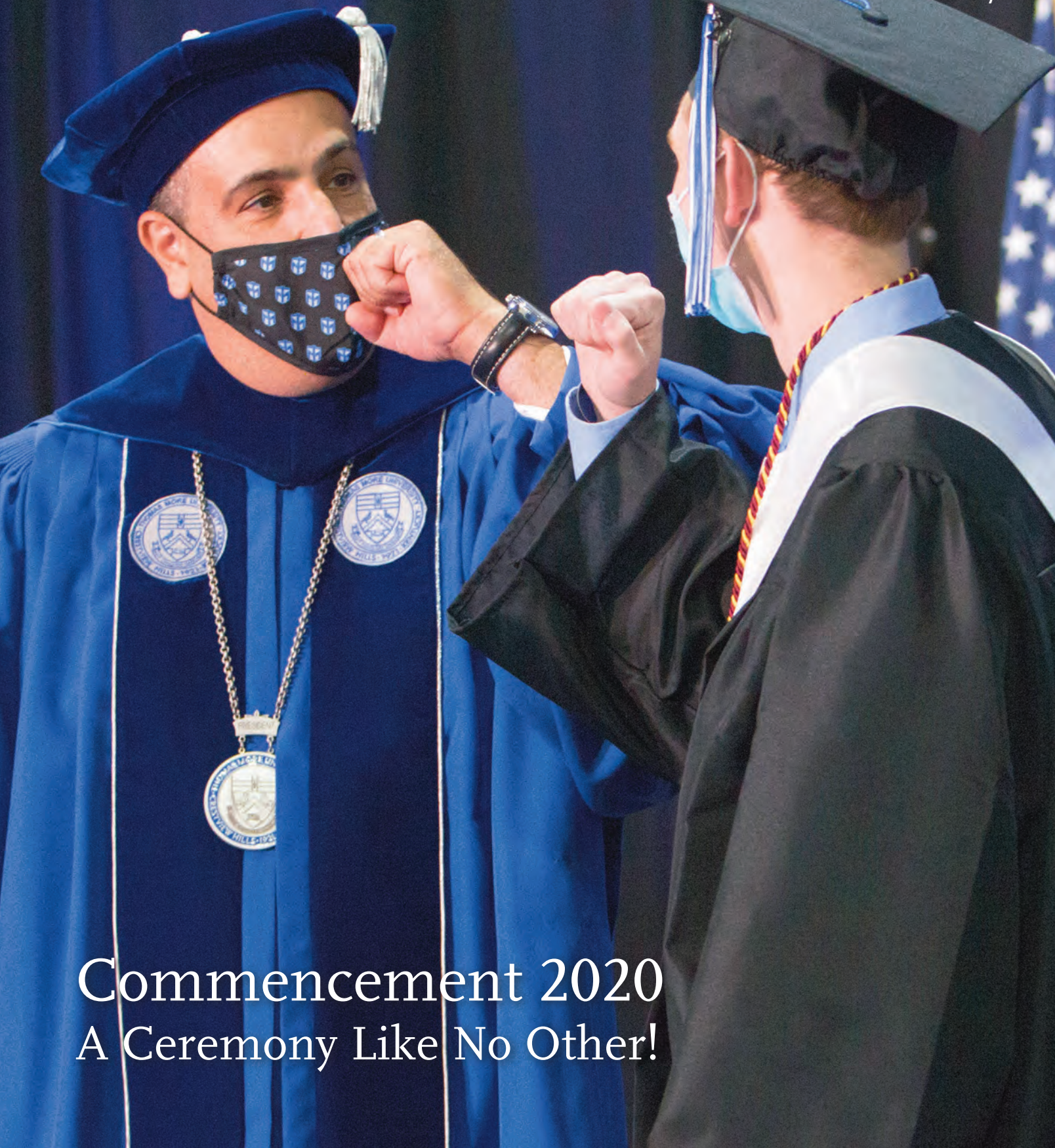


FALL 2020

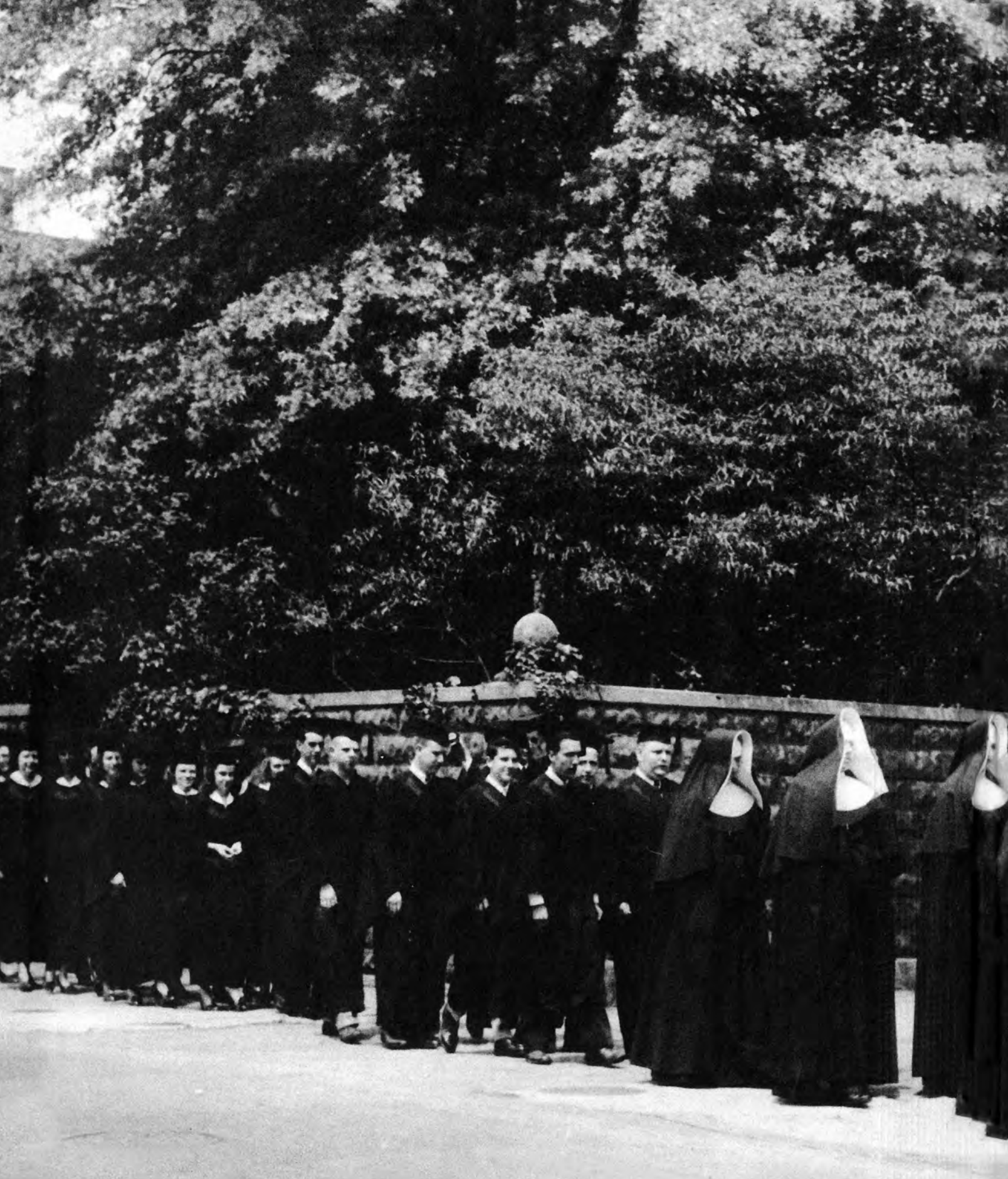
# MOREOVER

Thomas More University



Commencement 2020  
A Ceremony Like No Other!





Procession photo from the 1946 Triskele. This was the first year the former yearbook was issued and second year that men were admitted to Villa Madonna College. The Class of '46 consisted of 12 graduates: five religious and seven young women.





THOMAS MORE  
UNIVERSITY

Make It **More.**



I don't know about you, but I can't believe we're already nearing the end of the fall semester. Since the spring edition of *Moreover*, we've been working in full force here at Thomas More to enhance student success in the midst of this global pandemic. Since the start of the fall semester, we have done a remarkable job as a community in taking the necessary precautions needed to minimize our collective risk of a coronavirus outbreak. We are all doing our part to ensure that our students, faculty, and staff remain healthy at Thomas More.

In the midst of challenges due to COVID-19, a decision was made regarding the May 2020 Commencement. To ensure the health and safety of our students and their families, Commencement was pushed back to August. With a socially-distant, day-long ceremony, more than 200 undergraduate and graduate students arrived, smiling behind their masks, to walk alongside their families and receive their diplomas. Though the celebration didn't play out as originally planned, the event allowed us the opportunity to celebrate our students' notable achievements. You can read more about the celebration in the pages to come.

This semester has been a testament to how resilient our students can be when faced with challenges. One student in particular, Whitney Johnson '22, shares how she used social media to unify campus during the transition to online learning to virtually foster community. It was during these virtual events that she started "Common Ground Conversations," which are to encourage discussion surrounding racial injustice and to increase understanding around the challenges taking place in our community and nation.

While Whitney took the lead on these virtual discussions with students, staff, and faculty, she, with the help of the Student Activities Board and Black Student Union, planned a walk for social justice called TMUnited that took place in late September. Jakob Jones '22, another student featured in a Saints Spotlight, offers insight into his new role as the first vice president of diversity and inclusion for Student Government Association. As students have been using their voices to advocate for diversity and social justice, faculty and staff have been engaging in thought-provoking "Crucial Conversations" each month to promote open dialogue around diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus.

Also, if you haven't heard, the University has seen its second highest record for incoming traditional enrollment this fall. In addition, returning student enrollment is the largest in the history of the institution. I'm proud of the collaborative effort from departments that have allowed yet another year of enrollment success. We acknowledge and reflect on milestones such as these as we look forward to our centennial year coming in September 2021. It's during that month that we'll highlight and celebrate how Thomas More has evolved into the University it is today. We're eager to share details about the celebration with you in the coming months. In preparation, I invite you to join the virtual series "History and Traditions of Thomas More University," which is hosted by faculty and staff. More details for those can be found on **page 22**.

As always, thank you for your support and for being a part of our Thomas More community, I hope that you enjoy the stories to come in this edition of the *Moreover*.

Go Saints!

President Joseph L. Chillo, LP.D.

## THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

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More University to the events, programs, and activities  
taking place within the University community. The  
opinions expressed in Moreover are not necessarily  
those of Thomas More University. Moreover makes  
every attempt to reflect the views of the entire campus  
community in a balanced and objective manner. Any  
comments or responses to articles, as well as story  
ideas, are welcome.

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# MOREOVER

FALL 2020



## FEATURES

### 3 Commencement 2020

Life since March 2020 has required creative problem solving when it comes to celebrations. Here's how Thomas More honored the newest alumni.

### 16 Educating Educators

Education is where it all started and true to those roots, Thomas More's current Education Department strives for excellence in today's climate.

### 28 Boston Run

Alumnus Joe Durrett '05/'08 qualified to run the 2020 Boston Marathon. When the event went virtual, he chose to run it at the home of the Saints.

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*The Classic VMC column is on hiatus this fall, look for its return in spring 2021.*



## ON THE COVER

In response to COVID-19, Thomas More 2020 Commencement exercises were pushed back to Friday, August 14. On the cover, President Chillo and a recent grad share a congratulatory elbow bump.

## THOMAS MORE 2019-20 HONOR ROLL

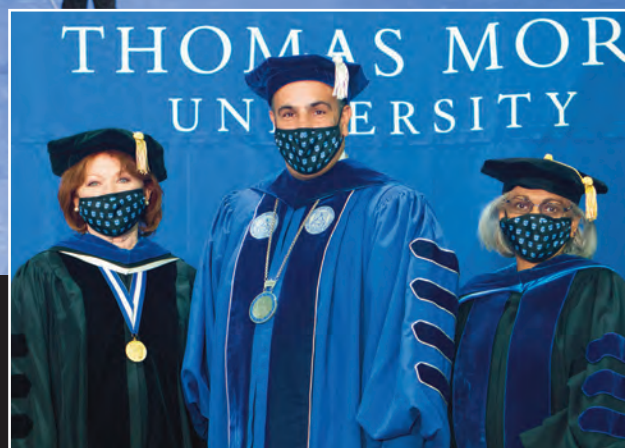
Look for the 2019-20 Honor Roll, which lists alumni and friends that gifted \$250 or more to the University, at the center of this magazine. For a complete list of all donors, visit [tmuky.us/honorroll](http://tmuky.us/honorroll).





# Commencement 2020 A Ceremony Like No Other!

SUBMITTED BY REBECCA STRATTON, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS | PHOTOS PROVIDED



Thomas More University honored its newest alumni during a socially-distant, day-long commencement ceremony on Friday, August 14. More than 200 undergraduate and graduate students arrived on campus to walk alongside their families and receive their diplomas.

This year's Commencement was postponed from May to August 14, due to adjustments necessitated by the COVID-19 outbreak.

"May commencement, a moment of joy and celebration for the Class of 2020, was disrupted this year at Thomas More and across the country," said Provost Molly E. Smith, Ph.D. "But President Chillo and the Thomas More community were determined that each of our graduates should experience this moment as a unique and special one. The Thomas More community came together, therefore, on August 14, for a beautiful, elegant, and personalized ceremony for our graduates, their families, and their friends."

The ceremony looked different from years prior with graduates and their families socially distanced throughout the Connor

Top: Graduates maintain social distancing at the 92nd Commencement exercises as they receive a personal message from President Joe Chillo.

Inset: A much reduced platform party included Board of Trustees Chair Judith Marlowe '69, President Joe Chillo, and recently hired Provost Molly Smith.

Convocation Center and leading into the building. Each student was given a time frame to arrive to campus to participate in the ceremony depending on their college and the level of degree they received – undergraduate or graduate. To receive their diploma, each student walked across the platform where they were congratulated by President Joseph L. Chillo, LP.D., Provost Molly Smith, and Board of Trustees Chair Judith A. Marlowe '69, Ph.D. The student's

**COMMENCEMENT** CONTINUED ON PAGE 4  
MOREOVER [Fall 2020]



family members were their audience due to safety restrictions put in place by the University to ensure the health of those involved in the day-long event. The ceremony was livestreamed on Thomas More's Facebook page and Instagram account for those unable to attend.

Though more than 200 received their diplomas in-person, the ceremony honored the achievements of the entire Class of 2020, which included 485 undergraduate and graduate students, receiving a total of 516 degrees. Of this student total, 157 were first-generation undergraduate students. The class represented students from 12 states and nine countries, and 27 of the graduates were veterans or active military.

