



Calumet College of St. Joseph

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

53rd Annual Gala

MUNSTER, Ind. – The Trustees of Calumet College of St. Joseph welcomed guests to the Center for the Visual and Performing Arts in Munster this past Saturday for the 53rd Annual Scholarship Gala, the College's signature fundraising event. Those in attendance were treated to a three course dinner, open bar, and live music, as well as speeches from honored guests that moved and motivated those in attendance.

Entering her first Gala as president, Dr. Amy McCormack welcomed both guests and honorees with the passion that she has displayed ever since she took over on campus. "I feel privileged to be the president of Calumet College, given the community that we serve and our mission to provide a quality education at an affordable cost. Without these scholarships, our costs could rise to the costs of a public institution." McCormack would continue by saying, "What I love about these events is that everyone comes together for the common good. Just like in sports, it isn't always about the win, but what you can do together."

This year's Gala featured the support of every member of the Board of Trustees, and included an event program book that featured pictures and profiles of the students and award winners in attendance. Also new to the evening were the students who spoke of their experiences at the school before introducing one of the three guests of honor. "My goals of obtaining a college degree would have remained dreams if it were not for CCSJ," said junior Kenneth Conde. Senior Mel Pabon credited the school for the success that she has had while in attendance, as well as moving forward towards the future. "I know that what I have learned and gained while here at CCSJ will carry me through my lifetime. Because of my scholarship support, I will have the confidence to take my place on the thin blue line with my sister and brothers in law enforcement."

Award winners this year were Frank Shilling, who received the St. Joseph the Worker Award, and Augusto Flores Jr, who was honored with the Brother Gerard Von Hagel Alumni Award. Lastly, George Carberry, receiving the Corporate Leadership Award on behalf of Burke Costanza and Carberry LLP, pointed towards the culture of the college as to why his firm has such close ties with the school. "Every business has a culture. We are a generous firm, and that runs up from the top and down to the bottom. We believe in fully participating in everything we do, including what us Catholics call charity. We'd like to thank Calumet College for honoring us with such an award."

The Gala was a massive success, raising over \$75,000 that will go toward making sure that students at Calumet College of St. Joseph have a way to pay for their education. Even though attendance surged this year, the bar has been set even higher for the 54th event, with the school wanting to raise three times that

amount. If this past event was any indication, there should be no shortage of donations moving forward into next year's special evening.

Calumet College of St. Joseph is a private, Catholic institution of higher learning located in Hammond, Indiana. Sponsored by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, the College lives out a commitment to social justice through education and community service. Currently serving approximately 1200 students, the College has provided access to education for students of the Calumet Region since 1951.

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