



MERION Mercy

Live Mercy. Seek Justice.

CAREER DAY 2022

Arts, Culture, and Entertainment/Communications and English



Jennifer Baldino Bonett '87

Jennifer is an award-winning writer, editor and communications strategist, specializing in health care and higher education. She is now Editorial Leader for *ChristianaCare*, a nationally recognized health system based in Delaware. At *ChristianaCare*, she manages its news site, blogs and internal communications. She previously served as senior speechwriter for University of Pennsylvania President Judith Rodin, the first female president in the Ivy League. While raising her children, Jennifer worked as a freelance writer and editor for parenting publications, Disney, Penn and her alma mater Temple University. As a journalism student at Temple, Jennifer wrote for local newspapers including *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and Delaware's *News Journal* as an intern and a freelance writer. Jennifer started her writing career as a student at MMA as managing editor of *Ricordia*.



Kellianne Nicholas DeBlase '06

Kellianne graduated from Hofstra University with a double major in Marketing and Management. During her time at Hofstra, she interned at NBC, Radio City Music Hall and *O, The Oprah Magazine*. Upon graduation, Kellianne was hired full time at *O, The Oprah Magazine* as an Advertising Sales Assistant. Her role was to create enhanced marketing opportunities for sponsors including digital ads and immersive advertising on the new iPad edition and to develop events and experiences with magazine personalities. Kellianne then went on to serve as the Director of Marketing and Events at the Atlantic City Alliance, Atlantic City's tourism agency responsible for the DO AC campaign. There she managed a \$14 million advertising spend across television, print, radio, OOH and on-site activations. Kellianne worked closely with creative agencies to develop the content and strategize messaging and placement, and worked directly with broadcast producers to showcase Atlantic City on national shows such as *The Bachelorette* and *Good Morning America*. She also oversaw the creation of large-scale events to drive tourism such as the Beach Concerts featuring Blake Shelton and Lady Antebellum and the World Championship of Sand Sculpting.

In 2016, Kellianne began her role as Vice President of Marketing and Communications at Welcome America, Inc., a non-profit in a public-private partnership with the City of Philadelphia. Welcome America, Inc. is responsible for large-scale events throughout Philadelphia, including Wawa Welcome America and the Philly Holiday Experience, which encompasses holiday attractions and events citywide. Kellianne is responsible for branding, digital marketing, public relations, and partner communications. She also works very closely with Live Nation and event producers to develop and enhance festival events and programming, including booking national and international talent such as Pitbull, Flo Rida, Jennifer Hudson and Meghan Trainor. Kellianne looks forward to all that is to come in the city of Philadelphia, especially as we look toward 2026, the country's 250th anniversary.



Kristen Harrison '16

Kristen Harrison is a visual storyteller based in Philadelphia. She received degrees in Documentary Production and Spanish from Ithaca College. Kristen is currently a freelance photographer and video editor, but has worked previously as an aerial photographer, photojournalist and photo editor. Her work focuses on small moments that act as a testament to something bigger. She co-directed "On the Fenceline: A Fight for Clean Air," a short documentary that follows a South Philadelphia activist group as it works to shut down the oldest and largest oil refinery on the east coast. Kristen is most recently an FAA certified remote pilot and has been exploring new perspectives with her drone.



Ava Sullivan '16

Ava Sullivan graduated from Temple University in May 2020 with a degree in Media Studies and Production. Throughout college Ava worked as a Production Assistant on various projects including Netflix's *Queer Eye*. Upon graduating Temple, Ava worked as a producer for a local video production company in Media. Ava is currently based in Philadelphia, while traveling to various parts of the U.S. for work. She continues to pursue her love of reality television and has been producing for MTV shows such as *Jersey Shore: Family Vacation* and *Teen Mom 2*.

Business/Criminal Justice and Law



Emily Crawford '17

Emily graduated from West Chester University in 2021 with a B.S. in Business Management and a minor in Dance. She has danced since the age of five, has been teaching dance since 2015, and opened up her own dance studio, Emily Rose Dance Creations in Newtown Square in 2021. She also ran the MMA Dance Troupe in spring 2021. She has studied and taught all styles of dance including ballet, pointe, jazz, tap, lyrical, contemporary, modern, and hip hop. Emily is also a certified yoga instructor through the International Sports Sciences Association. Over the years, she has performed in countless dance events, including Walt Disney World's Dance the World Parade, the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Miss America Parade in Atlantic City, Fourth of July parades, local park concerts, and annual dance recitals. She has also taken master classes at Koresh Dance Company in Philadelphia and Broadway Dance Center in New York City. She is a member of the Dance Studio Owners Association and has choreographed more than sixty dances at this point in her career including solos, duets, trios and group numbers. She continues to run her business teaching all genres and all age groups ranging from three to adult. Emily has turned her passion into a business and has become quite an entrepreneur.



