STRATEGIC PLAN
Setting goals: Anna Maria looks to the future

HIGH NOTES
Under Reagan Paras ’08, music programs take center stage

AROUND CAMPUS
What’s happening? Construction, renovations, and upgrades
COMMENCEMENT 2017
Marlena DiMattia ’17, who majored in health science, celebrates her graduation.
OUR MISSION

As a Catholic institution inspired by the ideals of the Sisters of Saint Anne, Anna Maria College educates students to become individuals who will transform their world as ethical leaders and community-oriented professionals.

OUR VALUES

- Faith and reason
- Liberal arts
- Service to community
- Justice and peace
- Development of the whole person
- Cultivation of personal moral responsibility
- Diversity and inclusion

Anna Maria College encourages a lifestyle capable of sustaining these values in balance.
FEATURES

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An eye on the future

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Transforming the student experience

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Reagan Paras ‘08, maestro of the music department

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHAIR

JOHN J. SPILLANE, ESQ.

Having served as a trustee of the College for nine years, John J. Spillane takes on the leadership role as board chair. John is a managing partner at Spillane & Spillane LLP and a recipient of the Key to the City of Worcester.

“ It’s been a pleasure serving as a trustee and now as chair as we look not only to strengthen the future of Anna Maria but also at how students go on to effect change and become leaders in their field.”

2017–2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John J. Spillane, Esq.
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Kimberly A. Kennedy ‘97G
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Joanne M. Dion, S.S.A.
Secretary

Annette J. Bibeau, S.S.A. ‘57

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Jacqueline LeBoeuf, S.S.A. ’72, ’08G

Barbara G. Lyman, PhD, ’69

Julia M. McNamara, PhD

Timothy P. Murray

Michael T. Nockunas ‘11, ’12G

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Barbara G. Lyman, PhD, ’69

Julia M. McNamara, PhD

Timothy P. Murray

Michael T. Nockunas ‘11, ’12G

ON THE COVER
Reagan Paras ‘08, director of music and theater productions, conducting the annual Christmas Concert at Blessed Sacrament Church, Worcester, Massachusetts
Dear Alumni, Friends and Family,

Our momentum on strategic planning and execution this past year has been impressive as well as imperative. We have strengthened our student enrollments, increased support from foundations and the community, invested in our campus and infrastructure, and renewed our athletic programs.

We are now moving forward on a number of strategies that will sustain our trajectory, including growing our faculty and staff to serve our increasing student populations and prioritizing the academic and student programs that will attain substantial growth in the future.

Consistent with our mission and core values, we commit to make our College something greater in order to prepare our students to live lives of character, civic mindedness and compassion and to individually impact their professions and communities. The major initiatives of our strategic plan are outlined on these pages. Through these strategies, the College will broaden its foundation in those core strengths that make us distinctive and will mark us as experts in the fields in which we excel.

Anna Maria College’s brand identity – the educational value we present to our publics and, most importantly to our future students – is also at center stage for securing our future. Our brand is not just our new logo or tagline, although they are essential features, but our promise of an exceptional academic experience. By building on the brand, we constantly look for ways to improve our impact in the service professions and educate our students with the skills and liberal based education that will make them something greater.

As alumni, you each have an understanding of Anna Maria founded in your personal experiences with the College and your affections and loyalty for your alma mater. In the years ahead, we are dedicated to advancing our College in ways that continue to achieve our common mission. Great strides are already evident and with your support, more will follow.

We embark now on the next steps for the College and we seek ways to measure our value in how well we serve our students and our alumni, deliver our message with a clear and unified voice and stay confident in the Anna Maria College mission.

Sincerely,

MARY LOU RETELLE
PRESIDENT

Our core values extend into all we do at Anna Maria College. To fulfill our mission and achieve our vision, we are focused on seven strategic pillars that enable us to bring our plan to life.

