

The Sister Rose Thering Fund Education in Jewish-Christian Studies

Fostering understanding and cooperation among Jews, Christians and people of other religious traditions through advocacy and education.

Volume XXIII • Summer 2017

Seton Hall University

Essay Competition Winners and Scholarship Recipients Celebrated at Spring Reception



High School essay winners at reception on April 30 with Dean Shoemaker (back left), and Dr. David Bossman, (front right).

"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate those differences." Using this quote from Audre Lorde, so begins one of the winning, first place essays of Melissa Ouhocine, a 10th grade student from Bayonne High School, one of 210 entrants in the annual Sister Rose Thering Essay Competition. "Our ability as human beings to look beyond what separates us is the essence of Sister Rose's dream. She refused to adopt the mentality of ignorance and went her way to eradicate the roots of intolerance. Sister Rose is one of the most powerful voices who still resonates in each of us. Her work towards the reconciliation between Christians and Jews is outstanding. She is the ideal "agent of peace" and because of her my dream is to advocate for the victims of inequality," Melissa writes.

The power of "Sister Rose's Passion", both in the person and through the documentary film, stirring the hearts of young students like Melissa to action, is the living testament to the value and need for the Sister Rose Thering Fund today. On April 30, Melissa was one of five first place essay winners (there was a tie for first place in the 12th grade) invited to read her essay at a reception held on the Seton Hall campus for all sixteen winners of the essay competition from grades 9 through 12 and their families and teachers. Certificates of recognition were presented to all the winners present, which included a first and second place winner and two honorable mention awards per grade. First and second place winners also received monetary awards.

The record number of 210 essay submissions this year represented nine public and

11 Catholic high schools from across New Jersey and a school from Brooklyn! After viewing the Academy award-nominated film, *Sister Rose's Passion*, students wrote a 500-word essay on the message of Sister Rose and how they, too, can be "agents of peace" in their worlds today. Special thanks to Essay Competition Chairperson, Melinda Hanlon, and a team of five essay readers and judges from the SRTF Board and friends who had the challenging task of reading and ranking the essay submissions based on a consistent set of criteria. Winning essays were compiled into a booklet. Copies of the booklet are available through the Sister Rose Thering Office by contacting 973-761-9006 or srtf@shu.edu.

The reception on April 30 also represented a first for SRTF by combining the recognition for both our essay winners as well as our teacher-scholars who received sponsored SRTF scholarships over the 2016/2017 academic year. Not only did this unique event offer the opportunity for our sponsored scholarship donors to meet their scholarship recipients, donors as well as Board members and other friends of SRTF who attended saw the fruits of the SRTF mission at work in the classrooms as the message of Sister Rose echoed in the winning high school students.

This year there were 15 scholarships provided over the fall and spring semesters to 13 teacher-scholars thanks to the generosity of sponsored scholarship donors

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A Message From Our Executive Director

David M. Bossman, Ph.D.

This newsletter is our effort to share information on who we are, where we've been, and where we propose to go toward the pursuit of our mission and vision. Our mission

is simple: to build a more just society through education. Our vision is a world without prejudice. So, how are we doing this?

First, many people have worked cooperatively across traditional group boundaries, inspired by the work of Sister Rose Thering, whose career was built on education for redressing the mistakes of the past and shaping a future attuned to mutual understanding and effective shared service.

This year's activities have taken various paths toward this end. First, we have recruited and funded teachers to enroll in courses in the graduate program in Jewish-Christian Studies. These teachers are our army sent out to do battle against prejudice and our forces to advance mutual understanding and cooperation through education.

Next, we have engaged middle and high school students in New Jersey schools to enter an essay contest that is based on the award-winning documentary, *Sister Rose's Passion*. These students compete with each other to show how Sister Rose's life commitments to mutual understanding and respect has inspired them in their own ways of building a better society.

We also hosted the Dr. Marcia Robbins Wilf lecture on shared values for a pluralistic and harmonious society, focusing on the values we share as well as the interaction between Jews, Christians, and Muslims toward living out these shared values.

