

## **Class of 2018 Awards**

**The Excellence Medal for Highest Cumulative Achievement:**

Julia Halas

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Art:**

Zenia Nasevich

Honorable Mention: Ava Lo Sasso

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of English:**

Julia Halas

**The Sister Elizabeth Carroll Award for the Highest Achievement in the study of French:**

Anne Christina Alexandre

Honorable Mention: Simone Fera

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Latin:**

Emma Andrews

Honorable Mention: Gabriela Marziano

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Mathematics:**

Julia Halas

Honorable Mention: Megan Leahy

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Music:**

Maggie Browne

Honorable Mention: Christina Sumin Walker

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Science:**

Julia Halas

Honorable Mention: Gabriela Marziano

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Social Studies:**

Katrina McDermott

Honorable Mention: Julia Halas

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Spanish:**

Julia Halas

Honorable Mention: Keara Gilligan

**The Excellence Medal for the Highest Achievement in the study of Theology:**

Katrina McDermott

Honorable Mention: Julia Halas

**In recognition of their academic excellence, students in the top 3% of the class at the end of the first semester were recognized at the Honors Convocation of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The students representing Merion Mercy Academy this year were:**

Keara Gilligan

Julia Halas

Katrina McDermott

Megan Talke

**The following students have achieved a General Average of 4.0 or higher in each of four consecutive years:**

Emma Andrews	Natalie Holstein	Erin Mullen
Jenna Bertin	Emma Iannone	Jane Pham
Maggie Browne	Madeline Larkin	Margaret Roccatto
Kylie Campisciano	Megan Leahy	Devyn Russo
Chiara Cocelli	Jessica Lehman	Megan Talke
Noha El Toukhy	Kathryn Lynch	Kelly Thomas
Keara Gilligan	Meredith Mackenzie	Lauren Viola
Julia Halas	Gabriela Marziano	Zihan (Madison) Wang
Ava Hamann	Katrina McDermott	Jordyn Young
Caroline Hecht	Mary McDermott	

**National Merit Scholarship Finalists:**

Julia Halas  
Margaret Roccatto  
Kelly Thomas  
Christina Sumin Walker  
Jordyn Young

**National Merit Commended Students:**

Caroline Hecht	Kathryn Lynch
Madeline Larkin	Gabriela Marziano
Megan Leahy	Erin Mullen
Jessica Lehman	Mary Elizabeth Passarella

**A National Merit Scholarship has been awarded to:**

Kelly Thomas

**The National Merit Northeastern University Scholarship has been awarded to:**

Jordyn Young

**The Outstanding Scholar-Athlete Award:**

Caroline Hecht

**For generously sharing their many talents and for the unfailing dedication that they demonstrated as editors of the 2018 *Image Explosion*, awards have been presented to:**

Keara Gilligan and Zenia Nasevich  
Honorable Mention: Mary McDermott

**In recognition of and appreciation for their dedicated service to *Meriannual* as editors, awards have been presented to:**

Madeleine Nowak, Claudia Conway, and Miranda Della Vecchio

**Perfect Attendance for all four years:**

Emma Andrews  
Brijette Brown  
Russ-Ahna Davenport  
Bridget McTiernan  
Mary Elizabeth Passarella  
Francesca Tronieri

## **Inset**

### **Claddagh Awards**

The Irish claddagh is a symbol befitting the cultural heritage, corporal works, and spiritual legacy of Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. Often as an adornment to a ring, the claddagh depicts a pair of hands holding a heart topped by a regal crown. These three elements form a kind of trinity: the heart, it can be said, represents hospitality and compassion; the hands: service and care; the crown: leadership and fidelity to one's cause. Here at Merion Mercy Academy we celebrate the ways in which these symbols similarly embody our students' exceptional character and achievement. Today we honor three graduating seniors, in particular, who have been recognized by their peers and their teachers as demonstrating personal qualities in keeping with one of each of the claddagh's special features.

**The Heart of Mercy Award is presented to a graduating senior who exemplifies the essence of Mercy. It is an honor bestowed upon the person who has shown continuously that she lives in the spirit of Catherine McAuley, offering time, effort, talent and compassion to ensure a better life for her peers. Mercy is doing and acting out of love, believing in it and living it. The person receiving this award is recognized for her commitment to the values of the Gospel and her example of acting with Mercy in the name of God.**

**By nomination from the faculty and seniors, the Heart of Mercy Award was presented this year to:**

Kelly King

**The Service Award is presented to a graduating senior in acknowledgment of her demonstrated spirit of servant leadership. While meeting her academic requirements, this student has also responded generously to the Gospel call to action. Dedicating herself to easing the burdens of those in need, this young woman has shown exceptional commitment to the core value of living mercy and seeking justice through her volunteer efforts with MMA-sponsored projects and/or community-based programs.**

**By nomination from the faculty and seniors, the Service Award was presented this year to:**  
Nora Pergolini

**The Loyalty Award is presented to a graduating senior who has demonstrated extraordinary loyalty and pride in being a member of the Merion Mercy school community over the past four years. She embodies the Academy's mission to educate the whole person through her own academic and personal excellence. Beyond the moment, she always sees the bigger picture of what it is to represent the ideals of Merion Mercy, demonstrated through her courage to speak and work on behalf of her school community. She acts with conviction and integrity in all she does, and she understands the importance of being a woman of Mercy.**

**By nomination from the faculty and seniors, the Loyalty Award was presented this year to the following two individuals:**

Miranda Della Vecchio and Margaret Roccato