PILLAR FOUR
PARTNERSHIPS

Broadening our external partnerships in greater Worcester and the rest of the region to provide opportunities for experiential learning, civic engagement, and service learning.
**PILLAR ONE**
CURRICULUM

Developing the undergraduate core curriculum to teach the literacies and skills our students need to succeed in the contemporary workplace and in the world.

**PILLAR TWO**
PROGRAMS

Making continuous improvements to undergraduate and graduate programs to keep them professionally current and to enhance our students’ career placement and impact.

**PILLAR THREE**
ACADEMIC DEGREES

Expanding academic-degree offerings tailored to our region’s high-demand professions.

**PILLAR FIVE**
COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

Investing in the overall college experience through living-learning residential communities, commuter-student services, supporting first-years, career mentoring and placement, and athletics and wellness.

**PILLAR SIX**
ACCESS

Providing greater access and opportunity for an Anna Maria College education through online initiatives, community outreach, market expansion, and merit- and need-based financial aid.

**PILLAR SEVEN**
POSITIONING

Strengthening our position through strategic investments in our campus and facilities, expanded community use of our campus, growing external funding, and high return on financial investments.
INTRODUCING OUR NEW LOOK

• **Anna Maria’s brand** is much more than just a slogan or tag line. Our brand captures the essence of who we are, and why we matter, and where we’re headed—for students, families, faculty, staff, the community, and the world. The Anna Maria brand differentiates us from other institutions of higher learning.

• **Our new logo** is the driving force behind everything that makes Anna Maria College’s identity unique in its deep, abiding belief that through our actions, we can achieve “Something Greater.” The logo was developed around the long-standing College motto *Lux et Veritas*, light and truth, which is represented by the two main parts of the mark.

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**THE TORCH**

A torch is a light source, one that enables us to see clearly and find our way. From a religious perspective, the torch separates light from darkness, representing the illuminating wisdom and grace of the Holy Spirit. In athletics, a torch can be part of a relay, conveying teamwork and collaboration to reach a common goal.

**THE OPEN BOOK**

Books signify knowledge, teaching, learning, and wisdom. Here, the open book reflects access to these intellectual gifts. For its holder, an open book may signify spiritual wisdom as well as respect for or deference to God’s law. Oriented as it is here, the pages rising up from the spine represent rays of light emanating from the book, surrounding and supporting the torch.
SAY GOOD-BYE TO THE OLD . . . AND HELLO TO THE NEW

The seal, which now has a cleaner look, with sharper and more defined details, is reserved for official college and academic purposes.

Our marketing materials have also been redesigned. Our new look tells the Anna Maria story, and we—and our students—are delighted to display it.

The “Ring the Bell!” motto, found in the AMCAT center, embodies the Anna Maria College spirit and our commitment to the entire AMC community.
The George L. Alden Trust and Stoddard Foundation generously awarded Anna Maria funds to begin renovations to the Bishop Flanagan Campus Center. Phase 1 will take place this summer and then reopen in time for the fall semester. Phase 2 will be completed in summer 2019.
Technology Upgrade
Thank you to the George F. and Sybil H. Fuller Foundation for its generous gift of $200,000, which will support a collaborative “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) learning environment and replace all existing projectors with 75-inch LED touchscreen displays able to simulcast classroom technology as well as personal devices. Along with webcams and additional hardware/software, faculty and students will be able to work collaboratively and connect with others outside the classroom.

With Gratitude to the Class of ’57
The Class of 1957 recently earmarked its 60th reunion gift to support the renovation of Payer Concert Hall and classrooms in Miriam Hall. Led by Maureen (Logan) Coghlin ’57 and Roberta (Bobbie McCarty) O’Brien ’57, the class raised almost $40,000!

