Thank You

The “Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future School Tuition Organization” had yet another record year! Because of your faithful and ongoing support, More than $4 million in student scholarships was awarded throughout the Archdiocese of Dubuque for the 2013-2014 school year, allowing 3,287 students to receive a faith based education.

Faith based schools build character, impart values, and prepare the future leaders of our communities and our faith. What’s more, a recent study concluded that private-run, faith-based students score a full year ahead of their public school counterparts (1). Your support continues to make a tangible difference in the lives of families throughout the archdiocese, and within our faith, and for that, we thank you!

We saw unparalleled progress for the school choice movement in Iowa in 2013! Because of the diligent efforts of our state’s leaders, Iowa saw the single largest increase to the School Tuition Organization program through the increase in the cap from $8.75 million to $12 million, effective in 2014. With this gift, even more families will have the ability to choose the educational setting that best meets the needs of their children.

As you will learn from information included in this report, our legislators have also introduced and seen a positive movement toward an Education Savings Account (ESA) bill.

We sincerely thank all of our legislators for their service to education in our state!

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Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future School Tuition Organization (STO) is a charitable organization representing all of the Catholic K-12 schools in the Archdiocese of Dubuque and St. Paul’s Lutheran School in Waverly. The STO receives voluntary cash contributions from Iowa taxpayers and allocates those funds in tuition grants to Iowa school children, who in turn, use those grants to attend one of the schools represented by the STO. At least 90% of the money received by the STO must go back out in tuition grants.

The Catholic Foundation for the Archdiocese of Dubuque (CFAD) is responsible for raising the funds on behalf of the Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future STO. If you have questions regarding your gift, please contact Jamie Henley, President of CFAD at (319) 261-1031 or jhenley@ourfaithsto.org.

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Lou and Michele Corkery
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Robert Couitchie and Kristina Adkins
In 2006, the School Tuition Organization Tax Credit was signed into law by then-Gov. Tom Vilsack (D). Prior to that signing ceremony, the legislation passed with the help of both parties in the House (75-19) and sailed through the Senate (49-1). Republicans and Democrats, alike, passed a tax-credit scholarship program that today serves more than 10,000 students.

More than 3,200 children attend non-public schools in the Archdiocese of Dubuque, thanks to the tuition grants offered by the School Tuition Organization (STO) tax credit program.

In 2014, the available amount of School Tuition Organization tax credits increased allowing the Our Faith STO to increase our goal from $4.2 million to almost $5.7 million!

Created by the Educational Opportunities Act in 2006, the STO program offers assistance to low-middle income families across Iowa. In particular, the Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future STO offers assistance to families within the Archdiocese of Dubuque. We are thankful to live in a state that provides opportunities to invest in faith-based education. This would not be possible without the diligent work of our state’s fine legislators. We also extend our gratitude to our schools, administrators, parents and donors. Together, we are making affordable faith-based education a reality for all that desire it!

"O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good."
- I Chronicles 16:34

In 2006, the School Tuition Organization Tax Credit was signed into law by then-Gov. Tom Vilsack (D). Prior to that signing ceremony, the legislation passed with the help of both parties in the House (75-19) and sailed through the Senate (49-1). Republicans and Democrats, alike, passed a tax-credit scholarship program that today serves more than 10,000 students.
### What Does a Gift Cost YOU?

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<th>Contribution Amount</th>
<th>$500.00</th>
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<th>$5,000.00</th>
<th>$10,000.00</th>
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<td>(650.00)</td>
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<td>(6,500.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Tax Savings</td>
<td>(125.00)</td>
<td>(250.00)</td>
<td>(1,250.00)</td>
<td>(2,500.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cost after Tax Savings</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Assumes 25% tax bracket. This is provided as an example. All taxpayers should consult with their tax advisor for specific information.
The talented students at Aquin Elementary in Cascade, Iowa sent us these great posters celebrating Catholic Schools Week 2014! The Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future School Tuition Organization is honored to provide financial resources to students like these throughout the entire Archdiocese of Dubuque!
A cross the state, meetings are being held and information is being shared about the Education Savings Account program. The ESA is a new initiative on the school choice horizon that would allow parents not enrolling their child in public school to receive a grant equal to the average state per-pupil spending to use toward their educational expenses – allowing them true freedom of choice in education!

For more information about the ESA initiative visit the Iowa Alliance for Choice in Education website at www.iowaace.org.

