

MEDIA ADVISORY**Media Contacts:**Michael Dougherty
PresidentJosephinum Academy
(773) 292-3964 ext. 223michael.dougherty@josephinum.org

Laura Hayes

Marketing Coordinator

Josephinum Academy

(773) 292-3964 ext. 248

laura.hayes@josephinum.org**Josephinum Academy Becomes the Twenty-Second Full Member
of the Network of Sacred Heart Schools**

Chicago (April 13, 2011)// -- **“On behalf of the whole Provincial Team of the Society of the Sacred Heart, we are delighted and honored to affirm Josephinum Academy as a Sacred Heart school.”**

-Sr. Paula Toner, RSCJ, Provincial, Society of the Sacred Heart, US Province in her letter to the Josephinum Community.

On April 11, 2011, the membership of the Network of Sacred Heart Schools voted unanimously to promote Josephinum Academy to full membership within the network. Over the past three years the Josephinum community has engaged in a rigorous process of preparation and reflection, culminating in a five day visit from the Sacred Heart Commission on Goals in November.

Josephinum President Michael Dougherty said, “We are thrilled by Josephinum’s recognition as a full member of the Sacred Heart Network of Schools. We are proud to join a community that is respected for its academic excellence and shared commitment to the mission of Sacred Heart education. We are especially grateful for the Sisters of Christian Charity, the Society of the Sacred Heart, and all the members of the Josephinum community, past and present, who have made this exciting opportunity possible.”

In 1990, the Religious of the Sacred Heart (RSCJ) answered the call of the Sisters of Christian Charity (SCC) to assume the educational direction for Josephinum Academy, a struggling inner city school with a rich history of serving young women of Chicago. Since then, the school has been revitalized under the leadership of three RSCJ principals and the strong support of the Sacred Heart community in Chicago.

The results of Sacred Heart education at Josephinum are inspiring. Since 2007, 100 percent of Josephinum’s graduates have been accepted into college, most of them being the first generation in their families to attend. This year’s senior class of thirty students has already been awarded more than \$1.4 million dollars in college scholarships.

More inspiring, the values of Sacred Heart education are finding a home in the hearts of the students. When asked what Sacred Heart education means to her, senior Corina Perez answered with a word, “Everything,” then explained, “It has meant my life, my friends, my teachers, my values, who I am as a woman and who I am called to be.”

###

Josephinum Academy is a Catholic school for girls located in the Wicker Park neighborhood of Chicago. Josephinum Academy celebrates its 120th anniversary year in 2010-2011. “The Jo” serves a diverse population of young women who travel from over 35 different zip codes to attend the school. Since 2008, 100% of Josephinum graduates have been accepted into college. Almost \$3 million in college scholarship support has been awarded to graduates over the past three years. For more information on Josephinum, visit www.josephinum.org.