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Inside

Our Message to You

Page 2

New School Plan/
CEF Contest Winners

Page 4

Southwest Louisville Initiative
/Mercy Grant

Page 5

Churchill Downs Gift/
Maker's Mark Event

Page 6

SALUTE DINNER SETS NEW HIGH - AND NEW GOALS!

All-Time Record \$665,000 Raised at 25th Anniversary Event New Goal: Add 1,000 Students Over Five Years

The 25th anniversary **Salute to Catholic School Alumni** dinner established a new high in funds raised in support of the mission of the Catholic Education Foundation.

Held on March 18 in the Grand Ballroom of downtown Louisville's **Galt House Hotel**, the Salute hosted a sell-out crowd of over 1,800 guests, continuing its tradition as a hallmark community event in the Commonwealth.

This year's silver anniversary event generated a new record high of \$665,000 in net proceeds, soundly surpassing the previous year's record of \$600,000. All of the funds from the Salute will be used to provide tuition assistance to families who cannot afford the full cost of a Catholic elementary education for their children. The Archdiocese of Louisville sponsors 37 Catholic elementary schools in central Kentucky with aggregate student enrollments of over 13,000.



Keynote speaker Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.

Archbishop of Louisville Joseph E. Kurtz, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, was the keynote speaker at the event. In his discussion of the new archdiocesan Catholic school plan announced last fall, he noted that annual funding for Catholic elementary school tuition assistance will double to over \$3 million beginning in the fall of this year.

These significant financial resources have enabled the Archdiocese of Louisville and the Foundation to jointly set a goal to add 1,000 more students to Catholic elementary schools over the next five years.

The Salute also was highlighted by its recognition of nine distinguished honorees whose success in life was nurtured by their roots in Catholic education. The Salute class of 2015 included: **P. Douglas Borders** (St. Augustine High School); **Paul G. Fultz** (Holy Cross High School); **John P. Hollenbach** (Trinity High School); **Rev. J. Ronald Knott** (St. Thomas Seminary); **Rosemary Bisig Smith** (Assumption High School); **Peggy Noe Stevens** (Mercy Academy); and **Gary C. Ulmer** (Saint Xavier High School).

Continued on page 3

Our Message To You



David P. Calzi
Chairman



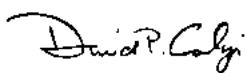
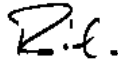
Richard A. Lechleiter
President

Can you feel a growing sense of excitement around our Catholic schools across central Kentucky? We sure can! Ladies and gentlemen, hang on for what will be a great ride for Catholic education at all levels in the years to come! Since we last wrote to you, here's what's happening:

- On November 6, Archbishop Kurtz announced the new Catholic School Plan in partnership with the Foundation. This fall, our combined elementary tuition assistance funding will **double to over \$3 million annually.**
- On January 12, the Foundation launched a new \$200,000 annual investment in tuition assistance in our four southwest Louisville elementary schools aimed at adding at least **100 more students** among those schools.
- On March 18, the Foundation hosted its 25th anniversary Salute to Catholic School Alumni dinner to a sell-out crowd of over 1,800 guests. The event raised an **all-time record \$665,000** for the Foundation. In addition, the Archdiocese and the Foundation jointly announced a new goal to add 1,000 students to Catholic elementary schools over the next five years!
- On April 15, we launched our Annual Fund appeal across the Archdiocese to raise more than \$500,000 in support of our Catholic school families – **more than double** last year's results.

And there's more.... Our community-wide message of growth, outreach and inclusion in our Catholic schools is spreading and we are seeing record numbers of families applying for tuition assistance for next fall. We can't wait to answer the call!

So come aboard, join the mission of the Catholic Education Foundation and let's all get to it! We are so grateful for your incredible support of this life-changing cause.

God bless each of you and your families,  

The Salute to Catholic School Alumni Class of 2015



*Front row left to right: Paul G. Fultz, Gary C. Ulmer, Rosemary Bisig Smith, Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D., Ruth W. Brinkley, P. Doug Borders, Peggy Noe Stevens
Back row left to right: John P. Hollenbach, John S. Asher, Reverend J. Ronald Knott, Richard A. Lechleiter, Theodore J. Elsesser, David P. Calzi*

25th Anniversary Salute Dinner Sets New High - And New Goals!

