



ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY
Lauralton Hall

2008-2009

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.

**200 High Street
Milford, CT 06460
Phone: 203.877.2786
Fax: 203.876.9760
www.lauraltonhall.org**

as of October 2008

CONTENTS

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

CLUBS

All Things Considered
Amnesty International
Ballroom Dance
Campus Ministry
Challenge (TV quiz show)
Classic Film
Crusader Radio
Dance
Environmental
Fine Arts/Photography
French
Historical
Humanities
Irish Music
Jane Austen
Key
Knitting
LabRaTS
Latin
LH CARES
Live Poets' Society
Peer Tutors
Project Runway
SADD
Science
Shakespeare
Spanish
Writers' Club
Youth & Government

PUBLICATIONS

Lauralton Highlights (school newspaper)
The Lauralton (yearbook)
The Looking Glass (literary magazine)

ORGANIZATIONS

French National Honor Society
Latin National Honor Society
Spanish National Honor Society
National Honor Society

STUDENT GOVERNMENT BY ELECTION

Student Council

PEER PROGRAM

Peer Mentors

ARTS

Arts Festival
Musical Concerts
Theater (fall musical & spring drama)

DANCES

Freshman/Sophomore Semiformal
Junior/Senior Prom
Junior Ring Dance
Mixers
Senior Dance

SPIRITUAL EVENTS

Class Retreats
Mercy Day
Prayer Services
School Liturgies

OTHER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Assemblies
Junior Ring Ceremony
Red Cross Blood Drive
Spirit Week
Student Leadership Recognition Week
Trips—Field, Class, International

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.

Amnesty International

Contact: Sister Dorothy Synkewecz
E-Mail: sdsynkewecz@lauraltonhall.org
When: First and third Monday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: M201
Required: \$5 one-time fee for international membership dues

Amnesty is an international organization whose purpose is to advocate the cause of any individual or group that suffers oppression, imprisonment, torture, political or religious harassment anywhere in the world. To help cover the cost of postage, members pay \$1 at each meeting.

Ballroom Dance

Contact: Mrs. Doerr
E-mail: pdoerr@lauraltonhall.org
When: Tuesdays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Auditorium

The Ballroom Dance Club experience features classes taught by a Lauralton Hall senior who has been trained by the Dancesport Ballroom Dance Studio in Westport. Featured dances are the tango, salsa, rumba, cha cha cha, foxtrot and swing. The club consists of beginner and intermediate level groups. In some years the group has traveled to Fairfield Preparatory School to participate in a dance class with Prep's Spanish Honor Society.

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, selection of music, altar servers, ministers of the Word and lectors.

Challenge (TV Quiz Show)

Contact: Ms. Burns
E-Mail: lburns@lauraltonhall.org
When: Every other Friday at 2:20 p.m.
Where: M205
Required: Regular attendance at meetings will be a factor in deciding which students participate in competition

This club is designed to prepare a team to appear on News12's *Connecticut Challenge* trivia television show. Members review information and hold mock competitions in preparation for a television appearance. Participation in other "quiz bowl" activities is also a possibility.

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: C-1

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 look for other ways to make the school “green.”

Fine Arts/Photography

Contact: Ms. Doherty and Mrs. Yarmosh
E-Mail: jdoherty@lauraltonhall.org or eyarmosh@lauraltonhall.org
When: Tuesdays @ 2:20 p.m. except on early dismissal days
Where: S214

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 participation 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 Dinner held in the spring.

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: Mrs. Fracker
E-Mail: sfracker@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.

Irish Music

Contact: Mr. Connolly
E-Mail: dconnolly@lauraltonhall.org
When: First Monday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: M203

The Irish Music Club was created to give club members the opportunity to play some jigs, polkas, reels or other famous Irish pieces. Students who already play an instrument will have no problem jumping in. Instruction on fiddle, whistle and Irish guitar technique will be provided and, anyone who has and wants to play an Irish drum, the bodhran, is welcome. Club members may eventually have an opportunity to play at some events.

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."

Knitting

Contact: Mrs. Peterson
E-Mail: lpeterson@lauraltonhall.org
When: First and third Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: MH210
Limit: 10 students
Required: Skein of yarn and size 10, 11 or 12 needles.

Beginners and experienced knitters are welcome. Club members select officers and determine club involvement in charity activities.

LabRaTS (Lab Research and Technology Society)

Contact: Dr. Cavar
E-mail: scavar@lauraltonhall.org
When: First Tuesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
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 Tuesday 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.

Live Poets' Society

Contact: Mrs. Gibson
E-Mail: dgibson@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: MH206

This club is for those with a creative spirit who love the sound, rhythm and art of the written word. It is a place where students share their love of poetry. Meetings are informal and consist of learning how to write poetry, exploring different types of poetry, and sharing original work. The club is open to everyone.

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.

Project Runway

Contact: Ms. Crozier
E-Mail: ccrozier@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second and fourth Monday 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
E-Mail: pmcgowan@lauraltonhall.org
When: Last Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Health Room or near gym office

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. Renner
E-Mail: rrenner@lauraltonhall.org
When: Second Tuesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: S115

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.

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.

Writers' Club

Contact: Mrs. Amore
E-mail: jamore@lauraltonhall.org
When: Mondays @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: MH101

The Writer's Club is an organization created by students who wish to compose their own creative pieces. Students can set a goal to complete a novel by the end of the school year, or students may set a goal to write several short stories. In this club, students are invited to work on their own writing and participate in writing workshops and/or peer revisions. They may also discuss their writing strategies, characters, storylines, and/or the challenges they have in writing with their peers. No previous writing experience is necessary.

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. Gallagher and Mrs. Serio
E-mail: cgallagher@lauraltonhall.org or tserio@lauraltonhall.org

The Lauralton (yearbook)

Contact: Mrs. Waldron
E-mail: jwaldron@lauraltonhall.org or tserio@lauraltonhall.org

The Looking Glass (literary magazine)

Contact: Mrs. Crozier & Mrs. Healey
E-mail: ccrozier@lauraltonhall.org or chealey@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 Wednesday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Auditorium

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: Ms. Fosse-Previs
E-Mail: yfosseprevis@lauraltonhall.org
When: First and third Monday each month @ 2:20 p.m.
Where: Auditorium

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
E-Mail: cdwyer@lauraltonhall.org

Junior Class

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

Sophomore Class

Contact: Ms. Melmed
E-Mail: rmelmed@lauraltonhall.org

Freshman Class

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