



ST. MARY'S
ACADEMY

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St. Mary's Academy Community Raises Nearly One Million Dollars to Support Young Women

Portland, Ore. – More than 700 guests gathered to raise their paddles high in support of the young women of St. Mary's Academy at the school's 30th Annual Auction: "Pearls of Wisdom." Beautiful pearls helped transform the Oregon Convention Center and set the stage to celebrate future female leaders. Cathy Marshall of KGW served as the mistress of ceremonies for the evening, keeping the crowd enthusiastic and engaged. St. Mary's raised nearly one million dollars thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the school's dedicated community.

"We are so very fortunate to be supported by generous parents, alumnae, friends and community members who believe in the power of young women and the value of a St. Mary's Academy education. Your partnership allows us to impact hundreds of young women each year and we are so very thankful," said Emily Niedermeyer Becker '86, Vice President for Development at St. Mary's Academy.

Highlights from the event included exciting raffles for the chance to win a 2017 Land Rover Discovery Sport SE or a \$5,000 travel adventure voucher, packages for getaways to an African Safari, Wine Country Hot Air Ballooning and Hawaii, and the school's highly anticipated Bids for Kids paddle raise. Bids for Kids is an opportunity for auction guests to contribute to the school's tuition assistance program. This school year, St. Mary's awarded \$1.9 Million in tuition assistance to 40% of current families.

Bids for Kids speaker, Liane Rae, all-girls school alumna, St. Mary's Academy Science teacher, and recently appointed Assistant Principal of Curriculum Design and Instruction, shared that "the exceptional young women at St. Mary's must be offered the opportunity to observe, think critically, interpret, appreciate precision and scale, and communicate the perspectives of a female scientist, visual artist, mathematician, computer scientist, performance artists, or engineer as well as a host of other professions that our programs foster and encourage. Your investment tonight allows us to offer qualified and eager young women the St. Mary's experience, regardless of her family's financial situation."

This year's auction was co-chaired by St. Mary's Academy parents Sara Jewell, Dustin Klinger, Bradley Maier and Haewon Nam, who lauded the "amazing talent and inspiring altruism" of all volunteers who were committed to creating an extraordinary experience while raising significant funds to support the school and their mission.

The auction is St. Mary's largest annual fundraising event with proceeds benefiting every student in meaningful ways.

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At St. Mary's Academy, We Believe.

Located in the heart of downtown Portland, OR, St. Mary's Academy is the state's oldest continually-operating school and its only all-girls secondary school. Founded in 1859 by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, St. Mary's Academy serves over 725 young women in grades 9-12. The school's college acceptance rate is 100% and SMA students achieve, excel and are recognized locally, regionally and nationally in academic fields, the arts, athletics, community services and extra- and co-curricular activities. www.stmaryspdx.org