



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



*Educating Girls for Life*

2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

*“It Begins with Me”*



MARIAN  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Educating Girls for Life*

2013  
2014

## OUR MISSION

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Jo Gorman, M.D." The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mary Jo Gorman, M.D.  
Board Chair

*Thank you!*

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Educating Girls for Life

2013  
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## OUR VISION

- Marian Middle School is a leader in providing life-altering education to urban girls on their journey towards self-discovery.
- Marian alumnae graduate from high-performing secondary schools ready for success in higher education and the workplace.
- Marian alumnae college graduates are accomplished leaders equipped to make informed decisions and create enduring, positive change.

## 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 Klonsky 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.

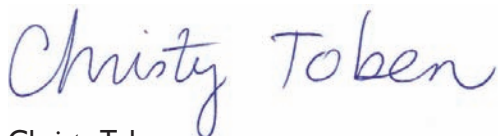
We are thankful for the long list of young women who have been supported through our academic, enrichment, and graduate support programs, and the 4,827 donors who invested in the power of transformative education since the inaugural school year. We have remained faithful to the founding vision of the 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  
Jessica Graham  
Marvin Harrison  
Gabrielle Hearn  
Sarah Heger, CSJ  
Maggie Klonsky  
Heather Olson  
Sarah Paulsen  
Barbara Roche, SL  
Kaitlyn Sanders  
Pearl Scheve  
Andréa Sykes

## 2013-2014 Service Volunteers

Sarah FitzGerald,  
Jesuit Volunteer Corps  
Tim Grosch,  
Ignatian Volunteer Corps  
Brianna O'Connor,  
Jesuit Volunteer Corps  
Kate Stroble,  
Ignatian Volunteer Corps



# students

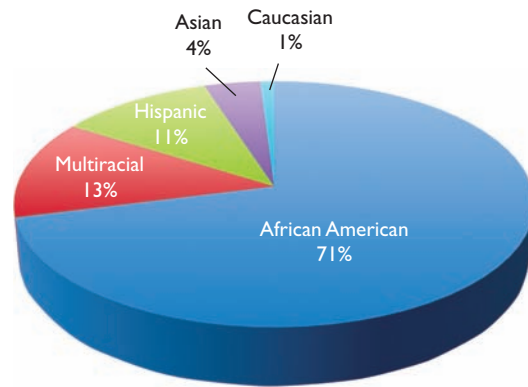


## About Us

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.

## Ethnicity



## Student Data

### Student Demographics

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

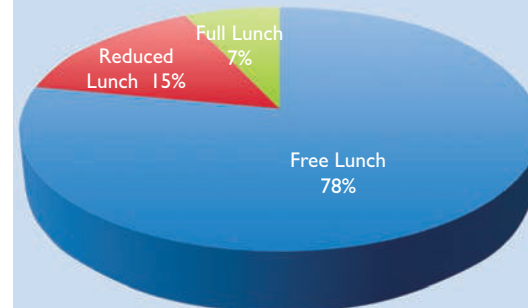
### Attendance

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

## 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.

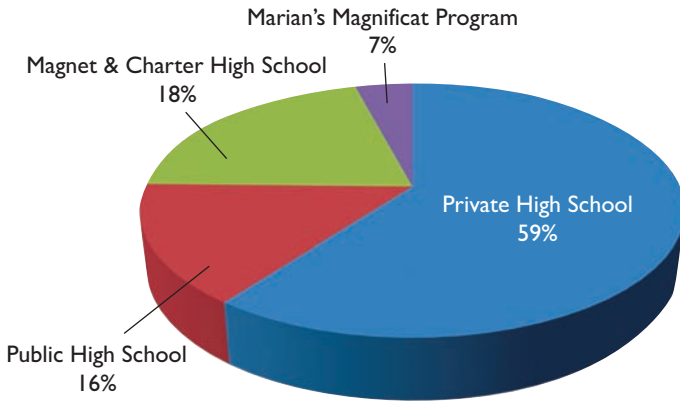
“Marian taught me that all of the knowledge you gain, no matter how small it may seem, will at some point be important.”

— Nikki N., MMS Class of 2013

# 2013-2014 Alumnae Demographics

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

## High School Enrollment



## 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
- Incarinate 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

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.

