ALL GIRLS.
ALL GREAT.

STA BRIDGE CLUB

STARS WALK-OF-FAME

reunion celebration 2012

DECEMBER 2012
For nearly 150 years, St. Teresa’s Academy has focused on one very important mission: educating young women. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet believed early on that women had an important role to play in society. Today, St. Teresa’s continues the tradition of educating and preparing young women for an ever-changing global environment. Our steadfast belief in single-sex education and its intrinsic benefits to young women distinguish us from traditional coeducational schools on numerous levels.

Statistics tell us there are differences between girls’ school graduates and their coed peers. But at STA, we don’t need stats to tell us this. Each day, we see girls taking center stage, girls using their voices to express their views, and girls believing they can do anything and be anyone they choose.

St. Teresa’s formula for a successful educational environment appears to be working. To date, enrollment has increased 10% from five years ago. The number of students in our #1 Club, a student organization celebrating students who are the only ones attending STA from their grade school, has grown to a record 23 students, up from 15 last year. “This shows STA is reaching beyond traditional feeder schools and into schools throughout the metropolitan area,” says Roseann Hudnall, STA admissions director. Signs for next year’s enrollment

**GIRLS’ SCHOOL GRADUATES AS COMPARED WITH THEIR COED PEERS:**

**FACT:** more girls consider college as a prelude to graduate school

**FACT:** more girls consider their academic performance highly successful

**FACT:** more girls spend a greater amount of time studying, talking with teachers, tutoring peers and studying with others

**FACT:** more girls consider their public speaking ability as high

**FACT:** more girls (3x actually) consider pursuing a career in engineering

**FACT:** more girls report confidence in their writing skills

**FACT:** more girls rate their confidence higher in math and computer skills

*National Coalition of Girls’ Schools (NCGS)*

Mandarin Chinese is now offered as a world language, in addition to Spanish, Latin, and French.
are looking even brighter. More students have scheduled to shadow this year than ever before.

As a leading educator of young women, St. Teresa’s administrators and board members continually evaluate student needs and redefine the school’s vision by recognizing and incorporating the newest trends in education.

**technology**

**FLIPPED CLASSROOMS ENHANCE LEARNING**

Although the flipped classroom concept has been around for years, new online technology allows STA’s science teachers to make it a reality. In a flipped classroom, homework and lectures are “flipped” or switched. Lectures and lessons are watched at home on student Netbooks while homework, projects, and assignments are done in the classroom. Rather than spending classroom time lecturing, teachers have more time to work directly with students and blend instruction with hands-on learning. Teachers are also able to make classroom time more engaging though the use of interactive technology and peer-to-peer or small group learning.

**expanded curriculum**

**NEW COURSES REFLECT TODAY’S WORLD**

St. Teresa’s believes it’s vital for students to have knowledge and understanding of our global environment. Curriculum is continually evaluated and updated to reflect the needs of today’s marketplace. With over 1.3 billion speaking Chinese as their primary language, Mandarin Chinese was added to the World Languages Department. To compliment this course, Chinese Art and Culture was also introduced. Other courses added to this year’s curriculum include Art History, a study of the greatest and most influential artists and their works; AP Psychology, college freshman psychology; and Forensic Science...a bit like CSI!

**summer credit courses**

**GETTING AHEAD OF THE GAME**

Last summer, St. Teresa’s introduced a series of optional credit courses designed to offer students greater flexibility with scheduling classes and the ability to broaden elective options during the school year. The summer course program proved to be especially helpful to students with busy schedules due to athletics, fine arts, and part-time work. More courses are being added to the 2013 summer schedule, including personal finance and digital media.

**distance learning expands curriculum**

“Taking advantage of the Windmoor Center’s high tech classrooms for distance learning has always been our plan,” says Nan Bone, president of STA. “It’s very exciting to see these plans come to fruition.”

**ONLINE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

St. Teresa’s will be expanding the curriculum next year by offering classes through the Online School For Girls, a consortium of over 65 top national and international all-girls schools throughout six countries. The satellite courses are specifically designed for the ways girls learn best and are personalized to meet the needs of each student, resulting in higher academic achievement and increased self-confidence. STA students will now be able to take elective courses in subject areas not typically offered, including: Japanese I, Genetics, Global Issues, AP Macroeconomics, and Intro to Computer Programming.

