Love in Action

ANNUAL REPORT 2010
“Love cannot remain by itself - it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action, and that action is service.”
-Mother Teresa
Theme of Summer of Service 2010

Dear Friends of Nativity,

At the start of the second day of school, a new student – Eddie – took from his back pocket a crinkled slip of paper. As he handed it to our principal, Sean Dillon, Eddie said, “This is for the school.”

Mr. Dillon unfolded the paper and recognized it as a scratch ticket. When Eddie saw that Mr. Dillon was lost for words, he repeated himself: “It’s for the school.” Eddie then added, “It’s from me and my mom.”

Thanking Eddie for the ticket, Mr. Dillon looked down to see that the ticket was, indeed, a $2 winner.

Five years after coming to Nativity, I am still awestruck by these “Nativity stories” and by how these anecdotes are the fabric of our school’s culture, community and impact. Here is a boy who comes from a tough academic and behavioral background, but who has the love of a mother who will give what she can to see her child’s future become a little brighter. Eddie knows the hard work that awaits him and the commitment that our school provides.

As we begin a momentous year for Nativity – a year that will see the launch of our first capital campaign and our accreditation visit from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges – I reflect upon a few of the highlights from academic year 2009-10. In our seventh year of operation, we witnessed the following:

- All Nativity graduates who were seniors in high school were accepted into, received financial aid to attend, and enrolled in college. You will see our first class of graduates on the campuses of Providence College (four students!), Emmanuel College, and Quinsigamond Community College.
- Nativity’s comprehensive graduate support program worked with 100% of our graduates on a wide range of initiatives, ranging from college placement to academic support to referrals for social services to job placement.
- We continue to see a surge in applicants for Nativity. This past year, there were close to 5 applicants for every 1 available seat. Our ideal candidate continues to be a student who is at-risk because of his socio-economic status, as well as his academic and behavioral needs. No matter how attractive the school becomes, we will not waver from our mission to serve at-risk boys.
- We met our lean fiscal year 2010 budget in the midst of these prolonged economic challenges because of your support, your contacts and your desire – to borrow from our theme of summer session 2010 – to put “love into action.”
- Lastly – and continuing a five year streak – we saw all members of our graduating 8th grade Christopher Class gain acceptance to and receive full financial aid to attend academically challenging private high schools.

All of us at Nativity—especially Eddie and his mother—are grateful for all the times that you have said, “This is for the school.”

Gratefully,
Matthew Brunell, Esq.
President
What is YPI?
“The 8th graders do something very different from the rest of the school during Summer Session. We do something called Y.P.I. - the Youth Philanthropy Initiative. Highland Street Foundation gave us a grant of $5,000. The money was to go to the students. But there was a catch: we had to give the money away to nonprofit organizations. We visited six nonprofit organizations. We started at the Worcester Art Museum, then shifted to AIDS Project Worcester, then the Big Brother Big Sister Project, then the Easter Seals, after that the Worcester Hope Lodge, and lastly the Worcester Roots Project. I think this activity is important not just because we are giving away money to something that will help out the community but because it shows how we are true Nativity men. This doesn’t just help the community, but it also helps our class to come together.”
– Francisco, 8th Grade

Learning about Philanthropy: A Visit from Mary DeFeudis

To all the great young men at Nativity School,

Thank you so much for inviting me to come to your school to speak about philanthropy. Philanthropy is just sharing some of what we have to make others’ lives a little better. It is not all about money. It’s about giving our time, too, as coaches and volunteers, in hospitals or soup kitchens, or right in our own neighborhoods. Have a great school year.

– Ms. DeFeudis
Bookmarking each end of Summer Session this year were events that centered around water: the 7th and 8th grade white-water rafting trip pictured on the cover of this report, and the dunk tank at field day where students took their aim at dunking faculty and staff. During the 3 weeks in between, students spent hours inside the classroom reviewing their language arts and math skills, as well as learning about topics such as homelessness, immigration, and Native American history. Students paired these classroom experiences with hands-on activities with our three partner agencies: Matthew 25, Fruitlands Museum, and Urban Missionaries.

“I would like to thank Fruitlands for inviting us over and teaching us about Native Americans. We did helpful service by helping to clear land for a campfire site so people can learn more about Native Americans.”