Esther’s Dream Summer Bridge Program
Thanks to the generosity of the Sisters of Saint Anne, this enriching program, held over the course of five days, creates experiences designed to make starting college easier, both academically and socially. It prepares students with writing seminars, tips for college success, a community-service project, and bonding with classmates and the community over activities both on and off campus. Students who have attended the program achieve higher grades during all four years and graduate at a higher rate.
CAMPUS PROFILE

2017–2018 FACTS

30+
CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
such as the music therapy club,
the philosopher’s society, the track club,
and the student nurse association

STUDENT PROFILE

1,105
850 undergraduates
17 continuing education
238 continuing education (online)

296
116 graduate
180 graduate (online)

1,401 total students

33% OF UNDERGRADUATES ARE STUDENTS OF COLOR
$27,000
AVERAGE FINANCIAL-AID AWARD PER STUDENT

100%
OF STUDENTS RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

11:1
STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

35%
OF STUDENTS ARE FIRST GENERATION TO ATTEND COLLEGE

15
NCAA DIVISION III ATHLETICS PROGRAMS

5,000+
COMMUNITY-SERVICE & CAMPUS-MINISTRY HOURS COMPLETED BY STUDENTS

AVERAGE FINANCIAL-AID AWARD PER STUDENT

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5,000+
COMMUNITY-SERVICE & CAMPUS-MINISTRY HOURS COMPLETED BY STUDENTS
ELAINE WALTER ’59 has lived the kind of life that could quite easily be translated into a riveting screenplay: The only and adopted child of parents who early on moved her from Cambridge to Worcester, Mass., she enrolled in music school at age five and by age 11 was being heavily recruited by The Catholic University of America (Washington, D.C.) for her virtuosity as a pianist: “I was considered to be a child prodigy,” she says. And Elaine, it seems, was just as eager to attend Catholic University as it was to have her. “Oh, I wanted to go there—no question,” she says.

However, just as she was nearing the end of high school, something happened that would alter this trajectory. “Worcester was made a diocese,” recalls Elaine, “and its first bishop, John Wright [later appointed Cardinal Wright], moved Anna Maria from Marlborough to Paxton, Mass. My parents read about it in the local paper and said ‘That’s where you’re going’.”

Arriving in the autumn of 1955, Elaine, who’d been awarded a full-tuition scholarship to study music, was quickly challenged in ways she couldn’t have imagined, in particular by Sister Madeleine of the Savior, who, she recalls, “put me back into what I considered to be easy repertoire and made me do tons of technical exercises. I cried before, during, and after each lesson, every day, all year.”

What at first seemed like harsh treatment, though, later made perfect sense. “When at the end of my first year Sister Madeleine gave me new repertoire and told me ‘Now you’re ready to play,’ my whole impression of her and of Anna Maria changed,” says Elaine. “She had been tearing me down and breaking me of bad habits, but once she had accomplished this, she built me right back up.”

By the time she graduated, says Elaine, she’d grown to love the nuns, in particular, Sister Madeleine, Sister Rose Bernadette, and Sister Antoinette Marie, who, recalls Elaine, would rise early on snowy days to clear the walkways with a tractor so the girls could get to class. What’s more, Elaine had become a leader, securing the student government presidency by her senior year, which she’s certain grabbed the attention of the administration at Catholic University, where, the following fall, she was “immediately contacted to become one of the student leaders in graduate housing.”

Elaine would remain at Catholic University for the next 54 years, eventually becoming dean of the university’s Benjamin T. Rome School of Music for 21 years and independently founding and running the Summer Opera Theatre Company. During the celebration of Anna Maria’s 50th anniversary, in 1996, Elaine, who served for many years as a trustee of the school, was awarded an honorary doctorate, the first graduate to be so honored.

She credits much of her success to her time at Anna Maria, where the school and faculty led her to achieve “something greater.”