**TAKING MATH MILES AWAY**

For nearly 25 years, St. Teresa’s has been inviting eighth grade girls talented in math to take advanced algebra on campus prior to the start of their school day. Girls living in outlying areas were at a disadvantage due to the drive time involved getting to and from their respective schools. Through use of the Windmoor Center’s video conferencing technology, eighth grade students at Our Lady of the Presentation school in Lee’s Summit will participate in the early morning math class without ever leaving their school.
OFFTEN REMARK AND SMILE, “There’s always something going on at St. Teresa’s.” And I say this in the most positive way! Resting on our laurels is not possible in this ever-changing educational environment that challenges us to stay ahead of technology trends, curriculum guidelines and student well-being, as you’ll see in the cover article, All Girls. All Great. Creating an environment designed solely for the education of young women is certainly what we do best.

In this issue, you’ll also read about the events and people—our teachers, parents, and alums like you—who improve our school by volunteering their time and sharing their talents, resources, and expertise. The Women’s Circle of Giving is just one example: women sharing financial resources to benefit other young women. Please consider joining this wonderful organization if you haven’t done so already.

Our recent auction was a phenomenal success (see pages 12-13). Equally exciting was the amount of money raised for our endowment fund. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the auction in some capacity. You are such a generous community!

And finally, you’ll notice a new look to this publication. Designed to be more informative and visually appealing, we hope you’ll enjoy it from cover to cover!

nan’s note

“There has never been a more exciting time to be a student at STA than right now,” says President Nan Bone.

paying it forward

Hands-on experimental equipment, including a telescope, were purchased for the Science Department from WCG funds.

THE ACADEMY HOSTED a luncheon for members of the Women’s Circle of Giving on October 25. Those in attendance were able to see first-hand how their donations to this organization were realized. STA faculty and students showcased specific ways the WCG funds benefited their classrooms. Half of the funds raised by the WCG is directed the STA Emergency Fund, providing support to STA families in financial crisis.

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING THE WCG: an organization of women whose sole purpose is to support other young women. Our goal is to double enrollment by asking each member to encourage a new member to join. It’s a wonderful way to pay forward the rewards in your life. The next WCG meeting will be held in March of 2013.
As we begin the journey toward our 150th anniversary in the year 2016, we reflect on the individuals and experiences along the way who have helped define St. Teresa’s Academy today. As the oldest school in Kansas City, we have many stories to tell and so much history to share. In each subsequent issue of Starbeams, we will highlight an aspect of our legacy or a memory of an alum that offers a glimpse into our past or an indication of our future.

1906-1916
The tree story,
an excerpt from Who is Like God? The Memoirs of a Mother Superior by Sister Evelyn O’Neill, CSJ

...Scarce only had the visitors gone when the doorbell rang, and a tall, strong well-dressed man stood there and said, “I have this tree digging wagon on the market. May I plant the tree upon your grounds? It will be a good ad for me.”

“I shall be glad to have it indeed,” I answered, taking in at a glance that it was a strong fifty-foot elm. He and his men drove down the treeless end of the campus and planted it easily with a truly wonderful machine.

It never occurred to me to say, “Where did it come from?” Instead I said, “Could you get me some more big trees like this?”

“I think so,” he answered. “How many would you want?”

A contract was signed for twenty trees at $25 per tree, $12.50 to be paid at the end of the first year, if the trees lived, and another $12.50 at the end of the second year. How good it seemed. I had thought such a tree was worth $100.

The trees were brought in regularly, sometimes two a day, sometimes more. In all we got twenty-five trees when the inventor came to tell us that his mother-in-law had a serious accident and that his wife wanted him home at once. “If you pay the $12.50 cash per tree,” he said, “I will cancel the balance.” He handed me the contract I had signed and I handed him a check for twenty trees at $12.50 each. He was gone!

A week or two later I noticed two distinguished-looking men wandering about the campus. I went out and asked, “Would you care to go through the building?”

