

Laurel Links Ursuline Education Network Newsletter Fall 2023

UEN Updates

Rosann Whiting Director of Ursuline Education Network



It is with great pleasure that I officially welcome Peggy Platz as the new Director of Ursuline Education Network. Peggy has been serving as the Associate Director of UEN for the past year where she has been responsible for the terrific website changes for UEN as well as the planning for our up-coming conferences and retreats. It has been a blessing to have served as the Director for the past 5 years, but we identified Peggy and her tremendous talents when she served as a trustee on the board of UEN. She is a tireless volunteer, has worked so patiently with me as we transition our leadership, and brings the charism of St. Angela that is so integral to this role. I will miss the opportunities to interact with so many of you from the schools and communities, but my heart will always be closely aligned with everything that our Ursuline schools represent. I encourage you to get to know Peggy as the months progress. I feel confident that you will find her to be knowledgeable, willing to get involved, and always a patient listener to ideas which will lead to the strengthening of UEN's mission for the schools. Below please check out the "Save the Date" information for the fall and spring offerings of UEN. Join us when your schedule allows, enjoy and use the information found on the website, and please, always continue to pray for the success of our schools and for the Ursuline Education Network. I am grateful for all that each of you has done for me!

Rosann M. Whiting

The Ursuline Education Network proudly recognizes students who received Athletic Awards in the spring of 2023. Each student-athlete was nominated by an athletic director or coach from his or her school. The Senior Scholar Athlete Award recognizes senior students who have demonstrated outstanding athletic fortitude while maintaining high academic achievement over four years. The Spirit of St. Angela Award is given to student athletes who embody St. Angela's directive to "do something, get moving, be confident and risk new things." We congratulate the following scholar-athletes:



Spirit of St. Angela Recipient	Senior Scholar Athlete Recipient
Sonam Choki	Analisa Brown-Beebe
Madison Heathcote	Candice Johnson
Grace Marie Pavloff	Garielle Morenike Baptist
Vivian DiSalle	Julia Reichert
Vivian Naylor	Marissa Le
Ava Place	Madeline Tiffany
Waverly Smart	Brigid Ryan
Emily Williams	Emma Scobel
Ellie Wunderlich	Julia Lammert
Oghenenyore Agofure	Sian Lyle
Audrey Pachuta	Sophia Filipowski
Samantha Turk	Rayshawn Black
	Sonam Choki Madison Heathcote Grace Marie Pavloff Vivian DiSalle Vivian Naylor Ava Place Waverly Smart Emily Williams Ellie Wunderlich Oghenenyore Agofure Audrey Pachuta

Shared by Christy Zurcher Ursuline Academy New Orleans, LA



URSULINE ACADEMY HOSTS NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

On Sept. 21, sixth and seventh graders from Ursuline Academy gathered in their auditorium for the rare opportunity to watch 67 individuals became naturalized American citizens. Petitioners raised their right hands to repeat the Oath of Allegiance led by Ivan Lemelle, Senior U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana. The ceremony, which included an opportunity for Ursuline students to ask the newly-minted Americans about the joys and challenges of their unique citizenship journeys, was a fitting culmination to a crosscurricular project the sixth and seventh graders had completed in their social studies and art classes.

Donze, B. (2023, September 21). Citizens Take On New Rights and Responsibilities. https://clarionherald.org. Retrieved November 1, 2023, from https://clarionherald.org/news/new-us-citizens-take-on-new-rights-and-responsibilities







Shared by Brittany Keller Ursuline Academy Wilmington, DE



Four Ursuline Upper School students were among forty chosen to participate in The Perry Initiative at John Hopkins Hospital. The selection process for this program is very competitive with applicants nationwide. Gianna Lacombe '25, Alice McAleenan '26, Izzy Vattasseril '26, and Julia Lundgren '26, along with Brianne Smith who participated last last year were chosen to take part in the program that focuses on, "Building the Pipeline for Women in Engineering and Medicine." The experience included performing surgeries and biomechanics experiments and hearing from practicing women surgeons and engineers. We are so proud of our students for being selected for this amazing opportunity!









Shared by Jill Cahill St. Ursula Academy Cincinnati, OH





Global education is a focus at Saint Ursula Academy and includes everything from hosting exchange students, to studying other cultures, to traveling to new places to bring history to life. In June, 26 SUA students traveled to Spain for a Spanish Immersion Trip. The Saint Ursula Academy World Language Department coordinates immersion trips to give students the opportunity to use their language skills in a real setting while experiencing and learning about a different culture. The group traveled with SUA teachers Bere Smith and Erin Adamson to Bilbao, San Sebastion, Santillana del Mar, El Capricho de Gaudí, Llanes, Coviella, Cangas de Onís, Oviedo, León, and Madrid. Students lived with host families near Madrid, allowing students to experience the everyday life of the gracious families who hosted them, including food, mealtime traditions, daily schedule, and celebratory events.