We celebrated our 24th annual Evening of Roses, honoring our senior faculty member in Jewish-Christian Studies, Father Lawrence Frizzell, one of the founding faculty in Jewish-Christian Studies at Seton Hall, together with three of our senior board members and supporters of the Sister Rose Thering Fund, Hattie Segal, Pearl Randall Lehrhoff, and Luna Kaufman.

We now are planning a 25th anniversary year for 2017-18 as a kind of capstone on carrying the torch of Sister Rose's passion forward. We invite your participation. We need your help. Please join in the legacy and share the vision.

David M. Bossman
Professor, Jewish-Christian Studies
Executive Director, The Sister Rose
Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-
Christian Studies



SRTF is going GREEN!

Help Us Do Our Part for the Planet!

Join our e-mail list!

Receive future SRTF news and newsletters electronically!

Visit www.shu.edu/go/sisterrose and enter your name and e-mail address OR Send an e-mail to srtf@shu.edu

A Message From Our *Chairman of the Board*

Deborah Lerner Duane



In 2009, I was elected to the Board of the Sister Rose Thering Fund, delighted to join an exceptional group of community leaders dedicated to continuing the work of the organization's namesake.

A few things became clear to me during those first few months on the SRTF Board. Many of my new colleagues had enjoyed close friendships with Sister Rose, who had passed away only three years earlier. These women and men were very much committed to sustaining the legacy of the formidable Dominican sister

who had devoted her life to advancing the dialogue between Christians and Jews. And, to my astonishment, I discovered that I was the first SRTF trustee not to have been invited to join the Board by Sister Rose herself.

Today, the community leaders who comprise the Sister Rose Thering Fund Board are equally divided between those who worked side-by-side with Sister Rose and those who did not have that privilege. We are all, however, single-minded in our desire to create a world free of religious prejudice.

In September 2017, the Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies will kick off a year-long celebration to commemorate our 25th anniversary. We have a great deal to be proud of. Since 1993 SRTF has provided scholarship assistance to nearly 500 educators in New Jersey and surrounding states who have enrolled in Jewish-Christian Studies graduate level courses at Seton Hall. These public, private and religious school teachers and administrators have conveyed Sister Rose's message to a quarter-million elementary, middle and high school-age children, fostering understanding and cooperation among Jews, Christians and people of other religious traditions.

Over the last 25 years, we have brought lessons of tolerance and acceptance to many thousands of local citizens. We have heard from and presented honors to scholars, musicians, authors and philanthropists whose vision and motivations match our own. Our work has shined light on some of humankind's darker corners.

With these meaningful accomplishments as a base, the Sister Rose Thering Fund is poised to begin the work that will lead to an equally fulfilling second quarter century. The passion and ambitions of Sister Rose are very much with us as we take the next steps that will allow us to celebrate differences and similarities in our religious beliefs. Our objective is to engage additional communities and supporters who will make it possible for us to broaden our reach and expand our goals.

We're eager to move ahead, and in doing so, have every intention of bringing about *tikkun olam* – in Hebrew, "healing the world."

Whether you did or did not have the opportunity or honor to spend time with Sister Rose Thering during her lifetime, please take the opportunity to join us today. We welcome your ideas, your talent and your determination in developing and implementing the future of interreligious understanding.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Deborah Lerner Duane".

Deborah Lerner Duane
Chairman of the Board

IN MEMORIAM



David Altholz
1928-2017

The Board of the Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies laments the passing of our charter board member, David Altholz, in Brookline, Massachusetts on March 3, 2017. David and his wife, Julia, were both Holocaust survivors from Poland, who raised their family in South Orange and Maplewood, New Jersey, then in 1997 relocated to be with their family in Brookline. Earlier both David and Julia were

close friends with Sister Rose and champions with her for Holocaust education and building constructive inter-religious relationships free of prejudice.

When friends of Sister Rose gathered to celebrate her 50th anniversary as a Sister of St. Dominic, David suggested that her friends commit to a gift to express their admiration for her and solidarity with her work. The gift came to be a fund named in her honor to continue and expand her work to promote mutual respect, understanding, and religious tolerance through community advocacy and teacher education in Jewish-Christian Studies. David and Julia continued as life-long supporters for what has come to be the Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies.

We mourn the loss of our dear friend, charter board member, and advocate. We extend our deepest condolences to Julia Altholz and their family.

