2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

"It Begins with Me"

integrity being a servant initiative courage grit hospitality valuing differences personal responsibility charisma

MARIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Educating Girls for Life

2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

“ It Begins with Me”
Marian Middle School, a Catholic school serving adolescent girls of all religious, racial, and ethnic backgrounds, is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty by fostering their spiritual, academic, social, moral, emotional, and physical development in preparation for and successful completion of college preparatory high schools.
Message from the Board Chair

Dear friends,

Since 1999, supporters like you have made it possible for Marian Middle School to help break the cycle of poverty by *Educating Girls for Life*. Thanks to your generosity, Marian provides a **holistic, well-rounded** education to young women from across the St. Louis region.

During the 2013-2014 school year, we put your charitable dollars to work ensuring that more students than ever before could be a part of the Marian family. Seventy-two urban adolescent girls benefited from Marian’s quality academic and enrichment programs during the school year. They also received spiritual, social, moral, and emotional support from the loving staff at Marian.

In keeping with our mission, Marian also supports our alumnae through high school and beyond. Your donations allowed us to provide academic and social assistance to 66 alumnae in high school during the 2013-2014 school year. Thirty of those students also received financial support from Marian.

Thanks to donors like you, 94% of our school’s funding is covered every year. This support allows Marian to provide opportunities for students and families that would not otherwise be possible due to their financial situations.

We continue to focus our efforts around our bold vision and mission, and reach out to new constituents across the region. We hope you will help spread the word in 2015 of our important work in the lives of young women.

Thank you for helping Marian become a vital community resource. We hope you will continue to partner with us as we prepare for the next 15 years of *Educating Girls for Life*!

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Gorman, M.D.
Board Chair

Thank you!
Message from the President

To the Marian Community,

What a joy and privilege it has been to serve as Marian Middle School’s President since December 2013. I am inspired daily as I watch our students grow, and our faculty and staff pour their time and talents into the lives of young women.

By educating girls in a private school setting, Marian provides a safe space where students find their voice and become confident leaders. One way we accomplished this during the 2013-2014 school year was through our school-wide theme, “It Begins with Me.” The theme was a timely and powerful message. Our students explored the theme discussing integrity, being a servant, initiative, courage, grit, hospitality, valuing differences, personal responsibility, and charisma.

Throughout the year, Marian also had many milestone moments, created some wonderful partnerships, and was honored by the St. Louis community.

• After serving as interim president from August to December, Sr. Barbara Roche, SL, foundress and long-time board member, joined the Marian staff as the Academic and Graduate Support Associate.

• Saint Louis University’s department of nutrition and dietetics began providing healthy snacks, breakfasts, and lunches for students.

• Shabana Basij-Rasikh, co-founder and president of the School of Leadership Afghanistan, visited Marian in April. She spoke with students about the importance of education and how privileged they are to live in a country where girls can receive an education legally.

• Math Teacher Heather Olson received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award.

• Language Arts Teacher Maggie Klonksy received an Incarnate Word “Caring Hands” award from graduates Amber and Ga’Nae for the positive difference she has made in their lives.

• Marian was listed as a School That Can by the national organization of the same name.

Marian continues to excel by reaching high academic goals and graduation rates that surpass other schools in our region. We could not achieve these results without generous donors and partners like you.

As we move into our 15th anniversary year, know that your support makes it possible that “10 hours a day, 10 months a year, Marian educates girls for life!”

With sincerest thanks,

Mary Elizabeth Grimes
President
Message from the Principal

Greetings,

The end of the school year is always a great time for both celebration and reflection. As Marian Middle School embarks upon a milestone anniversary during the 2014-2015 school year, we thank God for the ways that we’ve been blessed by our shared mission.

We are thankful for the long list of young women who have been supported through our academic, enrichment, and graduate support programs, and the 4,827 donors who invested in the power of transformative education since the inaugural school year. We have remained faithful to the founding vision of the women who began this school. These are things worth celebrating.

As I reflect on Marian Middle School’s journey, I am humbled and amazed by how far we have come. When I first came to Marian ten years ago, we were located on a rented second floor of St. Anthony of Padua’s campus. I was the volunteer English teacher through the Gateway Vicentian Volunteer program, and living temporarily with the Daughters of Charity down the street. My fifth grade class had three students: Jalisa, Ta’Nya, and Spencer. There were no computers in the classroom and our textbooks were from 1989. Our Marian Magic fundraiser happened in the basement of the church hall, where our faithful donors came to sit on folding chairs and eat off of the plastic plates our students had set out for them.

Through the sacrifices of many, our school has built a reputation of excellence in the St. Louis educational landscape. Our mission is still the same, but enrollment is close to capacity. Our student body, though still small by design, grew from 14 students during the first school year to 72 students during the 2013-2014 school year.

