined by professors **Joseph Capizzi**, **David Cloutier**, **Bradley Lewis**, and **Andreas Widmer**. Panel members considered particular challenges facing humanity, including poverty relief, environmental regulations, and education policy.

The **Office of Campus Ministry** hosts 1,400 community children for its annual Halloween on Campus event. Costumed students welcomed the children for games, face painting, and trick-or-treating.

Christian and Muslim scholars from across the country meet at Catholic University for a dialogue about recently published scholarship on Mary’s role in Islam and Christianity and the legacy of Louis Massignon, a Catholic scholar of Islam. The meeting was organized by Catholic University’s **Wilhelmus Valkenberg**, professor of culture and religion.

The **Institute for Human Ecology** welcomes *New York Times* bestselling author **Paul Kengo** to speak about his new book, *A Pope and A President: John Paul II, Ronald Reagan, and the Extraordinary Untold Story of the 20th Century*.

Cardinal Weekend brings nearly 2,250 alumni to campus representing 58 class years. More than 760 alumni make reunion gifts raising \$2 million.

Mary Leary, professor in the Columbus School of Law, testifies before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations on the topic of online sex trafficking and the Communications Decency Act.

The **Metropolitan School of Professional Studies** promotes a highly trained federal workforce by offering scholarships to eligible federal employees across the country through participation in the Office of Personnel Management’s **Federal Academic Alliance**.



The Busch School of Business welcomes **Carly Fiorina**, the first woman to lead a Fortune 500 company, to campus as part of its CEO Lecture Series.

NOVEMBER 2017

The Carmelite Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary gives the **School of Theology and Religious Studies** \$5 million to establish an academic center that will foster research and support the development of courses on the Carmelite charism of prayer and contemplation.

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the apostolic nuncio to the United States, gives an address entitled “Synodality and Pope Francis: The Church that Walks Together” at The Catholic University of America, during the **School of Canon Law’s** 11th annual Frederick R. McManus Memorial Lecture.

“Double Lives and Moral Lives: An Exploration into the Ethics of Intelligence,” features former CIA director **Michael Hayden**

as the main speaker for a symposium cosponsored by the University’s **Intelligence Studies Program** and the **Institute of Human Ecology**.

Two politics faculty members — Associate Professor **Maryann Cusimano Love** and Visiting Lecturer **Richard Love** — and three undergraduate students participate in an international symposium on nuclear disarmament, “Perspectives for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons and for Integral Disarmament,” at the Vatican.

The “Challenges of Climate Change” workshop is the first event marking the School of Engineering’s commitment to establish an **Engineering Center for the Care of the Earth**. Speakers at the workshop include renowned professors and scientists from around the world, including **Ezio Mattiace**, a specialist in renewable energy representing the Climate Reality Project.

The University hosts a conference on issues in Catholic higher education to mark the 50th anniversary of the Land O’Lakes Statement. In opening remarks, **University President John Garvey** says he hopes the conference is an opportunity to study the statement’s mixed legacy and “ensure that moving forward as a Catholic university, we are free to use both faith and reason in our search for the truth.” The conference draws scholars and Church leaders from around the country including **Archbishop Christophe Pierre**, apostolic nuncio to the United States, and **Cardinal Seán Patrick O’Malley**, archbishop of Boston.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, the Vatican’s secretary of state, speaks about the ongoing legacy of the Second Vatican Council during an address on campus. Following his remarks, the University bestows on Cardinal Parolin an honorary Doctor of Theology degree.

Experts discuss “America’s Double Government: The Hidden Agenda of the National Security State” in an event sponsored by the **Center for the Study of Statesmanship**.

Most Rev. Oscar Cantú, bishop of the Diocese of Las Cruces, is a keynote speaker at a two-day workshop on gender-based violence and human trafficking. The workshop, cohosted by the University’s **Institute for Policy Research & Catholic Studies** and the United States Agency for International Development, is intended to train faith-based and community workers from Central America on the need to remain actively involved in the fight against human trafficking and sex-based violence in Central America.

