



If you want to touch the future . . . teach a child.

Focus

FRIENDS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION, INC.

53 E. Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-846-7804 • www.friendsofcatholiced.org

VOLUME 21, NO. 1

FALL/WINTER 2016-2017

Our Mission

Friends of Catholic Education, Inc. is an independent organization dedicated to providing a Catholic school education, in Frederick County, for all who seek it.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of Friends,



In October, Friends held the annual McElroy Dinner to honor two longtime Frederick County 'friends of Catholic education', Mr. Jerome (Jerry) Offutt, and Dr. Carol Hinds. Each recipient was recognized in his/her own way for carrying on and building upon the legacy of Fr. McElroy; Mr. Offutt by his stewardship of legacy gifts, and Dr. Hinds by her leadership both at Mount Saint Mary's University and within F.O.C.E. We were also honored to have some scholarship students and their parents, among them Raphaela Smaldone and Noah Kasica, both Milani scholarship recipients.

The McElroy dinner was held shortly following the sudden and saddening closure of Visitation Academy. A work of Father McElroy's, the all-girls Visitation Academy was a Frederick County institution for almost 200 years. It was a beloved school, representing all that is good about Catholic education. The effect of the loss of this school cannot be overstated. It is painful for the parents, faculty, alumni, and benefactors alike. It is also impactful to the broader landscape of education within the entire county as it lessens the opportunities in manner and method of education available to all Frederick County parents.

Visitation Academy's closure brings into sharper focus the work of F.O.C.E. and all who support and cherish Catholic education in Frederick County. We who support Catholic education do so because we want to have affordable schools with outstanding curricula that are infused with the Catholic faith. For us, we believe that there is a truth — that this truth informs all subjects and that all subjects reflect back to this truth. This truth, which is the hinge of human history, is the Incarnation. It is the Annunciation, Nativity, Ministry, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension of our Lord. If this were not the truth, it would not matter what we teach; it would not matter what we learn. Since this is the truth, as we know it to be, when we study literature and history we do so to understand salvation history and mankind's stories and struggles to learn what is right and seek God. We study language and writing because every word is a story and it was the Word that became flesh. When studying mathematics, which is the language with which God wrote the universe, we use reason. When studying science, we seek to unlock the mystery of creation and further understand God in all things. We study art and music which are from our imagination — that bridge between reason and mystery — revealing our divine spark and our separation from all other creation as being made in the image of God. And we study theology, which is reason applied to religion, for theology provides the glue giving meaning to all understanding.

Our Frederick County Catholic schools do this and they and their families will continue to need our support. Even with the closure of Visitation Academy, we must persist, we must press on in our work, so that a Catholic school education in Frederick County, transmitting the truth, is available to all who seek it.

Bill Nilani
President

INSIDE

Highlights 2

- 25th Anniversary of the McElroy Award Dinner and Ceremony
- F.O.C.E. Expresses its Gratitude to all of the Sponsors of the 2016 McElroy Award Dinner and Ceremony

Updates 3

- 2016-2017 Scholarships
- Interested in Establishing a Scholarship?
- Bill and Cindy Milani Establish Scholarship
- Tuition Grants and Scholarships Awarded to Schools
- Seton Dubois Society
- Donate Online!

Board Members 4



25th Anniversary of the McElroy Award Dinner and Ceremony



Seated L to R: Dr. Carol Hinds, W. Jerome Offutt - 2016 McElroy Award Recipients Standing L to R: Al Edwards, F.O.C.E. Board of Trustees; Caroline Pugh, F.O.C.E. Former Executive Director; Bill Milani, President, F.O.C.E. Board of Trustees; David M. Grove, F.O.C.E. Board of Trustees.



attorney and community leader. He was one of the co-founders of the Community Foundation of Frederick County. John Fieseler served as master of ceremonies and gave a touching tribute to the now closed Visitation Academy. F.O.C.E. also hosted a number of its scholarship recipients to attend. Keynoting the evening was Dr. Timothy Trainor, interim president of Mount Saint Mary's University.

Friends of Catholic Education celebrated its 25th anniversary of the McElroy Award Dinner and Ceremony, recently held at Ceresville Mansion. This year's honorees were Dr. Carol Hinds and W. Jerome (Jerry) Offutt. Dr. Hinds is a professor of English at Mount Saint Mary's University, where she also served as provost during George Houston's tenure. She has also served as a past president of the Board of Trustees for F.O.C.E. Jerry Offutt is a long time



F.O.C.E. would like to recognize and thank the following sponsors of the 2016 McElroy Award Dinner:

Platinum

THE ATKINSON MCGOWAN HARRIS TEAM OF MERRILL LYNCH
DAVID M. GROVE, ATTORNEY AT LAW
DR. CAROL HINDS
MOUNT SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY
THE PLAMONDON COMPANIES
SAINT JOHN'S CATHOLIC PREP