Amanda Dunning '05

Amanda attended the University of Pittsburgh where she pursued a double major in Political Science and Communication Rhetoric and was an active member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. After college she began her professional career at LaFrance Corp, where she worked as a Production Planner and later a Project Manager. It was during her time at LaFrance that she was recruited by L'Oreal and has been with them for the last 10+ years. She held many Supply Chain positions across the Luxury Product Division, most recently as Assistant Vice President of Global Supply Chain for Kiehl's. Amanda feels blessed to be part of a company whose values align with those that were an integral part of her Mercy education.



Elizabeth Loftus '14

Lizzy is Senior Client Associate at Nautilus Labs, a maritime shipping software company focused on reducing carbon emissions in long-haul ocean freight. She works with ship owners and charterers, primarily in North & South America, to reduce their vessels' emissions and improve their fleet's performance. Loftus worked as Shipping Sales Specialist, dedicated to North & South America, at S&P Global Platts prior to joining Nautilus Labs in October 2021. In her role, Lizzy advised shipping clients in the Americas, driving sales for the Platts shipping team with a portfolio covering global, cross-commodity marine freight and fuel markets.

Before beginning her career in the shipping industry in March of 2020, Lizzy worked in public relations for S&P Global's corporate communications team. In this capacity, she worked across divisions to promote S&P Global's thought leadership, reputation, brand visibility, and products with key external influencers and media. Loftus also coordinated the communications team's operations for ChangePays, an S&P Global corporate campaign to provide concrete economic research on how an investment in women is an investment in the global economy.

A member of the Women's International Shipping & Trading Association (WISTA), Lizzy holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from the University of Scranton, where she also received dual minor degrees in Philosophy and History. Lizzy is also a member of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution; managed social outreach for the New York Junior League's 2019 & 2020 Annual Fundraiser; studies genealogy and ancestry in her free time; and stays involved with her beloved high school, Merion Mercy Academy.

Education and Social Services



Angela DiCocco Donnelly '04

After graduating from Loyola University Maryland, Angela served as a Spanish teacher in the Baltimore Corps of Teach for America and earned her M.A. in Teaching at Johns Hopkins University.

Angela taught Spanish for a number of years in both the city of Baltimore and in PA. In 2013, she returned to Merion Mercy as “Señora Donn” and “Coach” upon accepting both Spanish teacher and tennis coach positions at her alma mater. From this point onward, her enthusiasm for girls’ education blossomed and her Mercy spirit was emboldened. While on staff, Angela enjoyed roles moderating a variety of student leadership and service clubs. She also served on numerous school committees. She earned her M.S. in School Leadership at Saint Joseph’s University in 2018.

Among her MMA experiences, having served as a teacher to so many Merion “chicas” over the years remains her most cherished! It’s only second to her very rewarding role as mom of three sons: Marty (5), Tommy (3), and Nick (1). Angela’s husband Kevin never attended any Harvest Moon dances, yet he remains her favorite date. She and her family reside in Havertown, PA.



Diane Duffy Hankee '88

Diane Duffy Hankee attended Merion Mercy on a Music scholarship for piano. She then went to Loyola University Maryland where she graduated in 1992 with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in Music. Following the suggestion of a mentor at Loyola, Diane spent a year in the Channel program, a post-graduate ministry training program in Seattle, WA, where she worked as a parish youth minister. Upon returning to the East coast, Diane worked for the Archdiocesan CYO offices as a retreat and leadership program coordinator for high school students throughout the Philadelphia archdiocese. During this time, she also completed her certification in Music Education K-12 from Immaculata University. In 1995, Diane became the Director of Music at Merion Mercy, where she worked until the birth of her third child in 2009. She also worked during this time at St. Thomas of Villanova parish as the Assistant to the Director of Liturgical Music. In 2012, Diane began her work as the Assistant to the Campus Minister of Liturgy and Music at Saint Joseph's University, and, in 2018, took over this Campus Ministry position where she currently works today.

The youngest of 8 children, Diane grew up in Drexel Hill as part of a devout, Irish Catholic family whose parents greatly valued the charisms of the Sisters of Mercy and the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). She currently lives in West Chester with her husband Jim and their three children. In her free time, Diane loves to read, cook, listen to all genres of music, exercise, spend time with her family and friends, and play with her dog, Reggie.