Jonathan Monaghan, assistant professor of art, is awarded the Trawick Prize, Ruby Award. This award, which was established in 2003 to honor the best contemporary artists in the D.C. metropolitan area, comes with a \$10,000 cash prize. The work

of grand prize winners of the competition is included in a group exhibition at the Alper Initiative for Washington Art at the American University Museum.

Amanda Sheffer, clinical assistant professor of German, receives a national teaching excellence award at the annual conference of the American Association of Teachers of German, held in conjunction with the annual American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages convention in Nashville, Tenn. The award honors excellence in the teaching of the language and cultures of Austria, the German-speaking areas of Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Südtirol in the United States.

Stephen Wright, professor emeritus of English Language and Literature, is awarded the biennial McMaster University Prize for the best article in early drama studies for his “The Twelfth-Century Story of Daniel for Performance by Hilarius: An Introduction, Translation, and Commentary,” in the journal *Early Theatre*.

DECEMBER 2017



Students from the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art perform during the 28th annual **Christmas Concert for Charity**, which raises more than \$15,000 to support Catholic Charities USA Hurricane Relief. The collected funds are supplemented by a \$25,000 donation from the Archdiocese of Washington.



The **School of Architecture and Planning’s new Classical Concentration** put together a jury of nationally known architecture experts to review the work of students in this area of study. The jury included architects from the local area and New York City and architecture deans from the University of Maryland, Howard University, University of Notre Dame, and University of Miami schools of architecture.

Catholic University is one of the founding members of the **Catholic Consortium for International Higher Education Collaboration** (CCIHEC), a network of Catholic universities around the world that is collaborating on research activities and exchange of faculty members and students for lectures, discussions, and internships. Members of CCIHEC participate in a workshop at the Rome campus that Catholic University shares with Australian Catholic University. The theme of the workshop is “One Church, One World, One Mission: Internationalization and the Identity of Catholic Higher Education.”

JANUARY 2018

The University’s **Vitreous State Laboratory**, together with the Library of Congress and George Washington University, is awarded a three-year \$350,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a research project aimed at improving preservation methods for priceless glass flutes dating back to 1804 and known around the world for their beauty and intricacy.

A day of panel discussions, “On the Margins: At the Intersection of Catholic Social Thought and Migration,” is cosponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Migration and Refugee Services and Catholic University’s **Institute for Human Ecology**. The event takes place during National Migration Week.

More than 800 members of the Catholic University community participate in the MLK Day of Service, an annual event sponsored by the **Office of Campus Ministry** in which students honor the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through acts of service at several organizations in the greater D.C. area.

An anonymous donor couple provides a **\$6 million** gift to the University for the creation of a new dining hall.

More than 400 Catholic University students attend the annual **March for Life** on the National Mall to celebrate the dignity of life and protest *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court case that legalized abortion nationwide in 1973.

The Board of Trustees renews the appointment of **University President John Garvey** for a term extending through June 2022. Garvey became the 15th president of Catholic University on July 1, 2010.

A **technology transfer workshop** provides valuable insights for researchers interested in commercializing their scientific discoveries. The workshop was planned by physics professors Tanja Horn and Ian Pegg, in conjunction with researchers from the Jefferson Lab in Newport News, Va., and the Institute of Nuclear Physics in Orsay, France.



Members of the University community are joined by students and faculty from the Dominican House of Studies and St. Anthony of Padua School in Brookland to begin their semester during the **annual University Mass** honoring the patronal feast day of **St. Thomas Aquinas**. The Mass was cosponsored by Catholic University and the Dominican House of Studies in association with the National Catholic Educational Association. The Mass is broadcast live on EWTN and CatholicTV.

Music students bring their talents to D.C.'s Arena Stage, performing "**Bernstein at 100: The Theater Songs of Leonard Bernstein**," honoring the life and work of renowned composer, conductor, and musician Leonard Bernstein.