“No today, Sister,” one replied. “We were only looking at your trees.”

I launched forth on an enthusiastic story of the splendid trees got for so little money. Smiling, they listened, and then the other asked, “Do you know where your trees came from?”

“No, that never occurred to me,” I said.

“They were stolen from Swope Park in broad daylight,” he answered.

“Stolen!” I said. “Stolen!”

“Now don’t be alarmed,” he continued. “Every man on the Park Board is glad to have you have them, and sorry you did not get a few more. The fact that your tree man brought them here saved him from the pen. We confiscated his wagon and ordered him out of town.”

“St. Joseph’s Elm”
Trees of Windmoor, 1910–1936
Composed and illustrated by Sr. Marie Eulelia Ward, CSJ
1946
KATHLEEN RYAN O’FALLON graduated from the University of Colorado in 1950 and married Martin O’Fallon in 1951 who is now deceased. She has four children, 10 grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren. Kathleen taught elementary school in Denver for 21 years and now volunteers as a music teacher at The School for the Blind.

1963
MARY JAYNEEN VANDYKE ROSS is enjoying being a grandmother of 13. One granddaughter, Mallory Radtke, attends STA.

1967
SUSIE HAAKE, after four years of retirement, continues to be blessed as a volunteer for various nonprofits. She is a career coach and a member of the Kansas City Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities.

1970
MOLLY MCCAFFREY GALLAGHER has been a lifetime member of Girl Scouts and has held many volunteer positions through the years. She was privileged to be one of 75 women who received the Women of the Century Award from Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana. This award was created with the intent to give special acknowledgment to some of their most dedicated volunteers.

1988
MICHELLE FREEMAN is currently working as an economist for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Expenditure Surveys. She returned to the Washington, D.C., area after working six years for the U.S. Bureau of the Census in both the Kansas City and New York regional offices. In her spare time, she is an active member of the Junior League of Washington, D.C., a volunteer for the Laurel Museum, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

1989
DANA PATTERSON EVANS, who is an associate minister coordinating a Ministers-in-Training Initiative at the Second Baptist Church of KC, recently returned from a Holy Land tour to Israel with her seminary, Central Baptist Theological. Her group supported Christian Palestinians who are often persecuted for their faith. Dana was also inducted into The Links, Inc - Greater KC Chapter. The Links, Inc. is an international women’s non-profit, social welfare, and service organization of over 12,000 members.

1992
RACHEL MAHLIK just started a new local KC small business as an environmental educator bringing earthworms to classrooms. Visit her website for your child’s classroom at www.wormworkshop.com.

1995
MICHELLE TIPTON DYLIACCO lives in San Francisco, California. She gave birth to her first child, John Dennis, on February 21, 2012.

1997
KRISTIN MOORE FRACASSI is married to her college sweetheart, Eric. They are parents to Dominic (4), Mateo (2), and Dante (9 weeks). They reside in Encinitas, California. Kristin is actively involved with her church where she co-leads a ministry to offer moms a community of support, friendship, and fellowship.

1999
KATIE STACY ERWIN and her husband, Cliff, welcomed son Jamie in May of 2011. Katie moved home to Kansas City to take a job with the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.

2001
CHRISTINA LAMPA, a kindergarten teacher at Pope John XXIII School in Evanston, Illinois, has been named a finalist for the prestigious Golden Apple award. The Golden Apple is a non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring and developing teacher excellence in Illinois. She is one of 32 candidates chosen from hundreds of teachers. Christina has been teaching at Pope John XXIII School for six years.

GEORGIA SHAE STARK PARADISE had her first baby, Jacqueline Amelia, in 2011 and baby number two is due in March of 2013. She enjoys part-time work at the hospital and spending the rest of her time as a stay-at-home mom.

PALOMA JUAREZ has been coaching volleyball in the Kansas City area for eight years. She is currently in her second season as the sophomore coach at STA and in her sixth year with the USAV girls club sports.

ERIN SMITH O’LAUGHLIN married Matt O’Laughlin in 2007. She graduated from Indiana University in 2005 and completed medical school from KCUMB with her D.O. in 2011. She is now in
her second year of residency at Truman Lakewood in Family Medicine. Erin also has three boys, Brock (4), Curtis (2), and George (6 months).

