



Fund for Excellence campaign kicks off

The 2011-12 Fund for Excellence campaign has been launched. The chairs for this year's Fund for Excellence are Carl and Beth Whitmer.

The Fund for Excellence helps cover the cost associated with programs and general operations of the school. This year's FFE goal is \$250,000 and will help support the following programs: Hand In Hand, teacher retention/recruitment, and need-based financial aid.

This year the parent participation competition will take place between the six houses: Peter, Leo, John, Pius, Gregory and Clement.

The House with the highest parent participation rate on April 20, will win an ice cream social and a Paver in their honor to be placed under the colonnade in the new Jim Carell Athletic Complex.

Families can expect to receive an appeal brochure by mail in early November.

Your participation is important; please prayerfully consider a gift to the FFE!

MANY TURNS IN LIFE'S PATH LEADS ZAC CAMPBELL TO JP2

No matter what school he attended or what job he held, the constant thread running through the life of Zac Campbell has been theater. "My first role on stage would be the rear end of a camel" as a child in a community theater production, Mr. Campbell said. "From then on, the bug was implanted."



Zac Campbell

Although he has held a variety of jobs during his life, he has always been involved in theater in some way. His lifelong attraction to the theater was "probably God's hand moving me," Mr. Campbell said. That hand has moved him to Pope John Paul II High School where he has taken over this year as the director of theater arts. "The kids are wonderful," Mr. Campbell said of his theater students at JP2. "They have a desire to learn."

Mr. Campbell grew up in Iowa, where he was involved in theater throughout his school years. After graduating from high school and a year and a half of college, Mr. Campbell was working in a convenience store when he decided to join the U.S. Marine Corps. "I didn't want to be 30 and looking back and wondering, 'I wish I would have done more,'" Mr. Campbell said.

After leaving the Corps in 1997, Mr. Campbell held a variety of jobs, eventually working his way to the East Coast and working in theater. While working in a small professional theater company in Pennsylvania, Mr. Campbell was encouraged to return to school to earn his degree. He got an undergraduate degree from Indiana University in Pennsylvania and then moved on to graduate school at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. Though his graduate degree was in performance, Mr. Campbell said, his goal always was to teach. "I enjoy that so much and I enjoy every element of that," he said.

He hopes he is imparting lessons about more than theater, Mr. Campbell said. "We're shaping characters, hopefully. I think that's what attracts me to high school aged students. It's a transitional place in life."

After graduate school, Mr. Campbell taught for three years at Moravian Academy, a day prep school in Bethlehem, Pa. A friend from graduate school who was living and working in Nashville, told him about the opening at JP2, and Mr. Campbell applied. When Mr. Campbell came to Hendersonville for an interview. "It felt right," he said of his visit. "It felt comfortable that I can speak of Christ and

his love" on the job.

"JP2 has a public school feel with a prep school attitude," Mr. Campbell said. Although bigger than most prep schools and private school, JP2 shares the same high academic standards, he said.

Mr. Campbell is teaching two sections of beginning theater, a stagecraft class, and intermediate and advanced theater classes, both of which are performance based. Although he considers himself a musical actor first, Mr. Campbell has experience in every facet of theater. He followed the advice of his own high school theater teacher who told him if he wanted a career in theater he should know how to do everything.

Mr. Campbell also will direct the fall play, "Harvey," which will be performed Nov. 11-13, and the spring musical "Oliver." He also will lead a theater camp as part of JP2's summer camp program, Camp JP2.

Mr. Campbell said his arrival in Nashville and at JP2, seems a bit like destiny. As a teen, he thought about becoming a priest and was intrigued by the fact that Pope John Paul II, the school's namesake, had himself been an actor as a young man. Also, his grandmother had encouraged him as a young man to go to Nashville to pursue a singing career. "As a man of faith, I don't believe in coincidences," Mr. Campbell said. "It's a question of whether you are listening for God's calling."

JP2 PRESENTS 'HARVEY'

Pope John Paul II High School's theater department will present the play "Harvey" Nov. 11-13. This classic comedy tells the story of Elwood P. Dowd and his imaginary friend, Harvey, a six-foot tall rabbit.