The **Oliveira Lima Library** at Catholic University reopens, showcasing a vast collection of rare books, one-of-a-kind manuscripts, letters, maps, and works of art pertaining to Brazilian culture. The largest collection of its kind outside of Brazil, the library consists of the personal library of the famous Brazilian diplomat, historian, and journalist Manoel de Oliveira Lima. The collection was donated to the University by Lima and his wife, Flora, in 1916.

Students compete to develop high-tech solutions for helping Washington, D.C.'s homeless population. Hacking Homelessness, the University's first hackathon, was hosted by the **School of Engineering** in collaboration with the D.C. Department of Human Services. The winning team developed an app that uses mapping technology similar to that used by Uber, the ridesharing app, to potentially help social workers locate people in need.

G. Bradley Guy, clinical associate professor in the School of Architecture and Planning, was selected as faculty research fellow for the Landscape Architecture Foundation's 2018 Case Study Investigation program.

Tommy Vince, an undergraduate double major in civil engineering and architecture, received the Mark Ferguson Award of the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art in New York. He discovered his interest in classical architecture by taking courses in the School of Architecture and Planning's new Classical Architecture Concentration.

FEBRUARY 2018

The **Metropolitan School of Professional Studies** (MSPS) at The Catholic University of America and The Chicago School of Professional Psychology sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to give more students access to graduate degrees in behavioral and mental health. The MOU allows current eligible MSPS students to enroll in any of the Chicago School's more than 20 mental health, behavioral health, and health services programs at its campuses in Washington, D.C., Southern California, Chicago, or online.

The **American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives** received the American Catholic Historical Association's Distinguished Award for Service.

MARCH 2018

A \$13 million gift, the largest scholarship gift to date, by Board of Trustees member Bill Conway and his wife, Joanne, to the **School of Nursing** provides funding for a new cohort of academically talented students to achieve the goal of becoming nurses. The Conways have generously funded the **William and Joanne Conway Scholars Program** through their Bedford Falls Foundation Charitable Trust since 2013. The first cohort of 19 students in the program graduated in 2017 and achieved 100% job placement.

Five students who competed in the University's January Hackathon go on to compete in Rome at "VHacks," the first-ever **Vatican hackathon**. They are assigned to compete in the interfaith dialogue category, with a goal of creating open communication between members of differing faith backgrounds to foster deeper understanding and cooperation. They are awarded second place.

Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, founder of the Institute for Religion and Public Life and its magazine, *First Things*, is celebrated at the symposium, "**Catholic Witness in the Public Square: Celebrating the Life and Letters of Father Richard John Neuhaus**." The symposium commemorates the tremendous gift of the Neuhaus papers — a collection of correspondence, publications, and photos — to the American Catholic History Center and University Archives.

Mark Rienzi, a First Amendment scholar and a professor at the Columbus School of Law, is named president of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, which is considered by many to be the premier religious liberty law institute in the country.

Sixteen students travel to El Paso, Texas, and Las Cruces, N.M., during spring recess to experience firsthand the realities faced by migrants, and to learn about the efforts made by Catholic organizations in these dioceses to respond to their needs. The trip and related class are sponsored by the **National Catholic**

School of Social Service and the **Office of Campus Ministry**. The students and faculty members are joined by Jeanne Garvey, wife of President John Garvey, and Deacon Steve Kaneb, who serves on the University's Board of Trustees.

Students in the Catholic University **School of Canon Law** spend time with Pope Francis during a study abroad trip to Rome over the University's spring recess. The 17 students, led by Canon Law Professor Kurt Martens, went to Vatican City to learn about the inner workings of the Church.



Ron Dermer, the American-born Israeli ambassador to the United States, addresses faculty and students during a talk titled, "On Freedom and Fanaticism in the Middle East."

Eight scholars traveled from the **Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt**, Germany, to The Catholic University of America to speak at the first Eichstätt-Washington Seminar on Classical and Christian Culture.

