

An independent Catholic middle school that transforms the lives of students who have a commitment to achievement and whose families demonstrate financial need.

Celebrating the Nativity Graduating Class of 2022!



2022 Nativity Academy Eighth Grade Graduates

We are so proud of the class of 2022 and all they have accomplished in middle school.

Celebrating their graduation, they gathered here on the steps of St. Boniface church. We know these amazing, dedicated students will continue to achieve great things in their high schools and beyond.

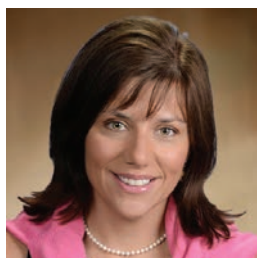
Nativity's administration, faculty and staff encourage them to: *"Stay true to yourself and reach high. You are capable of whatever you set your mind to."*

Good luck graduates as you spread your wings and fly!



For a list of graduates and their chosen high schools see page 3.

Nativity Academy Announces New Executive Director



Amy Olson
Executive Director

It is with great excitement and with thanks to God that we announce that Amy Olson has accepted the position of Executive Director of Nativity Academy and will officially begin on July 1, 2022. Amy is coming to Nativity Academy from the Sacred Heart Schools of Louisville where she has worked for the last 14 years. She began as a preschool teacher at the Ursuline Montessori School and has served as the Director of Mission Effectiveness since 2015.

Amy has worked with many of Nativity's graduates who have gone on to attend Sacred Heart, and she is passionate about the life-changing mission of Nativity Academy. Amy has been a Director on the Board of Nativity Academy for the past 4 years, and during this time she has been actively involved in the mission of Nativity Academy and has served on and chaired a variety of committees.

When accepting the offer to serve as Executive Director, she commented, ***"I am grateful for the visionaries who opened Nativity Academy in 2003 and I am committed to continuing the mission, as we help transform the lives of these amazing students."***

Nativity Academy, with the assistance of a search firm with national recognition, conducted a thorough search for applicants. Amy stood out in that process as a person of deep and sincere Catholic faith who has demonstrated a passionate, long-term commitment to the transformative potential of Catholic education.

Amy's relationships within the Catholic community and in the Greater Louisville area will serve her well as she works with the Board and the Nativity community to provide excellent and transformational educational opportunities for our students.

Nativity Academy seeks to impart to its students the highest spiritual ideals, moral values, knowledge, learning skills, discipline, character formation, and personal care. Nativity Academy is sponsored by Bellarmine University, the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, and the Xaverian Brothers. It opened in 2003 with Sister Paula Kleine-Kracht, OSU, serving as the first Executive Director.



Support the Mission of Nativity Academy!

give { The power and promise of a private faith-based education.



Nativity Academy is the only non-tuition, Catholic middle school in the Louisville area, serving girls and boys in grades 6-8. The administration, faculty and staff dedicate themselves to transforming the lives of low-income students through strong academics, coupled with a sense of spirituality, morality, and personal responsibility.

What is the Student Sponsorship Program?

Nativity Academy's student sponsorship program is the school's largest source of income. The scholarship program provides financial support from individuals – or groups of individuals. Scholarships fund a significant portion of the direct costs associated with educating Nativity Academy students. This funding assists in meeting the student's annual direct curriculum expenses, the extended enrichment program, summer session activities, and graduate support for Nativity Academy alumni.

Sponsor a Student...

An individual sponsor donates \$10,000 to provide a scholarship for one student at Nativity Academy.

Join a Sponsorship Group...

Groups comprised of friends, associates or extended family members contribute toward a co-sponsorship of \$5,000 or full sponsorship of \$10,000.

Nativity Academy is currently accepting Scholarship Donations for the 2022-23 school year.

For more information please contact:

Jeri Johnson | Advancement Coordinator | 502-855-3316 | jjohnson@nativityacademy.org



Roni Witherspoon

Roni Witherspoon Named New School Principal

Nativity Academy is pleased to announce that Roni Witherspoon has accepted the position of Principal of the school and moved from her recent role as Interim Principal. Ms. Witherspoon was selected as Principal with the aid of a

national firm who conducted an extensive search of qualified candidates.

Ms. Witherspoon currently is a five-year staff member at Nativity Academy having served in the capacity of Dean of Students and Extended Enrichment Program Director.

In accepting her new role, Ms. Witherspoon said, "It is an honor and privilege to work with students and their families, along with the faculty and staff at Nativity Academy. I look forward to continuing the great work of impacting the lives of Nativity Academy students through a focus on faith and education."