2002
BETH VANDYKE teaches art and computer and is the athletic director at Christ the King School in Kansas City. She recently bought her first house in Waldo.

2003
SARAH HOFFMEIER recently completed the Autism Graduate Certificate program through Pittsburgh State University.

MICKEY HOGAN-ELBE married Jason Elbe on November 7, 2009. They have a little boy named Owen Mark Elbe, born May 28, 2011. She graduated in May of 2012 from St. Louis University School of Nursing with a master’s of science in nursing with a specialty in Family Nurse Practitioner. She was inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu, the national honor society of Jesuit institutions of higher education. She is also a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. She is employed at SSM St. Mary’s Health Center in St. Louis, Missouri. They reside in Belleville, Illinois.

MARY-CATHERINE LIBERTO REINERT launched her graphic design studio, Blissful Prints, this fall in Briarcliff Village. Blissful Prints creates exquisite designs and specializes in custom invitations, stationery, and corporate graphic designs. Stop by her showroom or call her at (816) 716-9175 to arrange a personal consultation. Visit her website at www.blissfulprints.com.

2004
ANNE BUCHANAN married Ryan Gegen on June 9, 2012, at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Kansas City with a reception at the Intercontinental. They currently reside in Wichita, Kansas, where Anne teaches second grade at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School.

2005
LORA MERRIGAN SWARTS graduated from Loyola of Chicago in 2009 with a B.A. in journalism and English. She received her master’s degree in journalism from DePaul University in 2012.

2006
KATHLEEN HEERMANN graduated with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy from the University of Missouri in May. She recently started a job at North Kansas City Hospital and is planning an October 19, 2013, wedding.

2007
CAITLIN WALLINGFORD THIESFELD married Joe Thiesfeld in July of 2010. Her sister, Cara Wallingford, Class of 2005, was her maid of honor. The newlyweds reside in Lincoln, Nebraska, where Caitlin graduated with an associate of arts degree from Southeast Community College. Joe is completing his journalism/communications degree from the University of Nebraska. They chose STA for some of their engagement photos due to the beautiful scenery and great memories of the school.

2008
LESLIE SEAR is a full-time missionary for FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students), a nonprofit organization. This year she will be working at Benedictine College where she will share the good news about Jesus Christ with the students. If you are interested in joining her monthly support team, please contact Leslie at 913-832-4150 or leslie.sear@focus.org.

2012
SHANNEN FREEMAN is enjoying her theology major at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas.

IN MEMORIAM
Helen Dierks Neenan, 1939
Rose Effertz Byrne, 1948
Sandra Graham Newman, 1952
Georganne Wilkinson Duesman, 1953
Kathy Atchity Coco, 1962
Carole Brennaman Kelso, 1965
Mary Therese Byrne Ismert, 1971
Susan Pearson Johnson, 1988
Erin Sevart, 1992
**The St. Teresa’s Academy Endowment Fund** helps students realize their dreams. Each year, over $500,000 in interest earned in the school’s endowment portfolio is distributed to nearly 40% of STA families in the form of scholarships and financial aid. These funds allow us to recognize academic achievement, encourage diversity, and provide much-needed financial assistance to worthy students. Our endowment also provides relief to families in financial crisis and supports students who utilize our work-study program.

There are many ways to support the endowment:

1. **Establish a scholarship.**
   A gift of $20,000, given over time or all at once, can be placed in the school’s endowment portfolio. The interest earned is given as a $1,000 annual student scholarship. You can define the criteria for the award, such as financial need, academic performance, or service. Many STA supporters have pooled their resources to establish a scholarship, such as an alumnae class or members of a family.

2. **Give to the general endowment fund.**
   A gift or pledge of any amount to the general endowment fund will provide a lasting source of financial assistance for current and future students.

3. **Remember St. Teresa’s in your will.**
   Many alumnae and friends have designated St. Teresa’s in a direct bequest or through an established trust.

