

# NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **MOTHER MCAULEY STUDENTS ATTEND LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

In line with the school's mission of preparing students to think critically, communicate effectively, respond compassionately and assume roles of Christian leadership, Mother McAuley has established the "To Lead, To Serve, To Inspire" (LSI) Leadership Academy. Funding for the Academy was provided through a grant from the Helen Brach Foundation. The 22 students selected to participate in this inaugural academy are involved in several McAuley clubs and organizations including Student Ambassadors, UNITY, National Honor Society and Student Council.

The LSI participants not only learned how to recognize their own leadership style, but to use these skills to serve and inspire others toward having a positive impact on their school and community. Through the Leadership Academy, these students have been working to develop their full potential physically, emotionally, and academically; communicate with others with increased understanding, skill, and respect; and use their unique skills, talents, morals and values to make sound decisions as a leader.

"The creation of an academy such as "To Lead, To Serve, To Inspire," speaks to the leadership potential that our students currently possess," said Dr. Christine Melone, Mother McAuley President/Principal. "The moderators utilized the abilities the students already have, channeled those qualities into effective leadership skills, while providing the students with a clear direction of how to use those skills to lead others."



*Twenty-two McAuley students spent three weeks this summer learning "To Lead, To Serve, To Inspire," during the first annual Leadership Academy.*

During LSI, students were challenged to define how they see themselves, how they see others and how others see them. LSI incorporated several methods for this evaluation including The Johari Window, a tool used to describe the process of human interaction, and the Myers-Briggs Personality Assessment.

These methods were reinforced through guest speakers and field trips. The guest speakers included Maureen Ryan '82, lawyer and owner of her own consulting firm; Marge O'Connell Nykaza '72, founder of Harmony, Hope and Healing; Molly Meade McGowan, McAuley Liturgy/Service Coordinator; and Danielle Cortes DeVito '92, a paramedic, advocate for the American Heart Association and Mrs. Chicago 2009. Additionally, the students visited the WGN TV Studios where they met executive producer Sandy Pudar '95 and took a service field trip to Deborah's Place Shelter.

McAuley Counselor Kathy Farrell served as Facilitator for the three-week LSI program and was assisted by Counselor Gloria Chapa-Resendez and College Counselor Bess Rozwadowski Riek as co-facilitators. President/Principal Dr. Christine Melone and Grant Writer Sister Elizabeth Pardo, IHM, were instrumental in securing the funding from the Brach Foundation to develop this unique program at Mother McAuley.

The students involved in this year's Leadership Academy are Justine Adeboyjo of Beverly, Katie Adent of Mt. Greenwood, Torie Bolster of Mt. Greenwood, Anna Borys of Burbank, Tierney Brosnahan of Evergreen Park, Marianne Callan of Chicago Ridge, Caitlin Carroll of Oak Lawn, Julie Chaps of Beverly, Kaylyn Jones of Beverly, Bridget Kobiernicki of Oak Lawn, Kristen Lewis of Beverly, Theresa Malanao of Alsip, Katie Maslar of Lemont, Colleen Miller of Palos Heights, Eileen O'Donnell of Beverly, Caitlin



*The students involved in the Mother McAuley Leadership Academy visited the set of the WGN morning news. While on the set, the student met actors Jamie Kaler and Mike Bunin (center) from the show "My Boys" on TBS.*

Ori of Beverly, Aly Plahm of Blue Island, Sara Sabadosa of Oak Lawn, Hope Salman of Orland Park, Tania Velazquez of Ashburn, Ellen Youpel of Morgan Park and Macy Zamudio of Gage Park.

The LSI Academy focused on empowering young women to develop and express their unique and individual strengths. Its design assisted students in revealing their “true self” – a young woman who possesses compassion, creativity, wisdom, courage and orientation to service.