The Sister Rose Thering Fund Turns 25!



Elie Weisel and Sister Rose, wearing the necklace that became the symbol of her mission.

“Remember to celebrate milestones as you prepare for the road ahead.” In the spirit of these wise words from Nelson Mandela, the year ahead for the Sister Rose Thering Fund, will be one long celebration of a special milestone in our history marking 25 years of fostering interreligious understanding and cooperation through advocacy and education. Little did friends of Sister Rose imagine so many years ago how the road ahead would unfold as they gathered to celebrate a major milestone in her life, her 50th Jubilee as a Racine Dominican nun. In so honoring her life and accomplishments, the seeds of a legacy were planted and gave rise to the Fund that bears her name today. Together with Sister Rose, these friends imagined a world without religious prejudice, and have worked with all their hearts for 25 years to bring this vision closer to reality.

So, let the celebrations begin! Starting September 2017 and running through

the gala celebration of our 25th Annual Evening of Roses in June 2018, the crowning event of the year, a busy calendar of events is planned. Susan Feinstein and Melinda Hanlon, Co-Chairs of the SRTF 25th Anniversary Committee, have been planning for several months to prepare for this momentous occasion.

A new logo for this milestone has been created and was unveiled for the first time at the Evening of Roses program this past May (See logo backpage.) The logo will be seen throughout the anniversary year on all communication and other SRTF materials. The symbol of the Cross, intertwined with the Star of David, was precious to Sister Rose, and meaningfully speaks of the vision of the Fund.

Looking to engage the Seton Hall student population in the message of Sister Rose and to re-energize the mission of the Fund across the University community, the academic year will kick off in the early fall with a screening of the film, *Sister Rose's Passion*, accompanied by a talk by



Cross and Star of David necklace created for and worn by Sister Rose.

Luna Kaufman, Holocaust survivor and SRTF Chairman Emerita and discussion. Students will be encouraged to be proactive and seek ways in service projects or other efforts to put the message of Sister Rose into action.

After that, the fall gets busy with a number of other special programs and events. Please see the calendar highlights on page 10. We hope there is something for everyone to help us celebrate this important milestone.

Our website, www.shu.edu/go/sisterrose, will be the go-to place for all the latest and greatest information and calendar for program and events happening throughout the yearlong celebration. It will also feature many interesting articles each month highlighting significant moments and people in our 25 year history. Other programs not mentioned here are planned so please bookmark the site now so you don't miss a single exciting thing!

Inspired and hopeful about a wonderful anniversary year and the good that it will yield for the Fund, Melinda and Susan commented, “Our 25th anniversary offers us all the opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the last 25 years as we look forward to continuing the legacy of Sister Rose of *tikkun olam*, healing the world.”

All of these celebrations will help us to prepare for the road ahead, the next 25 years. With your help and support, the legacy and dream of Sister Rose will have a long and fruitful life! We look forward to sharing this anniversary year with you!

Interested in volunteering to assist us with our exciting 25th anniversary programs? We'd love to have you join us! Call 973-761-9006 or e-mail srtf@shu.edu.

Dr. Marcia Robbins Wilf Lecture

“Can we all get along?” An important question that many seem to be asking in these turbulent times and one that a panel of three guest speakers explored from a Christian, Jewish and Muslim perspective at the Sixth Annual Dr. Marcia Robbins Wilf Lecture held on November 6 this past fall.



From left to right: Joseph Montville, Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz, Dr. Marcia Robbins Wilf, Anisa Mehdi and David Bossman.

With hopes of reaching greater understanding through dialogue, each speaker reflected on ways and attitudes that could help foster acceptance and even celebration of our differences so that we might all, in fact, get along. The panel of speakers included Joseph Montville, Director, Program on Healing Historical Memory for the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University; Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz, Temple B’Nai Abraham in Livingston and Anisa Mehdi, Emmy award-winning correspondent, director and producer.

