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SPRING 2014

## Dean's Message

The winter months can prompt an instinctual urge to hibernate and take a "going through the motions" approach to life. But at Josephinum, this winter has been an especially active season full of unique learning opportunities and spirited celebration.

January began with J-Term, our annual two-week foray into a wide variety of elective courses designed, developed, and taught by Josephinum faculty and staff. Next came Catholic Schools Week, which students and teachers celebrated with tributes to our winter athletes, good-natured class competitions, the *Josephinum's Got Talent* show, and a charitable bake sale to benefit a sister school that opened in Haiti.

As March begins, we look forward to our first ever Social Action Month, with a full slate of activities, investigations, service opportunities, and guest speakers to help us live Sacred Heart Goal 3. Now, if the weather would just cooperate ...





**Scott Benke**  
Dean of Students  
Josephinum Academy



Junior Salma Aldana (left) and Freshman Gabrielle Larkin (right) practice one of the many beautiful hand gestures they learned in a traditional Indian dance class with Fulcrum Point New Music Project during J-Term.

**fulcrumpoint**  
NEW MUSIC PROJECT

## Fulcrum Point Returns for J-Term 2014!

One of the most exciting opportunities offered by Josephinum Academy is J-Term. For two weeks in January between first and second semester, students enroll in classes that are not normally offered as part of the core curriculum. This allows students to learn more about topics that interest them and gives them the chance to participate in a wide range of courses, including: theatre, dance, music, modeling, cooking, tennis, crocheting, sewing and more! Course offerings change every year and reflect both student interest and faculty expertise.

For the third consecutive year, Josephinum Academy was very lucky to have the talented educators and performers from Fulcrum Point teach the students to play the drums and xylophone as well as perform a traditional Indian dance. The students performed the music and dance all together at an assembly at the end of J-Term, and girls from the Runway Modeling course put on a fantastic fashion show!



“The students displayed great curiosity about each character’s history. They were inspired by Euripides’ epic poetry and the great themes contained within.”

DAVID FEHR  
Josephinum Fine Arts Chair

## Josephinum Theatre Program Presents *Electra*

The Josephinum Academy theatre program delivered another fantastic show with *Electra* by Euripides on January 17-18 and 24-25. Under the guidance and direction of Josephinum Fine Arts Chair David Fehr, 11 talented students worked hard on and off stage to produce the thought-provoking play. Student actors included Aixa Carrion (*Farmer*), Destiny Cartegena (*Chorus Leader*), Sanay Ma (*Orestes/Chorus*), Aylin Meraz (*Electra*), Violet Phillips (*Clytemnestra /Chorus*), Jasmine Santos (*Messenger/Aigisthos/Chorus*), and Chri Zine (*Old Man/Chorus*). Student Stage Managers were Wendy Rociles and Na’Jia Gillespie. The Running Crew included Samantha Medina and Alisa Scott.

## Sacred Heart Alumna and Keynote Speaker Desirée Rogers Inspires Josephinum Support



The generosity of nearly 300 guests at the 2014 Winter Lunch helped raise a total of over \$75,000 in support of Josephinum Academy’s inspiring students.

Keynote Speaker Desirée Rogers, an esteemed alumna of the Academy of the Sacred Heart in New Orleans (Class of 1977), served as the

White House Social Secretary and is currently the CEO of Johnson Publishing Company. Desirée’s address featured a lively Q&A with Josephinum Junior Sonya Everett, who asked Desirée how her Sacred Heart education helped to shape her success.

This year’s student speaker was Nancy Garcia, an ambitious Senior who recently received a \$250,000 Posse Scholarship that will cover her tuition at Trinity College. Nancy delivered a heartwarming speech about the loving support that her Josephinum teachers and fellow students have shown her over the years, especially after a recent family tragedy. Nancy thanked Josephinum for being a place where she has been able to reach her full potential, not only academically but also spiritually, socially, and emotionally.



Student Speaker Nancy Garcia (center) had two special supporters at the Winter Lunch, her mother Maribel Garcia (left) and her Uncle Arturo Garcia (right).



Keynote speaker Desirée Rogers (right) was greeted by former teacher and Josephinum Campus Minister Muriel Cameron, RSCJ (left).



From left: John Engel, Ellen Engel, Mimi Brault, and Jim Brault served as Co-Chairs of Josephinum Academy’s 2014 Winter Lunch.



