



# NEWSLETTER

TWICE A YEAR NEWS FROM YOUR NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

## BRAZIL Activity report 2020-2021

**D**ue to the uncertainties in which ANASC-BRAZIL finds itself, since the beginning of the pandemic, we have not been able to organize "face-to-face" events in the last two years.

. During the year 2020, we have faced challenges and obstacles every day, suffering irreparable losses, among them that of our dear 1st Secretary Lêda Maria Neves Fraenkel.

. We have launched subscription campaigns to invite our members to pay their dues and make donations, in order to continue supporting our social works.

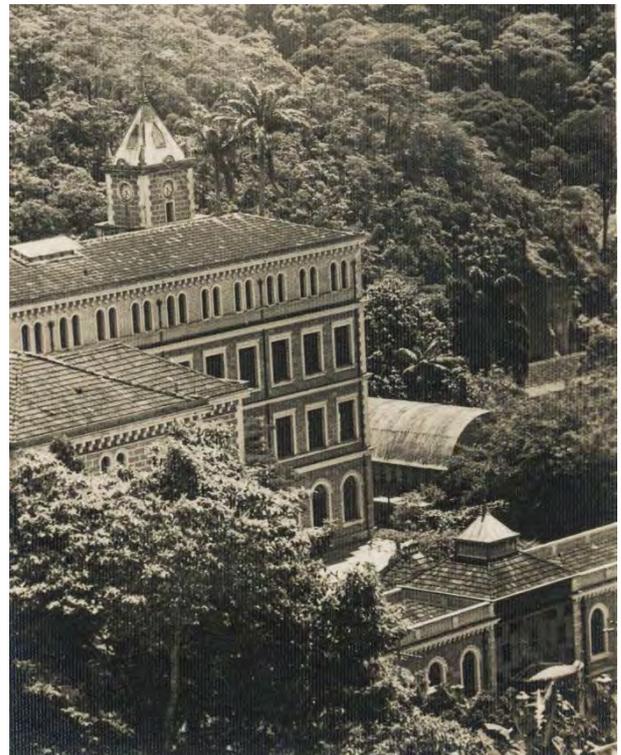
. We celebrated our emblematic feasts for St. Madeleine Sofie and Mater Admirabilis virtually.

. In 2021, without yet foreseeing a way out of the problem of the pandemic, thanks to the initiative of our counsellor Solange Wiltgen and the support of ANASC-BRASIL, we will publish the book "Stories and memories of the Sacred Heart of Jesus College - Alto da Boa Vista", which will tell, through many pages and photos, the life of the boarding school. There will be pages of pleasant memories, amusing stories and spiritual reflection.

The preparation of this book has excited the former students. This book will be above all a restitution allowing us to return to a precious era, somewhat forgotten, which will bring us the certainty that the College of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is alive in the

memory and heart of those who knew it, loved it and continue to love it.

The ANASC-BRAZIL team



*Sacred Heart of Alto da Boa Vista*



*The entrance stairs*

# COLOMBIA

## Activity report of UNASC-COLOMBIA

Dear members of AMASC,

I am pleased to be able to communicate with you, I hope you are all very well, to be able to let you know about our activities in Colombia this first semester of the year 2021.

At UNASC we have been able to have our virtual meetings without problems; We have our Boards of Directors with the presidents of the different active associations in the country, we also carry out a Study Committee in which we develop different topics and any old one who wishes can participate. This year we are studying the Encyclical of H.H. POPE FRANCISCO "Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti", On Fraternity and Social Friendship. The nuns have participated and helped with their ideas.

Another of the activities are the conferences of varied subjects, of general culture, architectural and historical art in the most emblematic buildings in the world.

The UNASC through our website, we are giving support to the activities of the different Associations. With the Bogotá Association, it was possible to carry out a virtual Bingo, pro-Canasta de Mater in which donations were collected, to continue with the work of helping the ex-students who need it.

The Cali Association has a monthly conversation with former students at the school who have stood out in the national and international in different areas, each one exposes their experience having a pleasant and fluent talk, the entire community of the Sacred Heart is invited, who wants to participate. Among the first attendees, they gave the name "Charlaton".

