

OLDENBURG ACADEMY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SUMMER 2023



CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
CLASS OF 2023!

IN THIS ISSUE:

ON THE COVER

Class of 2023

3

Letter from the President

4 - 8

2022-2023 Successes

9

Awards Day & Senior Mass

10

Field Day

11

Summer Camps

12 - 16

Congratulations Class of 2023

17

Welcome Class of 2027

18 - 19

Alumni Updates

20

Ways to Support OA

20 - 21

Save the Date

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Clare Van Meter '23, and

Elizabeth Schulte '17

Blessed. Proud. Excited.

Hello from Oldenburg Academy!

We did it! The 2022-23 school year has wrapped up and what an awesome year it was! I am so proud of our students, our graduates, and their accomplishments throughout the year, and so grateful for the dedicated faculty, staff, parents, Sisters, alumni, and friends of OA who continue to amaze me with their dedication, support, and belief in our students and our mission of providing an outstanding Catholic education and high school experience. We are blessed!

While I might be a little biased, I believe there is not a more beautiful, meaningful, and inspiring graduation than Oldenburg Academy's Graduation Eucharistic Liturgy and Commencement Ceremony. The Class of 2023's graduation was a joyous and lovely day! I encourage you to take a few minutes to read the uplifting and impactful speeches of Madelyn (valedictorian), Erin, Clare (co-salutatorians) and Chelsea Cook '08 who gave our keynote address this year (pages 14-16). We are proud!

While people might think the summer is a quiet one on campus, that could not be further from the truth. With 10 youth summer camps, open gym and athletic scrimmages, a leadership retreat, and alumni gatherings, OA is full of activities and fun in June and July! We are excited!

Thank you for taking a few minutes to read through our summer magazine. We are blessed, proud, and excited to share the good news of OA with you. We hope to see many of you back in Oldenburg for the annual Freudenfest celebration in July.

I wish you all time to relax, refresh, and reconnect with the joys of summer!

Peace and all good,



Annette

Year in Review

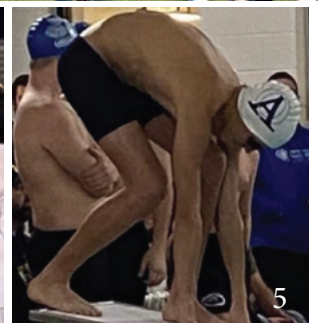
ACADEMICS

- 27 Graduates (66%) achieved Indiana Academic Honors Diplomas
- 2 Next Generation Hoosier Educator Scholars
- 17 Graduates received the Indiana College Core through Ivy Tech (41%) (Image 1)
- Class of 2023 earned over \$4.3 million dollars in college scholarships
- 1 Associate Degree earned from Ivy Tech Community College
- 8 Academic All State Honorees (20%)
- 1 Salvation Army First Generation Hope Scholar Recipient
- 3 Students advanced to State Competition for Innovate Within
- 4 Students named for being Rising Stars of Indiana (Image 2)
- 4 Students earned top honors in Voice of Democracy Writing Competition and Patriotic Art Contest (Image 3)
- 2 Students earned first place at Maverick Challenge Local Competition (Image 4)
- 1 Student won the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Serra Club Vocation Essay
- 1 Student achieved perfect attendance for 4 years
- 4 Students selected as recipients for Letters About Literature Award
- Academic Team placed 2nd overall in English, Fine Arts and 1st in Social Studies. The social studies team advanced to State in the Finals at Purdue. (Image 5)



COLLEGE TO CAREER READINESS

- 3 Regional Innovate Within Recipients (Image 1)
- Student Media Class created weekly news program, Around the 'Burg and a student social media page (Image 2)
- 3 Seniors designed, raised funds for and built campus greenhouse for their capstone project (Image 3)
- 100% of seniors participated in a semester-long internship and /or capstone project (Images 4-7)
- 32 Different partnering organizations participated in our internship program



