Women's Leadership Symposium Opens Minds to Careers, Possibilities

"Be bold, be decisive and believe that you have something unique to offer the world. Enjoy the journey, be open to personal growth, and make sure you are a leader in all you do."

That was just some of the advice offered to students by the Honorable Yvette McGee Brown, a former Ohio Supreme Court justice and the keynote speaker Wednesday at the Sixth Annual Women's Leadership Symposium.

In addition to Justice Brown's animated, informative and often amusing speech, students also attended "Career Breakout Sessions" conducted by some 50 professional women such as doctors, nurses, educators, engineers, marketing experts and attorneys. A panel discussion also was held titled "Advocacy for Women and Children." Panelists were Ms. Megan O'Bryan, President and CEO of the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center; Mrs. Natalie Leek-Nelson '85, President and CEO of Providence House; Mrs. Linda Johanek, CEO of the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center and parent of Sarah Johanek '15; and Felicia Petruziello, CSJ '56, co-founder of the River's Edge Women's Outreach Center.

A highlight of the day was most certainly Justice Brown's speech, starting with an introduction by Caroline Speice '13, student council president.

"It's uncertain now, but know that the future tends to take care of itself, as long as you prepare yourself and choose a career in which you can be passionate," shared the Honorable Brown, who credits her mother and a special high school teacher with pushing her to reach her full potential by overcoming poverty and becoming the first in her family to graduate from college.

For more pictures of the Women's Leadership Symposium, see Page 3.

Early Dismissal, Parent-Teacher Conferences Next Week

Parent-Teacher conferences are being held from 3:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12. Parents, you may sign up for 10-minute appointments with any or all of your daughter's teachers. If you feel you need more than 10 minutes, please email them directly to set up a conference for another day. To sign up for an appointment, please click on this link. Deadline is Monday February 11. If you do not have internet access or you have any questions, please contact the main office at 216.251.6788.

Also, don't forget that Friday, February 15 is an early dismissal day! Have a great weekend! ~ James M. Cantwell, Ed.D.
Prescription Drug Abuse Is a Growing Problem That Can Lead to Hardcore Drugs, Death

Have you ever taken too much of a prescription medication thinking the medicine might work faster? Or, have you ever used someone else's medication because you have similar symptoms? Believe it or not, these are just a few examples of prescription drug abuse, according to experts from Recovery Resources, a group working with the Cuyahoga Board of Health and the Fairmount Center for the Arts.

On Tuesday, students watched an educational theater experience by the Fairmount Center about prescription drug abuse titled "Legally Addicted." The play involved two teenagers who frequented "Skittles" parties in which large quantities of prescription drugs are grabbed from a bowl and gulped down. In the play, a teenage girl dies after one of the parties.

Following the production, cast members answered students' questions, including letting students know that statistically, nearly all prescription drug abuse leads to alcohol and heroin use. From 1999 to 2010, Ohio's death rate due to unintentional drug overdose increased 372 percent, driven largely by prescription drug overdoses. In 2010 alone, prescription drug overdose deaths killed 1,544 Ohioans (about one person every six hours).

The students were quiet during the play, absorbing the message. "It's helpful to know there are ways we can let adults know if we have seen a problem, especially by dialing 211 or using the Guardian Angel box in the chapel," shared Amber Altekruse '16.

Junior Selected for Prestigious Summer Program at Rhode Island School of Design

Junior Nina Ripich has taken what she learned in Visual and Performing Arts teacher Ms. Sydney Kalnay's Digital Photography and Art of the Motion Picture one step further to a potential career. Nina was recently chosen for the prestigious 6-week Pre-College Program at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) this summer.

Nina was chosen for the program based on her application, portfolio pieces and recommendation letter. The program offers high school students a comprehensive introduction to the college art school experience. Students follow a college-level studio curriculum and live in RISD residence halls, in a full-immersion encounter with art and design education at the highest level. The program is focused, serious and challenging, as students experience the core elements of a RISD education – critical thinking and artmaking – from foundation drawing and design courses, to critical studies in art, to focused concentration in one of 20 diverse majors.

Nina is founder and president of SJA's newly formed Photography Club and was a Silver and Gold Key Scholastics winner earlier this year, and is the coxswain on the SJA crew team.

"Nina is a creative and industrious student. She has a keen eye for design!" shared Ms. Kalnay.
Sixth Annual
Women's Leadership Symposium

Dr. Jean Reinhold, P’10, ’12 and ’15.

Seniors Angelina Morales, Sonya Tran, Liann Winship and Gabriella Rivera.

Keynote speaker the Honorable Yvette McGee Brown.

Panelists, l-r, Ms. Megan O’Bryan, Mrs. Linda Johanek, Felicia Petruziello, CSJ ’56 and Mrs. Natalie Leek-Nelson ’85. Students, l-r, Kate Hutchinson ’13, Lauren Brooks ’13, Julianna Minich ’14 and Erin Stefancin ’14.

Mrs. Therese Dever Greibel ’84, NASA engineer.
Theology Students Visit the Sisters

Recently, CORE Ministry teacher Ms. Elizabeth Pillari and four freshman Theology classes went on a tour “across the oval,” conducted by some of our Sisters from the Congregation of St. Joseph. “The first unit our freshmen learn is about the Congregation of St. Joseph, both their exciting history and their charism as we live it today in our school and in our world,” shared Ms. Pillari. “The trip to the Motherhouse really brought alive what we had been learning all week.”

Sister Juanita Shealey, CSJ gave the first tour, and Sister Madeline Lammermeier, CSJ ’44 conducted the second. Both are Prayer & Presence Partners to our school.

