

CONNELLY *Current*

Cornelia Connelly School

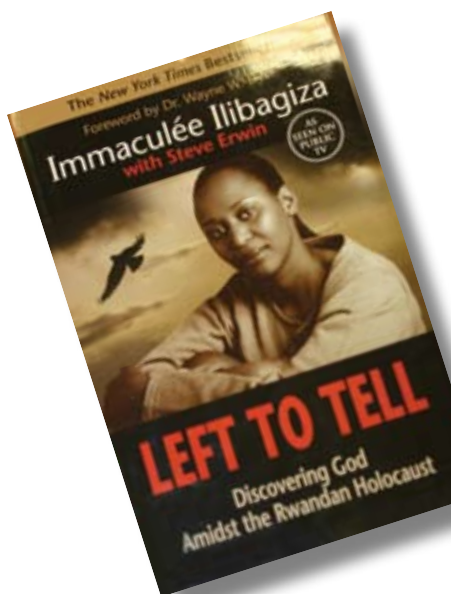
Anaheim, California



fall
2007



All-School Reading Program Brings a Story of Survival to Connelly



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Cover

On Wednesday morning, October 10, you could hear a pin drop in the Connelly auditorium, which was filled with over 300 high school girls and 150 faculty and guests. Immaculée Ilibagiza, author of the New York Times Bestseller, *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust*, relayed her story of survival during the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. After losing most of her family and friends, and hiding for 91 days in fear for her life,

her remarkable faith and forgiveness are a true inspiration. The Connelly students had just finished reading her book in the school's All-School Reading Program and were very excited to hear her speak - There was not one absence on this day. Following the presentation, Immaculée visited classrooms to talk with students and answer questions. She returned to Connelly at 7:00 p.m. for an evening presentation for the community. ■

THANK YOU MRS. HENRY FOR 30 WONDERFUL YEARS

Connelly's beloved Athletic Director, Mrs. Timmerie Henry, is celebrating 30 years at Connelly. While Mrs. Henry is grateful for "30 total years of blessings," Connelly is grateful for Mrs. Henry. She has shared her great zest for life with thousands of students, modeling that "sports teach great life lessons, teach you to care for others, and to play for the good of the team." She instills in her students "the need for growth physically and mentally, to give honor and glory to God daily, to lead by example, and to give each activity your best every day."



Mrs. Henry's wonderful, large family is a very important part of her life. Her husband, Mike, two sons, Stephen - a freshman at Servite, and Timothy - 8th grade, and her mother, Lawanna Sullivan, were all present at the Connelly celebration to honor her at the St. Teresa's Day Mass on October 16. She has eight brothers and sisters. They are an avid waterskiing, snow skiing and camping family, do many activities together every year, and many of them still live on the same street where they grew up.

A note from Mrs. Henry: "Thank you to ALL the students over the last 30 years who have helped to mold my life. I am blessed beyond words." Timmerie Sullivan-Henry ■

New Faculty Joins Connelly

James Alvarado *Latin & Drama* - James received his B.A. in Studio Art and the Classics, and his M.A. in History from California State University, Long Beach. He has taught as a graduate assistant and for Princeton Review.

Julie Burch *Science* - Julie holds a B.A. from UC San Diego and her teaching credential in Biology and Health Science from Mount St. Mary's College. Julie has done extensive post-graduate work in science at Creighton University, Mount St. Mary's College and California State University, Northridge. She taught high school science for over three years.

Cheryl Anderson-Butler '85 *Director of Alumnae Relations & Annual Giving* - Cheryl is a graduate of Connelly and daughter of Mary Pat Anderson, College Counselor. She received her B.A. in English from Loyola Marymount University, studied at Richmond College in London, and has been working in marketing and sales for the past 15 years.

Alicia Flores *Religion* - Alicia graduated with a B.A. in Religious Studies from the University of California Santa Barbara, with an emphasis on Christian and Jewish traditions. She has mentored disadvantaged teens and done fieldwork with a research project in India amongst the St. Thomas Keralite Catholics.

Jennifer Giancarlo *Science* - Jennifer earned a B.A. in Art with Departmental Honors from Beloit College in Wisconsin, and an M.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of Illinois, Chicago, where she was awarded a graduate teaching fellowship throughout the program. She has extensive teaching, lecturing and professional experience.