“Though this commencement celebration is more delayed than originally planned, today marks the opportunity for us to celebrate your notable achievement and it signifies to the world that you have met all of the requirements for graduation,” President Chillo stated in a letter each student received alongside their diploma. “As you walk across the stage today, I hope you walk slowly, taking it all in, realizing that this graduation is a defining moment for both you and your family.”

“It was wonderful to capture the joy of our students’ accomplishments in a ceremony that they will remember as special, in keeping with our long-standing ethos of student success in a personalized and caring environment,” Smith added.

For congratulatory messages, videos of the four ceremonies, and a photo gallery, visit **[thomasmore.edu/commencement](http://thomasmore.edu/commencement)**.

Business

College of Arts and Sciences

More than 200 graduating members of the class of 2020 attended the August 14 Commencement exercises.


28 Dist  
(size of major ind)

business administration  
individualized program  
education  
psychology  
nursing  
accountancy  
biology  
management info systems  
English  
chemistry  
philosophy  
mathematics  
physics  
political science  
economics  
environmental science  
sports  
entertainment mktg  
sociology  
communication  
athletic training  
criminal justice  
computer info systems  
international studies  
Spanish  
theatre  
history  
art  
ethical leadership

(size of major indicates popularity of degree)

- Blue - College of Arts & Sciences  
Green - College of Business  
Red - College of Education & Health Sciences  
Cyan - Institute for Ethical Leadership  
& Interdisciplinary Studies  
Black - All colleges/institutes

students graduated  
with honors



27

Veterans or  
Active Military  
among graduates

The logo for Thomas More Saints is located in the bottom right corner. It features the words "THOMAS MORE" in a small, blue, sans-serif font above the word "SAINTS" in a large, stylized, blue font with a white outline and a cross symbol integrated into the letter 'I'. The entire logo is set against a light blue background.

149

students (31%) were athletes during their time as a Saint







## STUDENT AWARD WINNERS



**Shelby Miller '20** received the 2020 Outstanding Senior Award. She grew up in Cincinnati and transferred to Thomas More in the fall of 2018 to swim after competing at Wright State University for two years. She majored in exercise science with a minor in sports psychology. During her time at the University, Miller was the 2019-20 president of Student Athletic Advisory Committee, she was on the swim team, she was a leader for Delight Ministries, and she was involved in the 4C Scholar Society. Other awards she obtained for the 2019-20 year were Dean's List, a top eight national finalist (making her an All-American), the NAIA Champions of Character Award, the NAIA Academic All Mid-South Conference Award, and Swimmer of the Week for the Mid-South Conference. Miller plans on attending the University of Tennessee for her master's degree in sports psychology and motor behavior. She plans to work with collegiate athletes to discover effective mental strategies to improve athletic performance, develop mental fortitude and positive attitudes, cope with life's anxieties and stressors, and learn ways to improve the practice environment and the coach-athlete relationship.



**Kevin Borg '20** received this year's Post-Traditional Adult Undergraduate Award. A new resident of California, Borg recently accepted a position with Procter & Gamble upon his graduation from Thomas More. As a US Navy veteran, Borg has served in several places around the world, including Iraq and Antarctica. He's happily married and has three great kids, Tyler (13), Makayla (10), and Makenzie (5). In his free time, Borg enjoys playing sports, especially soccer. He will say his favorite activity, however, is spending time and making memories with his family. With his background and education, Borg plans to provide the best life he can for his family and start a nonprofit to raise money for brain cancer research since his daughter was impacted by the disease nearly four years ago.



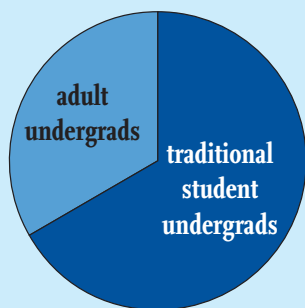
**Emily Schultz '20** received the 2020 Presidential Service Award. A Melbourne, Kentucky, native, Schultz studied nursing, was a four-year member of the Thomas More Women's Basketball team, and was a member of Campus Ministry. She recently began a career as an oncology RN at Good Samaritan Hospital where she is excited to make a difference in the lives of her patients.



**Andrea Dingler '20** received the 2020 Post-Traditional Adult Graduate Award. Dingler was born and raised on the east side of Cincinnati. She attended Mount Saint Joseph University for her bachelor's degree in special education. This year, she completed her master's degree in education at Thomas More, where she also received the Ruth Wernersbach-Shreve Award. Dingler will be starting her 10th year of teaching at Dixie Heights High School this fall as a special education collaborator working with freshmen. Dingler and her husband, Andrew, have three sons: Grayson, who is three, Daniel, who is two, and Oliver, who is three months. Dingler and her family love to be outside, go swimming, visit the zoo, and play together constantly.

### 373 Undergraduate Students

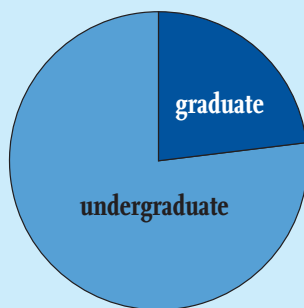
124 Adult Undergraduate  
249 Traditional Undergraduate



516 total degrees were awarded to

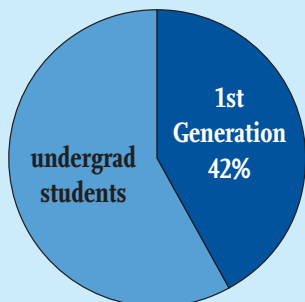
### 485 Distinct Students

112 Graduate | 373 Undergraduate



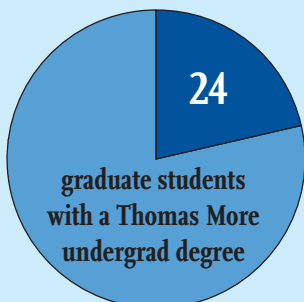
### First-generation Students

157 out of 373 (42%)  
undergraduate students are the first  
in their family to attend college  
(89 traditional/68 adult)



### 24 out of 112

graduate students (21%)  
previously earned  
their undergraduate degree  
from Thomas More







## Meet Provost Molly E. Smith, Ph.D.

SUBMITTED BY REBECCA STRATTON,  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Following a national search, Molly E. Smith, Ph.D., was chosen to serve as the first provost for Thomas More University. Smith assumed her duties as provost on July 1, having previously served as the interim provost at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts. She also holds a faculty rank of professor of English.

“With a distinguished record of leadership and service in academia, I’m confident in Dr. Smith’s commitment and abilities to enhance the academic excellence we pride ourselves on at Thomas More,” said President Chillo. “I look forward to working alongside Dr. Smith to create and sustain an even higher level of academic reputation – one that is student-focused, supports strong and diverse mission-driven faculty, and emphasizes new and innovative academic practices and programs.”

Thomas More’s transition to a University in 2018, necessitated a new organizational structure which created three distinct colleges – Arts and Sciences, Business, and Education and Health Sciences – and the Institute for Ethical Leadership and Interdisciplinary Studies. With this transition, the role of provost was established to serve as the chief academic and student life officer, overseeing the three colleges and institute, and reporting to the president. Smith will be responsible for the development, coordination, integrity, and quality of all academic programs, as well as the integration of student life programs into the full student experience.

“Inspired by Thomas More University’s Catholic mission, compelled by its nimble responsiveness to change, and humbled by its firm student-centered ethos, I look forward to being a member of the community and contributing to advancing the University in meaningful ways to meet the needs of our students and the communities we serve,” said Smith. “I am excited to join Thomas More and look forward to discovering the enchantments of Crestview Hills and the neighboring communities.”

Prior to Smith’s position at Stonehill College, she held leadership positions at the University of Wisconsin Superior serving as the vice chancellor of academic affairs/provost and tenured professor, at Saint Martin’s University serving as provost and vice president for academic affairs and professor of English, at Manhattanville College serving as president, and at Wheaton College serving as provost.

A native of India, Smith earned her bachelor’s degree in English from Ethiraj College for Women and a master’s degree in English from Madras Christian College in the University of Madras before earning a doctorate from Auburn University.

MOREOVER



Celebrating the first day of class and demonstrating how masks and social distancing will keep students healthy at Thomas More for the fall semester!



*Welcome to*

# THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

## HOME OF THE SAINTS



## Traditional Enrollment Second Largest in University's History Despite COVID-19 Pandemic

SUBMITTED BY REBECCA STRATTON, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**T**homas More University's Fall 2020 traditional enrollment is the second largest in the University's history. A total of 1,289 full-time traditional undergraduate students are currently enrolled for the fall semester, which is a 5% increase over last year.

As the University completes its fall census later this year, it is expected that total enrollment will once again exceed 2,000 students enrolled in traditional, online, adult, graduate programs, and high school students enrolled in Thomas More's dual credit program.

"Our new student enrollment is up by 12.9% from the fall of 2019, which is 472 new students as compared to 418 last year," said President Chillo. "This year's returning student enrollment (817) is the largest in the University's history, surpassing the previous record of 806 last year. In the midst of COVID-19, our enrollment results are strong."

All three colleges at the University – Business, Arts and Sciences, and Education and Health Sciences – grew in enrollment, with the College of Arts and Sciences taking the lead with 481 students.

Last fall, a Georgetown University report revealed that Thomas More was No. 1 for return on investment (ROI) in Kentucky. The University's dedication to the academic success of its students wasn't interrupted when learning shifted in the spring due to the COVID-19 outbreak. "These past few months have been difficult, and navigating the uncertainty around COVID-19 has been a learning process for everyone. But our work at the University did not halt. Our faculty and staff have continued providing the quality academic experience that earns us top rankings such as being No. 1 for ROI. I'm proud of this collaborative effort that has allowed us another year of enrollment success," said President Chillo.

President Chillo mentioned that there was a strong likelihood that this increase in enrollment was the result of a collaborative effort between the enrollment team and recruitment from the Athletics Department, coupled with new scholarship offerings such as the Diocese of Covington Guarantee, which was introduced at the beginning of last year and ensures that all diocesan graduates are awarded \$20,000 in institutional aid. Details regarding adult and graduate enrollment and the University's Gemini Program will become available later this fall, but these numbers are expected to rise as well.

MOREOVER



*Together we will remain*  
**HEALTHY**  
*at* **THOMAS MORE**



**FALL 2020**  
life on campus







## SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Jakob Jones '22

Communications and  
Sports and Entertainment Marketing

SUBMITTED BY SHANNON SMYTH '20



Jakob Jones '22 is vice president of diversity and inclusion, a position added to the Executive Board of the Student Government Association (SGA) during the 2019-20 academic year. He talks with Moreover about what this role means to him.

**Please tell us a little bit about yourself and this position.**

**JJ:** Well, first of all I want to thank you for having me. I'm a double major (communications as well as sports entertainment marketing) and am currently involved in quite a few things on campus which is why I was really drawn to this role. I am a member of the Executive Board for the Student Activities Board (SAB), an event director, and on the Executive Board of Black Student Union, which is currently entering a transformation period and trying to rebuild. I am also involved with a mentorship program through Black Student Union called Pursuing Academic and Cultural Excellence (PACE). I really feel like I am reaching out in quite a few areas on campus as well as being an athlete and playing men's volleyball. I had a good reach and quite a few demographics I deal with which is why this position interested me so much. It's about diversity and inclusion and getting more people involved around campus and finding ways to incorporate more activities that more people are interested in.

**You mention the Black Student Union and the program called PACE. Could you tell us a little about that?**

**JJ:** PACE is a first-year program for incoming minority students where they get the opportunity to come in early and meet with mentors, which are usually upperclassmen and people who have been around for a while that would be good role models. One example of how the program works is that in 2019 there were three first year international students that came from Panama. They got off in the airport and were with us for three days before school started. We taught them about Thomas More, what there is to do, and where to go for fun off campus, just to help them feel more comfortable once the school year started.

**You mention that you wanted to be someone who represented students, what made you want this particular role?**

**JJ:** I've always been active wherever I've been. Whether it be high school or now in college, I wanted to find a way that I could have a bigger impact. I'm on a couple of e-boards and I felt like this position geared me to have that impact, just by combining the thoughts from SAB and Black Student Union and being able to work with SGA so closely. I kind of have a hand in everything right now. It's really nice to be able to collaborate and work on group inclusion and group collaboration. One of my hopes is to push more club collaboration. My being in this role has really enabled me to have more of an impact in that capacity.

**How do you see yourself using this position in the future to advocate for students?**

**JJ:** I see my position as a sounding board for any students that need someone to talk to about a problem they might have experienced on campus, not necessarily at the dean level, but maybe not feeling included and not feeling like there are events for them or there's someplace for them to go. I had the privilege of going to NACA (National Association of Campus Activities) which is a regional national campus activities conference and I got to understand more about what inclusivity is and how we can avoid being exclusive in our events. Three of us from Student Activities Executive Board went and we attended conference meetings and talks, and learned more about what it takes to be a leader.

To listen to the full interview, visit [tmuky.us/jakobjones](https://tmuky.us/jakobjones).

MOREOVER

MOREOVER [Fall 2020]





# Whitney Wednesdays Unifies the Campus Community

Psychology student Whitney Johnson '21 currently hosts Whitney Wednesdays, a weekly live event on the Student Life Instagram account. She is also president of the Black Student Union, mentor resident assistant, and a residence life intern.

SUBMITTED BY WHITNEY JOHNSON '21 | PHOTOS PROVIDED

When COVID-19 first hit, it was a shock to us all. It got "real" for me when Thomas More moved to online learning. I was devastated because that meant I was not going back to campus to see my closest friends, say goodbye to senior friends, and do life "normally." At the end of the day, we all had to make a pivot because of COVID-19. Going from in-person to online was a transition I did not like. Classrooms turned into Zooms, routine schedules disappeared, and turning my home into a library was difficult. With living on campus for the last three years, this was not normal for me. When on campus, I was able to separate home and homework. The two now were combined in one location. While difficult and unfavorable, I made it! Not only did I make it through the semester, I learned that I have the ability to adapt and to adapt well. I took this as a life lesson: while change is not fun and something we do not want, it is necessary for our growth. Change is good for the soul - it develops our character and

on the Thomas More Students Instagram account (a social media platform) providing encouragement and motivation for students. I ended up doing an Instagram Live event. As I was being recorded, I was able to interact with people who were watching as they made comments and asked questions. It was a lot of fun catching up, relating about the changes, and talking about what we missed about Thomas More. This turned into a weekly thing because people were loving it just as much as I was.

In the midst of the Whitney Wednesdays, the death of George Floyd happened. As an African American woman with an African American father and brother, this event was hurtful. As I am one of the many African American students at Thomas More, I know I was not the only one that felt this way. I thought it was essential to use the Whitney Wednesday platform to discuss this, so the "Common Ground Conversation" series was born. This live, virtual conversation served as a tool to gain perspective and to provide understanding as to why the world was seeing so many different reactions to the death of George Floyd, which came on the heels of the tragic deaths of Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery. I found this conversation to be beneficial to discuss on the Whitney Wednesday Live because it was a meeting place where not only students, but staff, faculty, and the Thomas More community could join in. The impact that I hoped to have from these conversations was to increase the understanding of those who did not recognize why these events made African Americans feel hurt and mistreated. While this kind of conversation may be uncomfortable, I have learned that we must sacrifice comfort for there to be an increase of empathy. I received many comments about the "Common Ground Conversation." Students told me that it was insightful to be in on that kind of conversation, and professors and staff reached out to say that they were proud of me for leading the dialogue.

