Partnering for Success with BC, Regis and Stonehill Colleges

On June 12th, guests gathered at Stonehill College for the 2019 CCSreportcard event honoring TCA’s Catholic College Partners—Boston College, Regis College, and Stonehill College. Accepting the award on behalf of their colleges were presidents Rev. William P. Leahy, S.J., Dr. Antianastasia Hayes, RN, and Rev. John Denning, C.S.C., respectively. “We’re thankful for these institutions for their exceptional work at TCA,” said Kathleen Driscoll, CCS President. “Their partnership has proven essential to determining a successful future for our students.” The ceremony also honored Theresa and John Ballard, longtime TCA educators, and recipients of the Senator Thomas P. Kennedy Legacy Award for exemplary services to TCA.

Well done, Mary Myers!

Samuel Cintra, who once was a non-English speaking child living in Cuba in a home with dirt floors and no windows, is now college-bound. A graduate of SJPIICA, Cintra recently graduated a valedictorian of the Class of 2019 at Catholic High School. “He is an outstanding young man with great values,” said SJPIICA Regional Director Kate Brandley. “He will change the world.” Adding to the list of his many accomplishments, Cintra was awarded a full scholarship to pursue pre-med at Denison University, a leading liberal arts college in Granville, Ohio. “Our benefactors change the lives of the students at our co-sponsored academies,” CCS Executive Director Jim Walsh added. “Samuel is a wonderful example of the power of a Catholic education.”

The Yawkey Awards - Outstanding Education

This past fall six teachers from SJPIICA were presented with the Yawkey Award for Teaching Excellence. The annual award given by the Yawkey Foundations recognizes educators who demonstrate a commitment to Catholic education and are considered role models within the SJPIICA community. Pictured above are this year’s winners: Kat Stremm, Christine Coppola, Laura Conway, Nicole Spaulding, Elise DiChiappari, and Patty Thompson with the “Yawkey Foundations” Maureen Blaylock and Ann Healy. We’re grateful to the Yawkey Foundations for their continued support of teaching excellence.

Top of the Class! Academy Grad Receives Full Scholarship to Denison University

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New Co-Sponsorship Initiative

Stronger Together—CCS Launches New Co-Sponsorship Initiative

For twelve years, the Campaign for Catholic Schools (CCS) has been committed to student success in the Academies it founded – Trinity Catholic Academy (TCA) and Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy (SJPIICA). Through your generosity and leadership, CCS has helped to fuel the students of these two urban Academies to excellence.

During this past year, CCS took additional steps to ensure the long-term success of its Academies by becoming a legal co-sponsor of each school along with the Archdiocese of Boston.

This additional layer of engagement as a co-sponsor brings a new phase of strategic development to make these Academies even stronger in a highly-competitive educational landscape.

Well done, Mary Myers!

TCA Welcomes New Head of School

TCA is pleased to announce a new head of school—Jeniffer C. Roy, Ph.D.—effective July 1. Roy brings more than ten years of experience in teaching, curriculum development, and leadership in Catholic schools to TCA. “I am very excited to be joining the TCA community,” she said. “I value a collaborative, mission-driven work environment where ideas are shared and made in the best interest of students and families.”

Mary thanks to Michael A. Green, Ed. O., for five years of leadership and service to the TCA school community. We wish her the very best in the years ahead.

To provide invaluable resources for the school and its families through the City Connects program and the Urban Catholic Teacher Corps (UCTC). The City Connects Site Coordinator works with TCA faculty to assess each child’s strengths and to identify obstacles impacting his/her ability to learn. Currently, three UCTC teachers, working toward a master’s degree at Boston College, work at TCA while residing in the Community House located on the TCA Upper Campus, a former rectory that was purchased and renovated thanks to the generosity of TCA Board member Leo Vercollone.

Boston College works with TCA to provide invaluable resources for the school and its families through the City Connects program and the Urban Catholic Teacher Corps (UCTC). The City Connects Site Coordinator works with TCA faculty to assess each child’s strengths and to identify obstacles impacting his/her ability to learn. Currently, three UCTC teachers, working toward a master’s degree at Boston College, work at TCA while residing in the Community House located on the TCA Upper Campus, a former rectory that was purchased and renovated thanks to the generosity of TCA Board member Leo Vercollone.

Regis College partners with TCA to provide health care services to students at the Upper Campus (grades 4-8). A nurse practitioner provided by Regis College oversees the school’s nursing office which also serves as a clinical site for learning and hands-on experience for Regis nursing students. The nurse practitioner oversees a mental health clinic, assists in managing chronic illnesses, acute needs and provides health education and collaboration with the school counselor.

Stonehill College, a founding partner of TCA in 2007, continues to offer its unwavering commitment to the TCA school community. Stonehill provides curriculum and professional development and the support of student and athlete volunteers. The College also oversees the Community House where the Stonehill Service Corps, who are challenged to live simply in solidarity with those they serve, reside with UCTC teachers. Stonehill College proudly walks with the TCA community every step of the way.

TCA Shields Award – Partnering for Success with BC, Regis and Stonehill Colleges

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Why We Give
We became involved with CCS a number of years ago. The choice was simple, having had the opportunity and the benefit of a Catholic education in elementary school.
At the core, CCS is co-sponsored schools deliver an exceptional faith-based education in inner-city students with state-of-the-art facilities offering all the requisite tools to succeed in today’s complex environment. Graduation rates of students at CCS schools are among the highest in the nation, with 90% attending college.
In addition, it is important for our entire family to understand the value that a Catholic education delivers and the impact that comes from our participation and contributions. Our sons Luca and Angelo attend Xavier Brothers High School and last summer chose to volunteer at the SILRICA summer camp for kids aged 16 years old. They plan to return this summer because the experience provided them with an expanded perspective of life for many children.
We are humbled to be a part of the great work that CCS initiates for its students and the broader community and look forward to many years of continued service and participation.

The Connors Family

CCS Innovation
CCS has launched a partnership with Boston-based Gradifi to offer financial assistance to help pay down teachers’ student loan debt. Making the announcement in late spring, CCS Executive Director Jim Walsh sees the collaboration as an innovative benefit that exists today with only 4% of employers in the nation. “Providing a formal program to help our teachers with educational loans is a reward for their dedication to our students and vocation to Catholic urban education. We recognize that many of our professional and well-trained teachers, particularly recent graduates, wrestle daily with the financial strain of student loans,” Walsh noted. This new program offers relief by providing a new monthly principal payment on top of their scheduled payment, thus cutting the number of years on the loan term. CCS is pleased to offer this much-needed financial assistance and in turn, reward and retain our committed, effective and highly-educated faculty.

CCS Impact
“If a first-generation American and the first to go to college in my family, it’s my responsibility to pay it forward and give back to those in need. I’m so thankful to CCS and Cardinal Spellman High School for preparing me for academic success at Stonehill College.”
Ariana Rodrigues with her family

“Even though my parents moved to Rhode Island, I bring them to send me back to CCS. They make the long drive back and forth every day. I’m so proud and grateful to be a student there and thankful to everyone who has made my dream a reality.”
Mahali Gehr with her family

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