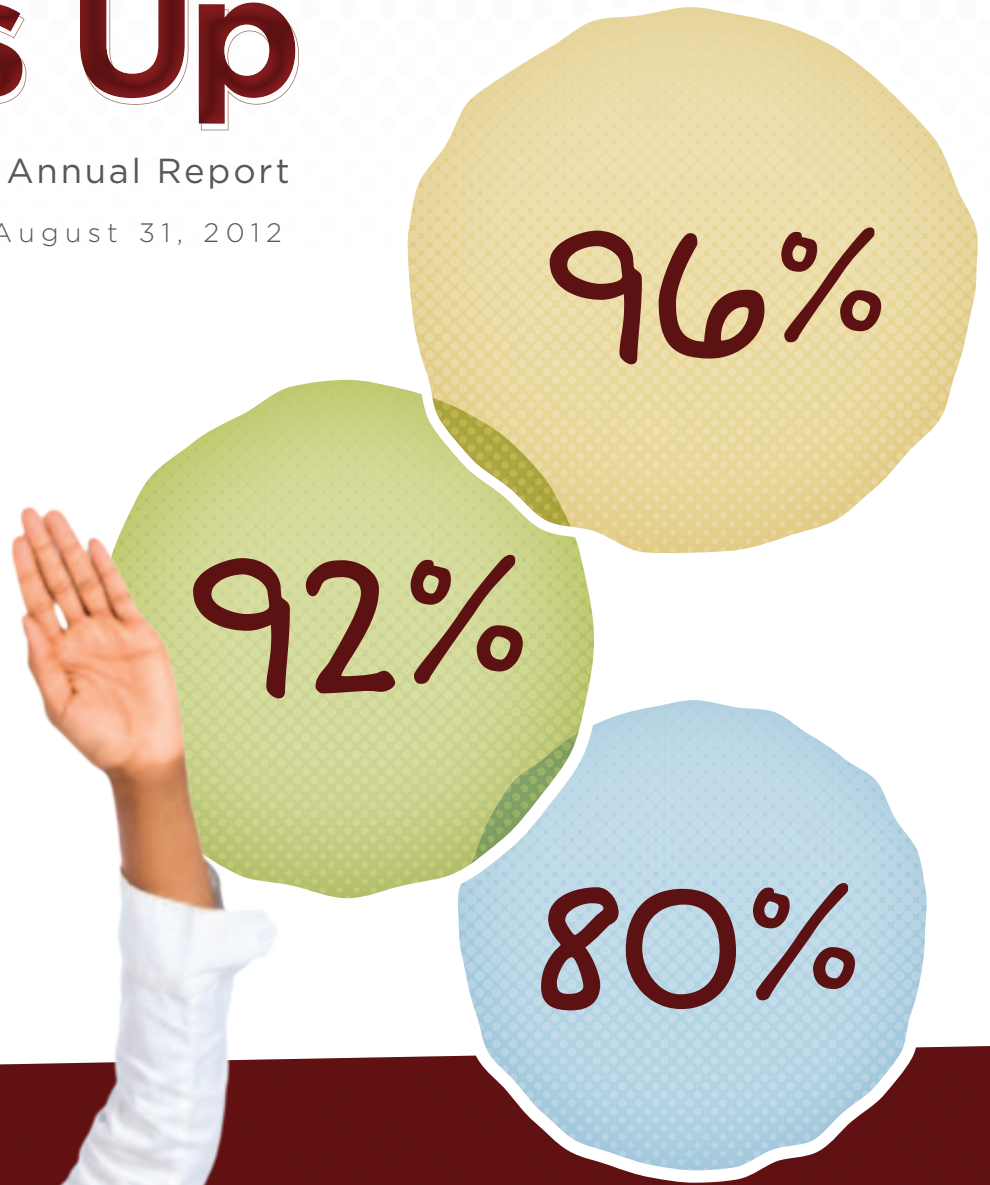


Success Adds Up

ACCESS Academies Annual Report
September 1, 2011 - August 31, 2012



 **ACCESS**
academies
creating challenging education for st. louis students

Most Holy Trinity Academy • St. Cecilia Academy
St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral



John C. Vatterott
Chair,
Board of Directors

ACCESS Academies is advancing its eighth year of service to low-income students. The program has a bright future built on a solid and mature operation in place and a growing base of support.

Three numbers continue to define our success:

- 96% of our 2012 graduating 8th graders have been admitted to top-quality, college-prep high schools.
- 92% of our students complete high school in four years.
- 80% of our students have been accepted to college.

And thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are blessed with a 25% increase in high school scholarships to support deserving students.

With these solid and consistent results in place, ACCESS is determined to be even more effective in the future as we assist students toward lives of self-sufficiency and service.