Now that I am back on campus, I am ready to fuel what we started in the summer. As Whitney Wednesdays continue, I want the topic of unity to continue as well. I believe that participating in this kind of dialogue is the next step to understanding each other. For actual and serious change to happen, I believe it starts with our voices - it starts by speaking up and speaking out. Understanding leads to true unity, and it is through our own voices that unity can be achieved.

I thank God for technology because it is the reason people could keep in contact during quarantine. In a time where we were told to isolate and not leave home, the thing we had was our phone and social media. The Whitney Wednesday Instagram Live events were a central, digital location for the Thomas More community to come together. Quarantine showed me the value of human interaction and how badly we need it. Whitney Wednesdays serves as a reminder for that.

MOREOVER

Top: Whitney in Seiler Commons, pre-COVID-19.

Above: Screen shot from Whitney Wednesday Instagram event.

contributes to the best version of ourselves.

Whitney Wednesdays started my sophomore year in high school. I have had an obsession with polka dots since I was in the fifth grade. It got to the point that my wardrobe was filling up with only dots. To help me not look like a clown every day, I came up with a schedule on when to wear polka dots. That special day was Wednesday, leading to Whitney Wednesdays. I took this into college, and I hope to take this into the rest of my life.

During quarantine, Coordinator of Student Engagement Summer Spille called and asked me if I was willing to make a post





# Thomas More — Be More.

## Accelerated Professional Education Programs

SUBMITTED BY ANGELA CRAWFORD, Ph.D., VICE PRESIDENT DIGITAL, GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS | PHOTOS PROVIDED

With the pace of change in our world, we know that organizations must continue to adapt and innovate to thrive. Leaders also need to recognize market forces and become agile in the face of uncertainty. Higher education is no exception. We continue to see shifts in demographics, technology, and student preferences in how, when, and what they want to learn. Organizations know that they need more ethical and business-savvy leaders. Healthcare needs more highly skilled nurses, and our schools need more exceptional teachers. These changes require that we find new opportunities to educate students of all ages throughout their career journey. The good news is that Thomas More has a history of innovation as a foundation to build.

Twenty-five years ago, the Business Administration Department worked with the college dean to develop TAP (Thomas More Accelerated Program). This new approach to adult education offered business courses in a unique one-night a week, five-week format so that working professionals could finish bachelor's and master's degrees in business in less than two years. Other universities in the area were not offering these programs that appeal to working adults. With an outside partner handling the enrollment and marketing for TAP, it was able to grow rapidly. Many of our notable business leader alumni are TAP graduates. Over time, however, as more universities began offering similar programs and expanding their offerings, we realized that we needed to make a change. This past June, President Chillo asked me to move from my role as dean of the College of Business to take on the opportunity to bring our enrollment, marketing, and program development in-house for these programs. My new role is to design an innovative approach to meet the needs of our community within the changing market for adult and graduate education. In just 90 days, we have hired a dedicated team for enrollment, advising, and partnerships. We have launched new marketing that captures the true essence of who we are and how we provide a personal values-based educational experience. Although you won't see the TAP brand anymore, you will know that we are building upon that program's innovative spirit.

As we embark on this journey, we are focused on continuing to elevate the brand of Thomas More University by expanding our accelerated undergraduate and graduate programs, along with launching a new **Thomas More—Be More.** professional development community. Just a few of our new advertisements are to the right, and there will be more to come, along with social media groups on Facebook and LinkedIn where you can connect with us.

Certainly, as we look toward the future, we realize that there are headwinds and uncertainty ahead. However, we also know that a Thomas More education has the power to change lives and organizations. Whether you are working in education, logistics, manufacturing, financial services, healthcare, business, nonprofits, or any other field, we are committed to adding value to your organization. Our vision is to take it even further than many schools can promise. Our team is inspired each day to provide education to people throughout their lives that will help them **Be More.** of who they were meant to be.

MOREOVER







# THOMAS MORE UNIVERSITY

## SAINTS MARCH TO A MILLION



## BE PART OF THE MARCH TO A MILLION

Education is changing and so are the needs of our students. Thomas More University has a 100-year tradition of fostering academic excellence and a vibrant campus community. This year, we start the march to our centennial with the goal of raising a million dollars for our students. The generous contributions of donors support student financial aid, technology, and personal protective equipment to ensure we maintain a safe and healthy living-learning environment.

### HELP THE SAINTS MARCH TO A MILLION, SUPPORT YOUR PASSION:

**Saints March  
for More Scholarship:  
Goal \$500,000**



One hundred percent of Thomas More students receive some sort of financial aid. These scholarships are primarily funded from the generosity of our donors. Contributions to The Fund for Thomas More University help students, who may not be able to attend Thomas More otherwise, obtain a high-quality education alongside meaningful opportunities.

**Saints March  
for More Excellence:  
Goal \$250,000**



Founded in 1921, Thomas More has a history of responding to the evolving needs of the region and world. We must remain agile and strong as we shift to meet the demands of a changing workforce, while remaining true to our commitment of personalized attention and academic excellence. Gifts to The Fund support improvements to classrooms and learning facilities which ensure that we continue to equip our Saints with skills they need to meet the current and future demands of society.

**Saints March  
for More Leaders:  
Goal \$150,000**



Help our Saints succeed in their future endeavors. The world is in dire need of innovative, servant leaders. With your help, gifts to The Fund support programs such as the Republic Bank Foundation Institute for Career Development and Graduate School Planning, connecting students to businesses in the community for internships, co-ops, and experiential learning.

**Saints March  
for More Campus Life:  
Goal \$100,000**



Taking a holistic – mind, body, spirit – approach, we believe the education we offer develops the whole person – in and out of the classroom. Gifts to The Fund support our 30 intercollegiate athletic teams and the more than 40 student clubs, organizations, and academic societies, providing programmatic support and opportunities for engagement and service, such as the annual Habitat for Humanity program.



# Just a Few of the Many Reasons to Give

## Jakob Jones '22



"The intimacy of Thomas More has helped me to expand my horizons and become a well-rounded person. Thomas More has enriched my college experience with countless opportunities. The faculty and staff have already helped me find multiple career opportunities. I was even given the chance to write for the Northern Kentucky Tribune covering high school football in the area. The Student Government Association and Black Student Union have helped me become a leader in ways I had not imagined, and I was honored to receive the Champions of Character Award from the NAIA for showing integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, and student leadership."

## Patience Robison '22



"I am a biology major on the marine track, and the scholarships that Thomas More provides allow me to pursue both my passions working with African penguins at the Newport Aquarium, as well as participating in band, theater, and color guard. Donations to Thomas More allow me to pursue my dream of working at the Newport Aquarium as a lead husbandrist with sharks and other marine life."

## Chris Odongo '19



"I consider Thomas More University my first home away from home. As an international student, I was a beneficiary of institutional scholarships. The gifts from well-wishers and benefactors of the school were instrumental in my success as I had enough time to focus on my studies and worry less about tuition. Being able to give back to the school, however small the gift may be, gives me joy that it is going to make a meaningful contribution to another students' education. That's the drive behind my gift as a young alumnus."

*Odongo is a graduate assistant at Xavier University working towards a Master of Science in customer analytics.*

## Hrusto Selimovic '19



"When I finished my management information systems degree at Thomas More, I knew that I had the skills to compete in today's job market. Challenging coursework, hands-on projects, close faculty relationships, and the personal mentorship I received from faculty and staff allowed me to excel beyond my potential and receive rewarding career opportunities upon graduating. Thomas More University is ranked No. 1 in ROI for Kentucky colleges. I know that I personally benefited from their commitment to educational excellence."

*Selimovic graduated in December 2019 and immediately began work as an Amazon operations specialist with Amify. In August, he returned to Thomas More as an enrollment coach with the accelerated professional educations program division.*

To give online, visit **[thomasmore.edu/gift](https://thomasmore.edu/gift)**. If giving online is not your preference, there is always the option of sending your gift in the envelope at the center of this Moreover. For additional information, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at **859-344-3344** or **[advancement@thomasmore.edu](mailto:advancement@thomasmore.edu)**.



# Why We Give: Pulling Off the Hat Trick



How to give where you care, and how Thomas More became a family affair

SUBMITTED BY AMY '94 AND DAVID DARPEL | PHOTO PROVIDED

Every year, you are asked to donate to organizations of many different backgrounds and purposes. At work, you are asked to contribute to the United Way and ArtsWave (formerly the Fine Arts Fund). At church, you are asked to support the parish, school, various religious orders, and more. Your old high school, your spouse's high school, your kids' schools - they all want your support. This time of year, you even find politicians knocking on your door. So, how do you decide who to support? Whose need is greater, and how much should you give? Well, you first must decide

Amy '94 and David's Thomas More Hat Trick includes: **Samantha Darpel '18**, Theatre and English secondary teacher at Covington Latin School. **Jake (David J.) Darpel '20**, now attending graduate school as a public policy student at George Washington University. and **Maggie Darpel**, a first-year student actively engaged at Thomas More.

what you really want to support then make a plan to get the best bang for your buck.

Several years ago, we did just that. With three kids in the Catholic school system (then eventually all three kids at Thomas More), we didn't exactly have a lot of money floating around. For most of our adult lives, it seemed like every dollar was spent before we made it. As we got older and started to see more success professionally, we started giving sporadically to local organizations. They would call, we would give a few dollars.

They would call, we would give a few dollars again. The cycle continued like this for years. The problem with this sort of giving is that we were shot-gunning our limited funds around to multiple places. We never really got to see the benefit of the dollars we donated: never felt that we made an impact. We didn't have a plan.

As time moved on, we were able to give a little more, but we didn't want to continue our pattern. We decided that we wanted to see our giving make a difference, and we wanted to be able to actively participate in that organization.

To be honest, the first organization on our list was a local high school. With Amy working in the development office, it was nearly a forgone conclusion. Our son also attended the school. Even after he graduated, we found ourselves spending countless hours there on whatever effort we can help with. It isn't just Amy's

**"We believe that the mission of the school is critical for the community and the kids that go there."**

*- Amy '94 and David Darpel*

job, we are committed to the success of the school. We thought about why we believed so much in the school. Why do we so easily give of our time and money to support their mission? We believe that the mission of the school is critical for the community and the kids that go there. There simply has to be an option for Catholic gifted and talented students in Northern Kentucky. So many people have benefited from it over the years, and it is up to us to ensure that continues.

As we looked at other organizations to diversify our giving, we were searching for a passion for an organization that we felt as strongly for. For a long time, we gave with no more passion than if we were paying a bill. As our kids started at Thomas More, we



started to attend parent and alumni events. We heard more about the mission of the school. A new president was installed, and we heard about how many students were the first in the family to pursue higher education because of the changes being made.

The fit for our children at Thomas More felt right. Samantha stayed in the dorms to get that “college experience” and loved it. We supported her throughout her undergraduate career by attending theatre events and meeting her friends. She was able to be a big fish in a little pond and gain confidence and relationships that we hadn’t seen her have before. One night, we came home to half of the theatre kids in our kitchen: singing, dancing, and cooking a meal.

Jake was just starting in the dorm hoping to leverage a Thomas More scholarship in order to save money and get a spot in a top (i.e. expensive) graduate program.

Maggie was still in high school, but she had already decided to attend Thomas More and be a cheerleader (we are hoping a major is declared soon).

Each of our kids were getting a very different experience from Thomas More University. Again, we started to feel that this organization simply had to be here. They could not have gotten this experience anywhere else.

We vividly remember being at an alumni event and hearing a speech about what was going on at the school. They had a vision to build the school up and increase enrollment. They wanted to build a new dorm, give more work at the Biology Field Station, and, of course, offer more scholarships. That was the moment that we decided that we could do more. We could adjust. With planning, we could focus our giving to include Thomas More University. This organization also needs to be here for our Catholic community, for our NKY community, and for all the kids that could get as unique of an experience as my children did from a small, local institution. We set our sights on reaching the President’s Society giving level. It was not terribly higher than what we were already giving, and it allowed us to continue as a larger part of the community. We get to see firsthand the impact of our gift. We are now part of several events each year that celebrate the school and everything that happens there.

Many people give so much more than we do and they have for years. They have helped Thomas More University to provide the varied experiences that my kids, and thousands of others, have had. As time moves on and our children become more independent, we will be able to do more. We are grateful for the relationship of giving that we have developed with Thomas More University. By getting involved now, we know we can trust that our future gifts will help to provide a place that will bless many more families through the years, just like it did ours.

MOREOVER

## Senior Saints Giving Tips

### Jeanne-Marie ’91 and Dick Tapke, Legacy in Action



Thank you to Jeanne-Marie ’91, Ph.D., and Dick Tapke, for their deep commitment to Thomas More University and for their generosity as they include a gift to Thomas More in their estate plan. A gift of this type ensures deserving students have access to scholarship funds for years to come and also ensures the Tapke legacy lives on forever.

The Tapke’s bequest demonstrates the importance of planning ahead to ensure a sustained and meaningful impact on future generations of Thomas More University students. By planning now, you can secure your legacy at Thomas More.

#### How Can Thomas More Help?

We are happy to provide you with information on the various planned giving options to help determine which course of action is best for you. To find out more, visit [thomasmore.edu/plannedgiving](https://thomasmore.edu/plannedgiving) or contact Denise Carl by calling 859-344-3538 or emailing [carld@thomasmore.edu](mailto:carld@thomasmore.edu).

## Year-end Giving: How to use your IRA to help Thomas More\*

Congress passed legislation to make the charitable IRA rollover permanent. People aged 70 ½ or older have a special tax-free opportunity to make a meaningful charitable gift annually to Thomas More University.

#### How it works

This legislation allows individuals aged 70 ½ or older to make outright (immediate) gifts of up to \$100,000 to qualified charitable organizations through direct transfers from their IRAs without paying income tax on the IRA distributions. If you are able to take advantage of this opportunity, you can improve your overall tax situation while helping us continue to meet our goals and achieve our vision for the future of the University and its students

#### You can make a direct transfer if:

1. You are aged 70 ½ or older on the day of the gift.
2. You transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA. (This opportunity applies only to IRAs and not other types of retirement plans.)
3. You make your gift by December 31, 2020.

#### Benefits of an IRA direct transfer:

1. The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you can benefit even if you do not itemize your tax deductions.
2. The transfer may count against your unsatisfied required minimum distributions.\*
3. You may transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA, which allows you to make a significant gift and gives you the flexibility to create an improved tax situation.
4. Along with creating a powerful legacy, you can witness the benefits of your gift to the University now.
5. It’s simple to do. Just call your IRA administrator to make the transfer.

