



**PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
PHOTOS ATTACHED**

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Cornelia Connelly School

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### **Connelly Alumna in Fashion Industry Returns to Campus as Guest Speaker**

**March 23, 2018 Anaheim, CA** – Cindy Shin '91 was the featured guest speaker in Connelly's ongoing E3 (Eat, Explore, Experience) series. The outgoing fashion industry executive spoke enthusiastically and candidly to a room full of bright-eyed Connelly girls who soaked up her energy and captivating talk.

Cindy admitted that at first the thought of attending an all-girls school didn't sound too appealing, but she soon realized what a great gift it was and expressed her thanks and appreciation to her single mom for sending her and her sister to Connelly. She joked that she honestly missed the uniforms because she didn't have to worry about what to wear or try to impress people. The former Connelly cheerleader and student council leader credited Connelly for bringing consistency and a distraction-free environment to her high school years.

She spoke candidly to the girls about not knowing what she wanted to do while she was in high school. After graduating from Connelly, she attended Loyola Marymount University with the intent to study law in order to please her mom. She soon realized, however, that law wasn't the right fit for her, so she turned her attention to her passion for fashion. Several times she encouraged the students to seek out internships to help them to not only get work experience, but to also help them figure out the direction they should go.

Cindy's career in fashion started in New York, where she moved after graduating from college. Within one week she was hired at Hugo Boss as the executive assistant to one of the VPs. She admits to being extremely driven, outgoing, and loud, all of which helped her to excel in the fashion industry. She soon found her niche in sales, thriving on the challenge. She repeatedly stressed to the girls to work hard and

don't complain, as there will always be some negative aspects to any job. She compared it to the movie, *The Devil Wears Prada*, which comically paints the oftentimes thankless, demanding, and challenging side of the fashion industry.

She also stressed building relationships, and using what many think are old-school manners – like sending thank you notes to hiring managers. “I promise you we’re ALL old school and look for them,” Cindy assured the girls. Lastly, she said to be humble, a trait she says she particularly looks for when hiring people.

She eagerly welcomed any and all questions from the girls, which ranged from what brands does she personally like; does she get discounts on clothes; has she met celebrities; to more serious questions about balancing family and a career.

Cindy's work ethic has certainly paid off as she has enjoyed much success and longevity in the fashion industry. She has worked for well-known brands such as: Hugo Boss, Donna Karan, BCBG, Gwen Stefani, to name a few. We are proud to call her a Connelly girl!

**Cornelia Connelly School in Anaheim:** Founded and sponsored by the Society of the Holy Child Jesus in 1961, Connelly is a Catholic, independent, college-preparatory high school for young women. The school is a member of the Holy Child Network of Schools and is sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus. The Society of the Holy Child Jesus operates schools – preschool through college level – in the United States, Europe and Africa. Exchange programs offer Connelly's students unique opportunities to study at Holy Child Schools in the United States and Europe. Connelly's exceptional curriculum and programs prepare young women to be leaders based on an underlying philosophy of trust, reverence and respect. For more information about the school, please go to [www.connellyschoolanahem.org](http://www.connellyschoolanahem.org).



Caption for above photo 1 (*cindy-speaking2000px.jpg*): Connelly alumna and fashion industry expert, Cindy Shin '91, is the guest speaker for Connelly's E3 series.

Caption for above photo 2 (*cindy-group2000px.jpg*): Cindy Shin '91 comes back to Connelly to speak to students about the fashion industry.

Caption for above photo 3 (*cindy-timmerie-beth1200px.jpg*): l-r: Timmerie Henry, Cindy Shin '91, Beth Muir, SHCJ. Cindy Shin '91 visits with Connelly teachers from her past.