There is a growing focus on the importance of education in our community and ACCESS is moving that discussion forward as it did in an Oct. 9, 2012 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* op-ed: "The Path to Prosperity Begins with Education." Through

our seven-year commitment to each child, we have helped 567 students on the pathway to college. We will help many more in the future.

As people yearn for more effective education programs, ACCESS will light the way by continuing to deliver outstanding results. Its achievements are a tribute to the dedication of the faculty and staff of our three ACCESS schools; our own board and staff; the support of the Archdiocese of St. Louis; and, so importantly, the donors whose contributions make the fulfillment of our mission possible.

As ACCESS takes it mission to even more productive levels in the years ahead, we are grateful for the support of so many who help lead our community in lifting children out of poverty through education. Your generosity and hard work ensure a future that affords lasting hope for the children of St. Louis

Sincerely,

John C. Vatterott
Chair
Board of Directors



Thomas M. Nolan
Executive Director

Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Eight years ago, a small group of St. Louisans had the faith to take a first step. Convinced that education was the most effective and enduring path out of poverty, the founders of ACCESS Academies took the first steps in a new approach to the education of low-income students.

These pioneers – educators, board members, funders and others – began the first middle school program at St. Cecilia School in the fall of 2004. Their vision for propelling educational success focused on several unique elements – a long school day, extended year, demanding curriculum and faith-based character development. ACCESS began its journey.

Since those first beginnings, others have boldly taken their first steps of resolve, climbing the staircase and widening the pathway of success:

- Students have committed to higher expectations and greater academic demands.
- Parents have put more effort and engagement into their children's education.
- Teachers and administrators have maximized the value of longer days and lengthier school years.

- High schools have stretched their financial aid and academic programming.
- Donors have made additional financial sacrifices to provide necessary funding.

None of these risk takers had any guarantee of success. There was little precedent for the approach they were taking. But their faith in the vision and their commitment to success energized the entire ACCESS program, closing the gap to create greater opportunity for underprivileged children.

Their faith generated outstanding results. As this report indicates, the students ACCESS serves have made and sustained solid academic progress – the result of their own faith and all who have supported them. Together, as we climb our staircase, we can see a better world for our children.

Gratefully,

Thomas M. Nolan
Executive Director

Success adds up for students in poverty

Now in its eighth year, ACCESS launches and sustains academic success for disadvantaged students in three urban schools – Most Holy Trinity Academy, St. Cecilia Academy and St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral. It also supports graduates from the former Academy at King of Glory Lutheran School and Central Catholic Academy. Next year, the first ACCESS students will proudly graduate from college.

By every measure, *success adds up* for ACCESS Academies and the families and students it serves.

96%

ACCESS students accepted to college-prep high schools



92%

ACCESS students graduate from high school on time



80%

ACCESS students accepted to college



81% ACCESS students qualify for federal poverty programs

400+ ACCESS graduates propelled to top-quality high schools

167 ACCESS middle school students being prepared for high school

79 ACCESS graduates accepted to college since 2009

567 Total students served by ACCESS in the last seven years

Success adds up for academic achievement

By deploying the rigorous and time-tested NativityMiguel education model, ACCESS Academies makes a seven-year commitment to keep economically disadvantaged students on task and on track. Our approach supports academic success during the at-risk middle school years through high school and ultimately college. Each ACCESS school dedicates a full-time graduate support director to help students and their families with:

- Evaluating and applying to high school.
- Accessing high school financial aid and scholarships.
- Succeeding with the rigor of college-prep academics.
- Intervening with tutoring and counseling as needed.
- Engaging high school teachers, counselors and administrators to help students succeed.
- Providing ACT test preparation help.
- Assisting with selecting and applying for college.
- Providing guidance on college financial aid.

4 Minimum number of times ACCESS graduate support directors meet with students each year

23 College-prep high schools with ACCESS graduates

\$616,235 Total support to ACCESS and NativityMiguel students in 2011-2012 thanks to donors

241 ACCESS students currently served by ACCESS graduate support staff

7 years Length of ACCESS commitment to each student

Success adds up with every achievement attained by students served by ACCESS



Marcus K.
Marcus is a graduate of Central Catholic Academy. As a freshman at Bishop DuBourg High School, Marcus aspires to be a registered nurse. He has a depth of character, nurtured by his grandfather, which will carry him a long way in life. "He teaches me how to be a man and the responsibilities of being a man," notes Marcus.

