



# L'ÉLAN



## Bulletin de la Société Honoraire de Français et des Jeunes Amis du Français

AUTOMNE 2025

30

SERIE 53. N.1

### Dîner en Blanc:

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Inspired by Detroit's storied French heritage and the timeless elegance of French social traditions, the Mercy High School French Honor Society (Chapter 493 of Société Honoraire de Française) proudly hosted its inaugural Dîner en Blanc—a sophisticated, all-white pop-up picnic inspired by the iconic Parisian event launched over three decades ago. Mirroring the original gathering's spirit of spontaneous celebration in iconic settings, our event honored

that legacy while showcasing the French flair that continues to enrich our city.

On March 27, 2025, the Mercy French Honor Society, and its Moderator, Madame Joyce Campbell, transformed the McAuley Academic Center Library into a vision of Parisian elegance for a remarkable Dîner en Blanc. Over 90 guests, far surpassing our expected turnout, joined us for an unforgettable evening, reflecting the vibrant spirit of our Mercy community.

Throughout March, Honor Society members dedicated themselves to crafting an enchanting atmosphere. Students handcrafted 1,000 white tissue paper flowers to adorn the venue, draped the ceiling with white linen, and decorated tables with white and gold accents. Dimmed lights and glowing candles set a magical ambiance. Guests, dressed entirely in white, were warmly welcomed by our members and invited to take seats along elegantly arranged rows of tables.

The evening began with a brief history of Dîner en Blanc, followed by a heartfelt prayer recited in French by an Honor Society member, setting a warm and reflective tone. Guests enjoyed a classic French menu featuring quiche, salade, baguettes, pâtisseries, fromage, and fruit, complemented by captivating performances from the Mercy Mimes, who evoked the artistry of Marcel Marceau in several delightful acts. The McAuley Center glowed with white décor, embodying the event's sophisticated tradition.

Adding to the excitement, a lively French culture trivia game awarded door prizes to guests whose birthdays aligned with the commission dates of iconic French monuments, such as the Eiffel Tower and Notre-Dame. The evening was a powerful testament to our students' creativity, cultural passion, and leadership, filling the French Honor Society and Mercy High School with immense pride.