## High School GPA By Class

	2013-2014	2012-2013	2011-2012
MMS Class of 2010	3.33	3.11	2.99
MMS Class of 2011	3.35	3.38	3.38
MMS Class of 2012	3.00	3.02	N/A
MMS Class of 2013	3.18	N/A	N/A



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I plan to make excellent grades in high school so I can attend Spelman College, major in political science, and become a congresswoman.

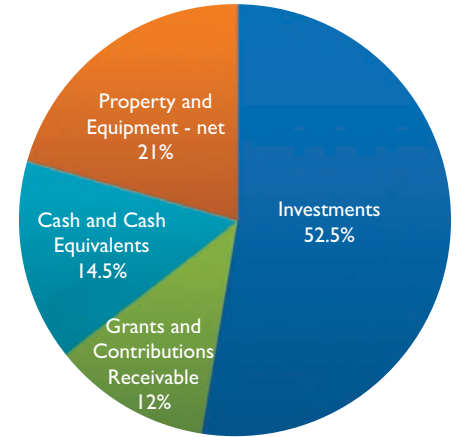
— Mariah F., MMS Class of 2015

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

## 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
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$2,463,371</b>



### Liabilities and Net Assets

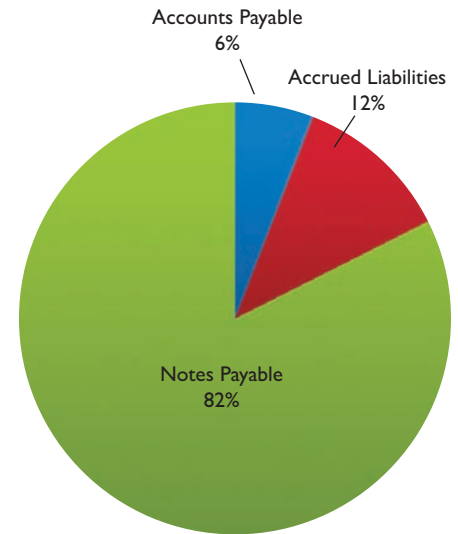
#### Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$6,707
Accrued liabilities	\$13,345
Notes payable	\$94,041
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$114,093</b>

#### Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$1,400,047
Temporarily restricted	\$949,231
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$2,349,278</b>

**Total liabilities and net assets**    **\$2,463,371**



It costs  
\$12,000  
per year to  
educate one  
Marian Girl.

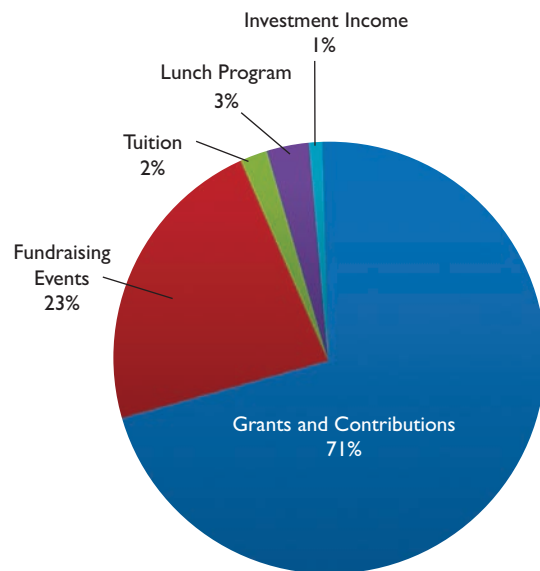
My dream is to go to an Ivy League university. I want to get a degree in cyber security so I can work for the FBI or a degree in political science so I can become governor. — Jamison J., MMS Class of 2015

finances

# 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
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>\$1,619,238</b>



## Expenses

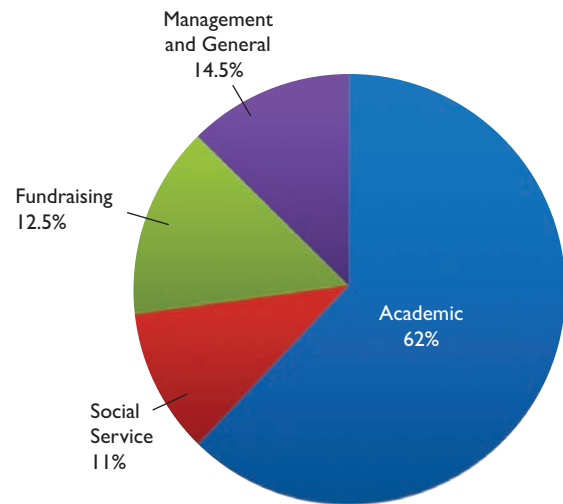
Program services	
Academic	\$894,583
Social service	\$155,172
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>\$1,049,755</b>

Supporting services	
Management and general	\$209,869
Fundraising	\$181,442
<b>Total supporting services</b>	<b>\$391,311</b>

**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



# Thank you TO OUR

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.