Gloria Kam *Spanish* - Gloria received her B.A. in Spanish and History cum laude from Loyola Marymount University. She taught high school Spanish for two years, and previous to that taught at the elementary level for over six years.

Nicole Llido *Director of Special Events & Parent Relations* - Nicole is a 1997 graduate of Connelly. She earned her B.A. in Linguistics and Anthropology at UCLA, and has broad experience with event planning, management and office operations.

Evangelina Savala *Director of Student Activities* - Evangelina is a Connelly Alumna, Class of 2000. She earned a B.A. from Mt. Saint Mary's College, and a Masters in Education from Loyola Marymount University. She served as a Community Guide for the Response-Ability Program, taught three years as an elementary school teacher, and interacted with the public while working with a radio station and as a volunteer coordinator at Mt. Saint Mary's College.

Debbie Witsoe *School Office and Administrative Assistant, Academics* - Debbie brings extensive experience in secretarial positions and data entry. ■



Photo Caption: New faculty, seated, from left: Jennifer Giancarlo, Julie Burch, Cheryl Anderson-Butler, Gloria Kam, and Nicole Llido; standing, from left: Evangelina Savala, Alicia Flores, Debbie Witsoe, and James Alvarado.

Student LIFE

All School – All Service – All Day

On Wednesday morning, October 3, a long line of buses pulled up in front of Connelly, and students, faculty and staff embarked on Connelly's annual day of service to the community. Inspired by a prayer service led by the Pastoral Ministry students, the volunteers headed out to prearranged locations throughout Orange County. In Anaheim, volunteers worked through Paint Your Heart Out to rake, mow, prune, weed and clean up two yards for residents physically or financially unable to care for them. At the Community Action Partnership Food Warehouse in Garden Grove and the Second Harvest Food Bank in Orange, many hands were put to use packing food for the hungry. Two teams cleaned up the beach at Huntington State Beach, and planted erosion control plantings at Bolsa Chica Wetlands, while others sorted and stocked at St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Shops and cleaned and helped prepare for the opening of the new Orange County Rescue Mission in Tustin. At the end of an enriching day, students enjoyed cookies and shared their stories at an all-school assembly. ■



Orange County Rescue Mission



Bolsa Chica Wetlands

Welcome New Trustees

Sr. Patricia Phillips, SHCJ

Connelly is honored to have Sr. Pat return to Connelly as a Trustee. Sr. Pat served as Principal of Connelly from 1974 – 1982. She was Treasurer of both the American Province and the International Society of the Holy Child Jesus, and is currently Executive Director of Wordnet Productions and is serving on the Connelly Development Committee.



Mr. Bruce Stuart

Bruce is the father of Connelly sophomore, Marisa, and a son attending Wheaton College, MA. He brings school Board experience, having served as Board Chair at Pegasus School in Huntington Beach, and is an attorney with Stradling, Yocca, Carlson & Rauth in Newport Beach. Bruce is serving on the Connelly Development Committee, and he and his wife, Kathy, are very supportive of all Connelly activities.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SHINES AT CONNELLY

Senior **Katharine Dobos** earned the distinction of "Semifinalist," and seniors **Mehr Grewal** and **Celeste Lindsay** earned the distinction of "Commended Student" in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program. More than 1.4 million juniors in nearly 21,000 U.S. high schools entered the 2008 National Merit Program, and only 16,000 were chosen as semifinalists and will have the opportunity to continue in the competition for Merit Scholarship awards. Commended Students placed among the top five percent. Seniors **Andrea Bustamante** and **Patrice Payne** were named Scholars in the College Board's National Hispanic Recognition Program. Only 4,000 out of 196,000 students nationwide are recognized by this program as Scholars or Honorable Mention Finalists. The College Board Advanced Placement Program recognized 12 percent of Connelly's recently graduated class of 2007, plus three current seniors, for outstanding academics. Current senior, **Katharine Dobos**, and 2007 Graduate, **Grace Nolde**, earned the designation of AP Scholar with Distinction. 2007 Graduates **Celeste Lindsay**, **Catherine Dang**, **Caitlin Lang**, **Moiramarie Notarstefano** and **Christine Nuñez** were awarded AP Scholar with Honor. Connelly junior, **Stephanie Krapil**, and 2007 Graduates **Carolyne Hoey**, **Kim Nguyen**, and **Pamela Sevilla** received the AP Scholar Award. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college level courses while still in high school, and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both, for successful performance on the AP Exams. ■



(L-R) Patrice Payne '08, Stephanie Krapil '09, Andrea Bustamante '08, Celeste Lindsay '08, Katharine Dobos '08, Mehr Grewal '08, (not pictured) Catherine Dang, Caitlin Lang, Grace Nolde, Moiramarie Notarstefano, Christine Nuñez, Carolyne Hoey, Kim Nguyen, and Pamela Sevilla, received national academic recognition.

