

NEWS

NATIVITY ACADEMY AT SAINT BONIFACE

Vol. VI | No. 3

Fall 2010

Louisville's private middle school offering educational excellence to children of academic promise from low-income families

Beginning the year in our faith-based school!



Dear Friends of Nativity Academy.

As we begin another school year and experience changes in our student body, our faculty and administration, I realize that very soon we will need to change the information in our printed materials. I know this is the type of "change" situation which plagues all organizations and which the "computer" age was supposed to eliminate. Looking at the

possibility of changing our materials, whether printed or electronic, has caused me to ponder the essentials of Nativity Academy and its mission. My reflections led me to a significant but sometimes less-remembered descriptor: Nativity Academy is a "faith-based" school.

Our current brochure provides a good explanation of this quality: As a faith-based school, Nativity Academy recognizes that each person is created by God and is a unique expression of God's presence in the world. We seek to motivate and encourage students through the Judeo-Christian values of respect for all people, reverence for the created world, and the universal human desire for peace and justice.

We go on to point out that because we are sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville and the Xaverian Brothers, we teach formal Catholic religion classes but do not require that students be or become Catholic. No matter the religious background of our students, we support and promote their growth as persons of faith and strong moral principles.

Throughout changes in our program and personnel, the emphasis on respect and reverence is something I have always seen at Nativity.

As you will read in this issue of our newsletter, Nativity devotes time during the school year and especially in this year's summer program to peace education and service learning. I consider this program, along with formal religion classes and prayer, as the primary ways we motivate and encourage our students to develop the respect and reverence so needed in our world. We also rely heavily on the adults in our program to model these values to our students. This year our new principal, Meghan Weyland, is giving additional emphasis to this important responsibility of our staff in their setting of personal goals.

Over the years, as I talk with families considering Nativity, I find that many families want their children educated in a faith-based setting. They welcome a school where conversation about God, each person's value as a child of God, and prayer happens daily. This experience convinces me that being a faith-based school is central to Nativity Academy's identity and effectiveness. Those of you who are donors to and volunteers in our programs support us for various reasons. However, I hope you see the effect in our children of their attending a faith-based school. This effect is definitely less tangible or countable than test scores and graduation rates, but it is ultimately far more valuable and crucial to their growth to adulthood.

Thank you for sharing in our mission and ministry,

Paula Kleine-Kracht, OSU, Ph.D.
Executive Director

From the Board Chair



New Members & Strategic Plan

Alice Cowley
Board Chair

Being involved on the Board at Nativity brings rewards and challenges. One of the most rewarding aspects is meeting like-minded individuals who share the same sense of purpose. This summer three of these individuals retired from our Board: Frank Klein, Becky Phillips and Liz Ferguson. Frank is a high energy Board member who devoted much of his time to improving the athletic program at Nativity. No job was too big or too small to help the children achieve athletic success. He also worked tirelessly behind the scenes to raise needed monies, and has been a stalwart of our annual dinner/auction. Becky lent her expertise to the Finance Committee. She has the ability to sift through reams of numbers plus the annual budget, and ask the right questions. Liz served as Board Chair in 2006 and 2007, as well serving on the Strategic Planning Committee. Both ladies contributed finesse and style to our events, and were expert at organizational leadership. I offer my sincere thanks to them, on behalf of the entire Nativity community. How do you replace their talent, energy and leadership? You recruit more stellar Board members! Please join me in welcoming: Bill Weyland, Margaret Staples, Dana Allen, Mike Hendricks, Charlie Francesconi, Sister Maureen Coughlin, SCN, Rev. Tim Hogan and Laura Petry to the 2010-2011 Board. Charlie and Sister Maureen are rejoining the Board after one year off, so it is a great affirmation to our mission that they chose to return.

After one year of work, the Strategic Plan was adopted at the August Board Meeting. Many thanks to Jim Ackerson and his Committee for countless hours of surveying, tabulating, brain storming and writing. The strategic plan is fresh, mission driven, and doable. We look forward to the challenge of bringing this plan to life. Thanks also to those of you who participated by phone, email, or post to the survey of our constituent groups. It is imperative that we continually reevaluate our standing in the community, and more importantly, our effectiveness in educating children.

Throughout the years of growth at Nativity we have been blessed with a stable Board, as well as the endurance and faith of Sister Paula. She is an Executive Director without peer, and perhaps her stamina and perseverance are no small part of any success the Board has experienced. I know all the Board join me in thanking Sister for a job well done, and also to say how blessed the entire school community is to have her presence.

Finally, we welcome you and your guests to visit Nativity. When you bring friends to Nativity, meet the children and observe the results of a Nativity education (in process!) you promote our mission. We also welcome your input and help with our various events during the year.



Bill Hall, president and CEO of Boice.Net, title sponsor of Nativity Academy's 2010 Golf Scramble.

Introducing New Administrators, Faculty and Staff

Meghan Weyland Nativity's new principal served formerly as our extended day director, the position now filled by William Steinbock. We welcome them both to their new positions at Nativity Academy.



Principal Meghan Weyland with Extended Day Director William Steinbock



New faculty members for the current 2010-11 school year are left to right: Jennifer Jones, Bryan Macke, and Misty Stallings.



New principal, Meghan Weyland, (front) and volunteer Jenny Cottingham (far right, front) and Ameerah Granger, Extended Day Program Assistant Director (far right, back), accompany Nativity students on an enrichment activity field trip to Louisville International Airport.