*For additional information, please contact Mary Beth Compton, executive director of development, at mcompton@stteresasacademy.org or 816.501.0031.*
Martha Leahy Staker, Class of 1962, was awarded the Distinguished Alumnae Award at the 2012 Reunion Celebration. She had the distinction of being honored at her own 50th class reunion.

Since 1990, Martha has directed and managed research programs that have changed the life trajectory of children living in poverty and those at risk for developmental delays and academic failure. Martha conceived and developed Project EAGLE, assisting more than 15,000 children and their families through education and support.

In 2000, Martha Staker had a vision to build a campus and co-locate agencies and services to assure the most vulnerable children in Wyandotte County could access the services they needed to succeed in school and life. No one was interested then, but Martha persisted. On June 8, 2010, the Children’s Campus of Kansas City opened its door at 444 Minnesota Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas. The 72,000 square foot building is Martha’s legacy to the community. The primary tenants are Project EAGLE, the Family Conservancy, and Juniper Gardens Children’s Project. CCKC houses early childhood education and comprehensive family support, including health, oral health, and mental health services for young children and their families. Martha is the president and CEO of the Children’s Campus of Kansas City and its subsidiary, the Children’s Campus, Inc.

“I am so proud to be an STA alum and very humbled to be the St. Teresa’s Academy honored alum for 2012.”
The 2012 St. Teresa’s Academy Reunion Celebration was held on Saturday, October 6, on the STA campus. The evening began with Mass in the M&A auditorium led by Fr. Gerald Waris and accompanied by the STA Praise Band. STA medals were awarded to the Golden Girls from the Class of 1962 in honor of their 50 year class reunion.

Immediately following Mass, more than 250 alums and guests were honored with a reception in the Commons with a buffet and cocktails. The classes in attendance spanned 70 years, from the Class of 1942 (70 year reunion) to the Class of 2007 (five year reunion). Everyone enjoyed visiting and reconnecting, and many alums took advantage of campus tours led by STA students who are so proud of their school. The strong legacy of St. Teresa’s Academy was certainly evident that night.
Replacing the Spring TNT Sale, this new student-led walk-a-thon supports the health and wellness initiatives being introduced at STA. Sponsors will underwrite students as they walk around the McDonnell Family Sports Complex track. Proceeds from the walk-a-thon will benefit Star Parents Association activities and events held throughout the year, in addition to the school’s newest healthy lunch program, Bistro Kids. Stay tuned for more information and details!

**STA INTRODUCES “I AM A STAR” SOCKS.**
Proceeds from the sale of these socks benefit the Stars Walk-of-Fame event. For any “I am a Star” socks sold between now and the Stars Walk-of-Fame event, $3 per pair will be donated to the event. Any other socks (styles or sayings) ordered through the Notes to Self website (www.notestoself.com), 10% of sales will go to the Stars Walk-of-Fame event!

To order your “I am a Star” socks, go to: www.notestoself.com/pages/sta-stars. Thanks so much for helping to make this “I am a STAR” socks fundraiser a huge success!

**stars walk-of-fame**  
**April 12, 2013**

Jim Williams was honored for his 23 years of service to the STA auction. Under his tenure, the silent auction alone raised over $1,000,000. Jim celebrated the evening with his wife Kathy O’Neil Williams, ’68, and the development team of Joan Jordon, Terry Egelhoff and Sherry Stiles.

LaKendra Freeman, auction raffle winner, was awarded the grand prize of $10,000. The winning ticket was sold by alum Michelle Freeman, ’88.

**save the date**  
**STA Golf Classic**

Join us on Monday, May 6, for the fourteenth annual St. Teresa’s Academy Golf Classic. This year’s event will once again be held at Leawood South Country Club. Registration and breakfast begin at 7:30 a.m., followed by an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Join us for great prizes and goodie bags, a continental breakfast, 18 holes of golf and a golf cart, lunch, and refreshments on the course.
The 2012 auction, **Swinging on a Star**, was a resounding success as over 400 participants enjoyed an evening filled with lively conversations, nearly 700 items to bid on, and a wonderful dinner prepared by Garozzo’s Ristorante. The Academy’s endowment fund was the central focus of the evening’s live auction, with over $80,000 raised among many lively bidders.