August

9th Grade Orientation — On August 24/25, the Class of 2011 traveled to Idyllwild to camp and spend two days getting to know each other. The new 9th graders conquered the ropes course, camped together, had fun, and all signed a shirt for Sr. Francine.



September

Family Celebration Day — On Sunday, September 23, Connelly families dined on delicious barbeque provided by the Carter family and Johnny Rebs Restaurants, and were entertained by fun DJ – Ed Huber. Chairwomen, Mary Huber and Mea Posecion, and many wonderful volunteers, organized a cake walk, bounce house, water pistol arena, sno-cones, games and lots of fun for all who attended.

Spirit Week – Don't forget to wear your PJ's! Spirit Week, September 14–28, began with PJ Day (photo 1-r: Nora Papian '09, Stephanie Rosol '08, Jacqueline Suarez '09, Claire De Los Reyes '09), followed by T-Shirt Day (classes wear matching shirts), Twin Day (Big & Little Sisters dress alike), Theme Day (each class dresses in their theme), and finally, Beach Day.



October

Homecoming 2007 — Senior Princess, Melissa Granados, at the Homecoming field festivities on October 26, with fellow seniors (1-r) Louise Santos, Madison Gillis and Mehr Grewal.

November

Ring Night — Juniors show off their rings as they celebrated the beautiful Connelly tradition of Ring Night on November 7.



Galaxy of Stars — (L-R) Ashley Carter '09, Sydney Shuman '10, Megan Kilmarx '09, and Alexandra Weschta '09, were among the wonderful student volunteers who entertained, sold raffle tickets, displayed auction items and delivered prizes at the annual Galaxy of Stars Benefit, which was held on November 16, at the beautiful Balboa Bay club in Newport Beach.

Grandparents & Special Friends Day — Connelly honored Grandparents and Special Friends on Wednesday, November 21. Junior Jamie Shea had fun sharing class with her grandfather, Steve Shea. Grandparents also enjoyed breakfast, hearing the Advanced Women's and Handbell Ensembles and French Classes perform, and joining their granddaughters for Thanksgiving Mass.

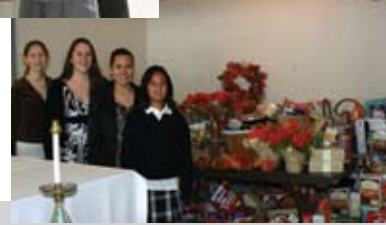


December

Christmas Service and Concert — A beautiful Christmas Service, carols, and a concert performed by all of the Connelly choir and handbell ensembles were enjoyed by the Connelly community on December 14, at St. Justin Martyr Church. Baby Jesus was perfectly played by 14 days old Miles Elliott Walker, son of Michael and Aykesha Walker.

Spiritual LIFE

"Blessed are the peacemakers" - The spiritual year at Connelly began on September 19 with a beautiful **Mass of the Holy Spirit**, celebrated by Father Al Baca. ✚ On October 16, the Connelly community joined together to celebrate **St. Teresa's Day** and to honor **Mrs. Timmerie Henry** for 30 years at Connelly. Fr. Michael Manning, SVD presided over the St. Teresa's Day Mass. ✚ November 1 marked the **Solemnity of All Saints**, with Mass presided over by Fr. Michael Nguyen. The altar was covered with a garden of flowers bearing the names of Connelly's beloved families and friends who died in the past year. ✚ On November 21, grandparents and special friends visited Connelly and enjoyed sharing **Thanksgiving Mass**, celebrated by Fr. Pat Rudolph, with the Connelly community. ■



Clockwise
 Fr. Al Baca and seniors Jamie Shea (left), Carrine Licata (right) and Casey Johnson (front) prepare for the Mass of the Holy Spirit.
 Students assist Fr. Michael Nguyen in front of the altar covered with flowers honoring Connelly's beloved deceased at the Solemnity of All Saints Mass.
 Morgan Turner '09, Carrine Licata '08, and Christine Yost '09 lead the procession for the St. Teresa's Day Mass.
 (L-R) Kailea Spitaleri '08, Sharon Yarak '09, Rachel Montrenes '09, and Mika Posecion '09, stand in front of baskets of food collected by students, faculty and staff and blessed at the Thanksgiving Mass.