As each speaker reflected on how to move beyond dialogue to action that individuals can take to contribute toward healing, themes emerged rooted in the tenets of all three of the religious faiths represented. Citing different references from the Bible, Torah and Qur’an, guests were invited to consider ideas that are echoed across all of these faith traditions such as “welcoming the stranger”; “to be *rodef shalom*, to be seekers of peace and to advance interreligious understanding”; “to learn to do good, seek justice, aid the oppressed...” (*NJ Jewish News*, November 10, Robert Wiener)

At the end of the presentations, guests attending the lecture in Jubilee Hall Auditorium were invited to enter into

Atrium, which was sponsored and hosted through the generosity of Dr. Marcia Robbins Wilf.

the dialogue by asking questions of the panel. David Bossman, Executive Director of the Sister Rose Thering Fund, who moderated the panel discussion, summed up the program with a final question, “Don’t we all have a stake in effectively coming to grips with how best to live safely and work effectively for a better society?” Following the program, attendees continued the conversation at a reception in the Jubilee

Plan to join us!

SEVENTH ANNUAL DR. MARCIA ROBBINS WILF LECTURE



Featuring Guest Speaker Ambassador Dennis Ross

*William Davidson Distinguished Fellow
Counselor
The Washington Institute for Near East Policy*

**NOVEMBER 12, 2017 • 3:00 PM
JUBILEE HALL AUDITORIUM
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY**

Light reception to follow

Visit www.shu.edu/go/sisterrose for program details and to register
Admission is free

Evening of Roses



Friends and supporters of the Sister Rose Thering Fund gathered for the 24th time to celebrate, commemorate and honor the contributions of four special people at the annual Evening of Roses Gala held on May 1, 2017 at Jubilee Hall. Reverend Lawrence Frizzell, Director of the Graduate Program in Jewish-Christian Studies was presented with *The Sister Rose Thering Fund Award in Jewish-Christian Understanding*. Three friends and former Board members who celebrated milestone birthdays this past year, Hattie Segal, Luna Kaufman and Pearl Randall Lehrhoff, were recognized for their dedication and long-time commitment to the Fund. This major fundraiser is the highlight of the organizations calendar and benefits the scholarship fund used to provide full tuition scholarships to graduate students in Jewish-Christian studies who are teacher-scholars from elementary and high schools across the state.

Using words like “moving” and “touching”, guests who attended the day’s event sensed the spirit of Sr. Rose alive and present which echoed in the lives and contributions of the honorees and the messages of the invited speakers and performers. The commitment to her legacy seemed to fill all the attendees with a true sense of hope that a world without religious prejudice is possible and worth the continued fight. Having personally known Sister Rose herself, Dr. Mary Meehan, Interim President of Seton Hall University, welcomed all the guests and thanked them for their continued support of the Fund and the Jewish-Christian studies program. In their remarks, both she and Dr. Peter Shoemaker, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, confirmed the importance of this program to the life and history of the university.

Board Chairman Emeritus, Bob Werbel, presented the three women honorees, all founding members of the SRTF, with framed certificates of recognition. Cantor Perry Fine of Temple Beth Shalom performed a beautiful musical interlude with a moving and powerful rendition of the songs *Jerusalem* and the *Impossible Dream*. Leading up to the presentation of the award for Father



Honorees: from l to r: Father Frizzell, Beth Branigan and her mother Pearl Randall Lehrhoff, Susan Feinstein (accepted for Luna Kaufman) and Richard and Poppy Segal (Accepting for Hattie Segal, her son Richard and his wife Poppy)

Frizzell, three of his former and current students provided testimonials about the influence he has been in their lives. Miki Fine, Board member, master’s program graduate and wife of Cantor Perry along with students Kibwe Miller and Derrick Edmundson, paid tribute to a beloved Professor and friend.

We were particularly delighted that Amy-Jill Levine, University Professor at Vanderbilt University, came specially from Nashville to honor Father Frizzell. She rallied the audience with her enthusiasm for the work of Jewish-Christian studies, remembering Sister Rose and praising Father Frizzell for his years of academic service to the Graduate Program of Jewish Christian Studies. Monsignor Anthony Ziccardi, SRTF trustee and Vice President for Mission and Ministry at SHU, made the award citation for Father Frizzell, which also included a congratulatory message from his sister who lives in Canada. Dr. David Bossman, Fund Executive Director, also announced that a scholarship would be named in his honor and awarded during the 2017/2018 academic year.

