

THE 2009 WANSBORO AWARD RECIPIENT



Margaret Mary Canty, RSCJ

As Headmistress of the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills for a dozen years (1988-2000), Meg Canty, RSCJ led the school through times of great change. As is true throughout her career, Sister Canty's leadership shows trust and confidence in the heart of Jesus, great love of her community, and the careful orchestration characteristic of the musician that she is.

In her words, as Headmistress she was, a "caretaker of a sacred tradition and of these buildings which house the legacy of excellence, a deep and abiding faith, and a joyous response to the needs of the world." With an eye to the future, she oversaw the first ever capital campaign; expansion of the school's science facilities and curriculum; creation of the "3-year old program" (as the Early Childhood Program was called at the time); the addition of the Primary Wing; development of the

technology infrastructure; and the establishment of the After School Learning center, just to name a few significant accomplishments.

During her tenure at the Academy, Sister Canty also was a founding board member of the Cornerstone Schools, President of the Association of Michigan Schools (AIMS) and a trustee at Grosse Pointe Academy and University Liggett School.

Prior to arriving in Bloomfield Hills, Sister Canty spent many years at Kenwood Academy (later Doane Stuart) in a variety of roles. After leaving Bloomfield Hills, Sister Canty returned to the campus, this time as the administrator at the Kenwood community of retired RSCJ. She oversaw Kenwood's closing, facilitating a courageous transition for the RSCJ in residence.

Bridget Bearss, RSCJ says, "With courage, confidence and the attitudes of the heart of Jesus that have permeated her life, Meg Canty made visible the mission of St. Madeleine Sophie Barat. With wisdom, compassion and great expectation, Meg cultivated a generation of Sacred Heart leaders who have carried the *Goals and Criteria* to every continent. I am grateful to have learned to be a Sacred Heart educator and a Religious of the Sacred Heart from Meg Canty as she taught me what it means to have a heart opened by God's love, ready to serve and expectant of the ordinary miracle in each day. Thank you, Meg, for "making memories" that are your legacy and our treasure."

For these reasons, the Alumnae and Alumni Association of the Academy of the Sacred Heart is proud to present Meg Canty, RSCJ with the 2009 Wansboro Award.