



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

Today's Young Woman. Tomorrow's Leader.

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Crystal W. Ghassemi
St. Mary's Academy
1615 Southwest Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

Direct: 503-721-7715
Cell: 503-724-8589
Fax: 503-223-0995
Crystal.Ghassemi@StMarysPDX.org
www.stmaryspdx.org

St. Mary's Academy Recognizes Three Extraordinary Alumnae at Academy Awards

Portland, Ore. – **March 4, 2010** – St. Mary's Academy will honor three extraordinary alumnae during its eighth annual Academy Awards on Saturday, March 13, 2010. Scheduled to begin at 5 p.m. in the Rooftop Student Commons, this year's Academy Awards honors:

Maureen Connolly Daschel '77 for Excellence in Education
Mary Jackson Sammons '64 for Woman of Career Achievement
Nancy Moore '47 for Theatre Achievement.

"Each year, the Academy Awards honor alumnae who have made outstanding achievements and contributions to our world," says Coralynn Arrigotti Petrie '83, Director of Institutional Advancement. "This year's inductees embody the essence of St. Mary's mission as it relates to service and leadership. It is my hope that the current and incoming classes see these women as inspiration that a St. Mary's education can be the foundation of amazing things to come."

The St. Mary's Academy Awards is an annual opportunity to identify the premier achievements of alumnae and highlight the accomplishments of those that exemplify the spirit and mission of the school. Nomination forms are mailed to alumnae and parents of alumnae each fall. Nominations may also be made by visiting the St. Mary's Academy website and are accepted throughout the year.

Alumnae are eligible to be recognized in one of eleven categories: Outstanding Service to Community; Science/Medical Achievement; Technology/Engineering Achievement; Environmental Preservation; Career Achievement; Theatre, Music or Art Achievement; Excellence in Teaching/Educational Administration; Athletic Achievement; Extraordinary Contemporary Alumna; Embodiment of the Mission of St. Mary's Academy and Living Out a Dream Award.

(more)

The 2010 St. Mary's Academy Award Winners are:



Maureen Connolly Daschel '77 for Excellence in Education

Daschel has been inspiring students at SMA to engage themselves in science for over 25 years. After graduating from SMA in 1977, Daschel earned a BS in Biology from Oregon State and MAT in Science at Lewis and Clark College. In 1984, she began her career at St. Mary's Academy. Daschel developed the Scientific Research Methods (SRM) program and also supervises Teaching, Integrating and Exploring Science (TIES). Daschel continues to teach, promote and immerse herself in the successes of her students and St. Mary's because she not only "...loves being here for the kids who go on in science, but also loves being here for the kids who think they can't do science and learn that they can..."



Mary Jackson Sammons '64 for Woman of Career Achievement

Mary F. Sammons, is Chairman & CEO of Rite Aid Corporation. Before joining Rite Aid, Sammons was President and Chief Executive Officer of Fred Meyer Stores. In 26 years at Fred Meyer, she held positions of increasing responsibility in all areas of operations and merchandising before becoming Chief Executive Officer. She was recognized by *Forbes*, *Fortune* and *The Wall Street Journal* as a leading woman in business. In 2009, she was again named to the *Forbes* Most Powerful Women list, ranking 21 out of 100, above Hillary Rodham Clinton, Michelle Obama, and Oprah Winfrey. Sammons is a native of Portland, Ore. She graduated from Marylhurst College with a B.A. in French and a secondary level teaching certificate.



Nancy Moore '47 for Theater Achievement

Although born to an Episcopalian family, Moore attended Catholic schools after moving to Portland as a child. Later baptized in the Catholic faith in eighth grade, Moore earned a scholarship to St. Mary's Academy and graduated in 1947. She became the former Sister M. Ignatia Ann when she joined the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary in 1949. She graduated from Marylhurst College (now Marylhurst University) and later earned a Master of Fine Arts from Catholic University of America. For over 16 years at St. Mary's Academy, she taught drama classes, led the Drama Club and directed one notable production after another. The St. Mary's Academy Theater Department is what it is today thanks to Nancy Moore.

For additional information or questions, please contact Crystal Ghassemi, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, at 503-724-8589 (cell) , 503-721-7715 (direct office) or crystal.ghassemi@stmaryspdx.org.

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About St. Mary's Academy

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 one of 716 all-female schools in the country. The student body represents a diverse background of young women from over 30 urban, suburban, and rural communities in Oregon and southwest Washington. St. Mary's Academy is distinguished by its development of the whole person, and is the only school in the state to receive three U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools awards. For more information about St. Mary's Academy, please visit: www.stmaryspdx.org.