

# The Conversation Piece



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spring  2011

## Josephinum Becomes Twenty-Second Official Member of the Network of Sacred Heart Schools in the United States

***“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.

In 1990, the Religious of the Sacred Heart answered the call of the Sisters of Christian Charity to assume the educational direction for Josephinum Academy. 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 woman and who I am called to be.”

“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.”

**Michael Dougherty**  
President,  
Josephinum Academy



**Helen Bruns Ryan** is an alumna of the Sacred Heart Network (Woodlands Academy.) She became a member of the original board of directors at Josephinum at the request of then SCC Provincial Sr. Andre Blanchard. Her unceasing dedication to Josephinum continues to inspire all of those involved with the school.



“At this joyful juncture I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude to see all of those many individuals past and present who cared deeply, worked so very hard, and gave so generously – all led by dear Sister Andre in a rousing ‘Alleluia Chorus.’”

**Sister Martha Roughan, RSCJ** was principal of Josephinum from 2003-2008. She currently works at the Sacred Heart School in Atherton, California.



“I believe Josephinum is a rounding out and completion of the mission of the Sacred Heart Network. I saw coming to work at Josephinum as being true to our roots and educational principles, with the belief that everyone has a right to a good education, regardless of ability to pay.”



In January, the seniors went to Wilmette to listen to a speaker at Regina Dominican High School and then had lunch with the Sisters of Christian Charity at their convent. Students had the opportunity to look through the SCC archives to learn more about their history.



### Josephinum Holds Second Annual Winter Luncheon

On February 16, Josephinum hosted its 2nd annual Winter Luncheon at the Woman's Athletic Club in Chicago. 180 attended and \$27,500 was raised through a 50/50 raffle and scholarship pledges. Josephinum Sophomore Nancy Pureco spoke about her experience as a Jo student during the luncheon. Funds raised from the Winter Luncheon will support the Helen Bruns Ryan Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who attended!



#### Clockwise from Top:

(left-right) Mimi Brault, Meg Phelan, Tracie Michalek, Melissa Babcock, Joan Sextro, Cathie Ryan, Adelyn Leander, Maureen Kelly Ivory, Sherri Williamson, Ann Wadlington, Dietrich Klevorn, Sophie Streeter, Aylice Toohey, Cathy Brennan, Rita Gutekaust, Sheila Brennan, Nancy Patek, Barbara Williams Perry, Missy Lavender, Lourdes Weber, Josephinum Principal.



### Corina Perez named 2011 Golden Apple Scholar

Senior Corina Perez (right) is one of 110 Illinois recipients of the Golden Apple Scholarship. Golden Apple Scholar selection is a highly competitive process that seeks the best and brightest of Illinois youth interested in a teaching career in an Illinois school of need. The program strengthens their teacher preparation through internships, financial assistance, and summer institutes, giving them early practice and exposure to the art of teaching. Over 1600 nominations were received this year for the program. Although she is already receiving a full scholarship to college through the Posse Foundation, this summer Corina will participate in a 5 week program with Golden Apple Scholars at Illinois Math and Science Academy. She is pictured here with Josephinum's DePaul Intern (and also a Golden Apple Scholar) Aquilia Mikel.





## Drama Class Performs Shakespeare's Henry V

During the last two weekends in January, acting students performed six shows of Shakespeare's classic play Henry V. Jo drama teacher Mr. David Fehr directed the play. The performance was made possible through our partnership with Chicago's Polarity Ensemble Theatre. Thank you to the Sage Foundation for supporting the drama program at the Jo.

In March, we celebrated Spirit Week with contests, class activities, and dress up days. The always popular "Twin Day" is where students dress just like their classmates.



## Mardi Gras Congé

On Tuesday, March 8, students celebrated Congé, a special tradition in Sacred Heart Schools. Every Congé is a surprise until the morning it is announced, and students spend the day away from their regular classes to participate in games and team building activities. This year's Congé had a Mardi Gras theme where students made floats for their own parade in the gym.



## Students Receive Their New Netbooks

In January each Jo freshman received her own netbook as part of Josephinum's new netbook program. Here freshman Viktoriya Obidnyak is trying out her netbook for the first time during a training session. Students use these computers to supplement their classroom experience as well as to work on homework outside of school. The Jo will expand its netbook program in the Fall of 2011 so every student will be able to use their own netbook. Josephinum is grateful for the generous support from the Society of the Sacred Heart and Garnetta Kramer which enabled us to begin this exciting new program for our students.



The Girls Catholic Athletic Conference has selected senior Jasmine Welch as "Player of the Year." The Jo basketball team's star player averaged 19.5 points and 15 rebounds per game. Jasmine was also named to the All-Conference Team with her fellow teammates Justyna Krol and Tania Lopez.

## Save the Date!

Josephinum Academy Presents

# Goûter

The Glen View Club

100 Golf Road

Golf, Illinois

Saturday, September 24, 2011

Dinner, Drinks, Live Music, Live and Silent Auctions

2011 Honorees:

The Brennan Family and Janet Sisler

If you or your company are interested in becoming an underwriter or sponsor of Goûter, or if you have questions about the event, please contact Morgan Henington at (773) 292-3964 ext. 232 or [morgan.henington@josephinum.org](mailto:morgan.henington@josephinum.org). Visit [www.josephinum.org](http://www.josephinum.org) for the latest news and event information or to make a secure online donation.

## Jo Event Calendar - Spring/Summer 2011

### April

- 22 Good Friday, No Class
- 25 Easter Monday, No Class
- 29 Spring Testing, Half Day

### May

- 13 Senior Prom
- 20 Mass Honoring  
St. Madeleine Sophie Barat
- 30 Memorial Day

### June

- 3 Middle School Graduation,  
Baccalaureate Mass
- 4 High School Graduation



1501 North Oakley Boulevard  
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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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