\*Due to COVID-19, the CARES Act is allowing for required minimum distributions to be skipped in 2020.





# Educating Educators

Collaborating with Boone and Kenton County School Districts opens doors to opportunities for Thomas More education majors.

SUBMITTED BY JUDY CRIST, DIRECTOR OF CREATIVE SERVICES | PHOTOS PROVIDED

Step back in time to 1921 and the clear mission at the founding of Villa Madonna College, now Thomas More University, was to provide an excellent education for the training of school teachers, both religious and laypeople. Northern Kentucky's Catholic (and non-Catholic) schools needed a convenient and efficient pipeline to provide educators for grades 1 through 12. The University's mission may have expanded to include more than 40 fields of study but that core focus on education continues today with the outstanding program housed in the College of Education and Health Sciences. This program is led by Dean Kim Haverkos, Ph.D., and Department Chair Christy Petroze, Ed.D., who are supported by knowledgeable and dedicated faculty and staff. The Education Department offers program concentrations in elementary, middle, and secondary school, as well as special education, for the men and women who answer the call to be teachers.

A quick look in the archives of yesteryear shows an ongoing collaboration between the Education Department and local schools, with students in this major gaining hands-on experience shadowing teachers and providing assistance in the classroom. The program still draws strength from ensuring education majors build on their skills by learning their trade from teachers who practice in their area of interest. This symbiotic relationship is a win-win for both the schools and Thomas More students. The latest collaboration comes in the form of in-classroom experience for junior and senior education majors at Yealey Elementary School in the Boone County School District (BCSD) and Twenhofel Middle School in the Kenton County School District (KCSO). These practicum experiences are comparable to residency work and the locations

are considered professional development schools. The hope is to expand this collaboration to include a secondary school in the future, so that the experience for all education majors can be tailored specifically to their area of concentration.

Much of the success of the collaboration depends on strong leadership in the principal position at the partner school. Petroze explains, "They are the ones who direct us to individual teachers, allowing us into the classrooms to see what we need our students to see in terms of good teaching. We collaborate with the principal on our method syllabi, setting up specific lessons and topics that we want our students involved in either co-teaching or having a faculty member come in to teach. For example, they may say the topic today is formative assessment and the principal will send students into classrooms to observe or work with teachers on that content. Then the students and the teacher come back and there is a debriefing." The two schools involved have set up dedicated classroom space for the Thomas More contingent which expedites the process. The number of days that students are on location varies from week-to-week and semester-to-semester but there is a requirement that in the fall of junior year, students are present at least 60 hours at the school in which they are serving.

The Boone County collaboration began four years ago, when Yealey principal Renee Turner approached Petroze and Haverkos and discussed the possibility of housing Thomas More's practicum students on-site at Yealey. "I wanted to have a partnership with

Above: Christy Petroze, Ed.D., and Kim Haverkos, Ph.D., lead the Education Department at Thomas More. In this photo they instruct a classroom of education majors pre-COVID-19.

**EDUCATION** CONTINUED ON PAGE 17





THOMAS MORE  
UNIVERSITY

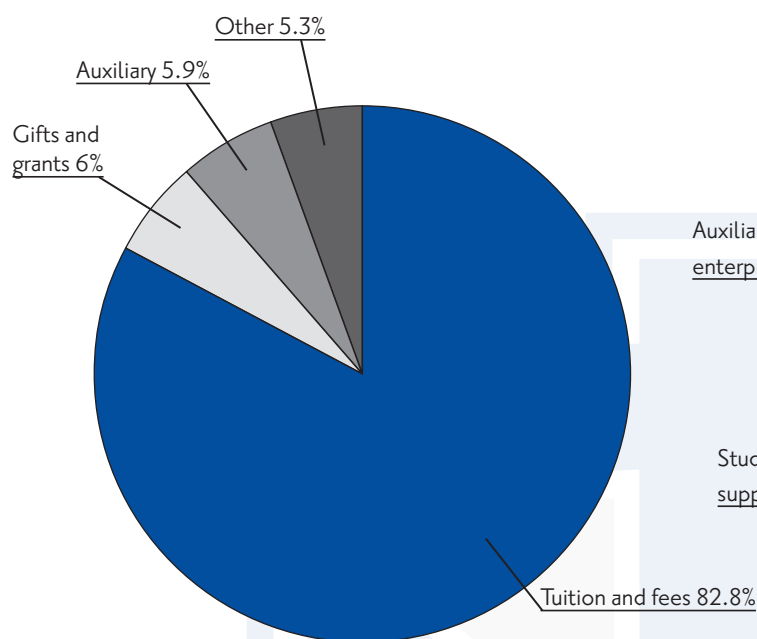
Make It **More.**

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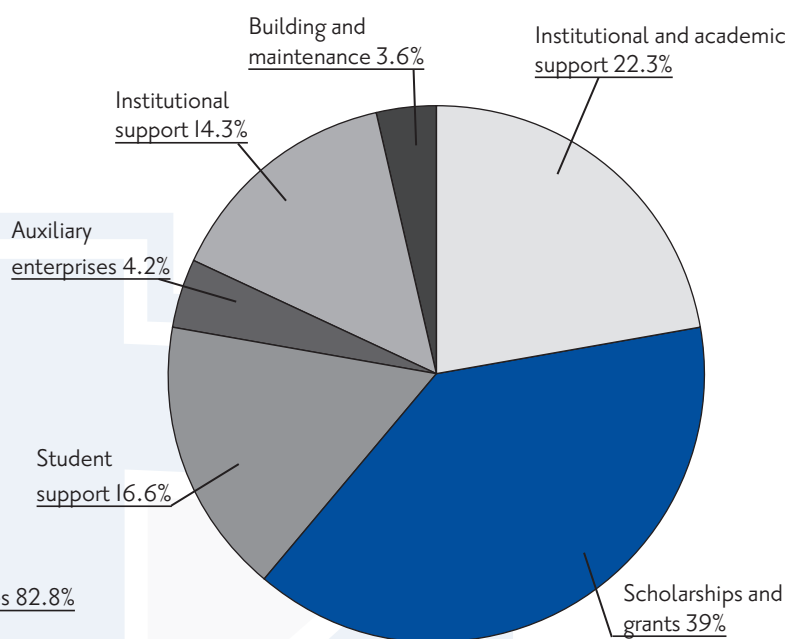
2019-2020  
ANNUAL REPORT/GIVING HONOR ROLL



# Financial Information 2019-20



2019-20 Operating  
**Revenue**



2019-20 Operating  
**Expense**



## Thomas More University Summarized Balance Sheets

*Fiscal Year ending May 31, 2020. Dollars in thousands.*

### ASSETS

Cash and investments	\$28,891
Property and equipment net	\$26,425
Other assets	\$ 6,412

**TOTAL ASSETS** **\$61,728**

### LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Accounts payable including revolving line	\$ 116
Term debt	\$14,984
Other liabilities	\$ 6,218

**TOTAL LIABILITIES** **\$21,318**

### FUND BALANCES

Without donor restrictions	\$11,930
With donor restrictions	\$28,480

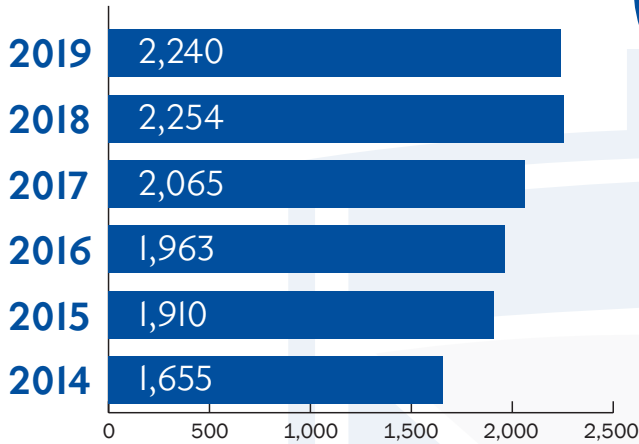
**TOTAL NET ASSETS** **\$40,410**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES** **\$61,728**



# Fast Facts 2019-20

## Fall Total Headcount



Source: Institutional Research, IPEDS



## of Students Receive Institutional Aid

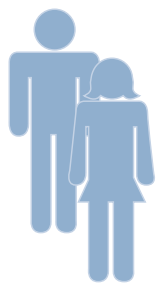
(traditional, full-time, undergraduate)

## 12 Distinct Countries



represented  
in the student body

## Total Number of Donors



1,744

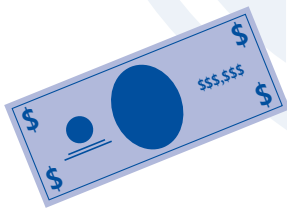
## 250 Gifts



\$1,000  
or more

## Number of Endowed Scholarships

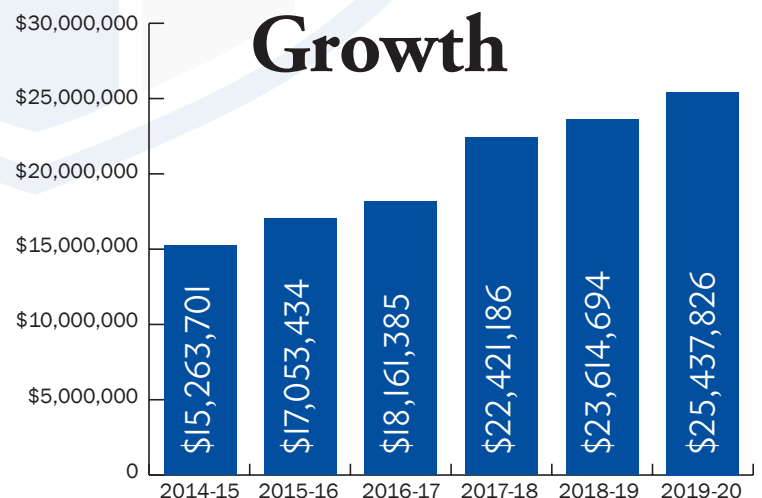
94



Endowed and Restricted  
Scholarship Aggregate Dollars

**Awarded  
\$709,787**

## Endowment Growth





# Giving Societies

*Gifts Received June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020*

## ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY

*Donors Contributing Gifts of \$250,000 or more*

### INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Frank and Paula Murphy †

### ORGANIZATION, FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE GIVING

St. Elizabeth Sports Medicine †  
University Housing Solutions †

## THE CHANCELLOR SOCIETY

*Donors Contributing Gifts of \$100,000 - \$249,999*

### INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Helen Laux '43

W. Bruce Lunsford

Anthony '65, Ph.D. and Geraldine '66 Zembrodt †

### ORGANIZATION, FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE GIVING

The Austin E. Knowlton Foundation, Inc.

## THE TRUSTEE SOCIETY

*Donors Contributing Gifts of \$50,000 - \$99,999*

### ORGANIZATION, FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE GIVING

Diocese of Covington †

Carol and Ralph V. Haile, Jr./U.S. Bank Foundation †  
Republic Bank Foundation Inc.

## THE CHAPEL SOCIETY

*Donors Contributing Gifts of \$10,000 - \$49,999*

### INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Anonymous (2)

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Dr. Judith Marlowe '69 and Gordon Blich †

Marc '85 and Susan Neltner †

Donald '67, M.D. and Dee Ann Saelinger

Robert and Dell Ann Sathe †

Joseph and Virginia Schmidt †

Janet Stallmeyer and Donald Flora †

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### ORGANIZATION, FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE GIVING

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SD1 †

St. Elizabeth Healthcare †

The Butler Foundation †

UHS Thomas More LLC

UNUM Group

## THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY

*Donors Contributing Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999*

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Dolores and Robert Lorenz

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Joan Robinson '69 †

Andrew '75 and Barbara VonLehman †

### ORGANIZATION, FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE GIVING

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Congregation of Divine Providence †

OrthoCincy Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine

Republic Bank †

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## THE VILLA MADONNA SOCIETY

*Donors Contributing Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999*

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William '61 and Elaine '64 Kohlhepp †

Jeffrey '80, Esq. and Francine Mando †

Thomas and Joan Mattei †

Thomas and Diana McGill

Eduardo '71 and Sheila '69 Rabel †



## † THE GEN ANN HARRIS SOCIETY

Throughout the Giving Honor Roll, the symbol † is seen. This symbol denotes inclusion in the Gen Ann Harris Society, a giving society established in spring of 2013 to honor Genevieve Ann Harris '45 (1924-2017), Thomas More's longest consecutive giving donor. This annual giving society is dedicated to those loyal supporters of the University who have given continuously, at any level, for three or more consecutive years. Loyal annual support has a significant impact on Thomas More University students, faculty, and staff; furthering a variety of initiatives that fulfill the mission of the University on an on-going basis. **Thank you!** Left: Gen Ann Harris with Bishop Roger J. Foy, D.D., at a fall 2012 President's Society event.



