

# 2014 Gesú Gala

Sponsor & Patron  
Opportunities

Thursday May 1, 2014  
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Kimmel Center  
Featuring Sweet Honey In The Rock

— Invitation to follow —



1700 West Thompson Street,  
Philadelphia, PA 19121  
[www.gesuschool.org](http://www.gesuschool.org), 215-763-9077



20th  
Anniversary  
Celebration

Twenty years ago, the Roman Catholic Church of The Gesu closed its doors, shaking the foundation of a struggling neighborhood just north of Girard Avenue and west of Broad Street. The fate of the parish's school, known as a beacon of hope to many neighborhood families—Catholic and non-Catholic alike—remained uncertain. At the Archdiocese's request, Gesu School voyaged into uncharted waters as a self-governed, self-financed independent school under the leadership of the Jesuits and the IHM sisters.

Thanks to the efforts and the contributions of many hardworking leaders, educators, volunteers and donors, Gesu School not only survived, it blazed the way for many schools that followed in its path, becoming a national model for inner-city education.

Gesu School empowers 450 children in Pre-K through 8th grade to reach their full potential. Most Gesu families struggle financially. More than a third live below the federal poverty level. Despite the challenges our children face, they succeed. While there are no selective admissions to attend Gesu, over 90% of Gesu's graduates complete high school on time, and over 75% pursue post-secondary education, all in a school district where the on-time high school graduate rate hovers around 60%. Read more about the hallmarks of a Gesu education at [www.gesuschool.org](http://www.gesuschool.org).

*Please join us to celebrate our 20th anniversary in tribute to our successful past and anticipation of our promising future.*







# the Gesu Spirit Medal

*The Gesu Spirit Medal honors individuals who have shown extraordinary commitment to Gesu School through their loyal advocacy and actions, and who have made a significant contribution to Gesu School's success as a model inner-city elementary school.*

## Mrs. Elizabeth R. Moran

Every year, Gesu friend and advocate Mrs. Elizabeth R. Moran honors deserving individuals with the Jimmy Coin, an award established in memory of her late son, to encourage those who exemplify his qualities of resilience, loyalty, humility and empathy. Not long ago, the medal was awarded to six noteworthy Gesu School students and leaders. Each awardee gave a second medal to another Gesu community member, creating a powerful and inspirational ripple effect throughout the school.

Mrs. Moran has deserved to be on the receiving end of a medal for years, and this year we are thrilled to recognize her steadfast commitment to Gesu School and the same noble characteristics she honors in others.



## Rev. Neil Ver'Schneider, S.J.

Rev. Neil Ver'Schneider, S.J. celebrates his own anniversary this year—25 years of service to the Gesu community. Fr. Neil arrived in North Philadelphia in 1989 to work with the African American community as assistant pastor of Gesu Parish. Today he is still hard at work in the neighborhood as assistant principal and chaplain of Gesu School.

Over the years, Fr. Neil has been a bedrock of Gesu's North Philadelphia community. While he is best known for the loving discipline he doles out to students in Gesu School's "time-out" room, Fr. Neil quietly assists families in crisis, helps young people find purpose, and offers spiritual guidance and friendship to any soul who appears at his door, from the littlest children to the neighborhood matrons.



## Sweet Honey In The Rock

Sweet Honey In The Rock is a Grammy award-winning a cappella performance ensemble rooted in African American history and culture. As advocates for truth, justice and compassion, they give rhythm to Gesu's mission. Gesu alumna Carol Maillard '65 is a founding member of the group, which recently performed at the National Memorial Service for Nelson Mandela.

## Sponsor and Patron Opportunities

### Presenting Sponsor | \$25,000

Includes 10 tickets, premium full page ad in program, preferred performance seating, event signage, framed student artwork, listing in invitation

### Title Sponsor | \$15,000

Includes 10 tickets, inside back cover ad in program, framed student artwork, listing in invitation

### Mission Sponsor | \$10,000

Includes 8 tickets, full page ad in program, listing in invitation

### Sponsor A Child | \$7,500

Includes 2 tickets, half page ad in program, listing in invitation (with a NEW student sponsorship for the 2014-2015 school year)

### Educators Circle | \$5,000

Includes 6 tickets, half page ad in program, listing in invitation

### Scholars Circle | \$2,500

Includes 4 tickets, quarter page ad in program, listing in invitation

### Patrons Circle | \$500/person

Includes 1 ticket, listing in program, listing in invitation

*Guest level tickets will be available in March.*

Invitation listing deadline is February 24.

