



Boys Hope Girls Hope Scholarship helps rising star realize dreams

Ermina and Joe Polce '57 met Lark Moore '15 for the first time at Reunion. Moore holds the current Boys Hope Girls Hope Scholarship created by the Polces.

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Magis (pronounced "màh-jis") is a Jesuit phrase that means "the more." It is taken from Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam, a Latin phrase meaning "for the greater glory of God." Magis refers to the philosophy of doing more, for Christ, and therefore for others.

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As a young boy growing up in Rome, New York, Joe Polce '57 never heard of John Carroll University. He likely never would have, if it weren't for the kindness of a visitor at Polce's high school who struck up a conversation with him.

Polce and his wife, Ermina, are the generous benefactors who created the Boys Hope Girls Hope Scholarship at John Carroll, which supports one new student here each year from one of the Boys Hope Girls Hope (BHGH) communities across the U.S.

Boys Hope was founded in St. Louis by Rev. Paul Sheridan, S.J., in 1977. Fr. Sheridan had too often witnessed promising young lives unfulfilled because of underfunded schools, poverty, drugs, and violence, so he started Boys Hope "to provide children with safe homes and environments, a first-class education, opportunities to learn more about themselves and the world, and academic, financial, and spiritual support through college." The program expanded to BHGH, when its first home for girls opened in 1991.

"If BHGH were around when I was young, I would have been one of those kids," Polce says from his summer home in Little Switzerland, North Carolina. He was born during the Great Depression. His father died when he was only a year old; his mother was not able to support Joe Jr. and his brother, so the boys lived with relatives and in foster homes in their early years.

"My education through secondary school was intermittent," Polce says. "A JCU graduate by the name of Charles Toepp (Class of 1952) used to volunteer at the school I sometimes attended. One day, he asked me if I wanted to go to college. I was about 17. He gave me an application and said 'fill this out the best you can.' I had no credentials, but I filled it out. He must have known someone in Admission, because the next thing I knew, I was in!"

"If Boys Hope Girls Hope were around when I was young, I would have been one of those kids"

—Joe Polce '57

JCU Finance VP/CFO updates Magis Advisory Group

The Magis Advisory Group (MAG) met in March at the Union Club for its semi-annual luncheon. Rich Mausser, JCU's vice president for finance/CFO, provided an overview of the University's financial position.



PHOTOS (clockwise from top right): JCU Board member and MAG member Nancy Cunningham Benacci '77, MAG member Mary Lynn Laughlin '74, and JCU Board member and MAG member Michael Hardy '69; MAG members Mary Eileen Vitale '83 and Paula Reape '86, and Ryan Daly '99 from JCU Advancement; MAG members (left to right) Alex Schmitt '98, Nathan Lambert '98, Matt Selby '00, Chuck Aquino '99, and Mike Swallow '98; and featured speaker Rich Mausser, JCU Finance and Administrative Services.

How a charitable remainder trust benefits you and JCU

During our school days, we learned that subtraction would result in a remainder, while addition would create a sum. It turns out that our math teachers must not have known about charitable remainder trusts (CRT), which can enable certain assets—especially highly appreciated, low-yield assets—to have an impact far beyond what you learned in math class.

You may transfer cash or other assets into a CRT. You will avoid capital gains tax and receive a charitable income tax deduction. These tax benefits are possible because the trust

remainder ultimately is a gift to John Carroll University.

The trust makes scheduled payments to you, which may increase your income. For example, consider a \$200,000 asset that had been producing 2% income (\$4,000 each year).

Thanks to the CRT, the full \$200,000 is invested to generate a higher return, perhaps providing a 5% income stream or \$10,000 annually. For a husband and wife, both 65 years of age with a 25-year life expectancy, this adds up to an increase in income

of more than \$150,000 over the life of the donors (an increase of \$6,000 x 25 years).

Upon the death of both husband and wife, the remaining value in the trust will go to John Carroll. Over the years, this remainder can easily exceed the trust's original value. When added up, the CRT can save current taxes, generate an increase in income, and yield a substantial gift to Carroll.

To find out how a CRT might benefit you, your family, and JCU, contact Pat Ertle, senior director of Legacy Giving, at pertle@jcu.edu or 216.397.1977.

BHGH Scholarship

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Polce took a train from Upstate New York and arrived on campus in fall of 1953. “I had all my belongings in a gym bag,” he says. “I didn’t know a soul at Carroll.”

He says he had a lot of catching up to do academically and everyone at JCU was very kind to him. Polce lived in Bernet Hall his first year, where the dorm priest, Rev. Patrick O’Brien, S.J., and Rev. William “The Duke” Millor, S.J., worked with him so that he could graduate four years later as an English major.

Logic and metaphysics classes with Rev. Joseph Schell, S.J., were equally memorable. “Thanks to Fr. Schell, I learned how to think at John Carroll. Nobody left JCU without being able to think,” Polce says.

After graduation, he returned home to New York, where he attended graduate school at Syracuse University and started work in the engineering department for the Univac Division of Sperry Rand. Turns out that was a life-changing move, since he met Ermina, his bride of 53 years, there.