FINE ARTS

- Regional Scholastic Art and Writing Awards: 2 Gold Keys, 7 Silver Keys, and 1 Honorable Mention (Image 2)
- 2 Congressional Art Awards (Images 1 & 4)
- 3 Students selected to have artwork showcased at Xavier University Art Gallery
- 6 Students artwork showcased at Thomas More University Art Exhibit
- 1 Student selected as the 2023 Overture Award Recipient
- BAAC Young Artist Showcase Art – 13 students
- BAAC Young Artist Showcase Writing- 5 students
- BAAC Young Artist Showcase Drama - 3 students
- 1 Student selected to display artwork at the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Legacy Gala Auction
- Winter and Spring Musical Performances held on campus (Images 3 & 5)
- Academy Singers and Orchestra participated in school masses and community events (Images 6 & 7)

ATHLETICS

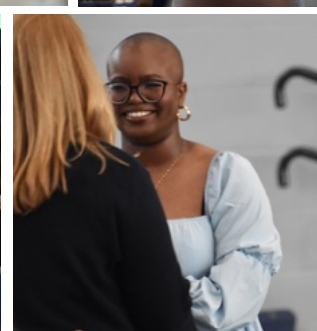
- Sectional Championship Teams in Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Boys Basketball, Boys Baseball and Girls Tennis (Images 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8)
- Regional qualifiers in Girls Tennis (Images 3 & 6)
- 4 Students advanced to Regionals in Cross Country
- Boys Basketball advanced to Sectional Final
- 1 Student freshman advances to Regionals in Girls Track
- 1 Student qualified for Sectional Finals Swimming and broke records in the 200 IM and 500 freestyle (Image 5)
- 1 Student signed to play collegiate sports (Image 7)

SERVICE

- OA Day of Service | students celebrated Earth Day with campus- wide cleaning and service projects (Image 3)
- Students attended Mass and March for Life (Image 1)
- Students attended Mass with Archbishop Thompson during Catholic Schools week in Indianapolis
- 4 Seniors earned Centennial Service Awards for over 100 hours of service
- 12 Students commissioned Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Image 4)
- 4 Seniors designed Easter Paschal candles (Images 2)
- 12 Students attended Catholic Youth Conference: INTENSE
- Sophomore students completed service work at area parishes (Image 6)
- 4 Students attending World Youth Day Summer of 2023
- 2 Students participating in IGNITE summer conference
- All school student competition during Catholic Schools week to collect donations for the Blessing Box to help area families in need (Image 5)

AWARDS DAY & SENIOR MASS

To view the awards/scholarships received by OA students, visit <https://www.oldenburgacademy.org/oa-news>.



FIELD DAY

To celebrate the end of the school year, OA students, faculty, and staff enjoyed an afternoon of fun and games, a grill-out, corn-hole and pickleball tournaments, a visit from the Kona Ice truck, and tie-dye!



2023 SUMMER CAMPS

Earlier this summer, OA welcomed students to campus for a series of summer camps put on by the OA faculty/staff, including art, volleyball, math, archery, girls basketball, boys basketball, and cheerleading. Coming up in July, there will be a boys/girls soccer camp!

Congratulations Class of 2023!



Valedictorian | Madelyn Henry



"...One of my favorite historical quotes is by Henry Ford who said "Whether you think you can, or think you cannot, you are right". Now how does this relate to us? In order to achieve your goals, whether that be personal, career, or spiritual, you have to take initiative and create a vision and truly believe that you CAN and WILL do it. This quote has always resonated with me. It is simple but powerful. I know each of you has the ability to achieve your dreams, no matter how high they may seem now, but the key is to set them HIGH. Higher than what you might think you CAN achieve. Michelangelo said, "The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low and achieving our mark". Setting our aims high is how we truly unlock our potential and open up new opportunities that otherwise would have passed us by. All this is really summed up in our school's theme: Go Beyond..."