She credits much of her success to her time at Anna Maria, where the school and faculty led her to achieve “something greater.” “I think that at a time when young women are vulnerable and insecure about their future, what I experienced at AMC was constant support from the religious and lay faculty,” she says. “We were trained to think, to explore, to consider, to try new things. We were treated as individuals and made to feel that we could achieve anything we wanted, with hard work. I never lost that lesson.”
In middle school, SUZY PEKAR ‘18 received help from an aunt to buy a digital camera, and she’s been snapping photos ever since—and garnering considerable acclaim for her work. In two consecutive years, Suzy has won the jurors prize at ArtsWorcester’s College Show, this year for her macro photography piece titled *Orbit*. “Marbled, bubbly, chaotic, primary colors in a primordial ooze of a composition,” the jury wrote. “It’s a photograph that feels like a painting, and it’s an abstraction that feels downright optimistic.” Suzy began her college career as an accounting major, but quickly realized that her passion and talents pointed to graphic design. At Anna Maria College, she’s jumped at opportunities to strengthen her skills and bolster her portfolio, working as a sports and event photographer and as the school’s social-media supervisor. Her goal after graduation is to work in editorial design.

**Q. What do you enjoy about your sports photography job at Anna Maria?**

**A.** I love being able to take photos of something that’s really important to other people, and then being able to share them with their friends and family. That’s been very rewarding for me.

**Q. How did your status as a student help you create a compelling admissions video for the college?**

**A.** As a student, it’s easier to communicate and get along with all the students I’m trying to shoot, photograph, and video-record because I’m their age and they recognize me around school. I had to jump out of my comfort zone, but it’s helped me become more outgoing and work on my communication skills.

**Q. What’s been your favorite design class?**

**A.** My favorite class was probably editorial design. We had to make a magazine from scratch and come up with an idea, a logo, a cover, and all of the pages and articles in between. I based it on my internship experience in New York City. The magazine was called *Empire*, and it was all about New York.

**Q. What is macro photography and why did you choose that for your ArtsWorcester entry?**

**A.** It’s a close-up shot that makes something bigger than it is. I wanted to experiment more with macro photography, so I asked my professor and he let me borrow his lens. I used oil, milk, and acrylic paint, and through a lot of experimentation, I shot photographs on my desk in my room. It was rewarding to win and realize that this piece was well liked.

**Q. How has your experience at Anna Maria pushed you to strive for “something greater”?**

**A.** Definitely through my internship with America Media in New York City this past summer, I realized that I’m capable of living and working in a city. So that’s inspired me to look at jobs in Boston and New York. I’m trying to think big for a just-graduating senior and push my limits.

Visit suzypekar.com to read more about Suzy and the projects she’s been working on.
JORDAN BARTLETT ’09 says his experience at Anna Maria College provided a crash course in “adulting,” leading to a successful professional and personal life after graduation.

“I learned how to be an adult and appropriately budget my time and resources between class, day-to-day activities (laundry), and social activities,” says Jordan, who lives with his wife, Jaclyn, on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. “Anna Maria provides a safe environment with a healthy combination of structure and freedom, which is crucial for attaining the knowledge, skills, and personal experience to evolve into the next stage in a young adult’s life.”
For Jordan, that next stage was earning his MBA from St. John’s University before embarking on a career in marketing in New York City. Now, Jordan is the business-development manager for GlobalWebIndex’s U.S. sports division, where he helps sports agencies, leagues, and teams better understand their marketing audience.

“Because we’re a smaller, younger company but with an industry-altering product, it’s a fun and rewarding challenge in socializing who we are to prospects and subsequently growing our business through those relationships,” Jordan says.

At Anna Maria, Jordan earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration and marketing and played varsity soccer all four years. He says his classes, an internship with AMC’s marketing group, and his time on the soccer field gave him the knowledge and the leadership skills he draws from today.

“AMC provided a foundational understanding within each of the various business sectors, which readied me to pursue a number of positions immediately upon graduating,” he says. “And the soccer team opened doors to an invaluable network and a support system that could provide answers or help in any number of areas, from academic to personal.”

As for advice for current AMC students, Jordan suggests a “say-yes” approach. “Say yes to as many educational and professional opportunities as you can, with the goal being to expose yourself to as many new things in your life as possible—especially things that are personally trying and push you out of your comfort zone.”