For more summer enrichment photos please see page 7



Nativity Academy at St. Boniface observed a milestone in our history this year. Our first class graduated from high school. *Congratulations! As part of the Nativity Academy family, you helped make this day possible.* Ninety percent of the students from our first class graduated. Without a NativityMiguel education, only 50% of these students likely would have made it through high school. That's the national average for high school graduates among the population we serve.

Instead of a future with limited prospects, these students are prepared to achieve a positive and fulfilling future. We claim, and research verifies, that education is the way out of poverty, and these students have taken the first important step toward proving the truth of this fact. This fall there are Nativity Academy graduates at the University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, Kentucky State University, Western Kentucky University, Spencerian College, Georgetown College, Jefferson Community & Technical College, Hanover College, St. Catharine College, and the Louisville Culinary Arts School at Sullivan University.

Your gifts are working; these high school graduates and the 50-plus Nativity students currently in high school are living proof! Thank you. You are the foundation on which these lives are being built.

Paula Kleine-Kracht, OSU, PhD
Executive Director

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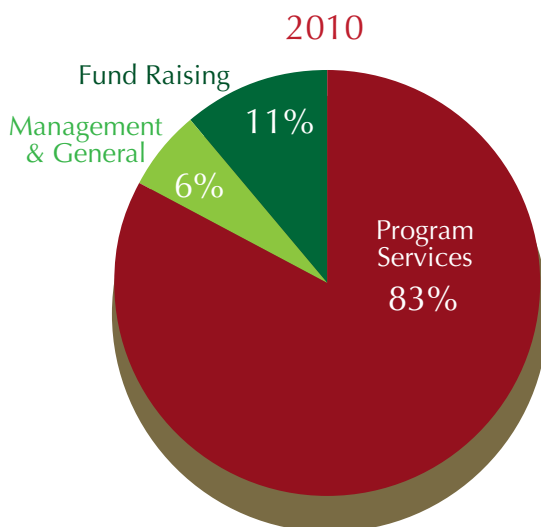
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**Statement of Functional Expenses
Nativity Academy at Saint Boniface, Inc.
for the Year Ended June 30, 2010**

Expenses:	year ending June 30, 2010
Program Services	\$708,319
Management & General	52,379
Fund Raising	88,615
Total	849,313



ANNUAL REPORT

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Nativity Students Explore Summer Enrichment Activities

Providing help for Catholic Charities, visiting the Louisville International Airport or exploring the Kentucky Center, Nativity students learn and contribute to the community.



James Horton carries a box and Notre Dame Summer Service Learning volunteer Amy Bilek assists.



8th graders, Brandi Blackshear and Darriell Long lift a box together. Mackenzie Pendleton, Ashley Harris, and Ashanti Burgess work in the truck.



8th graders visit the Police/Fire station at the Louisville International Airport for a summer session field trip.

Summer Peace Program service learning at Catholic Charities

Left to right: Angel Martinez holds box working with other 7th graders Kevin Harver, Tyler Franklin, Karmah Fahnbulleh, and JayRon Greivous.



Louisville Airport Field Trip



8th graders stand in front of the special airport fire truck. Corbin Spalding tries on airport firefighter safety gear.



7th graders welcome newly arriving refugees at the airport as a part of their Summer Peace Program service learning with Catholic Charities Refugee Ministry.



6th graders Yacir Raful, Dylan Cottle, Corey Bell, and teacher Jenny Cottingham travel to the Kentucky Center for the Arts.



Left to right: David Gil Pupo, Micah Davis, Daniel Gil Pupo, Maya Stills travel to their summer field trip at the Frazier Museum.

Kentucky Center for the Arts & Frazier Museum Field Trips



Corey Bell works on a project at the Kentucky Center for the Arts.



Left to right: Terriana Coleman, Maya Stills, and Micah Davis, 6th graders, enjoy their workshop at the Kentucky Center for the Arts.



6th graders stand outside the Kentucky Center for the Arts for their end of the summer field trip.



NATIVITY ACADEMY
AT ST. BONIFACE
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...a reason for hope



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Become a Nativity Angel

When you make an investment in Nativity Academy you receive dividends for years to come. For when you invest in Nativity, you are investing not only in our students, but in our community as well. Your gifts transform lives and help our students break the cycle of poverty.

You can multiply the impact of your gifts by becoming a Nativity Angel.

A commitment of a monthly gift of \$50, \$25, \$20, \$15 or even \$10 you will make a lasting impact on our school and turn you into one of our angels!

Will you consider making a commitment that will help ensure the long-term stability of Nativity Academy? It is money that we can count on, in good and bad times, and it will help ensure that we are serving this community for years to come.

For more information about Nativity Academy,
or to donate, please visit our website
www.nativitylouisville.org
Or Contact: **Kathey Golightly Sanders**
502-855-3313

Louisville's private middle school offering educational excellence to children of academic promise from low-income families

NATIVITY ACADEMY AT ST. BONIFACE

Executive Director: Paula Kleine-Kracht OSU

Development Director: Kathey Golightly Sanders

Phone Number: 855-3313

Principal: Meghan Weyland

Phone Number: 855-3300

Extended Day Director:

William Steinbock

Phone Number: 855-3300

Graduate Support Director:

Anne-Marie Brown

Phone Number: 855-3300

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