The endowment allows St. Teresa’s Academy to recognize academic achievement, encourage diversity, implement a work-study program, and provide relief to families in financial crisis.

The auction raised over $420,000 and is considered the school’s largest fundraising event. It was truly a special evening at the Academy.
Tour of Italy 2012

St. Teresa’s Academy’s first overseas alumnae trip was realized this past June. Twenty-two alumnae and friends of the Academy spent nine days together touring the beautiful cities of Rome and Florence and enjoying the picturesque Tuscany countryside. We hope you’ll consider this wonderful opportunity in the coming years as more trips are planned.

Connecting Stars from Coast to Coast

St. Teresa’s Academy is taking their story on the road with a visit to the coastal cities of Boston, Massachusetts, in April of 2013 and San Jose, California, later in the year. If you are an alum living in either of these areas, look for a special invitation to arrive in your mail. It’s a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with fellow alums and make new friends within the area. It’s also a great way to network with other working professionals of all ages. President Nan Bone and Alumnae Director Kathleen Barry look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Contact Kathleen Barry at kbarry@stteresasacademy.org.

Boston, Massachusetts
Kelly Crawford Friendly from the Class of 1988 and Lynne Brady Wagner from the Class of 1985 are hosts to a party for all New England alums on Thursday, April 4.

San Jose, California
Margaret Glenn Akdeniz from the Class of 1965 will host a party for alums in the San Francisco/San Jose area in 2013. Date to be determined.
SAVE THE DATE
THIRD ANNUAL STA TRIVIA NIGHT

DON’T MISS OUT on the upcoming Trivia Night at St. Teresa’s Academy: Saturday, February 23, 2013. Gather a team (spouse, family and friends) and enjoy a fun-filled evening. Plan on winning fabulous prizes for first and second place, and for the most festive table. Raffle winners are chosen between each round of play. Here’s your chance to use your useless knowledge and enjoy a hilarious evening with friends.

The cost is $20 per person or $160 for a table of eight. All proceeds benefit the STA Alumnae Scholarship. Be on the lookout for your invitation to arrive via email soon. Contact Kathleen Barry at kbarry@stteresasacademy.org or 816-501-0023 if you have questions.

class reps wanted

CLASS REPS are a dynamic group of women of all ages who serve as liaisons between St. Teresa’s and their graduating classes. Current reps have done a fantastic job updating the STA database and communicating with their classmates. There are very few classes who still need a rep. If you are in the Class of 1943, 1944, 1960, 1984, 1993, 1995, 1999 and would be interested in joining this fun group, please contact Kathleen Barry at kbarry@stteresasacademy.org or 816-501-0023.
ST TERESE’S ACADEMY is proud to introduce our newest organization, the STA Bridge Stars. This group of parents, alums, and friends of the Academy play bridge once a month (summers off) in the Windmoor Center on the STA campus. The morning begins with breakfast and is followed by two sets of eight hands with a break in between. Playing bridge together has proven to be a great opportunity to socialize with friends. If you’re interested in being a sub for Bridge Club this year, please contact Kathleen Barry at kbarry@stteresasacademy.org or 816.501.0023. Keep an eye out for next year’s registration.

OVER 70 PERSONS rose early on a late October Saturday morning to attend the very first Linger Over Breakfast KC, a new spiritual lecture series sponsored by the institutions of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. The program was modeled after the very successful Linger over Breakfast series developed by Sister Marion Renkins, CSJ, and held at the Motherhouse in St. Louis.

Featured speaker Sister Jean Abbott, CSJ, presented From Trauma to Transformation, a program that delved into the meaning of transformation and the necessary steps needed to influence how one can make wounds sources of healing for themselves and the world. Sister Jean founded The Center for Survivors of Torture and War Trauma to help immigrants whose adjustment to the USA is impeded by severe trauma symptoms. She has explored methods of self care and mutual care to help alleviate symptoms of anxiety and post traumatic stress.

“Where do I begin? Absolutely wonderful, informative, and useful techniques to apply in situations.”

- survey comment

Linger Over Breakfast KC is presented in partnership with Avila University, St. Joseph’s Medical Center and St. Teresa’s Academy.