David and Geraldine Sandman †  
 James Thesing '69 and M. Gabrielle Hils '81 †  
 John Topits  
 Honorable Anthony Wilhoit '55 †  
 James '60, M.D. and Marna Zalla †  
 Irvin '65 and Luann Ziegler †

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 Jenzabar †  
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*Donors Contributing Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2,499*

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 Michael '69 and Lynne Kehoe †  
 Jerome and Julia Keller †  
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 Richard Kruse '76  
 Nancy Kuchle '56 †  
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 John, III '65 and Julie Lange †  
 Richard '95 and Dr. Rachel '95 Lehmkuhl  
 William Van Lokeren '65 †  
 Christopher Lorentz, Ph.D. †  
 Thomas and Theresa Lueke  
 David '81 and Linda Macke  
 Cody Makin '14  
 Beth '00/'02 and Brian '02 Maley †  
 Timothy Mauntel '64  
 Rita and Thomas Maurer  
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 Dr. Scott '86 and Jill Neltner †  
 David Orewiler  
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 Margaret '85 and Gerard Reynolds †  
 Paul, J.D. and Sandy Ritter  
 Roebker Family Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation †  
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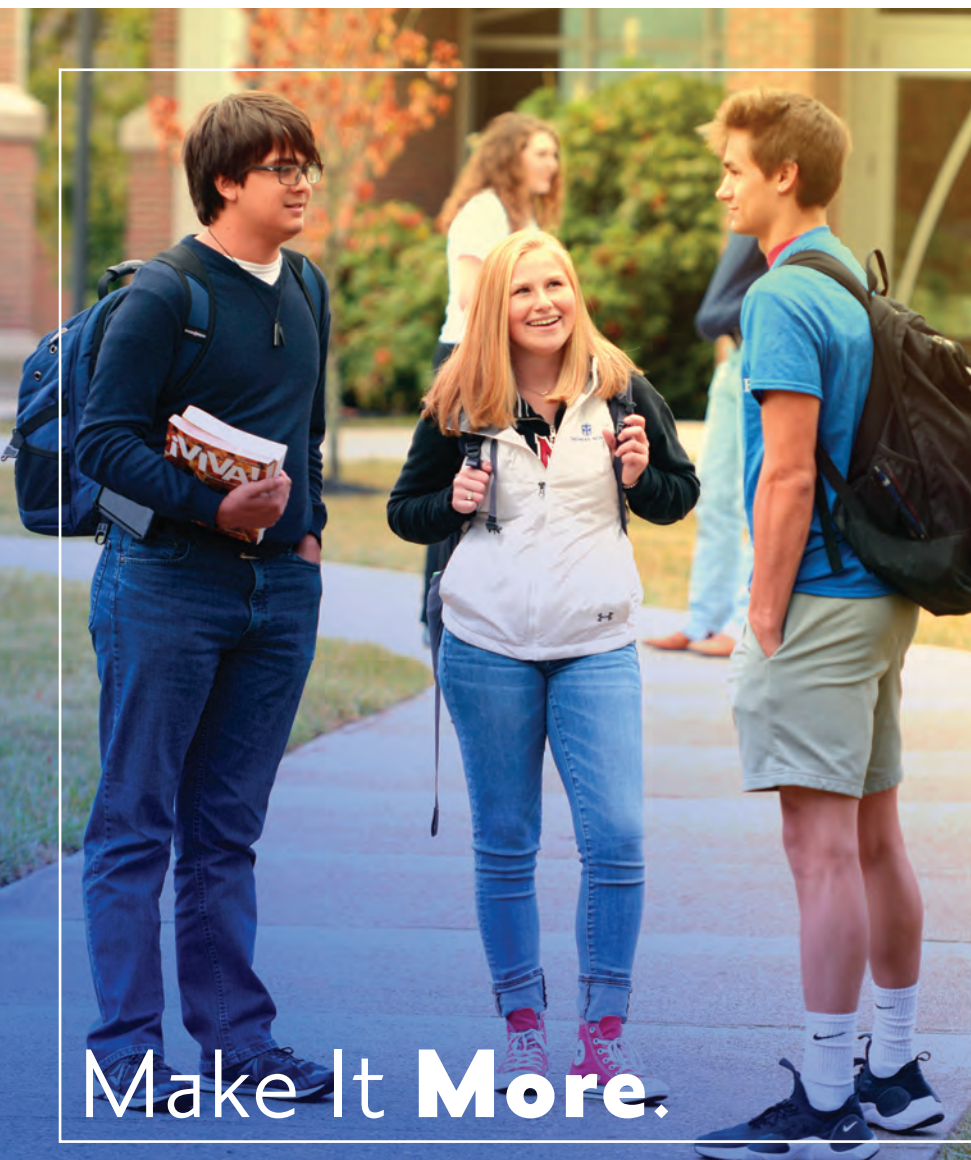
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The generosity of Thomas More's donors allowed the 2019-2020 fiscal year to be a successful one for The Fund for Thomas More. These gifts demonstrate support from alumni, trustees, friends, faculty and staff as well as the business community. Resources generated by The Fund for Thomas More allow us to continue to provide a values-based education as we grow and expand on the traditions that have made Thomas More a top-tier regional university. Thank you to all our donors for their continued and generous financial support. We are extremely honored and appreciative that we are entrusted to be stewards of your donations and will continue to maximize their impact on students in support of the mission of the University.



a university or college that would benefit the teacher-candidate students, my elementary students, and my teachers,” says Turner. In that first year, all education majors participated on-site at Yealey. Turner, Petroze, and Haverkos looked at the individual Thomas More student’s interests and needs, and matched them as closely as possible with teachers who had similar experiences or could provide the support they needed. The collaboration worked out so well in that first year that much of the work was presented at the National Association for Professional Development Schools (NAPDS) Conference.

The relationship continues to thrive for both Thomas More students and Yealey faculty. Turner says, “I have been very impressed with how invested the students become in the school and how they go above and beyond their requirements. Many come back to see their Yealey students and volunteer in the classrooms even after their hours are complete. Yealey teachers have been guest lecturers in Thomas More classes and worked with the professors to align their syllabus, which we have found to be powerful work. Working with the interns is refreshing and rejuvenating to us all.”

In addition to the benefits for teacher-candidates and faculty, the elementary students are reaping rewards as well with increases in reading and math scores indicated in the STAR data included in Yealey’s Kentucky School Report Card. Thomas More student Abby Enzweiler explains how she loved the in-classroom experience at Yealey, “I was excited to work with the 2nd grade team of teachers, meeting the students, watching and helping them grow as learners. I worked with students from different socioeconomic statuses and with different learning abilities. Every one was truly amazing! This experience was beneficial as it gave me the opportunity to teach, and learn new strategies and skills that I will implement in my future classroom.”

Complementing Yealey’s elementary school experience, the Education Department has a relationship with Twenhofel Middle School, part of KCSD. Twenhofel principal Shannon Gross, Ed.D., recalls how the relationship began three years ago, “I think it was Dr. Petroze who suggested the idea, the possibility, that Thomas More University have an education class taught at Twenhofel. The whole school would be their classroom. They were learning about concepts from a textbook, i.e. classroom management or a certain instructional strategy, and once they learned it from the textbook, they would then have the option to go into the classroom and see that skill put into practice. We had several conversations with our staff and they were willing to participate. We (the administration) thought it would be a really good idea if Thomas More was going to be here with practicum education students, that they have the opportunity at any time to go into any classroom.

“We also had a conversation with the Thomas More students, that if they were going to do this, they were going to act and be treated as professionals. As soon as they enter this building, no longer were they just a Thomas More University student, they were also an agent for Twenhofel Middle School. That means everything that they did, was also a reflection of us. I told them to have the mindset that this is a real-life job interview. We will look at how they dress, how

“Every one of our teachers... want to help Thomas More students just as much as they want to help their own students.”

- Tyler Teke, assistant principal, Twenhofel



Yealey’s Twitter feed covers one example of the learning that goes on for Thomas More teacher-candidates on-site at the Boone County elementary school.

they act; we will check out their social media and if there’s anything inappropriate, we’re going to let them know about it. We also told them, never leave this building having a question. If you notice a teacher is doing something a certain way, if you want to know why they separated children in groups a certain way, it’s your job to ask. If you ever want to take the initiative to help teach or circulate the classroom to help monitor, this is your platform, this is your stage. Another component that we added, as Thomas More goes through specific chapters or over certain methods, is to invite one

of our teachers to talk about their approach. It could be anything from how they develop learning targets, how they group students, if there’s a certain instructional or classroom management style that they implement; we would provide coverage during that time and the teacher could present. It’s been an evolving relationship.”

Assistant principal Tyler Teke added, “Every one of our teachers, no matter what stage of their career they’re in, they want to help the Thomas More students just as much as they want to help their own students.” Teke has first-hand experience with Thomas More students in the classroom: he taught sixth grade math before becoming assistant principal, “The willingness of the students was



A social media shout-out to Thomas More education students on site at Twenhofel Middle School learning about formative assessment from faculty member Amanda Lowe.

## EDUCATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

awesome. Even if you can't quantify it with a number, the improved quality of the education; the way you're able to split kids up and have them work in small groups, work on intervention skills in the classroom - we always had the students working. I drew on my experience from when I was in college, I didn't want to sit in the back (of the classroom). I was trying to put those students in that type of environment. More recently, we had a teacher that had an unfortunate situation this year (outside of the classroom) and talk about an advantage for her class; one of the Thomas More students literally came in extra and was teaching lessons for her because they knew how the classroom worked. There would be a sub in the room but the Thomas More student understood what was going on. Even though we don't have a way to measure, we don't have a data point, I can tell you those (Twenhofel) students learned during those couple weeks because of the relationship we have with Thomas More. I think every teacher would say that they utilize the students because they (the students) get it, they understand why they are here."

Gross was excited to share that one of the former practicum students will join the Twenhofel faculty as a teacher, just one example of how the relationship is paying dividends for Thomas More and Kenton County. Gross explained the benefits, "We think of it like this: the student that we recommended has already been in this building for six months. He knows where his classroom is, he knows how to get to the school,

## EDUCATION MAJORS DESCRIBE THEIR CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

**Sydney Adamson '20** (8th grade English) - "This was my first time being in a classroom for an extended period of time. I was excited to shadow a teacher with great experience who was very flexible and understanding which was most beneficial for me. The teacher that I shadowed allowed me to do whatever I needed to expand my learning and was very patient with explaining everything to me and answering any question I had. It put my mind at ease when I was able to be comfortable with this mentor. I had an amazing time and learned so much. I appreciated the several opportunities we were given to hear from the principal. He is a very knowledgeable, respected man and I learned so much from him!"

**Ali Whalen '20** (Kindergarten) - "I was very excited to start this collaboration but also nervous because I knew I would be taking on more of a teacher role with the students. You become a part of the school faculty and community when you are there every day and build relationships with students and teachers, even in different grades. I felt very comfortable through this collaboration and it allowed me to develop easily as a teacher. I wish that I had taken more advantage of getting to know all the faculty and getting different ideas and approaches to instruction. You learn the ins and outs of that school and start to understand how they do professional development and the different resources that are available to the teachers. I hope that the other students have a similar experience that I received because it taught me a lot!"

**Morgan Beare '21** (4th grade math and reading) - "I was excited to get started but more nervous than anything. The only other experience I had was with Kindergarten, so I did not feel prepared for the 'big' kids. I was almost looking at it as if I wanted it to get started so I could be finished with my upper-grade requirement. What I found was that I wish I could have spent the whole year with them! My cooperating teacher pushed me to create lessons on my own. She let me have a lot of freedom over what I wanted to do but asked what I could come up with first, and we would review that together and make changes where she thought necessary and she would explain why. Her involvement is what made this experience especially successful. Looking back, I would have taught more math lessons because it was out of my comfort zone. When I taught a math lesson, I thoroughly enjoyed it! The students were so involved and loved showing me their math skills and I learned different practices to use for the future. All the Yealey teachers collaborated with one another and were so accepting of us Thomas More students. They were committed to the growth in their students, rather than perfection, which made a great atmosphere for both students and faculty."



how to get inside the building. He already knows what our mascot is; those little things that sometimes people don't think about. Coming into a job, having that knowledge already - he knows who the teachers are, he knows what the spaces are, he knows what the schedule looks like. He's already had that experience; he was leaps and bounds above everyone else. He had an advantage because, as an admin team, we actually got to see him teach, we had already evaluated him. I know that you can get student teaching experience anywhere, but he was one of the students that had the class here - that wealth of knowledge, having that familiarity with the building, it's been a really cool thing for him and us."

Given the circumstances of spring 2020 and the implementation of Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI), this past semester was anything but normal for faculty, college, and elementary/middle school students. Turner relates, "Unfortunately, the Thomas More students were unable to work with us during NTI, except for the student teachers. Our student teacher worked alongside her cooperating teacher through Google classroom and Zoom to complete her student teaching experience." Gross and his staff had a similar story to tell. Twenhofel assistant principal Caroline Capel explains the disruption COVID-19 created for their students, "I think that the greatest challenge was touching base with every single child and making sure learning was happening for every child. ... The instructional piece was probably the toughest piece, but it was pretty awesome to see the staff, everybody, step up." Teke adds, "We had a chance to meet with Dr. Petroze (remotely) at the end

**EDUCATION** CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

**Parker Dixon '22** (8th grade social studies) - "As a secondary education major (8-12), I was relieved to work with some younger students (at Twenhofel Middle School) who may have found it easier to see me as a classroom leader as I progress, mature, and begin to work with older students. I found it beneficial to receive direct feedback from an experienced teacher while in the field. I was able to experiment and tweak my lessons plans, while also being given freedom to lead the classroom in collecting data, implementing routines, and leading discussions. I was able to look at notes with my collaborating teacher and even meet with him one-on-one to discuss what worked and what didn't."

**Taylor Gambrel '20** (3rd grade) - "I was excited that I was able to be part of a class so early in my college career, the interaction with the students and staff around the school was most beneficial. I was able to learn from different students and cultures. The best teachers are the best students, so being in the classroom and this opportunity gave me the chance to work cooperatively and learn from colleagues."

**CLINICAL** CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

## SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Lacey Pohlman '20

Education

SUBMITTED BY JUDY CRIST, DIRECTOR OF CREATIVE SERVICES | PHOTO PROVIDED

Saints Spotlight caught up with Lacey Pohlman, an education major who was able to use the relationship built between the Education Department and Yealey Elementary in order to collaborate with Principal Renee Turner to complete her senior project.

### Can you tell us a little about your project?

**LP:** I was supposed to interview local school administrators, but the impact of COVID-19 began with switching all the schools to non-traditional instruction (NTI). I decided to reach out to Principal Turner since we have great relations between Thomas More and Yealey Elementary, and she was so kind and said yes, whatever you need, I'm willing to help. We started by conducting interviews. I interviewed Principal Turner, the assistant principal Mr. Rice, and instructional coach Mrs. Dunn. I also sat in on Professional Learning Committee meetings. The idea of the study was to develop a deeper understanding of the pandemic's impact on the world of education. This created a combined focus on the inner workings of the school and duties of the principal.

### Do you feel like you accomplished your goal?

**LP:** I do, the people that I worked with for this project were extremely helpful. Yealey was working really hard to meet the needs of their students and parents, and I was documenting the processes that occurred and the policies that were created. I was able to gather a holistic understanding of what was going on within the school and trying to figure out how COVID-19 impacted the school before and after NTI days, and the differences between the two. It was a pretty neat experience and it definitely made me more excited about becoming an administrator one day.

### You completed both clinical work in the classroom and your senior project at Yealey. Was there a part that you really enjoyed?

**LP:** I really enjoyed connecting with the people that I was working with in the sixth grade clinical. I worked with Katie Rolf. She's awesome and a fantastic teacher who is really down to earth and gets to know her students. I enjoyed learning from her how I can be a better teacher. I also shadowed Principal Turner and the prior assistant principal, Mrs. Hyatt. I learned a great deal from them as well, because they were thinking on their feet. They were responding to different occasions and events that would come up spontaneously. For example, one time we had a dog run across the playground and we had to figure out, "Uh oh, the kids are at recess, how do we get them back inside. What do we do?" I really appreciated shadowing them because I could learn how to be a better leader, and they also taught me how to connect to students better.

### Did you had an opportunity to present your senior project work?

**LP:** I did, at the senior send-off for the James Graham Brown Honors program. I was able to present my research along with other members that completed their projects. It was a neat process, seeing how everything comes together. I also created a case study, and wrote up all of my findings. It's neat combining all the ideas that I saw and observed, creating documentation of it and who knows? Someday in the future it might help out in case we experience something like this again.

**MOREOVER**

MOREOVER [Fall 2020]

19



End of year virtual Zoom meeting includes Twenhofel administration members, Thomas More education professor Christy Petroze, Ed.D., and education majors.

#### EDUCATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

of NTI. All the students were on with us and asked about the NTI experience. Some of the students were throwing out things like 'did you try this or did you try that?' They have never had a classroom but they were well prepared - they gave us ideas to throw out if this happens again this coming year."

