Short bio

* Marian Mathison Desrosiers, PhD is an Adjunct Professor of History and Humanities at Salve Regina University, where she earned her Ph.D.
* She is a former executive board member of the National Council for Social Studies and a Fulbright Scholar to India and to Russia.
* Dr. Desrosiers has published works on women in positions of leadership during World War II and in the Rhode Island judiciary, 19th century Irish immigration, and colonial Newport.
* Her most recent book is *John Banister of Newport: The Life and Accounts of a Colonial Merchant* (2017).

Paragraph on community involvement

* Keeping the faith is essential to Marian. Her research into her Scottish and Irish ancestors, who remained Catholic despite the obstacles of imperial control by Britain, resonate with her life’s practices. She has served as a teacher of CCD, a lector, and a choir member at her parish church, whether living in Boston, Honolulu, Kennewick, Washington, Evans, Georgia or West Barnstable, MA.
* As an adjunct professor of American history, Dr. Desrosiers maintains an approach of inclusion, empathy, and ethics in her teaching to over 1000 undergrad students and about 100 grad students over the past 13 years.
* Marian supported the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Hope Chapel on Cape Cod by researching/writing a book on the history of the local bricklayers, stained glass window makers, fishermen and cranberry growers that made the church possible.

List of newspapers to receive press release:

* *Newport Daily News*
* *Newport This Week*
* *Providence Journal*
* *Boston Globe*
* *Barnstable Patriot*

People for whom I feel most grateful:

My family.

* My husband Arthur, whom I married out on the lawn here at Ochre Court, 48 years ago
* My progeny, Nicole of CA a human resource manager, Justin of NC a venture capitalist, and Arthur, a surgeon
* My two sisters, Sally and Betsy, who also are Salve grads and public-school teachers of 30 years

My friends, such as Mary Ellen Woods Atkins, who nominated me for the award, and whom I have known since the age of 14

Three individuals at Salve Regina, who guided my personal and professional path 1964-1968:

1. Dr. Ann Nelson presented me with an intellectual framework for teaching history of cultures and civilizations according to SPIRE (Social, Political, Intellectual, Religious, and Economic aspects) and provided me with research skills essential for an historian and writer.
2. Professor Bob Mckenna taught me “politics is action,” by guiding me to participate in a RI Intern program with the Speaker of the House, to secure a Congressional Internship under Senator Claiborne Pell, and to experience campaigns for public office.
3. Dr. Leo Bottari created in me a life-long passion for science that guided my coaching of science experiments with my children and running workshops for their elementary school teachers.

Three things I learned at Salve:

1. The delights of music, while singing in the Queen’s Choristers and Peloquin Chorale, along with the joy of performance in the *King and I* and *Sound of Music* under the direction of Dr. Joan David, gave me a lifelong love for concerts and theater.
2. The importance of continuity and acceptance of change, as the Dominican priests and the Sisters of Mercy encouraged ecumenism discussion in the post-Vatican II era that led to my study of Eastern religious traditions at the East-West Center, Honolulu, a Fulbright Fellowship to India, and thirty years of teaching comparative understanding of Asian and Abrahamic religions.
3. The celebration of family, tradition, and elegance in Ochre Court, such as the Father/Daughter Dance, November Nocturne, and Ring Dance, which continues today with the Governor’s Ball.