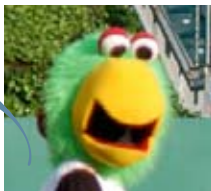




THE CAMPUS SCHOOL  
of Carlow University

Children of Spirit



**IN THIS ISSUE**

- 1 Founders Legacy "Reach for the Stars"
- 2-5 Founders Legacy Evening Highlights
- 6 National Anthem
- 7 Summer Learning T-shirts Promote Our School
- 8-11 Grandparents Day Highlights
- 12 Update Your PCR Retirement News Welcome New Families



## Founders Legacy "Reach for the Stars" Event Raises Money for Endowment, Faculty

On a recent evening that brought torrential downpours, gusty winds, cold temps, bright sunshine, and even a rainbow, parents and alumni feted Campus School faculty at the second annual Founders Legacy "Reach for the Stars" party. This year, the goal was to raise money for the Faculty Excellence portion of the FL Endowment, as well as money for the 2008-09 Operating Expenses that would enable faculty to attend more workshops, seminars, and other educational-based opportunities.

Under the leadership of Pat Joyce from University Advancement and Campus School parent Greg Gerlach, \$191,000 was raised in pledges and gifts for the Faculty Excellence portion of the Endowment. The event raised almost \$20,000 from registration sales, sponsorships, donations and program booklet ads. This money will be added to the Campus School Administration's Operating Expenses for the 2008-09 School Year, specifically earmarked for faculty-related expenses.

Guests enjoyed six stations of delicious food prepared by Aladdin Catering while mingling and listening to the swinging standards of The South Hills Jazz Project. Beth Friel chaired the successful event and worked with a Committee comprised of parents of both current and former students; alumni; faculty; administration; and Campus School founder, Sister Mary Paul Hickey.

Catherine DelBarba created a whimsical garden party theme with beautiful hanging stars and lanterns adorning the tented Green.

Many thanks to all those parents, faculty, administration and friends of the Campus School who supported this event. For more information on the Campus School Founders Legacy Endowment, please refer to the Campus School website ([www.campusschool.carlow.edu](http://www.campusschool.carlow.edu)).



# FOUNDERS LEGACY



*Children of Spirit*





## Bring a book to the beach: Summer learning reduces summer loss

by Linda Ambroso

The good news: Many Campus School students are lucky enough to enjoy enriching summers full of outdoor activity, family gatherings, and reading and other learning opportunities.

The bad news:

- All young people experience learning losses when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. Students typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer than they do on the same tests at the beginning of summer. Losses are particularly evident in reading.
- On average, students lose about 2.6 months of grade level equivalency in math computation skills in the summer. The greatest areas of "summer loss" for all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, are in factual or procedural knowledge.

As expected, summer loss is greater for low-income students than for middle-income students, and contributes to the achievement gap between these groups.

Strategies offered to diminish summer loss include:

- Summer school: Most programs are only for students who are not performing to grade-level expectations.
- Modified school calendars: This approach does not lengthen the school year, but distributes vacation time more evenly throughout the year.

- Extended school year: Those who would add instructional days to the school year cite comparisons that show U.S. students spend less time in school than those from high performing countries, such as Japan. Opponents include the vacation industries and those who fear additional days could cause student fatigue.

It is said the start of school was timed to allow children to help with the harvest in agrarian America. Though some countries and U.S. states have moved away from the traditional academic year, it appears entrenched in our culture. Therefore, youth organizations and schools are strongly urged to offer quality summer programs for a variety of learners, and parents are encouraged to help their children read and practice math skills in engaging ways.

Sources:

- 1) "Primer on Summer Learning Loss," The Johns Hopkins University's Center for Summer Learning, <http://www.rif.org/educators/articles/primeronSummerLearningLoss.msp>
- 2) "Stop Summer Academic Loss: An Education Policy Priority," Malbert Smith III et al, Metametrics, Inc. <http://www.lexile.com/uploads/White%20Papers/MetaMetrics%20White%20Paper%20-%20Stop%20Summer%20Academic%20Loss.pdf>

Linda Ambroso was coordinator of the Accountability Initiative of the former Charter Schools Project at Duquesne University, a non-profit, non-partisan, foundation.

