



## The Michaelight (September, 2013)

Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association (SMAAA)

*"Round his flag we'll rally ever. Nothing can our union sever."*



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### **Saint Michael Academy Mission Statement**

Rooted in the Catholic tradition and Spirit of the Presentation Sisters, the mission of Saint Michael Academy was to educate young women in a loving and caring community, assisting each to develop her unique gifts and talents to live a fully Christian life.

### **New York Times Article**

After more than a century on the West Side of Manhattan, St. Michael Academy had assumed the traits of some of its best students: cash poor, underestimated by peers, capable of defying expectations with breathtaking regularity...[\(read more\)](#)

**Last Chance to Sign Up for the Reunion!**  
**Deadline is September 23rd**  
**Tick Tock, Tick Tock!**  
**Remember...**  
**ALL Class Years are WELCOME!**



Blanca Vasquez, Class of '93, has a reunion message for

**SMAAA Board of Directors**

**Lorraine Pogan Shef '64**  
*(President - Association & Charitable Foundation)*

**Blanca Camacho '74**  
*(VP - Association)*

**Jessica Libroia '87**  
*(VP - Charitable Foundation)*

**Jeanne Boyd Billings '74**  
*(Secretary - Association & Charitable Foundation)*

**Maria Pani '74**  
*(Treasurer - Association & Charitable Foundation)*

**Sharon Duritzo '72**

**Genevieve O'Hare '47**

**Noreen White Rogan, '60**

**Kathy Seyfried, '74**

**Blanca Vasquez, '93**

**Patti Wu '70**

**Join Our Mailing List**



**Tax Information**

Contributions made (including any dues paid) to the Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association, Inc. are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

you. Just click on her photo and watch her YouTube video.



**Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association**

cordially invites you to

**REUNION 2013**

celebrating the graduating classes ending in "3" and "8"  
and honoring the graduating classes of

1963 and 1988

Saturday, September 28, 2013

12:00 - 4:00 PM

Casa Nonna

310 West 38th Street

(between 8th and 9th Avenues)

New York, NY 10018



\*Reservations: \$75 per person  
**RSVP by September 23, 2013**

There is a 5:00 PM mass at the Church of St. Michael,  
for those who are interested in attending.

**[CLICK HERE TO PRINT OUT A RESPONSE FORM](#)**

\*Physical tickets will not be issued. Your reservation will be held at the door.

*Please know that, although this reunion will celebrate in particular those SMA high school graduates from years ending in "3" and "8", our reunions are ALWAYS open to ALL SMA alums (grammar school, high school, faculty, staff). If you are able to round up your classmates and want to join in the fun, PLEASE DO!*

## Reunion 2013 - Where to Stay/Park?



Of course there are a MILLION places to stay in Manhattan, but [here are the ones](#) that MapQuest says are closest to the Reunion 2013 venue.

And [here are the parking garages](#) that are listed as being closest to the restaurant!



## Class Notes

*Joan Sullivan Lengyel (Class of '54) writes...*

".....I have taken a rest from painting and lecturing on the 'Magic of Main Street Movies'....Please visit Sayville.com for my movie and theatre reviews.....I bought a studio apt in Tudor City, returning to the 'hood'... while still maintaining my home in Sayvill, L.I.. My husband Tom will be passed two years this August retired Captain FDNY.....painting, writing and in service to my fellow working colleagues I have submitted a chit to work for my UNION....by the way TudorCity is two blocks east of

your meeting place (the Chrysler Building) ....I look out at the UN, the 59th street bridge and the busy East River.

Best,

Joan Sullivan Lengyel '54"

\*\*\*\*\*

*Bridget Sullivan Atkinson (Class of '59) writes...*

"Thank you for being our official SMA Alumnae Association. I enjoy having friendships with Michaelites from other classes. I was delighted to learn of the addition of our new board members. I remember Noreen White Rogan from my school days. The enthusiasm, expertise and candor expressed in the bio testimonies of the younger new board members was so incredibly uplifting. I was thrilled that Noreen held the position of principal of SMA for 11 years. It is so important to me that the true Michaelite spirit be upheld. I desire to be a solid older SMA sister to all the lovely younger sistets. The Presentation Sisters have always educated the children of immigrants at SMA. In my time, we were mostly children of Italian, Polish and Irish immigrants. I have grown to LOVE the younger alumnae from Hispanic speaking and black, Catholic countries. My mom and her six sisters attended the Presentation Convent in Limerick City, Ireland. When she and her two sisters came to America, it was a TOP priority to have the "daughters" educated by the Presentation Sisters.

Hope you and your families are well..

In the cause of right..

With affection,

Bridget

Bridget Sullivan Atkinson '59"

\*\*\*\*\*

*Gloria Potenza (Class of '66) writes this about the closure of Holy Cross...*

"Just read your newsletter. I grew up three doors away from Holy Cross School, but I attended Sacred Heart on West 51 St. because we had lived up that way before moving to West 43 St. It is so sad about the school, and two of my cousins went to Holy Cross School.

Holy Cross Academy, which was run by the Sisters of Charity, closed over 20 years ago (I can't remember exactly when). There were two entrances -- one on West 42 St. and one on West 43 St. That was also a sad time for residents in the area.