All these activities are carried out monthly, through virtuality, which has united us in the current circumstances, to work for our family of the Sacred Heart.

A cordial greeting and a hug.



Ana Lucia Ulloa Giraldo  
National president  
of UNASC -Colombia

# CUBA - USA

## Activity report 2021

**T**he Sacred Heart Cuban Alumnae Association met for the first time in two years at Carrollton in Miami on October 16 this year, 2021, to celebrate the Feast of *Mater Admirabilis*. The Mass was attended by a large number of alumnae who rejoiced in greeting each other as well as singing all the songs that stirred the memories of our school years. With the united voices of *Coeur de Jesus*, we all left with our spirits uplifted by the celebrant's message that reminded us that we are all part of a legacy that will continue after us. In great camaraderie we enjoyed a luncheon in the beautiful gardens of the schools sharing anecdotes of the present and the past.

Due to the pandemic and the vulnerable age of our Cuban alumnae community, there has been almost no large group activity in our Association. Nevertheless, we have continued to meet in small monthly classmates groups regularly as well as participate in an SCJ Alumnae Facebook Group.

Our Association has kept united to AASH, our national organization, participating in the 43<sup>rd</sup>. National Conference in Detroit, Hearts in Motion, via zoom on April 24, 2021 where several speakers in a panel shared their works to move the legacy of Sophie. The conference ended with a Liturgy at the Academy of Sacred Heart in Bloomfield, Michigan where our Sacred Heart Family was digitally connected in the One Heart!

We unite to AMASC, our international organization, that reaches through the continents to keep the fire of our faith and love for our Sacred Heart Family...always in One Heart!

*"It is only with the heart that one can see rightly, what is essential is invisible to the eye."* (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)

Alicia Moreyra



# FRANCE

## Activity report 2020-2021



*The group of participants at the Tours Congress*



*The castle of Villandry*



*The organisers*

In 2021 our French association, with 600 members, has opened its doors to "friends" (teachers, school staff, parents, young people), on the recommendation of Paola del Prete, as it already exists in other associations (Belgium, Italy, in particular). A flyer for young people will be inserted in the presentation brochure of the schools and distributed to former students.

In addition, we are collaborating more with the "Family" which had remained rather distant from our activities.

In 2020-2021 several activities were of course cancelled as everywhere and this period of confinement was really difficult for the elderly nuns.

However, the following activities were maintained :

- In 2020, **the traditional bridge** (10 tables) which allowed us to donate € 840 to the Philippines. The following year an appeal for donations raised € 1,300.

- **The feast of Sainte Madeleine Sophie** with a small group of alumni and nuns in the Parisian church of Saint Francois-Xavier where her shrine is located

- **The European Meeting** of the AMASC planned in Tours in October 2020 and postponed to October 2021 (meeting with the young people of Marmoutier, visit of castles of the Loire and gala dinner in the Orangery of the castle of Villandry).

With great regret, several chapters have closed (Charente, Montpellier, Poitiers and Paris), leaving those of Marseille, Toulouse and Bordeaux.

Our journal *Caritas* is still printed at 400 copies, thanks to Marie-Pascale de Drouas, whose work during the confinement was made very difficult.

In 2022 we will have to renovate our website, which is unfortunately not very visited. Our association sees in France the upcoming reform of the structures of the establishments since the nuns should withdraw from them. A reflection is underway in the network of schools of the BFN Province on the constitution of an autonomous structure aimed at continuing to form in the spirituality of the Sacred Heart and to support the educational mission of the nuns.

Laurence Galinowski  
President of UFASC

# INDIA

## Report of SCESA

### ACTIVITIES 2020 - 2021

#### *E-Teach Program Nareshwadi-Dahanu*

**S**CESA has been supporting a rural education project that involves teaching English to students of Grades I to IV of vernacular schools. SCESA sponsors the services of a coordinator who works with schools in the district in the state of Maharashtra. The students at these schools are at a disadvantage because they cannot speak or understand English.

The Bombay Community Public Trust (BCPT) was implementing the English E-Teach program in various schools in Mumbai and rural villages of Maharashtra. Ms. Nirupa Bhangar, also a committee member has shortlisted Nareshwadi as the place where SCESA can implement the program.

