

Legacy

THEN AND NOW: A STORY OF LEGACIES

MAGNIFICAT DRAWS STRENGTH FROM ITS RICH HISTORY. THIS HERITAGE IS OFTEN PASSED DOWN FROM MOTHER TO DAUGHTER, AND EVEN GRANDDAUGHTER. THIS PROUD TRADITION IS GROWING, AND IN FACT, MORE THAN 21% OF THIS YEAR'S FRESHMEN ARE LEGACIES.

SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE YOUR DAUGHTER EXPERIENCE MAGNIFICAT? WE SAT DOWN WITH FOUR CURRENT MAGNIFICAT MOMS TO FIND OUT!

HONORING TRADITION

REPRESENTING THE CLASS OF 2015

As told by Freshman Mom Ann Litzler Coyne '88, Mom of Claire Coyne '15



Ann Litzler Coyne '88, left, and daughter, Claire Coyne '15 over Christmas break.

What does it mean to have Claire experience Magnificat...

It is a great feeling to know that Claire is attending Magnificat! I am thrilled that she is enjoying her experience and embracing everything Magnificat has to offer.

What's still the same since you were here?

Claire has some of the same faculty members that I had. Sister Carol Anne was the principal when I attended. The Cafeteria

looks exactly the same. Claire's Night-in-Blue experience was fun and similar to mine.

What has changed?

The classes and curriculum are far more challenging, and there is a broader choice of courses. The athletic programs are very strong and competitive. There is an ever-larger range of clubs and extra-curricular activities.

What were you involved with while a student at Mags? And your daughter...

I was on the tennis team, worked on the

yearbook, served on Student Council, was a National Honor Society member and involved with Campus Ministry. Claire shares some of those same activities, playing JV tennis this past fall, working on the yearbook and being a Lector with Campus Ministry. She is also a Key Club member.

What do you hope Claire will take with her from her years as a Magnificat student?

I hope that Claire will become even more well-rounded. My hope is that Claire will take advantage of the numerous opportunities at Magnificat to broaden her horizons, meet new people and learn as much as she can.

One more thing...

Another tradition that Claire and I share is the way we celebrate Presidents' Day. Claire has had a keen interest in U.S. Presidents since she was in preschool, so every Presidents' Day our family visits a former President's home or birthplace.

Ann is a member of the Gala Committee. She and her husband, Terry, are raising their family in Rocky River. Besides Claire, they have daughters Emily and Elizabeth.



The Coyne Family visited the Harry S. Truman house in Independence, MO last Presidents' Day weekend.

THE MISSION IS CLEAR

REPRESENTING THE CLASS OF 2014

As told by Sophomore Mom Amy Stakich Nageotte '82, Mom of Ali Nageotte '14



Amy Stakich Nageotte '82, right, and her daughter, Ali Nageotte '14, celebrate Ali's 3rd place individual finish at the OHSAA Division I State Golf Tournament at The Ohio State University this past October.

What does it mean to have Ali experience Magnificat...

It means the world to me to be able to give Ali the opportunity to experience Magnificat and all that it offers. It means that she has the opportunity to grow and learn in a loving, faith-filled environment surrounded by girls from all walks of life. It means that she will emerge from Magnificat with a strong, solid foundation not only for college, but for the rest of her life.

The back of the class t-shirts summarizes it well: "From the outside looking in you can never understand it... From the inside looking out you can never explain it."

What's the same since you were here?

The feeling of community is the same. I think the girls feel that they are part of the Magnificat community and that the community is there for them. The camaraderie between the girls is the same. They are free to be true to who they are in

the all-girls' environment. Some faces are the same—Sister Carol Anne, Sister Helen Jean, Ms. Arundel and Mr. Phillips. The blue skirts are the same!

What's changed?

Much about the physical space has changed with the addition of the Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts and the new Gym. It still feels like a comfortable yet progressive place to learn. The biggest difference I noticed as a parent is the clear definition of the mission—to educate young women holistically to learn, lead and serve in the spirit of Mary's *Magnificat*. Every student knows the mission and the expectations of their four years at Magnificat. I also feel the curriculum is much more challenging today. The work Ali is doing as a sophomore I was doing in college. The Athletic Department has changed drastically, too. Today, there are so many varsity sports available to the girls.

What were you involved with while a student at Mags? And your daughter...

I sang in the choir and performed in a couple of plays. Ali plays varsity golf and JV basketball, and is in Key Club and Mu Alpha Theta Math Club.

What do you hope Ali will take with her from her years as a Magnificat student?

I hope Ali will take away wonderful memories of these four special years of her life. Memories of a strong academic environment, memories of a special place to grow in her faith, memories of great athletic experiences and memories of very special, lifelong friends.

One more thing...

We have a house in Rosemary Beach, FL that we love to go to as a family. It is where Ali learned to play golf. We love to golf together.

I always tease both of my daughters that I bought their Magnificat blue skirts the day they were born!