Led by interim biology teacher Jessica Lesley, the Performing Arts Crew performed an exciting song and dance during the African American Prayer Service at St. Aloysius Church in honor of African American History Month.

## Students Celebrate African American History Month

On Thursday, February 6, Josephinum faculty and students celebrated Black History Month with a prayer service at St. Aloysius Church. Guest speaker Henrietta Byrd gave a powerful and moving speech, encouraging the girls to follow the lead of African American heroes like Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King. The service concluded with a fantastic song and dance performance by the Josephinum Performing Arts Crew.



Principal Lourdes Weber (right) was thrilled to welcome guest speaker Henrietta Byrd (left) to Josephinum's African American Prayer Service.

## Josephinum's Got Talent Showcases Music and Poetry

Josephinum Academy hosted *Josephinum's Got Talent*, a talent show with proceeds going to our sister school in Haiti, on Friday, January 31. The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year was "Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service", and with the talent show we had a combined theme of "Josephinum's Got it All: Faith, Knowledge, Service, and Talent". We think the students (participants listed at right) did an excellent job of living the theme this year! Congratulations to Alex Pineda (3rd place), Mia Trejo (2nd place), and to our winner, Sonya Everett!

- Kia Vences** Everything Has Changed (Taylor Swift)  
Guitar & Vocals
- Jackie Valle** Let it Go (Idina Menzel)  
Vocals
- Alex Pineda** At Last (Etta James)  
Vocals
- Honorine Zoffoun & Adell Smith** Walkin' (Mary Mary)  
Vocals
- Gabrielle Larkin** She Will Be Loved (Maroon 5)  
Vocals
- JonBenet Gonzaga** Untitled Original Piece  
Piano
- Sonya Everett** Mirrors, Pictures, and Selfies  
Spoken Word
- Mia Trejo** Landslide (Dixie Chicks)  
Guitar & Vocals
- Joanna Villanueva** Resulta (Jenni Rivera)  
Vocals



Class of 2011 graduates Corina Perez (left) and Rakeeta Hampton (right) were among the Josephinum alumnae to share college advice with Josephinum Seniors like Lupita Gonzalez (center) at the Young Alumnae Pizza Party.

## Young Alumnae Pizza Party

The Josephinum cafeteria was full of happy, smiling faces when we hosted a Young Alumnae Pizza Party on December 19. About 15 recent Josephinum alumnae enjoyed visiting their alma mater to share a meal and conversation with current Josephinum Seniors. The Seniors asked the alumnae questions about their college experience, and they provided some excellent advice! It was a fantastic event that Josephinum plans to do more often in the future. We'd love more Alumnae to get involved, so if you are interested, please email [teresa.battaglia@josephinum.org](mailto:teresa.battaglia@josephinum.org).

## The Sports Corner

The 2013-2014 Lady Cougars had a successful basketball season! We moved up to the White Division in the GCAC finishing with an overall record of 6-3, 4-3 in conference play. The team was led by Senior Captain and All Conference Player Tylar Brown who showed great dedication not just during games, but in practice as well. The season ended in a tough loss in the 2nd round of Regionals but with four starters, along with five others returning, Josephinum's Basketball Program has a very bright future.

**GO COUGARS!**



# THE Conversation Piece

## Josephinum ACADEMY

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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### Make a Gift!

There is still time to make a donation to support the Josephinum Academy annual fund before the end of the school year. 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 to 1501 N. Oakley Blvd, Chicago, IL, 60622.*

### ~ Save the Date ~

For Josephinum Academy 's 2014

## SPRING LUNCHEON

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Michigan Shores Club

## Mark Your Calendars

March 5	Ash Wednesday Mass
March 9	Open House
March 19-20	Quarter Exams
March 26	HerStory
March 28	Social Action Fair
April 3	Parent-Teacher Conferences
April 12	ACT
April 14-18	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
April 20	Easter
April 23	Junior Recognition Ceremony
April 27	All-School Reunion
April 30	Spring Luncheon
May 2	Mass of Blessed Pauline
May 2	Senior Prom
May 4	Open House
May 8-10	Spring Theatre Show
May 21-22	Senior Exams
May 26	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
May 30	Baccalaureate Mass
May 31	Graduation
June 9-11	Final Exams

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