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THE

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SPRING 2016

WHY IB?



By Mary Rose Guerin, Principal

Josephinum Academy of the Sacred Heart is proud to announce its official authorization as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School! With this accreditation, Josephinum becomes the first all-girls school in Chicago to offer a wall-to-wall International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Traditionally, Chicago high schools offer very selective Diploma Programmes, akin to Advanced Placement courses. By offering a wall-to-wall IB program, Josephinum continues to embrace its tradition of extending the boundaries of educational opportunity and strengthens its commitment to providing a well-rounded,

quality education to all of our students.

As a Sacred Heart school, Josephinum aims to develop holistic young women who not only strive for academic excellence, but who are also committed to personal growth, and impelled to act against injustice and oppression. In the same regard, at the heart of the IB Organization's mission is the desire to develop global, critical, and principled thinkers who will help create a more peaceful world. For both Josephinum Academy and the IB Organization, developing one's intellect without fostering a critical consciousness is simply not enough. Josephinum and the IB program both

understand that it is what one does with her education that truly matters and it is what one contributes to the world that makes a difference.

In addition to aligning beautifully with Josephinum's mission, the IB Diploma Programme is designed to meet the needs of the 21st century learner. Thanks to modern advances in technology, our students live in an incredibly innovative, interconnected, and global world. Through the IB curriculum, Josephinum students will be challenged to become independent researchers, critical consumers of information, and effective communicators. Furthermore, they will be called to evaluate multiple perspectives and gain a deeper understanding of complex world issues, growing into responsible global citizens.

At the core of the IB program is the desire to teach students how to think, not what to think. As a result, the curriculum is structured around the development of core competencies and skills, rather than heavy content knowledge. IB lessons take a hands-on approach, positioning the learner as a "doer," engaging her more fully in her own learning. We are confident that this program will allow our students to become more actively engaged in their classes, improve their critical thinking skills, and provide them with the tools they need to be successful in college and their future careers. We are excited to offer this program and to share in our students' successes.



Top Left: Maureen Sippel, Maureen Hartigan, Liz Connelly and Kate Connelly; Top Right: Helen Ryan with students; Middle: Eileen Quinlin, Adelyn Leander and Pete Henderson; Bottom Left: Kevin Flynn, Patrick Singler and Ryan Bergin; Bottom Right: Kathy Luetkemeyer, Geri Kelley, Nancy Prior and Mary DeCresce

Liz Connelly to Jo Students: ‘Dream Big!’

Nearly 300 of Josephinum’s supporters gathered at the Union League Club in February for the annual Winter Lunch, raising about \$80,000 to support scholarships for our exceptional young women.

Keynote speaker Liz Connelly, Head of J.P. Morgan’s Healthcare, Higher Education and Not-For-Profit Commercial Banking business, gave an inspiring talk about the importance of education, community involvement, and finding what you are passionate about to achieve your dreams.

Senior Stefany Rendon was scheduled to speak, but was unable to attend

when weather grounded her in New York City, where she was interviewing at NYU and Columbia. In lieu, senior Alexandra Ionescu, Stefany’s close friend, spoke about Stefany’s Josephinum journey and introduced a video about her involvement with the Peace Exchange. We are excited for Alexandra to share her story at this year’s Spring Luncheon on April 27 as this year’s student speaker.

Thank you to our co-chairs, John Engel and Kevin Lee, and to all of the generous attendees who made this event a success. We are so grateful for your continued support! You help makes our students’ dreams a reality.



Sacred Heart Commission on Goals Visits Josephinum

We welcomed the Sacred Heart Commission on Goals (SHCOG) Visiting Committee to Josephinum for four days of reflection in November. SHCOG is a national body that oversees Sacred Heart Schools’ adherence to the Goals and Criteria for Sacred Heart Education.

The Society of the Sacred Heart requires each school to renew its commitment to the Goals and Criteria every five years. SHCOG is a national body that oversees Sacred Heart Schools’ adherence to the Goals and Criteria for Sacred Heart Education. This process begins with an in-depth self-study led by an internal steering committee made

up of faculty, staff and alumnae. Last year, Josephinum’s steering committee led the members of the community in discussions and reflections that resulted in the creation of a self-study document that was shared with the SHCOG Visiting Committee in October before they arrived.

The Visiting Committee arrived in early November and spent four days at Josephinum reflecting with and interviewing faculty, staff, students, parents, and Board members. Our community was excited to share our progress over the last five years as a Sacred Heart school and we enjoyed learning about the traditions and day-to-day life at other Sacred Heart schools from our visitors.