Since 2018 SCESA has been sponsoring the services of a coordinator to work in the Dahanu area.

Since our first lockdown in March 2020 all our activities came to a stand still.

In the new normal of stay at home and on line classes, our outreach program in Dahanu had also stopped. In the limited time students had access to any digital platform, priority was given to a limited number of classes. Hence the E-Teach program did not get as lot.

On line classes began in January 2021. In the meantime, BCPT could not continue with the program as their donors withdrew. However, SCESA was keen on continuing with the program. Our new partner in the program is Ananda Care Trust. Since June 2021 our coordinator was allowed to visit schools. At the request of our coordinator, SCESA has arranged a laptop for her, donated by Ms. Rekha Barde.



*The new Normal with 10 students*

#### ***Sugar and Spice***

Our Sugar and Spice group has stayed connected on the digital platform. All participants share interesting information, anecdotes, artwork, and positive messages.

#### ***Contact us at:***

***E-mail :*** [scesa.sophia@gmail.com](mailto:scesa.sophia@gmail.com)

***Tel no :*** 022-23510903

***Facebook :*** [www.facebook.com/SCESA.SOPHIA](https://www.facebook.com/SCESA.SOPHIA)

# MEXICO

## Report of EXASAC-MEXICO

**E**XASAC Mexico groups in the different cities have continued to work despite the pandemic, strengthening communications via WhatsApp and social networks such as Facebook and Instagram depending on the population to be reached.



One of the main objectives of the National Committee remains to promote the activities at national level, to integrate the associations of the different cities, to improve communication and to work more closely with schools and RSCJs.

Thanks to this promotional activity at national level and within each local committee, we were able to participate in the celebrations that were carried out by the Mexican Network of Colleges, uniting us with nuns, colleges and alumni from all over the country. We miss the physical celebrations in each city, but it was very rewarding to be able to participate in the virtual celebrations and we are very grateful because the alumni played an important role in each celebration. All this has been very well taken care of. The community Masses were: Beginning of the

School Year, Holy Mother, St Rose Philippine, Beginning of Advent, Easter, St Madeleine Sophie and Sacred Heart Day. All these events were broadcast live on Facebook from the different schools. There was also a virtual Advent retreat organised by the San Luis Potosi school with Mariola Lopez rscj from Spain to which the former students were invited.

### National meeting

We held our first national virtual meeting on 9 July. This meeting lasted about two hours per zoom. One of our objectives was to reflect on the situation we are experiencing from the spirituality of the Sacred Heart, to have a space for growth, to identify the main challenges and share what the committees in all the cities have learned, and to reflect on the letter sent by Barbara Dawson in her message for Sacred Heart Day. Each city has different problems, but we were able to identify the following common points: lack of data to increase the contact base, low participation of new alumni and alumni to be actively involved in each committee, lack of knowledge of the objectives and actions of the different alumni groups and very low participation in quotas.

In all cities, the objectives are to improve communication between the associations, with EXASAC National, with the schools that still exist and with the nuns at local and national level to promote a sense of belonging and to continue to reinforce the values learned at the College.

The meeting was very enriching as it provided a great space for reflection, conviviality and sharing of achievements and challenges even though it was a virtual session.

At this meeting we discussed the need to raise funds to support popular education works in the country. This campaign was started in order to cover the fixed costs of this work until December. Various efforts were made in all cities to promote and disseminate this operation, and several donations were obtained through former students. The campaign was extended until September, reaching the proposed fundraising target, both through individual donations and through donations made by the various committees. In addition, it was possible to disseminate the works nationally, even though they are developed and known locally.

## Locally

. Change of board in Guadalajara in October, a virtual ceremony was organized to thank the outgoing board.

. Informative assembly in Mexico City in October.

. Board change in San Luis Potosi in December, the new board was welcomed virtually.

In spite of the economic difficulties that most of the old ones experienced due to the pandemic, they managed to raise funds for specific projects in the different cities. They participated in social works, either by supporting the projects of the rscj or by investing in other specific local needs.