In his talk, Father Frizzell gave a valuable account of the history of the graduate program in Jewish-Christian Studies at Seton Hall from the time of its founding. Naming the various professors since its initiation in 1974, he described the teamwork that stands behind the initiative to provide a unique inter-religious graduate program that Seton Hall University can be proud to host.

Continuing the journey toward a world without religious prejudice...

In testimony to the celebration of Father Frizzell's life-long achievements in Jewish-Christian studies, the audience was religiously diverse and represented a wide spectrum of young and old, long-time supporters as well as recent students.

Delighted with the program's success, Program Committee Co-Chair's, Marilyn Rosenbaum and Ann Burgmeyer, who also hosted the program, reflected on the day.

"With more than a year of planning, the 24th Evening of Roses was a monumental event with many challenges and unexpected turns up until the start. Despite a marathon race in New York City that literally trapped two of our major speakers hours before the program was to begin, the day progressed brilliantly. We can truly say it was both an ecumenical and historical occasion that would have made Sister Rose proud. We literally had centuries of extraordinary achievement represented by three outstanding volunteers and a beloved professor who live the mission of the Sister Rose Thering Fund. As the event unfolded, we looked back upon lives well lived and looked forward to the future through the words and works of outstanding luminaries and scholars.

Marilyn Rosenbaum and I were honored to have played a role in this celebration of achievement."

The program ended with the grand "reveal" of a new commemorative logo in anticipation of the 25th anniversary of the Sister Rose Thering Fund in 2018. Ann and Marilyn, joined by Susan Feinstein and Melinda Hanlon, Co-Chairs of the 25th Anniversary Committee, unveiled the new logo created for this special milestone.

After the conclusion of the formal program, guests enjoyed a reception upstairs in the Atrium where they could offer their personal congratulations to the honorees. Many of Father Frizzell's past and current students surrounded him for photos and conversation to commemorate a special person and teacher on his special day.

If anyone would like to contribute to the Father Lawrence Frizzell Scholarship, please use the enclosed reply envelope for your donations or visit our website at www.shu.edu/go/sisterrose to make a secure credit card donation.



Father Frizzell surrounded by current and former students who came out to honor and celebrate with him.

Essay Winners/Scholarship Recipients

(continued from page 1)

to the SRTF. Teacher-scholars received a certificate recognizing their sponsored scholarship and had the opportunity to thank the scholarship donors personally who attended the reception. Sponsored scholarship donors were also acknowledged, thanked, and presented with certificates as well.

Keynote speaker for the program, Dr. Peter Shoemaker, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at SHU, delivered a message that reached all parts of the wide audience attending. Although never having met Sister Rose, he spoke of “meeting” her through the film and her work which carries on today through the high school students and teacher-scholars, the Board and all who seek to bring her vision of a world without religious prejudice to fruition at Seton Hall and beyond.

Luna Kaufman, SRTF Board Chairman Emerita and Holocaust survivor, also

spoke to the guests. Teacher-scholars received an autographed copy of her book, *Luna’s Life, A Journey of Forgiveness and Triumph*, in addition to their certificates. Having been good friends with Sister Rose for many years, Luna spoke of the impact that Sister Rose had on her life and how it continues to inspire the work she does on behalf of the cause and the Fund. Her words also moved the attendees when speaking a bit about her Holocaust survival experience.

After the formal program completed, all the honorees and guests enjoyed a delectable Venetian table of desserts of all kinds. SRTF Board member Susan Feinstein chaired the reception. All gathered for the program had the opportunity to mingle and meet one another and continue the conversation about the importance of the mission of SRTF and how “agents of peace” are needed in today’s world now more than ever!



