



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

Today's Young Woman. Tomorrow's Leader.

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St. Mary's Academy faculty member selected to participate in conference call with the First Lady

Portland, Ore. – Nov. 17, 2011 – Kathy Briggs, Music Department Chairwoman and Fine Arts Department Co-Chairwoman at St. Mary's Academy, has been selected to participate in a teleconference with Michelle Obama today at 1 p.m. Pacific time. The call will stream live online at <http://bit.ly/sZDCOR>.

Briggs, a Tigard resident, will have the opportunity to ask one question during the half-hour call, and she is eager to hear the First Lady's perspective on why it's so important for young women to exercise their right to vote.

"For many of my students, the November election will be their first opportunity to vote. I want to ask the First Lady what in her opinion is the most important reason for them to vote in this election, especially as young women," Briggs said.

She hopes to instill in her high-school students a sense of civic responsibility.

"Whoever their candidate is, they need to get out there and vote. They need to know what the candidates' positions are, and how those decisions could impact their lives," Briggs said.

For additional information or questions, please contact Mary Ann Albright, Director of Communications, at 503.721.7715 (direct office), 503.984.2777 (cell), or maryann.albright@stmaryspdx.org.

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About St. Mary's Academy

St. Mary's Academy is a Catholic high school for young women located in the heart of downtown Portland that provides a challenging college-preparatory education with a focus on developing the whole person. Founded in 1859 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, St. Mary's Academy is Oregon's oldest continuously operating secondary school and offers a supportive learning environment to a diverse student body from more than 30 urban, suburban and rural communities in Oregon and Southwest Washington. It is the only school in the state to have received three Blue Ribbon awards from the U.S. Department of Education. For more information about St. Mary's Academy, please visit www.stmaryspdx.org.