

Mark Your Calendars

May 15 ~ Mandatory Graduation Liturgical Practice @ Mercy {3:05pm-5:30pm}

May 18 ~ Art and Soul Exhibit {1pm-3pm}

May 19 ~ Mandatory Graduation Liturgical Practice @ Holy Name Church {3:30pm-5:30pm}

May 23 ~ No Classes

May 26 ~ Memorial Day Holiday

May 27-May 29 ~ Final Exams

May 29 ~ Mandatory Graduation Liturgical Practice/Dress Rehearsal @ Holy Name Church {2pm-5pm}

May 30 ~ Senior Awards Assembly/ Last Day of School

May 31 ~ GRADUATION @ Holy Name Church {10:30am-1pm}

August 20 ~ Sophomore and Junior Orientations {8am-10am}, Parent Coffee Social {8am-8:30am}

August 20 ~ Frosh Orientation Retreat {3pm-6pm}, Frosh Parent Welcome Diner {6pm-7pm}

August 21 ~ Freshmen Orientation {10am-2pm}

August 21 ~ Senior Orientation {8am-10am}, Senior Parent Coffee Social {8am-8:30am}

August 22 ~ First Day of Classes

First Semester Final Exams:

DECEMBER 15TH, 16TH AND 17TH
NO student will be excused from these exam dates
Do NOT schedule holiday plans before
December 18, 2008 nor beyond the start of 2nd semester
classes on January 5, 2009



Mercy High School
3250 Nineteenth Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94132

"Where young women prepare to
make a difference in the world."



Where young women prepare to
make a difference in the world.

Mercy Notes

Mercy High School San Francisco Parent Newsletter
May 2008

And they're off...to college!

University of California: Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, LA, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Cal Poly, Pomona, SLO;

California State University of: Chico, East Bay, Fullerton, Long Beach, Nothridge, Sacramento, San Bernadino, Stanislaus, San Francisco, San Jose, Sonoma;

Universities and Colleges:

American Univeristy, Academy of Art, University of Arizona, Dominican College, Drew, Fairfield, Gonzaga, Hawaii Pacific, Notre Dame de Namur, Occidental, University of the Pacific, University of Pittsburgh, Prarie View A & M, St. Mary's, USF, Santa Clara, Southern University and A & M College, Tuskegee, University of Washington, Whittier, University of Portland

Best Wishes to the Class of 2008

Holocaust Survivors Share Their Stories with Mercy

For two weeks in April, nine Holocaust survivors visited Mercy's campus to speak to our students about their experience. In an all-school assembly, Mercy's Intermediate/Advanced Dance Class presented an extremely moving dance to the nine survivors and their families, Mercy's students, faculty, and staff. Junior **Teresa Attridge** followed the dance with an emotional poem, handing Holocaust survivor and keynote speaker, **Helen Farkas**, a burning candle. Helen addressed the audience speaking of her father's strong words about home and even if they were separated, home is where they would return. Helen's stirring description of leaving her home, surviving, and returning home, conveyed the importance of continuing to spread the history of the Holocaust, it will be remembered.

"Dolce" will be performing at the DeYoung Museum on May 23rd from 10:45am until 11:30am outside next to the CAFÉ. Admission is free.

Catherine's Corner

Mother McAuley in her wisdom knew that the education of women was one dynamic way to create change in a society.

The final result of a Mercy education will be reflected in women who become powerful in spirit, sensible in nature, compassionate in practice, and ultimately courageous voices in peace and justice.

Dr. Dorothy McCrea, Principal

Community Service Volunteers of the Month

Through the Koret Family House, **Caitlin Nordberg** has provided caring service to families whose children are struggling with life-threatening illnesses.



Marielle Bautista has touched the lives of many through her service at the Department of Veteran Affairs, Catholic Worker House, The Shanti Project, and St. Thomas the Apostle Church.



Mercy News

Executive Parent Guild Officers 2008-2009

President - Tanya Bolshakoff
Vice President – Cecilia Cortez
Secretary – Lucia Ramirez
Treasurer – Gail Woo
Booster Club President – Julie Mazzetti
PAPA President/Producer– Barbara Simons

What is the Parent Guild Association?

All parents who currently have a daughter who attends Mercy High School are members of the Parent Guild. The Guild encourages families of all students to participate in school wide activities.

Booster Club-The Booster Club supports the athletic programs.

PAPA (Performing Arts Parent Association)-PAPA supports the dance, choral and theatre programs.

Why have such a program? The Parent Guild provides opportunities for parents to work together to foster a strong sense of community spirit at Mercy.

What are parent participation hours? All parents are required to donate 15 hours of their time at Parent Guild sponsored activities. Participation hours provide families the opportunity to offer their talents and assistance to plan events that raise money for Mercy.

How many hours are required? Parents are required to volunteer a minimum of 15 hours throughout the school year.

