



ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY
Lauralton Hall

2009-2010

Clubs • Organizations • Programs

Publications • Arts • Dances

Spiritual Events • Activities

Mission

The Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Lauralton Hall, is a Catholic college preparatory school founded in 1905 by the Sisters of Mercy.

Lauralton Hall's unique mission is to foster a community atmosphere enriched by the Mercy tradition and to educate young women to pursue knowledge, recognize truth and respond to the needs of others.

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as of September 25, 2009

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This catalog of student clubs and organizations does not include all activities in which Lauralton Hall students are involved. Information on the school's many extracurricular activities including athletics and more can be found on the Lauralton Hall website, www.lauraltonhall.org, in the Student Life section or by contacting Cynthia Gallant, Assistant Principal, at cgallant@lauraltonhall.org.

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CLUBS

All Things Considered

Contact: Mrs. Kelley
E-Mail: akelley@lauraltonhall.org
When: Thursdays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: S215

Formerly the G.A.M.E.S club, All Things Considered is a club meant to spread awareness of different and exciting elements of contemporary culture such as anime and manga, fantasy and renaissance, science-fiction and gaming. All Things Considered members welcome the opportunity to dispel the stereotype of these being male-dominated genres.

Goals are accomplished through discussions and activities, excursions to events in the tri-state area, movie nights and a wonderful website featuring student art and links to interesting sites. To fund activities two dollars dues are collected from each member at each meeting.

Campus Ministry

Contact: Ms. Ring
E-Mail: cring@lauraltonhall.org
When: Wednesdays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: MH208

In collaboration with students and staff, the Office of Campus Ministry plans retreats, liturgies and prayer services for both students and staff. Students assist in preparation of liturgies and selection of music, and also participate as alter servers, ministers of the Word and lectors.

Classic Film

Contact: Dr. Moller
E-Mail: rmoller@lauraltonhall.org
When: Most Fridays from 2:20 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.
Where: M202

Members watch classic films, movies which have received significant recognition either at the time they were released or subsequently, by connoisseurs of great movies. These films provide a glimpse back into the past and demonstrate the timeless nature of human emotion. Come watch and look back to better understand the present and the future.

Crusader Radio

Contact: Mrs. Beauvais & Mrs. Lawler
E-Mail: dbeauvais@lauraltonhall.org or tlawler@lauraltonhall.org
When: Tuesdays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Library

Crusader Radio is Lauralton Hall's internet radio show. Students create, develop and broadcast live radio shows. In this student-managed organization, topics that relate to everyday life are covered—fashion, celebrity news, world news, musicians and music, school events and more. Each show is rated by a growing pool of listeners.

Dance

Contact: Mrs. Pond
When: First Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Gym classroom

Members are dedicated to promoting and teaching many dance styles. As club members, these young women participate within the Lauralton community and beyond.

Environmental

Contact: Mrs. DiMassa
E-Mail: ddimassa@lauraltonhall.org
When: Every other Tuesday @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: S113

Club members represent a very active group of students. In the fall, the club plans events for America Recycles Day; one event is the trash-free lunch marathon – anyone bringing a trash-free lunch is eligible to win a raffle prize. In the spring, the club sponsors Earth Day activities – in past years, the environmental club has sponsored a school-wide fashion show in conjunction with Earth Day. Club members also e-mail legislators and companies about environmental issues and concerns. Members are responsible for the recycling of paper, bottles and cans at Lauralton Hall. Each year members plan one field trip and look for other ways to make the school “green.”

Fine Arts/Photography

Contact: Mrs. Doherty and Mrs. Musante
E-Mail: jdoherty@lauraltonhall.org or emusante@lauraltonhall.org
When: Tuesdays @ 2:20 p.m. except on early dismissal days
Where: S213

This club helps stimulate and develop the talents of interested students by providing opportunities for involvement in various projects such as the painting of sets for school productions and digital photography.

French (Le Cercle Francais)

Contact: Dr. Moller
E-Mail: rmoller@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: M202
Required: \$15.00 annual dues, regular attendance at meetings and active participation (taking part and assuming responsibility for planning and execution) in at least three French Club activities.

French Club students expand their knowledge of and appreciation for the traditions and cultures of France and French-speaking countries. Typical events include theatre trips, museum trips, visits to French restaurants, sampling of French foods, French speaking pen-pals and activities for National French Week. Dues include the cost of the International Fair held in November.

Historical

Contact: Mrs. Donahue
E-Mail: kdonahue@lauraltonhall.org
When: Fourth Monday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Mansion Parlor

Students use their club time and free time to explore the thousands of Lauralton Hall photos and materials that span the decades. Club members assist in helping to organize and categorize historic photos, documents and memorabilia. This support helps keep the archives up-to-date and easily accessible. Club members also assist in the Alumnae Gathering Area at Christmas in the Mansion, where they interact with visiting alumnae and learn more about life at Lauralton years ago.