The cast for the fall production includes: Audrey Manners as Patient B; Brian Melcher as Elwood P. Dowd; Emily Pearl as Ruth Kelly, R.N.; Hailey Lavender, as Patient D; Kala Wahl as Miss Johnson; Keeley Bryan as Betty Chumley; Lauren Gierla as Patient C; Lucas Rudd as William R. Chumley, M.D.; Madeline Davanport as Patient A; Malachi Walker as Duane Wilson; Margaret Duzane as E.J. Lofgren; Maria Bednar as Mrs. Ethel Chauvenet; Matt Lucas as Lyman Sanderson, M.D.; Reuben Hoyos as Judge Omar Gaffney; Summer Kennedy as Veta Louise; Teresa Gilstrap as Myrtle Mae; Stage Management Team: Randi Mysinger, Alex Varboncouer and Megan Ward.

The play will be performed in the Ann and Monroe Carell Auditorium at JP2 at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11, and Saturday, Nov. 12, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13.



117 Caldwell Drive
Hendersonville, TN 37075

info@jp2hs.org

www.jp2hs.org

JP2 LAUNCHES NEW PANEL DISCUSSION SERIES

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series in the spring, which Dr. Peper also is coordinating. Over the last two years, JP2 has hosted lectures by Pope John Paul II biographer George Weigel and Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam.

The first of the Colloquium Series will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, in the school library. The topic will be "A Time for War or a Time for Peace? - Counterterrorism and the Catholic Response." The speakers will be J. Patout Burns, Ph.D., a professor emeritus at Vanderbilt University, and Deacon James H. Toner, Ph.D., professor emeritus of the Air War College.

Dr. Burns' presentation, "The Challenges of War and Peace," will explore the Just War Doctrine and the difficulties surrounding its application to modern warfare. Dr. Burns will focus his discussion expressly on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' statement on nuclear warfare, "The Challenge of Peace" (1983), and the current war on terror.

Dr. Toner's presentation, "Candide, Don Quixote, Micawber, and Pollyanna: Pacifist Nyctalopia," will examine how Scripture and the Catholic moral tradition exhibits a vision of perceiving ethical matters "in perspective," one that cautions Christians against extremist positions. Such an understanding, he will contend, is especially necessary in light of current concerns surrounding national security and the threat of terrorist activity.

Each speaker will talk for 15 to 20 minutes and then take questions

from the audience, Dr. Peper explained.

"They're coming at these things from different angles," Dr. Peper said of the speakers' topics. "We're not setting this up as a debate."

Aside from his numerous publications and presentations in the area of early Christian history, Dr. Burns has also co-edited and published several works on the topic of religion and warfare. Dr. Toner, a Catholic deacon from Kernersville, N.C., has served as both a captain in the U.S. Army and as an instructor at various universities, including the University of Notre Dame, U.S. Air Force Academy, and the Air War College. Dr. Toner specializes in Catholic morality and has published extensively in the area of military ethics.

JP2 students will use the event to augment their class work, particularly those in the junior theology classes, which study morality and social justice, Dr. Peper said.

The discussion is free and open to the community, Dr. Peper said. Register online for a ticket at www.jp2colloquiumseries.eventbrite.com.

JP2 GALA SET FOR FEB. 11

The JP2 Gala, "Celebrating 10 Years of Excellence," the biggest fundraising event of the school year, will be held Feb. 11, 2012, at Bluegrass Country Club in Hendersonville. To donate a live or silent auction item, become a corporate sponsor, or place an ad in the auction book, contact Jo Lind Weaver at lolind.weaver@jp2hs.org or call her at (615) 590-6008.



NOVEMBER 2011

Headmaster Faustin Weber ■ 615-822-2375 ■ www.jp2hs.org

HAND IN HAND GRADS, STUDENTS HONORED



Photo by Rick Musacchio/Tennessee Register

Former and current students in the Hand in Hand Program at JP2, as well as students involved in the Peer Buddy Program, were honored before the start of the JP2-Father Ryan football game on Oct. 7. Before the game, the JP2 Knight Athletic Booster Club and Ryan's 12th Man Booster Club co-sponsored a tailgate party to raise funds and awareness for the Hand in Hand Program, which is for students with intellectual disabilities. Fans from both schools enjoyed live music and a barbecue dinner from Center Point Barbecue - as well as lots of fellowship - in the pavilion and courtyard of the new Jim Carell Athletic Complex at JP2.

JP2 LAUNCHES NEW PANEL DISCUSSION SERIES

Two scholars will discuss and answer questions about counterterrorism and the just war theory during the first of the new Pope John Paul II High School Colloquium Series.

