



**TACSC**  
A CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION



# The HARMONIZER

- Mediates differences between other members
- Attempts to reconcile agreements
- Relieves tension in conflict

# The FOLLOWER

- going with the movement of the group
- supports others ideas as an audience

# The ENCOURAGER

- offers contribution
- shows teamwork
- provides foundation & praise



**WE**

**GROW**

**LEADERS**





## LETTER FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

When the calendar flipped over to launch a new decade, I came to a stunning (and somewhat frightening) realization: this is now my SIXTH decade involved in Catholic youth leadership. The single-gender Summer Leadership Conferences of TACSC's predecessor organization in the 1970s have given way to today's outstanding programming. TACSC still includes the marquee leadership experience of the summer conference, and has added relevant and updated programming in single-day formats as well as rich offerings for high school students to continue on the leadership path they forged in middle school.

The evolution of TACSC has continued to bring about such improvements in the programming, while still holding dear to its mission of developing moral servant leaders to positively impact the world and its long-standing traditions of high energy, bright red binders and spirited get-togethers that can help bond young people from different backgrounds into lifelong friendships founded on a common interest. The Board of Directors now includes educators as well as administrators from multiple dioceses who

can help TACSC further refine its role in finding and developing today's young people who will be tomorrow's leaders. As always, TACSC is grateful to the funders and volunteers whose generosity makes this worthwhile pursuit possible. Here's to the Roaring 20's!

Sincerely,

**Jim Hannon,**  
President, Board of Directors



# WELCOME NEW TACSC

## BOARD MEMBERS

Kathleen Jequinto is the Development and Events Associate for the Los Angeles Music and Art School, where she manages the organization's fundraising efforts, including donor relations and securing grants for projects that provide equitable arts education for East Los Angeles youth.

Prior to joining LAMusArt, Kathleen began her career in arts education with Arts Alive, serving as the Business Development Director for eight years. Under her leadership, the school-based organization for multidisciplinary arts quadrupled its elementary school partners, serving more than 500 children weekly through low or no-cost arts instruction. At Arts Alive, Kathleen spearheaded the restructuring of critical operations including grants management, automated enrollment and client communications.

In 2018, she completed The Nonprofit Partnership Leadership Institute's annual Emerging Leaders certification, an intensive program designed to prepare the next generation of nonprofit leaders. She is also a vocalist and board member for the Esquire Music Foundation, whose mission is to inspire young musicians teaching and celebrating the Great American Songbook.



KATHLEEN

JEQUINTO



DEBORAH

LOUGHRAN

Kathleen holds a B.A. in Communication with a minor in Ethnomusicology from U.C. Santa Barbara. As a former Southern California TACSC delegate and conference leader, Kathleen takes the lessons she learned those many years ago and applies them to her personal and professional life to this day.

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Deborah Loughran began serving as the Associate Superintendent Catholic School Development at the Diocese of Orange Department of Catholic Schools in April 2019.

With a background in education and sales, Debbie has spent the last 20 years advancing Catholic education and most recently served as the Regional Director of Development for the University of Notre Dame, focusing on Southern California engagement. She works closely with Diocesan leadership, donors and volunteers to advance the mission of the Department of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Orange.

Debbie attended Rosary Academy and earned her B. A. from the University of Notre Dame. She is currently pursuing her M. A. at Chapman University. Debbie and her husband, Terry, have four children who all attended Catholic elementary and high schools in the Diocese of Orange.





# FINDING A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Sierra Morin's TACSC journey began her junior year of high school at Mayfield Senior School. She had no idea that five years later, she would still be motivated to be consistently involved, even as a junior in college. She currently attends the University of Southern California (USC) and is involved in Troy Camp—a student-run organization that provides long-term mentorship for students in South Los Angeles. Sierra was motivated to join Troy Camp at USC for two reasons: she wanted to give back to the community where she has spent 21 years of her life, and she wanted to find a similar community to TACSC.

Sierra has been a Los Angeles local her entire life and has been a part of the Trojan family for nearly as long. Her mom has worked in the USC Athletic Department for 15 years and her two older brothers graduated from USC in 2017 and 2018. It was a natural instinct to want to join an organization that gave back to the community where she grew up.

Troy Camp has also reminded her of the community of people that she met through TACSC. Both organizations aim to provide



students with leadership skills and foster personal growth, and they both helped Sierra connect those of similar values. Just as TACSC became a second home to her, Sierra has found a second home in Troy camp on the large campus that is the University of Southern California.