Speaking of comfort zones, when Jordan’s not working or walking his French bulldog, Raphael, he’s training for 100k ultramarathons. Saying yes, indeed.
Under the leadership of Reagan Paras, ’08, Anna Maria’s music program is flourishing.

Text by Megan Tady
Photography by Paul Schnaittacher
HEN REAGAN PARAS ’08 WAS HIRED as Anna Maria College’s music director, in 2015, he had a mission: to elevate an already reputable music program during a period when other schools’ programs were floundering. Anna Maria has a long tradition of producing well-respected music educators and music therapists. The College offers three programs: a bachelor of arts in music, a bachelor of music in music education, and a bachelor of music in music therapy. Reagan was determined to safeguard the strong tenets of the music department but also to improve it.

And in the last two years, with Reagan at the helm, the program has grown.

“We’re experiencing a time of renaissance,” he says. “While some small liberal arts colleges are feeling the pinch of the economy, we’re going against the trend by growing.”

Reagan, who earned his bachelor’s degree from Anna Maria College in music and his master’s degree in music education from Gordon College, taught at the high school level for seven years and has conducted choirs both internationally and domestically. At Anna Maria, he is also the director of choral activities.

He revamped the music-education curriculum to, he says, “make it more relevant to teach today’s youth.” To help students conduct with skill and proficiency, Reagan introduced a course titled Foundations of Conducting, which he teaches.

“Adding that class to the curriculum gives students a stronger capacity to understand the power of conducting, and because of this focus on technique, they’ve been able to make some deliberate musical decisions they weren’t able to make before,” he says.
We’re forward thinking: We’re willing to make changes within a student’s academic experience that will better suit that individual and foster better preparation.

He also added a method course called Contemporary Issues of the Music Educator, which gives students practice in handling real-world classroom issues, such as crafting an email to an angry parent and planning a field trip.

As Reagan was embarking on curriculum changes, the music department was benefiting from donations from the Class of ’57 that gave Miriam Hall a much-needed face-lift, including new floors and new ceilings.

“Their generosity enabled us educators to do our jobs better,” he says. “At the same time, it resonated with our student body and with perspective students, who are making decisions based on the aesthetic qualities of a campus. They visit colleges and wonder ‘How beautiful are the buildings?” The investment sent a strong message: Music education at Anna Maria is a priority.

The strength of the music department lies in attracting top-notch faculty and in its voice instructors, who, Reagan says, are “employing groundbreaking techniques in the world of voice pedagogy.”

Anna Maria’s marching band has been another success story. It started 10 years ago but had struggled without a large concert band and wind ensemble to propel it. Now, thanks to an increase in enrollment, the wind ensemble has also grown, and students jumped at the opportunity to join the marching band, which now has 40 members—up from just seven.

“I’m hoping that the Anna Maria community is having that college experience, and I think the music programs play a pivotal role in creating that atmosphere and culture,” Reagan says. “The marching band is finally part of Anna Maria’s vision of raising school spirit and pride.”

The music department is also capitalizing on the factors that have long made it a successful program. Students get one-on-one attention from faculty, and a strong practicum program provides important placements for them to get real-world experience.

“We want to make sure that our students are the best music educators and the best music therapists they can be,” Reagan says. “We’re forward thinking: We’re willing to make changes within a student’s academic experience that will better suit that individual and foster better preparation. It’s liberating for me to have freedom in attaining the goals of each program. I think we’ll continue to enjoy this period of growth because we’re motivated in our pursuit of finding the most effective ways to address the needs of our students.”

In December, the changes in Anna Maria’s music department—a balance between innovation and tradition—were on full display during the chamber choir’s Christmas concert at Worcester’s Blessed Sacrament Church. The choir performed works by classical composers such as Felix Mendelssohn and George Frideric Handel, as well as some by contemporary composers, such as Daniel Elder.

“We want to have our audience walk away feeling moved because of the beautiful music they hear,” says Reagan, “but we also want them to walk away knowing that their experience at an AMC concert was like no other in that we’re unapologetic about being forward thinking with our programming.”
Soon after music-therapy major Sonya DiPietro ’20 began her pre-practicum, Wednesday afternoons at the North Hill Nursing Home, she was surprised to see dramatic results with her clients.

