



ROSE GARDEN RESTORED

Offers Space for Reflection and Collaboration



A gentle cascade of water moves over the stone wall surrounding the statue of the Blessed Mother while students quietly pray the Rosary. Friends, sitting on wide stone benches, work intently with laptops open. Faculty and students gather to learn and collaborate beyond the confines of their classroom.

This restful, natural space forms Notre Dame's fully restored and renamed **Sister Corinne Ritchie Rose Garden**, offered as a memorial gift by Pat and Diane Croce P'97 GP'24.

The Rose Garden is an integral part of the Academy's Riley Center for STEM Education which opened in April 2019, and offers a protected learning environment with amphitheater seating, a restored statue of Saint Mary, and a landscaped grotto fountain.

"The Rose Garden is deeply ingrained in the hearts and memories of our alumnae," said Dr. Judith Dwyer, Notre Dame's Head of School. "We have taken great care to ensure that this very special place has not only been preserved, but enhanced, for the generations of students who will find inspiration in this tranquil space."

The Academy gratefully acknowledges additional support from the William B. Dietrich Foundation for the restoration project and the gift of two benches, offered in memory of Winnie Buono Atterbury '59 P'87'89 and in thanksgiving by the Class of 2019.

The Rose Garden was the setting for an October 29 recognition ceremony for Eva Kraus '20 who was a recipient of the Widener University and NBC10 High School Leadership Award. Eva was recognized for her extraordinary commitment to



Notre Dame's FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics team, the Sparks. Through this program, she has encouraged other young female students to explore and become involved in robotics and the STEM fields.