



## ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

*Today's Young Woman. Tomorrow's Leader.*

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **St. Mary's Academy Hosts 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Auction: *Royal Blue***

Portland, Ore. – **April 7, 2011** – The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Mary's Academy Auction will be held this Saturday, April 9, 2011, at the Oregon Convention Center. Beginning at 5 p.m., this year's Royal Blue auction welcomes emcee Debora Knapp, main anchor from KATU-TV, and features a silent and live auction as well as a raffle for a 2011 BMW 328i xDrive and a six day trip to Monaco.

"We work extremely hard to present a fun and interesting night to encourage the generosity of all our supporters," said Courtney Day, Director of Special Events. "With the numerous auctions held in our community, St. Mary's remains proud of our tradition to excellence during our 23<sup>rd</sup> annual auction."

Sixty-four live and hundreds of silent auction item descriptions are now available on the St. Mary's website, [www.stmaryspdx.org](http://www.stmaryspdx.org).

Expected to raise approximately \$750,000, this year's Auction directly benefits the 600 students of St. Mary's Academy. Whereas 42% of students currently receive financial aid, the Auction includes Bids For Kids where 100% of donations directly benefits tuition assistance. Further, the Auction's proceeds assist in sustaining excellence in academic programs and co-curricular activities.

A limited amount of raffle tickets still remain through Friday, April 8 by calling 503-228-7181. Tickets for the 2011 BMW 328i xDrive are available for \$100 and tickets for the trip to Monaco are available for \$25. This year's Auction is co-chaired by SMA parents Alan Timmins and Annette Nemetz, Oscar and Amy Polo and Jeff and Molly Paustian.

For additional information or questions, please contact Crystal Ghassemi, APR, Director of Communications, at 503-724-8589 (cell) , 503-721-7715 (direct office) or [crystal.ghassemi@stmaryspdx.org](mailto: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 an all-female Catholic high school and Oregon's oldest continuously operating secondary school. 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](http://www.stmaryspdx.org).