“I expected very cookie-cutter interventions and responses,” says Sonya, “but instead I’ve seen people come out of themselves when music touches them. Music therapy provides a space for them to heal that can’t be replaced. There are clients in that facility who are labeled nonverbal but who can vocalize through singing. Music therapy is providing that voice and bettering their quality of life.”

That’s the power of music therapy, a therapeutic, evidence-based program for a long list of diagnoses, from psychiatric illnesses to physical disabilities to dementia. Music therapists work in settings similar to those of occupational and physical therapists: in hospitals alleviating pain and anxiety for patients undergoing medical procedures; in special-education classrooms helping children with disabilities to learn; and in psychiatric hospitals addressing issues such as depression and alcohol and drug addiction.

Sonya, who grew up playing the piano and singing in her church choir, says she wanted to pursue music therapy because it combines two of her interests: music and psychology. She chose Anna Maria College, she says, for the strength of its music-therapy program. “It’s a family-like atmosphere, and the faculty facilitate a creative and supportive environment,” she says.

Music therapy as an established health profession began after World War II, when the healing effects of music were noticeable in hospitalized veterans. It’s now regulated by the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA).

Lisa Summer, a board-certified music therapist and licensed health counselor and AMC’s director of music therapy, says Anna Maria’s is the oldest AMTA-approved music-therapy program in New England.

“Our AMC music-therapy graduates are pioneers in a still-developing profession, striving to improve their clients’ health in the areas of mind, body, emotions, and relationships,” she says.

Every music-therapy student completes 1,200 hours of supervised clinical practicums and internships in the community, working with children, adults, and elderly clients with a range of conditions.

When she graduates, Sonya would like to use music therapy in hospice care.

“One thing my supervisor at the elder-care facility says is that music therapy is about the person who couldn’t speak until he started singing or refused to move until she started dancing,” she says. “Music involves a lot of your brain. It’s creative and mathematical, and it reaches into the very deepest part of your memories. Even elders who forget what they had for lunch today remember a song they learned when they were 25 years old. It’s inspiring.”

Our AMC music-therapy graduates are pioneers in a newly developing profession, striving to improve their clients’ health in the areas of mind, body, emotions, and relationships.
FROM A YOUNG AGE, Thanasi Christoforou ’14 had ambitions to become a police officer. Then an experience through Anna Maria College’s Washington Center Internship Program elevated his dream, introducing him to federal law-enforcement agencies in Washington, D.C. Shortly after graduation, he earned a post at the agency where he interned, the International Criminal Police Organization, and currently works at the Department of Homeland Security.

The Washington Center (TWC) is a unique program through Anna Maria’s Career Services that connects juniors and seniors to immersive internships in government, nonprofit, and the private sector in Washington, D.C. Anna Maria students have secured positions in local and state police, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Service (ICE), the U.S. Marshals Service, and the U.S. Secret Service, among others.

For Thanasi, his internship with TWC marked a pivotal moment in his life. “During my internship, I became truly fascinated with the hard work and determination the different federal law-enforcement agencies do to protect our country,” he said. “I knew immediately that I wanted to be a part of this effort and that public service was exactly what I wanted to do. Without Anna Maria College, I know that none of this would have been possible.”

Dianne White, assistant professor of criminal justice and law and society, oversees TWC at Anna Maria. She says the program is so effective because it combines real-world experience with professional development and networking opportunities—all in the hub of where government is happening.

Along with their internships, students attend lectures by prominent speakers, such as Chuck Todd of MSNBC and Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer. Students live in a beautiful residence hall central to the capital, where they study with fellow participants from all over the world.

To earn their internships, students have to interview with prospective employers, relying on the skills they’ve polished through the help of Career Services at Anna Maria. Brooke Brigham, director of Career Services, says the staff help students become internship-ready through workshops centering on mock interviews and one-on-one feedback to review application materials.