The symbiotic relationship with the schools and school districts provides excellent results for these highly prepared Thomas More students. As soon as they graduate, many have opportunities waiting for them. Dean Haverkos expounds, "We recognize that correlation is not causation and that these principals (Turner and Gross) are doing a lot of work in addition to having us in the classrooms, but student scores are improving in those buildings and they hire our students. They want to interview our students first. We continue to have a 100% employment rate upon graduation."

**"We recognize that correlation  
is not causation... but student scores  
are improving in those buildings  
and they hire our students."**

*- Kim Haverkos, Ph.D.*

That is an excellent return on investment for the Education Department plus there is the bonus of knowing the collaboration is working from the students' perspective. "They worked hard to create a meaningful partnership for education majors to grow their skills and prepare for their own classrooms. I definitely feel more prepared

for the future because I was able to learn from all of these great educators," shares education major Lacey Pohlman '20.

In conclusion, Gross dropped these words of wisdom for education majors ready to take on the world, "Every time you enter a classroom or a building, keep in mind that you just became a reflection of a larger community; your actions are a reflection of

everyone. And never base your career on your first year - just as long as your good days outnumber your bad, it's a success." His thoughts about the coming semester? "It's an honor to have the opportunity to work with Thomas More and we look forward to meeting the new students in the upcoming school year."

MOREOVER

#### CLINICALS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

**Isabella Miller '20** (1st grade) - "When I found out that we would be working with the teachers at Yealey, I was excited. This was the second placement I had, and it is where I believe I transitioned fully from being a student to being a teacher. It was most beneficial that our class was there. We used a classroom at Yealey and another at Twenhofel for classes with our professors. Teachers from both schools would tell us about their classroom experiences. If I were to do anything differently, I would want to have spent more time there, which would be difficult as I was already in the classroom as much as I could be. It was wonderful to be completely surrounded by learning - as we were learning. Both schools were very supportive, helping us in any way they could. It was a wonderful experience."

**Kylie Lynch '21** (5th grade) - "I was very nervous to start this clinical because I had previously only worked with kindergarten students in a classroom and was worried that I wouldn't know how to interact with the students. I found Yealey Elementary's assessment strategies most beneficial. The team would plan the assessments based on the Academic Standards and then rank the assessments for students who need more help, students that are on target, and students who are beyond in understanding. They would then use this to build their next lessons and assignments. It was very student-centered. Overall, Yealey has an amazing and welcoming staff and faculty."

To hear Lacey's complete interview, visit [tmuky.us/lacey](https://tmuky.us/lacey).

To read the complete story online, visit [tmuky.us/education](https://tmuky.us/education).



# KUDOS TO THOMAS MORE FACULTY AND STAFF ON THEIR ACCOLADES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLISHED WORKS

## College of Business



**R. Steven Flynn, Ph.D.**, professor of accountancy, published his article titled "Nonprofit Directorship Ties to For-Profit Earnings Management: Donor Impressions of a Nonprofit Accounting Contagion?" in the *Journal of International Business and Economics*, Vol. 19 (2), 2019. This paper marks Flynn's 30th research publication in a peer reviewed journal.

*Flynn*

## College of Arts & Sciences



**Caitlin Dwyer, M.T.S.**, Department of Theology, had a three-part apologetics series published in *The Messenger* (July, August, September) on "How to Talk About Euthanasia," exploring consent, the meaning of suffering, and the problems created when we begin to determine that some people's lives are not worth living.

*Dwyer*



**Shannon Galbraith-Kent '98, Ph.D.**, professor and chairperson of biological sciences, was appointed as the Kentucky Academy of Science's representative to the state board by Governor Beshear's office. She oversees the Kentucky State Nature Preserves and Heritage Land Conservation Fund. To read more, visit [tmuky.us/galbraithkent3](https://tmuky.us/galbraithkent3).

*Galbraith-Kent*

**Jodie N. Mader '98, Ph.D.**, associate professor of history, is a 2020 graduate of the Women's Institute for Leadership Development (WILD) through the Higher Education Collaborative of Greater Cincinnati.



*Mader*

**Daniel Parsley, DMA**, completed his doctorate in Music Arts in Choral Conducting from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). CCM is currently the no. 1-ranked choral conducting program in the United States. Parsley serves as the director of choral activities and head of the music program at Thomas More.



*Parsley*



**Sherry Cook Stanforth, Ph.D.**, professor of English and director of Creative Writing Vision, recently assumed the role of managing editor for *Pine Mountain Sand & Gravel*, the regional literary journal of the Southern Appalachian Writers Cooperative. Additionally, Stanforth's poems "Of Course" and "Interpreting the Passage" will appear in *Post Road*, Issue 37.

*Stanforth*

## Staff



**Antwone Cameron**, dean of students, was a finalist in the education category of the Northern Kentucky Chamber's 2020 Next Generation Leadership Awards.

*Cameron*



**Kevin Reynolds, Ed.D.**, vice president for Institutional Advancement, was named the 2020 Northern Kentucky Chamber Next Generation Leader Award winner for the education category.

*Reynolds*

## SAINTS SPOTLIGHT - CREATIVE WRITING VISION

SUBMITTED BY JUDY CRIST, DIRECTOR OF CREATIVE SERVICES

Thomas More is blessed to have as part of Creative Writing Vision the excellent regional writers, Pauletta Hansel and Richard Hague, serving as artists-in-residence. This past spring they agreed to be featured as Saints Spotlights. Here's a sampling from their interviews:



**Pauletta, tell us a little about the Draft-to-Craft Poetry Workshops that you lead at Thomas More.**

**PH:** The Draft-to-Craft program was designed to provide long-term inspiration and community for creative writers who are not necessarily students at Thomas More. As an aside, one of the delightful aspects of the Creative Writing Vision program in general, and Draft-to-Craft in particular, is the ability to allow student writers to write alongside creative writers from the community. This particular semester I seemed to have the foresight to set up a project where writers paired up and committed to write in epistolary (a letter poem) to each other each week as inspiration and as a way of building community. And so what we're exploring... how a poem can be both a letter and still have all of the creative and poetic aspects that a more traditional poem would have. Each semester I focus on some particular project, some particular aspect, and make sure that there's both the ability for writers to explore their own views but also to use the community as inspiration.

*Hansel*

To listen to the full interview, visit [tmuky.us/hansel](https://tmuky.us/hansel).



**Richard, you lead the Writers Table, which is usually held on Mondays at Thomas More. It's open to the wider community. Can you tell us a little bit about that series?**

**RH:** It's really wonderful, there are people who are close to 80 and there are sometimes fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh graders, and college students. A lot of retired people. It's a small core group, but it changes from year to year. Undergraduates will come sit in, or as younger kids find they're able to get themselves there. It's a wide spectrum of writers, a wide spectrum of achievement, but very, very fun, and the folks who are in it are very loyal. The prompts we use to write come from favorite poems or favorite passages that have lodged themselves in my brain, whatever I've run across in my own reading or whatever I've grabbed out of the air in passing. Imagine a flock of dragonflies going by, I'll just grab one every once in a while. Sometimes the prompts arise out of conversations in the classroom. "Wow, what did you just say? Oh, let's try to make a poem out of that!"

*Hague*

To listen to the full interview, visit [tmuky.us/hague](https://tmuky.us/hague).



THOMAS MORE  
UNIVERSITY

1921 • 100 • 2021  
CENTENNIAL

*Beginning September 2021 - celebratory details coming soon!*



In preparation for the centennial year, faculty and staff present the virtual series "History and Traditions of Thomas More University."

Visit [tmuky.us/historyseries](http://tmuky.us/historyseries), to view excerpts which include:

**A Brief History of the Founding of the University** presented by Sr. Fidelis Tracy, CDP

**Our Patron, Saint Thomas More** as explained by Raymond Hebert, Ph.D.

**The Alma Mater** featuring Sherry Cook Stanforth, Ph.D.

**What is "The Catholic Intellectual Tradition?"** an explanation by Monsignor Gerald Twaddell, D.Phil.

**What is "Catholic Social Teaching?"** presented by Brad Bursa, Ph.D.

**Spirituality at Thomas More** brought to you by Andrew Cole and Angela Crawford, Ph.D.

**Catholicism and the Mass: A Convert's Perspective** a conversation with Hannah Keegan, Ph.D.



# No events? No problem!

Thomas More  
Alumni Association  
Launches Virtual

## MORE Talks

SUBMITTED BY REBECCA STRATTON,  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS  
AND COMMUNICATIONS

Sponsored  
by



Joining Michael Orr '15 as MORETalks discussed arts in the community are Carnegie Theatre Director Margaret Perrino '13, Cincinnati Landmark Productions Executive Artistic Director Tim Perrino '78, and Ensemble Theater Producing Artistic Director Lynn Meyers '77.

way,” said Orr. “It is such a joy to host our alumni and community members and share their expertise and passions. I am so impressed with the breadth of knowledge our community shares in MORETalks. Hosting these events has really reinforced to me the value that the liberal arts has for our community.”

MORETalks has included presentations and discussions that encompass finance experts, research biologists, librarians, artists and directors, coaches, enrollment experts, and more. Alumni such as Brian Ruschman '00, president of C-Forward, John Bovard '11, owner of Incline Wealth Advisors, Terry Connor '92, Thomas More athletic director, Tim Perrino '78, Cincinnati Landmark Productions executive artistic director, plus more, have given their time to efforts to make the virtual events a success.

“All of [the speakers] have something unique to share with our community, and all of them bring so much passion and excitement to their talks,” said Orr. “As host, I have a unique opportunity to get to know these individuals, and it is a really special experience to build a rapport with them before we host their MORETalk. My hope for the program is to host future live, in-person MORETalks with hundreds of alumni and community members present! Until that day, we will continue to push the envelope by offering interesting, insightful, and engaging MORETalks.”

As individuals transitioned their work and lives to their homes last spring in response to COVID-19, the reality of Alumni Association events taking place for the remainder of the spring, summer, and fall was dim. Wheels began turning as Director of Alumni and Parent Engagement Bailey Bundy and Events Manager Taylor Anne Walz '19 started thinking creatively as to how they could bring alumni together in a safe manner. “We needed a way to connect and engage with our alumni and community all while being virtual,” said Bundy. “We saw a pattern and the reality of events being canceled and postponed due to COVID-19 and the impact it was having on people. There was, and is, a strong desire for networking, socializing, and continued learning.”

Through many discussions and creative collaboration, MORETalks was born. Held virtually through Zoom, these free events allow members of the Thomas More community to come together in place of in-person

events. “MORETalks has grown into a successful and sustainable program all on its own,” said Bundy. Since its launch in June, MORETalks has seen a steady increase in attendance.

Similar to TEDTalks, MORETalks features alumni, faculty, staff, and community members through virtual, live

discussions ranging in topics. “Ultimately, MORETalks is devoted to the spread of ideas, thoughts, and information in the form of short, powerful talks,” added Bundy. “Whether it’s a message, presentation, panel discussion, or educational talk, these individuals have been invited to share their knowledge, skill or craft with the community. These talks allow for a large number of guests, enhanced engagement through virtual chats, and encourage continued learning.”

Walz facilitates the discussions, while Michael Orr '15, annual fund officer, hosts and fills in the gaps within the conversations, asking questions, prompting ideas, and managing questions submitted from the virtual audience. “It would be foolish of me to not recognize Michael Orr and Taylor Walz for all of their hard work,” Bundy said. “While I was away on maternity leave this past summer, Michael and Taylor kick-started MORETalks and were champions for the program.”

“MORETalks has taken off in such an astounding

To view past MORETalks,  
visit [tmuky.us/moretalks](https://tmuky.us/moretalks).

To see future discussions and register  
for upcoming MORETalks,  
visit [tmuky.us/moretalksrsvp](https://tmuky.us/moretalksrsvp).

MOREOVER



## SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

**Gee (Garry) Horton '06**

**Artist-in-residence, the Mercantile Library**

SUBMITTED BY JUDY CRIST, DIRECTOR OF CREATIVE SERVICES | PHOTO COURTESY WCPO 9 CINCINNATI LIFESTYLE

Gee Horton is a class of 2006 alum. He earned a bachelor's degree at Thomas More and a master's degree at the University of Louisville. Horton spent time in both the coaching world (basketball) and the corporate arena before becoming active in the Cincinnati region art scene as a self-taught visual artist.

**Can you give us the rundown on the who, the what, the how of your current situation?**

**GH:** Starting July 1, I officially transitioned from my career as an executive recruiter, working within the corporate space, to focus primarily on my craft and my practice as an artist. Although the transition has been rather new, it's exciting, it's rewarding; I feel like I'm living in my truth, I feel like I'm aligning with what I was put on this earth to do, and I'm happy.

**How did you get involved in art?**

**GH:** I'm originally from Louisville, Kentucky. As a kid, I had a gift, so to speak, to draw and do art making. But I kind of just let that fall to the wayside and fell in love with athletics and other things. So to answer your question, I considered myself an artist early on in my life but it wasn't until, honestly, I was at Thomas More and I got reconnected with art. It was my last semester of college when I took Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain which was my first and only art class. That was kind of like my reintroduction into it.

**Which artists inspire/influence you?**

**GH:** I'm all over the place when it comes to inspiration from artists. I tend to look at inspiration and tend to find it across genres of arts, whether that's music, whether that's visual arts, whether that's performance art because I can see how it's all interconnected. As of right now I'm really intrigued with some of the old masters, with some of the talented artists from Austria, like Gustav Klimt. He's really an artist that I tend to study and I love his work, I love his drawings. He's one that I tend to draw inspiration from when I'm looking at work and looking at how to push my artistic practice in a different direction. He's one that I lean to. A more modern, more commercially successful well-known artist would be (Jean Michel) Basquiat, [who was] a New York-based artist and an '80s punk rock contemporary art scene. He passed away I think in the late '80s but I think his story and his claim to fame is inspiring considering the fact that he too is a self-taught artist. And then, you know, as it relates to the comment I made about finding inspiration across genres of artists, I'm obsessed with hip hop and hip hop culture, and as it relates to culture and inspiration. Kendrick Lamar, who is a rapper, I look to his work and the content of his work and his approach to his craft and practice, it is definitely inspirational as well.

