Retirees Association Luncheon details inside!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 3
Mass of Remembrance
St. Thomas More Church, Queens Campus

Tuesday, November 12
Veterans Day Ceremony
D’Angelo Center Ballroom, Queens Campus

Wednesday, November 13
Retirees Association Mass
St. Thomas More Church, Queens Campus

Wednesday, November 13
Veterans Day Ceremony
Staten Island Campus

Thursday, November 14
The Tolton Play
St. Thomas More Church, Queens Campus

Thursday, November 21
Lecture by author Austen Ivereigh and signing of his book, *Wounded Shepherd: Pope Francis and His Struggle to Convert the Catholic Church*
St. Thomas More Church, Queens Campus

Sunday, December 1
Notre Dame College Alumnae Christmas Tea
St. Vincent de Paul Chapel, Staten Island Campus

Wednesday, December 4
Vincentian Chair of Social Justice Lecture Series
Kevin Ryan, President and CEO, Covenant House International
The Little Theatre, Queens Campus

Friday, December 6
Christmas at St. John’s: Winter Carnival
Queens Campus

Saturday, December 7
Christmas at St. John’s: Lessons and Carols
Queens Campus

Saturday, February 15
Blessing of the Couples
Queens Campus

Saturday, March 14
St. Patrick’s Day Weekend - Naples, FL

Tuesday, March 17
St. Patrick’s Day Celebration
New York City

Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31
Fifth Annual Grand Alumni Homecoming Weekend

Internationally Acclaimed Curator Heads University Art Gallery

There is a new face in Sun Yat Sen Memorial Hall on the Queens, NY, campus. With the start of the 2019–20 academic year, St. John’s University welcomed Owen Duffy as Director of the Dr. M.T. Geoffrey Yeh Art Gallery. A gifted curator, art historian, and writer, Mr. Duffy’s work appears in a variety of national and international publications, including ArtReview, Momus, Art & Education, and Artnet. In addition, he has presented his research at such prestigious institutions as the National Gallery of Art, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Mr. Duffy said he felt immediately connected to the University. “The Vincentian mission of service is really special,” he said. “It definitely sets St. John’s apart from other institutions. That uniqueness offers an exceptional context in which to organize our exhibitions.”

He was also drawn to Sun Yat Sen Memorial Hall, which he describes as “a one-of-a-kind building, so different from other, more traditional art galleries.”

Not surprisingly, his first exhibition reflects both the history of the building and the reality of the University’s commitment to making the world a better place. Entitled “Diplomacy,” the show features the work of 11 international artists, utilizing a variety of different media. The artists display works that relate to the history and architectural features of Sun Yat Sen Memorial Hall.

The exhibition runs through Friday, November 22, and Mr. Duffy invites the public to visit and experience the art. “The gallery is open to everyone,” he said. “I want the gallery to be a place for ideas, for debate, and for the exchange of information, both for members of our St. John’s family as well as the external community.”

The gallery is open Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. If anyone wishes to view the exhibition outside of regular hours, he can arrange a more convenient appointment.

Mr. Duffy’s plans for the future reflect the enthusiasm and excitement that he brings to his new position. “My ultimate goal is to make this one of the best university art galleries,” he said. “St. John’s is an incredible place, and I am determined that is reflected at our gallery.”

Mr. Duffy will be the featured speaker at the upcoming Retirees Association luncheon. Following the luncheon, he will escort retirees on a private tour of the newly refurbished art gallery. Make plans to be with us on Wednesday, November 13, for Mass at 12:15 p.m. in St. Thomas More Church, immediately followed by the luncheon in the D’Angelo Center.
Office of the Provost
Enhancing the Teaching and Learning Environment and Engaging our Students
By Simon G. Meller, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Higher education changes at an accelerated pace, and there is a steady stream of innovation in the science and technology of learning. Today, most college students access a range of different technologies, which they have utilized during their high school years and expect to use during their college career. At St. John’s, we continue to enhance our teaching and learning environment to ensure that our students have access to advanced educational technology so that they are more engaged with their learning environment.

Most classrooms at St. John’s have been upgraded with a range of advanced podium tools, allowing the use of web-based applications and lecture capture, to mention only a few. The University also continues to upgrade teaching and research laboratories so that students have access to the latest research infrastructure. A great example illustrating this is the new Media Arts and Design Lab, which supports academic programs in digital media, animation, art and design, advertising, and journalism.

University Archives
By Alyce C. Hennig ’11G, Intern University Archivist

As we approach the 150th anniversary of the founding of St. John’s University, it is time to look back at the memories of the wonderful people who make St. John’s such a vibrant community. We invite the members of the Retirees Association to share those memories with the University Archives. Memorabilia, photographs, old newspapers, or other items all contribute to our efforts to document the history of St. John’s. You can also follow the Archives on Twitter and Instagram @SJUarchives or on the blog at sjuarchives.tumblr.com to see our weekly #ThrowbackThursday posts. If you have any materials to donate, please contact the St. John’s University Archives at 718-990-1465; archives@stjohns.edu.

Office of Community Relations
St. John’s University in the Community
By Joseph Scliame ’71Ed, Vice President for Community Relations

During the past year, the Office of Community Relations participated in various outreach efforts to benefit our neighbors in Queens and Manhattan, and on Staten Island. Activities open to the community included free concerts, cultural celebrations, blood drives, and recycling events.

St. John’s University was recognized for its tremendous support of the New York Blood Center and was the recipient of the 2018 Pacesetter Award at the New York Blood Center’s annual Queen’s Chairpersons Recognition Dinner for its donation of more than 450 pints of blood. In the true Vincentian tradition of giving of oneself, these donations represent 1,350 lives that were saved.

Additionally, St. John’s was recognized by the Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D., Bishop of Brooklyn, NY, for being one of the largest blood donation centers among Catholic colleges within the Diocese of Brooklyn.

On July 23, the University hosted its 21st Annual Great Lawn Summer Concert—which was relocated to The Little Theatre due to inclement weather—featuring the Queens Symphony Orchestra, who performed “Dances that Move the World” conducted by Maestro Martin Majkut, the Queens Symphony Orchestra’s Music Director. With nearly 500 people in attendance, it was a truly memorable evening.

Upcoming events this month include the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, October 20, in Flushing Meadow–Corona Park, and “The 2019 Italian-American Experience: A Salute to Matera 2019—European Capital of Culture” on Wednesday, October 30, in Marliat Hall Terrace. In November, we honor our nation’s veterans with ceremonies on the Queens campus on Tuesday, November 12, and on the Staten Island campus on Wednesday, November 13.

For more information about the Office of Community Relations, please contact Paul Lazauskas, Associate Director for Community Relations, at 718-990-1941; lazauskas@stjohns.edu.

Retirees at the 2018 Luncheon

Establish Your Legacy through THE MCCALLEN SOCIETY

Please consider supporting St. John’s endowment by designating your donation for scholarships. Your gift is invested and the earnings allow financially burdened students to realize their dream of a St. John’s University education.

“Coming from Romania, I was concerned that leaving my family, friends, and usual routine would be the most challenging task; but the University, through its diversity and group of wonderful people, made me feel like I never left home. Furthermore, as a grateful recipient of an academic and athletic scholarship, there is no better way to tell you how significant your support is. I am living proof of how much someone’s help can change a life. No gift is ever too small.”

Andrei I. Crapcenco ’19TCB
The Peter J. Tobin College of Business
M.B.A. Candidate, Class of 2020