Her educational experience includes a B.S. from Campbells-ville University in Social Ministry and a M.S. in Organizational Leadership from Southern New Hampshire University.



Suzanne Haugh

Suzanne Haugh to Serve as Graduate Support Coordinator

Nativity Academy is pleased to announce Suzanne Haugh as Graduate Support Coordinator. Her responsibilities will include the development and enhancement of the Graduate Support Program which is currently providing services to 275

Nativity Academy alumni in high school and post-secondary education.

Suzanne volunteered at Nativity Academy in the graduate support program providing mentoring for students at Sacred Heart Academy. Her educational and professional background include a B.A. in Creative Writing and Human Development from Vanderbilt University and a Master's Degree in Journalism from Northwestern University, combined with over 30 years of professional work experience, including three years at Nativity Academy as the Language Arts and Religion teacher.

Welcome back to the team, Suzanne!

2022 Scholarship Awards



Colt Development Scholarship to DeSales High School
Erick Tellez-Molina (DeSales High School)



Erin Faulkner Memorial Scholarship
Dallas Zulu (Mercy Academy)



Gaffney Scholarship
Dyani Rowan (Holy Cross High School)



Kameren Calvin (St. Xavier High School)



Mitchel Klausung Scholarship
Michael Silver (Trinity High School)



Fr. Tim Hogan Memorial Scholarship
Ja'Naiya Prince (Mercy Academy)



Lisa Brents Memorial Scholarship
Jaida Stevenson (Presentation Academy)



Quesenberry Scholarship
Victoria Redd (Sacred Heart Academy)
Jordan McCormick (Sacred Heart Academy)

Nativity 2022 Graduates and the High Schools they will attend:

Ramyah Carnell	Assumption
Genesis Depp	Presentation
Kamara Jenkins	Central
Kayana Jenkins	Central
Mariah Jenkins	Holy Cross
Tourea Jones	Presentation
Jordon McCormick	Sacred Heart
Ja'Niyah Price	Mercy Academy
Victoria Redd	Sacred Heart
Dyani Rowan	Holy Cross
Jayda Stevenson	Presentation
Dallas Zulu	Mercy Academy

Kameren Calvin	St. Xavier
Michael Caple Jr.	Jeffersonville
Malachi Forest	Trinity
Coby Girtan	St. Xavier
Donald Johnson Jr.	Trinity
Christopher Reyes-Zuniga	St. Xavier
Michael Silver	Trinity
Carter Smith	St. Xavier
Khemoni Starnes	St. Xavier
TiKell Taylor	St. Xavier
Erick Tellez-Molina	DeSales



The Nativity Eagle Award
Presented to:
Dallas Zulu (Mercy Academy)



*Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength.
They will soar high on wings like eagles.
They will run and not grow weary.
They will walk and not faint.* -Isaiah 40:31



Dallas Zulu

Dallas encompasses the values of Nativity Academy – determination, community, vision, inspiration, judgement, and commitment. She models respect for adults and fellow students; shows compassion to others and graciously accepts requests to do something and gets it done. She shows commitment to academic success.

Congratulations, Dallas, on receiving the 2022 Eagle Award!

Shop for Back to School and Support Nativity



As you shop for school supplies and other back-to-school necessities, consider purchasing on **amazonsmile**. When you make your Amazon purchase on amazonsmile, you can designate Nativity Academy to receive a donation.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases - at no cost to you.

Support Nativity Students by purchasing School Supplies from this wish list.

Please use QR code to access wish list PDF



"Education promotes equality and lifts people out of poverty. It teaches children how to become good citizens. Education is not just for a privileged few, it is for everyone. It is a fundamental human right."

-Ban Ki-Moon

Red Carpet Dance - Eighth-Grade Students Celebrate in Style!



The Red Carpet Event was an end-of-year celebration for our 8th graders. We wanted to honor our students who had spent their entire final school year doing virtual school. These students missed one another and were eager to be together and celebrate their final year in middle school.

The eighth-grade class voted on the "Red Carpet" theme of the event. It was a day filled with laughter, dancing, food, fun, and lots of pictures and videos.



To support the student's "Red Carpet" theme, Debbie Lindstrom, a business professional in New York, who is the aunt of Nativity teacher, Rebecca Tapanes, donated funds so that each boy could purchase a suit and each girl a fancy dress. The students dressed to impress in their evening wear.