**What current projects are you working on?**

**GH:** Top of mind right now, I'm currently serving as the artist-in-residence at the Mercantile Library, which is a very historic library in Cincinnati. I'm commissioned to create a six-foot portrait of Peter H. Clark. Peter H. Clark was an iconic African American man in the 18th century here in Cincinnati. He was a prominent figure in the education space and advocate for education primarily for African Americans. Especially during that time for African Americans who were fleeing from the South looking for a better quality of life, he saw education as a vehicle to enhance quality of life. Because of that, he was a beautiful yet complicated man here in our city and, as it relates to the Mercantile, he was their first African-American member. The commission evolved into an artist-in-residence. I'm currently at the Mercantile once a week drawing on that piece. So that's one project that's ongoing. The due date is scheduled for 2021, we're not sure yet, but once the work is complete, we'll have an unveiling. In addition to that is a project that is specifically geared towards my solo show. It'll be my first solo show, and it's an art series entitled Coming of Age. It's an autobiographical snapshot into my life transitioning from a boy into a man, in which I'm using my 13-year-old nephew serving as my muse, the main character within the story that I'm telling. The story is comprised of 10 to 12 drawings. The drawings are all produced through a form of hyper-realism, which is the medium, the artistic practice that I focus on. Then I just have a ton of other projects and collaborations that I'm doing here in the community, the city, but my primary focus are those two things.

To listen to the interview, visit [tmuky.us/horton2](https://tmuky.us/horton2).

To view the WCPO 9 Cincinnati Lifestyle interview on Horton's Mercantile Library commission, visit [tmuky.us/mercantile](https://tmuky.us/mercantile).

MOREOVER



# 1960s



**Sister Fidelis Tracy '68, CDP**, retired as a faculty member at Thomas More this past spring. Pictured above, she enjoyed a socially-distanced retirement gathering of friends and fellow religious. As a featured Saints Spotlight speaker, she described her journey from Thomas More student to faculty member, what campus ministry means to her, how faculty members influenced her, retirement plans, and advice she has for current students. To listen to the complete interview, visit [tmuky.us/tracy](https://tmuky.us/tracy).

# 1970s

**Sister Mary Rabe '70** and **Sister Rita Brink '72** celebrated 60 years of religious life with the Order of St. Benedict this past summer. Both Sisters reside at St. Walburg Monastery. Sister Rita serves as development director and is a former trustee for Thomas More University. Sister Mary serves as motherhouse coordinator and said of her time as a member of the community, "It has been a wonderful journey and has exceeded all my expectations." Visit [tmuky.us/jubilee](https://tmuky.us/jubilee) to read the article.



**Chuck Rolfsen '76** was promoted to chief revenue officer at Vital Data Technology. Rolfsen has more than 30 years of experience in sales, account management,

and marketing leadership in the healthcare information technology industry. Visit [tmuky.us/rolfsen](https://tmuky.us/rolfsen) to read more about Rolfsen.

# 1980s



**Garren Colvin '86**, president and CEO of St. Elizabeth Healthcare, was featured in an article in Cincinnati Magazine about the measures that St. Elizabeth hospitals have taken to address COVID-19 and keep the community safe. To read this article, visit [tmuky.us/garrencolvin](https://tmuky.us/garrencolvin).

# 1990s

**David Schroeder '90** and his team at the Kenton County Library received the Community Champion Business Impact Award from the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. Visit [tmuky.us/schroeder2](https://tmuky.us/schroeder2) to read more on Schroeder and the success of the library.



**Gary Holland '93**, president and CEO of One Holland, opened a Dunkin' (Donuts) in Independence, Kentucky. "This is very special for me personally because Independence is my hometown and I grew up loving Dunkin'," said Holland. To read more about the opening and Holland, visit [tmuky.us/holland](https://tmuky.us/holland).

**Andrew Hebbeler '99, Ph.D.**, has spent the last decade working at the State Department, supporting and advancing U.S. interests internationally as an American diplomat and as a



White House staffer. Hebbeler has joined the infectious disease group at the Nuclear Threat Initiative. During times like these, it is comforting knowing a Thomas More University alumnus is working towards a global solution.

# 2000s

**Kim Halbauer '00**

was promoted by Fifth Third bank as the first female Kentucky region president. Halbauer has spent more than 30 years with downtown-based Fifth Third, the largest locally based bank and the ninth-largest U.S.-based consumer bank. She has led retail banking, commercial banking and wealth & asset management groups in the past.



**Melanie Anderson '01**

published the book "Monster, She Wrote: The Women Who Pioneered Horror and Speculative Fiction" with coauthor Lisa Kröger in fall 2019 (Quirk Books). The writing duo were excited to win the 2019 Bram Stoker Award in non-fiction. Anderson co-hosts two podcasts with Kröger and Matt Saye – the Know Fear Cast and Monster She Wrote. Visit [tmuky.us/anderson](https://tmuky.us/anderson) to listen to a Saints Spotlight featuring Anderson and discussing the new book.



**Kelly French '02** serves her alma

mater in the newly established role of vice president of strategy and impact. As the featured speaker in a Saints Spotlight, she describes what that role encompasses and also talks about her experience as a Thomas More student. Visit [tmuky.us/french](https://tmuky.us/french) to listen to the interview with French.



CLASS NOTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25



**Chris Xeil Lyons '02** was named the new economic development director for the city of Middletown, Ohio. Lyons comes with 24 years of experience in the business. During her tenure with the city of Sharonville, Ohio, Lyons created more than 6,000 new jobs and realized more than \$400 million in new investments, which brought an increase of over \$8 million dollars to the city's annual income tax collections. Visit [tmuky.us/lyons](http://tmuky.us/lyons) to read more.



Cincinnati Public Radio - Cincinnati Edition hosted Middletown City School District Superintendent **Marlon Styles, Jr. '02** to discuss starting the academic year with remote learning. Visit [tmuky.us/styles](http://tmuky.us/styles) to listen to the complete interview.



**Jodi Fritsch '04/'06**, vice president of marketing at Horan Insurance, has been named as part of Cincinnati Business

Courier's 2020 40 under 40 Class. To read more about Fritsch and this year's class, visit [tmuky.us/40under40](http://tmuky.us/40under40).



**Joe Durrett '05/'08** completed 105 miles in just over 24 hours to finish 29th out of 1,500 runners in the Last Man Standing Virtual Backyard Ultra. Durrett also qualified

for the 2020 Boston Marathon (held virtually) which he ran on the track at Thomas More's campus. See [page 28](#) for the story.



**Noah Welte '05, Esq.**, legal counsel for Thomas More University, joins the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce 2021 Leadership Northern Kentucky class. To read

more about the entire leadership class, visit [tmuky.us/welte](http://tmuky.us/welte).



Congratulations to KYOSA Director **Tom Haggard '06** for being selected for the White-Riley-Peterson (WRP) Policy Fellowship at the Riley Institute at Furman University.

Visit [tmuky.us/haggard](http://tmuky.us/haggard) for more information on this class of fellows.



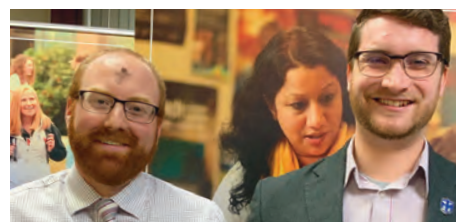
**Gee Horton '06** recently transitioned from executive recruiter to full-time artist. Horton is artist-in-residence at the Mercantile Library in downtown Cincinnati. To read a Saints Spotlight featuring Horton, go to [page 24](#).



**Johnna Reeder Kleymeyer '07** of AssureCare LLC has joined the American Heart Association Heart Mini Marathon & Walk 44 Executive Leadership

Board. "Her energy and passion are infectious, and we can't wait to work alongside her," says Senior Director Alexander Carson.

## 2010s



Thomas More director of financial aid and Alumni Board of Directors member **Mark Messingschlager '11/'15** joined fellow alum **Michael Orr '15** to explain why he is thankful for donors, and the important role of endowed scholarships in a #ThankfulThursday

interview. Listen to the interview at [tmuky.us/messingschlager2](http://tmuky.us/messingschlager2).

**C.J. Fryer '13/'15** was selected as a Kentucky Math Teacher Leader by the Kentucky Center for Mathematics (KCM). Fryer is a secondary education math teacher at Beechwood High School teaching AP calculus, pre-calculus, mathematics concepts, and math lab. To read more, visit [tmuky.us/fryer](http://tmuky.us/fryer).



**Kelsey Hinken Otten '15** and husband **Andrew Otten '16**

currently reside in Mesa, Arizona, where Andrew is studying regenerative orthopedics at a naturopathic medical school and Kelsey works at Vitalyst Health Foundation as a case manager focusing on public health. Kelsey talked about her path to this career in a Saints Spotlight. Visit [tmuky.us/otten](http://tmuky.us/otten) to hear the interview.



In August 2020, it was announced that **Sydney Moss '16** would join the Saints Athletic Department as an assistant women's basketball coach.

Welcome back! Visit [tmuky.us/moss](http://tmuky.us/moss) to read the official press release.



**Allison Wimmers '18**, chief of staff at Gravity Diagnostics, is on the front lines during the COVID-19 crisis. Wimmers talked about her role in the COVID-19 response for Kentucky and her experience at Thomas More University as a guest on Saints Spotlight. Visit [tmuky.us/wimmers](http://tmuky.us/wimmers) to hear the interview.



Congratulations to **Madison Temple '19**, who joins the West Clermont High School girls basketball program in the role of Junior Varsity coach.



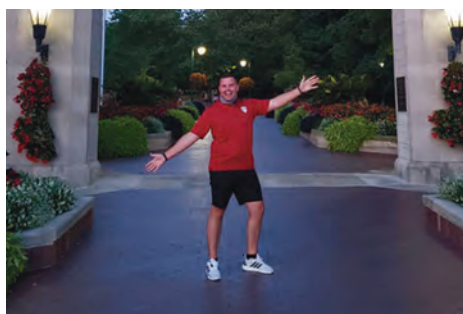




Newport Central Catholic announced that **Taylor Anne Walz '19** will lead its Dance Team this school year. "We are pleased to have another talented alum on staff.

Taylor is highly qualified, and we look forward to the Dance Team returning this school year," said Athletic Director Jeff Schulkens. To read the official release, visit [tmuky.us/walz](http://tmuky.us/walz).

# 2020s



Recent graduate **Johnny Lewis '20** is attending the O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs for his graduate studies. Lewis will also serve as a live-in adviser for the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity house on campus.

"If one part of the body suffers, all parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy."

(1 Cor. 12:26)

## Pontifical Honors

Several members of the University community received Pontifical Honors bestowed by the Holy Father at the behest of Bishop Roger J. Foys, D.D. The Cross Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice is a papal award bestowed on clergy, religious, and lay faithful in recognition of distinguished service given to the Church and was established in 1888 by Pope Leo XIII. Chaplain to His Holiness (monsignor) is an honor bestowed upon priests who have distinguished themselves in service and ministry to the Church and who are at least 65 years of age. Bishop Foys remarked, "Please rejoice with these our brothers and sisters and join with me in congratulating them on this papal honor." Congratulations to the following faculty and Thomas More alumni:

### Chaplains to His Holiness (Monsignors)

Reverend Ronald Ketteler  
Reverend Gerald Twaddell

### Cross Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice Clergy

Deacon Gerald Franzen '64

### Religious

Sister Janet Bucher '69, CDP  
Sister Mary Ethel Parrot '69, SND  
Sister Margaret Stallmeyer '68, CDP  
Sister Mary Catherine Wenstrup '65, OSB

### Laity

Charles '50 and Mary Sue '52 Deters  
Tim Fitzgerald '67  
Casey '81 and Mark Guilfoyle  
Margaret Schack '72

Visit [tmuky.us/pontificalhonors](http://tmuky.us/pontificalhonors) for a complete list of recipients.



## In Memoriam

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."

**Michela (Saulino) Gilbert '50**, January 5, 2020

**Sister Joan Gripshover '76**, March 30, 2020

**William Lonneman '62**, April 6, 2020

**Joseph Pfister '17**, April 19, 2020

**Reverend Leo Schmidt '51**, June 6, 2020

**Jane Summe '59**, April 29, 2020

**George "G.J." Thelen '58**, September 2, 2020

**Louis Walther '51**, March 21, 2020

## CLASS NOTES! Send Yours Today

What have you been doing lately? We'd love to know! Send your note using the envelope at the center of this issue of Moreover or send via email with subject line **class note** to [alumni@thomasmore.edu](mailto:alumni@thomasmore.edu) or visit [tmuky.us/classnote](http://tmuky.us/classnote) online.

## Stay Connected

Has your contact information changed? Update your contact records by completing the alumni update form online at [thomasmore.edu/alumni](http://thomasmore.edu/alumni) or drop a note in the business reply envelope located in the center of this Moreover.





# A Boston Run at the Home of the Saints



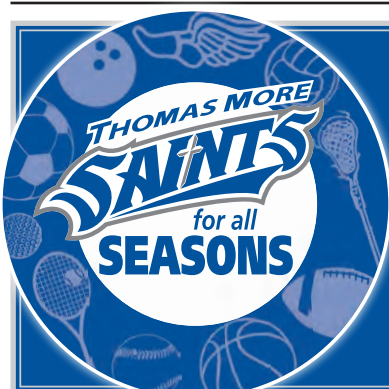
SUBMITTED BY REBECCA STRATTON, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS | PHOTOS PROVIDED

Joe Durrett '05/'08, president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, ran this year's Boston Marathon on Thomas More's campus on Monday, Sept. 14. It was announced on May 28, that the 124th marathon, a 26.2-mile race, would be held virtually. Thinking of where he could run the race in Northern Kentucky, Durrett decided on Thomas More's track, using the experience as an opportunity to bring inspiration to students during difficult times brought on by COVID-19. He said, "Sometimes life gives you lemons and you just have to make lemonade and find the best of the situation."

This was Durrett's first running in the Boston Marathon. He began the race around 7:30 a.m. and finished just before 10:30 a.m., totaling close to 107 laps around the track. He finished strong at 2:55:05, which was his personal record. His close friends, family, and Thomas More community members were there at the finish line to cheer him on.

At the end of the race, Durrett said, "I am taken back by the overwhelming support from my family, Thomas More faculty, staff, and students. That support truly brought the atmosphere of Boston to Crestview Hills. This medal will always be treasured by me, but I will never look at it without thinking of everything everyone did to make it a reality. I meant for this race to be a light for everyone and I hope that light is shining bright. I could not have made that light so bright without everything my family and Thomas More did to make it a reality. This race will always be so much more than the day I ran a marathon on the Thomas More track. I hope it is remembered as a day people realize life does not always go as planned. So, let's make the best of what God gives us and utilize the light inside of all of us to let it shine and be SAINTS together!"

MOREOVER



## SUPPORT SAINTS ATHLETICS

Thomas More is committed to excellence in the classroom, on the field of play, and in the local community. Your annual financial support provides the necessary resources to enhance student-athlete support services, upgrade facilities, and improve the quality of the Thomas More student-athlete experience.

Join alumni and friends in support of the Saints! Several levels of support are available. For information about benefits or to donate, visit [tmuky.us/boosters](http://tmuky.us/boosters).

**Join SAINTS FOR ALL SEASONS today!**





# Announcing the Athletic Hall of Fame 2020 Inductees

Congratulations to these former Saints (and Rebel) athletes and the Team of Distinction on their induction into the Athletic Hall of Fame. They will be officially honored at a celebration in fall 2021. More details to come!