Sierra's home with TACSC was established at her first Summer Conference at the University of California, Irvine.

"I have never been welcomed into a community as quickly as I was welcomed by the group of people that I volunteered with that summer," she said. "TACSC has taught me what it means to be a part of a group, family or organization that strives for inclusion. Through TACSC, I became a stronger advocate for more inclusivity in daily life. My hope is to receive my doctorate as an Occupational Therapist and utilize the knowledge I received through TACSC, and many years of higher education, to become an advocate for neurodiverse students on college campuses."

"TACSC has been such a positive influence in my life, and I am so thankful to the anonymous faculty member at Mayfield Senior who recommended me to be a part of the after-school program, she said."

Ever since that Summer Conference in Irvine, Sierra has been involved in Middle School and High School Student Leadership Days, Core Leadership Team and Summer Leadership Conferences. Her plan is to continue to give as much time as she can to TACSC.



**“ THROUGH TACSC, I BECAME A STRONGER ADVOCATE FOR MORE INCLUSIVITY IN DAILY LIFE. ”**



#### QUICK FACTS ABOUT SIERRA:

- Graduated from Mayfield Senior School in 2017
- Student at University of Southern California with expected graduation in Spring 2021
- Majoring in Health and Human Sciences with a minor in Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
- Involved with USC Troy Camp since Fall 2018
- Attended Summer Conference at University of California Irvine in 2016 and at Loyola Marymount University in 2017
- Served as staff for the High School Leadership Seminar at Claremont McKenna College in 2019

PROGRAMMING UPDATE

# TACSC REACHES

# NEW AREAS



TACSC kicked off the New Year by launching new partnerships that reached 500 youth! We celebrated Catholic Schools Week, January 26 - February 1, by hosting Student Leadership Days at the Diocese of Stockton with nearly 200 students in attendance and at American Martyrs School in Manhattan Beach with nearly 300 students.



## ALUMNI CONNECT

## THROUGH SUPERBOWL AD

The TACSC curriculum has long taught about the four types of love, as expressed by the ancient Greeks. This became the theme of New York Life's Superbowl commercial, entitled "Love Takes Action." In the ad, the narrator defines *philia*, love that grows from friendship, *storge*, the love that we have for family and *eros*, romantic love. The narrator goes on to explain that the fourth kind of love, *agape*, is different. "It's the most admirable....It takes courage. Sacrifice. Strength."

Following the airing of the commercial, alumni turned to Facebook to share their appreciation to TACSC founder Marilyn Thickett for including this important message in their leadership training.



PROGRAMMING UPDATE



# CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM STARTS STRONG

Student Leadership Days have officially begun! Core Leadership Team students from partner high schools across the Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego and Phoenix areas met this fall and received training by the TACSC program team. The season started strong, serving 500 students during Catholic Schools Week. We are excited to teach our students life long skills so that they are ready to lead, learn, and succeed!



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CRITICAL PROGRAMMING

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# CONTINUING THE TACSC LEGACY

PROGRAMMING UPDATE

Since our inception in 1982, TACSC has been providing important leadership programming to help shape youth into future Catholic leaders. Now, nearly 40 years later, the next generation of students is continuing the legacy as parents bring their children to experience the TACSC magic.

Pictured above are Anna Cozzi and her daughter Lacy at Summer Conference this past year with Gene Detre, Program Director. Gene and Anna attended camp together years ago, and now they are sending their children to participate as well.

Ensure the next generation of young people has the same opportunities with TACSC that you enjoyed. Sign up your kids today or share this information with other students in your life.

## UPCOMING LEADERSHIP

## OPPORTUNITIES

- **Student Leadership Days:** Nine dates and locations in February and March. [Learn more.](#)
- **Middle School Summer Conference:** June 25-28 at Loyola Marymount University and July 16 - 19 at Claremont McKenna College. [Learn more.](#)
- **High School Summer Leadership Seminar:** July 24 - 26 at Claremont McKenna College. [Learn more.](#)

# CONGRATULATIONS!



ALUM SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to TACSC alumni and Associate Board Chair Jennifer Mercado on her recent wedding to Matthew Cohen. Best wishes for a happy future together!

TACSC ALUMNI

# SHARE YOUR STORY

We love to hear from you! Share your stories with us and stay connected with TACSC via social media or at [tacsc@tacsc.org](mailto:tacsc@tacsc.org). You could be the next alum spotlight!

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