"The broader goal is not only a service to our students but also to the broader community," said Brad Peper, Ph.D., a theology teacher at JP2 and the coordinator of the new Colloquium series. "It's continuing this idea of the academic learning that is the core of JP2, but extending it

beyond the classroom."

The topics to be discussed in the colloquiums will center around religion and society, Dr. Peper said. "It's a scholarly engagement of a particular topic that has something to do with current circumstances," he added.

The Colloquium Series, which will be held in the fall, will be a companion project to JP2's Distinguished Lecture

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FFE

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'HARVEY'

Admissions Office

615-822-2375

info@jp2hs.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

PLACEMENT EXAMS FOR 2012-13 SCHOOL YEAR

NOV. 12
DEC. 10
JAN. 21
8 A.M.-NOON

Become part of JPII history

As JPII celebrates its 10th anniversary and the opening of the Jim Carell Athletic Complex, we invite you to become part of history!

JPII is blessed with the extraordinary gift from Mr. Jim Carell. How do we respond to such generosity? "Pay It Forward" with the purchase of a customized \$500 paver that will be placed between the pillars in the front entrance way. Alumni and current students may also be honored with the purchase of a customized \$150 brick engraved with their name and year of graduation.

Contact Patrick Weaver, director of advancement and admissions, at 590-6013 for information on pavers and alumni bricks.

Go Knights!

View Points

MODEL UN TEAM WINS EIGHT AWARDS AT VANDERBILT CONFERENCE

For the first time ever, the Pope John Paul II High School Model United Nations team purposely limited the size of its delegation at a conference, looking to see how just 12 JPII students would fare against all the competition at the eighth annual Vanderbilt University Model UN (VUMUN) Conference Sept. 30-Oct. 2. Despite their small numbers, the members rose to the challenge and won eight awards.

Usually, the JPII team is among the larger delegations at a Model UN conference, averaging 35 delegates per conference the last three years. A larger delegation means greater voting power, a better chance of getting resolutions written and passed, and often a better ability to win awards.

The 12 JPII students attending the Vanderbilt Conference were among 150 students from 11 high schools from Tennessee, Illinois, Florida, Alabama, New Jersey and North Carolina. Nashville was represented by several schools, including the University School of Nashville and Harpeth Hall.

After days of debating piracy and maritime terrorism, violence against women, and genocide in Sudan among other topics, the JPII students were rewarded for their efforts with eight awards, proving that the team could overcome the odds, make themselves heard, and still win awards.

Mack Mayberry was selected by the college conference staff to receive the top individual honor with a Best Delegate Award. Ryan Phillips and Maggie Musacchio received Outstanding Delegate Awards, while Caleb Pracht, Zach Pelka, Joe McLaughlin and Eric Stolz received Honorable Mention Delegate Awards. Jeffrey LeCave was also recognized with a Verbal Commendation. With these eight awards, the JPII team has now won 307 awards, topping the 300 award milestone with this, their 30th conference.

This November, will mark another first for the team as it participates in two Model UN Conferences in back-to-back weekends. Thirty two JPII students will attend the third annual Southern United States Model (SUSMUN) UN Conference on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta Nov. 11-13. Then, Nov. 17-19, a full bus of 52 JPII students will head to Conway, Ark., for the 46th Annual Arkansas Model United Nations (AMUN) Conference to face off against more than 370 delegates from Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri and Florida. Last year, the team won 32 awards at the 2010 AMUN conference, winning more awards than any other school in the 45-year history of the conference.

JPII PEOPLE: SCHOOL CONNECTION

We hope to highlight the high school careers of some of our students with reference to their "feeder school."

Summer Academy

Moving from Sumner Academy to Pope John Paul II High School this fall, Michael Koen and Jaime Rochester found a lot of familiar faces. Of the 24 students who graduated from Sumner Academy last year, 20 came to JPII, said Michael. All those familiar faces is one of the reasons Jaime was looking forward to coming to JPII, she said. "I knew I would like it," Jaime said. "I know a lot of people who go here."



Jaime Rochester

Both Michael and Jaime followed older siblings to JPII. Michael's brother Thomas graduated from JPII last spring, and Jaime's sister Andie is a junior at JPII. Michael's brother Thomas told him high school would be a "a big change" from Sumner Academy because JPII

is much bigger and he would meet many new people. At the start of the year, JPII did feel a bit big, Michael said. "But after the first week, it stopped being so big. I got used to it."



Michael Koen

"I think it seemed bigger at first," Jaime said, "and then I realized I know most of the people here."