## BASKETBALL/BASEBALL

**Larry Israel '65** - Israel was a four-year standout in both basketball and baseball. On the basketball court he had 493 career points, was co-captain his senior season, led the team in scoring his junior season (12.2 ppg) and was a member of WCPO's first-ever College Tri-State All-Star Team as a junior. Israel played short stop on the baseball team and was a member of the 1965 team which won the school's first-ever outright conference championship. His senior season he batted .347, was part of five double plays in the school's first-ever no-hitter and made an unbelievable play in the second no-hitter in school history. Israel was a member of the Villa Players and was one of two sports editors of the Triskele (yearbook) and also named a Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.



## FOOTBALL

**Brad Steinmetz '10** - Steinmetz was named an All-American and PAC Player of the Year in 2009. He was a three-time first team All-PAC selection and a two-time All-Region selection. Steinmetz finished his career with 326 career tackles (180 solo/146 assisted), 56 career tackles for a loss, 22 career sacks, three career interceptions and three forced fumbles.

## BASKETBALL

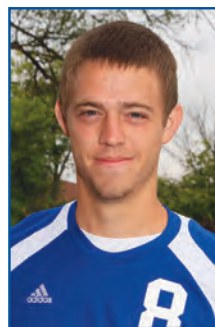
**Nicole (Dickman) Rice '11** - Rice was a four-time D3hoops.com All-Great Lakes Region selection and four-time All-Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) selection, including three times as a first team selection. She ranks second in career rebounds at Thomas More (887), finished her career second and is currently fourth in career scoring (1,535 points) and finished second and is currently fifth in career field goals made (586). Rice is fourth in career free-throws attempted (454) and fifth in career free-throws made (310).



## SOCCER

## SOFTBALL

**Brittany (Wegman) Armstrong '12** - Armstrong was a power hitter for the Saints and was a three-time All-Central Region selection, four-time first team All-PAC selection and the 2010 PAC Player of the Year. She is still tied for most career home runs (40) at Thomas More and currently holds the career record for runs scored (142). Armstrong finished her career first and is currently third in career runs batted-in (144), was second and is now fourth in career batting average (.400), was second and is now fifth in career doubles (39) and was second and is currently sixth in hits (185).



**Aaron Osborne '13** - Osborne was a NSCAA All-American and PAC Most Valuable Player in 2009. He was a four-time first team All-PAC selection. Osborne holds the Thomas More single-season record for goals (22), which he set in 2009. He also holds the Thomas More career record for goals (59) and points (132). Osborne is second in goals in an individual game (three), which he achieved twice.

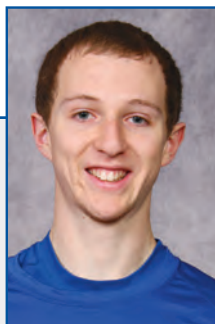
## BASKETBALL

**Allison (Long) Butler '13** - Butler earned All-American, PAC Woman of the Year, CoSIDA Academic All-American, Jostens Trophy Finalist and PAC Player of the Year honors in 2013. She was a four-time All-PAC selection, (including two-time first team selection) and two-time All-Great Lakes Region selection. Butler finished her career second and is currently fifth in career assists (363), was third and is now fourth in three-point field goals made (212), was third and is now fourth in three-point field goals attempted (510) and was third and is now sixth in career scoring (1,505).



## TRACK &amp; FIELD

**Lucas Nare '15** - Nare was Thomas More's first-ever track & field student-athlete to qualify for the national championship as he qualified for the 100- and 200-meter dashes at the 2014 NCAA Division III Outdoor Championship. He was the PAC Indoor Track Most Valuable Player and was a nine-time PAC Champion. He holds the Thomas More indoor record in the 600-meter dash (6.98-seconds), 200-meter dash (21.96-seconds) and 400-meter dash (50.31-seconds) and the outdoor record in the 100-meter dash (10.59-seconds) and 200-meter dash (21.17-seconds).

TEAM OF DISTINCTION  
2000 Baseball Team

The 2000 Thomas More baseball team was coached by Todd Asalon, had a 32-13 record (a single-season record for wins in a season at the time), and made the program's first-ever appearance in the NCAA Division III Championship. The Saints were a fifth seed in the Mideast Regional and played at Thurman Munson Memorial Stadium in Canton, Ohio. The team got off to a 27-4 start for the season and was ranked No. 25 in the nation after at one point winning 19 of 20 games.

## VOLLEYBALL

**Katie Sullivan '13** - Sullivan was a four-time All-PAC selection, including first team on three occasions, and was an AVCA All-Region selection in 2011. She holds the Thomas More career record for hitting percentage at .326. Sullivan ranks third in season hitting percentage (.356) and fifth in career block assists (234).

After her playing career she spent seven seasons on the Thomas More coaching staff, including serving as the co-interim head coach during the 2019 season.



## BASEBALL

**Paul Uhl '13** - Uhl was an ABCA All-American, Mideast Region Co-Pitcher of the Year and the PAC Pitcher of the Year in 2010 as well as being a three-time All-PAC selection. He pitched a no-hitter against Penn State-Behrend during the 2010 season. In the Thomas More career

record book Uhl is second in starts (37), wins (24) and shutouts (three), fifth in earned run average (2.94), seventh in innings pitched (220.1) and ninth in career strikeouts (152). He is first in season wins (10) and season innings pitched (81.1), and second in season starts (13).



## FOOTBALL

**Domonique Hayden '14** - Hayden was a two-time All-American, four-time All-Region selection, four-time first team All-PAC selection and three-time PAC Player of the Year. He was a 2014 Gagliardi Trophy semifinalist and led all of NCAA Division III in rushing yards (2,017) his junior year and as a senior led Division III in rushing touchdowns (25) and scoring (16.7 ppg.). Hayden holds the Thomas More career record in rushing yards (5,461), rushing average (6.6 ypc), rushing touchdowns (80), 100-yard rushing games (24), points (534), rushing touchdowns (89) and all-purpose yards (6,293).





# Standout Saints

## BASKETBALL

### MEN'S

**Ryan Batte '23** (Cincinnati, Ohio/Oak Hills) was named NAIA honorable mention All-American. He was ranked 31st in the country in field goal percentage at 53.2% and 41st in free-throw percentage at 79.2%. Batte started all 32 games for the Saints and averaged 13.8 points and 5.0 rebounds per game. He also had 68 assists, nine blocks and 17 steals. Batte was named first team All-Mid South Conference and named Mid-South Player of the Week on January 20.



*Batte*

**Garren Bertsch '21** (Alexandria, Ky./Campbell County), **Braden Connor '21** (Cincinnati, Ohio/Elder), **Luke Rudy '23** (Cincinnati, Ohio/Oak Hills), and **Keegan Saben '23** (Centerville, Ohio/Centerville) were named to The 2019-20 National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Honors Court. The NABC Honors Court highlights the talents and gifts that these student-athletes possess on the court while meeting high academic standards in the classroom. For the official press release honoring these seniors, visit [tmuky.us/nabchonors](https://tmuky.us/nabchonors).



*Bertsch*



*Connor*



*Rudy*



*Saben*

## GOLF

### MEN'S

**Jacob Zai '20** (Cold Spring, Ky./Bishop Brossart) and **Landon Finn '22** (Florence, Ky./Boone County) were named Srixon/Cleveland Golf All-America Scholars by the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA). Zai competed in 14 rounds and had a 77.21 stroke average. He shot a season-low during the first round of the Blue Raider Fall Kick Off last fall. Finn had a 73.64 stroke average in 11 competitive rounds. He shot a season-low 70 on three occasions.



*Zai*



*Finn*

### WOMEN'S

**Rachel Hummel '23** (Cincinnati, Ohio/Mercy McAuley) was named an All-American Scholar by the Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA). Hummel competed in 12 rounds for the Saints during the 2019-20 season and led the team in scoring with an 84.08 average. She shot a season-low 76 during the first round of the Blue Raider Fall Kick Off last fall.



*Hummel*

## SOFTBALL

**Andrea Gahan '20** (Cincinnati, Ohio/Oak Hills) was named to the Academic NAIA Softball All-District II Team selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Gahan had a 3.35 grade point average in athletic training. Gahan holds the school record for RBIs, is tied for the home run record, ranks second in hits, third in doubles and fourth in runs scored. In the community, Gahan volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House, Northern Kentucky Special Olympics, and the Thomas More canned food drive. By virtue of making the Academic All-District II team, Gahan advances to the Academic All-America Team ballot. To be selected Academic All-District, a student-athlete must be a starter or key reserve with at least a 3.3 grade point average.



*Gahan*

## SWIMMING & DIVING

**Shelby Miller '20** (Cincinnati, Ohio/McNicholas) was named an All-American by the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA). Miller qualified for the NAIA National Championship in three individual events and had a qualifying time in a relay event. At the national meet, she finished eighth in the 1,650-yard freestyle, ninth in the 500-yard freestyle and 12th in the 200-yard freestyle.



*Miller*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS



The Mid-South Conference announced in August that fall sports' conference regular season and championships were moved to the spring semester. The Mid-South gave member institutions the autonomy to schedule non-conference competition in the fall and Thomas More worked to provide student-athletes as much safe competition and athletic-related activities as allowed following NAIA, CDC, state, and local government guidelines. Visit [thomasmore.edu/athletics](https://thomasmore.edu/athletics) for updated schedules. To view a MORETalk sports panel discussing the developing season, visit [tmuky.us/naia2020update](https://tmuky.us/naia2020update).

# Three Outstanding Saints Named to All-Decade Team

SUBMITTED BY CORY BLACKSON '17, ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR – COMPLIANCE AND COMMUNICATION

Three Thomas More University graduates, Sydney Moss '16, Madison Temple '19 and Abby Owings '18, have been named to D3hoops.com's second Women's Basketball All-Decade Team (2010-2020).

Moss and Temple were first team selections and Owings was a third team selection.

Moss dominated Division III from the moment she arrived, leading Thomas More on an undefeated run that ended when she suffered a knee injury in the 2014 Elite 8. She followed up that sophomore season in which she won Player of the Year with an even better junior campaign. In 2014-15, Moss was the consensus Player of the Year, the nation's leading scorer in the regular season, and set the NCAA Division III Tournament scoring record. It was one of the best individual seasons ever in college basketball. Her senior season was outstanding, too. She led the Saints to an undefeated season and national championship, was named Player of the Year a third time, and selected as the Tournament's Most Outstanding Player. The 2016 Thomas More squad is one of just two to hold the No. 1 ranking from preseason through the national championship game.

In 2018-2019, Temple swept all the major national awards - Player of the Year, NCAA Tournament Most Outstanding Player, and Jostens Trophy winner. She was the leading scorer on an undefeated national championship team that played a Globetrotter-like season. After leaving the Presidents Athletic Conference, Thomas More put together a non-conference schedule in which it played multiple ranked teams on the road in a short period of time to compensate for the lack of a conference schedule. A complete package, Temple was the rare six-foot guard at this level who could handle the ball against the press, create for her teammates by passing for the point, or score on her own. She finished as Thomas More's all-time leader in points, assists, and made free throws. Thanks to Temple, Thomas More finished its time in NCAA Division III as National Champions.

Owings's career overlapped the two Division III's all-time greats of Moss and Temple, but her own talent and accomplishments should not be overlooked. As a sophomore, Owings had an All-American season and won a National Championship with Moss. When the Saints beat Tufts in the 2016 National Title game (in



Moss (40), Temple (24), and Owings (11) are part of the D3hoops.com 2010-2020 All-Decade Team.

front of the largest crowd to watch a Division III women's basketball championship) Owings led the team in scoring. Owings was also a first-team All-American and conference MVP in 2017. She finished her career with another Final Four appearance, her third in four years. The 5-foot-2 dynamo was tenacious and fearless, using her speed to get the Saints' offense running and her grit to rebound well above her height. She was a fantastic scorer, setting Thomas More's career mark with 1,789 points. She proves that heart and talent are more important than size.

Thomas More is the only school to have three representatives on the all-decade team. The Saints won three national titles on the hardwood and finished as national semifinalist in a fourth season during this decade.

MOREOVER

## SAINTS ACHIEVE SUCCESSFUL SPRING ACADEMIC SEMESTER

Thomas More student-athletes had a very successful 2020 spring semester academically as they recorded a collective grade point average (GPA) of 3.32 and improved the cumulative program-wide GPA to a 3.13. A total of 368 Saints made the Athletic Director Honor Roll in the spring semester by earning at least a 3.0 GPA, with 24 out of 28 teams at a 3.0 or higher semester GPA. The women's tennis team earned the highest cumulative GPA at 3.59. Congratulations, Saints!

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

[THOMASMORE.EDU/ATHLETICS](https://thomasmore.edu/athletics)

Follow the Saints on social media #LetsGoSaints







## Minute Spiritual Break...

Provided by Thomas More  
University Campus Ministry



SUBMITTED BY VERONICA PUGH '23, BISHOP FOYS SCHOLAR

### THE IMPORTANCE OF REFLECTION

About now, halfway through the semester, we are all probably missing summer and needing a break from the craziness of our lives. Students, staff, and anyone who happens to be reading this, now is a great time for everyone to remember the importance of silence. It's good to take time for yourself to sit in a quiet room and reflect on where you are in life. As a Christian, my favorite place to go on campus is the meditation room in the Chapel. For the most part, it is empty and is an incredible place to have a quick chat with Christ before I go back to my crazy schedule. It's important to take some time to say that quick "what's up?" to Christ and tell Him about your day. For those who don't currently have a friendship with Christ, the meditation room is an excellent quiet place for reflection, or, if you're not super comfortable with that idea, you can find a place outside. You can go on a short walk or hike or just sit and reflect on this incredible earth that we live on. In the midst of all this craziness, remember to take a breath. When you are constantly caught up in the whirlwind of the moment, you tend to forget what's important. We need some time out of our day or week to sit in silence and rediscover what we've neglected and discover what's most important to us. Even Christ Himself was "led by the Spirit into the wilderness" (Matthew 4:1), "went out to a desolate place" (Mark 1:35; Luke 4:42), and "went up on the mountain by himself to pray..." (Matthew 14:23).

Here are two articles about silence and reflection that I find inspiring:

**[tmuky.us/breakfromchaos](http://tmuky.us/breakfromchaos)** and **[tmuky.us/quiet](http://tmuky.us/quiet)**.



Detail from "Christ in the Wilderness"  
by Ivan Kramskoi (1872)

### Know a Prospective Student?

Tell us about a prospective student:

Prospective Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

When do they plan to attend college? ☐ Spring 2021 ☐ Fall 2021 ☐ Fall 2022 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Student H.S. Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

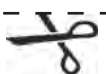
Are they a transfer student? ☐ Yes ☐ No Previous College or University \_\_\_\_\_

Interests/Desired Major \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by (name) \_\_\_\_\_ Thomas More grad year or affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return in the business reply envelope included in the center of this issue or submit online at **[tmuky.us/newstudent](http://tmuky.us/newstudent)**. Thank you!





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