GLOBAL URSULINE* 'ommunît CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE FOR GLOBAL Developed from the Global Teachmeet sponsored by Brescia House School and The Ursuline School of New Rochelle, NY, the Welcome to the Global Ursuline Teachers Community

Connect with other teachers from Ursuline schools who are interested in global collaborative learning experiences and partnerships.

Global Ursuline Community website connects Ursuline educators around the world. globalursulineteachers.com

STRONG IN ADVERSITIES

Mental Health Conference for Educators



In collaboration with Beaumont School, The Ursuline Education Network hosted a fall professional development conference November 6-7 focused on mental health across Ursuline institutions. Day one of the conference centered on adult mental health and well-being and day two focused on students. Ursuline College's Art Therapy professor and psychologist Dr. Katherine Jackson shared strategies for educators' mental health through the lens of St. Angela's counsels. Conference participants were reminded of the importance of self care, affirmation, and filling one's personal "joy tank." Afternoon workshop presenters shared practices of eco-therapy, and aromatherapy. Food-for-your-Mood emphasized eating habits for optimal mental health benefits and K9 Caring Angels showed their healing power through boundless affection and love! Dr. Lisa Damour, nationally recognized author and psychologist, presented strategies for supporting student mental health, excerpting from her 2023 book The Emotional Lives of Teenagers. Dr. Damour gave practical and valuable techniques for teachers and administrators who face the daily challenges of adolescent mental health issues in our schools. UEN offers special thanks to Beaumont School and President Wendy Hoke for hosting the Conference, as well as to the keynotes, workshop presenters, and all who attended.

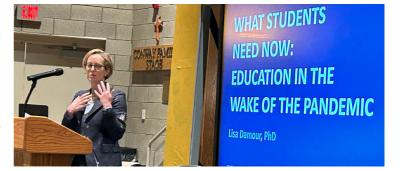


















Celebrating the Legacy of Ursuline Academy St. Louis | 1848 - 2023



Congratulations to Ursuline Academy in St. Louis, Missouri for 175 years of education in the Ursuline charism! Ursuline Sisters, alumnae, faculty, staff, and students celebrated during a variety of events hosted over the fall, culminating in the Founder's Day Mass on November 2, 2023.



"Visit your sisters often and get to know the community well, especially when you have reason to celebrate." St. Angela Merici ~ 5th Counsel.

Did you virtually pilgrammage in the fall of 2022? Encounters with St. Angela can be ongoing! Be sure to visit the comprehensive <u>Pilgrimmage Portal</u> which houses all of the historical and spiritual tours and resources shared during Convocation. Ideal for self discovery OR classroom instruction, the Pilgrimmage Portal brings Angela's history and Ursuline spirituality to life. Special thanks to Sr. Carol Curtis, OSU, for her dedication in compiling the resources and developing the website.

Sacred Heart Schools Completes Ursuline Identity Assessment



The UEN Identity Assessment process provides each Ursuline school an opportunity to examine its adherence to the Ursuline values and charism on which it was founded. UEN offers this opportunity for an Ursuline school to maintain and strengthen its identity now and into the future. Based upon the Ursuline Essential Characteristics that give an Ursuline school a unique identity, setting it apart from other educational institutions, the purpose of identity assessment is for the school community to deepen its commitment to those values. The process also serves to strengthen the Ursuline culture and values of the school. September 18-20 marked the completion of a year-long, self-study process for all four Sacred Heart Schools in Louisville, KY. Education Network (UEN) assessment team members were welcomed by Dr. Karen McNay, President of Sacred Heart Schools,

the Office of Catholic Identity and Ursuline Charism, comprised of Mia Cooper, Vice President of Mission and Community; Jane Cruthirds, Director of Mission and Formation; and Andrea Hoback, Campus Minister and Catechetical Program Manager. Assessment team members examined how Sacred Heart Schools adheres to foundational Ursuline charism through faithfully modeling Essential Characteristics instituted by St. Angela Merici.



Upcoming Program



Student Retreat

Faithfully and Joyfully:

Practicing St. Angela's Counsels in Daily Life

Facilitated by Jane Cruthirds
Director of Mission Formation for
Sacred Heart Schools of Louisville, KY

January 11-14, 2024

New Orleans, LA

Funded in part by a generous grant from the Ursulines of Cincinnati. For more information contact UEN peggy@ursuline-education.com
513-309-7588

Save the Dates!



"Hold Them Within Your Heart"

Admissions and Enrollment Conference for Ursuline Schools

April 22-23, 2024

The Delta Hotel by Marriott Sharonville, Ohio Registration Opens February 1, 2024 UEN website: ursuline-education.com

For more information contact peggy@ursuline-education.com



In September, Ursuline sailors from New Orleans joined with St. Ursula Academy Cincinnati sailors for two days of racing at Cowan Lake in Wilmington, Ohio. A celebration of sisterhood on the water!





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Contact UEN Peggy McCormick-Platz

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