

Celebration

The Board of Trustees of
Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School
Requests the honor of your presence at the
16th Annual Celebration Gala

Saturday, April 19, 2008

Reception at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Program Following

Entertainment by AC Rock

Music & Dancing ~ D.J. Greg Bayer

Silent Auction and Grand Raffle Drawing

All proceeds to benefit the Mother McAuley Endowment for Student Scholarships and Financial Aid



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saturday, april 19
two thousand and eight

Celebration

Mother
McAuley
Liberal Arts High School

FAMILY – COMMITMENT – EDUCATION – CONCERN – COMMUNITY – FAITH – CARING – EXCELLENCE

CATHERINE McAULEY LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Leadership Award recipient demonstrates a commitment to the charism and values of Catherine McAuley, and supports the mission of the School in providing a quality Catholic liberal arts education for young women.



Stephen, Sr. and Winifred (Winnie Gardner) Ligda, Class of 1959

Stephen and Winnie Ligda are dedicated supporters and volunteers for Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School. The parents of three sons and a daughter who is a McAuley graduate, Steve is a former member of the Board of Trustees, serving as Chairman for five years, and a member of the academic affairs and finance committees, where he recently returned as a member. Winnie is a former officer of the Mother McAuley High School/Saint Xavier Academy Alumnae Board, and has planned liturgies for several alumnae weekends.

Members of Most Holy Redeemer Parish for 38 years, both Steve and Winnie serve as lectors and co-chairs of the liturgy team. Steve serves as a cantor, finance council member, stewardship exploration committee member, and Virtus coordinator, and Winnie serves as a Eucharistic minister, RCIA lead catechist, and School of Religion advisory board member. They are graduates of the Archdiocese of Chicago lay ministry training program, and the Archdiocese leadership training program for Christ Renews His Parish retreats. Steve served as lay organizations representative to the initial Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, and delegate to the Illinois Council of Catholic Bishops. A graduate of Saint Joseph College, Steve is President of the Alumni Board, and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He serves his Village of Evergreen Park on the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Historical Commission, and Little Company of Mary Hospital on the Institutional Review Board. Winnie has served as an officer for the Brother Rice High School Mothers' Club.

Steve has a graduate degree from DePaul University, and a CPA from the University of Illinois. Winnie is a graduate of Mount Mary College, with a graduate degree from Chicago State University, and further coursework from Saint Xavier University. Steve was employed over 40 years in business and industry, with specializations in administration and finance at various non-profit associations. Winnie was employed more than 35 years by the Chicago Board of Education as a teacher – librarian.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA AWARD

The distinguished alumna exemplifies the mission and charism of Mercy, and she lives the ministry in her career and life's work.



Alex Meneses Simpson, Class of 1983

Alex Meneses Simpson is an actress, producer, and philanthropist. She has studied at Second City in Chicago and the Lee Strasberg Theater Institute. A member of the Screen Actors Guild for 20 years, Alex has performed on the stage, television, and film. Her television credits include *Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*, *Friends*, *CSI Miami*, and *Psych*, and her film credits include *Selena*, *The Flintstones*, *Auto Focus*, and *Funny Money*. Most recently Alex began producing education documentaries under her own label, OOLaLa Productions/LADDS Entertainment.

Alex is a committed volunteer and philanthropist. She is a board member for many organizations including the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, the United Hope for Animals, the Los Angeles Symphony, the Chicago Symphony, and she is a member of the Chicago Historical Society. Alex is a devoted alumna of Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School, who has frequently met with students to share her insights and commitment to a McAuley education. In 2005 Alex established the Alex Meneses Endowed Scholarship to ensure that a new generation of young women will benefit from a McAuley education.



Mission Statement

Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School is a Catholic educational community committed to providing a quality secondary education for young women. In the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy and their foundress, Catherine McAuley, we prepare students to live in a complex, dynamic society by teaching them to think critically, communicate effectively, respond compassionately to the needs of their community and assume roles of Christian leadership. In partnership with parents, we empower young women to acknowledge their giftedness and to make decisions with a well-developed moral conscience. We foster an appreciation of the diversity of the global community and a quest for knowledge and excellence as life long goals.