At the end of the visit, the Committee’s recommendations were shared with the entire community. The Committee remarked “We are so grateful for your commitment with our school. Now, we are developing an action plan. We are so thoughtful re-

Theatre Review: "Two Gentlemen of Verona"



By Alisa Scott, Junior

Josephinum's drama class performed and showcased "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" by William Shakespeare in February. Though Shakespeare's creations have a reputation for being quizzical and complicated, the cast and crew completed the admirable task of successfully translating Shakespeare's text through their hard work.

The setting of the story takes place sometime during the late 1950s in Verona, Milan, and a whimsical forest. Proteus the "thinker" and Valentine the "adventurer," are close friends who maintain a brother-like relationship despite their different personalities. In order to escape the strict conformity of Verona, the two gentlemen decide to try new things.

Mr. Fehr, Head of the Fine Arts Department and Director of this production, writes, "The struggle that all of the characters encounter is how to balance their desires and instincts with the expectations that have been set upon them by family, society, and (the ever encroaching pressure and shadow of) adulthood."

Josephinum Academy's production of "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" was a very complex and well-executed project. As an audience member and prior Shakespeare course student, I find this to be reflective of how the text of Shakespeare can be applied to various life lessons. Having been behind the scenes for prior school theatre productions at Josephinum, I know how much work is required to produce a series of performances. I'm very impressed with this cast and crew!



For more photos from "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," please visit Josephinum's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/Josephinum.

HerStory: Breaking Through the Glass Ceiling

Nine Josephinum students participated in this year's HerStory production, in which they contemplated the glass ceiling. The students stood in "glass boxes" and shared the stories of women who struggled to break through the glass ceiling to achieve their dreams. As they shared the stories, the performers broke through their glass boxes. The performances were inspiring and thought-provoking. Congratulations to everyone who was involved in this year's production.



of their time at Josephinum, the Visiting shared a report of its observations and ations. The Committee commended adult community for "giving selflessly serving young women of Josephinum n the concluding thoughts, the Committee ve find ourselves transformed, inspired ted to sharing the story of Josephinum hools as well as across the Network." e using the Visiting Committee's advice to ction plan to present to SHCOG for approval. gratefully to the Visiting Committee for its ections and time spent with our community!

Thank you to the SHCOG Visiting Committee!

Tanya Garcia, Chair
Faculty, Forest Ridge School of the Sacred Heart, Bellevue, WA

Patty L. Fagin
Head, Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, Princeton, NJ

Ann Jablonski, RSCJ
Trustee, Princeton Academy of the Sacred Heart, Princeton, NJ

Scott Quinn
Faculty, Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart, Omaha, NE

Lillian Solis-Silva
Middle Manager, Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart, Miami, FL



Conversation Piece



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Josephinum Academy educates each young woman to reach her highest academic potential, empowers her to discover her unique place in the world, and inspires her to become a confident, faith-filled leader.



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A Note From the Principal



I am truly honored and excited to lead the Josephinum Academy community as principal. Over the last 12 years, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with an incredibly talented, forward-thinking, and dedicated faculty and staff, who have committed themselves to creating an engaging and holistic program that challenges our young

women to grow intellectually, socially, and spiritually. Together, we have developed a curriculum that inspires our students to think critically as responsible and global citizens, researched and integrated new and relevant methods of instruction into our lessons, and enhanced our extra-curricular programming to better meet the unique interests of our students. Today, as we celebrate our new accreditation as an International Baccalaureate World School, I am even more confident in our ability to provide an exceptional education to the young women of Chicago, preparing them as confident and compassionate leaders in an increasing global and complex world. I look forward to working with the entire community to lead Josephinum into the future.

Mark Your Calendars

April 15	J-Factor Talent Show
April 20	Shadow Day
April 21	Junior Retreat
April 27	Spring Luncheon
April 29	Mass of Blessed Pauline
May 3-6, 9, 11	AP Exams
May 6	Prom
May 7	Open House
May 11	Shadow Day
May 12-14	Theatre Production
May 25-27	Senior Exams
May 26	Athletics Banquet
May 30	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
June 1	First Annual Josephinum Block Party
June 3	Baccalaureate Mass
June 4	Graduation
June 8	New Student Orientation
June 8-10	Final Exams

To view the complete Josephinum school calendar, please visit www.josephinum.org

RSVP Today!

SPRING LUNCHEON

April 27 at 11:30 a.m.
Michigan Shores Club in Wilmette

Contact Lindsay Bartlett at
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or (773) 292-3964 ext. 233