ANN LYLES MACPHAIL, class of 1991, you have served Mount Holyoke and the Alumnae Association with distinction for two decades. Your work on behalf of the College’s admission efforts and its alumnae clubs in California has distinguished you as a leader and a most loyal friend.

You came to Mount Holyoke from Hoover High School in Fresno, California, to study English and politics. As a junior, you spent the year at Mills College and were on campus when its trustees voted to go coed. After witnessing the student protests, you began to gather support for keeping Mills a women’s college by reaching out to Mount Holyoke alumnae. To this day, Mills’ undergraduate program continues to be single sex.

Back on campus as a senior, you directed the V8s and, in fact, led the singing of the Alma Mater at the Alumnae Association’s Annual Meeting. You then headed to dental school at the University of Southern California. During graduate school, you continued your singing and cofounded USC’s premiere a capella group, the SoCal VoCals. That creative endeavor introduced you to your husband, Matt, and you now are the parents of two children. While raising them, you have been working as an oral health trainer at Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center and speaking at medical and dental continuing education classes nationwide.

During the two decades since your graduation, you have been an integral member of Mount Holyoke’s alumnae community. In Southern California and the San Francisco Peninsula, and Northern California areas, you have worked tirelessly as an Alumnae Admissions Representative to recruit talented students for Mount Holyoke. “Ann created ten times the outreach and was phenomenal at getting people engaged,” noted one California alumna. In 2003, you were recognized by Mount Holyoke as Outstanding Alumna Admission Representative. The California clubs also have benefited tremendously from your leadership. Members credit you with “revitalizing the whole idea of clubs” and describe you as the “energy behind the re-organization of the Peninsula and San Francisco clubs.” Your work with the clubs is said to be “amazing” and “extra-ordinarily active.” You have served on the Alumnae Association Clubs committee, where you oversaw the clubs and informal groups in the western region. An extremely active member, you introduced technology to the committee’s workflow. Alumnae who worked on the committee during your tenure describe you as “wonderful and very smart about personal dynamics.”

In all your volunteer roles, you prove yourself capable, conscientious, and dedicated to the good of the Alumnae Association and Mount Holyoke College. You have been an integral and inspiring member of our community and we are pleased to present you with the Alumnae Medal of Honor on this, your 20th reunion.

Cynthia L. Reed ’80
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