Catholic School Education Scholarship Applications Available

Tomorrow, Saturday, February 9, is the deadline for families to apply for a Catholic School Education Scholarship at the Ohio Catholic Federal Credit Union. You do not have to be an Ohio Catholic FCU member to apply. Applications are at all Ohio Catholic branch locations and on the Ohio Catholic website, www.ohiocatholicfcu.com. Deadline is February 9, 2013 via email, website, or dropped off at a branch office. For more information, call 216.663.6800 or email marketing@ohiocatholicfcu.com.

Students Shine in Recent Ohio Music Education Association Competition

Vocal and instrumental music students received Outstanding and Excellent Ratings at the OMEA (Ohio Music Education Association) District 4 High School Solo and Ensemble Contest held in Parma on Saturday, February 2. The event involved 34 schools and 850 performers.

“This was my first year, so it was a little overwhelming, but it was an amazing experience,” shared Jessica Martin ’16.

An Outstanding Rating is the highest rating possible. The following students received Outstanding Ratings in two different performance categories: Samantha Forrey ’15, Halli Grunder ’14 and Kaityln Mandolla ’15. The following students received an Outstanding Rating in either vocal or instrumental music: Sharlo Bayless ’13, Jessica Calton ’15, Sarah Dziak ’15, Emily Hanes ’16, Devanne Hargis ’13, Sarah Kolick ’16, Annie Kostell ’13, Samantha Montanez ’16, Clare Panek ’14, Emily Schuetz ’16, Karianne Stanton ’14, Erin Stefgancin ’14, Ginny Sullivan ’16, Erica Uhler ’14 and Samantha Velas ’16. An Excellent Rating is the second highest rating possible. The following students received an Excellent Rating in either vocal or instrumental music: Jessica Martin ’16, Cari Milowicki ’15, Clare Panek ’14 and Molly Stofko ’16. Students are under the director of Visual and Performing arts teachers Mrs. Christine Miller and Mr. Dave Mumford. Congratulations to all!

Rugby Team Fundraiser

The Rugby team is holding a fundraiser on Saturday, February 16, from 6-9 p.m. at Paddy Rock, 16700 Lorain Ave. Cost is $15 per person. There is a cash bar. Please note, only for ages 21 and over.

A 50-50 raffle will also be available at the event. If you have questions, or want to make a reservation, please contact parent volunteer Ms. Brenda Basalla at bbasalla@ameritech.net, or 216.228.3959. RSVP deadline is Friday, February 11.

Freshmen pictured with Sister Madeline Lammermeier, CSJ ’44, center, at the Cleveland Center for the Congregation of St. Joseph (Motherhouse) during a recent visit.
Join Us for the Celebrate the Academy Gala on Saturday, February 23

Invitations have been sent and plans are being finalized for another year of fun, prizes and camaraderie at the annual Celebrate the Academy gala for Saint Joseph Academy. The elegant, memorable evening for our students benefits critical scholarship and academic initiatives! The gala is on Saturday, February 23, at LaCentre Conference Center in Westlake. If you haven't yet, please make plans to join us on Saturday, February 23.

A bonus this year is a "wine pull." We hope that you will be able to purchase a bottle of wine for $15 or more at Minotti's in Westlake. Contact Geoff Powers, Development Director at 216.251.6788 x229 with any questions. The RSVP form for Celebrate the Academy is here.

Basketball

On Thursday, January 31, the Jaguars hosted Brush High School on Senior Night, defeating Brush 69-41. The seven seniors - Paige Heneghan, Gab Avellone, Layla Leon, Sarah Schwind, Ann Conroy, Katie Battaglia and Daija Jones - all finished their home court, high school careers with a spirited performance. These seniors have led the Jaguars to the best record in the school's history. On this night in particular, the Jaguars were led by the high speed attacking of senior point guard Layla Leon and the sharpshooting of senior Katie Battaglia, who had 19 points, including five 3-point shots. Congratulations to all the seniors!

On Monday, February 4, the Jaguars defeated Beaumont 79-30. Senior Katie Battaglia jumpstarted the team with 3 first-quarter 3 pointers, and the Jaguars never looked back. Junior Greta Burry had 11 points, junior Brittany Morrison had 10 points, and freshman Natasha Martinez also added 10 points. Senior Paige Heneghan and junior Caroline Becker had a hustling floor game for the Jaguars. The team record as of February 4 is 18-2.

JV won 59-13

Swimming & Diving

Varsity had a week of rest in preparation for sectionals. JV swam in the Championship Meet at Canton McKinley High School. Helen Cornelison ’16 dropped 16 seconds in her 100-yard freestyle. The 200-yard freestyle relay group placed 12th out of 34 relays. It was a great way to finish the season! Saturday February 9, is the Sectional Meet at Cleveland State University at 12 p.m. Please come out to CSU and cheer on your Jaguar swim team!!

Senior Kaleigh Macalla represented SJA at the sectional diving competition on Tuesday, February 5. She put up her best score in her diving career and missed districts by just 2 tenths of a point. Kaleigh will also be competing at the Sectional swim meet this Saturday at CSU.

Rugby Coach Quoted in National Rugby Magazine

Ms. Jaime Cleary, Rugby head coach, was quoted in Rugby Magazine describing the training and focus needed to create a successfully competitive team. The Jaguars last year took second place in Ohio, and third-place honors at Midwest. The impressive results, shared Coach Cleary, are the result of preparation during the off-season, including running stairs, lifting weights and even looking at dietary habits.

To read the whole article, go to http://www.rugbymag.com/boys/6902-move-up-another-challenge-for-indian-springs-hs-program.html

Seniors Gab Avellone, Layla Leon, Daija Jones, Sarah Schwind, Paige Heneghan, Katie Battaglia and Ann Conroy.