As an alumna, Amy attends Night-in-Blue, open houses, plays and concerts. She also attended Sister Cheryl Rose's retreat sessions. She and her husband, Dan, are raising their family in Westlake. Besides Ali, they have Maggie, who is hoping to become a member of the Class of 2016!

DAILY GUIDANCE

REPRESENTING THE CLASS OF 2013

As told by Junior Mom

Kimberly Bush Blesi Adams '86, Mom of Emily '13 and Elizabeth '13



Elizabeth Blesi '13, left, mom Kimberly Bush Blesi Adams '86, center, and Emily Blesi '13, enjoy the holidays together.

What does it mean to have Emily and Elizabeth experience Magnificat...

It is a true blessing to have my girls attend Magnificat. Their father, Andy Blesi, passed away when the girls were only seven. The decision to have them attend Magnificat was already made when he was sick. We wanted the girls to have the best a high school could offer. Magnificat was that high school for me and I knew it was the one for them, as well.

What's the same since you were here?

It amazed me that there are some of the same teachers that taught me when I attended. The dedication to education that the teachers at Magnificat have is amazing. The girls are experiencing the same outstanding education and leadership that I was taught when I attended.

What's changed?

There are so many differences. The clubs the girls can join in school and outside of school are wonderful. They both have enjoyed tutoring younger children. The school itself is amazing with all the additions that have been made over the years. The food choices for lunch are wonderful—so healthy and such a variety.

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What were you involved with while a student at Mags? And your daughters...

I was involved with Ski Club and on the Dance Committee. I also participated in the after-school work program to help my parents with tuition. My daughters enjoy Key Club, Animal Outreach and tutoring through Campus Ministry.

What do you hope Emily and Elizabeth will take with them from their years as Magnificat students?

I hope that my daughters take what they have learned from Magnificat and become the best person they can. They have been given a special opportunity to achieve not only academically, but also spiritually—to be an inspiration to others through their kindness and understanding. I know that the friendships that they make over these four years will be lifelong. I also know that the growth that they make over their four years at Magnificat will make a difference in future situations that life brings them.

One more thing...

The girls and I enjoy boating trips, vacations and skiing with their stepfather, Allyn, and stepbrothers, Ryan and Colin Adams. Most of all we love spending time together.

Emily and Elizabeth are very fortunate to attend such a fine school. I have been extremely pleased. What else could be more important than having my girls learn from the outstanding teachers and staff who guide and teach them daily. It was the best decision that their father and I made.

Kimberly enjoys coming back to Magnificat to attend Night-in-Blue. She and her husband, Allyn, are raising their family in Avon Lake.

A COMPETITIVE EDGE

REPRESENTING THE CLASS OF 2012

As told by Senior Mom

Laura Bodziony Lawless '84,

Mom of Abby Lawless '12

(And also the mom of

Hayley Lawless '14!)



Laura Bodziony Lawless '84, left and her daughter, Abby Lawless '12 celebrate Christmas together.

What does it mean to have Abby experience Magnificat...

I love the sense of tradition that this will instill in my daughters. The fact that I can offer the same opportunity that my parents provided to me makes me very proud.

What's the same since you were here?

There are many of the same faculty members as when I attended, which leads me to believe that there is a true commitment to the mission statement of Magnificat. The student body is much more diverse... Magnificat is no longer a "neighborhood" high school.

What's changed?

The curriculum has advanced in step with changing times (Modular Technology, Chinese as a foreign language), as well as the physical plant, to meet the needs of its students. The Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts is a prime example of how Magnificat maintains a competitive edge.

What were you involved with while a student at Mags? And your daughter...

I always participated in Night-in-Blue and was a four-year member of the softball team. Abby currently participates in Key Club, Garden Club, Drama Club and is a four-year member of the tennis team.

What do you hope Abby will take with her from her years as a Magnificat student?

I hope Abby always challenges herself to go beyond set expectations and to feel empowered as a young woman in today's society. The sense of self she has obtained through her peers and teachers during her four years at Magnificat is immeasurable.

One more thing...

I knew when Abby was little that I would want her to have the advantage of attending Magnificat High School. Living on the east side of Cleveland, I knew Abby would have to want this for herself. I could not be more proud of the leap of faith Abby took when choosing herself to attend Magnificat. She displayed maturity beyond her years to "leave" her friends behind and go solo to "the other side of town." Abby has never regretted this decision. Abby's experience at Magnificat has gone beyond my hopes and dreams for her!

As an alumna, Laura is a Gala Committee member and keeps in touch socially with many of her classmates. She and her husband, Bill, are raising their family in Lyndhurst. Besides Abby and Hayley '14, they have a 19-year-old son at the University of Dayton, and a 10-year-old son at St. Gregory the Great School.

Since 1955, Magnificat has been honoring the legacy of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, educating young women holistically to learn, lead and serve in the spirit of Mary's Magnificat.