Humanities

Contact: Mr. Connolly
E-Mail: dconnolly@lauraltonhall.org
When: Every Friday @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Cafeteria
Donations: \$1/week, various staples

Humanities members exemplify the spirit of mercy by participation in community outreach projects in service to the poor. Each week an assigned team of club members prepares bag lunches to be delivered for distribution by the Beth-El Shelter in Milford. Each member pledges \$1 a week for lunches and is scheduled several times each year to prepare lunches. In the past four years the Lauralton Humanities Club has produced over 3400 bag lunches. In addition to preparing the lunches, Humanities Club members make contributions to the Beth-el Shelter larder by donating designated staple items each week.

Humanities Club also supports Invisible Children, a movement dedicated to ending the longest running war in Africa in which children are being forced to fight against the government in a rebel army. Humanities Club organizes events to raise funds to help the war-torn kids.

Jane Austen

Contact: Mrs. Rodgers
E-Mail: krodgers@lauraltonhall.org
When: Most Mondays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: M204
Required: \$5 dues

Jane Austen Club meets to explore the life and works of the author. Members read and discuss Austen's novels, watch movie versions of her books and attend various related activities. Field trips may include country dance instruction in New Haven, a visit to Bridgeport's Barnum Museum or a visit to a local tea room. Members hold periodic tea parties in the Austen style complete with linen napkins and homemade scones.

Key

Contact: Mrs. Donahue and Mrs. Shine
E-Mail: kdonahue@lauraltonhall.org or kshine@lauraltonhall.org
When: First Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Auditorium

Key Club International is the country's oldest and largest service organization for high school students. It was created by its parent organization, Kiwanis International. Key Club gives back to the community through service to others. The Key Club motto is shared by thousands of other chapters across the globe: "Caring - Our Way of Life."

LabRaTS (Lab Research and Technology Society)

Contact: Dr. Cavar
E-mail: scavar@lauraltonhall.org
When: as needed
Where: S215

This is the group for those who wish to participate in independent research with the goal of submitting work to the Connecticut Science Fair. Those interested in learning how to do research or those who have an idea for an experiment enjoy this organization. LabRaTs also helps run Science Olympics for middle school girls and the Invention Convention.

Latin (Societas Puellarum Quae Regunt)

Contact: Mrs. Piedmont
E-Mail: jpiedmont@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: MH211
Required: \$20 annual dues

The Latin Club, Societas Puellarum Quae Regunt, is affiliated with the National Junior Classical League. The purpose of the club is to enhance studies of the Latin language, culture and history through a variety of activities. The club sponsors the Lauralton Hall chapter of the NJCL Honor Society.

LH CARES (Lauralton Hall Community Always Respects Everyone)

Contact: Ms. Madray
E-Mail: jmadray@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second Monday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: M201

LH CARES seeks to celebrate the diversity which enriches our lives. In addition to sponsoring activities at Lauralton Hall, the club participates in programs and activities with the diversity or multicultural clubs of other schools.

Peer Tutors

Contact: Mrs. Barney
E-Mail: jbarney@lauraltonhall.org
When: as needed

Open to members of the National Honor Society and to students with good grades who are interested in helping other students. Tutors must be willing to meet weekly with a student in a one-on-one setting for a minimum of four sessions either before or after school. A tutor is reliable and responsible and takes the initiative to keep in contact with the student and arrange weekly meetings. Peer tutors are friendly but persistent and help students get organized and develop good study habits. Tutors have a good grasp on the subject to be studied and are able to explain it to the student in clear terms. Tutors report progress to the Guidance Department.

Percussion Ensemble

Contact: Mr. Allen
E-Mail: mallen@lauraltonhall.org
When: Mondays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: C-1

Students learn to play on various traditional and non-traditional percussion instruments. The group endeavors to learn several musical pieces and perform at the school Christmas and spring concerts. In second semester the group may participate in several local indoor percussion competitions as part of the Musical Arts Conference (MAC). Percussion Ensemble meets bi-weekly in the first semester and meets weekly January through May. Rehearsal details TBD.

Project Runway

Contact: Ms. Crozier
E-Mail: ccrozier@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Thursday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: S314

This club provides an opportunity for students who are interested in fashion, design and shopping to express their individuality and meet peers who share their interests.

SADD (Students against Destructive Decisions)

Contact: Mrs. McGowan, Mrs. Peterson
E-Mail: pmcgowan@lauraltonhall.org or lpeterson@lauraltonhall.org
When: Last Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Gym Classroom

SAAD members pledge to end the tragedies resulting from underage drinking, alcohol-related crashes and other destructive decisions, and to create positive change in our lives.