Bishop Richard F. Stika of Knoxville dedicates the diocese's new Sacred Heart Cathedral, which was designed by **James McCrery**, assistant professor of architecture and director of the Classical Architecture Concentration.

APRIL 2018

Joy-Leilani Garbutt, a doctoral candidate in musicology at the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art is awarded a **Fulbright U.S. Student Award** for Study/Research in France during the 2018–2019 academic year. Her Fulbright project is titled, "Rediscovering the Organ Music of the Belle Époque from a Female Perspective."

Merylann J. Schuttloffel, professor of education, received the C. Albert Koob President’s Merit Award at the National Catholic Educational Association Convention in Cincinnati.

Stephanie Davey, assistant dean of students, was awarded a \$30,000 grant from the NCAA CHOICES Alcohol Education Grant program for a new alcohol prevention education initiative.



The symposium, “**Embracing God’s Vision for Marriage, Love, and Life**,” commemorates the 50th anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*. The event attracts hundreds of clergy, religious, and lay ministers from across the country, and is sponsored by the School of Theology and Religious Studies, the United States Conference of Conference of Catholic Bishops’ committee on Laity, Marriage, and Family, the Witherspoon Institute, and numerous individual donors.

The **School of Theology and Religious Studies** announces the launch of a joint academic program in clinical bioethics with Georgetown University Medical Center.

Veterans and active members of the military enjoy an evening of dinner and theater as the **Department of Drama** partners with the Gary Sinise Foundation to host Vets Night. As part of the evening, military members enjoyed a preview performance of the University production of *Our Town*.



Law Professor **Cara Drinan** delivers the keynote address at the University’s annual Research Day, sharing real-life examples of how research can save lives and protect children. Drinan, who researches mass incarceration and juvenile justice, presented findings published in her new book, *The War on Kids: How American Juvenile Justice Lost Its Way*.

More than 250 presentations were given during **University Research Day**, covering a wide range of subjects, including gentrification, biomedical devices, American history, and particle physics. The presentations represented all 12 of the University’s schools.

The Columbus School of Law’s **Center for Religious Liberty** opens with an inaugural lecture by U.S. Ambassador-At-Large for Religious Freedom Samuel Brownback, who formerly served as U.S. senator, U.S. representative, and governor of Kansas.

Catholic University choir members perform with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and renowned conductor Gustavo Dudamel at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The **Founders Day Giving Challenge** raises \$726,702 in 24 hours on April 10, with most gifts coming in at less than \$50.

The University closes the 2017–2018 fiscal year with a record **\$63.7 million in gifts and commitments** — the best fundraising year in University history.

Catholic University strengthened its financial position in Fiscal Year 2018 through robust enrollment, expanding philanthropy, strong investment returns and careful expense management.

The University finished the year with a healthy positive margin and larger net asset base, improving its liquidity and balance sheet heft. The University continued to invest in achieving its strategic plan objectives while maintaining strong governance in support of financial viability and sustainability.

FISCAL YEAR 2018 RESULTS

The University ended Fiscal Year 2018 with a positive operating net of \$11.8 million while total University net assets increased \$49.9 million to \$570.5 million. Positive operating results and growth in net assets are the result of strategic budget reduction and reallocation efforts, solid investment performance, and a third year of record level philanthropy for scholarships, academic programs, and capital infrastructure. **Exhibit I** illustrates the changes in net assets over the past ten years.

