

Building Minds & Changing Lives



News Spring 2010



\$2.7 million raised for the Inner-City Scholarship Fund at the 20th Annual Dinner Celebration: An Evening to Honor Peter S. Lynch

Nearly 1000 guests gathered at the Boston Public Library on April 10th to celebrate The 20th Annual Dinner Celebration and the leadership of Peter S. Lynch, Inner-City Scholarship Fund (ICSF) Chairman. The event, chaired by Mr. Robert K. Kraft, raised over 2.6 million for scholarship support of the 81 schools funded by ICSF in the Greater Boston area.

The evening was characterized by many ICSF scholarship recipients who showcased their talents through a variety of performances and exhibits. Upon arrival, guests were greeted by students from Trinity Catholic High School, who later kicked off the speaking program in Bates Hall with a rousing Step performance. Mary Richardson of Channel 5's Chronicle served as the Master of Ceremonies and spoke about the partnership of Channel 5 with the Catholic Schools Foundation. Channel 5 originally founded the Dinner Celebration twenty years ago and since then has remained committed to the students and programs of the ICSF. In keeping with tradition of the Annual Dinner, Alison Birmingham and WCVB-TV Channel 5 produced a short video that gave the guests a view into the daily lives of the students they are helping. The video also featured messages from prominent Boston area business and civic leaders who expressed their admiration of and respect for Mr. Lynch.

Following the video, Mr. Kraft addressed the evening's guests. Mr. Kraft praised the inspiring work of the schools and Mr. Lynch saying, "It is without a doubt due to Peter that over 60,000 students have received the benefits of Catholic education. He has provided over \$100,000 in scholarship support since he first took on the role of ICSF Chairman".

Following the speaking program, guests were treated to an Irish Step Performance by the students of Ursuline Academy and then the music of the well-known Mark Greel Band, who played until past midnight. Also featured were the cuisines of several Boston-area chefs, including Eric Brennan, from Post 390, Jay Murray from Grill 23 & Bar, Denise Baron from Burton's Grill, Robert Sisca from Bistro du Midi and Matt Donegan from the Catered Affair.



OUR SCHOOLS BY THE NUMBERS....

- 96 percent of the class of 2009 was accepted to college
- There are 30,497 students enrolled at ICSF schools throughout Greater Boston
- 1:12: Average faculty to student ratio
- 9: Average number of Advanced Placement Classes per school

DID YOU KNOW?

- CSF was named "Foundation of the Year" by the Association of Catholic Advancement and Admission Professionals (ACAAP)
- The "Who is She?" marketing campaign, funded jointly by CSF and the girls high school, won the 2009 Spotlight Award from the League of American Communications Professionals
- The real cost of living for a single mother with a toddler in Boston is \$48,706. 58% of the parents of CSF scholarship recipients are single parents and have an average total family income of \$40,566
- High schools raised over \$970,000 as a result of the CSF matching challenge, bringing the total of new scholarship money into the system to over \$1.3 million

ICSF Back to Class Bus Tour Visits Cathedral High School

The Catholic Schools Foundation hosted the Back to Class Bus Tour on Wednesday, May 26th at Cathedral High School (CHS) in Boston's South End. CHS is one of 89 schools supported by the ICSF. Over 50 donors and friends of the ICSF boarded the bus to see firsthand how their support helps to transform students' lives.

Guests were treated to student led tours of the school, lunch with the students, and remarks by Peter S. Lynch, ICSF Chairman. Headmaster Tom Arria and Principal Christol Murch welcomed the visitors and highlighted some of the successes of the CHS student, which were made possible by the generosity of all donors to the ICSF. During the time spent at the school, students showcased the new gymnasium, the language lab, the planning center and the science labs.

Executive Director of the Catholic Schools Foundation, Mike Reardon, shared that last year 100 percent of the CHS graduating class went on to higher education. Mr. Reardon attested this success to the small class size and committed faculty and staff of CHS.





The 16th Annual Professionals' Team Glimmer Gala Raises Important Funds for Quincy Catholic Academy

On April 30, 2010 the Inner-City Scholarship Fund Professionals' Team hosted nearly 200 guests at the 16th Annual Glimmer Gala at the Boston Harbor Hotel, raising money for the newly established Quincy Catholic Academy. Natasha Pierre was awarded the 2010 ICSF Volunteer of the Year Award.