Science

Contact: Mrs. Melmed
E-Mail: mmelmed@lauraltonhall.org
When: Third Monday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: SB9

This club expands the students' knowledge and stimulates their interest in scientific topics beyond the scope of the classroom. Related movies, discussions and hands-on projects will be included.

Shakespeare

Contact: Mrs. Gallagher
E-Mail: cgallagher@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: MH309

The club meets two to three times a month to celebrate the drama and poetry of the Bard. Members read, act, discuss and watch old and new favorites to learn and have fun.

Smackdown Turnaround

Contact: Mrs. McGowan
E-Mail: pmcgowan@lauraltonhall.org
When: as needed
Where: TBD

Created by the students for the students, the Smackdown Turnaround program offers a variety of tools and activities for today's young women who wish to lead a healthier lifestyle and/or helps students "turn around" unhealthy habits. Activities may include yoga, nutrition, spinal health care, skin care and other topics designed specifically for Lauralton students

Spanish

Contact: Mrs. D'Ambruoso, Mrs. Soriano
E-Mail: bdambruoso@lauraltonhall.org or fsoriano@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Cafeteria (back)
Dues: \$15.00 per year

The purpose of the Spanish Club is to expand knowledge and appreciation of Hispanic culture. Club activities include holiday celebrations, preparation and sharing of typical dishes, field trips, arts and crafts projects, movies, bilingual mass, service programs and games. Dues include the cost of the International Fair held in November.

Youth and Government

Contact: Mr. Allen
E-Mail: mallen@lauraltonhall.org
When: Thursdays at 2:20 p.m.
Where: Auditorium

Youth and Government, one of Lauralton Hall's most active co-curricular organizations, convenes weekly. Members learn the fundamentals of debate, bill writing and basic parliamentary procedure in preparation for the Connecticut YMCA Youth and Government Conference held each spring in Hartford. During YAG Conference weekend, students from high schools throughout the state function in a mock state legislature at the Connecticut Capitol and Legislative Office Building.

PUBLICATIONS

Highlights (school newspaper)

Contact: Mrs. Serio
E-mail: tserio@lauraltonhall.org

The Lauralton (yearbook)

Contact: Mrs. Amore
E-mail: jamore@lauraltonhall.org

The Looking Glass (literary magazine)

Contact: Mrs. Amore
E-mail: jamore@lauraltonhall.org

ORGANIZATIONS REQUIRING ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY

French National Honor Society

Contact: Dr. Moller
E-Mail: rmoller@lauraltonhall.org

Latin National Honor Society

Contact: Mrs. Piedmont
E-Mail: jpiedmont@lauraltonhall.org

Spanish National Honor Society

Contact: Mrs. D'Ambruoso
E-Mail: bdambruoso@lauraltonhall.org

National Honor Society

Contact: Mrs. Boynton and Mrs. Cook
E-Mail: pboynton@lauraltonhall.org or ccook@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second Monday each month at 2:20 p.m.
Where: Auditorium
Required: The National Honor Society is comprised of students who have achieved a weighted GPA of 90 or above. Students are nominated for admission into the society during the early fall of their junior year. Nominees are assessed by a faculty panel on the merits of their academics and their character and leadership abilities.

The NHS induction, a time-honored ceremony, takes place in October. The organization typically conducts two main activities. In some years, NHS sponsors a book drive to supplement local parochial school libraries and a bracelet fundraiser to support the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer Research.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT BY ELECTION

Student Council

Contact: Ms. Shea
E-Mail: jshea@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: SB10

Student Council promotes and provides leadership development opportunities to prepare and empower student leaders to serve the school and their communities. Student Council sponsors several activities and events throughout the school year.

PEER PROGRAM REQUIRING APPLICATION

Peer Mentor

Contact: Mrs. Fracker
E-Mail: sfracker@lauraltonhall.org
When: Mondays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Cafeteria

The mentors help run events and activities such as freshman orientation, project adventure and TA parties. Meetings are held to discuss topics and interventions used to make the freshman transition into the first year of high school a smooth, fun and happy experience.

CLASSES

*Class meetings are held several times throughout the school year during the school day.
The meetings are scheduled by the administration and posted to the school calendar.*

Senior Class

Contact: Mrs. Dwyer and Mrs. Waldron
E-Mail: cdwyer@lauraltonhall.org or jwaldron@lauraltonhall.org

Junior Class

Contact: Mrs. Cummings
E-Mail: mcummings@lauraltonhall.org

Sophomore Class

Contact: Mr. Allen
E-Mail: mallen@lauraltonhall.org

Freshman Class

Contact: Mrs. McGowan
E-Mail: pmcgowan@lauraltonhall.org