Scholarship recipients 2016/17

Applications for
scholarships are available on our website,
www.shu.edu/go/sisterrose

2017 ESSAY WINNERS

GRADE 9

Amy Wahba
First Place
Bayonne High School

Maya Bidiak
Second Place
Mother Seton Regional High School

Emily Lescano
Honorable Mention
Mother Seton Regional High School

Samuel Jaskolski
Honorable Mention
Immaculata High School

GRADE 10

Melissa Ouhocine
First Place
Bayonne High School

Rachel Zegler
Second Place
Immaculate Conception High School

Tiffany Cortez
Honorable Mention
Immaculate Conception High School

Victoria Silverman
Honorable Mention
Mother Seton Regional High School

GRADE 11

Meaghan O’Connor
First Place
Immaculata High School

Alexa Char
Second Place
Pascack Hills High School

Anna Holland
Honorable Mention
Mother Seton Regional High School

Timothy Belden
Honorable Mention
Pascack Hills High School

GRADE 12

Chloe Georges
Tied for First Place
Paul the VI High School

Julia Melao
Tied for First Place
Arthur L. Johnson High School

Sofia Ciprian
Honorable Mention
Immaculate Heart Academy

Christian Bryson
Honorable Mention
Immaculata High School

The Sister Rose Thering Fund Teacher/Scholars

The following educators in the Sister Rose Thering Fund program in Jewish-Christian Studies have been awarded sponsored scholarships during this academic year. Generous individuals from the Board of Trustees and the community at large have donated funding to cover tuition for a single course for each student thereby furthering the legacy of Sister Rose Thering of understanding and cooperation among Christian, Jews and people of other religions through education.

FALL 2016

EDWARD AHEARN
Religious School Teacher
*Jewish-Christian Foundations
For Social Service*
Sister Rose Thering Scholarship

MICHAEL DURANTE
Math, Science 7th grade teacher,
Jersey City
*Jewish-Christian Foundations
For Social Service*
Hattie and Arnold Segal Scholarship

DERRICK EDMUNDSON
Administration,
Irvington Middle Schools
Christian-Jewish Encounter
Dr. Marcia Robbins Wilf Scholarship

DERRICK GIBBS
Teaching Assistant, East Orange
Christian-Jewish Encounter
Sister Rose Thering Scholarship

JANICE LINGAD-THABET
Religious School Teacher
Christian-Jewish Encounter
Deborah and Daniel Duane
Scholarship

KAREN POMERANTZ
2nd Grade, Paterson
Lessons from the Holocaust
Curt C. and Else Silberman
Scholarship

JOHN THOMPSON
Special Education Teacher, Newark
Christian-Jewish Encounter
Sister Rose Thering Scholarship

SPRING 2017

CATHERINE ALVAREZ
School Nurse, Paramus
Values for a Pluralistic Society
Curt C. and Else Silberman
Scholarship

MARISSA CALFAYAN
Resource/English Teacher,
Hackensack
Values for a Pluralistic Society
Curt C. and Else Silberman
Scholarship

LORI CHELBORG RAMOS
School Nurse, Asbury Park
Biblical Thought II: Paul & John
Alan and Carol Silberstein Scholarship

DANIEL EXCELLENT
Personal Finance Teacher, Hackensack
Values for a Pluralistic Society
Curt C. and Else Silberman
Scholarship

JAMES HARRIS
Teacher,
Paramus Catholic High School
*Peace and War in Bible and Jewish
Tradition*
Luna Kaufman 90th Birthday
Scholarship

JANICE LINGAD-THABET
Religious School Teacher
*Peace and War in Bible and
Jewish Tradition*
Scholarship Donated by Susan
Feinstein & Hattie Segal

JERYL MAGLIO
Seton Hall University Senior
Values for a Pluralistic Society
Curt C. and Else Silberman
Scholarship

KAREN POMERANTZ
2nd Grade, Paterson
Values for a Pluralistic Society
Curt C. and Else Silberman
Scholarship

Keeping Sr. Rose's legacy alive

A world without religious prejudice. Understanding and cooperation among Jews, Christians and people of all religious traditions. Planting seeds of respect and acceptance in the hearts of the young through education. You can continue the legacy of Sr. Rose Thering to teach and touch the hope of the future – our children.

Change the future. Become a Scholarship Sponsor!

The Sister Rose Thering Fund welcomes contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations interested in creating scholarships for teachers enrolled in Seton Hall's Jewish-Christian Studies program. Donor opportunities include:

- Endowment opportunities for ongoing scholarship assistance \$50,000
- Full-year or one-semester scholarships named for donors or in memory/honor of loved ones: \$7,200 full year, \$3,600 one semester
- Partial one-semester scholarships \$1,800

Our scholarship sponsors and donors are invited to the SRTF annual Scholarship Presentation event to meet our teacher-scholars and hear their inspiring stories and educational experiences.