To read Madelyn's full speech, visit <https://www.oldenburgacademy.org/oa-news>



Co-Salutatorians | Erin Potts Schmidt & Clare Van Meter

"They say it takes a village, and luckily, the class of 2023 was blessed with the best village out there - Oldenburg. What makes OA so special is that it truly is so much more than just a school - it's a community. Over the past four years, today's graduates have been supported and encouraged along every step of the way by our dedicated teachers, coaches, mentors, parents, grandparents, family, and friends.

Recently, we partook in the OA tradition of painting our senior blocks in the student lounge - the marks that we leave behind us as our time at OA comes to a close. Our legacy, however, will live well beyond the walls of Oldenburg Academy. Each one of us looks forward to a bright future. We are going on to be the world's next doctors, nurses, pharmacists, entrepreneurs, engineers, artists, architects, firefighters, priests, teachers, and tradesmen. There is no doubt that the knowledge we have learned and the experiences we have had here will set us up for success in our lives, but we would like to focus for a moment on the personal growth that each graduate has undergone in the last four years.... "

To read Erin's and Clare's full speech, visit <https://www.oldenburgacademy.org/oa-news>



Commencement Address | Chelsea Cook '08

"remember that the beauty of life lies not only in the destination but in the process of self-discovery."



"...You see, life has a funny way of throwing us curveballs, good and bad, of leading us down unexpected paths. For many of us, the question of what we want to do with our lives remains a daunting puzzle - but I'm here to tell you that it is okay to not have all the answers, it's ok to be unsure and feel lost and overwhelmed by all of the possibilities that lie before you.

If you would have told me when I was your age that I would work in management at a pharmaceutical company, that I would live in several different countries, and have an MBA from a top program, I would have laughed in your face and probably snorted. I had no idea what I wanted to do when I was graduating from high school and picked a major based on the class I hated the least. I struggled adjusting to college, and made too many mistakes to count - some trivial and some life changing. But I wouldn't be the person I am today if I hadn't persevered through those mistakes - I will continue to make mistakes and how I rebound from those will define the type of person I become.

You may ask, how did I actually persevere through these mistakes and become who I am today? Three virtues have been my guiding light throughout my journey, and today, I want to share with you why they are so essential, particularly when I have found myself at a crossroad: these values are authenticity, curiosity, and tenacity and they have helped me to always keep going and have helped me continue to find my purpose and to ultimately be happy."

To read Chelsea's full speech, visit <https://www.oldenburgacademy.org/oa-news>

Welcome class of 2027

We are honored to have these 42 students join our Twister Family!

OUR NEWEST TWISTERS!





Kirsten Stenger Wiegand '16 and Pete Wiegand were married on May 20, 2023 in the Sisters' Chapel in Oldenburg, IN. Kirsten always dreamed of getting married in the Sisters' Chapel and after bringing Pete back to Oldenburg to show him the Chapel and meet her Adopt-A-Sis sister, they both agreed it was the perfect place for their wedding!

After graduating from Oldenburg Academy in 2016, Kirsten Stenger went to Indiana University, graduating in May of 2020 with her Bachelor's Degree in Apparel Merchandising. She returned to IU in the Fall of 2021 to work towards her Master's Degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs, during which, she worked in the Office of Student Conduct as a Graduate Hearing Officer. She recently graduated in May, and accepted a role as the Associate Director of Alumni Professional Development at the IU Alumni Association. She now lives in Bloomington with her husband, Pete, and their three-legged cat, Thomas.



Class of 1973 Reunion

Last month, we welcomed the ICA/Oldenburg Academy class of 1973 back to campus for a lovely afternoon of catching up and reminiscing! While sharing great stories, fond memories, and life updates, they enjoyed charcuterie boards together under the pergola, took a tour of the academic buildings, and sang songs together in the auditorium.

Elliot Bergman '11 was recently promoted to Leutenant at the Green Township Fire Department in Ohio.



Trevor Stacy '10 married Merrilee York on June 10, 2023 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Greensburg, Indiana.

OA guests included Bobby Rauch '04, Katie Welsh Rauch '06, Matthew Bohman '10, Jonathon Maple '07, Nora Stacy Bruns '13, Jackie Wenning Fitzgerald '80, and Jason Strasemeier '10.