Gold

THE EMERSON FAMILY
FREDERICK COUNTY BANK

JEFFERSON & EASTERN CORPORATION
THE REVEREND LAWRENCE FRAZIER
MICHAEL AND ELIZABETH KINLEY PUGH REAL ESTATE GROUP

Silver

PATRICK AND MOLLY CROWLEY
AL EDWARDS
MICHAEL & RITA MCGOWAN
BILL & CINDY MILANI
JOHN & KAREN O'BOYLE

Bronze

GEORGE B. DELAPLAINE
BERNARD L. GROVE
WILLIAM J. MOHAN
PETER & LORRIE PLAMONDON
WILLIAM & BONITA PORTIER
ST. JOHN REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Friend

MICHELE & JOHN CORR
FREDERICK LAND COMPANY
DAVID & BRIDGET MCCARTHY
RAY SPECIALE



2016-2017 Scholarships

Congratulations to all of our 2016-2017 Scholarship winners:

Cecilia Bracey
 Sabrina Browning
 Megan Cunningham
 Lily Ehart
 Abigail Field
 Haley Frazier
 Johanna Hintermister
 Makenzie Holston
 A.J. Javitt
 Nicole Javitt
 Noah Kasica
 Kevin Knight
 Adam Knox
 Alexis Moore
 Liam Mullenholz
 Sofia Navarro
 John Nelson
 Curtis Nishimoto
 Thomas Nishimoto
 Pia Nomen
 Haylee Orlowski
 Calista Osong
 Clytie Pavlovic
 Dean Rensberger
 Raphaela Smaldone
 Emily Stadter
 Katherine Stadter
 Alanna Vidal
 Chaltu Watkins
 Julia Workman

Applications for the 2017-2018 year will be available by mid-February. Contact your Frederick County Catholic school for more information.

If you are interested in donating to any of the above scholarships or would like to establish a new scholarship, please contact Michele Corr at 301-846-7804 or email at info@FriendsOfCatholicEd.org.

Interested in Establishing a Scholarship?

F.O.C.E. works with individual donors to establish named scholarships in honor or memory of loved ones. Getting started is more affordable than you may think. Call us for more information.

Bill and Cindy Milani Establish Scholarship



For **Bill and Cindy Milani**, Catholic education is more than a good cause, it's very personal. Products of Catholic education, they believe in the importance that faith based education plays in the development of children. Indeed their own Catholic faith proved instrumental in seeing them through the death of their two sons Billy and Joey who passed away at a young age from a rare genetic disease. To honor their memory, Bill and Cindy decided to make Catholic education their mission, establishing the **William and Joseph Milani Memorial Scholarship** which has already provided scholarships for six students. Thank you Bill and Cindy for providing this financial gift to the Catholic school children of Frederick County.

Tuition Grants and Scholarships Awarded to Schools

F.O.C.E. awarded \$115,000 in block grants and scholarships to Frederick County Schools for the 2016-2017 school year.



Approximately 130 students benefit from these grants and scholarships, making a Catholic education in Frederick County more affordable for many families.

Seton Dubois Society

In an effort to increase scholarship opportunities, Friends of Catholic Education established the Seton Dubois Society, which recognizes individual or corporate donors who contribute \$1,000 or more on an ongoing annual basis. Named for two pioneers in Catholic school education, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (founder of the first Catholic school for girls staffed by religious women) and Father John Dubois (founder of Mount Saint Mary's University), the program generates scholarships to support students attending any of the county's Catholic schools. 100% of the contributions are awarded annually on the basis of academics, financial need, and character. For more information, please call 301-846-7804 or email info@friendsofcatholiced.org.

Donate Online!

Friends of Catholic Education now accepts credit card donations online through our website, friendsofcatholiced.org. You can schedule donation payments through **Paypal**, our online processing partner. All major credit cards are accepted. To learn more, visit our website and click on "**Make a Donation**" at the top of the homepage.





FRIENDS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION, INC.
 53 E. Patrick St.
 Frederick, MD 21701
 301-846-7804

Non-profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit #181
 Frederick, MD

**RETURN SERVICE
 REQUESTED**

Visit our Website at www.friendsofcatholiced.org



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

William G. Milani, President
 Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, Ret.

Cary H. Plamondon, VP
 Attorney and Community Volunteer

Dr. Bernadette Emerson, Secretary
 The Visitation Academy, Ret.

John P. O'Boyle, Treasurer
 Richter & Associates

Albert E. Edwards
 Exec., Mary Kay Cosmetics, Inc., Ret.

Rev. Lawrence K. Frazier
 St. Joseph-on-Carrollton Manor
 Archdiocesan Representative

David M. Grove
 Attorney at Law

Dr. Carol L. Hinds
 Mount St. Mary's University

Michael Kinley
 MedImmune

Michael C. O'Connor
 St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church



Michele Corr
 Executive Director

ADVISORY BOARD

Donald N. Briggs
 Mary J. Fourcade

Frederick S. Genau
 Bernard L. Grove

Patrick Hogan
 Marie Keegin

Margaret T. Koogle
 Karen Krask

Daniel Kurtenbach
 Frank Lipscomb

Michael J. McGowan
 Dr. James A. Merkel

William J. Mohan
 John B. Offutt

Leo Rocca, Jr.

Thomas R. Rozynek
 Martin W. Snyder, Esq

Ray Speciale, Esq
 Daniel K. Tregoning



Like us on Facebook at
**Friends of Catholic
 Education, Inc.**

