

QUARTERLY INVESTORS' REPORT

AUGUST 2012



Most Holy Trinity Academy



St. Louis the King School
at the Cathedral



St. Cecilia Academy

From the Executive Director



*"The mind is not a vessel to be filled,
but a fire to be kindled."* -Plutarch

Dear ACCESS Academies Investors,

The start of a school year is a time of new beginnings: students are anxious to move up to a new grade, teachers look forward to engaging new students, and parents are hopeful as their students move to the next phase of their education.

As ACCESS begins its eighth year of operation, it does so with a number of new beginnings:

- The 153 new middle school students in the three schools supported by ACCESS begin their studies in a time-tested academic program that places 96% of its graduates in college-prep high schools.
- A new Catholic school, St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral, begins operation as one of the three ACCESS schools. With new leadership and a new facility, it is an "archdiocesan" elementary school, a new model guided and supported by the Archdiocese of St. Louis.
- More than 100 new graduates from the ACCESS schools and the independent NativityMiguel schools begin their high school careers with scholarships provided by the annual NativityMiguel Scholarship Dinner. The program now supports more than 300 students in 28 area college-prep high schools.

New beginnings are most hopeful when they build on enduring foundations. For students assisted by ACCESS, the foundation of a solid middle school education and graduate support services through high school ensures the kind of education that affords long-term success.

Those who make ACCESS happen – the staffs of the participating schools, the donors who provide the resources, and the members of supporting boards and committees – are essential and deserve a special thanks for the gift of new beginnings.

Thomas M. Nolan

Thomas M. Nolan, Executive Director

ACCESS Academies Now Serves St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral



The newest school in the Archdiocese of St. Louis is also the newest school served by ACCESS Academies – St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral on the campus of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis.

Located at 4430 Maryland Ave., it unites the Cathedral Basilica School with Central Catholic School and Academy, which both closed after the 2011-2012 school year.

ACCESS will serve St. Louis the King with the same NativityMiguel education model that has placed 96 percent of its graduates in college-prep high schools. Joslyn Sandford has been named the school's ACCESS graduate support director to help graduates succeed in high school. Open to families throughout the area, the elementary school's total enrollment is anticipated to be 150 students.

"St. Louis the King is a very modern facility that offers an optimal learning environment," said Tom Nolan, ACCESS Academies executive director. "Like all ACCESS schools, it will be open to children of all faiths." The school will be operated by the Archdiocese as are the other ACCESS schools, St. Cecilia Academy and Most Holy Trinity Academy.

NativityMiguel Alumni Spotlight: Andre Craig



Andre Craig spoke of his gratitude for his NativityMiguel education at the annual fund dinner.

At six-foot, three inches, Andre Craig towers over most people. Yet it isn't his size, but his engaging personality and confidence that inspire. A 2011 graduate of Saint Louis University (SLU) with a degree in business and marketing, Andre symbolizes what's possible when aspirations are launched by NativityMiguel schools.

A native of south St. Louis City, Craig graduated from Loyola Academy in 2003. "Music is my passion. At 13 years old, I started writing songs, and now I'm highly focused on performing and launching my career," he said.

He noted Loyola's longer school days and academic year "built my discipline, organization and ability to multi-task in a variety of subjects." Teachers and

staff regularly stressed the importance of learning. Loyola's Jesuit education foundation eased his transition to high school at St. Louis University High (SLUH) and ultimately SLU.

At SLU, Craig was treasurer of the Black Student Alliance and played Billiken basketball for two years. He played basketball at SLUH, too, and was an active member of the Association for Cultural Enrichment at SLUH (ACES).

Following graduation from SLU, Craig interned with the St. Louis Rams corporate sales and support team, where he helped establish and maintain prominent sponsor relationships and advanced other promotions. "Working behind the scenes for a sports team was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I loved it

and learned so much," he said.

Today, Craig is working hard to go national with his performing and songwriting talents.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity and preparation my NativityMiguel education provided," said Craig "And I'm extra thankful for my mom's love and support. She knew who I could be before I ever did."

NativityMiguel Scholarship Fund Dinner Raises more than \$400,000

"NativityMiguel's foundation of faith, disciplined study habits, parental engagement and scholarship support have combined to allow graduates to fully develop their God-given talents."

— ARCHBISHOP ROBERT J. CARLSON



2012 graduates of St. Louis' NativityMiguel schools proudly wore t-shirts bearing the name of their new college-prep high schools.

She attended Central Catholic Academy.

"We are grateful to our donors," said Tom Nolan, executive director of ACCESS Academies, which organized the fundraiser. "With the cost of private, high school education increasing an estimated 4.5 percent this year, tuition assistance is essential if students are to realize their full potential in our fine college-prep high schools."

The scholarship funds benefit graduates of three ACCESS Academies NativityMiguel schools – Most Holy Trinity Academy, St. Cecilia Academy and St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral – plus three independent NativityMiguel schools – De La Salle Middle School, Loyola Academy and Marian Middle School. The fundraiser also benefits graduates of the Academy at King of Glory Lutheran School, which closed in 2011 but still has graduates in high school.



Archbishop Robert J. Carlson

An inspiring evening with supporters of NativityMiguel schools is having an enduring impact on more than 300 underprivileged students. The St. Louis

NativityMiguel Scholarship Fund Dinner on June 6, 2012, raised more than \$400,000 for high school tuition assistance. It also honored the more than 100 NativityMiguel graduates in 2012 and Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, whose Mission Advancement Initiative is improving quality Catholic education, making it available to all students, regardless of religious affiliation.

"NativityMiguel's foundation of faith, disciplined study habits, parental engagement and scholarship support have combined to allow graduates to

fully develop their God-given talents," said Archbishop Carlson. He also noted that the NativityMiguel Scholarships provide an opportunity for students to experience a faith-based high school that advances the Church's mission of social justice through academic excellence.

After the 2012 NativityMiguel graduates gathered on stage, wearing shirts emblazoned with the St. Louis college-prep high school they are attending, NativityMiguel graduates Andre Craig and Bryanna Hill offered even more inspiration. Craig detailed his journey from Loyola Academy to St. Louis University High to his 2011 graduation from Saint Louis University, launching his career. Hill celebrated her 2012 graduation from Cardinal Ritter College Prep. and admittance to Tuskegee University.



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