On behalf of our students and their families, thank you. Thank you for giving our St. Louis region such a special place to work and learn.

Sincerely,

Christy Toben
Principal

2013-2014 Staff Members

Mary Elizabeth Grimes, President
Christy Toben, Principal
Stephanie Airaghi
Elise Bussmann
Dianne Decker
Kathleen Fox
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Jesuit Volunteer Corps
Tim Grosch,
Ignatian Volunteer Corps
Brianna O’Connor,
Jesuit Volunteer Corps
Kate Stroble,
Ignatian Volunteer Corps

integrity being a servant initiative courage grit hospitality valuing differences personal responsibility charisma
About Us

Founded in 1999 by seven communities of Catholic sisters and a group of dedicated laywomen, Marian Middle School is a Catholic school committed to serving adolescent girls of all religious, racial, and ethnic backgrounds in grades five through eight. Our goal is to break the cycle of poverty through quality education. Marian Middle School believes students will achieve their tremendous potential when given opportunities to learn and grow.

Students at Marian Middle School experience a rigorous academic schedule with an intensive 10-month, 10-hour-a-day school year designed to develop the critical thinking, problem solving, and leadership skills necessary to help them succeed in the next phase of academic life.

Student Data

Student Demographics
Number of Students ..............................................72
Average GPA ..........................................................2.5

Attendance
Total Instructional Days ........................................183
Average Daily Attendance ..................................93%
Academic Saturdays (6) .........................................79%
Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences ..................99%

Student Highlights
• All students participated in the Culinary Arts Program
• Students read 1,739 books containing 61,892,916 words
• Students mastered 98% of the books read by scoring a 85% or above on comprehension quizzes
• Fifth graders made an average gain of 1.68 years in reading

Ethnicity
- African American 71%
- Multiracial 13%
- Hispanic 11%
- Asian 4%
- Caucasian 1%

Free and Reduced Lunch Program
- 93% of the students qualified for Free and Reduced Lunch, a national indicator of poverty.
- In February, Saint Louis University’s Department of Nutrition and Dietetics began providing healthy snacks, breakfasts, and lunches for students.
2013-2014 Alumnae Demographics

Number of Alumnae 159
   In High School 66
   In College 51
   Receiving Scholarships from Marian 30

High School Enrollment

Marian’s Magnificat Program 7%
Magnet & Charter High School 18%
Private High School 59%
Public High School 16%

High Schools Attended
Bayless High School
Bishop DuBourg High School
Carnahan High School of the Future
Central Visual and Performing Arts High School
Chaparral High School
Clyde C. Miller Career Academy
College Prep High School at Madison
Cor Jesu Academy
Crossroads College Preparatory High School
Gateway STEM High School
Gateway to College Program
Hazelwood Central High School
Incarnate Word Academy
La Joya High School
Marian Middle School’s Magnificat Credit Recovery Program
Mehlville High School
Metro Academic and Classical High School
Nerinx Hall
North County Technical High School
Notre Dame High School
Rockwood Summit High School
Roosevelt High School
Rosati-Kain High School
Seckman High School
St. Joseph’s Academy
Trinity Catholic High School
Ursuline Academy

Colleges Attended
Alabama A&M University
Blackburn College
Brescia University
California State University, Sacramento
Columbia College
Hampton University
Missouri State University
Philander Smith College
Ranken Technical College
Rust College
Saint Charles Community College
Saint Louis Community College
Saint Louis University
San Jacinto College
Savannah College of Art and Design
Southeast Missouri State University
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Southwestern Illinois College
Tennessee State
University of Central Missouri
University of Missouri-Columbia
University of Missouri-Kansas City
University of Missouri-Saint Louis
University of Tennessee at Martin
Valley Forge Christian College

High School GPA By Class

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Marian Middle School is proud to report that our graduates have a 94.5% high school graduation rate, far surpassing the 64.5% graduation rate for female students of similar background and circumstance in the City of St. Louis.
Statement of Financial Position
June 30, 2014

Assets
Cash and cash equivalents $358,301
Investments $1,294,191
Accounts receivable $1,752
Grants and contributions receivable $293,250
Prepaid expenses $8,060
Property and equipment - net $507,817
Total assets $2,463,371

Liabilities and Net Assets
Liabilities
Accounts payable $6,707
Accrued liabilities $13,345
Notes payable $94,041
Total liabilities $114,093

Net Assets
Unrestricted $1,400,047
Temporarily restricted $949,231
Total net assets $2,349,278
Total liabilities and net assets $2,463,371