In 1966, IBM came calling and offered him a job, but Polce opted to trade his snow shovel for sun and sand; he and Ermina packed up their life as Northerners and moved south to invest in Florida real estate.

“We started very small, but there was a real estate boom, so things were



Lark Moore '15

quite easy,” Polce says. They settled in Vero Beach and built up a portfolio of properties.

“One day I said to myself, ‘you know, Polce, you’re not doing too badly,’ so I decided it was time to give something back. I called John Carroll about setting up a scholarship for disadvantaged kids.

“We wanted to see the scholarship working while we were alive, so we established a charitable remainder unitrust, which you can add to as many times as you like. It’s a trust for the future and also provides income while you’re alive,” he explains.

Lark Moore '15 is the current BHGH Scholar. The youngest of eight children and originally from Cleveland’s Near West Side, Moore graduated from Urban

Community School and Walsh Jesuit High School.

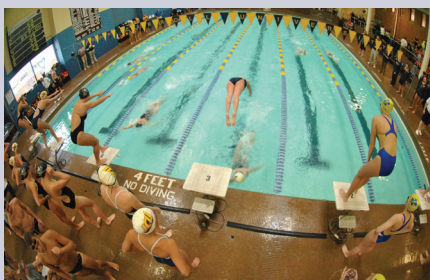
“Everyday, I see how much finances affect my peers. It causes excess stress on top of obtaining the education itself. Many of my friends have had to take out student loans. I, on the other hand, will graduate debt-free. I am truly blessed.

“Since receiving the scholarship, I am determined to do the best that I possibly can in my courses. I know that someone (Mr. Polce) invested in my education and I cannot let him, nor myself or family down,” adds Moore, who plans to teach French when she graduates from John Carroll.

Nothing would make Polce happier. “We have all kinds of hopes to see a graduate. Lark would be our first,” he says.

—Marcia Aghajanian

Did you know?



Johnson Natatorium named after business leader, trustee

William H. Johnson, for whom the swimming pool is named, was a member of the University’s Board of Trustees in 1972 when he passed suddenly at age 52. He was president of White Consolidated Industries, active in religious and civic affairs, and extremely dedicated to John Carroll University.

In college, Mr. Johnson was an outstanding athlete who turned down a professional football contract to pursue a career in business. For this reason, and to celebrate his outstanding service to Carroll, the pool was named in his memory.

Faculty Spotlight

Helen Murphy, Ph.D.

Neuroscience pioneer recalls career of 'firsts'

Helen Murphy, Ph.D., '67G has accomplished a lot of firsts in her 43 years at John Carroll University.

In 1979, she started the neuroscience concentration at the University with Cyrilla Wideman, Ph.D. It was the first interdisciplinary academic program in the sciences at JCU, and one of the oldest undergraduate neuroscience programs in the United States. In 1980, Murphy was the first female faculty member to receive the Distinguished Faculty Award.

The Cleveland-born, Rocky River-raised professor of psychology first realized her love of the sciences at Magnificat High School. "I just started liking science courses in high school and then when I got to college I found them very interesting and challenging," she says.

After she graduated with a B.S. in biology from Notre Dame College in 1965, Murphy came to John Carroll to pursue a master's in the same field. While she studied here, Rev. Thomas Acker, S.J., her thesis advisor, let her teach some of the undergraduate freshman labs. This, along with "great teachers in science at the college level and at the Ph.D. level," sparked her interest in teaching. She completed her master's in 1967 and went on to receive her Ph.D. in physiological psychology from Illinois Institute of Technology in 1969. At the suggestion of Rev. Acker, she applied for a position on the psychology faculty and re-joined JCU in 1969.

Murphy was hired just one year after the University admitted women as full-time undergraduates. When asked about that time on campus, she was quick to express her happiness. "It was super! When I was here as a graduate student, there were very few women!"

Ten years after she joined the faculty, Murphy was conducting research with Wideman and the two recognized the University's need for a formalized neuroscience program. "We were doing research together, and presenting our research, and at that time there was no real program around here."

The concentration includes biology, chemistry, and psychology majors, so Murphy gets to work with students and see their development during their four years at JCU. In fact, that's why she's chosen to stay since 1969. "It's being a



part of their growth, all the way from freshman year through graduation, into their professional field," she says. "And all of this is kind of based upon their background in the Jesuit tradition of men and women for others."

When asked about her favorite John Carroll memory, Murphy recalls two different aspects of her time here – the academic and the spiritual. Her most beloved academic memory is the founding of the neuroscience concentration. "From the spiritual point of view, it was being able to make the Nineteenth Annotation Retreat with Fr. Schell," she says. "And then for many years, I directed the 8-day retreat for students, which was a wonderful experience. So, I think the opportunity to explore spiritual things has been wonderful here, which you wouldn't get at another place."

When she's not teaching or researching circadian rhythms in the Neuroscience Research Lab in Dolan, Murphy enjoys athletic pursuits. "In the summer, I sail," she says. "And I'm an avid sports fan. Unfortunately, our Cleveland professional teams have been somewhat disappointing, but I'm a big sports fan."

She has no plans to retire or slow down anytime soon. "We've already had seven students sign up for the independent research project next fall!"

—Meredith Tayek

Magis

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