As depicted in **Exhibit II**, the University derives its operating revenue from five major sources: net student tuition and fees, sales and services of auxiliary enterprises, grants and contracts, contributions, and investment return designated for current

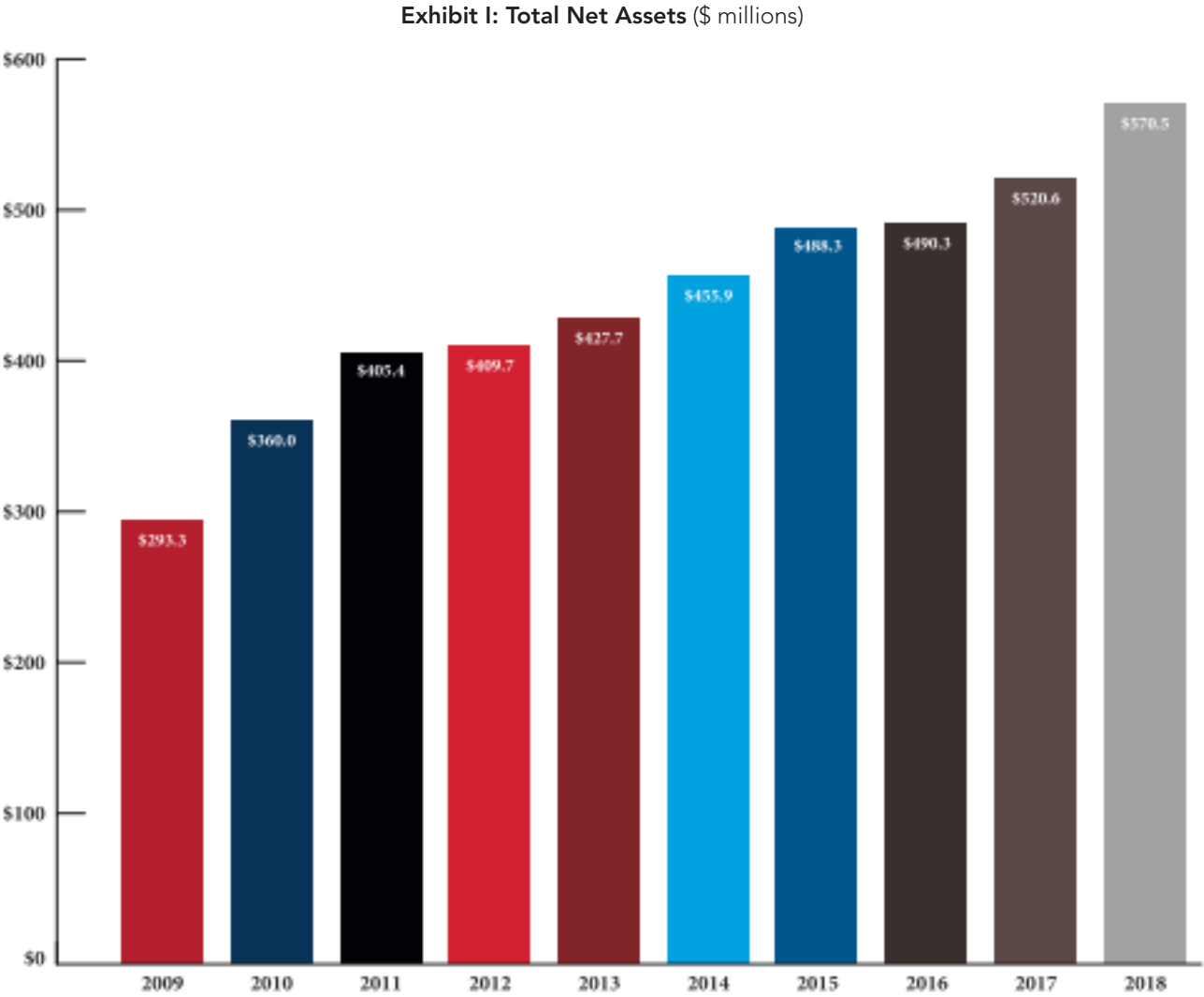
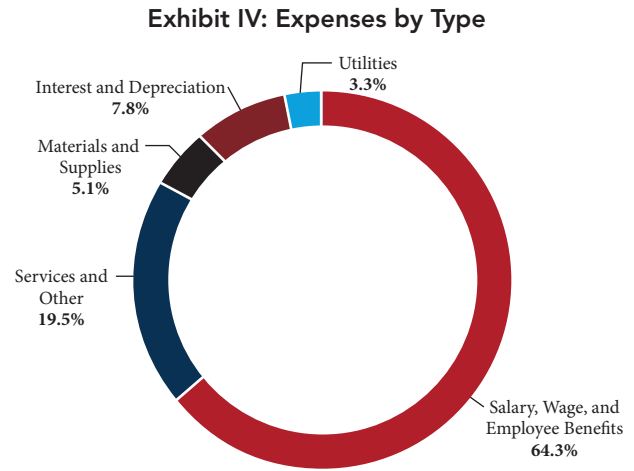
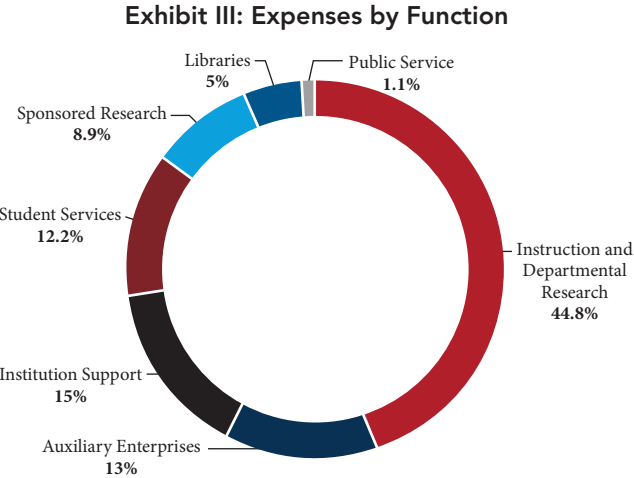
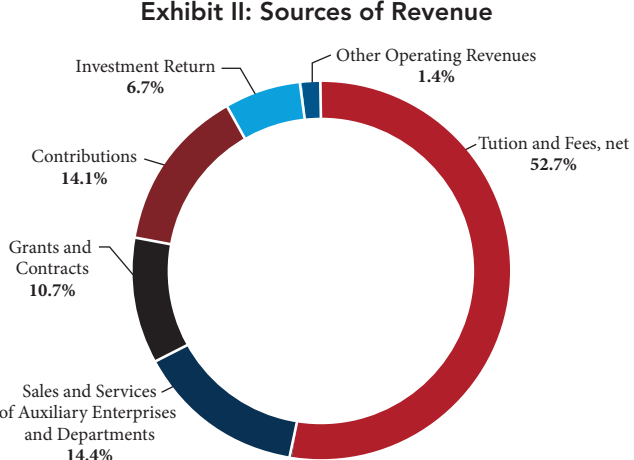
year operations. The University’s Fiscal Year 2018 operating revenue was \$238.4 million. The University’s main source of revenue is net tuition and fees, providing the University with \$125.6 million, or 52.7% of total revenue. Auxiliary revenue constituted \$34.3 million, or 14.4% of total revenue. Operating contributions of \$33.7 million represented 14.1% of operating revenue. Investment returns in support of operations, coupled with working capital earnings, totaled \$16.0 million, or 6.7% of total operating revenue.