“We’ll use video feedback to show our students how they present: if they’re making eye contact or if they’re using distracting hand motions,” Brooke says.

Along with facilitating internships with TWC, Career Services plays host to 40 companies that send representatives to a career fair at Anna Maria. “After students leave our College, it’s a tough job market,” says Brooke. “There’s a lot of competition. We want our students to strive for the best, and I want to make sure our students are getting as much support as they need.”

For students interested in internships with TWC or elsewhere, Brooke says: “Come to the Career Center. We have so many connections and opportunities for all majors. There are many possibilities.”

For more information on providing internships for Anna Maria students, contact Brooke Brigham ’13 ’14G, director of Career Services, at 508.849.3596, or email bbrigham@annamaria.edu.
Melissa LaNeve, assistant director of Campus Ministry and coordinator of Community Outreach, reflects on memorable moments

I HAVE DONE QUITE A FEW ALTERNATIVE BREAK TRIPS over the years but my first time leading them at Anna Maria College was special. I was able to witness the mission of the College being lived out firsthand over the course of a week in very profound ways. These kinds of immersive, service experiences provide students with the opportunity to see beyond their small “bubbles” and broaden their understanding of the world and the people in it. They come face to face with the struggles many people deal with every day, and cause them to ask “What can I as an individual do to make a difference in other people’s lives?”

One of the most profound moments for me actually happened once we returned to campus following a winter-break trip to Florida. Inspired by the week, students got together and contacted the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate and learned how to start a campus chapter club. I felt God’s presence in their determination to carry the work into the local community. Then, the spring-break team, in Texas, showed me the power of gratitude and the importance of giving special care to the relationships in your life, whether they’re with yourself, your teammates, the people you’re serving, or God.

Although these trips last only a week, there’s no doubt that the lessons learned and experiences lived continue to play a role in students’ lives long after they return to campus.
AmCat Club

Anna Maria College is committed to a quality athletic experience for all students. Be part of the AMCAT spirit and support our quest for excellence.

RING THE BELL!
BY JOINING THE AMCAT CLUB.

For more information about the AMCAT CLUB or to make a donation, go to GOAMCATS.com

Paul W. Phillips
MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

Holly McHale ’95
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Sharon (Trainor) Zenevitch ’84
FIELD HOCKEY, SOFTBALL, BASKETBALL COACH

CALL FOR 2018 NOMINATIONS!
To nominate an athlete, coach, or team to the Athletic Hall of Fame, please send submissions to sconrad@annamaria.edu or call 508-849-3499 by July 1, 2018.

2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY
February 2, 2019, at 5 p.m.
More information coming soon!

NEW!
JOIN NOW

2017 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

2017 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

2017 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

2017 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

2017 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!

2017 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES!
Family Establishes Scholarship for Students Facing Adversity

When Sarah Bibbey ’17 was born, she suffered a stroke that left her with several learning disabilities and a physical handicap. School was challenging, and it was unclear if college was even possible—but Sarah and her family persisted. She was accepted to Anna Maria, where she found a second home and a support system, and she graduated with honors.

To commemorate Sarah’s accomplishments and to support other students who must overcome similar challenges, Sarah’s family has established the Bibbey Family Endowed Scholarship. The $1,000 stipend is awarded to “a student who has faced adversity but has pushed forward.”

Day in and day out, Sarah had to put in long hours to complete her homework assignments and study for tests, working with tutors and the Student Success Center. Her mother, Lisa Bibbey, said the scholarship is designed to appreciate the extra effort that some students have to make.

“Kids who suffer from learning disabilities or face challenges aren’t always recognized,” Lisa says. “I think this award lets them know that we see how hard they’re working, and we hope it inspires them to continue on with their education.”

Sarah, who graduated with a degree in human services and human development along with minors in psychology and early education (and a concentration in sign language), is returning to Anna Maria for graduate school next fall. She credits her success to the professors and staff at the College, who worked with her to overcome her disabilities.

