

ALUMNAE NEWS



2020

#FontbonneForever

2021

I have never been so full— it spills from my eyes, pushes out from my belly day by day hour by hour, I am larger. Though I can never catch that moment of motion and expansion, any more than I could witness the first cells dividing, or the hands of the great-grandfather clock moving, the moon arcing across the sky, or the peony bush starting from green stubs in my backyard, then flourishing into June with wild pink happiness.

Andrea Potos

...and so we are in June...this time of the school year when students have completed their course of study, all exams and projects are completed, and teachers are beginning to sense a sigh of relief. This school year has certainly been one of challenges, to which our administrators, faculty, students, and staff have risen and soared. We are full...we have passed from COVID's isolation to a new normal. This month brought the Class of 2021 back to campus for a most wonderful conclusion of their high school career and the underclass women back to campus, year by year, to reconnect and complete their studies. This year was another academic success story for our beloved Fontbonne...

SAYING GOODBYE TO THE CLASS OF 2021

The senior prom was brought onto the campus. Our cobblestone courtyard was turned into a magical event space thanks to the talents of alum, Effie Piccini Maldari, our Events Coordinator. The IA Team, our maintenance staff, DA, and alumna volunteer, Rosanna Coennea Marino, lent their talents to transforming our campus into a wonderfully elegant prom venue. Below are some photos...enjoy!



Fonthonne Hall Senior Prom

The Graduate Luncheon was held at Russo's on the Bay and our guest speaker was **Dr. Christine D'Urso '07** whose message was inspiring...women need to look back as they are rising the ladder and help lift the generations following them and to take the positive out of challenges we all face and what you might fear...it will make you uncomfortable but stronger. You were inspiring Christine, Thank You!

We were able to give the '21 class a wonderful "senior day"...although a bit different because of COVID restrictions, but nonetheless, fun and meaningful for them. We celebrated the Baccalaureate Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Basilica, with long-time Campus Chaplin, Monsignor Romano... and this takes us to Graduation Day...



Graduation took place at St. John's University, Staten Island Campus, under a large tent on their quad. There were three ceremonies allowing our grads to celebrate with their parents...it was wonderful..the sun shone and the breeze

never ended. Alumna, **Aaliyah Channer '14**, co-founder of the FH Women of Color Alliance, was our guest speaker and her message too was "lift as you rise", women helping women...a true sisterhood message! Aaliyah, thank you for being so inspirational!

SUMMER FUN

As we look forward to summer, here are some lists that might be of interest to you.

Reading List Recommendations: **The BookMark Shoppe**

Indie Next List



Morningside Heights: A Novel
By Joshua Henkin

Indie Bestsellers



Strange Planet: The Sneaking, Hiding, Vibrating Creature
By Nathan W. Pyle

Kids Indie Next List



Tokyo Ever After: A Novel
By Emiko Jean

Reading Group Indie Next List



Such a Fun Age
By Kiley Reid

See the shoppe's website for more details and information:
<https://www.bookmarkshoppe.com>

Oprah's Recommended

"A Burning," by Megha Majumdar.
"Blue Ticket," by Sophie Mackintosh.
"I Hold a Wolf by the Ears," by Laura Ven Den Berg.
"Rebel Chef," by Dominique Crenn.
"Little Eyes," by Samanta Schweblin.
"My Mother's House," by Francesca Momplaisir.
"Amora," by Natalia Borges Polesso.

CBS Staff favorites

<https://www.cbsnews.com/essentials/10-perfect-summer-beach-reads-for-2021/>

Best Movie Recommendations from RottenTomatoes:

<https://editorial.rottentomatoes.com/guide/2021-best-movies/>

Best Road Trips from NYC - Timeout Magazine:

<https://www.timeout.com/newyork/travel/best-road-trips>

A WORD FROM KARISSA MILES, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT:

Greetings Fontbonne Alumnae,

This past school year began unlike any other. But, as I've come to learn over the past year, Fontbonne is a school unlike any other - we adapt, we innovate, we evolve.

Even though I'm still relatively new here, I believe so strongly in the

education we provide. I know that I am preaching to the choir when I say that Fontbonne empowers students to discover their passion and realize their purpose.

That is in large part to those who came before them. As an alumna, you light the path for them to follow. You show our students that no dream is too big and that anything is possible. For 84 years, Fontbonne students have triumphed and used their experience here to propel themselves forward. It's because of you, SHE CAN.

Today, I ask that you invest in Fontbonne students with a gift to the Fund for Fontbonne. Our community will continue to move forward, adapt, and evolve with you at our side. Fontbonne Forever.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Every good wish,

Karissa K. Miles
Director of Development

[Yes, I want to make a gift!](#)



LOOKING BACK AND AHEAD

The Alumnae Office and the Institutional Advancement Team wish to thank you for being a part of all our efforts this year. Your generosity and engagement has made a tremendous impact for our students. Whether you sent a gift for Giving Tuesday, an Annual Fund donation through the magazine mailer, answered the call for one of our campaigns or made a video for a campaign, participated in the Lucky Bonnie, or attended our virtual Summer Soirée, or volunteered

your time...we are pink with happiness and **WE THANK YOU!**



JUNETEENTH

As June 19th was recently declared a Federal holiday; the day on which federal troops marched into Texas, which was the last state to hold onto slavery in the U.S. two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, to free the slaves, we call to mind the Mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph of all inclusive love, unity, reconciliation and reverence for all creation, and celebrate our diversity.

It is also a call-to-action for our alumnae of color to join **The Women of Color Alliance**. We will begin a program of unity and reconciliation in September, along with our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, to continue to make Fontbonne a community where all are welcome. Join this amazing group of women.

Email: musto@fontbonne.org to express your interest.



We are also asking that our alumnae of color fill out this survey. It is anonymous but it will help us gather information about our past to help us move forward. Your time is greatly appreciated.

SURVEY

FONTBONNE'S VIRTUAL MUSICAL!



[LINK TO WATCH](#)

OMIGOD! Legally Blonde is here!

After the donation (in any amount you feel comfortable) is submitted, you will then receive a link and password that will allow you to view the show on Fontbonne's Vimeo account. Video can be downloaded for those that want to keep it, however it is a significantly large file (28 GB) so make sure to have the space or a flashdrive. Additionally it is requested that you keep the video for personal memories and do not distribute. You can cast the movie using Airplay and watch it on your TV too. I would recommend that method as opposed to a computer. Enjoy!

If you have any questions please contact glasser@fontbonne.org

WE'RE HIRING

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Development and Alumnae Relations Coordinator

We invite you to join our team.

Looking for a summer job?

Bring your talents to Fontbonne. The Office of Institutional Advancement is looking for a Development and Alumnae Relations Coordinator (Temp Leave Replacement).

Learn more about this exciting opportunity below!

[JOB DETAILS](#)

REMINDERS

- Planning for the Reunion weekend celebrating the anniversary years ending in 0's/5's and 1's/6's is underway. Class Rep letters outlining the event have been mailed. PLEASE update your mailing information with the Alumnae Office if you haven't received the letter. Some letters are being returned for undeliverable addresses...share your information [HERE](#).
- Our fiscal year ends June 30th. PLEASE, make a donation to the [Annual Fund](#) if you have not already done so. Every gift, regardless of size, is transformative and makes a difference....If you have already supported us, THANK YOU!!!
- and lastly, HAVE A RELAXING AND FUN SUMMER!!!!

Maxim of the Month

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Generally, respond to life with a joyful simplicity and with a sense of contentment.

(Needless worrying and complexifying solves nothing anyway.)

...See you in September!



Gloria A. Musto '71
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