Operating expenses totaled \$226.6 million, representing a \$1.8 million, or 0.8% increase over last year. The University continued with a budget strategy that facilitates a balanced

budget while increasing strategic capacity investments in areas directly or indirectly supporting enrollment and philanthropy. **Exhibit III** depicts the breakdown of the expenses by function. It is noteworthy that 57.0% of operating expenses either directly benefit students or are attributable to academic areas. Instructional expenses for Fiscal Year 2018 were 44.8% and student services totaled 12.2% of total expenses. **Exhibit IV** shows operating expenses by type of expense. The largest category of expenses — salary, wages, and employee benefits — represents 64.3% of the University’s total operating costs. Salaries, wages, and employee benefits increased 4.7% primarily as a result of faculty early retirement and buyout programs accrued during the fiscal year.

As part of a continuing strategy to focus on investments in revenue drivers central to the University’s core mission, additional incremental investments in Advancement and Enrollment Management were made in fiscal year 2018. In addition to these incremental investments, the University made significant new investments in Graduate Admissions, Career Services, and Athletics. The largest of these new investments was in the creation of a new office of graduate admissions and recruitment. The central goals of the new office are to professionalize graduate admissions procedures and practices, establish a formal marketing presence for graduate programs, and attract new graduate applications to the University. Investments in Career Services are part of a three-year plan to create a new Integrated Career and Advising Center, which will further serve the needs and expectations of new students (and their parents) as they enter the University, and continuing students as they prepare to graduate and enter the job market. Investments in Athletics are part of a two-year plan to create four new varsity athletics options for students: men’s and women’s rowing; and men’s and women’s golf. Additional options for varsity athletics will not only enhance the student experience on-campus, but also enhance University recruitment efforts and lead to improved student outcomes in academic performance, retention, and graduation.

In fiscal year 2018, the University issued 2017B Series DC Revenue Bonds to fund an energy and utilities rejuvenation project in which the anticipated savings from a reduced utility, operations, and maintenance expense will offset the associated interest expense. The University also refinanced a portion of its 2010 Series DC Revenue Bonds through the issuance of the 2017C Series DC Revenue Bonds. The University plans to continue to restructure and expand its debt portfolio in the coming fiscal year to further support University operations and infrastructure.



LONG-TERM POOLED INVESTMENTS

The University’s long-term pooled investments consist of endowment and designated funds invested to support the University’s operating and capital needs. Donor- and quasi-endowed funds are restricted by either donor or Board of Trustees action, respectively, while designated funds are unrestricted funds invested for the longer-term by the University that can be budgeted for expenditure. The market value of the pooled investments was \$350.5 million for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2018; which represents an increase of \$13.6 million or 4.0% over the prior year. The annual return for the year ended April 30, 2018 was 9.0%. The per annum average return for the five years ended April 30, 2018 for the pooled investments was 6.6%. **Exhibit V** illustrates the changes in the pooled investments for the last 10 years.

The University employs investment and spending policies designed to preserve endowment asset values while providing a flow of income to the operating budget to balance current and future needs. To provide for the future, the University structures its portfolio to maintain and build the endowment’s inflation-adjusted purchasing power. To provide current support, the University’s endowment spending policy provides that 4.5% of the trailing 12-quarter average of the market value of the donor- and quasi-endowment be allocated to the operating budget.

The fundamental principles of the University’s endowment management are to combine a prudent approach with a diversified asset allocation that focuses on long-term performance since endowments exist to provide perpetual funding. The investment pool maintains an allocation to fixed income to protect assets in accordance with the University’s investment policy when equity markets are falling. Other assets are diversified among publicly traded equity securities, alternative assets, real estate, and emerging markets, with a global and industry diversification within these asset classes. The asset allocation strategy for Fiscal Year 2018 is provided in **Exhibit VI**.

FACILITIES

By far, the largest visible impact of facilities work in Fiscal Year 2018 was the progression of the Campus Energy project. Renovation of the University’s Power Plant mechanical infrastructure continued throughout the year with the installation of new cooling towers, chillers, and boilers, while installation of a below-grade 4-pipe distribution system for hot and chilled water service continued to facilities on the south end of campus. The work required to install the underground piping was quite disruptive; yet the campus community quickly adjusted to detours, temporary fencing, and safe co-existence with contractors and construction activities. The central system in the Power Plant was on-line in mid-October 2018 in time for heating season. The installation of underground piping for Phase 1 of the project will continue into late summer 2019.

In Gowan Hall, design was completed to convert a library space into an Integrated Learning Center for the School of Nursing. Made possible by a generous gift as well as University funding to upgrade building systems infrastructure, the new testing and learning center accommodates 50 students and opened in late 2018. In another Fiscal Year 2018 project, the music Recital Hall in Ward Hall was revitalized with new finishes, lighting, and audience seating.

