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GROWING IN FAITH

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Rooted in Faith Forward in Hope
Strengthening the Catholic Church in Northeast Ohio

*Dinosaurs
Bring Big
Life Lesson
to Kamara
and her
Classmates at
Archbishop
Lyke School*



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From Students To Educators, Catholic
Education Benefits From Your Generosity

Archbishop Lyke Students

FINE ARTS WORKSHOP HELPS SHAPE THEIR FUTURE

One day Kamara would like to be a doctor and help her family. Her schoolmate, Damon, wants to be an engineer. So, how did a Fine Arts Workshop focused on dinosaurs help to advance their dreams? Fourth grader, Iyana, sums it up. “I learned that when you work harder, you can do it,” she says; an outlook she adopted when asked to try something completely new during the 3-day workshop – draw a dinosaur and then build it out of clay.

“We invite any opportunity for kids to get exposed to great ideas,” says Mrs. Nacia Hatch, fourth grade teacher at Archbishop Lyke School in Cleveland. Fine Arts through Dinosaur Fables, a storytelling and visual workshop presented during the 2015-16 school year by the Center for Arts-Inspired Learning (CAL) and funded by a *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* Expanding the Educational Landscape grant, did just that.

“The program encouraged the children to interact with each other and to be kinder with themselves, which was an important lesson during this Year of Mercy,” explains Mrs. Hatch, referring to the fact that students needed to show mercy toward their own limitations when attempting to shape a dinosaur out of clay. “They were inspired to try something new by following simple steps directed by the instructor. It turned out that they really enjoyed being creative.”

The ability to bring fine arts to Archbishop Lyke School is significant, since the school cannot offer art as part of its regular curriculum due to budget restrictions. “It is important for the



students to be exposed to fine arts,” says third grade teacher, Ms. Toni Novicky. “This workshop allowed us to see more of our students have their eyes opened to creativity. It connected art to science, math, social studies and language arts.”

William, a third grader, sees the possibilities: “It motivated me to do anything. If I can do anything with clay, then I can do anything inside my school subjects.” By the way, William hopes to be a scientist one day!

On the Leadership Trail

WITH EMILY AT CAMP CHRISTOPHER

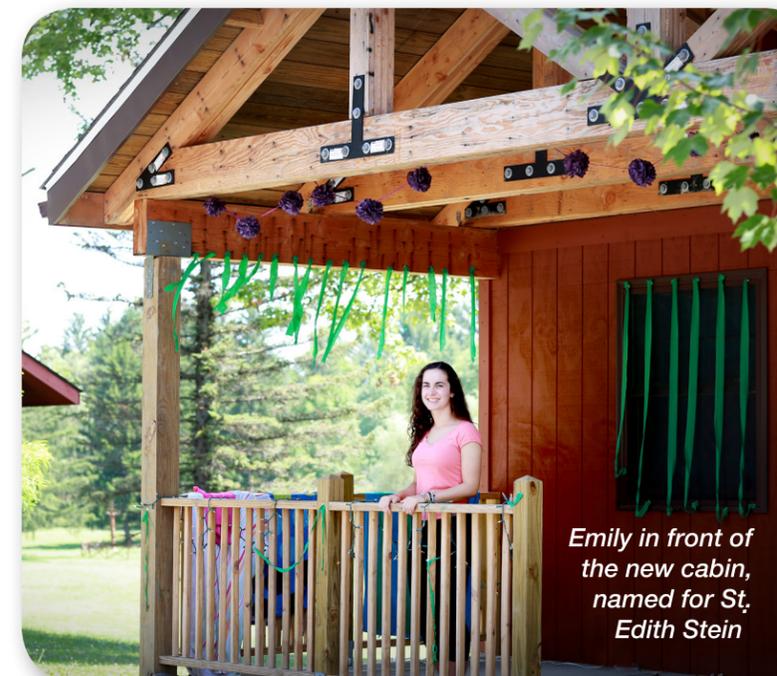
Emily is a mature and caring young woman – and Camp Christopher has much to do with it. At age 12, Emily made her first visit to the camp run by Catholic Charities. She describes it as “a camp like no other,” with everything from zip lines, canoeing and ropes challenge courses to spiritual programs and Masses designed to engage kids and teens.

By 17, Emily was at that “in-between” age – too old to be a camper but too young to be a counselor. So she applied for the Leadership Camp, a two-week residential program for campers interested in building communication and leadership skills needed to be a camp counselor.

Emily thrives on the “challenge by choice” approach at Camp Christopher, where campers choose what they want to do, while being encouraged to stretch beyond their comfort zone. “I would never have slept outside at night on my own, but I did the overnighter and really challenged myself,” says Emily.

With just six other teens, Emily’s Leadership Camp helped her form close friendships, learn skills like CPR and lifeguarding, while taking on bigger responsibilities – including a week as co-counselor for a cabin of 16 girls, ages 11-13. “It teaches you how to be a leader,” says Emily, “and we teach the kids how to be leaders and make the right choices in life.”