And Michael and Jaime have made new friends since coming to JPII. "It's easy to meet new people," Michael said. "In my classes there are only two other people from my middle school, so I got to meet new people there." Sports is another good way to meet people, Jaime added.

The academic load at JPII is not too much different than Sumner Academy, they said, however there is more homework and the classes only meet three times a week rather than every day like in middle school. "Sumner Academy really prepared us" for JPII, Michael said.

Michael said he would tell people considering coming to JPII, "It's a great change and you'd have a lot of fun."

JPII People ... Michael Koen and Jaime Rochester!

COLLEGE FAIR GIVES STUDENTS A GLANCE INTO THEIR FUTURE



JPII senior Caleb Blount talks to a representative of one of the more than 130 colleges and universities present at JPII's annual college fair, held Sept. 29 in the school gymnasium. Schools of every size and type from around the country were represented at the College Fair, including schools like Harvard, Yale, Vanderbilt, and the University of the South at Seavane, as well as state schools like the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, the University of Alabama, the University of Georgia and Western Kentucky University, and the service academies. The College Fair is one of several activities the school's college counseling department sponsors to help each JPII student find the right college or university for them. Not only seniors got the chance to visit with the school representatives, but also JPII's juniors, sophomores and freshmen.

JPII CHOIR MEMBERS EARN HONORS

The weekend of Sept. 30 brought great success to the JPII choir as they auditioned alongside 1,100 students from 58 Middle Tennessee schools for a position in Tennessee's state honors choirs.

JPII had 14 freshmen singers qualify for Freshman SATB Honors Choir or Freshman Treble Honors Choir. "I was so pleased that our freshman singers performed so well. Our school was second highest in members accepted after Cookeville High School, which has around 400 students in its choral program. These young singers performed well because they were very well prepared and confident," said Mrs. Jj Ebelhar, JPII choir director.

In addition, three JPII singers earned first and second positions in their voice part out of only eight available voice parts. "This is an incredible honor and demonstrates how well prepared our students are for this very competitive audition," stated Mrs. Ebelhar.

Freshman SATB Honors Choir: Gaby Aguilar (soprano), Beth Bender (soprano), Sarah Link (soprano), Rachael Leonard (alto), Whit Drennan (tenor), Bob Shin (bass), Zach Janson (bass), Rivers Hinson (bass).

Freshman Treble Honors Choir: Michelle Moore (soprano), Emily Ernst

JPII LAUNCHES FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLUB

On Sept. 13, JPII's new Foreign Language Club kicked off its first event. The Claudia and William Puryear Library was packed with approximately 100 students who wanted to discuss life as a bilingual person, with the featured guests being JPII students who grew up in a bilingual environment as well as some of this year's German exchange students.

The event revealed the cultural diversity at JPII. The panel included students representing Korea, Guatemala, Mexico, Germany and Syria as well as Bozena Lawson, JPII's Latin teacher, who grew up in Poland.

"I could feel the pride of these students as they shared their experiences and I was very pleased to see the sincere interest of their fellow students," said school librarian Joan Lange. "What an enriching experience for all. The Foreign Language Department and their students also did a wonderful job assembling thought-provoking questions for the panelists."

"It was a brilliant idea!" said Headmaster Faustin Weber. "It affirmed our students from other countries and also made for an educational event for our students."

The Foreign Language Club is new this year and is open to all JPII students who are interested in foreign languages and cultures. The club is co-sponsored by French teacher Melanie Taylor, Spanish teacher Jack Willey and Mrs. Lawson.

The club has also attended the annual Festival of Cultures in Nashville. The October meeting theme was "Dia de los Muertos" where students had the opportunity to make Mexican crafts and discuss how different cultures honor and celebrate their departed loved ones.

JPII students are required to complete three years of a foreign language and have a choice of French, Spanish or Latin.

(soprano), Abby Sturgill (soprano), Rebecca Sullivant (alto, second chair), Taylor Smith (alto), Megan Reding (alto).

SSAA Mid-State Honors Choir: Jacqui Ramos (second soprano, All-State Alternate), Madi Leonard (second soprano), Erin Roberts (second soprano, All-State Alternate), Kenzie Farless (first soprano, All-State), Hannah Gautsch (first alto, All-State), Audrey Manners (first alto), Annalea Wilson (first Alto, All-State Alternate).