Nativity Students Enjoy Spring 2022 Field Day

The Nativity Academy Field Day gave students a chance to enjoy both outdoor and indoor activities. They enthusiastically joined in rope pulls, a basketball shot competition, hula hoops, Limbo dance and other fun activities.

The Field Day gave students the opportunity to relax, play, compete, participate, and take a break from the academics in the classroom as they enjoyed the successful end of their school year.



Summer Programs



Camp Loucon

Our eighth grade students recently had the opportunity to attend Camp Loucon in Leitchfield KY, for their summer enrichment. Camp Loucon is a faith-based, Christian camp with an emphasis on developing leaders.

From the looks of these pictures, our students had a blast, developed skills, and spent quality time with one another. We can't wait to see these deeply rooted bonds and the leadership skills the class gained at camp when they are back in school this August!

Coach Marc Murphy Retiring from Nativity Basketball.



Coach Marc Murphy and Team - Holiday Tournament 2021

Marc Murphy recently announced that he will not be coaching basketball at Nativity in the upcoming season. Nativity owes a big debt of gratitude to him for his expertise in building the basketball program over the years.

Coach shared, *"After 15 years this is very hard. My first players have children and careers and still call me Coach when they need help. I will miss, immeasurably, standing with those young men and their families in gyms across the city. I'll miss the time sitting with them on the gym floor talking and laughing with them, and listening to them....Nativity Forever."*

All his Nativity players and the entire Nativity community will remember Coach Murphy for his dedication to his players and the development and success of the teams. We know we won't find someone who *"loves these guys more."*

In Memory of Nativity Founder - Father William Fichteman



The Nativity Academy family mourns the loss of a devoted supporter and friend, Father William Fichteman. Father Bill Fichteman along with the late Father Tim Hogan and Sister Paula Klein-Kracht, as advocates for education equality in Louisville, convened to dream and strategize together on establishing an independent Catholic middle school for students with a commitment to achievement who come from families that demonstrate financial need. Researching the national Nativity Miguel model reinforced their conviction that education was the way out, and Nativity Academy at St. Boniface was founded in 2003.

Father Bill served on the board of directors at Nativity Academy and provided sound guidance and direction in that capacity. As a fellow board member said, "Father Bill was a source of insight, support, wisdom and spiritual guidance for so many Catholics in the Archdiocese, and to others in our community. He was a model of humility and compassion with razor sharp intellect." Father Bill's contributions to Nativity Academy and our community will not be forgotten.

Wish List

As we continue to transform the lives of our students and provide a quality education, these items will enhance the learning experiences of our students.



● Clevertouch Interactive Board	\$650
● Send a student to Mock UN Assembly	\$250
● Graduate Rewards \$25 Gift Cards (Panera, Chick-Fil-A, McDonalds, etc.)	\$750
● Send a student to Summer Camp	\$325

If you are interested in donating any of these items, please contact Jeri Johnson, Advancement Coordinator 502.855.3316



Visits Nativity for Summer Enrichment

Maker13 came to Nativity Academy for the summer enrichment program. Maker13 serves as a makerspace in Jeffersonville where businesses and individuals can have access and training with 3-D printers, laser etching, a mill press and other technical tools.

Our students engaged in science, technology, engineering and mathematics activities through the modalities of laser printing, 3D printing, LED light construction, and rocket making and launching.



Wave3 also came by during these events, and the reporter allowed the students to assist in the film process.

After experiencing this event, many of our students have expressed a desire for careers in design, engineering and architecture.





Shanya Bibbs

Nativity Alum Receives Nazareth Award at Presentation Academy Senior Awards Ceremony

Congratulations to Shanya Bibbs, Nativity graduate, who received the Nazareth Award at Presentation Academy 2022 Senior Honors Day. The Nazareth Award is "bestowed on a senior who has reached across all grade levels to give support and leadership to others in a selfless manner."



Leeala Beeler

Sacred Heart Academy Congratulates Nativity Alum, Leeala Beeler

Leeala Beeler, a Sacred Heart Academy student and Nativity alum was accepted into the Governor's School for Entrepreneurs program. According to the GSE website:

During the program, teams of high school students develop a business model, design a prototype and pitch their startup to a large audience and a panel of judges. GSE teaches the opportunities, benefits and pitfalls of taking a business concept from the idea phase to pitching it to potential investors.

