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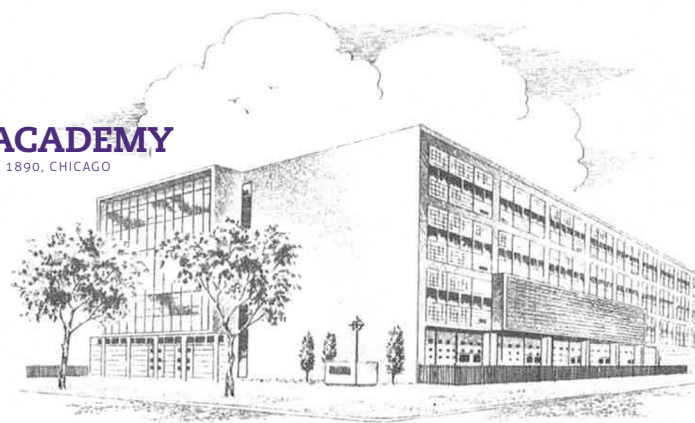
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THE

# Conversation Piece

WINTER 2014

## Principal's Message

It was with much gratitude and appreciation that I recently announced that the 2014-2015 school year will be my last as the Principal of Josephinum Academy. In July 2015, I will retire from my career as an educator and say goodbye to the community that has taught me so much and has been my privilege to serve since 2007.

I am a fervent believer that change is good for the soul of an individual and an organization. I have no doubt that Josephinum stands strong and ready to embrace a new leader because of its strong foundation in educating young women.

Josephinum will never be far from my heart, and I will always cherish the memories, the challenges, and the celebrations I've experienced throughout the years. I would like to thank each parent for entrusting their daughter's education to Josephinum. As I have often said, home and school need to work together to ensure the success of our children.



*Lourdes Weber*

**Lourdes Weber**  
Principal  
Josephinum Academy



*Eight students from Josephinum's newly-formed Sisters of Christian Charity Mentoring Group were honored to share a meal with several sisters from the order that originally founded Josephinum in 1890.*

## Sisters of Christian Charity Scholarship Luncheon

Since 2012, a group of Josephinum supporters from Wilmette, led by Sue Franklin (a former member of the Josephinum Board of Directors), have volunteered their time to work with Josephinum Juniors on their personal statements for college applications. Recently, this group expanded their support even further by establishing a mentor group and suitably named it after the order of sisters who founded Josephinum Academy in 1890, the Sisters of Christian Charity. This year's inaugural Sisters of Christian Charity Mentoring Group is composed of nine Josephinum Juniors who display social awareness, leadership, and academic excellence. Two exemplary students from this group, JonBenet Gonzaga and Tatyana Peña, were also awarded the Sisters of Christian Charity scholarship for the 2014-2015 school year.

On November 11, 2014, the generous group of supporters invited the Sisters of Christian Charity to be our honored guests for student-led tours and an intimate lunch with the students in this year's mentoring group. President Michael Dougherty spoke about the evolution of the school and the importance of Josephinum's continued relationship with the Sisters of Christian Charity. Josephinum would like to thank the group of supporters for graciously providing lunch and offering our community this great opportunity to connect with our beautiful history.





The College Fair isn't just for Seniors! Current Josephinum Sophomores Mariah De La Fuente (left), Jillian Hutton (center), and Alisa Scott (right) were excited to collect information from a variety of their top choices for colleges and universities.

## College Week 2014 at Josephinum Academy

This fall, Josephinum hosted its annual college fair and welcomed representatives from over 50 colleges and universities. Most local colleges were represented along with schools from as far away as California, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island. Ten of the 12 state universities in Illinois were represented along with 9 state public universities. Of the 40 private universities present, 18 were from Illinois and 22 were out-of-state schools.

The College Fair was an important part of College Week, which is a special week at Josephinum when teachers sport their college spirit wear and classrooms have a college-themed door decorating contest.

Special thanks to Dr. Mary O'Reilly and to everyone who helped make this year's College Week a huge success!



Juniors Alexis Williams (left) and Danyell Buchanan (right) pose in the hallway with their college brochures.



Freshman Makyla Kelley listens intentionally to a college representative explaining the admissions process.



Members of Josephinum's new Junior Board pose at Stanley's Kitchen and Tap during their fundraiser that raised over \$3,000 in support of Josephinum's music club.

## New Josephinum Junior Board Hosts its First Fundraiser: "Jammin' for the Jo"

Josephinum Academy is proud to announce that the new Junior Board is in full swing! We would like to congratulate the Junior Board on the success of their first fundraiser and to thank everyone who attended the event, Jammin' for the Jo, in support of the Josephinum Academy Music (JAMs) Club! There were 104 guests that came out to support the event, and we raised over \$3,000 for JAMs! With this money, JAMs will be able to buy new instruments and recording equipment. That is music to everyone's ears!