Continued from page 1

In addition, Mr. **John S. Asher** received the Foundation's distinguished Community Service Award and Mr. **Theodore J. Elsesser** of Sacred Heart Academy was recognized as the outstanding educator in the Archdiocese through the Father Joseph McGee Award.

Foundation President **Richard A. Lechleiter** remarked, "We are so deeply thankful to our entire central Kentucky community for their enormous generosity toward the mission of the Catholic Education Foundation. This record-setting support will enable us to help thousands of families provide the gift of a Catholic education to their children. The unique Catholic school experience that connects Faith, Family and Learning truly provides an education that lasts a lifetime!"

The major benefactors of this year's Salute included **Fifth Third Bank of Kentucky; Norton Healthcare; KentuckyOne Health; LG&E and KU Energy; The Ford Family; The David and Jennie Heintzman and Trompeter Families; The John and Sarah Lechleiter Family; and The Richard and Janice Lechleiter Family.** ■

Rosemary Bisig Smith



Tracey P. Lindsey, middle, with parents



Theodore J. Elsesser



John S. Asher



John P. Hollenbach



Rev. J. Ronald Knott

Photos courtesy of Bill Wine & Patrick Pfister

David Nicklies, Jennie Heintzman, Laura Hecht and David Heintzman



Paul G. Fulltz



Peggy Noe Stevens, above left, with Archbishop Kurtz and Ruth Brinkley



Gary C. Ulmer



P. Doug Borders, left, with Archbishop Kurtz and Ruth Brinkley

Historic New Catholic School Plan Catching Fire

On November 6, **Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz** and **Richard A. Lechleiter**, President of the Catholic Education Foundation, jointly announced new efforts to make Catholic elementary schools more accessible and affordable. These efforts are expected to double the amount of tuition assistance available for families in need to more than \$3 million annually.

"It's a new day for families who may be thinking about a Catholic elementary school but are unsure if it is financially possible for them," said Archbishop Kurtz.

The historic new plan calls for a voucher program for Catholic parishioners that could add up to \$1 million of additional tuition assistance funding this fall. In addition, the plan calls for a special outreach to low income households of any faith in which students would receive a \$1,000 tuition discount to any Catholic elementary school in the Archdiocese. The plan also provides funding for new school models designed to serve specific communities in the Archdiocese with particular language, cultural or educational needs.



Foundation President Richard A. Lechleiter speaking at the November press conference

In partnership with the Foundation, the Archdiocese is also accelerating advocacy efforts across the Commonwealth in favor of a business tax credit program that would benefit both public and non-public schools. Resources within the Catholic Conference of Kentucky will be strengthened as part of this initiative.

Foundation President Rich Lechleiter commented recently, "We are already seeing a significant increase in the number of new families considering a Catholic education for their children across the Archdiocese. In fact, the number of tuition assistance applications for this fall is growing by the day. We could not be more thrilled to assist a record number of families in our Catholic elementary schools when the new school term begins!"

Kentucky will provide powerful financial resources to young families who want to give the gift of a Catholic education to their children but cannot afford it. To those who yearn for this storied educational experience, we stand together and proclaim: **The Answer is YES!** ■

Mr. Lechleiter concluded, "The partnership of the Foundation, the Archdiocese, and individual and corporate donors across central

Winners of Foundation Sponsored Contests Announced

To celebrate Catholic Schools Week, the Catholic Education Foundation annually sponsors two contests for students throughout the Archdiocese of Louisville using the theme for Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme was "**Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.**"

For students in grades K through 8, a poster contest was held in which students created posters demonstrating how their schools provide the gifts of faith, knowledge and service. Each winner received a framed copy of their artwork and a \$100 cash prize. Winners for the poster contest were:

Division A, K-2: Kara Meador, second grader at St. Nicholas Academy

Division B, 3-5: Heaven Leigh Austin, fourth grader at Notre Dame Academy

Division C, 6-8: Abigail Recktenwald, seventh grader at St. Nicholas Academy

Another contest was held for students in Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese in which students submitted essays describing how their school promotes the Catholic Schools Week theme. This year's winner was **Aaron Stocksdales**, a sophomore at DeSales High School. He received a framed copy of his article as it appeared in *The Record* and a \$500 cash prize. ■



Kara Meador



Heaven Leigh Austin



Abigail Recktenwald



Aaron Stocksdales

Foundation Launches New Southwest Louisville Initiative

On January 12, the Catholic Education Foundation and four Catholic elementary schools in southwest Louisville announced a new initiative to add at least 100 more students among the four schools for the fall 2015 school term.