Trevor and Merrilee reside in North Carolina.

WAYS TO SUPPORT OA!

1

Be a Career Guest Speaker

We are looking for alumni or friends in the OA community who are interested in speaking to OA students about his/her career and exposing fellow Twisters to all of the amazing things they have the ability to do after graduation!

If interested, fill out our form by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://www.oldenburgacademy.org/alumni-association#stayconnected>



2

Volunteer in the Twister Cafe

We can always use extra helping hands in the cafe during the school year.

If you are interested in serving lunch and assisting in the cafe, please contact Mrs. Angie Voegele in the cafe:

avoegele@oldenburgacademy.org



3

Purchase Raffle Tickets and Attend Our Events

Each year, OA holds their Cash Raffle and Lucky Buck Raffles as well as a number of fun events including the OASIS Hog Roast (November 4, 2023) and Dinner Auction (February 24, 2024).

We would love for you to join in the fun! Purchase a ticket(s) and help support OA students by contacting these respective people:

Debbie Lamping | Lucky Bucks and Cash Raffle:
dlamping@oldenburgacademy.org

Patrick Kolks | OASIS:
pkolks@oldenburgacademy.org

Amy Grills | Dinner Auction:
agrills@oldenburgacademy.org

4

Donate!

Your support is what helps make it possible for OA to continue its mission of academic excellence, social responsibility, leadership and personal growth for our students.

We are so very grateful for any gift you are willing to share.

To give today, scan the QR code or visit <https://www.oldenburgacademy.org/ways-to-give#give>



OLDENBURG ACADEMY'S \$25,000 CASH RAFFLE

\$100 Per Ticket

ONE: \$20,000 WINNER*

TWO: \$1,000 WINNERS

FIVE: \$500 WINNERS

**FIVE: \$100 EARLY BIRD WINNERS
June 1, 2023**

**Subject to all tax withholdings*

CONTACT

**THE OA ADVANCEMENT OFFICE
FOR TICKET INFORMATION**

PHONE | 812.933.0737

WEBSITE | oldenburgacademy.org

Participants must be 18 years of age or older.

**Drawing will be held on
Saturday, July 15th
at Freudenfest 2023**

*Must present ticket stub to claim prize

002071 - 158489 @oldenburgacademy

Save the Date

ALUMNI HOMECOMING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

CELEBRATING 171 YEARS OF ICA / OLDENBURG ACADEMY

Doors open at 6:00 PM; Dinner at 6:30 PM
(first number pulled at 7:00 PM)

\$100 Per Ticket
(includes 2 people and their dinners)

VIP Table | \$500
(Includes 4 tickets (8 people), reserved seating, special gifts,
first through the buffet line)

**Activities include the famous Dessert Auction, Split-the-Pot,
Heads or Tails and lots of laughs!**

All proceeds benefit OASIS Athletic Boosters
#002071

Registration will be followed by Mass in the Sisters' Chapel and lunch.

Awards presentation will take place during Mass and after lunch.

Stay tuned for details and updates on the website.
Invitations and more details with costs to be mailed late August.

Reminders:

This is an adult-only event
You are welcome to bring a Spouse/Friend/Guest

Nominations for the Arts, VHE and Distinguished Alumni awards are being accepted until August 1, 2023



NOVEMBER 4, 2023



OLDENBURG ACADEMY
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
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UPCOMING EVENTS

August 8 | Back to School Night
August 9 | Freshman Orientation
August 10 | First Day of School
August 15 | Feast of the Assumption
August 16 | Picture Day

September 14 | Twister Tailgate
September 15 | Grandparents Day & Junior Induction
September 19 | NHS Induction
October 4 | Feast of Saint Francis
October 9-13 | Fall Break

October 14 | Alumni Homecoming
October 22 | Open House
November 1 | Feast of All Saints
November 4 | OASIS Hog Roast

STAY CONNECTED!



oldenburgacademy.org



GO BEYOND