Similarly, in the different cities where there are schools, campaigns have been developed to support students through annual scholarships or temporary help for families with problems paying school fees; the EXASAC-San Luis Potosí board of directors opened a virtual shop with EXASAC articles in April; the EXASAC-Monterrey group carried out a fundraising campaign for the construction of washbasins in the courtyard of the Guadalupe school.

. February: virtual meeting with the presidents of all the cities and the religious councilors. In this meeting, we welcomed the new teams from San Luis Potosi and Guadalajara. We reflected on how each team is living and being affected by the pandemic, as well as how it has affected us personally. We were also able to share the main achievements of each committee and the main challenges, including data collection and dues collection.

. Preparation for Holy Week: JPIC's motivations were shared.

. Participation in virtual missions.

. Mutual Aid continues to work with needy alumni, especially in Guadalajara and Mexico City in a more formal way.

. Directories for the use of students and alumni of all EXASAC groups.

. A group of young alumni was also formed in Mexico City to continue supporting the house-building project called Seguimos Construyendo.

. The alumni group in San Luis Potosi has been in contact with the younger generations through competitions for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Teacher's Day, etc. and through giveaways on the Instagram page to maintain contact with the community.

. Renovation work of several associations to make their logos and what is published on social media more attractive and thus attract younger people.

. Welcoming new alumni. We are seeking to have a common passport at national level that identifies us as alumni of one of the Sacred Heart schools in Mexico. This initiative is already underway in some cities.



*The Sacred Heart School in Mexico*

It has been a challenge and, to some extent, a bit frustrating not to be able to carry out the traditional events in person in the different cities, although we have approached the teams in other cities and established close relationships.

As part of the national committee's activities, we have managed to grow our community on Facebook (4,610 followers) and Instagram (294 followers) by providing news from schools, rscjs and local committees, as well as reflections.

Our goal remains to focus on strengthening the relationships between the different Sacred Heart alumni communities and to reinforce the sense of belonging of the alumni by spreading the spirituality that underpins our origin and the symbols that unite us as well as by supporting the missions of the rscj as much as possible.

# NEW ZEALAND Baradene Alumnae Association



Early December we were extremely fortunate in New Zealand to be able to celebrate our Annual Alumnae High Tea where Ivanica Vodanovich was chosen as new Meritae Recipient for 2020.

In Collaboration with the School, Growing Heart Foundation and the Alumnae and Boards, joined together for an afternoon of Christmas Carols to raise funds for the "Covid 19 Student Support Appeal".

**Baradene Alumnae Association Website :**  
[baradenealumae.co.nz](http://baradenealumae.co.nz)

**A**t our Annual General Meeting in June of 2020 our President Melanie Watson felt it was time to retire, after building a strong committee of dedicated women each one having a portfolio of functions / Events to be organized and followed through. Melanie brought to the committee her talents of Social media, technical abilities with communication and much more. We were able to farewell her in person at a small gathering July.



It will come as no surprise that our new President Alice Gallagher, whom many of you have met was nominated as the new President bringing her many skills, not only as a teacher at Baradene but like her predecessor, strong management and technical abilities. Alice has experience of AMASC, having been to the Conference in Mexico in 2018.



Each year the Alumnae invite the students who have left school for 5 years to an evening to socialize with each other to catch up and renew old friendships. This event is well attended and an important one on our calendar.

The Alumnae can now reconnect with their old classmates, enjoy mentoring opportunities and network with other alumnae in their profession no matter where they are in the world, with an app called "Connect" to find and reminisce with fellow graduates, see what they have been up to and to stay in touch.



*Alice Gallagher at the World Congress in Merida*

# RDC - CONGO

## Activity report 2020 - 2021 of AMASC-RDC



Marie-Jeanne Nkela

**T**he calendar of our activities runs from October to July. We follow the liturgical year. This year the COVID-19 has largely disrupted this programme.

