



ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

Today's Young Woman. Tomorrow's Leader.

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Two St. Mary's Academy Students Win University of Portland Essay Honors

Portland, Ore. – **April 13, 2011** – Two St. Mary's Academy students were honored in the University of Portland and Garaventa Center for Catholic Intellectual Life and American Culture 2011 high school essay contest. Junior Rebecca Collins won \$500 cash as one of the two first-place winners and junior Iphi Buggingo was awarded an honorable mention and \$250 based on the topic of *Getting Beyond Myself: How I Learned It's Not All About Me*.

These St. Mary's juniors will be formally awarded their prizes on Monday, April 18, 2011, at 4 p.m. at the University of Portland Buckley Center room 163.

"The Garaventa Center Essay contest is a great opportunity for our students to grapple with their place in our world and provides a platform in which to articulate those thoughts," said Principal Patricia Barr. Rebecca and Iphi eloquently explained that it is in the small, everyday moments that we have the chance to be Christ-like."

The essay contest was open to Catholic high schools in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and Nevada. The 2012

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.

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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.