



March 2008

Women Committed to Quality Education, Hope and Opportunity for Baltimore City School Children

Dear Friends,

Spring is here at last!!!! And the Women's Alliance has been busy planning our first annual event -- an *Afternoon Tea* to be held at the College of Notre Dame. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet 5th-8th grade girls from several **Partners In Excellence Schools**, and hear about their hopes and aspirations for the future while enjoying tea, treats and gentle conversation with these amazing young women and their parents. More information about the Afternoon Tea can be found later in this newsletter.

Hope to see you there.

May the Easter Christ reward you in abundance.

Jennifer Hammand

Archbishop O'Brien Visits Partners In Excellence Schools

Archbishop Edwin O'Brien recently visited 3 **Partners In Excellence Schools** where he had an opportunity to speak one-on-one with the students, asking them questions about their school, their faith, and their plans for the future.

Students attending St. Katharine, Father Charles Hall and St. Mary's Govans Elementary Schools appreciated his visit and his obvious care and concern for them.

Archbishop O'Brien announced recently that as part of his commitment to impoverished neighborhoods in Baltimore City, the Archdiocese is undertaking a study of Catholic Schools to identify ways of strengthening education for all students. The study, being conducted by Fellows of the Carey School of Business at Johns Hopkins University, is expected to be completed in May.



Hippodrome Theatre Hosts Students For *Flat Stanley the Musical*

Thanks to Mary-Ann Pinkard and the support of the Directors of the Hippodrome Foundation and The Annie E. Casey Foundation, over 1,200 Catholic School students recently attended a live theatrical performance of *Flat Stanley the Musical*. After preparing in the classroom for several weeks, students were thrilled to see *Flat Stanley* and his family come alive as they traveled the globe to visit historic sites. And, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders were in awe of the beautiful and truly grade Hippodrome Theatre. For many students and family members, it was their their first experience of the theatre and they loved it!



Susan Butta, co-leader of the Women's Alliance, Susan Zuhowski, Mary Ann Rishebarger, and Rotarians in Anne Arundel County and Baltimore City sponsored bus transportation for 3 schools, making the trip possible for all students. Our great thanks to everyone including the teachers and principals who were part of this extraordinary



The Women's Alliance cordially invites you to

Afternoon Tea

With 5th-8th Grade Girls from Baltimore City Catholic Schools

Featured Guest
Dr. Mary Pat Seurkamp, President
College of Notre Dame, Doyle Hall

Saturday, April 5 2008
2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Registration begins at
2:00 p.m.

RSVP
Jennifer Hammand
410-547-5461

Menu
Assorted Scones with Devonshire cream, preserves and butter
Miniature corn muffins with roasted turkey and cranberry relish
Sliced cucumber rounds with herb cheese spread on lightly toasted bread
Shrimp salad tea sandwiches on whole wheat bread
Fresh fruit display
Miniature pastries
Assorted Bigelow teas

Ss. James and John School Celebrates Women's History Month With it's 3rd Annual Morning Tea

Members of the Women's Alliance and guests enjoyed morning tea and conversation with very poised 5th grade girls who had questions galore for their guests. Most of the girls will be part of the Afternoon Tea on April 5th where they will also have an opportunity to visit the College of Notre Dame campus.



Principal LaUanah King-Cassell thanked the women who have made such a profound difference for the school by donating their time, energy and resources to expand



the students. She referred to the Women's Alliance as the "Wind Beneath Their Wings."

Thank you Mrs. King-Cassell for your leadership and passion for all you do!!

Sponsor a Field Trip to the BSO, the BMA, the Walter's Art Gallery or an educational venue of your choice

The cost of bus transportation is often the biggest barrier when it comes

Starbuck Coffee Makes Teacher Appreciation Day Very Special



Linda Spano, Linda Kuligowski, Kim Mulroy, Paula Shepherd, Pat Tunstall and Susan Butta helped to make Teacher Appreciation Day at Archbishop Borders, Ss. James and John and St. Katharine Schools very special as they delivered an



array of specialty coffees, biscotti and other treats to very appreciative teachers and staff. It was a great morning as members of the Women's Alliance and students said thank you for their dedication to the students and their schools. Our great thanks to Starbucks on Light Street at the Inner Harbor for generously donating the coffee.