SATB Mid-State Honors Choir: Jenny Cawood (second soprano, All-State, first chair), Olivia Drennan (second soprano, All-State), Maria Bednar (first soprano, All-State Alternate), Anna-Sophie Galley (first alto, All-State Alternate), Seth Carver (second tenor, All-State Alternate), Andrew Gilstrap (second bass, All-State, first chair).

TTBB Mid-State Honors Choir: Mack Mayberry (first bass, All-State, second chair), Bryan Melcher (second tenor, All-State Alternate).

Every Freshman Honors member, All-State member, and All-State Alternate will participate in Mid-State Honors Choir Festival on Nov. 15 at Christ Church in Brentwood.

AP CREDITS EARNED AT JPII GIVE GRIGGS HEAD START ON COLLEGE

When Joseph Griggs graduated from Pope John Paul II High School last spring, he left with a huge head start on college. He started his freshman year at Southern Methodist University in Dallas this fall with 57 credit hours earned through the 10 AP courses and tests he completed while at JPII.



Joseph Griggs

"Based on the amount of credits I have, I am classified as a junior," Joseph said. And his fellow students in a majority of the classes he is taking this fall are juniors, he added.

"I was slightly apprehensive when I came in" about starting in such advanced classes, "but JPII prepared me for all my classes," Joseph said. "I couldn't be more prepared for my classes."

The education he received at JPII helped him develop analytical skills, the ability to synthesize ideas, and his writing ability, all of which are benefitting him greatly in college, said Joseph, whose older sister Emily is a JPII graduate and a student in the honors program at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and younger sister Elizabeth is a junior at JPII.

The preparation he received at JPII helped land Joseph in a prestigious university. SMU is a top-50 university, Joseph said. The business graduate school is ranked in the top 10 nationally in finance, marketing and accounting, and the undergraduate business school, where he is studying, is ranked in the top 20 nationally in most areas. "It's a well regarded school," said Joseph who is double majoring in finance and economics.

Joseph was able to earn so many college credits while still in high school

GOLF TEAMS COMPETE AT STATE

JPII's boys and girls golf teams qualified for the Division II-AA state championships, which were held Oct. 10-11 at WillowBrook Golf Course in Manchester, Tenn.

The girls team finished fifth in the team standings. They were led by senior Morgan Yount, who finished 10th in the individual standings with a score of 186. She was followed by junior Christina Lindahl, who finished 12th with a 189, and freshman Laura Knight, who finished 13th with a 192.

The boys team finished sixth in the team standings. They were led by junior Alex Matheny, who finished tied for 10th in the individual standings. He was followed by junior Connor McCarthy and junior Carson Riley, tied for 18th, junior Michael Resha, tied for 23rd, and junior Jacob Svedin, tied for 32nd.

because of the 10 Advanced Placement courses and tests he took at JPII. Among his AP classes were: European history as a sophomore, statistics, English and U.S. history as a junior, and English, calculus, biology, Spanish, microeconomics and macroeconomics as a senior. He earned all 4s and 5s on the AP tests, which are graded on a 1 through 5 scale with 5 the highest.

His performance on the AP tests earned him recognition as a National AP Scholar, which is awarded to students who earn an average score of 4 or higher on a 5-point scale on all AP exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more exams. It is the highest level of recognition in the AP program, and Joseph was one of four JPII students in the class of 2011 who received the distinction. The others were Jordan Julow, Devin Patel and Derek Robinson.

"The curriculum in those classes is very rigorous," Joseph said of JPII's AP classes. He said they were very comparable to the curriculum in his courses at SMU. The quality and style of teaching in JPII's AP classes also are much like what he is receiving in college, he added.

"I was just so grateful that I could take that credit and start out ahead," said Joseph, the son of John and Jane Griggs of Gallatin. Not all colleges and universities accept that many AP credits, he noted.

In his first semester at SMU, Joseph is taking accounting, systems management, microeconomics with integrated calculus, eastern religions, anthropology and wellness, which is a freshman requirement. With 57 credits already on the board, Joseph said, "technically, I could graduate in two years." But because he is pursuing a double major, he likely will graduate in the spring of 2014, a year ahead of most of his JPII classmates.

"It really is all thanks to the guidance and preparation I received at JPII," said Joseph.

ALUMNI NEWS



Two JPII graduates, Chris Callahan, left, Class of 2007, and Annie Musacchio, Class of 2006, were among the graduates at the University of Notre Dame's commencement exercises last spring. Chris graduated with an undergraduate degree in accounting, and Annie graduated with a master's degree in accounting.