To be a sponsor, please complete the attached Pledge Envelope. Secure credit card donations can be accepted on-line at www.shu.edu/go/sisterrose.

For other types of donations (stock, etc.) please call the SRTF Office at 973-761-9006.

A Living Legacy

Sometimes on our journey through life, we are fortunate to cross paths with special people who influence the course of our lives in unexpected and lasting ways. The enduring friendship that formed between Sister Rose Thering, O.P. and Hattie Segal would not only unite them in a common bond to root out religious prejudice but would also plant deep roots for a mission that will bear fruit long into the future.



As founding members of Congregation Beth El in South Orange, Hattie and her late husband Arnold could hardly have realized how this would prepare them to be founding members of another important organization until they met Sister Rose Thering. This happy and life-changing encounter occurred when Sister Rose came to speak at Congregation Beth El and the rest, as they say, "is history!" Hattie and Sister Rose became lasting friends and Hattie became one of the founding members of what would become known as The Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University. Hattie actively served on its Board of Trustees until "retiring" in 2016 and now remains a member of the SRTF Advisory Council.

This past year was a special one and a busy one for Hattie as she celebrated her 100th birthday in October 2016! She was among the honorees at the 24th Annual Evening of Roses Gala on May 1, 2017 in recognition of her tireless commitment and dedication to the work of SRTF. So committed, in fact, is Hattie to the vision of a world without religious prejudice, she decided to leave a lasting legacy to ensure that this work can continue. Through her extreme generosity, The Hattie and Arnold Segal Endowed

Fellowship Fund was established in November 2016. Seeding the endowment with \$50,000, the fellowship fund will support K-12 teachers in public, private or religious affiliated schools who wish to study at Seton Hall University through the Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish-Christian Studies. Teacher-scholars can receive fellowship assistance to take up to four graduate courses in Jewish-Christian studies.

Given to honor the memory of her dear friend, Sister Rose, the endowment provides enduring fellowship support for the program which bears her friend's name and which is focused on interreligious dialogue, tolerance and respect. Surely a gift that will continue to give and touch the lives of students for generations to come in a world so desperately in need of peace and acceptance.

If you or someone you know would like to create a fellowship endowment for the Sister Rose Thering Fund in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact us at the SRTF Office at Seton Hall at 973-761-9006 or send an e-mail to srtf@shu.edu. We also invite friends and donors to consider giving the gift of an annual sponsored scholarship of \$3600 in honor of or in memory of a loved one. This named scholarship will provide a full tuition scholarship for one of our SRTF teacher-scholars for one semester. Donors are invited to meet their scholarship recipient at our annual spring reception in Celebration of Education.

Thank you, Hattie, for the gift of this wonderful fellowship but most especially for the gift that you are to the Sister Rose Thering Fund!

25th Anniversary Program Highlights

Fall 2017

- Campus Screening of Sister Rose's Passion – TBA
- Rabbi Ron Kronish Book Tour – September 13 @ 3PM, Chancellor's Suite
- Annual Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture – October 26 @ 7:30PM, location TBA
- Concert for Peace, October 27 @ 8 PM, NJPAC
- Seventh Annual Dr. Marcia Robbins Wilf Lecture – November 12 @ 3 PM, Jubilee Hall

Winter 2018

- Evening of Peace Interfaith Gathering – January 21
- Annual High School Essay Competition – runs January – March

Spring 2018

- Celebration of Education Reception – April 29 @ 2PM, University Center for Essay Competition Winners, SRTF Scholarship Recipients and Donors
- Holocaust Remembrance Day – April 12
- Sister Rose's Yahrzeit – May 6
- 25th Annual Evening of Roses Gala – June TBA

Be sure to check our website for more details throughout the year and plan to join us!

DISCOVER THE BENEFITS OF
Giving Wisely

Did you know there are creative ways to sustain the mission of Sister Rose Thering? Such giving techniques are called “planned gifts,” because with thoughtful planning, you create win-win solutions for you and the Sister Rose Thering Fund.