Children of Spirit

## "Children of Spirit" T-shirts Promote Our School!

Summer is almost here, and what better way to promote the Campus School than by having our children wear their navy "Children of Spirit" T-shirts? For students who came in the middle of the School Year or new students from the beginning of the year – please pick up your free, "Children of Spirit" T-shirt in the front office (see Shana or contact Dana Casale at 412-732-9422; danacasale@comcast.net). We have plenty of Youth Sizes available (S, M, and L)."



Marlee Flaherty and Billie Girard coordinated two delightful afternoons of "Grandparents & Special Guests Day" for Trinity Hall and First and Second Grade students. The students recited poems and sang special songs (the big highlight being the popular Beatles tune: "When I'm Sixty-Four"), before taking their grandparents or guests for a tour of their classrooms. Thanks to all those parents who volunteered by sending in cookies and drinks, or by assisting with the set-up and decoration of the cafeteria.



*Children of Spirit*





*Children of Spirit*

## Please Update Your PCR/ Directory Information

Computer instructor Theresa Hassett has asked that any parent who either has changed their phone number, address, or e-mail; or feels that their directory or PCR contact information is incorrect, please e-mail her at [hassett.tm@carlow.edu](mailto:hassett.tm@carlow.edu). You can also update your information on your own by going on-line to [www.pcreducator.com/carlowportal](http://www.pcreducator.com/carlowportal). You can also send in the correct directory and contact information with your child or mail to Theresa Hassett, Campus School, 3333 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. It is really crucial that the Administration and faculty have your most current contact information.



## So Long, not Good-bye

A teacher can have a profound effect on hundreds of people over a career. We will miss four wonderful women who did just that as they retire this year: Eileen DiPerna; Admissions Director, Billie Girard; Gloria Sikora; and Maryanne Wyse. The kindness and gentle guidance each of these teachers embodied will be missed by Campus School students and parents. The PTA wishes them the very best on their next chapters, and we thank each of them for all they have given!

We also wish all the best to Patricia Bell, who as a young, Pre-K teacher made a very large impact in only two years. We will miss you!



## “Welkom!” “Karibu!” “Benvenuto!”

“Welcome” to the following new families who will be joining the Campus School community in the Fall! We look forward to seeing you at the “Back to School” PTA meeting at the end of August, and please contact any of our officers over the summer if you have any questions:

Abdulwahab Family  
Al-Droubi Family  
Andrews Family  
Bidlack Family  
Breux Family  
Casamayor Family  
Cavaliero Family  
Cerri Family  
Conrad Family  
Corkan Family  
Cummings Family  
Cynkar Family  
Dawson Family  
DiVito Family  
Duch Family

Escher Family  
Farabaugh Family  
Glen Family  
Healey Family  
Holleran Family  
Johnson Family  
Kelly Family  
Kim Family  
Lockett Family  
Pennathur Family  
Ramani Family  
Straud Family  
Suwalski Family  
Topping Family

The Campus School of Carlow University, a Catholic co-educational program rooted in the values-based tradition of the Sisters of Mercy, offers a creative learning environment and provides a holistic liberal educational for the young.

**PTA Officers** • Dana Casale, President ([danacasale@comcast.net](mailto:danacasale@comcast.net))  
• Mary Kiernan, Vice President ([mary@actualsizecreative.com](mailto:mary@actualsizecreative.com))  
• Irene Hils, Treasurer ([jimirenehils@comcast.net](mailto:jimirenehils@comcast.net))  
• Anne Ward, Secretary ([ward105@comcast.net](mailto:ward105@comcast.net))