Here is the calendar:

1. Four general assemblies per year. But with COVID-19, we have not been able to hold all these assemblies.
2. Two recollections per year. We only had the Christmas recollection, with the theme "Jesus renews our hearts".
3. Visits to Sacred Heart schools: these were suspended because of COVID.
4. Two feasts: St. Madeleine Sophie's feast on 25 May and Sacred Heart's feast were organized at cell level;

We used to give something to the nuns of the Sacred Heart on the feast of St. Madeleine Sophie. This action, which we call "The Nuns' Basket", has been maintained. We have also maintained the "Cries of the Heart", an action in which we collect clothes to distribute to the poor.

5. Activities of our school and formation at the Mercedes Eguilior Center. (*See photos*).

6. Miscellaneous: We are in the process of making contact with Chad as the Democratic Republic of Congo and Chad form the same province.

Finally, we are in the process of printing cloths with the Sacred Heart logo.

Marie-Jeanne Nkela  
President of AMASC-DRC

### LIFE AT THE MERCEDES EGUILIOR TRAINING CENTER Literacy, cutting and sewing



# USA

## Report of AASH



Rhonda Meegan

**A**ASH started a new Biennium June 1. Each new biennium strives to reach out, and provide service for alumni and friends in new and unique ways. Every AASH Board offers new and different tools to accomplish that. The outstanding leadership talents of Roselie Bellanca Posselius during the past Biennium enabled us to withstand the crushing challenge of communicating and gathering together during a world pandemic!

Roselie's amazing production talents brought us a highly successful, first time ever AASH virtual conference. More than 250 alumni and friends joined our online conference this past April! This production totally changed the way we thought about how to further reach out to our alumnae/i and friends, and carved a new path for greater success in communications that will unite us and provide better service to our constituents.

Roselie's team researched and developed three key services : AASH 1-Hour Webinars, [AASH Connections](#), a new networking program, and AASH Heritage Tours highlighting Philippine and Sophie's footsteps.

We are all united because of these two French women; Philippine Duchesne and Madeleine Sophie Barat, whose amazing faith in God and astounding tenacity to focus on educating children, led them to embark upon an arduous adventure that would affect all of us in the Sacred Heart family forever.

The AASH Heritage Tours will let you discover these roots in the USA, France, England and Italy.

In this new AASH Biennium, we will continue to pray together as a very special family here and around the world: the family of the Sacred Heart. The Religious of the Sacred Heart continue Philippine and Sophie's mission of education as they continue to teach us today. Their most important lesson: love... Christ's love. New Provincial Suzanne Cooke, RSCJ, shares in *Heart* magazine that the Society of the Sacred Heart has embarked on a new mission of "discovering and revealing God's love."

The Society and its work will be honored and supported by AASH. We must never forget all that they have taught us, and how they have honored the efforts of Philippine and Sophie by their consistent dedication to the education of children. This is a precious loving gift they have given to all alumnae/i of the Sacred Heart.

I feel blessed to continue to work on the AASH National Board to support our alumni and schools, to honor the French and American heritage traditions of our schools, to pray together, and to serve one another. Our AASH Board consists of a very talented group of women who have volunteered to work very hard to serve you, our Sacred Heart family. We are all excited to share with you the following new AASH projects:

. **AASH 1-Hour Webinar Series** will continue to highlight our alumni, our schools, and the Society of the Sacred Heart.

. **AASH Connections** will support schools and alumni associations by this networking program which will enable us to share resources and information regarding employment, service, travel, relocation, and other common interests. AASH Connections will continue to grow national and international relationships. AASH Connections will connect us in prayer. More at [www.aash.org/connections](http://www.aash.org/connections).

. **AASH Heritage Tours** will be starting that will educate all who want to see our Sacred Heart roots in the US, France, UK, Italy and beyond

We pray everyone will stay safe during this horrible pandemic. From my heart, I pray all of you are showered with blessings from Christ, Our Lord, "*who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.*" *Ephesians 3:20*

In one Heart,

Rhonda Meegan, AASH President

## A G E N D A



### **THE NEXT AMASC NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED**

**in late May, 2022**

Presidents of national associations  
are requested to address the reports  
of their activities to its manager  
Alicia Moreyra : [hosp@amasc-sacrecoeur.net](mailto:hosp@amasc-sacrecoeur.net)

**Before May 15, 2022**