Leeala is currently the head seamstress and business owner of LeeBees Sleep Pretty Pillows

St. Xavier Graduates Receive UofL Speed School Engineering Scholarships



Antonio Centeno



Daniel Trujillo

Congratulations to Antonio Centeno and Daniel Trujillo who have received full tuition scholarships to UofL Speed School of Engineering. They are St. Xavier High School 2022 graduates and are Nativity Academy alumni.

The Speed School entered a partnership with Nativity Academy that established and maintains a "Speed School Maker Space" at the academy. The Speed School donated materials, supplies and expertise to create this Maker Space.



The Speed School also provides up to five full tuition scholarships for a Nativity graduate who is graduating high school and has been successfully admitted into the University

and Speed School as a freshman. Antonio and Daniel are recipients of these scholarships.

Archbishop Shelton Fabre Visits Nativity Academy



Archbishop Shelton Fabre meets with students in religion class.

The newly appointed Archbishop of Louisville, Shelton Fabre, recently visited Nativity Academy and met with students, teachers, board members and administrators. He met with students in a religion class, joined a discussion with administrators and board members and toured the school building.

His memorable visit inspired the students and staff with his encouragement of their engagement in their studies and their dedication to the mission of Nativity.



Archbishop Fabre joins a discussion with Nativity Board of Directors members.

Sr. Ruth Ann Haunz, the Ursuline Sisters representative at Nativity, Principal Roni Witherspoon, and Archbishop Shelton Fabre tour Nativity and share their vision for the academy.



NATIVITY ACADEMY

● AUCTION 2022 ●



Torrence Williams

Nativity Academy Auction 2022 was our first LIVE Auction since 2019. We all enjoyed being together again. It was great seeing new and familiar faces.

This year's Auction was a tremendous success thanks to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. Torrence Williams, pictured left, was this year's Auction Chair. He provided outstanding leadership and commitment to bring about this successful event.

A very talented group of dedicated individuals worked along with Torrence. These auction volunteers included:

- Janet Hickey (Decor / Theme)
- Sarah Ball, Lauren Alderman, and Friends of Nativity (Silent Auction)
- Pat Robison and Betty Weis (\$10,000 Raffle)
- Nativity Academy Associate Board members (Wheel of Chance & Spirit Wall)
- Stephanie Duvall (Food & Beverage)
- Pam Broadus and Lauren Broadus (Splendid Events)
- Kevin Harned (Emcee from Menish Productions)



Working together, they all made this year's Nativity Academy Auction the most profitable fundraising event to date!



Nativity alumni attending the Auction



Master of Ceremonies Kevin Harned

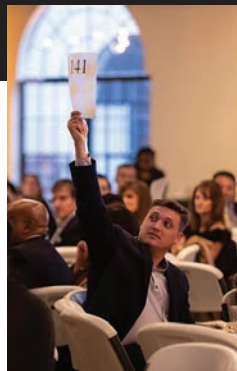


Principal Roni Witherspoon and Nativity faculty



Nativity Founder, Sr. Paula Kleine-Kracht

Thank you for joining us to support Nativity!



The Student Sponsor Appeal raised over **\$103,000** to support the educational and program costs of our students.

Congratulations, Ryan Johnson the winner of the **\$10,000 Raffle**.



Ryan Johnson winning the \$10,000 Raffle

We thank everyone who contributed to the success of our Auction – the Premier Fundraiser of the year.

Without your support we could not continue our mission of "transforming lives through educational opportunity".



Auction Chair Torrence Williams with friends supporting Nativity!



Nativity Auction
Presenting Sponsor



Pam Broadus of Splendid Events with Jeri Johnson, Events Coordinator for Nativity Academy



DJ JOHN Q - great music for a great event!



Nativity Academy
At St. Boniface
529 E. Liberty Street
Louisville, KY 40202

...a reason for hope

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NATIVITY ACADEMY GOLF SCRAMBLE

South Park Country Club – 915 S. Park Road

Plan Now To Attend
Monday,
September 12, 2022

- Shoot-out and prizes for the 1st- and 2nd-place teams.
- Evening buffet

Golf Scramble Sponsorship

*A wonderful way to promote your company
and help Nativity Academy students.*



**Registration and Sponsorship
now open online at**

nativitylouisville.org/golf-scramble/

For information call| Jeri Johnson | 502-855-3316

NATIVITY ACADEMY AT ST. BONIFACE

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Sponsored By:
Bellarmine University | Ursuline Sisters of Louisville | Xaverian Brothers



BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY
IN VERITATIS AMORE

