



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 Helps Robert Nelson, 85, Fulfill Life-Long Dream

Portland, Ore. – **April 21, 2010** – At 85-years-old, it may seem strange for someone to start a new chapter in their life. However, Robert Nelson will do just that this Friday, April 23, when he takes to the stage to star in his own piano recital. Beginning at 3 p.m., the recital will be held at the St. Mary's Academy Performing Arts Center and last approximately an hour. Within those sixty minutes, Nelson will fulfill a lifelong dream.

A pianist and organist, Nelson earned a Master of Music from the University of Idaho, has been an adjudicator for the National Guild of Piano Teachers since 1959 and taught piano, organ and accordion in Idaho, Oregon, Houston and San Diego. His strong belief that the enjoyment of music is enhanced by playing an instrument, as well as performing for others, is the foundation for this dream.

Made possible through the New Chapters Event of the Marquis Company and St. Mary's Academy, Nelson's performance is open to the public as his enthusiasm for sharing his love of music is contagious.

"Most music inspires and moves me regardless of the performer," Nelson says.

The New Chapters program through the Marquis Company believes people, regardless of their age, can begin a new chapter in their life and helps residents like Nelson realize their dreams.

"We are excited that St. Mary's can help Mr. Nelson share his music and fulfill his dream of having his own recital," said St. Mary's Principal Patricia Barr. "Good luck, Robert, as you blaze your new chapter."

For additional information on the New Chapter program at the Marquis Company, please visit <http://marquiscompanies.com/marquislife/lifestories>. No RSVP is required for the recital.

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.