The new annual funding, totaling up to \$200,000, will be provided by the Foundation to assist new families with a demonstrated financial need who cannot afford the full cost of tuition at the following schools:

St. Andrew Academy, 7724 Columbine Drive, 40258 • (502) 935-4578 • www.saintandrewacademy.org

St. Nicholas Academy, 5501 New Cut Road, 40214 • (502) 368-8506 • www.sna-panthers.org

St. Paul School, 6901 Dixie Highway, 40258 • (502) 935-5511 • www.saintpaulschool.net

Notre Dame Academy, 1927 Lewiston Drive, 40216 • (502) 447-315 • www.ndasaints.org

Prospective new students and their families are invited to visit any of the four Catholic elementary schools to learn more about the opportunity to join the school community under this new initiative.



Foundation President **Rich Lechleiter** noted, "For years, the Catholic Education Foundation has provided significant financial support to these outstanding Catholic elementary schools located in areas that have the greatest need for financial assistance. This creative new partnership will now allow even more families in southwest Louisville to join one of these great Catholic school communities. Together with the leaders of each of these schools, we wish to express our deep thanks to our generous donors for this new funding that will surely bolster student enrollments going forward."

Mr. Lechleiter continued, "For our future, there is nothing more important than reaching out in our community and inviting more families to join our storied Catholic education tradition founded in faith, academic rigor and service to others. It is truly an experience that lasts a lifetime."

Mr. Lechleiter concluded, "At the Foundation, we are committed to significantly expanding our financial resources in the future to do our part in growing student enrollments in every Catholic school across the Archdiocese by making this experience more affordable. At the Catholic Education Foundation, ***The Answer is YES!***" ■

Mercy Acquires Second 3-D Printer with Help from Foundation

A Foundation grant to **Mercy Academy** for a second 3-D printer has empowered students to apply their studies in art, math and technology to real-world tasks at an increasingly high level. This second printer increases productivity, promotes collaboration, and helps students gain experience with materials science through the use of a wider range of materials. As a result, students experience a greater range of creative problem-solving and learn more advanced elements of structural design.

The next step in the digital art and design program at Mercy will include full-scale project design that will culminate in a fully-functioning product. These larger, more complex projects offer a greater challenge and more opportunities to apply the elements of engineering design. One project under consideration is the design and creation of a working drone, building upon rockets that were designed, produced and successfully tested in flights over Mercy's campus last spring. ■

Stay Connected to the Foundation!



Churchill Downs Foundation Gift Supports Tuition Assistance



In December, the Foundation received a \$3,000 gift from the **Churchill Downs Foundation**. **Dana Johnson**, Senior Director - Corporate Social Responsibility and **John Asher**, Vice President/Racing Communications, both of Churchill Downs, presented the check to **Rich Lechleiter** and Foundation Senior Director, **Julie Baum**.

The Churchill Downs Foundation gives generously to a number of worthy causes in the community. The Foundation greatly appreciates their meaningful support of our Catholic school families. ■



Maker's Mark Hosts December Foundation Event in Loretto



Dr. Pat Donovan, Rosemary Bisig Smith, Rich Lechleiter, Jeannie Donovan



Rich Lechleiter, Julie Baum, Bill Samuels



Wendell and Madeleine Grayson, Salem and Eva George



Dr. Bill Godfrey and friends



Dave Calzi, Tom Wimsett, Harold Wimsett



Hank and Karen Robinson, Father Bill Hammer



Brian Yanofchick, Julie Baum, Ruth Brinkley



Pike and Marie Conway, Ann Conway Blevins, Father Bill Hammer, Bill Conway



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***The Foundation grants more than \$2 million annually to support Catholic education,
primarily in the form of tuition assistance awards.***