Koala SPORTS

Fall Season



CIF Championship Varsity Volleyball Team
 (back l-r): Coach Nikole Bresciani, Haley Decker '08, Colette O'Connell '09, Jamie Shea '09, Christine Yost '09, Sarah Virgil '10, Kathleen Chelling '11;
 (front l-r): Gracie Rae Smith '08, Samantha Swoger '08, Lilla Frederick '08, Kailea Spitaleri '08, Gecella deGuia '11.

Junior Caroline Currie is a valuable member of Connelly's winning Cross Country Team.



Senior Erin Fee returned many winners for Connelly's outstanding Tennis Team.

Competing in a match with Connelly's impressive Golf Team, Senior Tess Parsons sends a ball straight down the fairway.



Back-to-back CIF Southern Section Division V-A Volleyball Champions! Varsity Volleyball did it again. For the second consecutive year the team earned the CIF Division Championship. Senior **Lilla Frederick** was named CIF MVP of Division V-A and Orange County Register Athlete of the Week. Juniors **Colette O'Connell** and **Christine Yost** were named 1st Team All League, and Senior **Gracie Rae Smith** and Freshman **Gecelle deGuia** received League Honorable Mention.

JV Volleyball, coached by **Jonathan Bowman**, came in 2nd place in the league this season. This young squad improved tremendously throughout the year with **Sarah Virgil** being pulled up to Varsity for CIF playoffs. The team finished with an overall league record of 7-2.

Cross Country, coached by **Hani Zubi**, took 3rd Place in the San Joaquin League and advanced to CIF preliminaries at Mr. San Antonio College. Juniors **Ranielle Rodriguez** and **Erica Rodriguez** consistently finished in the top ten overall. Juniors **Rebecca** and **Kristina Scott** shared the Most Valuable Player Award, **Ranielle Rodriguez** was awarded Most Inspirational Runner, and **Elizabeth Saavedra** garnered Most-Improved Player. New to the team this year was Assistant Coach **James Alvarado**, whose enthusiasm, ability, and experience proved priceless.

The 2007 Golf Team was coached by **Adrian Cruz**. Seven seasoned seniors, **Sharrise Boop**, **Madison Gillis**, **Carrine Licata**, **Therese Militante**, **Tess Parsons**, **Roxanna Saremi** and **Lauren Schenkel** led the team in a strong season. Outstanding Freshman Maricar Nones qualified for CIF playoff competition.

Connelly's Tennis Team, coached by **Joe Salazar**, was led this year by five seniors: **Paige Everson**, **Erin Fee**, **Astrid Melgar**, **Desiree Mitri** and **Kristen Stevens**. Their experience and dedication to the program for the past four years has been an inspiration to the team and is a true tribute to them.

A LOOK AHEAD

February 6
Ash Wednesday Prayer Service

March 7
Connelly Pops Concert

March 14
Class Plays

March 17
Connelly Golf Classic

March 20
Holy Week Service

April 20
Mother/Daughter Tea

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The 25th Anniversary Galaxy of Stars

HELD AT THE BEAUTIFUL BALBOA BAY CLUB
ON NOVEMBER 16, WAS AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS.

Above: Past Galaxy of Stars Honorees and Chairs were honored (front l-r): Rae Stambuk, Paul Viviano, Janis Fee '80, Gene Deiss, Sr. Patricia Phillips, SHCJ, Margaret Carlberg; (back l-r): Cathy Licata, Mary Pat Anderson, Carolyn Noring, Suzanne Garcia, Rita Deiss, Margaret Dobos, Kathryn Lee, Brenda Bryan.

Right: A special thank you to this year's Chairs, Margaret Nolde (left) and Rae Stambuk. Thank you to our sponsors, donors, underwriters, and all who attended. Your generous contributions will provide support for the students of Cornelia Connelly School.



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