

“Remember that you are a unique person who has a role to play. You are not put on this Earth to take up space.”



MaryEve Corrigan

{Teacher, Columbus Academy}

Although MaryEve Corrigan has been teaching school since 1970, she can't remember a time when she ever wanted to quit. "I clearly remember my options as a high school and college student," she says. "I could become a teacher, a nurse or a secretary. I chose teaching because I had been tutoring kids in the neighborhood since fourth grade."

As a teacher, Corrigan uses her science curriculum to introduce her students to a wide variety of career options. For instance, earlier this year she expanded her study of the lives of scientists to focus exclusively on women in science and technology. The feedback from her students was amazing. "Girls spoke about the importance of learning about role models and knowing that women can succeed, and boys spoke about gaining a new understanding of women in science and technology, especially the inventors and the current researchers," Corrigan says.

Today, Corrigan is excited about engaging her students in ways that allow them to see science as an integral part of their lives. "Sixth grade is the ideal time to encourage students to pursue their interests that might lead to career choices," she says.

Like everyone, Corrigan's professional life has not been without the occasional challenge. She recalls a time in the late 1980s when she felt trapped in being categorized as a lower school teacher. She wanted to teach Middle School and knew that she had to make a change. So strong were her convictions that she did not sign her contract to return the following year. She was ready to look for a science position in another school, even though she loved being part of the Academy community. In the end, she was granted the opportunity she'd been hoping for—to develop a hands-on science program for the Middle School at Academy. What kept her going? "My conviction that I had the courage to make a change," she says.

As Corrigan reflects on her career in education, she can point to many memorable accomplishments. She is proud of her students who have followed their interests in science and who kept in touch to remind her of the sixth-grade experiences that allowed them to pursue those interests. She's also pleased to have students who received recognition from NASA and Toshiba/NSTA (National Science Teachers Association) ExploraVision for their work as Middle School students. And finally, she is delighted to participate and

Places To Shop

Clintonville, Short North,
German Village

Restaurants

Smith's Deli, Mozart's Cafe,
Schmidt's, Der Dutchman

For Entertainment

Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre,
Southern Theatre

Place To Relax

Franklin Park Conservatory

Place To Take Visitors

Franklin Park Conservatory,
Park of Roses, North Market,
Columbus Museum of Art,
Columbus Topiary Park,
Columbus Zoo, Easton Town
Center, Polaris Fashion Mall

Columbus
Area
Favorites

lead a faculty/staff S.E.E.D. (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) seminar, which is now in its twentieth year.

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Viewpoints

Best advice for boosting confidence:

"Step back to look at the larger picture. Sometimes we get so caught up in the minute details of the moment that we lose perspective."

Community passion:

"I am passionate about neighborhoods. For example, the Clintonville Community Resources Center provides opportunities to give back to the local community. I anticipate being able to spend time doing more than contributing, if I ever retire. At the moment, my efforts include supporting the St. Vincent de Paul Society of my parish, Immaculate Conception Church."

What she loves most about Columbus:

"I love the diversity, the friendliness, the open-mindedness, and the neighborly feeling of living in Columbus. I have lived in Clintonville since the late '60s. I can shop at farmers markets in Clintonville or Worthington or go to the North Market. I walk to the Whetstone Library. I enjoy the Metro Parks, outdoor concerts at Whetstone Park of Roses and plays at Schiller Park."

Craziest passion:

"I enjoy traveling the back roads to look behind the scenes. I love to learn the history of place, how places were settled, and how architecture tells stories through materials and design. I love to learn about the geology and geography of a place as a way of understanding it."

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COLUMBUS



Number of years teaching tomorrow's leaders

As a Columbus Academy teacher since 1976, MaryEve Corrigan has been inspiring young minds longer than any other female faculty member in our school's 100-year history.

We proudly salute MaryEve's unwavering passion for science, her endless caring for others, and her capable leadership by example. She is a shining example of how Columbus Academy emphasizes the development of each student's mind, body and character.

To learn more about admissions in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 at our coed independent school, please call (614) 509-2220 to schedule a tour.

PreK & Kindergarten Open House
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Admissions Open House
(For All Grades PreK-12)
Sunday, December 4
2:00-4:00 p.m.



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COLUMBUS ACADEMY

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Viewpoint

Image by Shreeta Fisher Davis

DIABETES T

The Davis Family

{Lynnda, Brittany, Stephanie and Cassie Davis}

As Lynnda Maria Davis and her daughters, Brittany and Cassie, position themselves on the family couch, it's obvious that they are a close family. Not only do they laugh and joke with ease, but they are clearly supportive of each other in both word and deed. In fact, the only thing missing this Saturday morning is Stephanie, the middle Davis sibling. She is an undergraduate student at The Ohio State University and currently studying abroad in New South Wales, Australia.

In almost no time at all, it is clear that giving back to the community is engrained in the Davis women. "I cannot think of a time when it did not occur to me that I should get out of my house or leave my job and attempt to aid my community," Lynnda says. "I have always strived to be a cheerful servant and a role model for my daughters. Now it is part of our family culture."