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS:

Global Spirituality with a Local Address by Sister Mary McGlone, CSJ: April 6, 2013, at Avila University

The Power of Love and the Love of Power by Judy Miller, CSJ: October 19, 2013, at Saint Joseph Medical Center
ESS PALMER, CLASS OF ’08, has been in Guinea, Africa, with the Peace Corp since July 1, 2012. After training, she began teaching both English and Chemistry to seventh through tenth grade students and will finish her first term in June of 2013. Having graduated from Mizzou in pre-med/biology, her first “apartment” after college became an 18’ round hut with a thatched roof, no windows, and a cement floor. Tess couldn’t have been happier. “I came here to try to help others and I am already finding that there is a big difference between working to help a group of people and working with people to help themselves...I want to pursue the latter!” If you’d like to learn more about Tess’s experiences with the Peace Corp, please write to her at: Tess Palmer, Corps de la Paix, B.P. 1927, Conakry, Republique of Guinea, West Africa, or email her at tapnq6@mail.missouri.edu. Keep in mind, it may take her a while to get back to you!
NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

Senior Kate Sanders has been named a National Merit Semifinalist. The National Merit Scholarship Program recognizes students for their performance on the PSAT test. Kate is one of 16,000 semifinalists nationwide and will now compete for Finalist status. Congratulations also to our National Merit Commended students: Madeline Barth, Maddie Davis, Holly Fielder, Ellie Nachbor and Elaine Schmidt. Nikki Rodriguez has been recognized as a National Hispanic Scholar. Nikki is one of 5,000 Hispanic/Latino students recognized by the College Board for this achievement.

BLUE STAR THEATRE AWARDS

St. Teresa’s Academy received three Blue Star Award nominations this year for its production of Curtains. The Blue Star Awards program recognizes outstanding achievement in musical theatre among high school students. Nominations included: Outstanding Costume Design, Tier II (Hannah Katz, Sibel Alpakin, Katie Holt and Shelby Hawkins); Outstanding Technical Crew – Lighting Crew (Maria Luna, Lena White, Gabby Ferro and Katie Parkinson); and Outstanding Overall Production. Out of 48 shows, only five receive this nomination.
STA SINGERS RECOGNIZED

Congratulations to our very talented STA singers for entrance into the All-State, All-District, and Women’s Honor Choirs. **All-District Choir**: Page Kemna, Natalie Rall, and Hillary Talken. **Women’s Honor Choir**: Madison Fitzgerald, Annie Huber, Emmeline McCabe, Kate Sanders, and Katherine Viviano. Ruby Dibble auditioned and was accepted to the **All-State Choir**, one of the most competitive audition processes in the state. Only six students for each voice part are chosen in the city. This is Ruby’s second year singing with the All-State Choir.

SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

St. Teresa’s Academy placed 2nd overall in the **Science and Mathematics Challenge for Young Women** held at Avila University. Our talented girls finished with the following honors: 1st place - Chemistry, 2nd place - Biology and Math, and 3rd Place Physics. Participants included: Mackenzie Warrens, Elaine Schmidt, Shelby Hawkins, Erin Sheehy, Natalie Nuessle, Zoe Royer, Beth Mitchell, and Emily Cosgrove. Job well done ladies!

YEARBOOK AND NEWSPAPER RECEIVE NATIONAL HONORS

The 2012 *Teresian* yearbook was named an All-American winner with five marks of distinction from the National Scholastic Press Association. This is the very highest honor that a yearbook can receive through their critique service, an annual review by an experienced yearbook adviser. The judge noted that all five areas (copy, coverage, theme, design, and photography) were marks of distinction. The *DartNewsOnline* was also a winner with a First Class award with one mark of distinction.
starcups cafe

Introducing Sta’s newest coffee and breakfast bar, Starcups Café features an early morning selection of light breakfast items and beverages for students, faculty, parents, and friends. The brainchild of a few dedicated moms, the Starcups Café supports the Star Parents Association. Open Fridays from 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. in the Windmoor Center, the Café offers a selection of hot and cold drinks, yogurt, fresh baked goodies, and more.