"I plan to make excellent grades in high school so I can attend Spelman College, major in political science, and become a congresswoman."
— Mariah F., MMS Class of 2015

"After high school, I’d like to get into a good college so I can study engineering and join the U.S. Navy."
— Ariel B., MMS Class of 2015

"My dream is to go to an Ivy League university. I want to get a degree in cyber security so I can work for the FBI or a degree in political science so I can become governor."
— Jamison J., MMS Class of 2015

It costs $12,000 per year to educate one Marian Girl.
Revenue and Expenses
June 30, 2014

Support and Revenue
Grants and contributions $1,144,439
Fundraising events $368,698
Tuition $32,881
Lunch program $50,447
Investment income $16,617
Other $6,156
Total support and revenue $1,619,238

Expenses
Program services
Academic $894,583
Social service $155,172
Total program services $1,049,755
Supporting services
Management and general $209,869
Fundraising $181,442
Total supporting services $391,311
Total expenses $1,441,066
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS $178,172
Net assets at beginning of year $2,171,106
Net assets at end of year $2,349,278

After I get a Master’s degree, my dream is to go to Africa to help children in need.
— MyKinzi R., MMS Class of 2015

Marian Middle School inspired me to take risks and learn new things.
— Taylor P., MMS Class of 2015
Marian Middle School thanks the following donors for their generous gifts during the 2014 fiscal year. The following lists gifts received from July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

If we have inadvertently omitted or misspelled your name, please help us correct our records by calling the development office at 314.771.7674 ext. 24.

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When you empower a girl through education, she’ll change the world for everyone around her.

“Marian Middle School has made me a more organized, hardworking, confident, and outspoken young woman.”

— Deja A., MMS Class of 2015
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I plan to get at least a bachelor’s degree because I want to take advantage of the privileges I have. Privileges don’t guarantee success but hard work can get me there quicker.

— Triniti W., MMS Class of 2014
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15
A girl with an extra year of education can earn 20 percent more as an adult.
In Kind Donations

In-kind gifts are essential to our fundraising program. We appreciate the various items and services that were given between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.

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<th>Company</th>
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<td>Adler Custom Signworks, Inc.</td>
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In Memory Of

Dorothy Hoffmann
Pearl Scheve

Joellyn Hoffmann
Bill Bollwerk

Paul Kersgieter
Eileen Kersgieter, SL

Marianne Knaup
Bill Bollwerk
Polly Burtelow

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Laurie and David Brooks
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Rita Scheve
Laura and Steven Lucido

Marie Sherman
Terry Sherman

Margaret Mary Steimel
Laura Hoeflinger
Pearl Scheve

Mary Patricia Vatterott
Kathleen and Richard Valenta

In Honor Of

John Fournie
Raymond and Mary Fournie

Janet Frane
Suzy Bloch

Susan Frane
Steven Mansbach

Peter and Susan Frane
David Frane and Charla Gabert

Mary Jo Gorman
Enterprise Bank and Trust
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To find out how you can impact the mission of Marian Middle School through a financial donation, please contact:

Jessica McCarthy
Manager of Philanthropic Gifts
4130 Wyoming Street
Saint Louis, MO 63116
Phone: 314.771.7674 ext. 19
Fax: 314.771.7679
Email: jmccarthy@mms-stl.org
www.marianmiddleschool.org

“Marian has truly transformed me. It has opened many doors that I would not have had due to lack of financial ability.”
— Kayla S., MMS Class of 2012

“Marian built me up and gave me more independence. I am now responsible and can take on high school with no worries.”
— Kristi N., MMS Class of 2011

“...you educate a man; you educate a woman; you educate a generation.”
— Brigham Young
2013-2014 Committees

Marian Middle School is grateful for the many people who dedicate their time and talents to advancing and sustaining the mission of Educating Girls for Life. For more information on how you can serve on a committee, please contact the development office at 314.771.7674 ext. 24.

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Samuel Wright

Marian Middle School would like to thank Laura Kangrga of Kangrga Design for designing our annual report.
It all started in 1998 with the opening of an all-boys school. Loyola Academy was the first NativityMiguel model school to open in St. Louis. The Jesuits founded NativityMiguel model schools in the early 1970s to serve low-income, at-risk students by employing longer school days and years, small class sizes, and high expectations. When news of the school spread, Foundress Sister Nancy Wittwer, SL, wondered,

“What about the girls?”

This simple question led to the founding of Marian Middle School. Marian opened in the fall of 2000 with 14 fifth and sixth grade students. Today, we educate more than 70 fifth through eighth grade girls each school year. Marian has come a long way over the years, and we have you to thank! We look forward to celebrating this milestone anniversary with you during the 2014-2015 school year!