For nearly 150 years, the Church has unequivocally taught that parents have the right and responsibility to serve as the primary educators of their children. To assist them in this sacred duty, the Church has articulated clearly that children have the universal right to an education in faith, and the state has the fundamental obligation to enable such a right. In both written word and lived witness, the Church has advanced parental choice as a fundamental part of its mission to protect the equality of educational opportunity that is the birthright of all children.

More than 245,000 children participated in a publicly funded private school parental choice program during the 2012-2013 school year. Approximately 50% of these children are enrolled in Catholic schools.


Catholic schools form children for a personal and living encounter with Jesus Christ:

• Catholic school students are more likely to pray daily, attend church more often, retain a Catholic identity as an adult, and donate more to the Church.

• Students in Catholic schools demonstrate higher academic achievement than their public school peers from similar socioeconomic backgrounds.

• The achievement gap between students of different racial and/or socioeconomic backgrounds is significantly smaller in Catholic schools than public schools.

• 99% of Catholic school students graduate from high school on time, and 85% of Catholic school graduates attend college.

Have you Heard about the Education Savings Account (ESA) Initiative?
GIFT DESIGNATION

__ The Contributor hereby directs that 100% of this contribution be deposited in the STO’s unrestricted fund to be used for tuition assistance for qualifying students at all STO schools.

__ The Contributor hereby directs 50% of this contribution be used to provide tuition assistance to students attending school(s)/system(s) listed below. (Please circle.) Please note that unless you have marked the anonymous box above, your name and the amount of your donation that was restricted will be shared with the administrator of the school(s) designated.

1. Ames: St. Cecilia
2. Anamosa: St. Patrick
3. Bellevue: Marquette Catholic School System
4. Calmar, Spillville: C/F/S Consolidated
5. Cascade: Aquin
6. Cedar Falls: St. Patrick
7. Cedar Rapids: All Saints
8. Cedar Rapids: Holy Family
9. Cedar Rapids: St. Matthew
10. Cedar Rapids: St. Pius X
11. Cedar Rapids: Regis MS
12. Cedar Rapids: Xavier HS
13. Charles City: Immaculate Conception
14. Cresco: Notre Dame
15. Decorah: St. Benedict
16. Dubuque: Holy Family
17. Dyersville: St. Francis Xavier
18. Dyersville: Beckman MS/HS
19. Farley, Epworth, Peosta: Seton Catholic
20. Gilbertville, Raymond: Bosco System
21. Guttenberg: St. Mary
22. New Vienna, Petersburg: Hennessy Catholic
23. Holy Cross, Luxemburg: LaSalle Catholic
24. Independence: St. John
25. Jesup: St. Athanasius
26. Manchester: St. Mary
27. Maquoketa: Sacred Heart
28. Marion: St. Joseph
29. Marshalltown: St. Francis
30. Mason City: Newman
31. Monticello: Sacred Heart
32. New Hampton: St. Joseph
33. Oelwein: Sacred Heart
34. Ossian: St. Francis DeSales
35. Potsvian: Trinity Catholic
36. Waterloo: Cedar Valley Catholic Schools
37. Waukon: St. Patrick
38. Waverly: St. Paul’s Lutheran School
39. Webster City: St. Thomas
40. Worthington: St. Paul
41. Waukon: St. Patrick

RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTION DESIGNATIONS

It is important to note that donor requested restrictions to specific school(s)/system(s) are subject to the following STO regulations. Up to 50% of gifts may be restricted to school(s)/system(s) as designated. The Contributor understands and agrees that if a school/system designated for a restricted contribution does not have one or more students who are eligible to receive tuition assistance under the law’s requirements or all eligible students have received the maximum assistance set by the STO board so as to permit for the full use of the requested contribution, the contribution, or the unused portion thereof, will be used for tuition assistance for qualifying students at any of the STO schools/systems. There are no appeals.

FINAL STEPS

Mail your contribution with this completed form to:

Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future STO
PO Box 479 Dubuque, IA 52004-0479

• Tax credits are awarded on a first come, first served basis.
• Contributions must be postmarked by December 31, 2014 to be eligible for a 2014 tax credit.
• In the event the tax credit limit has been reached when this gift is received, your gift will be promptly returned.

The Catholic Foundation for the Archdiocese of Dubuque is responsible for raising the funds on behalf of the Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future STO. If you have questions regarding your gift, please contact Jamie Henley, President of The Catholic Foundation for the Archdiocese of Dubuque at (319) 261-1031 or jhenley@ourfaithsto.org.