



## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### RESURRECTION CLASS OF 2017



Twenty-three graduating seniors are the daughters or granddaughters of Resurrection alumnae who honored their mothers or grandmothers with a red rose during the Baccalaureate Mass.

The Resurrection College Prep High School Class of 2017 was comprised of one hundred and forty-six young women. The graduates celebrated their Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement ceremony at Holy Name Cathedral on Wednesday, May 31, 2017. For the past 95 years Resurrection has focused on developing strong, capable women who are confident, healthy, well-rounded and college ready.

The members of the Class of 2017 have distinguished themselves in academics, service, athletics and the arts and will be attending colleges and universities nationwide. Fifteen graduates were *Illinois State Scholars*, including class *Valedictorian* Clare Hobson and *Salutatorian* Meredith Nowotarski, as well as the following 2017 graduates: **Rahma Almajid, Julia Baase, Elyse Boldt, Alison Crivlare, Mary Donohoe, Lauren Gawlinski, Natalie Markech, Analisa Martorano, Noelle McGlenn, Melanie Persangi, Eleanor Riordan, Cherryshe Sinfuego and Emma Sudie.**



Left to right: Valedictorian **Clare Hobson**, Class President **Shannon Borner**, Class Secretary **Gillian van Brenk**, Class Vice President **Olivia O’Hehir**, Class Treasurer **Katia Velisaris** and Salutatorian **Meredith Nowotarski**

Reverend Daniel McCarthy, Reverend Britto Berchmans and Reverend James Blazek celebrated the Baccalaureate Mass at Holy Name Cathedral. Twenty-three graduating seniors are the daughters or granddaughters of Resurrection alumnae, and during the Baccalaureate Mass these graduates presented their alumnae mothers or grandmothers with a red rose to acknowledge the continued Resurrection legacy within their families.

During the Commencement ceremony that followed the Baccalaureate Mass, both the Principal’s Award and the Sr. Anne Medal of Distinction in Faith, Leadership and Service were presented. The Principal’s Award, presented by Principal Richard Piwowarski, recognizes a high-achieving graduating senior who has contributed to the school community through her service and scholarship and was awarded to **Elyse Boldt**. The Sr. Anne Medal, presented by Resurrection President Sr. Donna Marie Wolowicki, C.R., recognizes a student who exemplifies the values of Resurrection College Prep and its 1922 founder, Sr. Anne Strzelecka, C.R., and was awarded to **Alyssa Walsh**.

The Resurrection motto, *Charity & Truth*, is core to the values and philosophy of Resurrection College Prep and is part of the school’s approach to education. During the Commencement ceremony, Salutatorian Meredith Nowotarski presented a student address on the topic *Charity* and Valedictorian Clare Hobson presented a student address on the topic *Truth*.

While at Resurrection **Salutatorian Meredith Nowotarski** was steeped in service and leadership. She served as the President of the Science National Honor Society, President of the WYSE (Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering) Club, Junior Class Treasurer, and as both Vice President and Secretary of the Math Club. As a three-season athlete she has served as a co-captain for Varsity Bowling, JV Soccer, and JV Tennis. She also provided service with numerous organizations, including acting as Service Coordinator for Key Club and as a Student Ambassador. Speaking on the topic *Charity* during the Commencement, Meredith stated that by attending Resurrection, “my definition of charity has expanded to include more than just donating my time or money to a cause. Any expression of love or generosity towards another can constitute an act of charity.” Academically, Meredith Nowotarski is a National Merit Commended Scholar, Res Scholar, Illinois State Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society and Diakonia Service Honor Society. Meredith will be attending the University of Notre Dame and plans to study biology or psychology.

**Valedictorian Clare Hobson** also successfully combined academics, athletics, service and leadership and presented a student address on the topic *Truth*. While at Resurrection, she served as President of the

National Honor Society, President of the Math Club, Vice President of the WYSE Club and played Varsity Lacrosse and Tennis. She also taught Religious Education to sixth grade CCD students at St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Park Ridge, participated in a service trip working with Habitat for Humanity in North Carolina, served as a Resurrection Student Ambassador, and was a recipient of the Vicariate II Youth Leadership Award from the Archdiocese of Chicago. Academically, Clare Hobson is a National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, Res Scholar, Illinois State Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society and Diakonia Service Honor Society. She also received First Place in Biology at the WYSE Regional Competition, qualified for State at the Sectional Competition and received the Top Biology Student award from the Resurrection Science Department. Clare Hobson will be attending Washington University in St. Louis to study biology on a pre-med track and she credits Resurrection for teaching her “how to stand up for myself and what I believe in.”

Members of the Resurrection Class of 2017 will be attending colleges and universities nationwide, including the following: American Academy of Art; American University; Ball State University; Belmont Abbey College; Bradley University; Butler University; Colorado State University; Columbia College Chicago; Concordia University - Wisconsin; DePaul University; Dominican University; Elmhurst College; George Mason University; Grand Valley State; Illinois Institute of Technology; Illinois State University; Illinois Wesleyan University; Indiana University - Bloomington; Indiana State University - South Bend; Iowa State; Kalamazoo College; King’s College; Loyola University Chicago; Loras College; North Park University; Northeastern Illinois University; Northern Illinois University; Northern Michigan University; Northwestern University; Oakton Community College; Purdue University; Robert Morris University; Saint Louis University; Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota; Savannah College of Art and Design; Southern Illinois University - Carbondale; Tricoci University; Triton College; University of Arizona; University of Dayton; University of Illinois at Chicago; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; University of Iowa; University of Missouri; University of New Mexico; University of Notre Dame; University of Tampa; University of Wisconsin - Madison; University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee; Valparaiso University; Wilbur Wright College; William Rainey Harper College; Washington University; Western Michigan University; and Xavier University.

Resurrection College Prep High School, located at 7500 West Talcott Avenue in Chicago, is the largest all girls’ Catholic, Christian college preparatory high school for young women on the north side of Chicago. Since its founding in 1922, Resurrection has graduated over 14,000 alumnae. For more information about Resurrection College Prep High School, call 773.775.6616 Ext 129 or visit [www.reshs.org](http://www.reshs.org).