Chaired by Stephen Birmingham, Jeannemarie Conley, Corie Fogg and Hank Murphy, the Glimmer Gala is a premier fundraising event for Bostonians. Glimmer Gala guests were greeted by students who will attend Quincy Catholic Academy when the school opens in the fall of 2010. Guests then spent the evening bidding on a fantastic array of live and silent auction items, including a round of golf with Troy Brown, who served as the honorary chair of the event.

While perusing the items available for bidding, guests were treated a hosted bar of Gosling's Rum Signature cocktails and Sam Adams Beer. DJ Dance with Lance provided music that kept the crowd dancing until after midnight.

As well as a fundraiser, this annual event introduces many guests to the good work done by the Inner-City Scholarship Fund and the volunteer opportunities provided by the Professionals' Team. This year's volunteer of the year award was presented to Natasha Pierre for her hard work chairing the ICSF Industry Tours program that brings Inner-City students into different corporations for tours of the office and lunch with the professionals.

The Professionals' Team strives to bridge the gap between the classroom and the workplace for students attending schools supported by the Inner-City Scholarship Fund. Professionals' Team volunteers hold Saturday tutoring sessions, weekend Days to Make A Difference and monthly Speakers Bureaus & Industry Tours which aim to educate the students on the wealth of opportunities that are available through a quality education.

The Glimmer Gala was successful only in part to its generous sponsors! Thank you to all who supported us in our mission to *Build Minds and Change Lives!*



CSF Responds to Both Families in Times of Need

Most people are aware of the thousands of scholarships CSF helps provide to students who apply and enroll in Catholic schools each year in the fall. What is not as well known are the students who receive funds each year through CSF's emergency fund. Established as a way to support families who experienced a traumatic event during the course of the school year such as a death, accident, or job loss, the emergency fund provides over \$100,000 in grants to 80-100 students every year.

This year, the emergency fund was a tremendous source of support for students who immigrated to the United States as a result of the earthquake in Haiti. Many children attended Catholic schools in Haiti and sought similar schools when they arrived in Boston. CSF reserved \$25,000 of the emergency fund for grants for students from Haiti who enrolled in Catholic schools, and as of this publication date over \$12,000 had been distributed to 22 students.

One of these students was recently highlighted in a *Boston Globe* article. Newly Henry enrolled in kindergarten at St. Mary of the Hills Elementary School in Milton after she, her parents, and her younger sister came to the United States in January with just the clothes on their backs. Newly's father Newton, a lawyer in Haiti, and her mother Aricie, an economist, value education and wanted their daughter to continue in school despite the trauma. "I consider health and education human rights," said Newton, who was also secretary of a human rights organization in his home country.

St. Mary's, like so many Catholic schools, has proved to be a perfect fit. "We think our life is a miracle," says Aricie. "The community is very, very kind."

And responds to Schools in Times of Growth

While the closings of Catholic schools have long dominated the news, the tide has recently started to turn in a new direction. In 2010-11, schools in two major communities will combine to form two new Catholic academies.

In Quincy, St. Mary, Sacred Heart, and St. Ann schools will combine to form Quincy Catholic Academy. In Lawrence, Our Lady of Good Counsel and St. Patrick's will combine to form Lawrence Catholic Academy. The consolidations will ensure a strong Catholic educational community in these areas for both current and future generations of students.

In addition to granting over \$350,000 in scholarship funds to these schools, CSF will also provide \$125,000 to each school for transitional support. These one-time grants will help the new academies get off the ground by providing support for curriculum, marketing, and technology.

"While CSF considers the scholarships we provide to schools to be very important, we also realize the need to be flexible with our funds. The academy structure is a new and exciting model for Catholic schools that is worthy of our investment in order to ensure Catholic education exists for the long term," said Lynne Sullivan, program officer at CSF.

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EVENT UNDERWRITERS

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Gosling's Bermuda Rums
Sweet Thing - Food for Your Soul

Building Minds & Changing Lives

Mission Grammar School and ICSF Chairman Peter S. Lynch Featured on Channel 5's Chronicle

On April 1st, 2010, Mission Grammar School and the Inner-City Scholarship Fund were featured on Channel 5's news broadcast, *Chronicle*. Mary Richardson, who has served as the emcee of the ICSF Annual Dinner for several years, along with her co-host, Anthony Everett, took viewers inside Mission Grammar School in Roxbury for a look at how Catholic Education is making strides in the inner-city neighborhoods of Boston.