Lauren Reilly Hopkins '99

Lauren is currently the Supervisor of Secondary Humanities at Lower Merion School District. Prior to taking on this role, Lauren served as a high school Assistant Principal, and also taught Middle and High School English. Lauren has a B.A. in English from Dickinson College, where she also earned her teaching certificate. While teaching, Lauren earned an M.A. in English from Villanova University and an M.S. in Educational Leadership from Saint Joseph's University. Lauren is currently pursuing a Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at Neumann University.

While at Merion, Lauren ran cross country and indoor and outdoor track and was a member of MMA's very first swim team. Lauren was also very involved with Inglis House as well as the leadership team at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's Office for Youth and Young Adults. Lauren went on to run cross country in college and recently enjoyed running in MMA's fun run on Mercy Day. Lauren met her husband in her very first class at Villanova and they now reside in Springfield with their two children. In her free time, Lauren enjoys shopping, reading, ballet, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.



Mayla Henderson Jackson '02

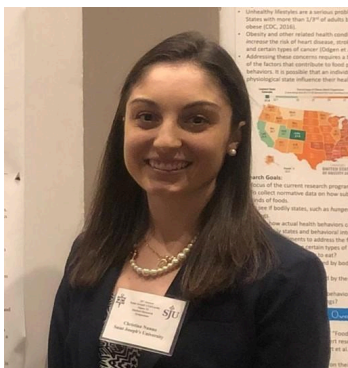
Mayla attended Spelman College, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Piano Performance in 2006 and a Master's degree in Public Health from Drexel University in 2008. Professionally, Mayla worked for the Philadelphia Department of Public Health for 12 years, most recently serving as a Health Services Administrator managing the HIV Program in the eight City of Philadelphia Ambulatory Health Services centers. In March 2022, Mayla transitioned to AccessMatters, a non-profit whose mission is to protect, expand, and enhance equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care and information for all people. At AccessMatters, Mayla is the Director of Family Planning, overseeing the implementation of high quality family planning, adolescent, and screening program services throughout the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Mayla is an active member of her beloved sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Philadelphia Chapter; and the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, where she teaches Sunday School music. Between 2020 and 2022, Mayla was grateful for the opportunity to serve on the executive committee of the Merion Mercy Alumnae Association Advisory Board with other alumnae committed to service and the spirit of Mercy. Mayla lives in Andorra with her husband Tom and sons Thomas (7) and Lucas (4).

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Medicine)



Jeannie McGill '17

Jeannie is a software engineer at eMoney Advisor, a financial technology company. She is a recent graduate of Drexel University where she earned her degree in Computer Science with tracks in human computer interaction and game design. In her final year at Drexel University, Jeannie was the Senior Project Showcase winner for her design project *Fool's Gold Frenzy*. She has also worked as a web developer at Art Sphere Inc. and a programmer analyst at University of Pennsylvania.



Christina Nunno '15

Christina is the current Neuropsychology testing coordinator on a research study at the University of Pennsylvania. After graduating from Merion Mercy, she attended Saint Joseph's University where she received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a Master's in Health Psychology and Neuropsychology. While at SJU, she received research grants to study the impact of chronic illness on both the individual and industry levels. This research experience sparked an interest in health psychology and led to her current position as Neuropsychology Coordinator.

As a Neuropsychology Coordinator, Christina oversees memory and cognition testing throughout various health systems involved in the study. Recently, she was responsible for transitioning the study out of COVID-19 protocols while maintaining the validity and reliability of the testing. Her favorite part of the job is interacting with patients, listening to their concerns, and connecting them with resources beyond the study.



Tara Keohane Scherf '94

Tara graduated from Gwynedd Mercy University in 1996 with an Associate's Degree of Nursing. She began her nursing career at Nazareth Hospital with mostly critical care in the Intensive Care Units. While working, she obtained her Bachelors of Science in Nursing from MCP Hahnemann University in 1999. Tara has spent the last 20 years specializing in Emergency Care and is currently certified in Emergency Nursing. Currently, Tara works in the Emergency Department with the Crozer Health System. Her daughter Fiona graduated from Merion last year and her daughter Bronwyn is a sophomore.



Christina Marconi Walker '05

Christina is the Director of Planning and Design for Hankin Group, an award-winning, multi-discipline real estate development company based in Exton, PA. Drawing on her 13+ years experience working as a licensed architect and Project Manager, Christina is responsible for managing overall project development by leading a team of consulting architects and engineers to execute designs that meet the aesthetic, financial, and market-driven goals of each project. Christina holds a Master of Architecture and Bachelor of Arts in Architecture, Cum Laude, both from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a LEED accredited professional with a concentration in building design and construction as well as a member of the American Institute of Architects.

Outside of the office, Christina is passionate about inspiring the next generation of designers. She is an Adjunct Professor at Temple University as well as a mentor to various high school and college students through the ACE of Eastern PA & PennDesign Women in Architecture programs.