On the north campus, a multipurpose complex with 700 seats for spectators and fields for soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, and recreation was made possible with a generous gift from the Carlini family. Construction began in Fiscal Year 2018 and Carlini Field was ready for practice use in October 2018, while the supporting facilities will be completed by the end of the calendar year. Improvements in the Raymond A. DuFour Athletic Center included a renovation to the Golf Room.

Renovation of Maloney Hall as the Busch School of Business continued throughout Fiscal Year 2018 and approached final completion at the end of the calendar year with an eye toward opening for classes during the spring semester 2019. While major components, such as windows, doors, and roof, of the building’s exterior skin were replaced, the entire interior of this historic hall was being transformed into a 21st-century platform for teaching and learning.

Various improvements to building structure, systems, and spaces continued in Caldwell Hall, the University’s first building. The installation of a building-wide sprinkler system was completed as well as a renovation of the Monsignor Stephen P. Happel Room. Restoration of the stained glass chapel windows began this year and will continue into next.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(in thousands) — For the years ended April 30, 2018 and 2017

	2018	2017
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 25,178	\$ 21,452
Deposits with bond trustee	60,633	13
Accounts receivable:		
Student fees and other, net of allowance	11,057	8,452
U.S. government and other agencies, net of allowance	4,136	6,131
Student loans receivable, net of allowance	7,454	7,454
Contributions receivable, net of allowance	43,066	25,765
Investments	406,715	392,788
Deferred charges and other assets	6,082	5,184
Property and equipment, net	214,079	198,141
Interest in perpetual trusts	2,502	2,390
Total assets	<u>\$ 780,902</u>	<u>\$ 667,770</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 32,902	\$ 31,406
Deferred revenues, student deposits, and other liabilities	8,141	8,294
Refundable advances from the U.S. government	6,579	6,852
Split-interest agreements	1,865	1,508
Asset retirement obligations	9,250	8,704
Indebtedness, net	151,636	90,382
Total liabilities	<u>210,373</u>	<u>147,146</u>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	318,746	313, 683
Temporarily restricted	132,245	106,096
Permanently restricted	119,538	100,845
Total net assets	<u>570,529</u>	<u>520,624</u>
Total liabilites and net assets	<u>\$ 780,902</u>	<u>\$ 667,770</u>

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

(in thousands) — For the years ended April 30, 2018 and 2017

	2018	2017
Operating Revenues and Support		
Student tuition and fees, net	\$ 125,593	\$ 122,757
Federal and private grants and contracts	25,512	24,884
Contributions	33,661	16,659
Investment return designated for current operations	15,990	16,906
Sales and services of departments	1,639	1,584
Sales and services of auxiliary enterprises	32,641	31,971
Other operating revenues	3,337	3,095
Total operating revenues and support	<u>238,373</u>	<u>217,856</u>
Operating Expenses		
Educational and general:		
Instructional and departmental research	101,566	99,529
Sponsored research	20,174	18,904
Public service	2,420	2,479
Libraries	11,335	11,986
Student services	27,581	27,566
Institutional support	33,976	36,262
Auxiliary enterprises	29,513	28,082
Total operating expenses	<u>226,565</u>	<u>224,808</u>
Change in net assets from operations	<u>11,808</u>	<u>(6,952)</u>
Nonoperating Activities		
Contributions	24,134	15,467
Investment return in excess of amounts designated for current operations	14,025	20,416
Changes in the value of split-interest agreements	912	1,013
Loss on extinguishment of debt	(439)	–
Other nonoperating gains (losses)	(535)	352
Change in net assets from nonoperating activities	<u>38,097</u>	<u>37,248</u>
Increase in net assets	49,905	30,296
Net assets at beginning of year	520,624	490,328
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 570,529</u>	<u>\$ 520,624</u>

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