Counselors rotate through roles at Camp Christopher, from lifeguard, to kitchen duty, crafts, archery and even the Discovery



Emily in front of the new cabin, named for St. Edith Stein

camp for adults with special needs. Emily hopes to be hired as a counselor next summer. “It’s so different than the typical teenage job. It requires teamwork and helps you grow as a person.”

In April 2016, Camp Christopher held a ribbon-cutting, blessing and dedication of a new cabin and pavilion funded in part by Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope. The new pavilion is named “Faith” in gratitude for the support.

Brenna

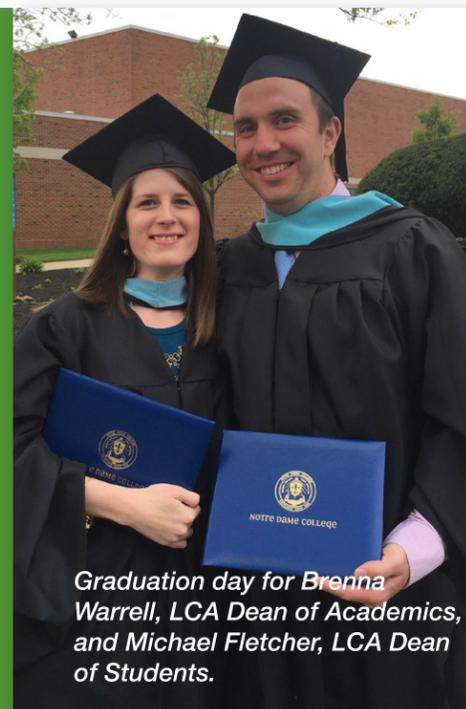
READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR STUDENTS

As Dean of Academics for Lakewood Catholic Academy (LCA), Brenna Warrell focuses on curriculum, innovative instruction and educational technology as it pertains to the school’s roughly 500 students. Armed with insights she gained during a Catholic School Leader program, Brenna sees even further opportunities to make an impact as an administrator.

“During the program, we learned about the practical aspects of being an administrator,” she says. “We had to look at things like budgets and how schools operate.” Brenna was part of a cohort that recently graduated from Notre Dame College with a Master’s of Education in Educational Leadership.

Thanks to funding through a *Rooted in Faith -- Forward in Hope* grant, the Diocese of Cleveland is able to offer selected educators placement in the Catholic School Leader program. Brenna was nominated by Fr. John Chlebo, pastor of St. Christopher in Rocky River, and Joyce Needham, former principal of St. Christopher School. At the time, Brenna, who holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Education from Denison University, was on the faculty at St. Christopher. She continued the Catholic School Leader program after leaving for Lakewood Catholic Academy in the summer of 2015.

In addition to building leadership skills, the program provided participants with an unexpected benefit: forging lasting



Graduation day for Brenna Warrell, LCA Dean of Academics, and Michael Fletcher, LCA Dean of Students.

relationships with members of the cohort. “We were able to learn from each other’s experiences and expertise,” Brenna says. “People were at different stages of their careers. To make and continue those connections is huge.”

Brenna is also thankful for the relationships she has made within the Diocese. She believes the Catholic School Leader program will positively influence her work for years to come. “It was a life-changing experience,” she notes. “I’m grateful for the opportunity and for the time and attention offered by the Diocese.”

Expanding the Educational Landscape

As a key case component of *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope*, Expanding the Educational Landscape with Innovation has been allocated \$15 million.

Thanks to the generosity of people throughout the Diocese and their commitment to meeting the short and long term needs of our Catholic Schools, funds have been distributed for technology, facility and environment enhancements, educational enrichment and curriculum, and to provide long-term support to address the viability of our schools in the future.



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the Campaign!

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Don and Mary Jo Believe In Catholic Education

“This year alone, over 1,300 lives have been changed forever, for the better,” says Don Dailey, referring to the increased number of students receiving Diocesan tuition assistance as a result of funds raised from *Rooted in Faith-Forward in Hope*. “Those are the results Mary Jo and I hoped for!”

Don and Mary Jo Dailey believe in the value of Catholic Education, which they have actively supported throughout much of their 42 years of marriage. “Catholic education was primary for me in supporting *Rooted in Faith-Forward in Hope*,” says Mary Jo. “Our involvement in Catholic schools has helped us realize that those kids deserve a Catholic education; and they want it. Just because their families struggle financially, this should not be a reason to deny children

this opportunity. The values taught in a Catholic school are needed.”

Although funds from *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope* have helped to increase the number of tuition assistance awards granted, a large needs gap still remains – a gap which Don and Mary Jo would like to close.

“Families are faced with the decision to send their kids to another school, where they won’t get the values based education that is so important for our society today and so important to these children,” says Don. “By helping children stay in Catholic schools, we are helping ourselves in the future by developing people with a much better perspective on life and a much better life.”



Don and Mary Jo are members of Divine Word Parish in Kirtland, where Don assisted Fr. Dave Woost in soliciting donations and pledges for *Rooted in Faith – Forward in Hope*. “We’ve been blessed and our faith has taught us that giving back is an important part of receiving. In our readings we hear, ‘to those who have been given much, much is expected.’ Mary Jo and I try to take that seriously,” says Don.