Holy Cross has so much history in the neighborhood, and the elementary school closing is sad. I still have my parents' apartment right near the school. One of the residents in the building is 91 years old, and her four children went to Holy Cross. The area has certainly changed with very, very expensive apartment buildings, many restaurant, etc. all along Ninth Avenue. Both of my grandmothers, many aunts and uncles, and cousins



lived nearby.

I was married at Holy Cross Church in 1968.

Regards,  
Gloria P."

\*\*\*\*\*

*Catherine Brown (Class of '66) writes...*

"So nice to finally have some news to share with my fellow Michaelights class of 1966. I worked at DC Comics part of Time Warner for the past twenty years and just retired in May. This is my favorite photo taken at my retirement party."



**Where in the World is...**



**Several reunion invitations have been returned us because we do not have current addresses for some of our alums.**

**Can you help us find...**

**1938**

Eileen (Casey) Kelly

**1943**

Mary Cavanagh, Dolores Sweeney

**1948**

Sr. Elizabeth Burke, PBVM, Marianne De Lisi, Mildred Feudtner,  
Dorothy Grealish, Eileen (Colgan) Kennedy, Pat (Riordan) Kenny,  
Marilyn Twohie

**1953**

Mary Armellino, Virginia (Finley) Henwood, Rita (Gordon) Lang,  
Patricia (Woods) McDonald, Catherine McHugh, Loretta O'Neill,  
Mary (O'Connell) Pasemann, Eleanor Somma

**1958**

Helen Durkin, Jeanette (Hernandez) Jorge, Dee White

**1963**

Harriet (Mare) Amoroso, Mary (Bravyak) Balaschak, Kathleen  
(McEvoy) Birmingham, Barbara (Mathushek) Bricker, Corinne  
Camp, Dorothy Dorrlor, Margaret Ewan, Dianne Gleason-Rice,  
Joanne (Clohessy) Havican, Kathleen Hayes, Regina Kiry Jewicz,  
Jacquiline Judge, Pamela Kageyama, Jacqueline (Greco) Manasso,  
Margaret Mason, Lucille (Potenza) McFadden, Christine Murray

**1968**

Grace Scalogna, Sarah (Quinn) Slis, Carol Sommerville, Christine  
(Muscat) Winslow

**1973**

Linda Milici, Deinse (Larson) Ely-Palaia, Jeanne Gomez, Mary Ellen  
Keenan, Bernadette (Bellino) Radie, Caroline (Regan) Riccio,  
Valerie Sutton

**1978**

Jennifer (Reilly) Maloney, Ana Martinez, Kathryn McCafferty,  
Eileen O'Connor, Tina (Luttrell) Rau, Roseanna (Mangano)  
Salvatore, Diane Shapero, Maria (Santiago) Vasquez, Nancy

Weber, Audrey Wozniak

**1983**

Allison Jimenez, Tracy (Walsh) Sheptuk, Mariaelena (Clarke)  
Soto, Theresa Zocchi

**1988**

Kerri Ann Condon, Anna Desarno, Mildred Donato, Belinda  
(Bensen) Pederson, Kathren Santiago, Louise Sultana, Lisa  
(Palladino) Velez, Laura Vergara

**1993**

Susan Calderon, Karensa Coltrain, Donna Evans, Barbara  
Giannantonio, Stephanie Martinez, Katia Matias, Tatum McGovern,  
Gwendolyn Winfield

**1997**

Isolina Minaya

**1998**

Loreley Bengoechea, Veronica Biel, Xenia Brown, Chakil Craig,  
Giomar De La Cuadra, Dakota Duncan, Tamara Floyd, Edwina  
Gomez, Cathy Lambert, Alexandria Lopez, Alissa Marrero, Stacey  
Padilla, Deborah Ramirez, Celena (Annetty) Rivera, Dionisa  
Santiago

**2003**

Victoria Brock, Monique Brown, Melissa Chao, Marie Fuentes,  
Maria Gaba, Margaret Gormon-Vasquez, Alessandria Watson

Please "reply" to this email, or write to us at

[SMAAANYC@aol.com](mailto:SMAAANYC@aol.com)

if you can help us out. Thanks!

## **Join SMAAA Today!**

Your annual dues enable us to keep the spirit of SMA alive through our newsletter, our website, our reunions and (soon) our charitable outreach. Your dues go toward covering our operating expenses. This emailed newsletter costs money (approximately \$400/year), mailings cost money (last year's reunion mailing cost us close to \$1,000), just being in existence costs money (filing fees, etc.)

To remain a voting member of the SMAAA you must renew your membership annually. **Please become a member of the SMAAA, or renew your existing membership, by sending this year's \$25 dues to:**

**Jeanne Billings  
SMAAA  
6 Greenacres Avenue  
Scarsdale, NY 10583**

**Please make your check payable to "SMAAA" and don't forget to include your updated contact information in with your payment.**

We would appreciate it if you would forward this email to all of your SMA classmates and/or post it to your Facebook page. ("Nothing can our union sever!")

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## **Spread the Word!**

See that little blue facebook icon at the top of this newsletter? (It's waaaay up there, on the left, above the header.) Please click on it and "send" us to your facebook page, so that your SMA friends can know we exist. Odds are that they will want to join the SMAAA, read all the news about their classmates, and plan for an upcoming reunion. One little click is all it takes. Thanks!