How are the hours tracked? Each parent is required to report his or her own hours to the event coordinator so that the hours can be properly recorded. The hours are recorded by the Development Office (Teresa Lucchese). Volunteer forms can be picked up at the Development Office, downloaded from the Mercy High School website or photocopied from Mercy's planner.

Why Volunteer? Research shows that when parents are involved in schools the benefits include:

*Better academic performance, higher grade point averages (GPAs)
* Fewer discipline problems * Increased parent satisfaction * Increased motivation to seek school's help * Higher confidence in teachers and administrators *

Questions? Parent liaisons:

Teresa Lucchese 415 334-0525 ext. 242 or tlucchese@mercyhs.org
Rhonda Hontalas 415 334-0525 ext. 243 or rhontalas@mercyhs.org

Parking: When coming to pick up your daughter, kindly remember to pull into a parking space and not double park because it is unsafe as well as illegal. Also, please adhere to the "NO PARKING" signs on the other side of lower Junipero Serra. Thank You.



Food and Fun at Mercy's International Food Festival Table after table of cultural cuisine could be found in Barrett Hall on the evening of April 9, 2008. Parents, students, faculty and friends dined on foods from around the world. Full bellies and happy hearts made for a successful event in what's sure to continue as a Mercy tradition. Many thanks to all who contributed delightful dishes and wonderful baskets for the silent auction. Congratulations to Iron Chef winners **Cat Everett** and **Maya Nieto**



The 2nd support group meeting for Parent's of Students with Learning Differences will be held on Wednesday May 22nd at 6 pm in the Faculty Room. We look forward to seeing you all there!

SmartBoard Presentation WOWS Parent Guild

The Parent Guild met on April 16th & were given SmartBoard demonstration by Math Instructor **Charity Baranowski**. All present agreed that this new technology is an exciting classroom tool and look forward to opportunities for raising funds to provide Smartboards for more classrooms.

Mercy News

New Technology Club Coming in Fall 2008

The Technology Department is adding new dimensions to their existing club. The Web Club will now be one third of what will be called the Technology Club. The other two sections will deal with Audio/Visual support and Computer Support. We hope to have guest speakers, field trips, and other adventures in the technology world. Each club will have specific duties and will learn how to complete projects in that discipline.

The Web Club will continue to update the student pages on the web site. They will continue to learn how to manage and build web pages using the latest technology that is offered. Mr. Murphy, Mr. Cutten and Mr. Laguna will moderate this section of the Technology Club. Graphic design may be added to enhance this program.

The Audio/Visual club will be moderated by Mr. Laguna and Mr. Murphy and will manage a variety of projects, that include:

- o Capture video and photos of Assemblies and other events
- o Learn the software needed to edit video and photographs
- o Learn how to set-up A/V equipment for users
- o Set up the equipment when needed
- o Setup and use of the Kimberly Guilfoyle Media Center and Rist Hall A/V equipment

The technology club will learn how to troubleshoot computer problems and assist the moderators in the maintenance of computers, printers and other peripherals. They will be taught, not only how to install software and hardware on campus computers, but how this software and hardware works. They will learn about viruses, spyware, and other pests and how to keep them out of computers. This section will allow student to repair, not only computers on campus, but keep their personal computers running smoothly.

Students can take part in one, two or all three support areas. All of these clubs will allow for students to gain valuable experience, which can be added to your résumés. There is a huge need for technology professionals in the global market. There may be other important benefits that will become available as this exciting venture is developed. *Students who are interested should begin to sign-up now. Positions will be limited.*

Mercy High School's Technology Department recycles used toner and inkjet cartridges as well as cell phones. Please bring them to the main office Attn: Technology Department



**Mercy High School,
San Francisco
Summer Prep Academy
June 23 – July 18, 2008**

Welcome to the Mercy "SPA" – the Summer Prep Academy! The Summer Prep Academy offers courses for students of various ages, including academic and non-academic offerings. Course descriptions and registration forms are available on Mercy's website (click on the Summer Prep Academy link).

For more information contact **Marguerite Rodriguez** at (415) 334-0525 x228 or mrodriguez@mercyhs.org.

- Summer High
- Summer Transition & Enrichment Program ("STEP")
- Summer Kids
- Summer Dance
- After School Dance – Summer Edition
- 2D Art & Design Workshop
- Sculpture & 3D Design Workshop
- Women in the Arts/Summer Art Studio
- Summer Cooking



StudentEdge

Mercy is offering a new free resource to students to prepare for the SAT, ACT, Subject Tests and AP exams. Peterson's *StudentEdge* will help students build content knowledge, develop individualized study skills and strategy plans, take practice tests, and improve test scores. Flyers were distributed in sophomore and junior homerooms. Go to www.mystudentedge.com, select New User, and register with the Mercy Access Code: UAJWUDMN.