Program listing deadline is April 14.

# Gala Committee

*Marie & Pat McCormick, Co-Chairs*

*Jenn & Carter Sims, Co-Chairs*

*Lindsey & Mark Wolfington, Co-Chairs*

— List as of January 10, 2014 —

Christine & Leif Beck

Rev. George W. Bur, S.J.

Rev. William J. Byron, S.J.

Bridget & Joe Carr

Bryan Carter

Donna & Mike Celano

Karen & Terence Connors

Sr. Ellen Convey, IHM

Gretchen & J. Gordon Cooney, Jr.

Jean & Mark Cox

Amy & Sean Curren

Jennifer & John Curry

Judy & Rard Davies

Candy & Tad Decker

Reno & Renee DeGennaro

Lynn & James Dever

Ree & Fran Dunphy

Vivienne Lambert Ehret

Beth & Brian Ertel

Marybeth & Kevin Ertel

Chris Fallon

Gerry Geckle

Ann & Kevin Gillespie

Shannon & Pat Gillespie

Donna & Jim Higgins '45

Michele & Greg Kelly

Jennifer & Kevin Kolmer

Robert Laiacona

Lisi & Jonesy Lerch

Karen & Kevin Lucey

Anne & Bob McAlaine

Deb & Joe McCabe

Della & Byron McCook '73

Rachel & Mike McGinn

Denise & Mike McNulty

Andrea & Chris Moran

Pat & Allan Murphy

Margaret Anne

& Jim Nolen

Anne & Christopher O'Grady

Kay & Jerry O'Grady

Cathy Peacock

Keith Pension

Sunny Greenberg

& Steve Piltch

Julia Rafferty

Shannon & Brian Reilly

Anne & Bruce Robinson

Kim & Frank Rosato

Eilise & Bill Rouse

Leslie & Pat Ryan

Anne Marie

& John Rischitelli

Maria & Steve Schreder

Susan Martinelli Shea

Madeline Sherry

& Frank Devine

Moira Sims

Karen & Erik Strid

Rita & Gary Tuma

Georgine &

Edward Trumpbour

Carol & Chuck Walsh

Therese Walsh

Alicia & Vince Wolfington

Sarah & John Wolfington

Kelly & William Yoh

Shannon & Karl Zeller



# 2014 Gesu Gala Sponsor/Patron Commitment

Invitation listing deadline is February 24

Program listing deadline is April 14

## Contact Information

Name/Business (as it should appear in Gesu publications):

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsor & Patron Options

**Presenting Sponsor | \$25,000** (\$23,500 tax deductible)

*Includes 10 tickets, premium full page ad in program, preferred performance seating, event signage, framed student artwork, listing in invitation*

**Title Sponsor | \$15,000** (\$13,500 tax deductible)

*Includes 10 tickets, inside back cover ad in program, framed student artwork, listing in invitation*

**Mission Sponsor | \$10,000** (\$8,800 tax deductible)

*Includes 8 tickets, full page ad in program, listing in invitation*

**Sponsor A Child | \$7,500** (\$7,200 tax deductible)

*Includes 2 tickets, half page ad in program, listing in invitation (with a NEW Sponsor A Child commitment for 2014-2015)*

**Educators Circle | \$5,000** (\$4,100 tax deductible)

*Includes 6 tickets, half page ad in program, listing in invitation*

**Scholars Circle | \$2,500** (\$1,900 tax deductible)

*Includes 4 tickets, quarter page ad in program, listing in invitation*

**Patrons | \$500** per person x \_\_\_\_\_ (#) tickets  
(\$350 per ticket tax deductible)

*Includes 1 ticket, listing in program, listing in invitation*

## Payment Options

Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to Gesu School)

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my:

Visa

MasterCard

Amex

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**To purchase tickets online visit [www.gesuschool.org/2014gala](http://www.gesuschool.org/2014gala)**

The official registration and financial information of The Gesu School, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.