-Ronald, 6th Grade
“Love cannot remain by itself - it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action, and that action is service.”

-Mother Teresa
Theme of Summer of Service 2010

“Thank you to Matthew 25 for letting us help out. I really enjoyed it. I felt sad after because I never really appreciated what I had. We helped clean houses and yards, met new people and learned about homelessness. Matthew 25 helped me really get into helping.”

-Joshua, 5th Grade

“We helped out at Urban Missionaries Little Store. The Little Store helps immigrants. Sometimes when people come to this country they need some extra help, and the Little Store gives them help. Thank you to the Little Store for letting us help out.”

-Jairo, 5th Grade

“There are people who see and hear of these problems everyday and they don’t do anything to help at all. I know this because I used to be one of those people until I came to this school. This school didn’t just help me see that was wrong but it taught me to do what was right.”

-Francisco, 8th Grade
This evening, I’d like to talk to you for a moment about what it means to be proud of something. If you are proud of something, you can always look back on it and be glad that you made a certain choice or accomplished a difficult job. If you are proud, you feel two ways: you feel pleased and you feel fulfilled. My classmates, we should feel proud of being a part of Nativity. Nativity helped us see how important it is to try our best to succeed in life, because Nativity taught us to be gentlemen and to always take other people’s feelings into consideration, and because Nativity taught us to be proud of who we are.

When I arrived at Nativity, the first part of the year was horrible for me. Just like before I came to Nativity, I didn’t do any work and I got detention often. At this point, I didn’t take much pride in my work. In fact, I didn’t know what it meant to be proud of my work. But then things started to change. I started doing my homework and started to actually try in class. When I did, I realized how committed teachers were to helping us, something I never saw before. It was as if I finally opened my eyes for the first time and I started to realize what it means to be proud of myself for being a good student, a hard worker, and a gentleman.

– William Torres, Excerpts from his Valedictory Speech

Bancroft School Class of 2014
Where the
CHRISTOPHER CLASS
is Going

Daniel Davies
Saint Peter Marian

Jonzel Diaz
Holy Name High School

Anael Fernandez
Worcester Technical High School

David George
Saint John’s High School

Lewis Hazard
Saint John’s High School

Kevin La
Saint John’s High School

Brandon Locke
Deerfield Academy

Gabriel Padin
Osceola High School

Gregory Pantos
Holy Name High School

Alexis Santiago
University Park Campus School

Michael Stevens
Worcester Technical High School

William Torres
Bancroft School

Vincent Tran
Saint John’s High School

Jonathan Vasquez
Saint John’s High School
We gratefully recognize the following individuals, organizations, corporations, and foundations for contributions to Nativity School of Worcester and between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010.

We have made every effort to include all of those who have contributed during this time period. We sincerely regret and would like know about any inadvertent omissions or errors.

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$50,000 to $99,999
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Fiscal Year 2010
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A WELLINGTON CHRISTMAS
Nativity School of Worcester is grateful for the generosity of members of Wellington Management Capital Appreciation Group. These Wellington Management employees made Christmas extra special for Nativity students this year. Their gifts included reading books, gift cards, movie tickets and holiday treats. Students were also treated to a performance and a field trip to the local ice skating rink for some winter fun. The donors from Wellington Management are recognized in our general listing.

FISCAL YEAR 2010
AT A GLANCE

- Total Operating Budget: $976,649
- Total Donations Received: $1,111,000
- Nativity contributed over $60,000 in graduate support services, including financial aid, tutoring, and community service opportunities to our graduates.
The Year Ahead

Nov. 19th 2010 • 12:00pm
1st Quarter Awards Luncheon

Dec. 21st 2010 • 5:30pm
Winter Arts Night

Feb. 4th 2011 • 12:00pm
2nd Quarter Awards Luncheon

Apr. 15th 2011 • 12:00pm
3rd Quarter Awards Luncheon

Apr. 8th 2011 • 5:30pm
Spring Auction Night

May 24th 2011 • 5:30pm
Spring Arts Night

Mission Statement

Nativity School of Worcester is an independent, Jesuit middle school that provides a quality, all-scholarship education to underserved boys of all faiths. Drawing upon four pillars - strength, scholarship, character, and service - a Nativity education inspires self-discovery, responsibility, spiritual growth, and a lifelong dedication to learning.