# 2013 2014



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- Wells Fargo
- Whelan Security Management Company, Inc.
- World Wide Technology, Inc.

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

— DeJa A., MMS Class of 2015

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

# DONORS!

I plan on getting my bachelor's degree and my master's degree in nursing so that I can become a pediatric nurse practitioner and help children. — LaDaria M., MMS Class of 2011

## Sponsoring Religious Communities

Daughters of Charity - St. Vincent de Paul Province of St. Louis  
Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
School Sisters of Notre Dame - Central Pacific Province  
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Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet - St. Louis Province  
Sisters of the Most Precious Blood  
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Patrick and Peggy Sly  
Andrew and Sue Small  
Ruth and Francis Stroble  
Ann Wadlington  
Christopher Young





Educating Girls for Life

2013  
2014



For every extra year a girl stays in school, her income can increase by 15 to 25%.

# Thank you TO OUR

## Rising Stars Alliance \$1,000-\$4,999

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 Kathy Wisniewski  
 Stephen and Jane Wright  
 Thomas and Jane Wulf  
 Ellen Zimmer

"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



# DONORS!

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

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# 2013 2014



**A girl with an extra year of education can earn 20 percent more as an adult.**

## Invest in Her Future

Marian Middle School families commit to supporting students based on their financial capacity. The typical family pays \$400 annually. However, the actual cost of educating one Marian student is more than \$12,000. It is through the generosity of our donors that we are able to succeed in our mission to break the cycle of poverty by *Educating Girls for Life*.

# Thank you TO OUR DONORS!

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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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Pearl Scheve

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Bill Bollwerk

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Eileen Kersgieter, SL

**Marianne Knaup**  
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**Marie Sherman**  
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Pearl Scheve

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**James Francis Toben**  
Hazel and Richard Sohn

“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

“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

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

“You educate a man; 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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 Lydia Pohlman Figueroa  
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 Laura Hoeflinger  
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 Tracie Johnson  
 Beth Kellett  
 Chris Kellett  
 Ashley Loewe  
 Rachel Milazzo  
 Colleen Murphy  
 Amanda Pietoso  
 Christy Redmond  
 Idania Rombach  
 Inita Shepard  
 Emily Unger  
 Amy Voloto  
 Samuel Wright

## 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WOMEN'S EVENT Girls Night Out

Thursday, October 17, 2013  
 St. Louis Club  
 Presented by Mercy



"It's always fun to see women you know at Girls Night Out and ask, 'How do you know about Marian Middle School?'" — Toni Hunt

## 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Young Friends Wine Event A Sweeter than Ever Benefit

Friday, November 8, 2013 • Bar Napoli

"The wine event is a great opportunity for young professionals and Marian supporters of all ages to enjoy an evening of good food, drink, and conversation. This year's event was a blast!" — Betsy Ross



## 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Marian Magic When You Believe

Friday, April 11, 2014  
 Ritz Carlton St. Louis

Presented by Ascension Health and Scottrade

Award of Excellence Honorees:  
 Ascension Health and Carol and Dave Hampton

"We look forward to attending Marian Magic each year. It is a fun night with exceptional silent and live auction items, delicious dinner, and social time. Those who attend have the opportunity to meet the students, learn how the staff is committed to the total development of the girls in all aspects of their lives, and hear about student successes in high school and college and what it means to the young women to be "Marian girls". This significant fund raising event helps provide the revenue for the school to carry out its mission of breaking the cycle of poverty through education and supports their outstanding program for the students." — Carol and Dave Hampton

## 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL Young Friends Bowling Event Ten Pins for Education

Friday, May 2, 2014 • Flamingo Bowl

"The Young Friends bowling event brings out the kid in everyone and caters to many people: from its unique location at Flamingo Bowl to the great entertainment throughout the evening. It's a perfect way to kick-off the weekend while supporting a wonderful school."

— Tracie Johnson



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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!

Save the date!  
*Marian Magic*  
SATURDAY  
APRIL 18, 2015

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