Mission Grammar's 5th grade teacher Ali Dutson was interviewed about the core principles of Catholic Education, the importance of the school community in the lives of the students and the power of a handshake. Each morning, students are led in song and prayer by the teachers of Mission Grammar and then greet each other by a firm handshake. Ms. Dutson, who also serves as the literacy coordinator for Mission Grammar said, "it is important for students to learn to be respectful of each other and of the people who make their education possible".

Peter Lynch, ICSF Chairman, who was also interviewed, related how his upbringing by a single mother and his fortitude to receive a scholarship to attend Boston College made all the difference in achieving later success in life. He commented, "each scholarship is another door opened for individuals who might never had opportunities available to them before".

ICSF Hispanic Recruitment Initiative Builds Program and Increases Enrollment in First Year

Hispanic Outreach efforts for the Boston Catholic schools have been very successful since the program began in 2008. Boston Catholic schools have increased their Hispanic enrollment by 10% the first year alone. The program has been so successful that it will be implemented outside of Boston in the coming months. Many towns outside of Boston have large growing populations of Hispanics and families that are interested in Catholic education but may not have the support to send their children. The Hispanic Recruitment Initiative, through the Catholic Schools Foundation and the Birmingham Foundation has partnered with two programs, Adelante Inc. and Family United in Educational Leadership, that seek to support Hispanic families and their dreams to give their children a good education.

For over 17 years, Adelante Inc. has worked to educate students of Catholic High Schools about the power of a good education and the importance of academic success later in life. The Hispanic Initiative is working with Adelante to help support these children as they continue on in Catholic High schools.

FUEL, Families United in Educational Leadership, is a program that works to assist families saving monthly for their child's education. The FUEL accounts offer to match the family's savings in order to pay for some of the costs of their child's education. FUEL is working with the Hispanic Recruitment Initiative to model their program in Lynn, working with families to save for Catholic schools.

By supporting Adelante Inc. and FUEL in continuing their goals of aiding students that demonstrate financial and academic need, the Catholic Schools Foundation hopes to also fulfill their own mission of providing and promoting programs and services that ensure optimal educational opportunities for Catholic school students



"Vigor in Arduis"

A few weeks ago, Cathedral High School opened their doors for our Back to Class Annual Bus Tour. As we were led around through the classrooms by our energetic tour guides, I saw students who were respectful of their teachers, engaged with their classmates, and attentive to their lessons. It truly was an inspiring day as benefactors and friends met some of the students who directly benefit from the support of the Catholic Schools Foundation.

The students and administration were wonderfully gracious hosts and gave a Cathedral t-shirt to every visitor with the Cathedral motto "Vigor in Arduis" emblazoned on the back. I am sad to say my four years of Latin at BC High failed me as I attempted to make the translation. Fortunately, Cathedral Headmaster Tom Arria translated the motto for me. Roughly translated it means: strength and perseverance in the face of difficulty. At Cathedral there could not be a more fitting motto. With almost 80% of the students living at or below the poverty level, these students face difficulty in their lives everyday...not that you could tell when walking the halls. Instead what you see are young men and women working hard to better themselves and taking advantage of the gifts given to them. It is truly inspiring and made possible because of the support of people like you.

Although my Latin failed me, these students are truly succeeding. Despite many obstacles in their lives, 98% of these kids went on to college last year. The majority going on to 4 year institutions. Without the support of the Catholic Schools Foundation, there is no way many of these students would be able to attend Cathedral.

On their behalf, and on behalf of all of the students who have a better chance at life because of you, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Reardon". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mike Reardon
Executive Director

Building Minds & Changing Lives

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As the conclusion of our fiscal year approaches on June 30th, we ask that you consider making a gift to the Inner-City Scholarship Fund. We need your help to continue *Building Minds and Changing Lives*.

To make your gift today, please visit www.csfboston.org

SAVE the Date!

Back to School Cup
Monday, October 4th
at Wollaston Country Club, Milton

The Catholic Schools Foundation, Inc.
260 Franklin Street, Suite 630
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