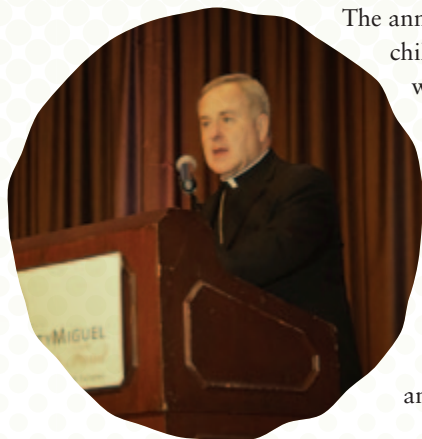


Lupita V.
A graduate of St. Cecilia Academy, Lupita is a senior at Nerinx Hall High School. She is a member of the Diversity Club and a regular participant in community service activities. She hopes to be an obstetric nurse and has received scholarship offers from Avila University, Quincy University and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.



Philip C.
A graduate of Most Holy Trinity Academy, Philip is a senior at St. Louis University High School. He expresses a real commitment to "serving others" while in high school and plans to major in political or social science in preparation for a career in ministry or government. He believes his middle school participation in the ACCESS program gave him the "push" to "get work done."

Success adds up at the fourth annual NativityMiguel Scholarship Fund Dinner



The annual NativityMiguel Scholarship Fund Dinner is an evening that unites a shared vision: that children living in poverty must have the opportunity, in St. Louis Archbishop Robert J. Carlson's words, "to fully develop their God-given talents." Carlson was honored and served as the guest speaker at the June 6, 2012 scholarship dinner. More than 100 NativityMiguel graduates were saluted and generous donors gave more than \$400,000 to fund scholarships at college-prep high schools for every graduate.

The scholarships benefit graduates of three ACCESS Academies NativityMiguel schools – Most Holy Trinity Academy, St. Cecilia Academy and St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral – plus three independent NativityMiguel schools – De La Salle Middle School, Loyola Academy and Marian Middle School. Graduates of the former Academy at King of Glory Lutheran School and Central Catholic Academy also receive scholarships funded by the annual dinner.

25 College-Prep High Schools Participate in the 2012-2013 St. Louis NativityMiguel Scholarship Fund

Althoff Catholic High School, Bishop DuBourg High School, Cardinal Ritter College Prep, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Christian Brothers College High School, Collinsville Christian School, Cor Jesu Academy, Crossroads College Preparatory School, De Smet Jesuit High School, Incarnate Word Academy, Lutheran High School North, Lutheran High School South, Nerinx Hall High School, Notre Dame High School, Rosati-Kain High School, St. Elizabeth Academy, St. John Vianney High School, St. Joseph's Academy, St. Louis Christian Academy, St. Louis University High School, St. Mary's High School, Tower Grove Christian Academy, Trinity Catholic High School, Ursuline Academy and Villa Duchesne.



\$400,000
Scholarship funds raised

303 Students now benefiting from scholarship funds

293 Total donors

62% Increase in number of donors over 2011

6 Urban middle schools educate students benefiting from scholarship funds

25 High schools participating in the fundraiser

Success adds up because of our generous donors

Today, thanks to our generous donors, ACCESS Academies is healthy financially and has matured as an organization to advance its mission even more creatively to ensure disadvantaged children succeed academically. Our heartfelt gratitude to every supporter for the meaningful difference each one makes in the lives of the children we educate. On behalf of the students and community we serve, our 2011-2012 Annual Report is dedicated to you. *Donations noted were received from September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012.*

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Financial Data FY 2011-2012

for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2012

INCOME

Contributions – ACCESS Academies	\$988,300
Contributions – NativityMiguel Graduate Support Scholarship Fund	\$423,658
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,411,958

EXPENSES

Central Catholic Program Support	\$25,000	
High School Scholarships for Graduates	\$60,650	\$85,650
King of Glory Program Support	\$0	
High School Scholarships for Graduates	\$41,613	\$41,613
Most Holy Trinity Program Support	\$32,500	
High School Scholarships for Graduates	\$40,284	\$72,784
St. Cecilia Program Support	\$25,000	
High School Scholarships for Graduates	\$55,800	\$80,800
Additional Graduate Support Expenses		\$8,242
Auxiliary School Support		\$102,346

TOTAL ACCESS SCHOOLS SUPPORT **\$391,435**

De La Salle Middle School – NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$33,250
Loyola Academy – NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$35,500
Marian Middle School – NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$31,000
Central Catholic – NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$32,000
King of Glory – NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$26,050
Most Holy Trinity – NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$24,000
St. Cecilia – NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$43,000

TOTAL 2011 NATIVITYMIGUEL SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT **\$224,800**

NativityMiguel Dinner Expenses	\$74,436
Reserve for 2012 NativityMiguel Scholarship Support	\$300,000
General & Administrative Expenses	\$144,818

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$1,135,489**



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