Bequest– Include the Sister Rose Thering Fund in your will or living trust. Make your bequest unrestricted or direct it to a specific purpose. Indicate a specific amount or a percentage of the balance remaining in your estate or trust. Donations are fully exempt from federal estate tax. Plus, you control your assets until the time of your death.

Gift of Retirement Assets– Designate the Sister Rose Thering Fund to receive all or a portion of the assets held in your retirement plan. Contact the plan custodian or account holder about a TOD (Transfer on Death) or beneficiary designation form. Avoid the potential double taxation your retirement savings would face if you designated these savings to your heirs. Here, too, you retain control of the assets until the time of your death.

Charitable Gift Annuity– A rare financial vehicle that provides you with lifetime income and an immediate tax deduction, while ultimately benefitting the Sister Rose Thering Fund. The guaranteed interest rate payable increases with the age of the donor.

Please also visit www.shu.edu/plannedgiving for comprehensive information and wonderful donor stories demonstrating the impact of their planned gift.

To learn more, please contact Joseph Guasconi, J.D., Senior Director, Principal Gifts and Gift Planning at 973-378-9850 joseph.guasconi@shu.edu or Nora Nasif Rahaim, Associate Director, Planned Giving and Major Gifts at 973-378-9878, nora.rahaim@shu.edu.

The Sister Rose Thering Fund Board of Trustees

2016-2017 Officers

**Deborah Lerner Duane, *Chairman* • Susan Feinstein, *Vice Chairman*
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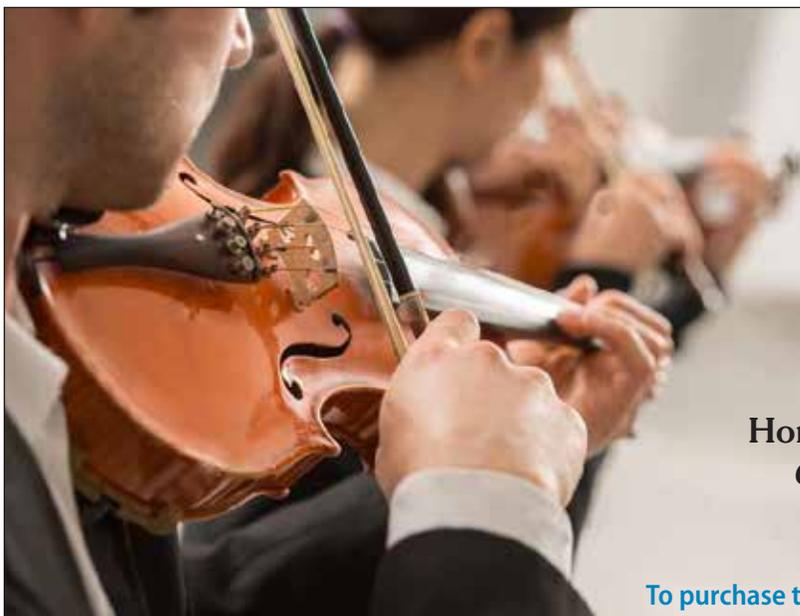
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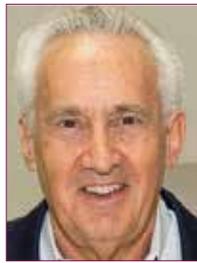
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Bob Woog – Currently Bob is a Managing Director at Transcom International and brings with him over 45 years of operating management experience in tele-

communications, a significant portion of which has been spent in international projects in Asia, Europe, Latin America, Canada, Africa and the Middle East. Along with his vast business experience, Bob also has a personal interest and involvement in interreligious understanding, which will serve the mission of SRTF well.

Cherelle Tolor, Esq.

– Cherelle is an attorney who currently serves as the Human Resources Manager for the Irvington Board of Education. Previously, she worked as an attorney in the Newark Municipal Court Prosecutor's Office as well as the Superior Court of New Jersey. Her interest and experience in education coupled with her desire to educate and empower individuals and communities without consideration of their race, class, gender and/or religious affiliation will make her an asset to the SRTF Board.



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SRTF NEWSLETTER

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