## Annual Scholarship & Awards Benefit Raises Record-Breaking Amount for Scholarships



Josephinum Academy is humbled by the generosity of nearly 340 guests who helped raise a record-breaking total of over \$450,000 in support of Josephinum's mission to educate and inspire young women of Chicago. We were so proud to honor Suzanne Franklin with the Blessed Pauline Award and William Mc Nulty with the Helen Bruns Ryan Award. Both Sue and Bill serve as shining examples of the dedication and commitment that friends of Josephinum show year after year.

Corina Perez, a Josephinum alumna from the Class of 2011 and soon-to-be graduate of Carleton College in Minnesota, spoke highly of her Josephinum education and how the school prepared her for success in college and beyond. Corina attributes her dream of earning a doctorate in Ecology to her time spent in Ms. Cervantes' AP Biology class at Josephinum. Josephinum supporters joined Corina's family in applauding her for becoming the first in her family to graduate college.



The family of student speaker Corina Perez (back, left) could not have been more proud as they watched her deliver a truly inspiring speech.



Josephinum President Michael Dougherty presented Suzanne Franklin with this year's Blessed Pauline Award.



Helen Bruns Ryan Award Honoree Bill Mc Nulty and his wife Rosemary Mc Nulty (left) pose with President Michael Dougherty and his wife Jennifer (right).

## Student Spotlight



### Stefany Rendon

Stefany Rendon, currently a Josephinum Junior, has been selected as a *Peace Builder* through an organization called Peace Exchange. Stefany has been attending trainings and workshops with six other selected students from schools throughout Chicago to discuss social justice issues, explore peace strategies, and visit various sites like the Holocaust Museum. Stefany and her cohorts will be travelling to Nicaragua this summer for a service learning trip organized through Peace Exchange. Josephinum is so proud of Stefany's commitment to building peace in our community and beyond!

## Volunteer for Josephinum

Are you looking for a way to give back and share your time and talents in a way that makes a real difference in the lives of young women?

*Volunteer at the Jo!*

Please contact Josephinum Volunteer Coordinator, Kathy Jackson, for more information: [kathy.jackson@josephinum.org](mailto:kathy.jackson@josephinum.org)



# Conversation Piece



1501 North Oakley Blvd. | Chicago, Illinois 60622  
[www.josephinum.org](http://www.josephinum.org)

Josephinum Academy empowers young women of Chicago to become confident, faith-filled leaders. Our graduates are committed to a personal and active faith in God, a deep respect for intellectual values, a social awareness which impels to action, building community as a Christian value, and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom.



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**Follow us on Twitter!**

[@josephinum1890](https://twitter.com/josephinum1890)



## Make a Gift this Holiday Season!

Please consider making a year-end donation by December 31 to support the Josephinum Academy annual fund. Your tax-deductible gift will transform the lives of our students, opening doors and showing them that educational opportunity is within their reach.

*Donate online today at [www.josephinum.org](http://www.josephinum.org) or send your check payable to Josephinum Academy (attn: Development Office) to 1501 N. Oakley Blvd, Chicago, IL, 60622.*

## Save the Date - Winter Lunch 2015

**The Josephinum Academy Winter Lunch will take place on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at the Union League Club.**

The event's keynote speaker will be Rev. Jack Wall, current President of Catholic Extension and former longtime Pastor of Old St. Patrick's church in Chicago.

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

## Mark Your Calendars

<b>December 15</b>	Fall Arts Showcase
<b>December 17-19</b>	Semester Exams
<b>December 18</b>	Young Alumnae Pizza Social
<b>December 19</b>	Christmas Assembly
<b>Dec 22-Jan 5</b>	No School - Christmas Break
<b>January 6-16</b>	J-Term
<b>January 9</b>	Mass of Epiphany
<b>January 10</b>	Entrance Exam
<b>January 16-17, 23-24</b>	Theater Production
<b>January 19</b>	No School - Martin Luther King
<b>February 6</b>	African American Prayer Assembly
<b>February 12</b>	No School - Faculty In-Service
<b>February 13</b>	No School - February Break
<b>February 16</b>	No School - President's Day
<b>February 18</b>	Ash Wednesday Mass
<b>February 25</b>	Winter Lunch
<b>March 4-6</b>	Senior Retreat
<b>March 8</b>	Open House
<b>March 13</b>	Mass of St. Joseph
<b>March 19-20</b>	Quarter Exams
<b>March 25</b>	HerStory
<b>March 26</b>	Parent-Teacher Conference
<b>March 27-April 6</b>	Spring Break

*To view the complete Josephinum school calendar, please visit [www.josephinum.org](http://www.josephinum.org).*