

# LANCER LIFE

*Salpointe's newsletter for alumni, parents and friends*



**March 2021**



## **President's**

### **Message**

Dear Salpointe community,

Our Lancer students are back on campus for in person learning! For the first time since March 13, 2020, our campus is fully alive as students and faculty begin to taste what "normal" may soon feel like again. Our teachers and classrooms are ready for business and we look forward to fully re-engaging our award-winning fine and performing arts, competitive athletics, faith-strengthening ministry offerings and fun student activities programs.

I am so proud of the courage and resilience of our students. [Continue reading...](#)

## CATCHING UP WITH

# Alex Flanagan



Lancer alumna **Alexandra Wystrach Flanagan '89** recently answered questions about her experience as a Lancer and how her time at Salpointe impacted her life and career. After graduating from Salpointe and the University of Arizona, Alex worked as a sports broadcaster with the NFL Network and NBC for over 25 years, covering the 2009 Super Bowl, five Olympic Games and countless professional and college football games. Her job required time management, independence and flexibility, skills that Alex attributes to her time at Salpointe and growing up on a ranch.

Alex and her five siblings (Andrea '86, Audrey '86, Amie '93, Mark '98 and Mike '98) grew up on a cattle ranch in Sonoita, AZ, where their parents still own and run The Steak Out Restaurant. She remembers having a different upbringing than other students at Salpointe. Ranch living was isolating, but the Wystrach kids had each other and kept busy helping out at the restaurant and on the ranch.

Alex, who had skipped ahead in elementary school and started high school at age twelve, came from a very small middle school and knew almost no one at Salpointe beyond her two older sisters. She quickly became involved, despite the challenges of living so far away. Alex was a member of Student Council and was on the pom team for three years before playing basketball her senior year where her real exposure to the world of sports began.

Alex was inducted into Salpointe's Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame in 2017 and is now Senior Vice President, Partner and Head of Women's Growth at the Familie Sports Marketing and Talent Agency in Cardiff by the Sea, California.

[Please enjoy Lancer Life's conversation with Alex Flanagan.](#)

## CAMPUS NEWS



### Creativity Across Campus

Lancers joined teachers and students across the globe who turned to technology for remote education during the pandemic. Fostering a spirit of creativity across campus, teachers found new approaches to help their students learn and stay engaged. Whether it's writing poetry based on paint colors, baking cookies in chemistry or harnessing technology in music, teachers are paving the way for students to stay engaged through creativity and innovation. [Read more here.](#)



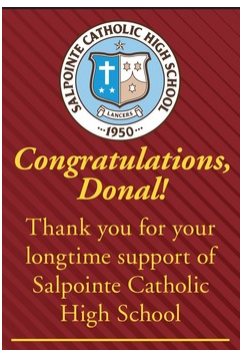
### You're Invited to the Lancer Luau on March 27!

Join the Salpointe community for a delicious Hawaiian meal to-go while supporting the vital work of the Salpointe Catholic Education Foundation! Buy raffle tickets and take your chance to win three specialty baskets filled with goodies and one-of-a-kind experiences in Tucson and Southern Arizona! The deadline to purchase tickets is March 16. For more information, visit [www.salpointe.org/lancerluau](http://www.salpointe.org/lancerluau).



### Academic Committee Welcomes New Members

Salpointe's Academic Committee welcomes six new members and looks forward to learning from their expertise. Thanks to Bruce Bayly, Martin Dufwenberg, Brian Luce, Rafael Meza, Sonia Shiri and Aida Samuel! [Read more about the new members here.](#)



### Salpointe Salutes Tucson's Man of the Year

Congratulations to Donal Drayne who was named Tucson's Man of the Year by Greater Tucson Leadership. He is a longtime supporter of Salpointe. Although Donal has retired from the Westin La Paloma Resort and Spa after a 40-plus year career in the hospitality industry, he's as active as ever volunteering for a number of organizations near and dear to his heart. [Read the full article here.](#)



### Board of Directors Member Publishes Book

Salpointe Board of Directors member and past parent, Philip Lacovara, recently published his first non-fiction book, *The Mariner and the Monk*. It tells the true story of a Benedictine monk who is now a Servant of God and on the road to sainthood. [Read more.](#)



### Five Lancers Named Top 20 Sports Figures of 2020

*Arizona Daily Star* named the top 20 sports figures of 2020, including five Lancer alumni and coaches. Included on the list are basketball coach Jim Reynolds, Bijan Robinson '20, track and cross country coach Mike Urbanski '66, volleyball coach Heather Moore-Martin and Augie Busch '94. [Read more here.](#)



### Esports Fosters Connections

Salpointe's new Esports team has fostered connection during a time of isolation and distance. In its first year, the Esports team has led to many positive outcomes for Lancer students, coaches and parents. [Continue reading.](#)



### Mike Urbanski Named Coach of the Year

**Coach Mike Urbanski '66** has been selected by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association as the 2020 girls' high school cross country Coach of the Year for the state of Arizona! This honor is based upon Coach Urbanski's leadership and the performance of the Salpointe Catholic girls' cross country team throughout the 2020 season. It reflects the hard work and dedication of the student-athletes, coaching staff, and administration of the school.

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## ALUMNI NEWS



### Joseph Rodgers '80 is Dancing in the Streets

For the past 12 years, **Joseph Rodgers '80** has been breaking down barriers to ballet for children in South Tucson. He founded the nonprofit Dancing in the Streets Arizona with money that he and his wife received as wedding gifts. Joseph was a professional ballet dancer whose career spanned 30 years, boasting stints with Ballet Arizona, Feld Ballet in New York City, Ballet Chicago and the Milwaukee Ballet. [Read more here.](#)



### Hall of Famer Named New Head Coach

Tucson Ford Dealers Aquatics, a silver medal swim club in Tucson, has named **Emma Darlington Munsch '07** as the program's new head coach. Tucson Ford has long been one of the 'golden circle' clubs in USA Swimming, producing several U.S. National Teamers and Olympians. [Read more here.](#)



### Bijan is Breaking Records

In his first season of college football, **Bijan Robinson '20** has gained attention across the country. Bijan has already broken the University of Texas record for yards per carry and led Texas to winning games. [Read more here.](#) Bijan was interviewed about how Salpointe prepared him for college and his experience in college so far. [Read the interview here.](#)



### Alum Elected as Justice of the Peace

**Alexander Ball '07** was elected Justice of the Peace in Pima County in November 2020 and began his four-year term last month. After graduating from Salpointe, Alexander earned a Bachelors in Economics, a Masters in Business Administration and JD from Georgetown Law. Congratulations, Alexander!



### From Salutatorian to Paramedic

**Jacob Arzouman '11** recently graduated from Pima College's Public Safety and Emergency Services Institute. Jacob was his class salutatorian and will be working with Northwest Fire District as a paramedic.



## Nine Lancers: Top Performers in College Football

Players from Tucson were well represented across the country. *Arizona Daily Star* featured the top local performers from the 2020 college football season. Nine of the featured players are Lancer alumni including **Bijan Robinson '20**, **Lathan Ransom '20**, **Matteo Mele '18** and **Derick Bush '18**. [Read more.](#)

*A publication of Salpointe's Advancement Department*

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