That culture started when the girls were quite young and they created an organization called HGOC (Helping Girls of California). With their mother's help, they gathered old toys and delivered them to a home for homeless and abused children. The girls also made holiday cards to pass out to senior citizens at their grandmother's nursing home. And not long ago when the family traveled to Florida during the holidays, they took time out of their vacation to participate in a Christmas gift wrapping volunteer effort with the Red Cross. But make no mistake. The Davis women can flex a big muscle when it comes to aiding the community. And while

the many cities they've lived in have benefited from their generosity, the Columbus community is now the center of their commitment. Since arriving here 4 ½ years ago, Lynnda's contributions have been far-reaching. She co-chaired the Key to the Cure event two years in a row; co-chaired the Columbus Metropolitan Library's annual fundraiser; sat on the 2008 Columbus Cultural Arts Commission; became one of the founding members of United Way's Women's Leadership Council; recently helped to organize the Center for Healthy Families inaugural Bridge Builders Event and is a member of the Wexner Center for the Arts Donor Circle. She also volunteers on the following local boards: Ohio Higher Education Facility Commission, STAR (Stress Trauma and Resilience) at OSU, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the Columbus College of Art & Design.

This tradition of giving back to the community started years ago, primarily after Lynnda made a conscious decision to abandon her professional career. "I did not want a career that competed with raising my children and that competed with my husband's career," she explains. "Family life was more important to me than anything else." Even though Lynnda has an MBA from Northwestern University, she decided to trade her career for family and community. After making significant career contributions to companies like Quaker Oats, Kraft General Foods, AT&T and eventually her own entrepreneurial venture, an interior design studio and

Places To Shop
LYNND: I prefer smaller boutiques like Henri Bendel for jewelry.
BRITTANY: DSW, Voodoo Denim Lounge
STEPHANIE: Urban Outfitters, Francesca's Collections, Anthropologie
CASSIE: Forever 21

Restaurants
LYNND: Bob Evans, Tora
BRITTANY: Mimi's Café, Lindey's
STEPHANIE: Blue Danube
CASSIE: Jeni's Ice Cream

For Entertainment
LYNND: My house
BRITTANY: Short North
STEPHANIE: Arena District and Gallery Hop
CASSIE: Skate Zone 71

Place to Take Visitors
LYNND: Short North
BRITTANY: Easton
STEPHANIE: The Ohio State University
CASSIE: Easton

home furnishings store, Lynnda decided to focus all of her knowledge and experience on family and community. But Lynnda had been dipping her toes in philanthropic efforts long before relocating to Columbus. In fact, one of her lifelong passions is mental illness research, which is her way of honoring her mother who suffered from a lifelong,

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severe mental health disorder. While living in California, she served on the board of directors of the Brain Imaging Center at UC-Irvine and volunteered her time with NARSAD, the world's largest fundraiser for mental health research. More recently, she led the organization through a three-year rebranding effort that, among other things, re-named the organization as the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation. When the girls were younger, she volunteered as a Girl Scout troop leader and served on the Northern Illinois Regional Girl Scouts Board. And through the years, Lynnda has volunteered countless hours in the schools where her children attended, often tackling what she calls the "indispensable job of classroom mom." "If you want your children to be involved in education and love it, you have to be involved in it and love it," she says.

While the family's philanthropic efforts have mainly been focused on the performing arts, scientific health research, improving life for girls and women, education-related causes and faith-based initiatives, a recent change

Clearly, Lynnda has set the stage for her girls, and they are wasting no time carrying on the Davis philanthropic tradition. Brittany, 26, is a marketing analyst at Nationwide Insurance, but already she has a history of giving back. She was a member of the steering committee for the 2009 Columbus Metropolitan Library event, and she volunteered for the Homework Help Center. She served on the ticket sales committee for the Women's Fund annual Keyholder Event, and she is a local supporter of the YWCA, Life Care Alliance and JDRF.

But Brittany's eyes light up when she talks about her involvement with the Harmony Project Choir. "I was looking for a way to sing because it's so much fun," she explains. "But the purpose of this choir is also to serve." The Harmony Project benefits the community by bringing professional musicians and experienced singers together from all ages and all walks of life. Together they inspire others through their performances while also giving back through various community service projects.

Cassie is a sixth-grade student at Columbus Academy who likes to dance, play basketball and make videos. For the past two years, she has helped serve Bob Evans breakfasts to the Pelotonia riders during their annual fundraising event, and this year she will participate for the second time in the JDRF Walk for the Cure. She hopes to lead a bigger team for this year's walk. "I also like to help with things that my parents do, like cleaning up the house for a fundraiser," she says.

Like their mother, the Davis girls wear many hats—student, employee, community volunteer and family member. They have grown up in an environment that places a huge emphasis on community and helping others. But they also make time for fun, friends and family. "I hope I gave my girls a role model that indicates that you are not one piece. You are a person with many components and skills," Lynnda says. "As women, we have to intrinsically feel good about the fact that all these things we are doing have a purpose—even if no one is handing us a paycheck or giving us an award."

Viewpoints

Craziest Passions

LYNND: "Massages"

BRITTANY: "Singing with the Harmony Project Choir"

STEPHANIE: "I love making arts and crafts and purchasing items that others have made."

CASSIE: "Making cupcakes!"

Stephanie, 21, is studying psychology and fine arts at OSU. She plans to attend graduate school and obtain a master's degree in social work with an emphasis on counseling. In addition to her studies, she also participates in the OSU Women's Glee Club and works as a part-time nanny. Stephanie also participates in research at the OSU Medical Center under the leadership of

Mary Fristad, Ph.D. In this role, she works with children suffering from various mental illnesses in hopes of finding a cure for their symptoms. But Stephanie also carries on the Davis women tradition of helping the community. She taught Sunday School at her church, works with the JDRF, and always tries to give back during the holidays.

in their lives is bringing a new effort into focus. Eleven-year-old Cassie was recently diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, and understandably, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) is their new passion. Lynnda will serve on the JDRF board of directors. "I will work hard to make sure the money goes where it should go, which is researching to find a cure," she says.