



UNIVERSITY OF  
SAINT JOSEPH  
CONNECTICUT

## Alumni Newsletter

July 2019



*Distinguished  
Alumni Awards Ceremony*  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

**EVENTS**

**ATHLETICS**

**REUNION**

**DAA**

**GIVE**

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

## **Committee Chair, Rita Bayer '05, is Pleased to Announce the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award Winners**

**Kathleen McGrath Fitts '79** has been awarded the *Mary Rosa McDonough Award*. This award goes to a graduate who has achieved distinction in their professional field or has provided outstanding service to the University or their local community.

An Assistant Vice President and Senior Corporate Counsel for Liberty Mutual Group in Boston, Kathleen coordinates Liberty Mutual's Pro Bono program. She also volunteers as the Chair of the Supreme Judicial Court's Standing Committee on Pro Bono. She is a Board Member for the Lawyer's Clearinghouse, as well as the Volunteer Lawyer's Project. Kathleen graduated from USJ with a bachelor's degree in English and went on to receive her J.D., with honors, from Boston College in 1988. She was voted one of the Top Women of the Law by *Lawyers Weekly* in 2010.

**Maureen Gorman '86** has been awarded The *Business and Entrepreneurial Award*. This award goes to a graduate with a talent for seeing opportunities and developing those in successful businesses or organizations. This individual has demonstrated the ability to cultivate a positive and successful image.

Serving as Managing Director at Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. in New York, Maureen is described by one of her many nominators as, "an insightful female leader focused on results and service to others." She is skilled in all aspects of Property & Casualty Insurance, business development, mentoring, budgeting, Commercial Insurance, and public speaking. A female leader in a male-dominated industry, Maureen is highly regarded by her colleagues, friends, and family.

Maureen graduated from Saint Joe's in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and later went on to receive her master's in Financial Services from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1991.

Congratulations to our 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients!

**Join us in celebrating our 2019 DAA Recipients! Click the link below to register today.**

**Register today**



### **Trivia Corner**

When did the nationally-accredited preschool, the School for Young Children, first open?

Email your response to [alumni@usj.edu](mailto:alumni@usj.edu).

### **June's Question**

In 1997, the lower level of McDonough Hall was transformed into what center?

### **June's Answer**

Information Technology Network Center

### **June's Winner**

Rose Marie P. Zaharek '63





## Amanda Devitt Named USJ Athletic Director

USJ is pleased to announce that Amanda Devitt, former Senior Associate Athletics Director for Student-Athlete Services and Success at the University of Hartford, is the new Athletic Director at USJ, effective June 24.

"I am extremely excited to be the next Athletic Director at the University of Saint Joseph. I am grateful for the opportunity and the trust that Vice President Ken Bedini and President Rhona Free have placed in me to lead this department," said Devitt. She added, "I look forward to working with the coaches, the staff, and the gifted student-athletes of USJ to continue to elevate Blue Jay Athletics. Graduating student-athletes, winning titles, and doing both with great integrity will be our chief aims."

Devitt becomes the second Athletic Director in USJ history and succeeds Bill Cardarelli, who will take on a new challenge at USJ after 26 years at the helm, becoming the inaugural Director of Internships and Sport Studies in the undergraduate Sport Management and Promotion program in the fall.

Devitt will lead the USJ athletics program, which is currently comprised of 13 NCAA Division III sanctioned varsity teams, several intramurals, and numerous recreation and wellness programs. She will oversee the development and execution of a long-term strategic vision for USJ athletics and manage the day-to-day operations of the athletics department, serving as an advocate for the needs of student-athletes, coaches, and staff.

[Read more](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Capital Classics 2019: The Merry Wives of Windsor

July 11 - July 28

The Sunken Garden, USJ Main Campus

[Click here](#) for tickets

[Click here](#) for more information

### Save the Date! USJ Alumni Night at Hog River Brewery

Thursday, July 25

6:30 p.m.

Hog River Brewery

Hartford, Conn.

### Summer Wine and Cheese Reception

Thursday, Aug. 15

5 p.m.

President Free's Home

Groton Long Point, Conn.



**Volunteers needed!**



# You're Invited!

**REUNION DAY 2019**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019**

## Reunion 2019 is Coming! All Are Welcome!

Keep an eye on your mailboxes for news about Reunion 2019, celebrating classes ending in 4 and 9. Taking place on Saturday, Sept. 21, we are looking forward to another memorable event. To register for this year's event, you can click the link below or contact Rachel Scully, Alumni Relations Coordinator, at [860.231.5447](tel:860.231.5447) or [rscully@usj.edu](mailto:rscully@usj.edu). We hope to see you there!

[Register here](#)



## Fairfield Alumni Club Summer Kickoff Luncheon

On Saturday, June 22, the Fairfield Alumni Club gathered under a beautiful blue sky on the Housatonic River at the Stone's Throw Restaurant in Seymour, Conn. A lovely gathering of old friends, everyone enjoyed good conversation, good food, and a warm summer breeze on the water. Looking ahead to the exciting events coming up in the USJ community, future gatherings such as an early fall get together, the annual Fairfield gift wrapping event in December, and others were discussed with great anticipation.

Stay tuned for more opportunities to come together!

Are you interested in being a career exploration volunteer? Help USJ students prepare for the workforce, build resumes, and learn networking tips. We are always looking for volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Katie DaSilva Burke '15, M'17, at [kdasilva@usj.edu](mailto:kdasilva@usj.edu) or 860.231.5364.



## USJ Athletics

Check back this summer for the fall schedule.

*Save the Date*

## **Summer Wine and Cheese Reception on Thursday, Aug. 15**

University President Rhona Free invites you to join her at her home in Groton Long Point, Conn. on **Thursday, Aug. 15 at 5 p.m.** for a fun summer gathering. Mark your calendars!

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by Thursday, Aug. 1 to **Rachel Scully** at [860.231.5447](tel:860.231.5447) or [rscully@usj.edu](mailto:rscully@usj.edu), or register online by clicking the link below.

[Register here](#)



***Congratulations to our Honors Program students who presented at the Northeast Regional Honors Council in Baltimore, Maryland!***

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## An Inside Look at the Art Museum at USJ

With more than 2,100 works of art, six exhibition galleries, changing installations, a print study room, and a variety of programs for the University and the public, the Art Museum provides countless opportunities for the study and enjoyment of art.

"Great art can be transformational, so I'm always very pleased to see people whose attention is riveted on a piece that fascinates them," says Ann Sievers, Director and Curator of the Art Museum at USJ.

Click on the video above to see more of this campus gem.

Call **Rachel Scully**, Alumni Relations Coordinator, at **860.231.5447** to arrange a private tour for your class or group.

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