Kangaroo Kids Provide an Awesome Demonstration of Jump-Roping Skills

Linda Kuligowski put the Women's Alliance in touch with Kangaroo Kids for a high-energy, two-school tour and demonstration of world-class jumping skills. It was great fun and students and teachers had a chance to demonstrate their own skills at the end of the performance.



IBM Donates Young Explorer Early Childhood Learning Centers



PJ Mitchell, IBM VP Global Sales Operations, and Jim Sellinger, VP Technical Sales Support, made it possible for students at St. Katharine School to receive two KidSmart Young Explorers for the early childhood program at St. Katharine School. It was a happy day when the two computer learning centers arrived at the school. Pre-K and K students are eager to have time at the computer station and use an array of fantastic learning tools that will help prepare them for life in our high-tech world.

Schools Aligned with the Women's Alliance Archbishop Borders, Ss. James and John, and St. Katharine

- Low-income families pay 60-70% of the cost of tuition
- Average Tuition - \$4,400
- Average Tuition Assistance Grant: \$1,500
- 97% of students graduate from high school
- 95% of students attend college
- All schools participate in community outreach
- 89% of students participate in extra-curricular activities

High Schools That Students Attended

- Archbishop Curley
- Baltimore School of the Arts
- Calvert Hall
- Christo Rey
- Institute of Notre Dame
- Loyola Blakefield
- Mercy High School
- Polytechnic Institute
- Seton-Keough
- Western

to students getting out into the community and experiencing the terrific cultural and educational resources in Baltimore.

If you are interested in sponsoring a field trip, please contact us and we will be happy to work with you to plan a field trip that will greatly enrich the educational, cultural and social experience of the the students.

[Email Jennifer](#)

The Women's Alliance of Partners In Excellence

Susan Butta - Co-Leader

Betty Contino - Co-Leader

Brett and Meredith Alcarese

Cathy Baldwin

Dorothy Bloomfield

Meredith Callanan

Gina Campbell

Susan Cashman

Linda Deluca

Afsenah Faridi

Nancy Flanigan

Mary Ellen Fise

Kathleen Fox

Tara Gallagher

Tere Geckle and Mollie Staab

Marguerite Mullan Greenman

Jennifer Hammand

Jen Hobbins

Mary Ellen Hrutka

Charleton Hughes and

Jessica Hughes

Elizabeth Ketzner

Kristen Kinkopf

Esther Krasevac

Barbara Lazzati

Peg MacKrell

Joan Marshall

Jean McHugh

Susanne Misner

Ovetta Moore

Annette Nagler

Pamela O'Neil

Susan Pappas

Ann Polk

Lynda Riley

Thea Schnydmann

Mary Pat Seurkamp

Jeanne Sullivan

Loy Tan-Timbie

Linda Tripp

Stacey Van Horn

Elizabeth Zoltan

Special Advisors to the Women's Alliance

Carmina Perez-Fowler

Linda Kuligowski

Darielle Linehan

Martha Meehan

Sally Michel

Patricia Tunstall

The Women's Alliance of Partners In Excellence

Who We Are

- ✓ Women committed to quality education, hope and opportunity for Baltimore City children aspiring to attend inner-city parochial schools.

What We Do

- ✓ Support the efforts of mothers, grandmothers and families who have big dreams for their children and make tremendous financial sacrifices to send them to parochial schools.
- ✓ Help to transform the lives of some of the city's most amazing school children.
- ✓ Offer hope and opportunity to children regardless of race or religion.

How Do We Do It

- ✓ Providing funds for full or partial scholarships for girls and boys.
- ✓ Engaging with children, especially girls, in ways that enrich their education and life experiences. This might include visits to museums, restaurants or to the workplace.

Gifts for Scholarships

Your gift will help the Women's Alliance meet **Mary Catherine Bunting's Inner City Scholarship Challenge** for the 2007-2008 school year. In addition, your contribution will be eligible for a 2:1 matching grant from **The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation** (\$2 for every \$1 contributed).

Your support means so much to a child!

For more information, please contact

Jennifer Hammand

410-547-5461 (Work)

410-303-4173 (Cell)

jhammand@archbalt.org

Quick Links

[Archdiocese of Baltimore](#)

[Partners In Excellence](#)

[Schools](#)