“At Anna Maria, I wasn’t just a number; I was a name,” Sarah says. “My professors knew who I was, and they knew how I learned and what it took for me to be successful. I was able to say ‘I learn best like this.’ And they said, ‘Okay, we can accommodate that.’”

Through the scholarship, Sarah’s thrilled to help students experience the same support system that both nurtured and challenged her. And she’s hoping her story will inspire other students with disabilities:

“Sometimes kids with learning challenges let their disability define them, so I hope to be a role model and say ‘Don’t let that be the case. Go after what you want, even if it means you have to work ten times harder. You’re doing something you love, and that’s going help you in the long haul.’”

Sharon Davenport, vice president for advancement at Anna Maria, says the College was honored to work with the Bibbey family to establish the scholarship.

“‘So many Anna Maria students are first-generation college students and have tremendous financial need,’ she says. ‘Greater support for student scholarship is one of President Mary Lou Retelle’s top priorities.’

The scholarship, says Lisa, is also a way for the Bibbey family to express their gratitude to the College. “We just want to thank the people at Anna Maria—they have been a part of our family.”

When Sarah Bibbey ’17 was born, she suffered a stroke that left her with several learning disabilities and a physical handicap. School was challenging, and it was unclear if college was even possible—but Sarah and her family persisted. She was accepted to Anna Maria, where she found a second home and a support system, and she graduated with honors.
eNewsletter/Class Notes
We have a lot to let you know about our campus and our alumni’s accomplishments; we’ll now be sending out a monthly eNewsletter to keep you informed. Don’t miss out on updates—make sure we have your email address!

Class notes will now be contained in our eNewsletter—so you’ll have updates frequently! To tell us your news and updates, visit www.annamaria.edu/classnotes today.
STAY CONNECTED. BE INVOLVED.

LEGACY WALKWAY
The Class of 2018 has spearheaded the effort to create a legacy walkway around the relocated gazebo in the center of campus and invites you to join in. Leave your mark but also beautify the campus!

Honor a loved one with a brick by going to www.annamaria.edu/brick.

THINK GREEN
Help us go green and reduce mailing costs. Be sure we have your email address by visiting www.annamaria.edu/update.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD
The Alumni Office thanks the Alumni Association Board of Directors—Melissa Johnson ’07 ’15G, Michelle Randall-Berry ’91, and Amy McCarthy ’02G—for their invaluable guidance in shaping the postgraduation experience. We also extend a warm welcome to our new members: Thomas Angelo ’90, Jordan Bartlett ’09, and Tim O’Brien ’96.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Attend events to reconnect with classmates and meet new members of the AMC family! Go to www.annamaria.edu for more information on what’s coming up.

JUNE 25
9th-Annual Golf Tournament
STERLING NATIONAL COUNTRY CLUB, STERLING, MASS.

AUG 18
Red Sox vs. Rays
AMC GOES TO FENWAY PARK

AUG 23
Cape Cod Reception
HOSTED BY JOHN SPILLANE, CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SEPT 28–30
Reunion & Homecoming Weekend
ON CAMPUS

CLASSES ENDING IN 3 & 8 ARE CELEBRATING REUNIONS THIS YEAR!
We hope you’ll come back to campus to celebrate! If you’re interested in planning a reunion for your class, please contact the Alumni Office, at alumni@annamaria.edu.

Connections
Every day, thanks to you, Anna Maria students reap the benefits of annual gifts from alumni, parents, faculty, and staff. From scholarships to academic programs, from experiential learning to research facilities, your support means that our students have daily, life-altering experiences on their way to become Something Greater.

Thank you from all of us at Anna Maria College!

Thank you! For every 100 gifts Anna Maria receives by June 30, a generous former trustee has pledged $5,000, up to $20,000. Let’s meet his challenge!

Please make a contribution today. Return the enclosed envelope, go to annamaria.edu/give, or call 508.849.3341.