



Required Reading

Newsletter of the Children's Scholarship Fund

Volume VI, Issue I

CSF Student Introduces Anaheim's Mayor

Aubrey Mory, a 5th grader at St. Anthony Claret School in Anaheim, recently had the honor of introducing Anaheim Mayor Curt Pringle to an audience of more than 800 people at the mayor's State of the City address. Although this was the first time for Aubrey to speak in front of such a large crowd, she is by no means a novice at public speaking. She talked about CSF at a reception in Newport Beach last year, and again this November when Mayor Pringle paid a visit to her school.

Aubrey has used a CSF scholarship to attend St. Anthony Claret since 1st grade. She and her



Mayor Curt Pringle and CSF recipient Aubrey Mory practice before the State of the City address at the Grove of Anaheim. The event drew more than 800 people.

family take her education seriously. Her goal is to become an FBI agent, and she's already in the Police Athletic League program and taking karate lessons. Her grandmother, Stella, told us last year that, "I want to say thank you for all your help. I know if it weren't for your help Aubrey wouldn't have been able to continue at St. Anthony's."

Mayor Pringle, who was instrumental in establishing the CSF program in Orange County, also spotlighted CSF in his State of the City speech, urging locals to support needy parents who want to choose a private school for their children.

Currently, 145 children in Anaheim and Orange County are using CSF scholarships to attend private and parochial schools of their family's choice – and, like Aubrey's family, they tell us over and over how happy they are with their chosen schools. Thanks go out to all our Orange County donors who make scholarships possible for these deserving children. ●



Aubrey Mory confidently introduces the Mayor before the State of the City.

giving
parents
a choice

giving
children
a chance

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CSF Hosts Researchers From Japan



Pictured here are (l-r): Kazuhito Miyake; Tadao Toda; CSF President Darla Romfo; Hideo Fukui, Ph.D., and Yoshiaki Hiranuma.

CSF recently hosted a delegation of Japanese researchers on a fact-finding mission advising the Japanese government about the American experience of school choice and education reform.

They want to make Japan's education system more "learner-oriented," and told us their time with us gave them "much energy to go forward to promote school choice in Japan." ●

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In Memoriam

1946-2005

Philanthropy's Multiplier Effect

A recent report from the Philanthropy Collaborative shows that money invested in non-profits by foundations has a remarkable multiplier effect. For every \$1 donated by a foundation, an average of \$8 is generated through the work of charities. Looked at another way, the \$43 billion that American foundations invested in charities in 2007 created \$368 million in economic benefits. The report also shows that these investments generated \$145 billion in tax dollars.

The study, authored by economist Robert Shapiro, found that in the area of education, \$9.7 billion in foundation grants to education-related programs generated \$49 billion in direct economic benefits – a fivefold increase.

The study validates what we have long observed about the value of what the Children's Scholarship Fund provides. Money invested in a child's education will always pay high returns. But our scholarship dollars are not just helping the children who use them to attend private schools and raise their educational and professional prospects. The scholarships also have positive effects on the entire family, the schools, and by extension, the neighborhoods and communities they serve.

To read more about the true value of philanthropy, see Manhattan Institute Fellow Heather Mac Donald's recent article in the Wall Street Journal, at <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123360629185340587.html>. You can also download the full Philanthropy Collaborative report at www.philanthropycollaborative.org.

As a member of the Philanthropy Collaborative, CSF President Darla Romfo was interviewed about the report and CSF on WBAI-FM in New York, and on the Los Angeles-area KNIF-AM. You can listen to both interviews on CSF's website, www.scholarshipfund.org. ●



**THE CHILDREN'S
SCHOLARSHIP FUND AIMS TO
MAXIMIZE EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITY AT ALL INCOME
LEVELS BY OFFERING
TUITION ASSISTANCE IN GRADES
K-8 FOR NEEDY FAMILIES.**

Straight from the Schoolyard:



Saints Peter and Paul School

To some, the South Bronx conjures up images of empty lots, burned out buildings, high crime, and poverty. But a visit to Saints Peter and Paul School, not far from Yankee Stadium, reveals a lively, loving center of academic excellence that has been providing hope and instruction for almost a hundred years.

On a recent Tuesday morning, first-graders battled in a tug-of-war in the gym, cheering and high-fiving each other excitedly. In the computer lab, fourth-graders argued about the merits of the New York Yankees versus the Mets while working on a baseball program. The pre-K class interrupted their lunch to recite a poem for us complete with actions. The school's principal, Sr. Michelle McKeon, stopped to greet 2nd graders in the hallway by name, and intercepted Denasia and Lou'asia Watts, twin sisters in 8th grade, fresh from a visit to the orthodontist.



The Watts twins, Lou'asia and Denasia, show off their new braces. Next year, they plan to attend Cathedral and St. Jean Baptiste High Schools in Manhattan.

Along with a warm and caring atmosphere, Saints Peter and Paul School emphasizes strong academics. Homework is required for everyone, with the understanding that students put in more time as

they advance through the school, going from about 15 minutes per day for Kindergarteners to two hours for 8th graders. The hard work pays off. About 87% of the school's 8th graders go on to Catholic high schools, where the graduation rate is 98% compared to less than 50% in the public high schools. A good foundation at Saints Peter and Paul is a strong indicator that a child will graduate from high school and go on to college.



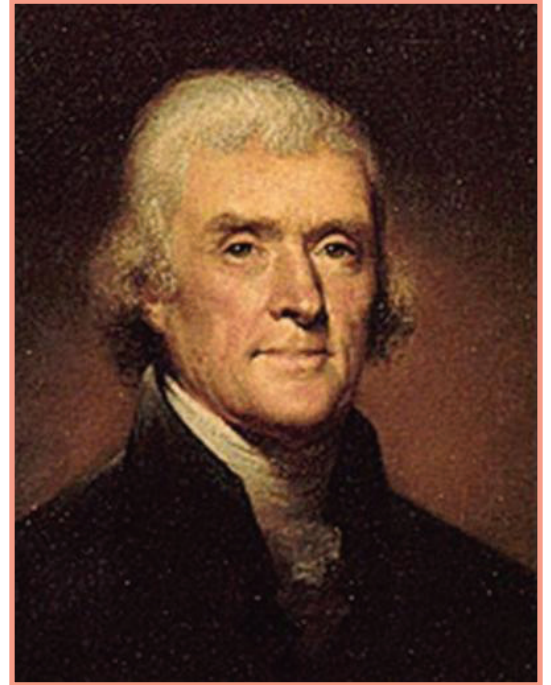
Triumphant first-graders at Saints Peter and Paul School pose after winning a tug-of-war contest.

This year, 86 of the school's 350 students are using a CSF scholarship to attend. Sr. Michelle says that without these scholarships, most of the 86 children would not be able to stay at the school. Even though the families must contribute a portion of the tuition themselves – no small feat when many of them have suffered job losses – they are convinced that Saints Peter and Paul is the best choice for their children. Several families who moved their children to a free charter school returned to Saints Peter and Paul after just a few months. As Sr. Michelle wrote in the school newsletter, “One cannot beat 97 years of excellent education and tradition.” ●

The Last Word:

“If a nation expects to be ignorant and free...it expects what never was and never will be.”

- **Thomas Jefferson**
Third President of the United States



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